

ALTHOUGH OUR LOCAL PRESS IGNORES IT,

CHINA'S CONGRESS MAKES WORLD NEWS

PEKING.

WITH China now in the fourth year of her first Five-Year Plan and with all signs pointing to its fulfilment and over-fulfilment, the Eighth Congress of China's Communist Party last week discussed the targets for the next plan.

The Congress, which has been ignored in the South African daily papers, is a focal point of interest in the press of Asia and Europe.

Following the introductory reports (New Age, last week), party secretary Chou En-lai told the Congress that the second five-year plan beginning at the end of next year would DOUBLE China's industrial output. Agricultural production would be increased by 35 per cent.

There will be an average wage increase of 25 to 30 per cent in addition to the improvement of housing, safety, health and welfare facilities.

SOVIET ASSISTANCE

For the fulfilment of her plan, China would need—and would receive—assistance from the Soviet Union and the People's Democracies, said Chou.

Presenting the Political Report, Liu Shao-chi recalled some of the most important events that had taken place since the last Congress of the party in 1945.

With liberation the period of transition to socialism had begun and was not yet completed.

Liu set out the basic characteristics of the period of transition as follows:

● "First, our country is industrially backward. In order to build a socialist society we must develop socialist industry—above all, heavy industry—so as to transform China from a backward agricultural country into an advanced industrial country. This however takes considerable time.

● "Second, in our country the allies of the working-class consist not only of the peasantry and the urban middle-class, but also the national bourgeoisie. For this reason, in order to transform our old economy we must use peaceful means of transformation not only in the case of agriculture and handicrafts but also in the case of capitalist industry and commerce. This needs to be done step by step; this too needs time."

This was the general line of the party and what had to be guarded against was the deviation to the right—which was satisfied with

what had already been achieved and did not admit the need to push on to socialism; and a deviation to the left—which demanded that socialism be achieved overnight.

Decisive victories in the transition to socialism had been won.

OF CHINA'S 120 MILLION PEASANT HOUSEHOLDS, 110 MILLION, OR 91.7% OF THE TOTAL, HAVE JOINED CO-OPERATIVES.

THE NATIONAL QUESTION

VICE-Premier Ulanfu, himself a member of the Inner Mongolian national minority, addressed the Congress on the national question.

National autonomy had been the fundamental policy of the party in solving the national question, he said. The nationali-

ties, which used to be divided and fought with each other, had finally chosen the formation of a unified multi-national state in which they exercise regional autonomy.

Ulanfu pointed out that regional autonomy conformed to the principle of socialist democracy and national equality in a country in the transitional period to socialism.

"Every nationality enjoys the right of national equality," he said. National autonomy enabled the national minorities to become masters of their own affairs and develop according to their own characteristics. It could also unite the nationalities on the basis of

THE LEGAL SYSTEM

SPEAKING on China's legal system and some infringements of the law which had taken place, Central Committee member Tung Pi-wi said that the profound hatred which there had been in the party and among the masses for the oppressive capitalist legal system of the past had tended to breed contempt for all legal systems.

It was possible, he added, that this contempt was increased by the mass revolutionary movements that swept the country in the early period after liberation, because mass movements did not entirely rely on laws.

Tung referred to the petty bourgeois background of the majority of the people as the basis of the contempt for legal systems. In essence it was a reflection of petty bourgeois anarchism, he said.

"The Central Committee calls on all public security, prosecution, judicial and other organs of state to work strictly in accordance with the laws," he declared.

He added that the system of defence lawyers was indispensable at trials.

"The stage of fierce class struggle between revolution and counter-revolution is not and cannot yet be ended," said Lo Jui-ching, Minister of Public Security. "It is still a long-term struggle."

But, he warned, "While hitting at the counter-revolutionaries we must be resolute in protecting good people." Good people who have committed mistakes or have shortcomings and those whose outlook is reactionary but are not counter-revolutionary in their conduct should not be confused with counter-revolutionaries.

The policy of combining punishment with leniency must be pursued. This means punishing arch-criminals, but letting off those coerced into crime; giving lenient treatment to those who acknowledge their crimes and severe punishment to those who do not;

Strikes Rock Argentine Govt.

BEUNOS AIRES.

The growing anger of Argentine workers at the government's attacks on their living conditions and trade union rights has created a tense situation here.

The reactionary Aramburu regime marked the first anniversary of the overthrow of Peron last week by mass "anti-communist" raids on progressive organisations throughout the country. The police have estimated the strength of the underground Communist Party at 100,000 members.

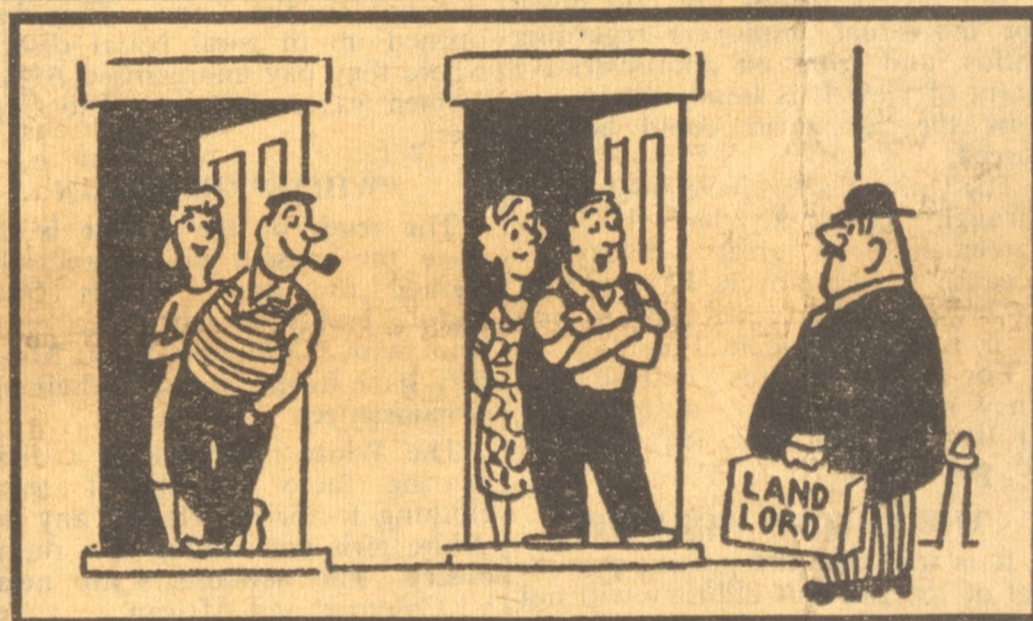
Workers who, under the Peron regime, received periodical and substantial improvements in working conditions are rebelling against the drastic falling off of their conditions, and the raids were designed to intimidate trade unions which have announced strike action.

But undeterred, tens of thousands of shop assistants went on a twenty-four hour strike after negotiations for wage increases deadlocked, and light and power workers also announced that they were not withdrawing strike plans.

Serious unrest is also reported by Reuter's special correspondent in the clothing industry and radio and telegraphic communications where go-slow tactics are being used.

complete equality of status and rights in a unified big country in which they helped and co-operated with each other.

To help the national minorities develop, special attention should be paid to building and developing industry in those areas, Ulanfu said.



"We've formed a House Users' Association and we pay our rents to ourselves, but if you're good we may give you something."

THE NEW MAN AT NATO HEADQUARTERS

BERLIN.

GERMAN newspapers reported recently that Western Germany will be represented at NATO headquarters by Brigadier-General von Kielmannsegg.

He is an experienced officer: under Hitler he held the rank of colonel and was attached to the Operations Division of the German General Staff.

However, Kielmannsegg is not only an experienced officer; he is known as the author of several books. One, "Panzer Between Warsaw and the Atlantic," was published in 1941. It deals with the Nazi campaigns against Poland and France.

Kielmannsegg says he waited impatiently for the signal to attack Poland.

WANTED WAR

"We held our breath," he writes, "when the news came of the Fuehrer's last ultimatum to Poland. And we would not have been German soldiers if we did not want Poland to reject the ultimatum."

Then come glowing accounts

of the Wehrmacht's victory in Poland, and Kielmannsegg extols the "superiority of the eternal German soldierly spirit" which "deprived the Polish people of independent statehood."

ONLY BEGINNING

However, the war in Poland "was only the beginning, not the conclusion, not the crowning of our triumph." And after the Polish campaign the Nazi High Command began preparations for the attack on France.

"We went about the work full of confidence and impatience. What we desired most of all was to continue our triumphant march without delay."

Kielmannsegg is moved to admiration by the panzer troop victories.

"Advance! What a marvellous word, and what an inexpressible feeling of elation! Victory in the field of battle is consummated by a thrust into the enemy's heart until it stops beating."

CONTEMPT FOR FRANCE

Of the French he speaks with contempt: "a people stagnated

in their development." The sight of flourishing French fields leads him to disquisitions on the subject of "Lebensraum."

"One thing especially struck me. This flourishing land of France is a semi-desert. It is sparsely populated, and even one who is not versed in agriculture can see that many fields lie untilled. . . . This is a clear demonstration and embodiment of the concept that France is Lebensraum without a people, and Germany a people without Lebensraum."

No sooner had the guns fallen silent in France than Kielmannsegg turned his thoughts to other campaigns of rapine. He ends his book with these words:

"We can report that the task entrusted to us by history, Germany and the Fuehrer has been fulfilled; we can say, too, that we are prepared for another task, the fulfilment of which will give us freedom—the destruction of Britain."

The man who wrote those lines is now collaborating with U.S., British, and French officers in working out NATO strategy.

On Capitalists' Wives

Work among the wives of capitalists had been valuable in helping capitalists accept socialist transformation, declared Hsu Ming, Chairman of the Tsientsin All China Federation of Democratic Women.

She said that the wives of capitalists who had grave doubts about socialist transformation could be convinced, if "you are patient in talking matters over with them and explain clearly the significance of peaceful socialist transformation."

Tsientsin now had 18 nursery-schools run by the wives of capitalists as part of their new participation in community affairs. Some of the women had already gone into government and other work.

Teenage Crime

NEW YORK.

Boys under 18 committed 42 per cent of America's crime last year, reported Edgar Hoover, chief of the Federal Bureau of Investigation,

SPOTLIGHT on SPORT by Robert Resha



DYNAMOS CAN TEACH US MANY LESSONS

CONGRATULATIONS to the Southern Transvaal Football Association. They have done a magnificent piece of work by inviting to this country the Prague Dynamos. The tour of our country by one of the world's leading teams has provided the fans with a soccer feast—the best in South Africa's living memory.

Off and . . . I WAS standing on the apartheid balcony at the Jan Smuts airport when the plane carrying the Dynamos landed, and out came 16 players, manager, trainer, doctor and journalist.

First to alight was stockily-built Mr. Holecck, president of the Dynamos' Club and manager of the team. He was immaculately dressed in a blue double-breasted suit. He was immediately followed by the trainer, Josef Bican. This former international crack centre-forward is considered to have been a far greater centre-forward than the Hungarian greats, Puskas and Hidegkuti.

I went down to the main hall to meet the team. I first spoke to the manager. Asking him about the standard of his team and who were the stars of the team, his answer, given with a broad smile, was, "Wait and see." To the question about stars, he said, "We believe in team work."

Prepared to Play Non-Europeans

I ASKED Mr. Holecck if they were prepared to play against a Non-European side. His answer was, "We are prepared to play any eleven placed on the field of play. But as visitors we are at the disposal of our hosts."

I then spoke to the "baby" of the team, the 17-year-old Nepomucky. He was standing next to Lala, who is only a year older than himself. He told me that he started playing soccer when he was nine years old. When I tried to find out what else he was interested in, he said "soccer." This seemed to have been the right answer, for the entire team nodded.

Members of the Czechs team are a fine lot. Most of them are young, but all of them are happy-going, healthy, good-looking chaps. As for dressing, the boys have the know-how. They have the taste—simple. They wear easy, well-made clothes. Sportswear is their speciality. When they move around town one would easily mistake them for film stars. These are the boys behind the imaginary Iron Curtain.

Oh yes, these boys have their eyes wide open when they move around town. They have been struck by the beauty and personality of our women. But they say South African women can't dress. For that they blame not the women but their clothes. Those who have been to Prague say this is no idle talk.

I Have a Complaint

I LIKE the boys from Eastern Europe—they are nice boys. But I have a complaint—they can't speak English. Every time I meet them I have to look for an interpreter. The other day I met them in town. We just had to smile at each other. There was no interpreter. But I promised them I would speak their language before I got to Prague. Don't ask me when. It might be in ten years' time.

On the Field

NOW let me take you to the field of play—to the football ground.

That is where you will see the Dynamos—dynamic Dynamos. These masters of open space have come here to teach us soccer and how to play it. Eric Litchfield, Sports Editor, Rand Daily Mail, hit the nail on the head when he wrote: "The Czech Dynamos have brought automation to the football grounds of the Union." Writing on their style of play, he calls it "Chessboard."

To describe the soccer as played by the Dynamos is no simple thing. The Prague Dynamos have defeated the famous Moscow Dynamos 2-1; and Czechoslovakia had half a dozen Dynamo players in the team that defeated Hungary 4-2 in Budapest recently. And remember, too, that two years ago, Hungary caused a sensation in the soccer world when they walloped England 7-1.

But this can be said about the Dynamos: they play scientific football. Yes, as a team they are perfectionists. Their combination is perfect. The eleven players play as one man. Each player seems to know when the ball is going to come to him and where it must go. They all seem to be ace mathematicians—they have the knowledge of every inch of the ground.

It is this type of football that has made our players strangers in the game they play every season.

A Lesson to Learn

THE coming of the Dynamos is a lesson to officials and players of this country. We hope our associations will not hesitate to import coaches from Eastern Europe to teach us soccer.

The Dynamos beat the ex-professionals 7-0 and Western Province 3-0. It was the same story.

This Saturday Dynamos will play the Springbok XI. I am sorry

LOWER WAGES FOR NEW WORKERS IN GARMENT INDUSTRY

Drastic Provisions of New Agreement

JOHANNESBURG.

THE fruits of years of bitter struggle by Transvaal workers in the clothing industry may be lost in terms of a new agreement reached between the employers and leaders of the Garment Workers' Union.

In answer to demands by the employers that wage levels be reduced to those prevailing at the Cape, the Union leaders have accepted pay-cuts amounting to over £1 10s. per week in the pay packets of machinists—though the cuts have been cushioned by making them apply only to new employees or those with less than two years' experience.

The machinists (who are the great majority of garment workers) have, in terms of the new agreement, been divided into Group "A"—those who have at least two years in the industry—and Group "B". Those in Group "A" will continue to qualify for the present maximum—£6 14s. 2d., for a fully qualified worker.

Those in Group "B" will only get, when fully qualified, the maximum now prevailing in the Cape—£5 3s. 3d. per week.

BOSSSES' "GUARANTEE"

To meet the workers' fear that the employers will tend to replace "A" Group machinists with "B" Group, the employers have guaranteed to employ at least 4,000 workers from "A" Group in the future for an unspecified period.

But no conditions are laid down for individual employers regarding ratios, and from an administrative point of view it is impossible to see how the agreement could be enforced.

The Union leaders have announced, through Saamtrek, that the new agreement is a great "victory"—because the employers have agreed to contribute 6d. per worker per week to the Provident Fund.

For the bosses, it is a real victory! They stand to gain—ultimately—£1 10s. 11d. per week—at a cost of 6d. per week.

THE FUTURE WORKERS

It is true that the present personnel of the garment industry will not suffer immediately. But, as any experienced trade unionist will see at a glance, for the sake of "peace and quiet" now, the interests of thousands of future workers have been sacrificed. Moreover, in a few years' time when more and more "B" group workers qualify, the likelihood is that some unscrupulous employers will start the process of replacement, guarantee or no guarantee.

The argument of the employers (which is now apparently being accepted by the same Union leaders who have rejected it for the past twenty and more years) is that they cannot "compete" with coastal manufacturers who pay lower wages. But it will not bear serious examination.

Records show that this argument was advanced in arbitration proceed-

ings as long ago as 1928. The Transvaal manufacturers complained that they would soon have to close down as they could not compete with the coast. The gap in wages has remained over the past thirty years, but the Transvaal clothing industry has not closed down. It has prospered. Today the bulk of the industry is still in the Transvaal.

"LEVELLING DOWN"

The difference is that in 1928 the Union leaders opposed the "competition" argument; they called upon the coastal workers to organise and level up wages. Today the Union leaders have accepted the "need" to level down.

Where will it end? It is true that some employers have transferred their factories from the Transvaal—but not to the Cape. They have opened up in rural Natal districts where they pay unorganised African women wages of from 10/- to £1 per week.

"WHITE" OBSESSION

The truth of the matter is that since the present union leadership formed the new "Whites Only" Union, and then entered a united front with Nationalist Charl Meyer, they have fallen victim to their new circumstances.

The White machinist is a disappearing factor in the Transvaal clothing factories. Hardly any new White girls are coming into the industry. The newcomers are nearly all Coloured and African.

That fact offers a clue to the reason why all-White representatives on the industrial council could reach such an agreement—for it is mainly the non-White newcomers who will suffer.

At the same time the majority of Union members are non-Whites.

The lesson for them appears to be that the Coloured and African workers must join forces under militant leadership, if they want to maintain and improve their conditions.

SERETSE'S RETURN

(Continued from page 1)

not, will the Bamangwato accept his "abdication"?

The People Will Decide

THE Bamangwato will undoubtedly be glad to have Seretse back with them again. They have made it clear before that in their eyes his marriage to Ruth, a white woman, is no barrier to his remaining chief, whatever the British may say. They will probably refuse to accept the abdication.

The Bamangwato people, in kgotla, will have the last word. The power to make or break chiefs belongs to them, not to the British, nor to Seretse nor to anybody else. That is what the fight has been all about. The people have still to give their verdict.

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