

## SOVIET EVENTS AND COEXISTENCE

WHATEVER their many secondary elements, the central feature of the recent historic Soviet events is that they strengthen the tide to peaceful coexistence and a durable peace.

That is its supreme importance to the American people and the peoples of the world. No State Department speculation or malicious New York Times editorials can obscure that cardinal point.

Prime Minister Nehru of India spoke for the overwhelming majority of mankind when he said Thursday that the recent events would strengthen peaceful relations between the USSR and other countries and thus the cause of world peace. He termed this "the psychological moment" for easing East-West tensions and for new progress in the current London disarmament talks.

ON THE BASIS of the material before us it is apparent that the recent events were a culmination of a series of sharp policy debates over questions of internal Soviet policy and foreign affairs. In essence these questions were not new. In their main outline they had been debated during the 20th Congress of the Communist Party of the Soviet Union. What the recent meeting of the Central Committee of the CPSU did was to reaffirm these policies in the sharpest way, take decisive steps against those who were resisting these policies by factional means and were, in fact, seeking to overturn the Congress decisions by a coup among the members of the CPSU Praesidium.

The chief policy elements of the 20th Congress were the emphasis on the possibility of peaceful coexistence and the rejection of the theory of the inevitability of war; the various roads to socialism; the possibility of the transition to socialism by parliamentary means in various countries; the emphasis on the equality of socialist nations, the post-Stalin policy of internal democratization and internal reorganization based on the tremendous growth of the socialist economy.

The decisions of the 20th Congress were widely hailed, particularly among the socialist-minded and peace-loving peoples of the world. These decisions registered a new stage in the growth of socialism and the system of socialist states; and they further speeded the developments towards peaceful coexistence.

But it is now clear that there was considerable resistance to the application of these decisions. There were those, headed apparently by V. M. Molotov, who wanted to "tighten the screws" and thus objectively hampered the full unfolding of policies to strengthen peace. Clearly, this group also demanded policies which would have maintained old and harmful relations between the USSR and Yugoslavia, for example.

The prompt manner in which the recent decisions were greeted in China, Poland and Yugoslavia is some indication of the sensitivity of these peoples to the harmful policies of Molotov and his associates. This feeling was also reflected by Italian Communist leader Palmiro Togliatti when he wrote in L'Unita July 7 that the CPSU shake-up "has knocked down the barriers . . . to the search for original roads to socialism," that it was a move furthering "a policy of relaxation of tension and peaceful coexistence" and that the reorganization "gave a serious blow to the forces of conservatism and dogmatism."

TO AMERICAN Marxists the theory of various roads to socialism is not a new one. Premised on the principles of scientific socialism, the teachings of Marx, Engels and Lenin, and the experience of American labor, there has evolved the concept of the American road to socialism, based on the struggles of the American working class and its allies within the traditions, customs and peculiarities of the American scene. This concept is now incorporated in the preamble to the Constitution of the Communist Party of the United States, as adopted by its 16th national convention.

We who fight for peace, democracy and socialism in our own land can only view most sympathetically all those developments in the first land of socialism which strengthen the fight for peace and social progress. We view with the warmest sympathy the efforts of Soviet Communists to maintain inviolable the unity of the party which leads the 200 million Soviet peoples. We view with satisfaction—as undoubtedly do many other Americans who do not share our outlook—the rebuffing of a faction which opposed the steps to a new Geneva, to improved relations with all nations, to heighten the living standards and democratic rights of the Soviet peoples.

From all accounts the issues were debated vigorously for a week at a full meeting of the Central Committee (about 200 were present) with all points of view presented. This was a departure from certain of the condemned prac-

## Labor Bills Seen Doomed for This Session

WASHINGTON, July 8—Unless the labor movement builds up a grass-roots movement for the bill expanding minimum wage coverage, the measure—and almost all other labor-backed welfare measures—appear killed for this session of Congress.

This was the word from the subcommittee headed by Senator John F. Kennedy, sponsor of the measure to expand coverage to about 6,000,000 workers now not covered. The AFL-CIO is supporting the Morse-Thompson Bill that would extend coverage to nearly 10,000,000 more workers. The administration's bill, sponsored by Senator Ives would expand coverage to about 2,600,000 workers not covered.

The AFL-CIO expressed fear that nothing will come out of this session dealing with economic welfare. While the Senate has already held hearings on the measures, in the House subcommittee hearings on minimum wages are not even scheduled until the fall.

AFL-CIO News also observes that on measures to aid the chronically depressed areas, the House has not even held hearings, while the chances of a bill in the Senate comparable to the AFL-CIO backed Douglas Bill, are very remote.

A housing Bill now before the President for signature hardly meets AFL-CIO objectives. It does little more than lower down payments for new house purchasers.

On the Taft-Hartley changes not even committee hearings were held.

So far legislation has been practically stalled by the wrangle over the budget. Now southerners threaten to filibuster civil rights and everything else before the session to death. The target date for adjournment is currently Labor Day.

## INGRID BERGMAN REUNION WITH

PARIS, July 8 — Ingrid Bergman and the daughter she left behind when she married Roberto Rossellini had a tension-packed but happy reunion today, their first in six years.

For 10 minutes they talked alone in the big DC-6 that brought 19-year-old Jenny Ann Lindstrom to Paris from Stockholm. Jenny Ann is the daughter of Ingrid's broker marriage to Dr. Peter Lindstrom, Swedish-born brain surgeon.

After their few minutes alone Ingrid and Jenny Ann emerged together from the plane. They were met by a barrage of news photographers' flashlight bulbs and the delighted shouts and squeals of spectators, who, until that moment had not been aware of the celebrities in their midst.

Jenny's plane landed a half hour late and in the tense moments of waiting, Miss Bergman had been nervous and snappish with news men.

"Isn't it a shame I can't have a moment alone with my daughter," she said.

But when they emerged from the plane, both were smiling happily.

"Has your daughter changed much since you saw her last?" A reporter shouted.

"She's grown up now. She's a grown up young lady now," Ingrid replied with a happy smile.

Jenny had arrived in Stockholm with her step-mother, Agnes, and her 15-month-old half brother, Peter.

Ingrid and Lindstrom were divorced in 1949 after she fell in love with Rossellini while making a film with him called "Stromboli."

When Ingrid arrived at the airport shortly after noon, she wore dark glasses and her face was solemn, even grim.

When Jenny's plane finally rolled to a stop, reporters and photographers formed a tightly packed

tices of the latter years of the Stalin leadership, which frequently by-passed the CPSU's elected bodies. The meeting took the decisive steps already noted. It may be suggested, however, that matters might not have even come to this pass had a wide public discussion preceded the meeting, for the Soviet Communist Party membership and the Soviet people undoubtedly support wholeheartedly the policies of peaceful coexistence, democratization and the raising of living standards. **The process of democratization requires such public debate;** the process of correction of the abuses of Soviet democracy will undoubtedly provide new forms for such public discussion.

But this is distinctly subordinate to the historic events themselves—events which will help shape a peaceful world.

The Soviet Union has repeatedly given earnest of its profound desire for peace. As last week's events demonstrate dramatically it pursues firmly policies of peaceful co-existence, is seeking continuously to raise the standards of its own people and compete with other social systems not by war but in ideas, culture and economic progress.

We Americans have a responsibility in this situation. In Nehru's phrase we have reached the "psychological moment" for a great new initiative for peace.

Is it not time for the American people to act politically against the belligerent policies of Dulles, Radford and Knowland? Is it not high time for the people in increasing number to renew the demand for an end to A-bomb tests poisoning the world's atmosphere? Is it not time for the whole trade union movement to follow the example of labor leaders Walter Reuther, James Carey and Joseph Beirne who recently joined 80 other noted Americans in demanding an end to the poison tests? And is it not necessary to equip our delegates in London with a firm popular mandate to proceed to a mutually acceptable disarmament agreement?

Many, many more things might—and will—be said about the recent Soviet events, but these, it strikes us, are the crucial ones today.