

# A WELCOME STEP

DISSOLUTION of the Cominform—to which the American Communist Party was never affiliated—is a welcome step.

When some wiseacres in Washington and in the press say this has little meaning because the Communist Information Bureau never really amounted to much, they refute themselves on two grounds.

First, it was these same people who always denied that this was only an Information Bureau of a group of Communist Parties. They tried to make it seem like a revival of the former Communist International—which it never was.

Second, in the fears they express and warnings they give to socialists and liberals, they unwittingly admit that the dissolution of the Cominform reflects a growing trend towards socialist-communist-liberal unity for peace and democracy.

The dissolution of the Cominform reaffirms an old truth—that working people everywhere will take their own, national path to socialism. The idea of a common blueprint for socialism was always alien to Marxism.

Therefore, when a year after its formation, the Cominform wrongly expelled the Yugoslav Communists in 1948, they took a step that could only end in its own dissolution. That action was a violation of the socialist principle against interference by any party or country in the internal affairs of other parties or countries.

The leaders of the Soviet Communist Party, when they went to Belgrade in the Spring of last year, admitted their part in the error and healed the breach with the Yugoslav Communists. They also used that opportunity to refute the caricature of socialism drawn by the capitalists, that under socialism it is possible to have domination of one country or party by another.

The dissolution of the Cominform will help advance the continuing relaxation of international tension. It should encourage the efforts, so necessary for our country, to achieve a lasting peace, possible through understanding and friendship between us and the socialist countries.