

H U N G A R Y

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KALLAI ADDRESSES TEACHING ACTIVISTS

Budapest, Hungarian Home Service, May 5, 1957, 2100 GMT--L

(Text)

Speaking at today's Party activist teachers' conference, Gyula Kallai, Minister of Culture, first pointed out that the ideological political chaos caused by the counterrevolution among the people, and in particular among the intellectuals, has not yet been dispelled. During the counterrevolution the overwhelming majority of even the teachers themselves did not recognize the character of the events and were unable to oppose the soul-poisoning nationalist propaganda which took place in schools. During the past few months generalizing articles condemning all teachers have often appeared. Improper generalizations, instead of helping are hampering the growth of the Party's influence among the teachers. The overwhelming majority of teachers did not take part in the counterrevolutionary events, though a section of them--and Comrade Kallai emphasized that this was an insignificant minority--trampled in the mud the reputation of the noble profession of teachers and joined the ranks of the counterrevolutionaries.

Comrade Kallai then pointed out that there are still a large number of teachers who keep aloof from all kinds of political activity and all endeavor to display a loyal attitude toward the regime. We can and must win over this majority of the teachers to the cause of building socialism. The basic question of the political work to be carried out among them is that of confidence. The building of socialism is unthinkable without the active participation of the intellectuals. We even have confidence in the still-wavering teachers, but confidence has two sides, said Comrade Kallai. Teachers, too, must have confidence in the working class, peasantry, the Revolutionary Worker-Peasant Government, and in the Party.

Comrade Kallai then spoke of the tasks facing the Government concerning the development of the structure and substance of education. The number of classrooms in schools, nurseries, and kindergartens must be increased. The training of school and kindergarten teachers must be based on matriculation certificates. The numbers of homes for abandoned children exposed to moral depravation must be increased.

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Kallai then spoke of the contradiction involved in the fact that in the present phase of transition from capitalism to socialism Hungary's school textbooks were based on Marxism-Leninism, whereas the majority of the teachers have as yet failed to absorb the ideology of scientific materialism. This is a given fact which cannot be changed overnight. However, everything must be done to develop the Marxist ideology of the teachers.

A question awaiting clarification and solution, Kallai stressed, is the relationship between the school and everyday politics. We do not want to and we will not commit the mistakes of the past again. We will not cram the syllabus and the school textbooks with empty political slogans and phrases and erroneous topicalizations artificially interpolated in scientific conclusions. We will not make the same demands on Communist and non-Communist teachers. The great majority of teachers who, though stirred and perturbed by the October events, did not become enemies to our cause of building socialism, must nevertheless understand that they cannot be indifferent toward the fate of our people and country. One must differentiate even among those who still profess counterrevolutionary views. One must give well-meaning support to those with good intentions and who were confused and try to rid themselves of their confusion. On the other hand, those who deliberately spread the counterrevolutionary poison in schools must be recommended for removal.

Finally Comrade Kallai spoke of the tasks of Communist teachers and of the Communist Youth League organizations formed at schools.

PARTY, NOW STRONG, MUST MAINTAIN UNITY

Budapest, Hungarian Home Service, May 5, 1957, 1100 GMT--L

(Press Review)

(Excerpts)

NEPSZABADSAG carried an editorial under the title: "Let Us Further Build the Party." The paper states that the Party was reborn in battle. Although the new party still leaves much to be desired as regards its composition, oneness, and ideological training, it is nonetheless stronger and more united than the MDP (Hungarian Workers' Party) had been in recent years. The token of its success and its moral capital lies in the fact that its unity has been forged in the fight against the counterrevolution and in the struggle against the revisionist and other opportunist views which had become manifest within its own ranks.

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Now that the heroic epoch of Party building has come to an end, we may say that the membership of the Party, with a possible exception of about 3 or 4 percent, is made up of truly militant communists. The political condemnation and (pillorying?) of the traitors of the Imre Nagy sort, and the gradual unfurling of the ideological and organizational struggle against revisionism have brought new (one word indistinct--Ed.) into the ranks of the Party and have kept the undesirable elements away. In organizing the Party, attention has so far been focused mainly on the former MDP members because the MSZMP has been built on the membership and organization of this Party. At the same time, we must renew our ranks, says the paper, with those who, during the counterrevolution and the months following it, distinguished themselves through their firmness. Not only Communists but also sympathizers had been admitted (beszerveztek) to the MDP. These fell short of the Communist requirements in time of difficulty. Many of them would certainly like to be admitted as new members.

The Party's task is to wage within the labor movement an unrelenting struggle against any kind of petit-bourgeois wavering and influence. At the same time, the Party does not launch a campaign against the petit-bourgeoisie the majority of whom can and must be won over in the building of socialism. The most important thing is the unity of the Party, which now has 300,000 members. The attitude of conciliation and of being on the defensive (must not be allowed to spread?) because any detente in the ideological struggle may prevent the continued internal solidarity of the Party organizations, says NEPSZABADSAG.

"Who would not remember the prognostications of November and December?" asks NEPSZABADSAG in an article entitled "Prognostications, Appearances, and Reality." Hungary is heading toward an economic crisis, inflation is inevitable, and our country will face unemployment-- this was the opinion of the experts, and we may say, of most people. The Party's and Government's policy of making no fundamental concession (elvi engedmenyeket) has (been justified?). As compared with last year, the workers' real wages have risen 14 percent; owing to the abolition of the produce collection, the real income of the peasants has risen, too. Production has been satisfactory. We produce only 20 percent less today than a year ago; of some of the light industrial products, we produce even more than we did before October.

On Apr. 30 just before the great red-letter day of the working class, 85,000 tons of coal were brought to the surface, 6,000 tons more than in (September?). The position as regards consumer goods has also improved; stocks held by commerce have increased. But, we must not have delusions.

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We should realize we are now poorer, owing to the ravages of the counterrevolution. The fact that we are getting more than 1.5 billion rubles from the Soviet Union and the People's Democracies, three-fourths of which in freely convertible currency, is a temporary help but we must bear in mind that this will have to be repaid.

At the moment, we consume about 95 percent of our national income. According to the estimates of the Ministry of Finance, this year's output of the enterprises will be 10 billion forints below last year's. Our foreign trade balance, too, has deteriorated. In the first quarter of this year, we imported nearly twice as much as we exported.

The problems can be overcome on one way only -- if everybody, on listening to the useful advice of the workers, makes suggestions on how to consolidate our economic life. In addition to this large-scale economies are needed in every field of state, economic, and social life because extravagance jeopardizes the workers' living standard, says the author of the NEPSZABADSAG article.

(Editor's Note: On May 5, at 1200 GMT Budapest, MTI, adds the following: By May. 31, 1956, stocks held by the state reached a value of 14.6 billion forints. Owing to the ravagings of the counterrevolution, this figure fell to 8.8 billion forints by Dec. 31. However, by Mar. 31, 1957, the value of our stocks in trade approached 11.3 billion forints. Turnover figures too reflect an improved living standard. During the first 3 months of this year the increase in sales was as follows: 88 percent for cotton fabrics; 47 percent for woolen fabrics; 37 percent for knitwear; 57 percent for shoes; 55 percent for motorcycles; and 58 percent for bicycles.)

AMBASSADOR TO MONGOLIA Janos Boldoczki, Hungarian Ambassador in Moscow, to whom the post of Ambassador to Mongolia has also been entrusted by the Presidential Council, has left Moscow for Ulan Bator to present his letter of credence. (Budapest, Home May 3, 1957, 2100 GMT--L)

PRESS SERVICE IN VIENNA-- A Hungarian press service in German is to begin operation in Vienna under the name of "UNGARISCHER PRESSE DIENST." The press service, whose aim will be to give the Austrian press and public information on events in Hungary, will be (administered?) by MTI's branch editorial office in Vienna. (Budapest, Home, May 3, 1957, 2100 GMT--L)

INFORMATION BULLETIN--The information bulletin of the Hungarian Freedom Fighters' Association has appeared for the first time since the counterrevolution. Henceforth it will appear regularly once a month, and its articles will provide information to members of the association regarding tasks connected with technical sports, among other things.