

KADAR MEETS WITH PATRIOTIC WORKERS

Budapest, MTI, in French Hellschreiber to Europe, Jan. 8, 1958, 1200 GMT--L

(Press review)

(Summary) Under the heading "The Second Meeting," today's NEPSZABADSAG, in reporting a meeting of Premier Janos Kadar and several members of the Central Committee of the Hungarian Socialist Workers Party with a delegation of workers of Pestszenterzsebet, said: "A year ago, on Dec. 11, 1956, at a time when there were still many workers delegations which threatened the government with a general strike, the delegation of Pestszenterzsebet assured the Worker-Peasant Government of its support and demanded that an end should be put to the counterrevolutionary excesses. This time it was a luncheon party at which the delegation of Pestszenterzsebet and members of the Central Committee met. In his toast Janos Kadar said: 'Our success is most remarkable as we have consolidated the people's regime and the dictatorship of the proletariat. It is from this that all our other successes follow. A further great success is the unity and strengthening of our party and the strengthening of its ties with the workers. The leading role of the party asserts itself in all spheres of public life.'"

Home Affairs in Brief

Kadar's Meeting with Pesterzsébet Workers: 'Nepszabadsag' of 8th January reported on a luncheon party, given by Kadar to a group of workers from Pesterzsébet and attended by several members of the Central Committee. On 11th December 1956, when many workers' delegations were calling on the Government to threaten a general strike, this delegation from Pesterzsébet had assured the Worker-Peasant Government of its support. Proposing a toast at the luncheon, Kadar said: "Our success in consolidating the people's regime and the dictatorship of the proletariat has been most remarkable. All our other successes flow from this. A further great success has been the consolidation and unification of our Party and the strengthening of its ties with the workers. The

leading role of the Party now asserts itself in all spheres of public life." The Party had gained respect by its frankness to the workers and by fighting consistently for its objectives. Much remained to be done to free Hungary from debt, to "develop an economy based on our own resources" and to raise the workers' living standard. (Budapest for Hungarians in W Europe 19.00 and MTI 8.1.58)

Uses and Abuses of Criticism

A 'Nepszadsag' article said that although a sharp critical sense was a good thing and mistakes must not be hushed up, it was wrong to look at things with a critical eye only and ignore "positive and healthy manifestations". This was precisely what had been happening lately. The roots of this phenomenon went back to the pre-October 1956 period. True, great mistakes had existed at that time, alongside great achievements. The counter-revolutionaries, however, had levelled their attacks not only at mistakes but also at achievements. Their intention had been to mislead and demoralise the people, and as a result of their activities many people had been unable to distinguish between right and wrong for a long time. An untrue impression could be created not only with downright lies, but also with "veiled truths and half-truths". There was of course room for criticism - on the subject of bureaucracy, for instance. But it was an unassailable truth that with all its mistakes, "our State administration is superior to any bourgeois democracy". In both economic and political life, all Communists and honest men must take notice of, and help to promote, every new and progressive feature. "We must not become complacent and avoid criticism, but we must always adhere to and propagate the whole truth", the article concluded. (Budapest 09.00, 9.1.58)

Party Topics

"Revisionism" Explained

The first of a regular series of theses is a note defining terms in general use in politics and ideology said: "Revisionism is a compromise with the capitalist system, the abandonment of the aim of overthrowing bourgeois power, of the proletarian dictatorship and socialism. Simultaneously with the evolution of revisionism, a new type of bourgeois attack on Marxism developed through revisionism within the Marxist parties. This attack proved to be most dangerous, and has done the greatest harm to the entire international labour movement. A new type of revisionism has emerged in the communist and workers' parties of the socialist countries in recent years. In Hungary, the principal protagonists of this traitorous policy were Imre Nagy and his associates. The internal sources of this new revisionism are the conservative inclinations of the petty bourgeoisie and the small peasantry, and the pressure they are able to exert. They are still unwilling to accept socialism. Its external source is the impact of the propaganda of internal reactionary forces and a retreat before imperialist propaganda and threats. Those who follow the path of compromise will certainly reach the shameful stage of submission to the internal bourgeois forces and international imperialism". (Budapest 09.00, 14.1.58)

Senior Officials' Lack of Interest in the Press

A 'Nepszabadsag' article by Jozsef Horvath, headed "Newspaper reading and politics" said that many people, to whom it was of the greatest importance, did not read the papers. Thus Council Chairmen, Party workers and others in important posts readily if ruefully admitted that they had not looked at a paper for days. The question arose whether leaders like these were fit for the job? How could a man implement a policy of which he was ignorant? Certain people, including both communists in the employ of Party, State or economic organs and non-Party people in important

leading posts, did not think it worth their while to take the criticisms and directives of the Party Press seriously. Many simply ignored what the Party paper said about them personally - about their responsibilities and sphere of work. "This is not the way to work efficiently for the Party's cause. This is the way to get into a rut, lagging behind with tasks and losing contact with the very masses at whom the Party's policy is directed and whom the Party wishes to rally more and more to socialist construction. It is the duty of informed, cultured, newspaper-reading and interested Party workers to convince these people that their mistake can do them no good." (Budapest 09.00, 16.1.58)

HISTORY, MEANING OF REVISIONISM NOTED

Budapest, Hungarian Home Service, Jan. 14, 1958, 0900 GMT--L

(Text) Yielding to the request of many of its readers, NEPSZABADSAG has opened a new permanent column in which terms often used in political life and in the political and ideological struggle will be explained.

Today an article in this column explains the meaning of revisionism. It gives a brief survey of the emergence and history of revisionism and then defines its essential features. Revisionism means a compromise with the capitalist system, the abandonment of the overthrowing of bourgeois power, the proletarian dictatorship, and socialism. Simultaneous with the evolution of revisionism a new type of attack of the bourgeoisie developed against Marxism through revisionism asserting itself within the Marxist parties. This attack proved to be the most dangerous, and it has caused the greatest harm to the entire international labor movement. In the course of the past few years a new type of revisionism emerged in the communist and workers parties of the socialist countries.

Imre Nagy and his associates were the chief representatives of this traitorous policy in Hungary. The internal source of this new type of revisionism is the conservative mood of, and the pressure exercised by, the petty bourgeoisie and small peasantry which are still unwilling to accept socialism, as well as the impact of the propaganda of internal reactionary forces. Its external source lies in a retreat before the propaganda and the threats of the imperialists. In conclusion the article points out that those who follow the path of compromise will certainly reach the shameful stage of submission to the internal bourgeois forces and international imperialism.

Dogmatism Explained

The second in the series of 'Nepszabadsag' notes defining the meaning of political terms (Summary Part IIA, No.898, p.4) concerned dogmatism. While the fundamental tenets of Marxism were "irrefutable facts of absolute value", some Marxist-Leninist tenets applied to "particular periods and conditions only". "In the first years of socialist construction in Hungary", for instance, "we made the grave mistake of interpreting the Marxist tenet on national self-sufficiency in a narrow dogmatic way and attempting to produce everything in Hungary, as was done in the USSR - a country very rich in natural resources". Another example of dogmatism was the view that war was inevitable, although the 20th CPSU Congress had declared that it could be averted. The revisionists had exploited the real mistakes arising from dogmatism to reject and abandon the fundamental tenets of Marxism-Leninism on the necessity of the revolution, the dictatorship of the proletariat, the socialist reorganisation of agriculture, etc. Marxism-Leninism had nothing in common with such "anti-dogmatism", said 'Nepszabadsag', concluding with a warning against both dogmatist and revisionist prejudices. (MTI 19.1.58)

MARXIST-LENINIST DOGMA ERRORS OUTLINED

Budapest, MTI, in French Hellschreiber to Europe, Jan. 19, 1958, 2200 GMT--L

(Text) Under the heading "What Is Dogmatism?" NEPSZABADSAG states that it is wrong to talk about dogma in connection with Marxism-Leninism. The theses of Marxism-Leninism are not revelations; on the contrary, they have scientific foundations. The fundamental tenets of Marxism-Leninism, namely the inevitability of the fall of the capitalist system and the victory of socialism, the historic role of the dictatorship of the proletariat, and so forth, are scientifically irrefutable facts, and of absolute value. There are, however, some Marxist-Leninist tenets which are not of absolute value and which only apply to certain particular periods and conditions.

The paper then recalls how Lenin modified the tenets of Marx concerning the victory of socialism in one given country. After quoting several examples taken from Soviet history, the paper states: "In the first years of socialist construction in Hungary we committed the grave mistake of interpreting the Marxist tenet on national self-sufficiency in a narrow, dogmatic way by attempting to produce everything in Hungary just as it was done in the Soviet Union, a country which is very rich in natural resources

"The paper also quotes as an example of dogmatism the views of those who maintain that war is inevitable, although the 20th congress of the CPSU declared that it was possible to avert it."

The paper recalls certain erroneous assertions of Stalin and Rakosi, while pointing out that the revisionists abused the real mistakes arising from dogmatism so as to be able to reject and abandon the fundamental tenets of Marxism-Leninism on the necessity of the revolution, the dictatorship of the proletariat, the socialist reorganization of agriculture, and so forth.

Marxism-Leninism has nothing in common with such antidogmatism, says NEPSZABADSAG, which warns against both dogmatist and revisionist prejudices. People should not judge too quickly those who in the course of debate do not immediately support the correct point of view.