

they all come to USA to learn

1917

Capitalism has and is putting every possible obstacle in the path of socialism. There are restrictions to trade. The socialist countries cannot even buy industrial goods from our country. But all this is of no avail—the gap continues to close.

Socialism started the competition in 1917 with 3% of the world industrial production. In 1961 socialism produced 37% of the world's production. Since 1937 socialism has increased its production by 7½ times, while capitalism increased its share 2½ times. The most dramatic side of this competition is that between the U.S.A. and the U.S.S.R. Slowly, item by item, the relative positions between these two countries are changing. By 1960 the U.S.S.R. had overtaken the U.S.A. in production of iron ore, coal, coke, metal cutting machine tools, diesel locomotives, electric locomotives, passenger railway cars, tractors, harvester combines, prefabricated reinforced concrete, window glass, lumber, woolen fabrics, sugar, fish, wheat, barley, potatoes, sugar beet, flax-fibre, butter and wool. In the U.S.A. we have one physician for every 800 inhabitants. In the Soviet Union there is one physician for every 600 inhabitants. They now graduate many times more scientists and engineers than we do.

And so the gap closes.

There is change in relative positions also in other areas. In the capitalist world the direction is for a restriction of democracy—as is so clearly evidenced by the McCarran Act and dozens of other repressive laws. In the socialist world the direction is constantly to broaden the base of people's democratic rule. *slavery*

every body is slave!

Here there is a struggle for medical aid and security for the aged. Under socialism this is an integral part of the basic rights incorporated into the constitution and the economic system itself. Under capitalism automation results in unemployment and insecurity. With socialism automation is a blessing that can only result in a shorter work day with a higher standard of living. Under capitalism the new generation faces the serious problem of no jobs. In socialism youth faces life in an ever expanding economy with unlimited opportunities.

Socialism has eliminated unemployment. In the capitalist world the permanent army of unemployment constantly grows.

*all slaves!*

1963

Until socialism was able to build a solid foundation, it carried the handicap of all "bootstrap" operations. Now it moves into the competition to close the gap with a firm foundation.

For socialism the handicap was a temporary phenomenon. It has now overcome it. For capitalism the advantage was temporary and the handicap remains a growing one. The handicap for capitalism is that the direction of history is against it. The old gap will close—a new gap will open up as socialism overtakes and surpasses capitalism.

Socialism is winning this competition because it is a better system for today's reality. Capitalism is a system where a few greedy rich gobble up the natural resources of the good earth and the labor power of the great majority of mankind. They use the talents and skills of all only to enrich themselves. They take absolutely no responsibility for the welfare of society. There are no tears shed when a corporation lays off workers who have given their lives to enrich the stockholders. Capitalism is a dog-eat-dog system. There can be no planning. Socialism is a system based on the concept that mankind has climbed the ladder of civilization to the point where it can now, as a world community of free men, plan, own and manage, the economy, the new technology, and use the resources of mother Nature and the talents of man all with only one aim in mind—to make the life of each and every human being fully secure, meaningful, creative and enjoyable.

If one does not give full weight to this basic assessment of the "age of change," then understandably one cannot draw the necessary policy or tactical conclusions for the period.

To understand the decisive nature of the qualitative change of this new objective reality means to acknowledge that it must of necessity affect all areas of struggle, that it will influence all the forces in the struggle, and, therefore, must be reflected in all questions of theory, policy and tactics. It simply cannot be any other way.

The historic achievement of the 17th Convention of the C.P.U.S.A. is in its correct analysis and development of policies based upon the processes of this "turning point." This is fully reflected in the resolutions which were adopted.