

discussion and approval by the workers in the factories. The bourgeois press and the leaders of the Socialist parties in capitalist countries sneered at the Five-Year Plan. They said that workers cannot manage industry, no less a national economy. The Communist Party of the Soviet Union met this by telling the workers that success depends on the energy, the will and determination of the working masses to put the Plan through. In their discussion meetings, the workers spoke about what Lenin had told them, namely, that the leaders of the Socialist parties have no faith in the working class. The workers believe with Karl Marx who wrote that there is no limit to the creative powers of the working class, once it is released from capitalist bondage. The answer of the workers to the jeering was: "The Five-Year Plan in Four Years".³³

The discussion of the Five-Year Plan included also a discussion of the ways and means of commencing its application. The workers in their meetings agreed that certain products should be exported in order to meet the expense of the necessary imported machinery. They knew that this meant a temporary sacrifice on their part. It meant that there would be less of certain foods, etc., for the working masses. In this they secured the co-operation of the peasants who forced the kulaks to sell the hidden grain to the Soviet government. The Communist Party and the trade unions sent able forces of workers into the villages to help the peasants.³⁴

In 1929, the "Year of the Great Change," which marked the mass entrance of the peasants into collective farming, the class struggle increased in the villages. The kulaks carried on an increased activity, trying to keep the peasants from joining the collectives because this meant losing the opportunity to profiteer from the labor of others; it meant their doom as a class.³⁵ The lands and implements were taken from them and turned over to the collectives.

The tractor was introduced on the Soviet State farm. The individual farms of near-by peasants were also worked with the

tractor to show the peasant the difference in the result. The peasants saw how the tractor replaced hand labor and resulted in an enormous increase of the product; the busy seasons in farming were shortened; peasants were freed from extra work; electricity penetrated into the villages. Artificial irrigation, which was possible only under the collective system of farming, was introduced. It abolished the age-long worries of the peasants concerning rain. All of this aroused the interest of the peasants for collective farming. They were convinced that it means a better material life and there was mass entry into the collectives.³⁶

The year 1932, the fourth and final year of the Five-Year Plan, found over 200,000 collective farms and 5,000 state and co-operative farms in existence. In four years, the sowing area was extended by 21,000,000 hectares. The collective and Soviet state farms produced 80 per cent of the total marketable grain in 1932. Production of various cultures for manufacturing purposes has also been greatly extended. The base for raw material for industry and grain for bread—the staple food in the Soviet Union—has been established. The Soviet Union now occupies second place in the world in the production of machinery, which includes agricultural machinery.³⁷

The main political task of the proletarian revolution in the village has been solved—collective farming has triumphed. The internal enemy has been defeated. The basis for further building of Socialism has been laid. The further success of Socialism has been assured. This splendid victory of the working class was secured not only in the fight against the class enemy, but also in a sharp struggle, under the leadership of the Communist Party, against Trotskyism, which would not accept the policy of the Communist Party that the mass of the working peasants were the allies of the working class, as pointed out by Lenin. Such a policy would have led to a defeat of the workers' rule and not to the successful building of Socialism as is the case in the Soviet Union today.