On the contrary, this aggravates further the contradictions and crises, it raises the tide of the class struggle to an ever higher degree and leads, in the final account, when the subjective factor, too, is up to the mark, to the all-conquering socialist revolution.

The Albanian people march firmly ahead on the road to the complete construction of socialist society

The successes achieved by our country in its industrialization during these twentyfive years have created the material basis which allows us to aim at transforming Albania, in the not distant future, from an agricultural-industrial country into an industrial-agricultural one. To reach this target it is indispen-sable that the main task of the industrial development should continue to be, in the future, too, the extension and improvement of the structure of industrial production, based on an advanced technology. For this purpose there must be created a stable internal basis of raw materials and, what is more important, we should be able to make a most rational exploitation, and with the best economic effect, of various natural resources. This will make it possible to ensure the fulfilment of the ever greater needs of the people's economy, the systematic increase of the well-being of the
people and the growth of the country’s defensive power.

We shall certainly achieve these objectives, for we have a heroic, industrious and resolved people, we have a glorious and talented working class, we have our Party which, by its wise and farsighted Marxist-Leninist policy, leads us for certain towards new victories.

Our countryside and our peasantry have, likewise, undergone radical transformations. All of us have still fresh in our minds the thatched-roofed huts and the oppressed peasants of Myzeqe, the hungry highlanders of Puka and Dukagjini, the whole of our toiling and much suffering peasantry. We remember the swamps and marshes which flooded the best plains of Albania from Buna, to the South, to the Vurgu of Delvina.

But all this belongs to history, to the past. Today, all the new cooperative countryside is shining in the light of socialism. The peasant has relegated to bitter memory the age-old cult of the hunk of bread, the suffering for which persecuted him from the cradle to the grave. The agricultural cooperative which has fully extended to all the villages, is today a powerful unit of the broad and all-round agricultural and livestock production, thoroughly integrated with the general national economy and a solid basis of it. With their own forces and with the great aid of the people’s power, the cooperatives today are
more and more practising intensive farming, at an ever higher level of agricultural technique.

In comparison with the pre-war level agricultural production has been increased more than three times over and the area of cultivated land has been doubled. Thanks to the land reclamation and irrigation works constructed so far, there have been reclaimed and improved about 200,000 hectares of land and the irrigation capacity, by the end of the year 1968, reached more than 240,000 hectares as against only 29,000 in 1938. At present, there are 10,500 tractors (in terms of 15 HP) at work on our fields as against 30 all told before liberation. Nowadays Albania ranks among the developed countries with regard to the use of chemical fertilizers which were not even known in this country before the war. In the year 1968 we used an average of 79 kg. of chemical fertilizers in active substance per hectare of cultivated land, while in the year 1967 Greece used 68 kg., Spain 36,8 kg., Yugoslavia 60,4 kg., Hungary 66,9 kg. and Italy 72,6 kg. of chemical fertilizers.

To the countryside and also in the life of the peasantry itself socialism has brought progress that brooks no comparison with the past. Our peasant today lives in a new house. His children attend the 8-grade school. The hospital, the outpatient clinics and the pharmacy are at his door. In many villages there
have been set up crèches and kindergartens, public bath-rooms, laundries, homes and hearths of culture. The motor-road has brought the countryside nearer to the city and every day the radio and the press bring the whole country and the whole world, to the cooperative peasants by their fireside.

The successes and victories achieved are closely connected with the Party line for the correct solution of the peasant problem which is among the most important and the most complicated problems for every country embarking on the road of socialist construction.

From the early days of liberation and onwards the Party has devoted its main attention to this vital and difficult problem, especially in our conditions, where the overwhelming percentage of the population were peasants, where the impoverished and war-ravaged countryside had to be rebuilt on new lines, unknown to it. The peasant had to stick to the land, not to abandon it due to the difficulties of the early days, because this would swell the cities with unemployed and would create a food crisis. The peasantry had to be freed from fetters of private property and to adopt the socialist way. We had to overcome the inherited backwardness and rapidly develop the forces of production in the domain of agriculture.

The Party solved this vital problem correctly. It raised and led the laboring peasantry
in the struggle against the foreign occupatio-
nists and their collaborators — the beys and
agas, big land estate holders, who had robbed
the peasant of his land and had enslaved him.
It was in this struggle that the great alliance
of the peasantry and the working class was
forged, that the main social basis of the
people's revolution and of the dictatorship
of the proletariat was established.

The consistent application of the land
reform laws, the first major decision of the
Party and the people's power on the solution
of the peasant problem, taken immediately
after liberation, brought about a deep trans-
formation in the social relations and in the
consciousness of the peasantry who witnessed
the realization of their centuries-old dream
of land and of casting off the heavy yoke of
the bey and of the landlord. The distribution
of land by the proletarian Party and the
dictatorship of the proletariat further conso-
didated the alliance of the peasantry and the
working class. Let us recall for a moment
the privations endured by and the heavy tasks
assigned to the peasantry at the beginning.
They breasted them with a high sense of duty.
Their correct and inflexible attitude towards
the decisions the Party and the people's power
were adopting was a testimony to the loyalty
of the laboring peasantry towards the Party
of the proletariat, towards the working class,
a testimony to their alliance with the working
class which they accepted as their leadership,
for they saw the correct way of development, they foresaw the prospect of the happy life which was being built through hardships and sacrifices.

All this prepared the material and spiritual conditions for taking the next decisive steps, of passing over to the process of the socialist transformation of the countryside. Alongside the large-scale work of land reclamation, for the mechanization of agriculture, for the development of agricultural crops, of stock raising, etc., there was carried out the great struggle for the collectivization of agriculture, which, according to the consistent and, at the same time, cautious directives of the Party, gradually spread throughout the country, including, of late, the upland regions as well.

By the experience of life and thanks to the large-scale explanatory work done by the Party, the peasants became convinced of the superiority of the cooperative system, the only one that can free them from want, that can save them from all and every kind of exploitation. The world outlook of the peasantry changed radically. The psychology of individual work, of the small private property and of the narrow individual interest began to give way more and more to the feeling and consciousness of collective property, of collective work and of large-scale socialist production.

It was under these conditions that the process of uniting cooperatives into larger
ones, that scientific experimentation and the application of the technical and scientific revolution began to develop on a large scale in agriculture too; that the struggle for high yields started, that agricultural technique spread 'en masse', that the number of qualified cadres increased in the countryside, etc. The new socialist countryside finds itself today under the vigorous process of development and transformation, affecting both the production and the social and cultural fields.

The intensification of mechanization, the large-scale land reclamation and irrigation schemes, the wide use of chemicals, the ever better implementation of advanced agricultural technique, the extension of the communication network, etc., the increase of the number of specialized cadres and, in general, the rise of the educational standard of the peasant, have created proper material conditions for carrying out modern intensive farming in breadth and depth, for raising cultural and living standards of the cooperative peasant masses, to bring about an ever greater rapprochement of the production and life of the countryside with that of industry and of the city.

This revolutionary process of the vigorous development of the productive forces in agriculture and of the perfecting of socialist relations in the countryside will continue until the agricultural cooperatives are transformed from the property of the group into the property of
the entire people, until the differences between the cooperatives and the state farms are eliminated so as to reach the complete building of socialism in the countryside, to gradually narrow down and eventually liquidate the essential differences between the city and the country, between the peasantry and the working class, etc. This is the Marxist-Leninist road that leads to the classless communist society.

The correctness of the Party line with regard to the countryside, as well as the magnificent victories achieved during these 25 years become still more evident when we witness the grave and critical situation of agriculture in the Soviet Union and in the other revisionist countries.

The modern revisionists, some earlier and others later, abandoned the Marxist-Leninist road of the socialist development of the countryside. They have liquidated and are liquidating the gains of socialism in the countryside. Their road is that of returning to capitalism under allegedly socialist labels.

Capitalism and the modern revisionists, under the pretext of «superindustrialisation», of the creation of «industrial society», of «complex mechanisation» of agriculture, etc., impoverish the country-side, compel the peasantry to abandon their farmsteads, introducing the grip of agrarian concerns, they depopulate the countryside and throw millions of
unemployed onto the roads, they create the reserve of slaves, which they use to increase exploitation in the city as well.

We follow a diametrically opposite course in our socialist society. Attaching first-rate importance to industrialisation and mechanism of labor, at the same time we by no means underrate the countryside and do not advance on the road of depopulation of the villages but we develop agriculture in harmony with them. While fighting for high yields in the lowland areas, we do not neglect fighting for the rapid development of agriculture in the hilly and mountainous areas. The preservation of the right proportions in this direction is very important to the cause of socialist construction in our country, to any situation that may arise, whereas allowing the creation of discrepancies is fraught with disorders and grave economic, political, class and ideological consequences.

Agriculture is faced today with very important problems and tasks, on the solution of which the entire development of our national economy is directly dependent. For the development of the productive forces in the countryside in the present conditions of our country it is indispensable that we should aim mainly at the increase of the yields of agricultural crops and the productivity of livestock, at the extension of the area of the cultivated lands, and at the improvement and
perfecting of the structure of agricultural production.

Our patriotic laboring peasantry, led by the Party and enjoying, as always, the aid and support of the working class, will accomplish these great tasks with success, it will certainly make its life more flourishing and more prosperous.

The greatest achievement of this period is the moulding of the new man endowed with lofty revolutionary qualities

Dear Comrades,

The great historic victories, achieved by new Albania during these 25 years of the people’s power on all the fronts of the struggle for the building and defence of socialism, testify to the heroism, patriotism and the high revolutionary spirit of our wonderful men and women, inspired and educated with a special care by the Party. If our country, with rare spirit of self-denial, has been able to overcome within a short period of time the countless difficulties and obstacles raised by the centuries long inherited backwardness and by the frantic hostile activity of the imperialists, revisionists and reactionary forces, if our people have built a developed socialist society and our Homeland stands as an impregnable fortress and
a beacon-light of socialism on the Adriatic coast, this is due, to a large extent, to the fact that the Party has been able to create and temper the new man, equipped with a high socialist consciousness and outstanding revolutionary qualities.

We are rightfully proud of our heroic working class, of our valiant laboring peasantry, of our revolutionary youth, of our wonderful women, of our people’s intelligentsia — of the whole of our people who, united as one, rallied around the Party, are marching onward fearing no tempest whatsoever. The war-time heroism has been repeated during the whole period of socialist construction and it is rising higher in the present days. It has become a distinctive feature of our society.

Let us preserve, develop and increase with every passing day these lofty qualities which the Party has forged in our men and women!

Especially in these recent years, ever since the Open Letter and the historic 5th Party Congress, in close connection with the entire process of the revolutionisation of national life, a new qualitative leap is underway for the moulding of the new man of socialist society.

The great revolutionary process which is taking place today is a continuation and deepening of our socialist revolution. It is a general offensive against all the blemishes and remnants from the old world which we
are burying, it is a great and all-round struggle to bar the road to the restoration of capitalism today and in the future, from inside or outside, it is a fierce class struggle to lead the revolution continually forward, to ensure the complete and ultimate victory of the socialist road over the capitalist road.

This great revolutionary process, which is taking place under the leadership of the Party and with the broad participation of the working masses, has encompassed all fields of life, of political and ideological, economic and cultural, organizational and military activities. It has set in motion everything, everybody, effecting a radical overturning of concepts, customs, traditions, in the way of living, in the manners and attitudes of men and women, in their entire work and life. Revolutionisation has created a high militant spirit, a great mobilisation in work, an unexampled spirit of innovatorism, a steel-like unity of the people and the Party. It has encouraged as never before the revolutionary initiative, individual action and courage of the masses, which have found their powerful expression in a series of deep revolutionary movements of an economic, political and ideological character. This is a living testimony to the correctness of the Party line and a brilliant victory for it.

In the struggle for the further revolutionisation of the life of the country, the Party is courageously blazing untrodden paths;
by its experience it is making an important contribution to the theory and practice of socialism, to the enrichment of the historic experience of the dictatorship of the proletariat. The importance of this experience rests in the fact that it shows how to ensure the continuity of revolution, how to build the complete socialist society and to pass over to communism, how to prevent the backward turn or interruption of the revolutionary process.

In moulding the new man, conscious worker of socialist construction, a great role has been played by the development and deepening of the revolution in the field of education and culture, as an integral part of, and closely connected with, the entire development of our revolution. The solution of this task appears still more urgent, if we do not lose sight of the backwardness which we have inherited from the past. The Party made it clear at the very outset that socialism could not be built with illiterate persons; that, to have the country advance, it was necessary to raise the educational and cultural standards of the workers and peasants.

The whole of Albania is covered by a wide network of schools of all types. Two out of every 7 persons attend school. The compulsory 8-grade education has been fully realized not only in the city, but now also in all the villages. This is at a time when today as yet in Italy over 100,000 children remain
illiterate each year, while in Yugoslavia 20 per cent and in Greece 27 per cent of the population are illiterate. In the whole of our educational system today there are serving about 23,000 teachers as against approximately 1,700 that served before liberation. The middle schools of Delvina and Konispol alone, count more pupils than all the gymnasiums of Albania in 1938, whereas one of the parallels of the tenth form of the «Qemal Stafa» middle school in Tirana counts more girls than all the country’s gymnasiums had before the war. As to higher education, formerly nonexistent, Albania boasts today of 113 students for every 10,000 inhabitants, leaving behind in this field such advanced countries as Britain, Germany, Italy and Switzerland. Our higher schools graduate today about 2,000 cadres yearly, or over 5 times as many as the total number of highly trained specialists Albania had in 1938.

Actually, our Party and our people have engaged in a great work and struggle for the revolutionization of our schools. We have now a clear and full program of action in this field. It is incumbent on us to deeply understand the decisions of the 8th Plenum of the Party Central Committee and to take all the measures to put them into practice. While giving priority to the Marxist-Leninist education of youth, our schools through a scientific combination of study with productive work
and with the physical and military training of the pupils and students, must train capable cadres, loyal and resolute fighters for the cause of communism, prepared to cope with every task and every difficulty.

In the field of culture and art, likewise, there have taken place changes so great that no parallel whatever can be drawn with the past. Only 17 cinemas, 2 museums, 5 libraries and the publication of some 180,000 copies of books comprised the entire basis of culture in the year 1938. Whereas at present, we have about 1,750 homes and hearths of culture, the cinema network has extended not only to all the large and small cities, but also to many agricultural cooperatives. Twenty-five professional theaters and variety shows, tens of public libraries, museums and house-museums contribute to the cultural and revolutionary up-bringing of the masses. During the year 1968, the «Mihal Duri» printing establishment alone printed 590 books with a total circulation of about 7 million copies. The radio is being introduced to almost all families and now work is underway for the erection of a television center which marks another important stride ahead for the dissemination of the proletarian ideology and culture.

All-round cultural and artistic activity with the active participation of the workers, peasants, young men and young women,
is today being conducted in all the parts of our Homeland. Hundreds of talented writers and artists are militating with their works for the ideals of the Party and socialism.

These successes will be further developed in the future. Just as we have done so far, we must see to it that education and culture remain free from the penetration of alien bourgeois and revisionist influences, that they always remain powerful weapons in the struggle which our people are waging in defence of our Homeland and in building socialism.

The large-scale and daily work of the Party and of the mass organisations for the communist education of our men and women, the broad development of socialist education and culture, have resulted in raising the revolutionary consciousness of the working people to a higher level. But it would be a mistake to become self-satisfied and complacent about that. We must be aware that the fight for the moulding of the new man is the most protracted, the most arduous, the most complicated and the most delicate fight, because it is precisely in this field that the resistance of the old world is greater, more stubborn and deeper. The struggle between the two socialist and capitalist ways passes through the consciousness of men. Therefore, the purging of the consciousness of the working people of all the traces and influences of the
old society and of the capitalist and revisionist world that surrounds us, the moulding of the working people with the Marxist-Leninist world outlook, with the norms of communist morality, with revolutionary virtues, is an indispensable condition and an integral part of the complete building of socialist society. Undervaluation in this respect and deficiencies in this fields, as shown by the negative experience of the Soviet Union and of certain other countries, are fraught with grave consequences.

Especially in the present epoch, when the problems and the tasks of the struggle in the ideological field are in the forefront, the persistent and scientific fight of the Party and of the dictatorship of the proletariat for moulding the new man of socialist society, should be carried out frontally, in all directions. The whole economic and social development of our country, of the structure and superstructure, of education and culture, must serve this purpose.

On the question of the education of men and women a deep demarcation line is drawn between us and the modern revisionist renegades who seek by all their means to degenerate men spiritually, ideologically, politically and morally, in order to turn them into blind tools of their anti-Marxist and treacherous policy, into obedient slaves of the revisionist counter-revolution.

Our Party has never viewed the revolu-
tionary communist education of the working people as a mere illuminist process, the less so as a spontaneous and passive process, but as an active process of the class struggle in the fold of the people, which is carried out by the Party, by the State of the dictatorship of the proletariat and the mass organisations, with the participation of all the working people. The Party has underlined and continues to underline that the communist education of men and women is part and parcel of the active, merciless and principled fight against all the stains and influences of alien ideologies, whether feudal, patriarchal, bourgeois, petty-bourgeois or revisionist, which will inevitably continue to exist for a very long time yet, to this or that extent, in the consciousness of our working people. Any concession, appeasement, compromise or opportunism towards the manifestations and influences of alien ideologies would be fatal to our cause.

This frontal struggle for the communist up-bringing of the working people, of vital importance to the fate of the revolution and socialism, places great tasks before the Party, before the social and State organisations, our schools and the family, our literature and arts, before all the organisations and institutions which form social opinion. The whole of this work should be further improved, should be made deeper, more persuasive, more militant, always correctly combining theory and practice,
explanatory ideological and political work with the mass revolutionary undertaking, education with self-education, educative measures with economic and organisational ones, etc. The attentive and continuous study of the immortal works of the classics of Marxism-Leninism, of the documents and of the history of our glorious Party of Labor will help all the working people to master better the materialist world outlook and our vanguard theory, it will make them more capable of waging the great struggle which lies ahead for the complete building of socialism and of communist society.

The Party line for the country's industrialisation and the uninterrupted development of collectivized agriculture, the continuous efforts for the expansion of education and culture, the tireless work for the further revolutionisation of the whole national life, have not been and will never be an aim in themselves. They all serve one great aim — the all-round physical and spiritual emancipation of the working masses, the uplift of the standard of their wellbeing.

We build socialism relying on our own resources

The greatest victory reaped by our Party and our People's Regime during these 25 years in our country is the liquidation of exploita-
tion of man by man. The peasant and the worker, the employee and the intellectual, everybody, earns his living by his work and contributes to the building of socialism. The Albanian woman, this tremendous revolutionary force, that once was treated with contempt and destined only for household chores, is taking an active part in the country’s political life, in social production, in factory and field, in education, culture, commerce, etc. This is another historic victory of our Party and of our People’s Power.

Before the war, people in Albania died for lack of a dose of quinine. As a consequence of slavey labor and poverty their average life-span did not exceed 38 years. Today there are hospitals and maternity homes in the remotest areas of the country such as that of Dukagjini. The extension of the medical service throughout the country, the erection of hospitals, clinics, outpatient clinics and infirmaries, the medical service and treatment given free of charge to the entire population, and in general, the increase of the wellbeing of our working people, have made their life happy and secure. At present, the average life-span of man in our country has lengthened and has reached 66 years.

The increase of agricultural and industrial production, the increase of national income and its just distribution have made possible the increase of the purchasing power of the
working people. In the year 1968, as against 1938 there were consumed, per capita of the population, more of the following items: Sugar and sugar-products over 2.5 times, edible fats over 2 times, vegetables and their products 2.3 times, various fabrics 10 times, all sorts of footwear 4.3 times, etc.

During these 25 years there have been built with State funds, with the aid of the State, and by the working people themselves, about 185,000 dwelling flats and houses in cities and in the countryside. This means that more than half of the present-day population of the whole country have been lodged in new dwelling houses.

The latest price reduction which was effected on the eve of this jubilee, is another testimony showing that our Party and the People’s Power are firmly and consistently advancing on the road of the continuous improvement of the living standard of the working people. Another great proof of this reality is also the fact that Albania is the only country in the world where there is no tax or direct impost on the population.

The tremendous changes that have taken place from the country’s liberation until today, are the fruit of the selfless work of our working people, they are the fruit of the correct Marxist-Leninist policy of our Party of Labor. In the realisation of these victories we have enjoyed also the internationalist aid
and support of our class brothers. In particular, on the occasion of this red-letter day we hail the unreserved and fraternal aid which has been and is being given to our people for the building of socialism, by the great fraternal Chinese people, by the glorious Communist Party of China and the most beloved friend of our people, the great Marxist-Leninist, comrade Mao Tse-tung. This aid provided us with the possibility of further developing our national economy, of successfully carrying onward the building of socialism. Our people are grateful to the fraternal Chinese people for this generous internationalist aid.

The Soviet revisionist renegades, although they realize that their blockade has been smashed to smithereens and that they have been unable to force Socialist Albania to her knees, express concern about the Albanian people for allegedly «being in straits» and «marking time» since they have received no further «credits and aid» from the Soviet Union! But we say to them: «Don’t lament over those who are in the saddle. We do not want your so-called aid which is poison and a trap to enslave the people. We have the great riches of our soil; we have the sweat, the vigor, the iron will and the resourcefulness of our talented people who are skilfully extracting and utilising these riches for their own well being and that of the cause of socialism. We have our glorious Party of Labor
which is leading the country with Marxist-Leninist wisdom and courage on the road of socialist construction». We say to the revisionists: «Your blockade, your brutal abrogation of economic agreements, your complete cessation supplying industrial equipment, your stealth of designs and blue-prints, our abandonment half way of the work begun, etc. may have hampered the implementation of the third five-year plan at the start, but our national economy never stopped for a single moment its victorious march onward. It emerged triumphant over your impudent blockade».

We say to them: «You are 'concerned' about our crude oil and the extraction of minerals? Don't worry! As compared with the year 1960 oil extraction in Albania has now grown by 80 per cent, whereas the production of copper ore is 4 times as large, and the same is true for chromium ore, coal, etc. Your wickedness, your mania for slander has overshadowed the logic of figures. You invent the tale that the power industry in Albania has allegedly lagged behind. Figures, show, however, that, in comparison with 1960, the production of electric power is today 4.1 times as large. The Fieri thermal-station alone, built in these recent years, is 4 times as powerful as the Ulza hydro-power station. Are you 'worried' about the training of high cadres? Then take note that in 1960 we had only 4,245 highly trained specialists, whereas today about
14,000 such specialists are serving the people. You lament over the state of our agriculture? But we tell you that at no previous time have we ever had such great successes in agriculture as during this decade. In comparison with the year 1960, the wheat yield output has grown by 90.5 per cent; thus, it has almost doubled, whereas that of maize has increased 2.2 fold.

What do these facts show? They speak of the complete failure of the revisionist plot and the great victory of our heroic Party of Labor, the victory of Marxists-Leninism also in the economic field. The collapse of the economic blockade, which is a brutal means of subjugation, testifies that the Albanian people are invincible, that they do not kowtow under pressures of this kind, just as they are not intimidated by threats and saber-rattling.

Historic experience, in general, the reality and struggle of our country, in particular, the magnificent successes achieved by socialist Albania during these 25 years, have once more confirmed the correctness of the great Leninist principle that the internal factor in revolution and in the building of socialism is the determining one, that in every action the people should rely on their own efforts. This, of course, does not exclude the sincere and disinterested internationalist aid of the socialist countries, of the international proletariat, of
the genuine Marxist-Leninist parties and the progressive peoples in the world.

During the National-liberation War, and relying on this principle, the Party aroused the whole people, for it was clear to us that freedom is not donated, but it is won through struggle, bloodshed and sacrifices. We ruthlessly exposed the deceptive maneuvers of the Ballist and Zogist traitors, and of the British and U.S. imperialists who alleged that the struggle which our people were waging and the blood they were shedding were uncalled for, for the «allies» would bring to us a ready-made freedom. On the contrary, it was precisely the heroic struggle of the people themselves that gave them the possibility of taking their destinies into their own hands and establishing their own power, which made it possible to bar all the roads to imperialist intervention in the domestic affairs of our country for the purpose of bringing to power an anti-popular and pro-imperialist regime.

But while our forces were fighting on these mountains, our Party never thought of waging an isolated struggle, detached from the general antifascist front. Therefore, it integrated the National-liberation War of our people with that of the Soviet Union, led by Stalin, and with that of all the peoples of the world who were fighting against nazifascism. We by no means under-rate, as the Soviet