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REVISIONIST CLIQUE MOVES
AT A QUICK PACE TOWARDS
THE RE-ESTABLISHMENT
OF CAPITALISM**

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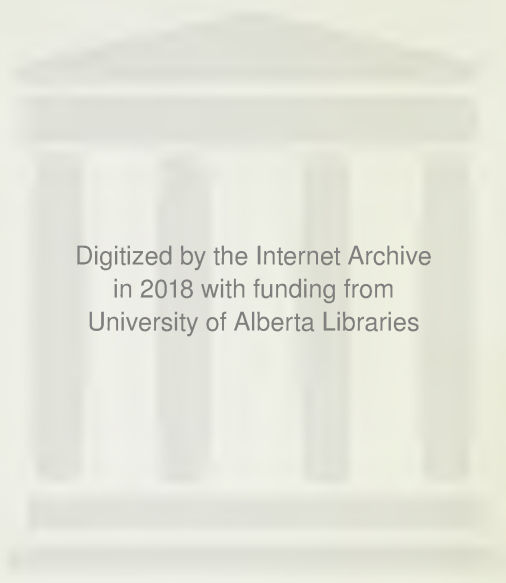
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THE SOVIET REVISIONIST CLIQUE MOVES
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TIRANA, 1967

THE SOVIET REVISIONIST CLIQUE MOVES AT A QUICK PACE TOWARDS THE RE-ESTABLISHMENT OF CAPITALISM

In recent times and through its so-called «new economic reform» which it is carrying out in the Soviet Union, Khrushchevite revisionism is creating the necessary conditions for a further and speedy development of capitalist trends in Soviet economy, proceeding, thus, at a greater speed towards the restoration of capitalism. The essence of this «reform» is camouflaged by the unbridled demagoguery of «the welfare of workers», hurling invectives and maledictions on their predecessor and master, that clown of a Khrushchev, for his «voluntarism», his under-evaluation of scientific data, but, at the same time, following in his footsteps. Instead of the «all-embracing chemistry» and numerous «reorganizations» of their predecessors, the present revisionists, who have usurped power in the leadership of the Soviet Party and State, have proclaimed «the new reform» and material stimuli as the only means of «salvation» from the evil which is gnawing at Soviet society. But the re-establishment of capitalism cannot be easily effected without the aid and support of interna-

tional capital, with all the good wishes of the revisionists. And the monopolists of the advanced capitalist countries, who are hailing and applauding the Soviet revisionists for every step they take, are only too willing to meet their requests for dollars, pounds sterling and liras. All this is weighing heavily on the shoulders of the Soviet people. Revisionist demagoguery may try hard to proclaim the «success» of the new reform and may reproach with «dogmatism» any Soviet citizen who expresses the slightest opposition to the new reform, but the sun cannot be covered up with a sieve. Numerous and daily facts speak clearly of the ever increasing development of capitalist trends in Soviet economy.

The new economic reform which is being feverishly applied in the Soviet Union has proclaimed profits as the guiding principle in Soviet economy. This is bound to give free play to the objective economic laws of capitalism, competition, fluctuation of prices and so on. Making also the material stimulus of workers dependent on profits realized by the enterprise, the new reform aims at strengthening and increasing a new privileged class as a principal support of revisionism as a whole.

But the new reform is not yielding the results expected in spite of the great attempts of the revisionists to prettyfy them. Thus, the statistical reports the Soviet revisionists have started to publish on the realization of the plan of profits of the industrial enterprises of 22 Ministries show that, during the first half of 1966, the plan was realized only by the enterprises of 12 Ministries whereas,

for the period from January to November of the same year, it was realized only by the enterprises of 4 Ministries. How can this decline be accounted for when the authors of the reform expected a striking increase? In the Soviet press itself there «slip» now and then materials which show that the results of the first six months are also fictitious. Since the sum of payments for the fund of production depended, according to the reform, on the value of these products then, of course, the enterprises took steps to sell and do away with excess stocks, eliminating them by a stroke of the pen from their balance sheets. Thus, for instance, at the Kupavini light textile factory, during the first six months, they lowered the value of equipment and materials 3.1 million rubles, of these 1.8 million rubles consist of the value of raw materials and materials sold to others. Recently the newsagency TASS informed: «They now call the insertion of wholesale prices in the heavy industry as a central problem of the reform. The total index of these prices will increase about 12⁰/₀. As pointed out at the press conference, the new prices will lead to a rise of the profitableness of workshops and factories. Now the production of nearly 20⁰/₀ of various industrial products are at a loss». So that, it is not the rise in productivity but commercial machinations and rise of prices that improve the financial situation and raise productivity in enterprises. Needless to say, these are fictitious results. At the Pavlo-Posadesky Textile Mills they started last year to turn out woolen textiles for suits, and other expensive assortments, raising profits at the

cost of the strata of population with lower incomes and to the profit of the privileged class receiving fat salaries. Chaotic trends to change the nomenclature of products with the sole purpose of increasing profits, an entirely capitalist trend, have now gripped all the light industry of the Soviet Union. On its part, it automatically gives rise to a chaotic condition in supplying the market with necessary goods and to an irrational utilization of the resources of the country. Thus, after pointing out the lack of agricultural raw material for the light industry of the Soviet Union, the paper «*Ekonomicheskaya Gazeta*» wrote at the beginning of this year: «It is essential that our industry should process low-grade cotton in order to cover up part of the deficit for raw materials». But the enterprises refuse to accept this low-grade cotton because they want to produce only expensive textiles, the kinds that yield higher profits.

From these initial signs, it clearly turns out that, by proceeding towards decentralization of management, the new economic reform is paving the way for chaos in production and accumulation of maximum profits to the detriment of the interests of the broad masses of the people. This is the surest way to capitalism.

In order to camouflage this, the modern Soviet revisionists were obliged to resort to the use of unhampered material stimuli which is a most refined and advanced form of the Khrushchevite «socialism of the gulash». But what do facts show about material stimuli?

According to the new reform, the Soviet

enterprises set up funds for material stimuli, funds for social and cultural measures and for building houses and funds for developing production. But who has profited from these funds? In 49 enterprises of light industry during the nine months from January to September last year, according to the new reform, 2,104,000 rubles from the funds for material stimuli were distributed in the form of rewards among the employees and engineering and technical personnel while only 184,000 rubles among all the other workers. Taking into account the numerical ratio between them, it turns out very clearly that the new Soviet bureaucrats devoured meat while the workers were given only the bones to lick. One can easily imagine what turn things will be getting in the future, considering that these funds will increase immensely as foreseen in the plans of the revisionists. Can it possibly be that the workers have profited from the other funds created in the enterprise, from the social and cultural funds and funds for building dwelling houses? It is significant that the other two funds set up in the above enterprises have been realized only 30 and 33 per cent respectively whereas the funds for material stimuli have been fulfilled and overfulfilled. This tendency of the bureaucrats (encouraged by the revisionists) to wrest from the sweat and toil of workers and peasants as much as possible is assuming growing proportions. Thus, at the «A.N. Kuzmin» metallurgic plant at Novosibirsk there was set up such a system of remuneration in an aggregate of roller metal work as to give 340 rubles for a rise of one percent

of the quality of products while the employees and engineering and technical personnel received a reward of 1,200 rubles. This is one of the many cases of fraud and stealth of people's property which has begun to spread far and wide in Soviet life.

This situation cannot but arouse a feeling of revolt among the workers when they read in the last issue of 1966 of the «Kommunist» that the revisionist ideologists urge «further progress» in this direction. «To go further ahead in this direction», the periodical writes, «means to overcome egalitarianism in appraising work and material incentive...» But in the same issue the revisionist periodical feels obliged to assert that «workers have little felt the superiority of the new system». Here is a concrete result of this situation: 1000 workers quit their jobs during the month of November last year from the «Rossyelmash» plant which produces agricultural machinery. What compelled them to take this step? The «Kommunist» periodical itself felt obliged to assert that the reason lay in «intensive work», in «bad housing conditions» and in «insufficient material stimulus». If these are bluntly translated, they mean «exploitation in capitalist form to increase profits», «lack of interest for the living conditions of the workers» and «low wages».

But the revisionists are little concerned about the bad situation which is being created in their industrial enterprises, all they are after is to increase and raise their material stimuli. In this year's first issue of their «Ekonomicheskaya Gazeta» leaflet the bureaucrats of the state organs

propose that the regional, city and district offices of local industry as well as the central offices of the Ministries should be organized on a commercial basis. This means that the managers and employees of these offices should also profit from material stimuli at the cost of the workers of industry.

But not all the employees and engineering and technical personnel profit from these rewards and fat salaries. The director of an enterprise has been given full power to act as he pleases. This cannot fail to arouse a feeling of revolt among the plain Soviet workers. Worker M. Suroshnikov of the macaroni factory at Borisovsk writes: «In our factory, Director S. K. Antonyevich raised the salaries of certain comrades who neither deserve nor have anything to do with production... Please answer: Before designating such a rise should the director first consult the bureau of the Party and the trade union committee of the factory?» «*Ekonomicheskaya Gazeta*» replies (N^o 33, 1966, page 30): «The enterprise is run by the director... The decision on enterprises does not foresee consultations with social organizations in such cases». Thus, the directors of Soviet enterprises are not at all interested in what others of the enterprise think. A director of this kind who can fix the salaries and rewards of workers at his own free will is hard to be exempt from the influence of leg-pullers. The director enjoys the right to appoint and dismiss from work any one he wishes. In short: either serve the director or lose your daily bread. No difference whatsoever between

the relations of workers with the director of a capitalist enterprise!

The resistance which the new economic reform has met within the country has not made it possible, for the time being, for the revisionists to give free play to prices in order to turn the Soviet enterprises completely into enterprises with all the characteristics of capitalist ones. But they are working towards this. The Chairman of the State Committee for fixing prices in the Soviet Union, V. Sitnin, wrote in the «Kommunist» on September 30, 1966: «We think that in the future the practice should be adopted more widely according to which the enterprises themselves would fix the prices on the basis of a given norm of calculation.»

It is the internal resistance towards the revisionist reform, the fear to proclaim in public their real intentions, the fear from the Soviet people themselves that compels revisionist ideologists, Liberman & C^o, to speak against the bourgeois theory of convergence which interprets the new economic reform of the Soviet Union as an approach to capitalism, as a turn to capitalism. In «Literaturnaya Gazeta» Liberman gives an excited reply: «When all is said and done, convergence is an approach and we are in favor of an approach but of what approach, on what basis?... We are in favor of that approach during which the capitalist countries will come to socialism».

This is the first «argument» by which the Soviet revisionists confirm that they are proceeding towards capitalism. Here is the second «argument»:

«No ruble in socialist profit is spent on non-productive consumption. There is no class among us which can appropriate profits for private interests». (ibid: «Literaturnaya Gazeta» March 5, 1966). But Liberman should at least lend credit to the words he himself says that «the capitalists distribute and re-distribute profits among themselves regardless of what suits they wear: that of shareholder, banker, director of a large concern, businessman, broker, speculator and so on and so forth». The difference between the wages of a plain working man and the salary of a director of a Soviet enterprise is growing at such a speed that it will very soon be difficult to distinguish it from that in a capitalist enterprise. But no one would dream of considering the director of a capitalist concern as a worker who is exploited by capitalism merely because he has a fixed salary. The main thing is how much this salary is, how much more he receives from society than he gives to it. It is a known fact that simple capitalist cooperativism was started by individual craftsmen when the richer subdued the poorer and obliged them to work, as Marx says, «under the same roof». Then, the proprietor of this workshop of simple capitalist cooperative, filling the function of supervisor and manager of production, became the representative of the stratum of directors which began to exploit the stratum of craftsmen. The first gave birth to capitalism — the second to the proletariat. Therefore, what now exists in the Soviet Union as a privileged stratum alone, is itself creating all the necessary requirements, utilizing for this purpose the power

usurped by the revisionists, in order to grow, enrich and strengthen itself as a class of exploiters. In this bitter reality for the Soviet people, a certain V. Kadulin writes in an unbridled demagogical vein in the «Kommunist» periodical that «the reform is a new discovery which our economic science must make». But wherein does this new discovery lie if profit and material stimuli are the only «motive force» which should draw «the new reform»? As far as profit goes, this is nothing new: deriving maximum profit is the main law of capitalist development copied with fidelity by the Khrushchevite revisionists. This is as «new» as capitalism itself. As to the super-evaluation and absolutism of material stimuli, here too there is nothing new for the revisionists to boast of as «a discovery». It is only a carefully camouflaged variation of the bourgeois theory of stimulating the enterprises combined with getting all the workers «interested» in increasing capitalist profits. «Fordism» and «fraternalism» with FIAT are the classical examples from which the Khrushchevite revisionists are getting their inspiration.

The degeneration of the economic organization of the Soviet Union towards capitalism is proceeding at such leaps and bounds that a certain N.S. Llagutin writes in his pamphlet «For the Welfare of the People» published in Moscow in 1966: «All social production in general has one objective goal as its intrinsic characteristic, namely, to meet the requirements of people through the production of the necessary commodities for consumption». Consequently, according to this

demagogue, capitalist production is subjected also to this objective. This is a thesis which all bourgeois ideologists repeat and uphold so vehemently.

In the domain of agriculture, these views and acts of the Khrushchevite economists have led to the all-round support and development of the private sector which, in 1965, by cultivating only 3% of the land has turned out 17% of the over-all agriculture production, whereas still more of some staple agricultural products as, for instance, 60% of potato production, 42% of fruits, meats and milk, 73% of eggs, etc.

Private plots are given not only to peasants but also to employees in the outskirts of cities on which they build villas and plant fruit trees and vegetables which they sell to private marketeers. This course is leading to an ever weakening of links with collectivized agriculture. A Georgian peasant living about 100 kilometers from Tbilis says that he has a personal plot of ground, 0.5 of hectar in size. He could have received a larger plot of ground but he could not till it. From what he has now under his possession he receives five-sixths of his income.

A situation of this kind cannot fail from giving rise to the black market. Many facts give evidence of this. On the Moscow and Tbilis markets, for instance, one sees day in day out numerous trucks and camionettes loading and unloading fruits and vegetables which blackmarketeers buy from peasants and sell at higher prices in the cities which state organs of trade cannot supply normally. Motor vehicles for black-marketeters there

are aplenty at a time when a certain. S. Timofeyev writes in last year's issue N^o 37 of the «*Ekonomicheskaya Gazeta*» that: «because of lack of motor vehicles we supply only 15 to 20% of the population with goods».

Articles of luxury, imported garments which are sold at double the price of those of the state have now become «a daily merchandize» in the black-markets of Soviet cities.

Lack of interest in collective work and property, development of tendencies to get rich on the toil and sweat of the masses, the increasing number of black-marketeers and private businessmen, dissipated life and «profitable» degradation — these are the consequences of fostering «private initiatives» and «material stimuli», which the new Soviet leaders are promoting at a faster rate than their predecessor and master Khrushchev. These are sure to lead to the restoration of capitalism, to the complete liquidation of the achievements of the Soviet people attained by so much bloodshed and sweat during about half a century.

International imperialism has a good grasp of this reality and it is not without ultimate reasons that it supports it. The recent agreements the Soviet revisionists are entering into with the big monopolies of advanced capitalist countries speak very clearly of this. U.S., English, Japanese, French, Italian and other monopolies are only too eager to invest their capital in Soviet economy. Thus, for instance, the Khrushchevite revisionists are concluding many agreements with Japan, particularly, agreements to exploit Siberia. Referring to this,

the TASS newsagency announced last year: «... of greater importance would, of course, be to discuss the possibility of Japan participating in the exploration of Siberia, particularly, in collaborating in the industry of gas, naphtha and processing of lumber».

«... it would be to the interest of Japan to import from Siberia other raw materials which it stands in need of».

«... Siberia provides a large market for the sale of Japanese machinery».

At the joint meeting of the Soviet-Japanese and Japanese-Soviet committees, the Soviet representative Nesterov, speaking to the representatives of the press, said in a vein of enthusiasm: «There is nothing to prevent the establishment of relations of good neighborliness between our two countries.» This was in response to the support given to this Soviet representative by the representatives of the biggest Japanese firms.

The same spirit runs through the relations of the Soviet revisionists with the Italian capitalists. Their relations with FIAT are already well known. In connection with this, the same TASS newsagency has made known: «The Italian FIAT concern concluded here (in Moscow) the biggest trade operation during all the days of its existence.» It must be stressed that this operation will be carried out with the credits the Italian State Credit Association IMI will accord to the Foreign Trade Bank of the USSR. Thus, the capitalist state and the biggest imperialists of Italy will «help» build communism in the USSR. As a matter of fact, the

Italian imperialists intend to use Soviet economy as a basis from which to import raw materials and to which to export their industrial products. This is the usual policy of the advanced capitalist countries towards other countries from which they intend to draw large profits. Expressing his despair at such a compelling treatment, the correspondent of the paper «Izvestya», Kolossov, wrote from Milan on March 4, 1966: «Apparently, the volume of Soviet-Italian trade may be further expanded if the Italian businessmen would have centered their attention, apart from importing raw materials from the USSR, also in this direction». By this he meant selling to Italy large Soviet machinery to be used for mineral and power industry for which the Italian businessmen seem to have shown no interest.

Of great significance are also certain statements on the economic relations between the Soviet revisionists and French capitalists.

The French Minister of Economy and Finances, Debré, has stated: «The Soviet Union and France should fully explore all possibilities to assist each other in raising economy, science and technique to a higher level». And Deputy-Chairman of the Council of Ministers of the USSR N. Baybakov, reconciled to the way the French Minister poses the question, «explored the possibilities» of the Soviet Union stating: «France could take part in developing certain branches of the economy of the Soviet Union, for example, in extracting useful minerals and setting up enterprises to process them». Baybakov seems to have groped into the files of the Czarist regime and

«discover» there the possibilities of the French monopolists who held first place in Czarist Russia among foreign monopolists in exploiting the mineral industry of Russia (K.A. Petrosyan: «Sovietsky metod industrializacyy», Gospolitizdat, 1951, p. 159). Taking their cue from the willingness of the present Soviet leaders to fling open the doors of Soviet economy to the onrush of foreign capital, as the French paper «NATION» of November 20 points out, «the continuous increase of French firms interested in expanding the economic, technical and scientific relations with the Soviet Union has no end».

The same thing is happening with British firms which are also trying to use the Soviet Union as a source of raw materials and a market for British goods. This was clearly expressed by Prime Minister Wilson himself at a banquet which was laid in London by the Russian-British Chamber of Commerce whose membership includes 650 British firms. Wilson stressed that in the trade between the two countries there have been lifted now such artificial obstacles as the ban on sales of so-called «strategic commodities». But he expressed the hope of increasing exports of British goods to the USSR as one of the principal ways to further expand trade relations.

In view of this onrush of capitalist firms of its weaker partners on the economy of the Soviet Union, the United States of America began to feel uneasy too. On October 12, 1966 the Department of Commerce of the United States announced that the U.S. Government decided to lift the ban on the

exportation of about 400 so-called «non-strategic» commodities to the Soviet Union and the countries of Eastern Europe, considering this a further step taken by the U.S. Government in order to create the necessary conditions for a «peaceful evolution» of these countries. Being enthusiastic of this «new offer», the Soviet revisionists sent and published in «New York Times» at the beginning of this year, two pages of advertisement, of which the American businessmen expressed their satisfaction insofar as this complied with the expansion of East-West trade proclaimed by Johnson on October 7 last year.

Subjecting Soviet economy to foreign capital is one of the principal ways leading to the capitalist degeneration of the Soviet Union. Politics is a concentrated expression of economy, great Lenin has said. The Soviet revisionists do not keep it a secret any longer that the development of trade with capitalist countries is «a good basis of approach also in the domain of politics» («Pravda» Dec. 1, 1966).

This treacherous course has given rise to no insignificant resistance within the Soviet Union, compelling the revisionists to proceed at a lower speed. This much has been asserted also by E. Liberman, one of the most ardent champions of the new revisionist reform, who, in his colloquy with his Italian modern revisionist colleague said textually: «It is not so much the question of a group of individuals... who side with the Party and launch some sort of campaign against the reform...» but

«every thing cannot be done at once for the reform has aroused discontent right from the start».

Expressing this situation, the worker of a machine shop in the Ukraine, comrade Iv. writes: «I am feeling that fear and insecurity at work that, as my father has said, he had felt during the time of the Czars. How long and how much more have we to endure?» asks in his letter the revolted Soviet worker.

The numerous cases of people quitting work which, in certain circles, has assumed the form of strikes and protests, obliged the revisionists and their «Pravda» to launch a campaign «to strengthen discipline at work» which, in reality, means a new attack on the part of revisionists to ward off the resistance which the workers offer in defense of their own interests.

By betraying the interests of the Soviet people and of the international proletariat, the Soviet revisionists stop at nothing in their course of the moral, political and economic degradation of the Soviet State heading for the re-establishment of capitalism.

SOCIAL AND MORAL DEGRADATION IN THE SOVIET UNION — A CONSEQUENCE OF THE KHRUSHCHEVITE REVISIONISTS' TREACHEROUS POLICY

The dictatorship of the proletariat is the fundamental guarantee for the victory of the proletariat over the bourgeoisie, for the development of the socialist order of things and its complete consolidation. To weaken the dictatorship of the proletariat means to pave the way for the restoration of capitalism.

The Khrushchevite revisionist clique has long picked on the elimination of the dictatorship of the proletariat in the USSR as its main objective. And this was natural for without liquidating the dictatorship of the proletariat it would not be able to carry out its strategic aim, namely, to turn the USSR into a state of the bourgeois type. The social basis of this transformation lies in the new aristocracy which cropped up and grew as a noxious weed in the ranks and on the body of Soviet society.

After Stalin's death, camouflaged within the leadership of the Party as a champion of the fur-

ther «democratization» of Soviet society, the revisionist clique counterposed «the state of all the people» to the dictatorship of the proletariat and the «Party of all the people» to the Communist Party of the USSR. Bureaucratic trends were fostered and deepened in the state apparatus leading to a gradual establishment of the dictatorship of a clique of traitors.

«The whole life of the country» the programmatic tract of the Soviet revolutionary (Bolshevik) communists of the USSR has it, «is run by bureaucrats. The people cannot displace them even if they wished to. Whereas, bureaucracy can remove any employee of the Party or Government if the latter would appear to it too honest and loyal towards the interests of the people. . . . In the Soviet Union the change of bureaucrats from servants of the State to its masters is now an accomplished fact. . . The people feel the real state of affairs instinctively and say that the bureaucrats have long been living in communism. . . .»

The new Soviet aristocratic stratum has already acquired all the western, bourgeois characteristics and methods of living. The upper press of the bourgeoisie hail this most enthusiastically.

In an article written not long ago, American correspondent in Moscow, Henry Shapiro, likened the life led by the Khrushchevite revisionist leaders to that led by the imperialist magnates and chiefs of America, England, France and West Germany. The American correspondent goes on to say that writers are the caste of the new Khrushchevite aristocracy most favored by the revisionist leadership.

The revisionist leaders stand in need of «specialists» to turn things upside down, to paint white black. Who else would prettyfy Khrushchevite pseudo-theories in «art», who else would throw mud on the glorious past of the land of the Soviet, who else would sing praises to the treacherous acts of Khrushchev and the Khrushchevites? For this, it was essential to call on a group of charlatans to faithfully serve not lofty principles in the service of the people but rubles. As soon as he came to power, Khrushchev proclaimed the Shollohovs and Ehrenburgs as his «personal friends», stroked hooligan Yevtushenko's long tresses and raised them all on a pedestal. And there cropped up from them those who used all their «talents» to smear the Soviet Union and the heroic past of the Soviet people.

These servitors of revisionism use their incomes to buy modern and abstract pictures, old style furniture of porcelain and to lead a life of dissipation and profligateness. Ehrenburg has, among others «a very rich collection of French paintings»; Yevtushenko's main interest lies in «abstract paintings and Swedish furniture». If we continue, the list of names of Soviet writers and of their private inventory it would be a very long one indeed.

Corruption of the administration is another side of the medal of Soviet state bureaucracy. Those employees whose incomes are not sufficient to enable them to lead an American way of life secure their funds in various other ways, particularly, through bribes and stealth.

Black-marketeering competes with state trade in almost all cities of the Soviet Union and, in par-

ticular, in Moscow and in the capitals of the Republics. In this market, the Soviet citizens say, one can find anything not found in the network of state trade units, from works of art, high quality goods imported from abroad to various kinds of poisons. The speculators are in close touch with one another and collaborate with state organs which provide places where they can sell and the right to carry on illegal traffic with trade organizations. These organizations supply the smugglers with the goods they need. Needless to say the profits are equally shared by the police, the trade employees and the black-marketeers. This is done when the higher employees of trade organizations cannot set up private shops to handle the goods stolen from the state through their own hirelings. Citizen V.X. from Tbilis says: «The man in charge of a state shop set up a stand somewhere away from his place of work on which to sell the stolen goods. But as he could not find a trustworthy salesman he was obliged to sell these goods through black-marketeers». Stories like this can be heard from any honest Soviet citizen.

Bribes received by high Soviet officials can be seen everywhere. N.K., a hospital employee in Tbilis says: «Employees of the Ministry of Public Health receive tips from hospitals nearly every month. When a hospital «forgets» this rule, the work of that hospital is «subjected to strict control by the sanitary inspectors of the Ministry». But this person relates of a still uglier case: «The physician in charge of our hospital reprimanded a young physician who had just been assigned to the hospital

for having refused to accept a tip for an operation he had performed. 'If you break our rules, then, go away from here!' said the physician in charge of the hospital.»

The above cited examples and many others of this kind are a proof that the relations between this category of corrupted persons and Soviet workers cannot be other than relations between exploiters and the exploited, oppressors and the oppressed.

The Soviet leaders have taken numerous steps to turn the USSR into a capitalist state, to introduce bourgeois morals and manner of life into Soviet socialist society, to spread corruption and dissipation, in short, to degrade man, to detach him from the political life of the country and to plunge him into a life of dissipation modelled after the capitalist pattern. In these circumstances, the consequences cannot but be tragic. The number of crimes and criminals is particularly great among the youth. «If the statistics of crimes in the Soviet Union were to be made known» a western newsagency announces, «then their number would approach that in the U.S.A.»

A Soviet citizen cannot go walking in parks of the outskirts of the city without running risks. He is liable to be attacked by bandits who might even kill him to get his money at all times of the day. The police hesitate to pursue the criminals for fear that they might share the same fate as the victim. It has become a commonplace thing to find the safe of one enterprise or another robbed, a

person or another and even a policeman killed in broad daylight. Let us mention but a few cases:

In Moscow two women and three children fell victims to a criminal who was after their money. In Irkutsk, a criminal was facing charges for having committed 35 crimes within a month, 8 of which were stealth and 15 rapes of women. In the same city the chief of the tanks department was found slain in his office and the corpse of a course student under a table. The dead body of a girl student was found at the door of her house. The criminal who had poisoned her had broken both of her legs and had tied a piece of paper on one of her broken legs on which was written: «Dear Mama, I returned home!»

Corruption is spreading like an epidemic among the youth. The Soviet newspaper «Komsomolskaya Pravda» carries, now and then, news items like the following: A 19-year-old young girl was summoned to the police station for the 100th time. At the last hearing she protested: «I need money, I have no profession!» and threatened: «Do you know who lives with me? An American correspondent. Tomorrow he will launch a protest at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and you will lose your jobs.» (Apparently, this prostitute knows too what high credit the Americans enjoy in Moscow)

In the Soviet Union people cannot help feeling ill at ease about this. And fearing the wrath of the people, the Soviet revisionist leaders are making a lot of noise about their so-called «extraordinary» steps taken against bad elements who «violate Soviet morals», against hooliganism, etc. In order to make

people believe that something is being done in this direction, the Soviet leaders have taken a series of measures. Last year a joint decision of the Central Committee of the Party, of the Supreme Soviet and Council of Ministers was issued on the alleged «measures to intensify the struggle against infringers of social order»; the laws were revised and sanctions were made more strict for crimes resulting from alcoholism, against prostitution, gambling and so on; a special Ministry was set up for the purpose of putting an end to minor crimes and to profligateness; conferences were organized on a nationwide level of jurists and city police chiefs; tens of policemen were decorated and the most outstanding of them were awarded prizes in rubles; sport clubs were mobilized and boxers went on patrol service (at Vladivostok) together with policemen, a series of laws were issued containing «severe» sanctions and so on.

All this is nothing but a revisionist smoke-screen to cover up the real causes of crimes. Ministers, Attorney-Generals and the press raise a hue and cry saying: the policemen are to blame for being too lenient. «Not we,» the policemen reply, «but the judges who pass no sentence on criminals or let them free before time». While the jurists justify themselves saying: «The causes must be looked for at the moral degeneration». And the debate goes on to find a scapegoat and not to lay the blame on the real culprits, the revisionist leaders of the Party and of the State.

Any way, the Minister of Public Order of the Russian Federation, V.S. Tikhonov, has solved the

riddle. He proposed to have the heads of hooligans shaved and «in order not to increase the number of barbers», he says, «this work should be done by the culprits themselves». What a fine subject for a comedy!

«Komsomolskaya Pravda», the organ of the Central Committee of the Komsomol, complaining about the spread of prostitution in Moscow, wrote among others: «What can we do when the policeman, the judge, the attorney and the activist of the Komsomol themselves shrug their shoulders as a token of inability to do anything about it? We are all for unstained morals. Why not sweep away all this filth?» This is the acme of hypocrisy. This is a flagrant insult to the Soviet people. And who would do this sweeping if all of them, the police, the judges, the attorneys, the activists of the Komsomol, shrug their shoulders? If all of them act this way doesn't it follow that crime has become unpunishable on a state level?

Furthermore, a young student of a gymnasium, Tanya Chertova, by name, had written a letter to the editors of the newspaper «Moskovski Komsomolyes» in which she describes with indignation the scandalous intrusion of a group of hooligans dressed in tight trousers with zip fasteners, wearing long hair and unshaven into a dancing party of her school and yelling and shrieking while performing a «shake» dance.

«How dare you spoil the beauty of our beloved waltz and tango dances?» she had reproached the hooligans wondering why these «monkeys» were not driven out into the street.

Here is the answer this paper gives to this girl's protest: «No» the paper writes, «we will not call any dancer we do not like a monkey. On the other hand, it is not long since when your beloved tango and even your beloved waltz were considered as improper. As to the tight trousers with zip fasteners, those who condemn short skirts could not tell how many centimeters from the knee up is the boundary of high morals.»

There you are, with the pearls of the Soviet press! Of course, no other answer could be expected of this press because it is the organs of this same press that go all out to propagate the «shake» and «rock' n'roll» dances. In May last year «Komsomolskaya Pravda» assigned this task to its readers: «One should dance twist and other modern dances because they do not require a lot of space to be performed and they attract youth. Therefore, it is absurd to forbid them. Except that they should be danced properly and not in an exaggerated way». Winding up, the writer of the article, expresses regret that the Soviet Union, «the first country in the world for classic dances lags behind in the domain of modern (read: American) dances». These ideas are further elaborated by Soviet choreographer Moiseyev. This choreographer writes among others in the «Sovietskaya Kultura»: «From the aesthetic point of view the western dances do not satisfy one completely. But some of our critics go so far as to dub them as fearful and monstrous. They are attractive and aesthetic if they are danced well». Just as to what to do «to dance them well» the «Komsomolskaya Pravda»

gives instructions in one of its October issues last year: «One cannot gainsay the successes attained by the Soviet musicians of jazz in the USSR and other countries. The Komsomol movement which serves the interests of youth, does every thing in its power to sponsor this new form of recreation for this finds favorable ground for development in our country». The paper goes on to write: «Jazz festivals take place every year in Talin, in Esthonia, Leningrad and Moscow and «Metronim» and «Junost» stations broadcast jazz music. But this is not enough; what is needed is jazz concerts and, over and above that, records (in a latter issue this paper carried an article under the caption «Change Records» in which it deals with the question of records in greater detail). «The number one problem to come to the aid of jazz in the Soviet Union» the paper emphasizes, «is that of making a profession of it: there is a lack of professional jazz musicians; there are a few self-taught musicians who have not been through a conservatory. In fact, many Soviet youth learn jazz only through records bought abroad or through listening to western radio broadcasts, especially, the Voice of America which broadcasts a program of jazz in Russian every evening, listened to by a large number of Soviet youth».

Commenting on this issue of the «Komsomol'skaya Pravda» the AFP French newsagency made this assessment: «Jazz, considered for so long a time a taboo in the Soviet Union representing the decadence and dissolution of bourgeois civilization, has now received its citizenship papers in

the «Komsomolskaya Pravda» newspaper, an official publication of communist youth».

At present a wide discussion is taking place in the Soviet Union on the «sexual education of youth». The innovator is, as in all cases, the «Komsomolskaya Pravda» newspaper. It proposes the publication of «a good book» which every young man should carry in his pocket as a «remedy» to eliminate prostitution. Of course, if this problem is raised in public discussions, one should then expect also some such absurd proposals as those of a professor (the paper does not reveal his name) in a Moscow Institute for Girls who preaches to his students that if they do not want to go crazy when they have reached the age of 30 to 35, they should enter into sexual relations before they are 17 years old.

But it is not «Komsomolskaya Pravda» alone that metes out such «advice». The whole revisionist propaganda apparatus is engaged in such activity. Last February, the Soviet newspaper «Vechernaya Moskva» called on «tall and pretty blondes to go to Budapest together with barbers on expenses paid for by the state, in order to take part in the European competition on patterns of hair dressing. These girls, according to this paper, would then play the role of mannikins in order to advertise the western mode of wearing the hair.

The Soviet periodicals «Novi Mir» and «Yunost» are show windows of western and, particularly, of American culture and morals. They are often subjected to sham criticism and even «harsh» criticism by the main Soviet organs of the press.

« ... The attention of the publication («Novi Mir») is unfortunately attracted in most cases only by phenomena dealing with the negative side, with all kinds of abnormalities, with the aches of rapid development» («Pravda», Jan. 27, 1967). «Certain articles published in these periodicals («Novi Mir» and «Junost») draw their main topic from vodka, money, girls of loose morals and other unseemly things». (From the speech of the First Secretary of the Central Committee of the Komsomol delivered at the 15th Congress of the Komsomol).

One might just as well presume that these two organs are of the American press, entirely independent of the Soviet State. They keep on publishing what they please for their editors are not affected at all by these criticisms.

A short while ago the Central House of Fashions in the Soviet Union sponsored a parade of fashion dresses for women. The main thing advertized in this parade was the last word in western fashion: short skirts above the knee for women. The House of Fashion recommends skirts 7.5 cm above knee for young women. The parade was attended by the Deputy - Minister of Light Industry L.J. Barabashov. The Soviet Government took steps to speed up the production and use of short skirts. Meanwhile, «Reuter's» correspondent in Moscow announced: «Short skirts have inundated Moscow and won communist approval provided that the trend of western fashion is not too short».

The Soviet moving picture shows are another field where Soviet spectators should get acquainted with the pearls of the western world and apply

them in the Soviet Union just as it is being already done.

An agreement was concluded last year between the Soviet cinematographic services and the American firm «Warner Brothers» to shoot a joint film. The western press hailed it as «a major Soviet-American collaboration in the domain of cinematography. The task of the «exclusive realization» of the film was intrusted to a bielogardist enjoying U.S. citizenship, Tiomkin. According to the terms of the agreement this film will be first shown in Moscow in October this year on the occasion of the 50th anniversary of the Great October Socialist Revolution.

Soviet cinematography is now collaborating closely with Italian cinematographic firms. A series of agreements are in the process of being concluded between the two parties. The former are envying the latter and the latter criticize the former for not *advancing* fast enough in their art. At the signing of an agreement of this kind, Vladimir Baskakov, Deputy-Chairman of the State Committee of Soviet Cinematography, stated in Rome «. . . The Soviet people are well aware that Italian cinematography occupies one of the principal positions in world cinematography both with regard to subject matter, richness of its films as well as the talents of its producers». Whereas, at a «lively» discussion between Italian and Soviet producers at a «round table» in Moscow held on the occasion of the Week of Italian Films, Soviet producer Chuhrai met the criticism of the Italian producers with this self-criticism: «We are becoming freer and more demo-

cratic. An apple does not ripen in five days, especially when it is a question of crossing over from a feudal system to a new democracy. . . » One should decipher here only three of Chuhrai's phrases: By «five days» he implies the period under the rule of the Khrushchevite revisionist clique; by «feudal system» he implies the whole period of time which Stalin directed and by «new democracy» he implies bourgeois «democracy». And Soviet cinematography is forging posthaste towards this «new democracy». Let us wind up this chapter with a news item of the AFP referring to the Soviet paper «Vechernya Moskva». In September last year this newsagency announced: «Violence and sadism which are characteristic of the western cinematography and which have often been criticized by the Soviet press seem to be used also by the Moscow cinematography: to meet the requirements of a film a living cow was recently burned, a live horse was slaughtered and a stark naked woman (actrice) ran past to a great fire».

From what has been said above it turns out very clearly that the moral degradation of Soviet society complies in full with the strategic aim the Khrushchevite revisionist leaders have set upon themselves. And if every thing depended on them, they would like to do away as soon as possible with the pure proletarian morals and replace them with bourgeois morals in order to comply with their revisionist course.

But, as in all other fields, in this too they meet with the great resistance of the Soviet people. The broad masses of workers, of Kholkhosian peasants and of the honest intellectuals in the Soviet Union

are thoroughly dissatisfied with and indignant at what is happening now in their country. They are getting ever wiser to where their treacherous leaders are leading them, they are becoming more and more cognizant of the fact that the doors of the Soviet Union have been flung wide open for all sort of filth to enter and fully restore capitalism. Therefore, many of the Bolshevik cadres strongly uphold as before their revolutionary proletarian stand, persisting in their demand to proceed along the path designated by Lenin and Stalin, strongly opposing Khrushchevite revisionism. The broad masses of workers of the Soviet Union, the communists and many of the cadres resort to various means with a view to offering resistance to the Khrushchevites so as not to permit them to freely realize their capitalist restoration. For after all, it is not a handful of renegades but the millions of workers, peasants and plain Soviet communists that will finally decide the destiny of the Soviet Union.

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