

NEW HORIZON

PUBLISHED MONTHLY BY
THE NEW HORIZON PUBLICATIONS
14, Tamakloe/Kelani Street,
Mushin, Lagos,
Nigeria.

World Marxist Review

MANAGING EDITOR
Dapo Fatogun

PRODUCTION EDITOR
Ikpe Etokudo

Many socialists in Nigeria had believed that Peoples Redemption Party's Programme would, if implemented, form the nucleus of socialist construction in Nigeria. But Alhaji Aminu has turned the tables upside down in his recent pronouncements.

—Page 6



The Nigeria Labour Congress was one year in February. The anniversary was marked by speeches and seminars on trade unionism. One speech which provoked much debate was that of the Chief of Staff Supreme Headquarters, Brigadier Shehu Yar' Adua. He hinted then that wage-freeze would continue.

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Editorial Comment:

Inflation Versus Wage-Freeze

ONCE again Nigerians have been told the fortunes of the economy of this great country for the fiscal year 1978/79 and hopes for 1979/80.

Significantly the budget broadcast by the Head of State, Lt. General Obasanjo on March 31 is the last by the military before civilians take over in October this year.

Reviewing the state of the economy, Lt. General Obasanjo said:

"At independence in 1960, the organised or modern sector of the national economy was almost the exclusive preserve of British companies and operators. In trading and manufacturing activities, the important names were those of British firms such as United African Company, John Holt, G.B. Ollivant, Rowntrey Fry and Cadbury, Lever Brothers, Nigerian Breweries, Barclays Bank and British Bank of West Africa, to name a few. There were very few non-British companies in the field.

"However, soon after independence, companies from other foreign countries began to establish in Nigeria to dilute British colonial dominance while at the same time increasing the totality of foreign control of the economy. It is pertinent to point out at this stage that all these companies from whichever countries, were often fully-owned subsidiaries of multinational companies which had their headquarters in Europe, America or Japan where the policies governing their operations in Nigeria, were discussed, determined and handed down. Needless to say that Nigerian participation was extremely limited, either in the equity capital or management of these companies".

As he pointed out such situation could not make a people "independent and sovereign". Hence the initiation of the Indigenisation Programme in 1972. But this programme has been circumvented by multi-national corporations and made nonsense of by unpatriotic Nigerians who connive and collude with foreign capitalists in hoodwinking the government into believing that the programme "designed as a strategy for getting Nigerians themselves to determine their own economic fortunes" was working.

These selfish and unpatriotic "peripheral capitalists" are hardly to be seen where "policies and programmes are discussed and determined" and rarely in management where

they are implemented. They only make believe.

The only answer to it all is to nationalise all means of producing wealth.... We have said this times over again.

Imperialist Strategy

In spite of all the good intentions of the F.M.C.B. in initiating series of programmes designed to keep the economy in the hands of Nigerians any casual observer will see that the economy still is governed by policies and programmed discussed in Europe, U.S.A. and Japan.

This is so, because Nigeria's economic and social order is still tied to capitalist mode of development. This country will continue to suffer from self-illusion of being "independent and sovereign" until the shackles of foreign economic domination are removed and the entirety of the people, not just a group of individuals, have a hand and a say in determining the economic process. In short, Nigeria's economy will continue to be apron-stringed to the dictates of multi-national corporations unless and until there is social ownership of all means of production, distribution and exchange in this country.

The distinguishing feature of capitalism in Nigeria is that it manifests itself in incomplete technological and industrial production. There is a complete absence of key industrial and technological branches of modern industry.

Most of what could be termed modern industrial set-ups are assembly plants meant to employ very cheap labour but with high profits for the owners of the plants.

This form of development thus means that Nigeria subordinates itself to foreign capital and influence. This also brings about expansion and perpetuation of imperialist exploitation.

This mode of development is felt particularly by the working people because of its inability to solve social problems.

Sacrifices

It is thus very clear that the working people will always be called upon to make sacrifices. The Chief of Staff, Supreme Headquarters had earlier made this known during the NLC first anniversary celebrations. He said that the F.M.G. could not consider lifting ban on wage-freeze because of certain "general economic factors".

The Head of State confirmed this when he said: "The Federal Military Government has decided to continue the income guidelines now in force with only slight modifications. Government is aware of the difficulties which workers have had to grapple with as a result of the virtual freezing of wages for two years".

It remains to be seen how much of the non-wage relief package of the F.M.G. such as houses for low income wage earners, the abolition of tuition fees at all levels, the introduction of Pension Scheme for local government employees as well as subsidising cost of fertilizer for farmers will not be thwarted by unscrupulous elements in our society because, as NLC Deputy General Secretary, Comrade Bernard Obuah said during his address to the National Executive Committee of the Civil Service Technical Workers' Union, "cost of living has been soaring higher and higher, landlords have doubled rents and as a result low income wage earners have been driven to alms". In consonance with this, the President of NLC, Comrade Hassan Sunmonu said during NLC anniversary celebrations, "inflation has eaten deep into the salaries and wages of workers...price and rent control decrees have not been effective....the Non-wage Relief Panel has not relieved anything (and) there is arbitrary annual increase of rents by greedy landlords".

Seen from this context, the plight of workers have worsened. Prices are rising while incomes and wages have stagnated and, infact, real take-home pay packets are declining.

It is on this score that everyone must along with the Head of State express "appreciation for the sacrifices made in the last few years by public officers who have borne the brunt of the various measures introduced by this administration".

But workers are also citizens of this country and, as producers of Nigeria's wealth they are entitled to fair participation in the distribution of incomes.

Class Struggle

It is to be hoped that the N5,000 each low cost houses planned will not turn workers dreams into nightmares as Festac Village project did; that the abolition of motor

vehicles advances will be followed by a deliberate government effort to provide cheap and dependable transport system for workers and will not lead to a rise of urban public transport fares and with it a chain of price hikes.

The inevitable companion of capitalist development such as Nigeria has taken is an increasing and growing population of the poor at one end of the pole of the society and the wealthy but fewer in number on the other. This operation has already lead to a split of the people into opposing and hostile classes—the working class versus the capitalist and pseudo-capitalist classes.

All members of the Socialist Working Peoples' Party are committed to continue their work of exposing the enormity of the sins of capitalism and of propagating the working class ideology—scientific socialism.

HANDS OFF VIETNAM!

THE progressive and peace-loving peoples of the world are still assessing the total consequences of China's armed attack on the peace-loving people of Socialist Vietnam. That unprovoked aggression by China has caused profound feeling of repulsion in Nigeria for many reasons. And the Nigerian people in their own way are joining in the Hands Off Vietnam campaign that have now assumed world-wide proportions.

Peking's global intentions are well known by all African peoples. The people of Africa having closely watched the foreign policy antics of the Maoists in Africa (Angola, Zaire) have now come to know what Maoism really stands for—pro-war, pro-imperialist.

Cuba's leader of the Communist Party, Dr. Fidel Castro describes China's armed attack on Vietnam as "one of the highest and vilest aggressive acts ever perpetrated; it is the most abominable betrayal of the revolutionary movement in human history". He was addressing a Hands Off Vietnam Campaign in Havana a while ago.

China's monstrous aggression is a crime against humanity because it is a crime against Peace. It is an assault on socialism and collaboration with imperialism.

We call on all progressive forces in Nigeria to demand an immediate withdrawal of China from Vietnam and Kampuchea.

"Hands Off Vietnam" should be the slogan of the working people of Nigeria at the coming May Day.

What Is PRP Up To ?

Talakawas Need An Answer

By

Ikpe Etokudo

WHEN the Federal Electoral Commission (FEDEC) announced its registration of five political parties for the purpose of the forthcoming elections many analysts saw two of them, Unity Party of Nigeria (UPN) and Peoples Redemption Party (PRP) as being left of centre.

Peoples Redemption Party was one political party which many socialists placed their hope in the implicit confidence that its Programme would, at least, if carried out, be a beacon to socialist construction in this country.

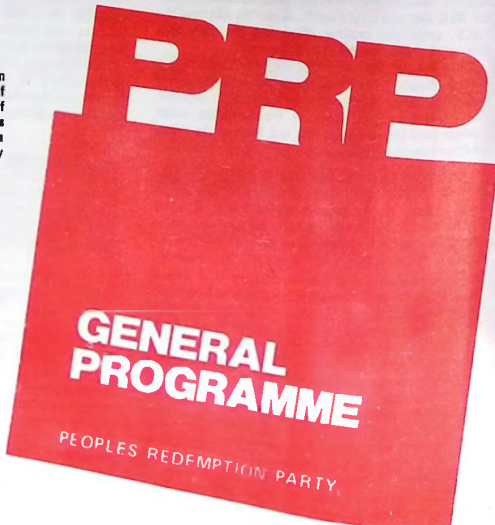
PRP's General Programme stirs the revolutionary vision of socialists when it says "Nigerian politics has been a sad chronicle of unfulfilled promises, dashed and unrealised expectations. As a result, the common man has continually suffered deprivations, hardship, exploitation and oppression... Why has our politics meant wealth and licentiousness for a few but deprivations and frustrations for the masses?"

The programme says it is because, "we have had wrong policies meant to serve existing vested interests at the expense of the people".

That is not all. The General Programme in a clear dialectical analysis goes further to say "Nigeria is in the process of far-reaching social transformation.

Two great forces face each other, and are locked in a grim struggle for survival and ascendancy. On the one side, the forces of privilege are resolved to protect their interests at all cost under the existing social order". It categorises elements on this side as "conservatives".

On the other side, the Programme says, "are the forces of the people determined to replace the existing social order that harbours so much hardship and frustration for them with new social order" in which they will have "equality, liberty, freedom from want and social justice". These, the document says, are the progressives. The Programmes says the PRP "is the organised vanguard of the



people". Its language too is that of a revolutionary vanguard party.

The Party says continual skirmishes take place between the forces of the old order and the forces of progress and that out of the womb of the old order, a new and more humane social order will be born.

Pledge

To achieve this, the PRP pledges the following among others if voted into power:

- [2] Public ownership of key sectors of the economy.
- [3] The elimination of speculation in land.
- [4] Right to trade unionism, including the right to strike.
- [5] Full employment.
- [6] Housing, transport, meal allowances and accident cover for all workers.
- [7] Adequate housing for the people.

These are some of the promises if implemented would form the bedrock of socialist construction in this country.

One must ask here: What are the requirements of a party capable of

- [1] Public ownership of minerals, forest and energy resources.

leading the masses and taking them into battle against the "old order of vested interests?"

Requisites

First, the nucleus of a conscious vanguard party such as PRP says it is, must be disciplined, consistent and prepared for sacrifice.

Secondly, such a party must be able to turn instinctive into conscious feeling, develop political consciousness and help convert it into action, into struggle and initiative that can carry along all strata of the working people. Such a party must help the common man rise to the active role of leader.

A third fundamental, is that a true revolutionary vanguard party must base its tactics and goals on time tested and rich experience of Marxism-Leninism.

It must also have cadres prepared to work in alliance with the working class who are on the forefront of the battle with capitalist exploitation.

PRP does not appear to possess these qualities.

There are serious contradictions between the provisions of the Party's General Programme and the newspaper interview of Alhaji Aminu (PRP presidential candidate) as well as his address to Party supporters in Kazaure.

Democratic Humanism

In answer to a question by a New Nigerian Newspapers interviewer as to whether the phrases: "organised vanguard of the Nigerian people", "collective leadership", "inner party democracy" and such other expressions as contained in the Party's General Programme were not confirmation of the claim that PRP is a socialist party, Alhaji Aminu said: "You mean that these phrases therefore will lead a man to think the party is socialist? I think you must be very careful... This is not the Koran where you will say, "God said so, therefore it is so in the end". And socialism in all respects doesn't follow statement by any person, except perhaps by action. And therefore, we have described our stand as "Democratic Humanism", not socialism because many of us don't even know what it is. But our experiences in this country, they way we see that certain

things must be done must have influence on us. And this is how we coined the term "Democratic Humanism". Because socialism is not something to copy from a book, I am sure that those who started socialism arrived at the conclusion because of their experiences in life. So, these phrases which you quote cannot lead one to this type of conclusion".

When reminded by the interviewer that the general direction of the Programme reflected socialism, Alhaji Aminu denied any connection between the party and socialism. He said, "I don't agree with you. I don't think that you will find these words in any socialist books. And when we call ourselves "vanguard" it's not our language. It's an English word and we feel that to the way we want to move, vanguard is to describe the type of men and women we want Nigerians to be. Not necessarily socialist. As I said earlier, many people don't know what socialism is. I don't know much about it".

If Alhaji Aminu had stopped there perhaps the Talakawa might just have felt cheated. But the presidential candidate went further in his Kazaure address to invite the rich and feudal lords to join the party without any pre-conditions.

This open invitation was so outrageous that the Talakawa—the working people are smarting under its impact.

It seems the PRP is not only abandoning the people but it is taking sides with the forces of "old order—the conservatives" in the continuing skirmishes against the forces of progress so as to prolong the "deprivations, hardships, exploitation and oppression suffered by the common man".



Alhaji Aminu Kano
PRP presidential candidate

Tables Upside Down

This has led many people to ask: "What is PRP up to?"

"Candido" the New Nigerian Columnist writing in March 21, 1979 issue of the paper said by the Party's willingness to absorb the rich and the aristocrat it was abandoning the down-trodden midstream.

He said, "it is like turning the table upside down" because the open invitation by the party to the "rich and the powerful makes nonsense of the cause of the masses".

That led him to conclude, "now I can see the wisdom of launching the party without a manifesto. The newly-found flexibility could not have been made use of, if the party had one".

As one understands it, any political party that hopes to get the backing of the common man must possess a class of leadership which is disciplined consistent and prepared to make sacrifice for the people. In this wise, one feels that PRP's leadership is inconsistent.

Either PRP had the socialist flag flying only as a vote catcher or two reconcilable factions have emerged.

So long as Alhaji Aminu, the African Revolutionary himself—as his official biographer, Alan Feinstein called him—has openly declared that he does not understand socialism, it is difficult to see how PRP can solve the multi-farious social and economic problems facing this country to the benefit of the common man.

It is inconceivable that Alhaji Aminu should have a change of heart now looking for feudo-capitalists to swell PRP membership when the general crisis of capitalism, economic convulsions, class antagonisms are becoming aggravated.

Alhaji Aminu and the PRP leadership have some re-thinking to do.

Does the presidential aspirant want the working people to believe that man's position in society is determined not by his natural gifts but by his belonging to some particular class or social groups? In other words, must the common man subordinate himself to the rich and the aristocrats before he can move forward?

Has the Aminu Kano of old changed spots? ■



NLC President, Comrade Sunmonu exchanging views with Comrade Oduwaiye during NLC first Anniversary Celebrations

NLC CELEBRATES 1st ANNIVERSARY

THE NIGERIA Labour Congress was a year old in February. In its first year of existence the Congress had made its presence felt.

It has spoken out against wage-freeze without corresponding freeze on prices of goods and services. It has on several occasions waded in and held back industrial and trade disputes which could have had resulted in prolonged strikes, lock-outs and picketing, which in turn, could have had disastrous effect on the country's economy.

On February 28, 1979 and March 1, 1979, the Congress celebrated its first

anniversary at the National Secretariat

During the anniversary celebration the Congress president, Comrade Hassan Sunmonu spoke on several issues and the one point which touched many workers deeply was his denunciation of the wage freeze policy pursued by the Federal Military Government.

In his message, the Chief of Staff, Supreme Headquarters, Brigadier Yar' Adua contended that certain general economic factors, such as, terms of trade; the relationship between domestic production costs and prices in export market; the flow of capital from abroad; the national endowment of resources and

the general increase of production. The problem, however, as Comrade Sunmonu pointed out, is how do you keep wages down when consumer prices are rising?

The point is that the landlords, market women, traders, contractors and even large firms don't understand the grammar "general economic factors". So also inflation which is eating deep into workers' pay packet. Wage-freeze should be lifted now before workers are financially asphyxiated.

Now the addresses of both Brigadier Shehu Yar' Adua and Comrade Hassan Sunmonu:

ADDRESS BY THE PRESIDENT OF N.L.C.

IT is with gratitude to God, that I welcome you all, on behalf of the entire members of the Congress to this historic 1st Anniversary of Nigeria Labour Congress. Our guest of honour, the Chief of Staff Supreme Headquarters, Brigadier Shehu Musa Yar' Adua, was the gynaecologist that delivered the NLC exactly this time last year. How the Congress has fared since last year has been properly documented in the General Secretary's report.

Immediately after the inauguration of the Congress, we adopted "collective leadership" as our own style of administration. This has paid off, as the National Executive Council of Congress takes all major decisions, while the National Secretariat implements these decisions. It is no surprise therefore, that within the last twelve months the National Executive Council has met eleven times as against four, in accordance with the constitution.

SUBVENTION

I take this opportunity to express Congress' appreciation to the Federal Military Government for the one million Naira take-off subvention granted to the Congress and the 42 Industrial Unions on 18th August, 1978. But for this timely subvention, neither the Congress nor the 42 Industrial Union affiliates would have successfully taken-off by now.

The Federal Military Government should be congratulated for the promulgation of Decree Nos. 21 and 22 of 1978 that guaranteed the automatic check-off deductions and recognition of Industrial Unions and the Congress. All these, are in fulfilment of the Federal Military Governments policy on labour. The vision of the Federal Military Government's Labour Policy has been vindicated by the emergence of strong industrial unions with responsible leadership and a virile Congress with patriotic and well disciplined leaders.

INFLATION

Inflation has eaten deep into the salaries and wages of workers. In spite of several measures by the Federal Military Government to bring it under control, it is still very high. Price and rent control have not been effective,

and the fare increase that followed the increase in fuel prices on October 1978 has helped fueled the inflation. Negotiated agreements between employers and the Unions have not been implemented as a result of Wage Freeze.

The Non-wage Relief Panel set up by the Federal Military Government has not relieved anything. From the latest report of the Panel, the cost of 1 kilogram of frozen meat rose from N1,50k in 1977/78 to the present N3,50 to N6.00. The same goes for frozen chicken. Housing is still acutely in short supply, especially to the low-income group in spite of government efforts. There is arbitrary annual increase of rents by greedy landlords



Comrade Hassan Sunmnu

inspite of Rent Edicts. All these have worsened the plight of workers who now have to pay increased school and boarding fees for their children.

We therefore call on the Federal Military Government to lift the wage freeze and sanction the implementation of negotiated agreements. We call for efficient public transportation and the building of staff quarters from employers having 150 workers.

10% OWNERSHIP OF COMPANIES

It is sad to note that some companies are flouting with impunity, government's directive on 10% ownership of companies by workers. Congress has got reports of certain companies selling 10% shares only to few Nigerian senior staff, instead of all Nigerian workers. In collaboration with the Industrial Unions and the appropriate authorities, Congress will study the share distribution of the companies and report anomalies to Nigerian Enterprises Promotion Board for correction.

EDUCATION

Education is the cornerstone of Congress programmes. To this end,

TRADE UNIONS

series of educational seminars and workshops have been planned for different centres in the country. Different educational seminars are held immediately after National Executive Council meetings. Congress has participated in several seminars hosted by universities and other organisations both at home and abroad. As a result of our world-wide appeal for education aid, at least two members from each industrial union will benefit from educational courses abroad this year. More are still expected, but the training of the rank and file will be done here in Nigeria.

POLITICS

It is the decision of the National Executive Council of Congress to remain neutral in partisan politics. Neither the Congress nor any of its organs will be used to further the interests of any political party.

INTERNATIONAL

Congress is affiliated to only the Organisation of African Trade Union Unity. It however, maintains fraternal relationship with all Trade Union Internationals and Centres that share its aspiration and respect its independence. Gone are the days when foreign trade union organisations dictate to us and cause dissension within our ranks. The security and prosperity of Nigeria are paramount.

MAY DAY CELEBRATIONS

The 1st of May every year is internationally recognised as "Workers Day". In recognition of Nigerian workers contribution to the economy and prosperity of Nigeria, we appeal to the Federal Military Government to declare 1st May of every year as public holidays.

CONGRESS NATIONAL AND STATES' SECRETARIATS

At yesterday's meeting of the National Executive Council of Congress, approval was unanimously given for the building of the National and States' Secretariat complex of the NLC. We therefore appeal to all State Governments for the allocation of 10 hectares of land in each State Capital for this purpose.

LONG LIVE NIGERIA LABOUR
CONGRESS!
LONG LIVE THE FEDERAL
REPUBLIC OF NIGERIA!!

ADDRESS BY BRIGADIER SHEHU YAR'ADUA

A YEAR today, on the 28th of February, 1978, I had the privilege of addressing the representatives of our workers' organisations at Ibadan, on the occasion of the inaugural ceremony of the Nigeria Labour Congress. That occasion marked the end of the many-troubled years of painful experience in trade unionism in Nigeria, and the beginning of a new era of workers' organisations, characterised by the emergence of 70 industrial unions and one central labour organisation, in place of well over 900 trade unions and four central labour organisations, which till then, had been in existence. That occasion marked the beginning of a revitalised Industrial Relations system which was to provide for the reorganisation of labour along industrial lines, for fuller participation of labour, not only in affairs peculiar to it, but also in matters of national economic and social importance; namely an improved machinery for the process of dialogue and accommodation to reconcile the interests of the social groups in industry, and generally for the mobilization of labour for the work of economic and social progress. Today, you are celebrating the anniversary of the reorganisation of labour. Whilst it is true that the past year has been a period of resolving teething problems of reorganisation and of consolidating your position, I know that you have also been involved in the other areas for which the Industrial Relations system provides.

It is satisfying to observe that your members now serve in different capacities in the various bodies set up by Government for different purposes. To name a few, labour is now represented on the Industrial Arbitration Panel as members and as assessors to both the IAP and the National Industrial Court. Labour is contributing, as members of the National Industrial Safety Council, to deliberations geared towards improving conditions of safety at work. The voice of labour is heard on the Productivity, Prices and Incomes Board which recommends incomes and prices guidelines periodically for Government decision.

These are important civic functions which require your representatives to be equipped to operate at policy-making level; a requirement involving a combination of specific skills and a broad understanding of the interplay

of economic and social factors. Effective participation in these and other fields therefore require training. It is in recognition of this that Government will continue to take measures to promote workers education. It is gratifying to note also the priority which your Congress has accorded education in the various seminars which have been held and which are also being held to celebrate this anniversary.

However, there are certain matters, teething problems perhaps, to which I would like to draw your attention. One of them is the understanding by your members of the provisions in the law of procedures for settling disputes. Too often one hears of industrial action being embarked upon as a result of some ultimatum given by some workers to their employers. Investigation invariably proves that such action is contrary to the provision of the law, and that the matter in dispute is eventually settled only after the procedure laid down in the law is observed. Of course during the period of the so-called industrial action, everybody suffers, the workers, the employers, and the economy. I would urge, therefore, that the understanding of the procedure for settling disputes should be accorded the topmost priority in your educational programme.

A second matter is related to the prevailing conditions of income in the country, which, for some time, have been a matter of concern to everyone. At this time of the year, there is increasing speculation as to what form government action would take in the coming fiscal year. Some people have even suggested that the yearly Government guidelines on wages and salary should be discontinued. In all these speculations and suggestions, one point that appears to be ignored by the critics is the fact that no Government embarks on wages restraint policy without some compelling reasons. For example, there are certain general economic factors which are considered such as terms of trade; the relationship between domestic production costs and prices in export markets; the flow of capital from abroad; the national endowment of resources, and the rate of increase in production.

It is against this background, and the total effect on inflation, that Government provides some guidance as to the general level of wages and incomes considered, compatible with national economic and social goals. In the interest of the economy there all those negotiating for changes in incomes and other conditions of

service have to bear these guidelines in mind. All too often, failure to take account of them results in frustrations when collective agreements which are incompatible with the guidelines are not approved. I would suggest that this is another area which would also be accorded priority in your educational programme.

With regard to the classification into industrial unions, and the eligibility for membership of one union or the other, by your members, I understand that a number of problems have been encountered. Some of these problems relate to ownership by Government of some enterprises, to the correctness or otherwise of the classification of your members employed in such enterprises, and to the observance of public policy in seeking changes to conditions of service of such employees. There may be other problems, but none of them should be permitted to undermine the restructuring exercise and the responsible role which is envisaged for labour to play in the economic and social life of the nation. The approach to resolving all the problems should be to observe the status quo at present subsisting, until desirable changes are made peacefully, and through the process of dialogue. It is this approach that is implicit in the whole of the Nigerian Industrial Relations System.

Finally, ladies and gentlemen, I wish to remind you that as we celebrate the first anniversary of the Nigeria Labour Congress, with justifiable pride in its achievement within so short a period of its existence, we must bear in mind the hopes and challenges of the future. We now have potentially strong unions. Our economy is becoming increasingly industrialized. It is ourselves, and industrialized. It is ourselves, and industrialized. It is ourselves alone that must make the choices which will determine our success or failure. Therefore, let all of us—Government, employers' and workers' organizations, renew the pledge to work harder together, as partners in progress, in the service of our nation.

Thank you.



WORLD *Problems of* **MARXIST** *Peace and Socialism* **REVIEW**



- EMBARKING UPON THE THIRD DECADE
- MARXISM-LENINISM AND THE CUBAN REVOLUTION
- THE PARTY AND THE INTELLIGENTSIA
- THE AGRARIAN QUESTION AND THE PEASANTRY'S ROLE IN DEVELOPING COUNTRIES
- TELLING THE TRUTH ABOUT PEKING'S POLICY

- THE PRESS
- TIME-TESTED EXPERIENCE
- DIARY

TRADE UNIONS**N L C****Progress****Report**

THE General Secretary of the Congress, Comrade Aliyu Dangiwa in his progress report said the inauguration of the Congress on February 28, 1978 was a "particular landmark in the development" of trade unionism in Nigeria.

Comrade Dangiwa said since its inception the Congress had been grappling with a number of complex problems and challenges. He said the Congress deeply appreciated the donation of the former Administrator of Trade Union Affairs and the one million naira subvention from the Federal Military Government.

The General Secretary also said the Congress was grateful to Comrade Sylvester Ejlofor, General Secretary, Civil Service Technical Workers' Union for having kept the secretarial service of the Congress going prior the appointment of Congress staff.

He said the Congress National Executive Council had met twelve times since its inauguration on February 28, 1978 and had taken the following decisions:

A levy of N100 on all affiliates for purposes of running the National Secretariat; rather than going anywhere with cap-in-hand;

The resolution to Bank especially with the National Bank of Nigeria and the African Continental Bank;

The setting up of an "Appointments Committee" that prepared the advertisement for posts of the National Secretariat and the setting up of the Interview panel it proposed, which included representation from the Federal Ministry of Labour, and eventual recruitment of National Secretariat staff;

The appointment of Dr. Yusuf Bala Usman as the third trustee of the Congress;

The setting up of ad-hoc Committees on Non-Wage Relief, Land Use



NLC General Secretary, Comrade Aliyu Dangiwa and Supreme Military Council representative, Commodore Victor Oduwaiye during Congress first Anniversary celebrations

Decree, and Nigerian Students School-fee Crisis;

The setting up of the standing Intra-Union Disputes committee that has been performing wonderfully.

Total condemnation of the idea of unions taking loan from employers of labour;

The motto: Labour Creates Wealth, the Crest/Emblem and the Flag of the Congress,

All Congress training programmes and seminars in Nigeria would be organised purely by the Congress, utilising the resources available in the country;

The approval in principle of the idea of a Newsletter for the Congress.

On the appointment of Congress Staff, the General Secretary said:

On the 1st of July, 1978 the two Deputies of the General Secretary Comrades Lasii A. Osunde and Bernard N. Obua and two Assistant General Secretaries assumed duty. They were Comrade M.O. Funmilayo, Assistant General Secretary, heading Department of Administration and Establishment and Comrade E.B. Thomas, Assistant General Secretary heading Finance Department.

A month later i.e. on 1st August, 1978 three more Assistant General Secretaries assumed duty. They were Comrade R.A. Shodeinde heading Department of Cooperative and Social Welfare, Comrade E.O. Talwo heading Department of Education and Training, and Comrade I.E.E. Amaechi heading Research and Economic Department.

And another month later i.e. on 1st September, 1978 the sixth Assistant General Secretary heading Organisation Department Comrade M.O. Anigbo joined the team along with himself assumed duty.

He reported that from March 1, to August, 1978, the Congress was run on

the N500.00 donation from Mr. M.O. Abiodun and small levies paid by affiliates.

Five and half months later, he said, the subvention from the F.M.G. was received. The one million naira was only 20 per cent of what was initially budgeted and requested for by the Congress.

He said the Congress appreciated this offer, moroso, made when the F.M.G. was not financially buoyant. He said out of the one million naira the Congress gave out N420,000 to the 42 Industrial unions and N12,665 was paid to Organisation of African Trade Union Unity. The remaining amount was used for renovation and of furnishing the National Secretariat, overhead costs, purchase of office equipment and financing of launching of state councils of the Congress. He said he expected the Congress to have a real "take off" when all the National Industrial Unions launch their states and zonal organs and pay their dues.

The general secretary noted that because Decrees 21 and 22 which embody automatic check-off deductions were promulgated six months after the launching of the Industrial Unions, the progress of the Congress as well as its affiliates has been slowed down. To worsen matters still, Comrade Dangiwa said that the "unfortunate state of affairs is further exacerbated by the procrastination of most employers (sometimes deliberately) in implementing the provisions of these Decrees".

Comrade Dangiwa said the Congress has been conducting seminars in conjunction with other national bodies. The Seminars include Cooperatives and Nigeria's Current Foreign policy, Seminar on National Industrial Safety, National Workshop on Self-Sufficiency and Self-Reliance in the Nigerian Economy, a six week induction on the Role of Trade Unions among others.

On Industrial Relations, the Congress he noted, had been involved in the Peugeot Assembly plant case in Marc 1978. Again in the Volkswagen Plant case. It was also involved in the Dock labour crisis. The Congress was involved when the National Union of Electricity and Gas Workers had conflict with NEPA management. The National Union of Paper and paper products workers drew the attention of the Congress to some managements uncooperative attitude towards check-off deduction. Congress, he noted, successfully got the

management to cooperate with the union.

The Congress, he said, has successfully handled some cases of grouping of some former house unions into some some Industrial unions. He reported that the Congress has been very active on the International scene. The Congress maintains fraternal relations, not affiliations with the International Confederation of Free Trade Unions (ICFTU) and the World Federation of Trade Unions (WFTU). He emphasized that "Congress would not tolerate or allow any foreign body to poke-nose in "Congress affairs or prejudice its independence.

The General Secretary appealed to the government to "release the remaining assets of Nigerian Trade Union Centres to the Congress".

NLC State Councils Launched

STATE councils of the Nigeria Labour Congress have been launched in fifteen of the nineteen states so far.

The first state to have its council launched was Ogun. On December 12, 1978, the NLC President, Comrade Hassan Sunmonu, the General Secretary, Comrade Allyu Dangiwa with other members of the Secretariat travelled to Abeokuta to launch that State's council.

Between December 12, 1978 and February 21, 1979, the following state councils were launched and the officers elected:

OGUN STATE

Chairman: Bisi Oloyede; Vice Chairman: Ade Ademoye; Treasurer: A.O. Sadiku; Secretary: Victor A. Osolake; Assistant Secretary: Bisi Okunola.

ONDO STATE

Chairman: P.O. Arijie; Vice Chairman: J.A. Fatoyinbo; Treasurer: J. Ade Adewole; Secretary: Felix O. Owa; Assistant Secretary: T.O. Adegbehingbe.

OYO STATE

Chairman: S.K. Oladale; Vice Chairman: Alhaji A.O. Raji; Treasurer: Ms. Lafenwa; Secretary: M.O. Akinade; Assistant Secretary: Bayo Fatokun.

KWARA STATE

Chairman: Rav. J.O. Aluko; Vice Chairman: Alhaji J.O. Lanfa; Treasurer: M.A. Adeyemi; Secretary: Oia Bayero; Assistant Secretary: S.O. Ranti.

BENDEL STATE

Chairman: J. Ihonde; Vice Chairman: J.E. Osaje; Treasurer: J.A. Ogbomo; Secretary: E.A. Iglebor; Assistant Secretary: D.O. Uwulube.

ANAMBRA STATE

Chairman: G.C. Nwasike; Vice Chairman: A. Lawrence; Treasurer: A. U. Ekwuamah; Secretary: B.N. Onwuali; Assistant Secretary: J.O. Keshi.

IMO STATE

Chairman: J.E. Ojladu; Vice Chairman: C.I. Abarikwu; Treasurer: D.N. Amalah; Secretary: P.B. Okoro; Assistant Secretary: S.P. Umunnah.

RIVERS STATE

Chairman: P. Iruyemama; Vice Chairman: J.D. Ayakoroma; Treasurer: M. E. Akpoko (Mrs); Secretary: G. Braide; Assistant Secretary: C. C. Kpaluku.

CROSS RIVER STATE

Chairman: Chief E.N. Okon; Vice Chairman: R.H. Idem; Treasurer: K. Okon (Mrs); Secretary: E.B. Akpan; Assistant Secretary: O. Okon.

BENUE STATE

Chairman: D.A. Olofu; Vice Chairman: J.T. Labe; Treasurer: M.U. Ejeh; Secretary: P.F. Idu; Assistant Secretary: A. Igoji.

KANO STATE

Chairman: T.A. Shamang; Vice Chairman: S.B. Salami; Treasurer: S. A. Oke; Secretary: I. J. Hallilu; Assistant Secretary: S. Eze.

BORNO STATE

Chairman: A. A. Chifroma; Vice Chairman: S.O. Okeke; Treasurer: B. Musami; Secretary: M. Isa; Assistant Secretary: A. Goni.

GONGOLA STATE

Chairman: L.N. Hanis; Vice Chairman: H. B. Risku; Treasurer: W. Mustapha; Secretary: M. Khalid; Assistant Secretary: G.A. Kushi.

BAUCHI STATE

Chairman: Alhaji Y.A.A. Maiduguri; Vice Chairman: Alhaji Y. A. Kumo; Treasurer: M. Ahmed; Secretary: J. A. Kpesh; Assistant Secretary: Y. Malmota.

PLATEAU STATE

Chairman: S.D. Nylans; Vice Chairman: J. O. Inarigu; Treasurer: V. N. Lumpye (Mrs); Secretary: S.A.O. Abeh; Assistant Secretary: A. Mohammed.

Profile

TRADE UNIONS

Muritala Funmilayo

N L C Assistant General Secretary

ijc Administration

MURITALA FUNMILAYO was born 35 years ago in Ado-Ekiti, Ondo State.

Funmilayo is largely a self-made man whose story reads like a success book.

He left primary school with a set back that could have foiled the ambition of many. In 1960 he lost his father and with it a chance to attend a secondary school.

Funmilayo was undaunted by this apparent disadvantage. He did not cry over the spilt milk when he could not enter either of the two schools, Igbobi College, Yaba and Mayflower, Ikenne. He made the best out of a poor situation, by going to Methodist Secondary Modern School, Oshogbo. He was in the school from 1961 to 1967.

Small minds, it is said, worry about things, big minds think ideas. Funmilayo has a big mind. He did not rest on his oars after the successful completion of his Secondary Modern School career. Rather his indomitable courage made him to prepare for and come out in flying colours in the West African School Certificate examination in 1973.

Funmilayo is not known to be idle. Between 1973 and 1976 he enrolled in the University of Ibadan Extra Mural Classes and later passed three Advance Level General Certificate of Education papers. In 1968 Funmilayo was a secretarial studies student at the Yaba College of Technology. He types and writes shorthand at 120/150 words per minute respectively.

He is now studying for his LL.B. He is a Part III (evening) student of this discipline in the University of Lagos.

It is thus clear that Funmilayo meteoric rise is not due to vaulting ambition but rather it is simply in his nature to do the right thing at the right time. Also he has a high sense of self-respect and a wholesome degree of integrity.

Coupled with these, his warm, friendly and agreeable disposition have made him to be welcome in whatever station he finds himself.

Funmilayo was first employed as a typist grade III in 1967 and a year later he was made stenographer grade II. In 1970 he was stenographer grade I. In 1973 he was made Assistant Personal Secretary, College of Education, University of Lagos and in 1975 he was promoted Confidential Secretary in the same institution. In 1977 Funmilayo was promoted Higher Executive Officer and in 1978 he was appointed Welfare and Estate Officer, Lagos State College of Science and Technology.



Funmilayo has been involved in trade union activities since 1969 when he was appointed Publicity Secretary, Unilag Workers' Union. From 1969 to 1971 he was the Editor, Unilag Workers' Digest and from 1971 to 1972, he was Deputy President, Unilag Workers' Union. From 1976-77 he was member of the Joint Consultative Committee of the University's Management and Workers' Union. During the same period he was Public Relations Officer, Federation of Nigerian Universities and Allied Institutions Workers' Union.

He was the National Secretary, Nigerian Youth Thinker's Club from 1972 to 1977.

Muritala Funmilayo has been described as broad, rather than parochial in outlook. He could not have been otherwise as underscored by the weight of present office. He is now Nigeria Labour Congress Assistant General Secretary in charge of administration.

Funmilayo is married with two children.

THE working class plays an increasingly greater part in the political and economic developments of the young African states. This is only natural. During independence many African nations have made economic progress and their working class has numerically grown. By conservative estimates, it has reached 15,000,000 today.

Besides the considerable numerical growth of the African proletariat major changes have taken place in its structure, nature, and ideology. The development of industries and the appearance of up-to-date enterprises have called forth skilled manpower. Their acquaintance with contemporary scientific knowledge, work in multinational collectives and many other factors help African working people get rid of backward traditions and customs. Giving up the tribalist morals, the African working class has been emerging on the national scene as a participant in the general proletarian movement.

The working class of several countries has already become a sponsor and a major social support of national-democratic revolutions. The 1963 action of the working people, and the non-proletarian masses of Brazzaville developed into a triumphant national-democratic revolution. The general strike of the Nigerian workers in 1964 revealed the rottenness of the feudal and bourgeois regime and stimulated important reforms in the country. The 1964-1965 action of the Sudanese workers paved the way for the national-democratic revolutions of 1964 and 1969. The strikes and demonstrations of the Ethiopian workers and students in February 1974 marked the beginning of fundamental changes in the country.

The shaping up of the regular working class in Africa has been going on side by side with the strengthening of progressive trade unions, a major organizational force of the working-class movement on the continent. The process is especially clearly seen in socialism-oriented countries. During the national democratic revolution, for instance, the Ethiopian trade unions have grown from the agencies of workers' "aristocracy" and bureaucracy, helping the feudal government to exploit working people, into the representative organisations of the working class, expressing the fundamental interests of factory and office workers. The All-Ethiopian Trade Union whose membership exceeds 300,000 today, plays a major part in industrial development and the raising of the

working people's standard of welfare and culture. The trade unions of Mozambique, Angola, Benin, Nigeria, and other countries have been stepping up their activities.

A major index of the progress of the African working class is the currently growing connection between the working-class, and the entire liberation anti-imperialist movement and the theory of scientific socialism. Progressive-minded workers actively participate in the work of the national-democratic, revolutionary-democratic, and vanguard parties. Within these parties the working class closely co-operates with the revolutionary-minded non-proletarian sections of the working people, championing the further development of the anti-imperialist struggle and a national-democratic revolution.



Comrade Lasisi Osunde
NLC Deputy General Secretary

THE WORKING CLASS IN AFRICA TODAY

By Our Correspondent

Recently the African working class has been stepping up its struggle against the attempts of bourgeois and petty-bourgeois forces to direct the working-class movement along a reformist road. This struggle has markedly gained in importance now when several African politicians are trying to set up a Confederation of African Socialist Parties, under the aegis of the so-called "national" and "democratic" socialism. It is really the matter of barring the ideas of scientific socialism from Africa during the upsurge of the African working-class movement and directing this movement along the wrong road of "cooperation between labour and capital".

African workers are aware of the fact that it is utterly impossible to tackle major tasks without solidarity among the proletariat and trade unions. Unity and cohesion are the most effective instruments of the proletariat in its struggle for the satisfaction of social and economic demands of the working people, for a political and economic independence of all African nations, the overcoming of backwardness and a fair international economic order. It is urgently necessary

to consolidate various detachments of the working-class movement to counteract the activities of the multinational monopolies squandering the natural wealth of the countries where they have struck roots, undermining their economies and encroaching upon their sovereignty.

The growing awareness of the community of interests among African working people and the need to expand and strengthen the solidarity and unity of African trade-union movement caused the establishment of a unitary trade-union centre: the Organisation of African Trade Union Unity. The new centre has done and continues to do a great deal for the development of the trade-union movement in Africa.

The First OATUU Congress, held in the Libyan capital of Tripoli in April 1976, passed a declaration of principles which states, specifically, that African workers and peasants undertook indefatigably to strengthen the independence and unity of African trade unions and that they declared their unbending will not to cease their struggle against imperialism, colonialism, neocolonialism, racism,

judalism, the reactionary forces, and the exploitation of man by man. Secretary-General D. Akumu of OAUU pointed out that the Organisation saw its duty in its active participation the building of a new life and the ensuring of peace throughout the world.

The organisational unity of the African working class has been also gaining in strength in the course of its struggle for the accomplishment of national, general democratic and anti-imperialist tasks. This struggle is directed against the oppression and exploitation of foreign capital, relying on the reactionary sections of the national bourgeoisie and feudal elements. The important feature of this struggle also lies in the fact that it is not only to deal a blow on foreign and national capitalists but also to do away with the pre-capitalist methods of the exploitation of man by man, which have been to this day used in rural localities where the major part of the African population lives.

Despite the relatively small number of the African working class, its role has been constantly increasing. Its numerical strength, growing organization and class consciousness are not the only reason for this. Even the small detachments of workers in some countries are part of the international working-class movement, enjoying its constant support and using its progressive revolutionary experience in practice. The achievements of the international working-class movement and the enhancing power of the world system of socialism have created pre-requisites for the growing prestige and influence of the working class in any country.

Pre-requisites for the development of the class into a leading force of social development have been gradually shaping up in a number of newly-free countries. This aim has been proclaimed by the Programmes and the Rules of the vanguard parties of MPLA-Labour Party, FRELIMO, the Congolese Labour Party, and others.

"There is no doubt", said Leonid Brezhnev, General Secretary of the CPSU Central Committee and President of the Presidium of the Supreme Soviet of the USSR, "that in the young national states ahead lies the broadest development of the working-class struggle against imperialism and its allies. It is the working-class movement that will ultimately play the decisive part in this area of the world too".

Economic Integration: What Choice For Africa ?

By Our Correspondent

ECONOMIC integration, as a form of internationalisation of the economy, is a positive phenomenon. Integration, which means the development of productive forces, a rise in the concentration of production and the international division of labour, tangibly raises labour productivity and yields great economic effect. Many countries in the world are showing interest in integration. Regional economic groups came into being in the 50s and especially in the 60s, in Europe and in the developing countries in Central America, Africa and Asia.

The liberated countries that embarked on the way of independent development, face the problem of not only the choice of development orientation, socialist or capitalist, but of the kind of integration either socialist (like CMEA) or capitalist (like the Common Market).

Obviously, that integration is more efficient: which facilitates the earliest social and economic changes, and the high rates of economic growth of every country which is part of a given integration region.

On the face of it, both CMEA and the Common Market, as follows from their respective Charters, have similar directions of development; the creation of favourable conditions for the fast and steady economic growth, acceleration of economic and technical progress, bringing closer together and levelling out the economies of separate countries, and the all-round economic progress of the entire community.

But for all the similarity of the directions of development of the two groups, their goals are diametrically opposite. The immediate aim and motive of the capitalist integration is the pursuit of the maximum profit, whereas the socialist economic cooperation has set itself the aim of common prosperity, over-

coming difficulties by joint effort, and the raising of the people's well-being.

Planned management, scientifically-grounded and, thus, rational use of manpower, material resources and finance ensure the rapid growth rates in the socialist countries. Thus, in the past four years (1973 to 1977) the CMEA countries' national income rose by 32 per cent, while that of the Common Market only by 6 per cent. Twenty years ago, the CMEA volume of electric power was only 87 per cent of that of the Common Market (the Nine), in 1977 the CMEA countries increased power production in 1977 by 11 per cent as against the preceding year, while the Common Market in 1977 produced 1.2 per cent less power than it did in 1976.

Can such Common Market development be called "steady" if in 1977 the Nine had, apart from power, produced less steel (6 per cent), coal (4 per cent), natural gas (5 per cent), than it did in 1976, with the unemployment level really rising to reach 6 million. It would be appropriate to recall that the CMEA countries have no unemployment.



Dr. A. Adedeji
Executive Secretary,
Economic Commission for Africa

The Socialist kind of integration makes feasible not only high development rates, but also promotes the implementation of the principle of socialist internationalism meaning speedier development of the formerly backward countries through the aid from the socialist community. Tangible achievements have been scored here. If in the 1950s the ratio of economic development of certain countries within CMEA was 3:1, today the gap has been reduced to 10:20 per cent.

Equality and mutual assistance—these are the main conditions of successes scored by the CMEA community. As recorded in the CMEA Charter, these countries' economic, scientific and technical cooperation is effected on the basis of respect for state sovereignty, full equality, and non-interference in each other's internal affairs. Any CMEA country is sovereign in decision-making, and has equal rights in working out the joint development strategy. The Common Market Charter, on the contrary, outlines the discrimination between the big and the small countries. The more economically powerful states in the Common Market Council (Britain, France, West Germany, and Italy) have ten votes each, while Denmark has three votes and Luxemburg only two. Mind you, only a mere majority of votes is needed to pass most decisions.

It is appropriate to say here that CMEA is not a closed group of states. As stipulated by the CMEA Charter, countries that are not CMEA members can partake in the functioning of its bodies dealing with cooperation of reciprocal interest. Yugoslavia, for instance, participates in the discussion of specific problems by the CMEA Executive Committee, submitting proposals, taking part in the debate, and making official statements on an equal footing with the CMEA members. More than that, it is only with Yugoslavia's consent that CMEA bodies make recommendations whose implementation involves Yugoslavia.

While in the CMEA organisation recommendations and decisions are taken only with the consent of all the interested countries, in the Common Market the voting practice is such that decisions may be imposed on the small countries, which run counter to their will.

So which way to choose? To get economic assistance and support, or to become an extensive market for a group of monopolies?

China's 'Precedent'

By Our Correspondent

A "PRECEDENT" derived from Latin "praecedentis" preceding means an earlier occurrence that serves as an example or rule to justify a subsequent act of the same or analogous kind. This is how the political dictionary explains the term. History knows many examples when precedents served as "arguments" to justify colonial and aggressive wars, the seizure of the territories of other countries and mass terror which sometimes went to the length of genocide. These features inherent in imperialism are also fully characteristic of the foreign policy of Peking. What catches the eye first of all is its anti-humane nature which stands in contrast to the elementary norms of international law and negates the right of each people to decide its own destiny.

Of course, it would be naive to think that the Peking line only repeats the elements of the imperialist colonial expansion. It has a distinct "Chinese Flavour". One of its features are, for instance, the assurances of "friendship and infinite love" for the peoples of the developing countries of Asia, Africa and Latin America. These sweet-sounding assurances accompanied and continue to accompany encroachments on sovereignty, interference in internal affairs, and acts of annexation, which have been growing in scope and are aimed at appropriating the territories of the neighbouring states. In other words, in the past 15 to 20 years, the Chinese policy has quite intentionally gone from bad to worse and created a series of precedents "crowned" with the open armed aggression against Vietnam.

Small wonder, therefore, that not only Asian countries but also African states lying far from them show perplexity, or to be more exact, grave concern over the Chinese invasion of Vietnam. This alarm is being quite logically associated with the worst period of the second world war. For instance, the newspaper *Observateur* of Upper Volta asks with good reason: "how is it possible to qualify the Chinese aggression? Is it national socialism.....? This term stirs too bad associations to be used". It may seem

that there is nothing in common between national socialists, as Hitler's nazis called themselves and the Peking intriguers who claim to support the liberation movement.

But it seems so only at first sight. As far as Africa is concerned, Peking has long been siding with the racists of Pretoria and Salisbury, supporting separatist groupings of the national liberation movements and actively encouraging the fanning of conflicts and the rigging of new conspiracies and coups. African peoples, first of all those which oppose the racist regimes and the intrigues of the neocolonialism, are well aware of the identity of views and community of actions of the former initiators of the second world war and their Peking successors. In point of fact, this community of the stands manifests itself in such fundamental aspects of their policy as the unrestrained hegemonistic ambition to dominate the world, racism and the policy of establishing a "new order" in Europe and Asia respectively and later on in Africa, which is linked with racism, and, lastly, the renunciation of any moral principles: any means can be used to attain expansionist goals. Their chief means is violence and war as a logical continuation of the great power policy directed at ensuring world domination.

This is the reason behind "Peking's precedents" which are bound to justify any move, to pave the way and expand the bridgehead for intervention, annexation and punishment of "recalcitrants" and of those who "hold different views". Just as colonialists set tribes and peoples at loggerheads to attain their own selfish goals, the Peking geopoliticians tried to implement the initial phase of their hegemonistic plans by using Asians against Asians. To carry out this jesuitical policy, they provoked many bloody conflicts. But already in that period they made use of their regular army, as was the case during their incursion into India as early as 1962. One must not forget also Peking's interference in the internal affairs of Burma, Thailand and Malaysia. That was followed by the tragedy of the

OBITUARY

SALLY OMOJOLA AJIBOLA (Nee Tylecote)

WITH sorrow we have to announce the death of our Comrade Sally Patricia Omojola Ajibola, aged 34, member of the Secretariat to the Preparatory Committee of the All-Nigeria Socialist Conference.

Sally, as she was fondly known, was the first child of the Oxford-educated Dr. Ronald Tylecote, holder of a chair in Archaeo-Metallurgy of the University of London and of the Cambridge-educated lecturer in languages, Angela. Her first partisan option from the establishment was her own choice of the Redbrick University of Newcastle. At Newcastle she read philosophy and later at Ahmadu Bello University she read education. Until her death in the road crash at Zaria on January 1, 1979 she was a lecturer in Institute of Education of Ahmadu Bello University.

Sally's first contact with Africa was in the company of her father who persisted in digging evidence to show the existence of an old and virile metal technology in the African Sahel region. The import of his discovery and description of iron foundaries in the Sudan and Nigeria appears significant to scholarship but combined to build such a love for Africa in Sally that she opted to make Africa her home.

On graduation, Sally started teaching at Dr. Tai Solarin's Mayflower School at Ikenne and enrolled in the Nigerian Socialist Movement. For a considerable time she engaged herself in the uses of literacy for the furtherance of the emancipation of the mind of the toiling classes. We are inheritors of copious notes she made of the form and content of non-school education of peasant youth, in Ikenne and Kano.

By the time she became Acting Principal of the People's Girls High School at Ibadan she added the problem of women's liberation to her interests and tasks. She was by then the life companion of our Comrade Baba Omojola, the Marxian economist and field organizer by whom she had two children:

Rosa Eyinsde Boleji, named after Rosa Luxemburg—the leader of the Polish and German socialist parties murdered in the fascist jail of Germany AND

Victor-Sarge Sango Akinola, named after the revolutionary of the 1920's and after the god of thunder.

A generous contributor of papers, articles, money and time Sally was known as a Friend, Inter-



nationalist and Humanist among the bohemian population of metropolitan Kano, the subterranean circles of way-farers and liberated women. For a time, her saloon at Bohemia Quarters was their classroom. And it is from them that she continued to learn some of the recorded attitudes, aspirations and characteristics of sections of the lumpen proletariat among whom our work continues to stretch.

At her funeral on 8th January one of her favourite lines was chanted:

"...the experience of every crisis in history, of every great disaster and every sudden turn in human life, stuns and shatters some, but it enlightens and hardens others".

May the example of Sally's devoted life as a socialist and her beloved personality as a human being rather than shatter us continue to enlighten and harden us in our day-to-day life and work.

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NEW HORIZON
 PUBLISHED MONTHLY BY
 THE NEW HORIZON PUBLICATIONS
 14, Tamakloe/Kelani Street,
 Mushin, Lagos,
 Nigeria.

World Marxist Review

MANAGING EDITOR
 Dapo Fatogun

PRODUCTION EDITOR
 Ife Etoke

