Note by the translator:

While the following article correctly condemns malthusianism and correctly criticizes the resurrection of malthusianism and its application to politics, the author of the article also explains some things in a mistaken or confused way, which should be corrected. There are essentially two things which must be clarified:

1) The author writes in a way which implies that Malthus was inspired by Darwin, but the opposite is the case. Darwin was inspired by Malthus. Most likely this seeming reversal of chronology was not something the author intended, as he seems well aware that Malthus lived earlier then Darwin.
2) The author correctly says that it is wrong to apply the notion of “struggle for existence” or “survival of the fittest” into society, but he failed to explicitly state that malthusianism is false both for society and for biology and nature as well. The author writes that Darwin discovered “struggle for existence” in nature, which is true in a sense, but he should have mentioned that Darwin uses the term differently from Malthus. Therefore Darwin did not actually discover true malthusianism in nature, though he believed he found something analogous.

In the Origin of Species Darwin states that he used the phrase merely metaphorically and as a convenient figure of speech:

“As the mistletoe is disseminated by birds, its existence depends on birds; and it may metaphorically be said to struggle with other fruit-bearing plants, in order to tempt birds to devour and thus disseminate its seeds rather than those of other plants. In these several senses, which pass into each other, I use for convenience sake the general term of struggle for existence.”

However, it is true that while Darwin was a true materialist scientist and creator of the scientific theory of evolution, he actually was influenced by Malthus. This was his main theoretical mistake. Marx and Engels correctly criticized this, and later progressive scientists and continuers of Darwin's work, K. A. Timiryazev, T. D. Lysenko and others also thoroughly criticized and corrected this mistake. They have stated that malthusianism adds nothing to darwinism and contradicts the materialistic core of darwinism. Darwinism has a basis also in practical breeding, while Malthus had no such practical basis for his theories.

All of the author's confusion arises from the fact that while Darwin was influenced by Malthus, social-darwinists apply darwinism and also the malthusian influence back to society again. It is easy to be mixed in one's words about who influenced who. Engels already explained this correctly in his letter to the physicist Lavrov:

“The whole Darwinian theory of the struggle for existence is simply the transference from society to animate nature of Hobbes' theory of the war of every man against every man and the bourgeois economic theory of competition, along with the Malthusian theory of population. This feat having been accomplished... the same theories are next transferred back again from organic nature to history and their validity as eternal laws of human society declared to have been proved. The childishness of this procedure is obvious, it is not worth wasting words over.” (Engels to Lavrov 12 November 1875)

Marx writes how imposing imaginary malthusianism on nature, and then imposing this back to society as an imaginary natural law, actually shows how the bourgeois consider themselves nothing but animals, and consider bourgeois civilization to be on the same level as the animal kingdom. Capitalism reduces society to the level of unreasoning wild beasts:

“It is remarkable how among beasts and plants Darwin recognises his English society with its division of labour, competition, opening up of new markets, 'inventions' and Malthusian 'struggle for existence.' It is Hobbes' war of every man against every man “ (Marx to Engels, June 18, 1862)

A. Hulkkonen

CAPITALISM THREATENS HUMANITY WITH STARVATION

Source: Kommunisti, no. 6, 1950
Motto:
“It's better to destroy the current 50 million bushels potato surplus than to sell it cheaply.” (From the speech of US minister of agriculture C. Brannan, Helsingin Sanomat, April 2. 1950.)

Under the pressure of deepening economic recession frenzied capitalism doesn't only try to spread fear among the people with its inventions, the atomic and hydrogen bombs. It has also conjured up the threat of starvation, which it justifies with the dishonest theory that mankind procreates so quickly that nature cannot provide us with the means of subsistence.

It may seem strange that this “theory” is from the technologically advanced and wealthy America. The “experts” and “scientists” of the United Nations Food and Agriculture Organization, who travel the world as hired salesmen of the US dollar kings, are the spreaders and developers of this starvation doctrine. Thus, Mr. Boerman, the leader of the delegation of the Rome bureau of the FAO, who recently visited our country, explained that despite ever improving possibilities for nourishment half of the population of the globe suffers currently from milder or more severe nutrient deficiencies. This “unfortunate phenomena” in his opinion, is caused by the simple reason that the population increases by 20 million hungry mouths every year, but people have not been able to increase the means of subsistence in the same degree. Another leading figure in the FAO, N. E. Dodd, in discussing the problem of world hunger, explained that it is caused by the fact that “there are 200 million more people in the world then in 1938, but food production is only now catching up to the level it had 11 years ago”. Dodd then asks, perplexed after making this remark, “doesn't the world produce people faster than it produces food for their nourishment?”

Naturally for the war-mongering and pro-American press of our country such “theories” have been just as desirable material for publication as news about hydrogen and atomic bombs. “Hunger as the problem of the entire world” (Sosialistinen Aikakauslehti, no. 2 1950), “shortage of food threatens humanity” (Ilkka, February 8. 1950), “our population increases – do the means of life increase also” (Pellervo, no. 7 1950)* below these and many other sensationalist headlines we have had the opportunity to read numerous versions of this modern, American doctrine of Malthus, which is used to confuse people so they wouldn't see the real reasons why shortage of food is spreading among the people in the capitalist world.

[*Translator's note:
Ilkka. Right-wing agrarian paper.
Pellervo. Paper representing right-wing social-democrat co-operative businesses.]

This problem is not new. The English priest T. R. Malthus who lived and worked at the end of the 17th and beginning of the 18th century, tried to convince the people who back then, were being starved by the primitive accumulation of capital, that the cause of their hunger was not relentless capitalistic exploitation but excessive procreation and the limited nature of means of life. Malthus tried to mechanically apply the struggle for existence taking place in nature and discovered by Darwin, to human society by arguing that human procreation supposedly happens in a series such as 1, 2, 4, 8, 16 etc. while the means of subsistence available from nature only increase in a series such as 1, 2, 3, 4, 5 etc. The result is supposedly the natural struggle between humans about the means of life, where strong individuals and peoples have the right to continue living while the weak fall in the struggle, which is most clearly manifested in wars. The massive advancements of science, technology and agronomy condemned the theory of priest Malthus into disgrace for a century. But now it seems the specter of
Malthus has reawakened in our times, in the form of bourgeois economists and philosophers, to haunt humanity which is exhausted by intensified capitalistic exploitation and war preparations.

**NEO-MALTHUSIANISM AS THE IDEOLOGY OF MONOPOLY CAPITAL**

The resurrection of Malthusian doctrines is needed by the power of monopoly capital, which has become a break on all progress. After passing through its pre-monopoly period of “flourishing”, capitalism has entered into a period of chronic sickness, as a result of which, after the first world war, the Great October Socialist Revolution removed 1/6 of the world's territory from the sphere of capitalist market economy. After that there hasn't been significant general economic advance in the capitalist world, the advancements that have happened have been only local and temporary fluctuations, based on the intensified exploitation of enslaved peoples, particularly the working population, in between ever deepening crisis, as a result of which all contradictions of capitalism have tremendously sharpened and imperialist wars, with the resulting revolutions, have come onto the agenda in all capitalist countries.

In the period between the world wars the numbers demonstrating the economic development of leading capitalist countries, do not so much testify to the general advance of the world economy as they do to the frenzied war preparations and intensified exploitation of the working people. The fruits of science and technology did not lead to significant improvements in the living conditions of broad working sections in any capitalist countries, but instead to acceleration of concentration of capital and the productive efforts of the peoples being used for preparations for war, to which every capitalist country was drawn to by the intensifying struggle for markets and investment areas. For example the economic development in our country between the wars was like this, the goal of economic policy was to accelerate capital accumulation in preparation for war to create greater-Finland. Despite the economic rise, no significant aid could be spared to improve the miserable conditions of our workers and peasants. In all leading capitalist countries unemployment has spread and become a permanent phenomena, the colonial and rural peoples tied to production of cheap food products have been continually impoverished, these have been the fruits of such economic policy everywhere. This in turn has restricted the effective supply of the markets controlled by monopoly capital internationally and domestically, and aggravated the contradiction between capitalistic profit-based production and the shrinking market. In 1927, in describing the so-called temporary consolidation of capitalism after the first world war, J. V. Stalin said that “This contradiction between the growth of the production potentialities and the relative stability of markets lies at the root of the fact that the problem of markets is today the fundamental problem of capitalism.” (J. V. Stalin, works, volume 10, p. 275, Russian edition [“The Fifteenth Congress of the C.P.S.U.(B.”)])

This contradiction between capitalist production and markets was aggravated tremendously after the second world war, when again large territories left the sphere of capitalist market economy. It has led to the fact that capitalist countries have already entered into a crisis of overproduction, despite the fact that production has surpassed pre-war levels in only a few countries, and agriculture is almost generally below it. In these conditions big capital and capitalist agriculture try to protect their profits, in our country and elsewhere, by the use of monopoly prices and restricting production, without care for the subsistence needs of the people. Thus, the capitalist economy which is based on profit extraction by monopoly capital, has even more clearly revealed its parasitism and decay, which Lenin described in his book “Imperialism, the highest stage of capitalism” in the following way:

“the deepest economic foundation of imperialism is monopoly. This is capitalist monopoly, i.e., monopoly which has grown out of capitalism and which exists in the general environment of capitalism, commodity production and competition, in permanent and insoluble contradiction to this
general environment. Nevertheless, like all monopoly, it inevitably engenders a tendency of stagnation and decay. Since monopoly prices are established, even temporarily, the motive cause of technical and, consequently, of all other progress disappears to a certain extent and, further, the economic possibility arises of deliberately retarding technical progress.” (V. I. Lenin, Selected works, volume 1, p. 867, Finnish edition).

Especially in America which strives for domination of the world market, but also in other capitalist countries, monopoly capital which has become a break on progress of society, as Lenin says, has led social progress to an unsolvable contradiction with the conditions that monopoly capital has created. It can no longer solve these problems based on rational principles, understandable to human reason. That is why it needs neo-malthusianism, i.e. mechanically applying laws of nature to explanation of human society. The effects of decaying monopoly capital on social life with its wars, its crises which destroy productive forces, causes small entrepreneurs to go bankrupt, its intensification of class contradictions, its “super-men” and “master races”, go completely against healthy reason and the strivings of ordinary citizens. Explaining these ills as the results of laws of development of capitalism, and as integral to the very nature of capitalism, which can be cured by abolishing capitalism, is scientific thought that is far from acceptable to monopoly capital. That is why capitalistic science needs malthusianism and the revival of all kinds of superstition. That is why American monopoly capital, which strives for world domination, needs traveling salesmen and tourists disguised as scientists, who try to convince the people living in misery and fearing a new war, that hunger and wars are the result of god given natural laws, under which humanity must carry out continuous, blind struggle against itself to secure its own means of life. They try to explain wars as the inevitable results of natural laws, through which “super-men” and “master races” secure their existence and as a result, supposedly because of inevitable natural laws, are justified in violently oppressing and dominating the world.

This malthusian outlook was the worldview of German fascism, which endeavoured for world domination. However, it did not lead hitlerism to world domination, but to ruin. American monopoly capital has nowadays adopted this neo-malthusian ideology. It is probable that it will once again lead its advocates to disgrace. Because that which might apply to blind struggle for existence in nature, does not apply to human society. The development of human society is not guided by blind laws of nature, but conscious people, whose power lies in conscious struggle for progress and to subject natural laws and forces to serve humanity.

**THE THREAT OF FAMINE IS A PRODUCT OF AMERICAN MONOPOLIES**

The worry about starvation threatening humanity, demonstrated by the “experts” of the American FAO, looks quite strange when we compare it to the agricultural policy carried out by the USA and other capitalist countries, and even to decisions of the FAO itself. It turns out, the fundamental worry of the FAO and the agricultural policy of capitalist countries nowadays, is not to save humanity from hunger by increasing food production, not at all, but instead “profitability” of agriculture, i.e. protecting profits of agricultural capitalists. It is very illustrative that last year at the third congress of the FAO held in Canada, the main topic of the congress was not the increase of food production but the stabilization of agricultural prices. This was because, as a report by the meeting said “in many countries there is already overproduction of many agricultural products, which has led to a fall in prices”.

To combat this “danger” threatening humanity – the decrease of food prices – the congress recommended the governments of countries to consider “reasonable restriction of production” and recommended the creation of an international food export fund. It would be formed by countries exporting agricultural products and it would pay exporters a part of the difference between production
cost and selling price. This way they calculated it would be possible to guarantee prices giving reasonable profits for agricultural producers in agricultural export countries and expanding markets through the fund. Whose interests this plan serves, is revealed immediately if one knows that e.g. in the year 1949 the grain exports of the USA were 17,6 million tons and 48% of the global marketed grain (Ilta-Sanomat, January 25, 1950). It is evident that the FAO's recommendations to restrict agricultural production and to create a support fund serve primarily the interests of big American farmers, whose plan it is to drown the world in American products, to secure the undiminished profits of American agricultural capitalists even during a crisis, and to make the Marshallised countries dependant on American monopoly capital also in regard to food products. Thus, for instance France, whose grain production is capable of meeting the country's requirements and in the best years to even export grain, is forced to import a million tons of wheat annually from across the ocean for five years, due to the wheat agreement it signed in Washington in March 1948.

Naturally such ruthless conquering of markets in the name of combating hunger, has caused resistance among agricultural producers in the Marshall countries. In many countries there are demands for strong protections supporting domestic agricultural production against the growing pressure of American food production. Not even the blackmail connected with Marshall-loans has been able to open the doors wide enough for the export of American products to different countries. As a result American monopolists have been forced to seriously plan the restricting of agricultural production and destruction of food storages. The March issue of the FAO's bulletin says that the USA will reduce farming area for corn this year by 20% and of cotton by 23%. According to Ilta-Sanomat the farming area of winter wheat has also been reduced by 15%, which means a 20% reduction in wheat export. The sowing areas of potato, rice, beans and tobacco are also planned to be reduced by 10-20%. On top of this, there are now serious considerations about how to get rid of those massive storages of cotton, grain, potato, eggs, butter and other products, that have formed because of the state's purchases of overproduced goods. Throwing them onto the market is feared to cause a collapse of prices. As a result, scientists have been hired to consider what would be the cheapest way to destroy these storages. Indicative of American monopoly capital's “care” for improving the food situation of humanity, is the statement by agricultural minister of the USA C. Brannan, that “It's better to destroy the current 50 million bushels potato surplus than to sell it cheaply.” Let the world go hungry. We Americans fertilize our fields with scientifically rotted potatoes and heat the boilers of our power plants with grain. Such is the true morality of American monopoly capital preaching neo-malthusianism!

So are we to understand that the American people, and especially its army of 18 million unemployed and under employed, is already so full that it doesn't need any more food? Of course not. But the American capitalist, any more than the Finnish “patriotic” capitalist does not ask whether the working people need food, but whether they can afford to pay. That is what decides. Thus a story in the America section of Maaseudun Tulevaisuus headlined “The curse of abundance” is forced to admit that

“although there are widespread complaints about high food prices and far from everyone can afford to buy what they want, the truth is that Americans are drowning in food supplies.”

The paper also states that

“American agriculture has ended up in a situation where it won't be saved by anything except hail, floods, drought, pests and other fundamental enemies of farming.”

Uncle Sam's food situation is indeed crazy. But help comes to where the need is greatest. Already after two days, on May 13, 1950, we could read from MT a news story according to which a pest insect
named Toxaptera graminumis has appeared on American wheat fields and destroyed 13.7% of winter wheat and causing a 40 million bushel reduction in the wheat harvest. “The US government, however, is not saddened by this disaster” the paper assures us.

But the American missionairies of FAO act like they know nothing about that, and instead talk in a heart warming way about world hunger and give instructions how the damage to harvests caused by insects, rodents and weeds should be prevented, and tell about their scientific plans for making the agricultural production of technologically backward countries more intensive and varied. All of those instructions, which in themselves are fine and correct, however, are completely powerless before the fact that American monopoly capital doesn't give a damn about the hunger of mankind and ruthlessly seeks to retain all the market areas it has conquered on a technologically backward level so that the export markets for American agricultural products would be ensured, especially because the domestic market is continually shrinking as a result of increasing unemployment and the impoverishment of the people. This ruthless policy of conquering markets probably explains e.g. the “theory” that in certain European countries “there is already an over mechanization of agriculture”. This was told in an interview to Maaseudun Tulevaisuus on May 20, 1950 by a visiting FAO “expert” Mr. John Penders, who also explained that the biggest economic problem in the Netherlands currently, is the too rapid procreation of the population, which religious reasons prevent them from restricting. He advised that European agriculture, which is dominated by small producers, should instead of using machines increase the amount of hand labor. In practice that kind of advice means that the rural population of European countries should adapt themselves to hand labor and subsistence farming, so that the mechanized agriculture of the USA could conquer even more the European food market.

THE THREAT OF HUNGER IS NOT ONLY AN AMERICAN EXPORT

However, it does not follow that the increasing malnourishment among broad segments of the population in capitalist countries is only a product of American monopoly capital. The threat of hunger and war grows in all capitalist countries from their own soil, from the structures of the capitalist profit-driven economy, which has entered into deep crisis. The obligations to import American capital and products linked to American Marshall aid and the pressure of accelerating war preparations have only deepened the internal difficulties in and contradictions between the Marshallised countries subjugated by the US, which manifest themselves particularly as a struggle for markets both domestically and internationally.

Our country is not an exception. An ever growing dependence on the western markets under pressure of American monopoly capital has led to export capitalists, to ensure their profits, embarking on a ruthless campaign to depress the living standard of the workers and poor peasants. The general fall of wages together with the rise of prices of essentials of life have led to absolute impoverishment, together with increased unemployment and hunger among wide segments of the poor population. As a result the problem of economic feasability of agriculture, the land question and the housing question, and many other questions relating to securing the livelihood of the poor peasantry, have emerged as crucial problems of social policy in our country, requiring a revolutionary solution. The plans presented recently by leading agricultural politicians are clear proofs about the dead end that the fierce exploitation by big capital has led our country's agriculture. The alarming question posed by Pellervo magazine “our population increases – do the means of life increase also?” – is a perfectly reasonable question, not that our northern climate couldn't provide adequate possibilities for providing means of life for even a much larger population than our current one, but because exploitation by monopolized capital, shortage of land and farming implements, prevents the majority of peasants from even supporting themselves through agriculture.
In describing those conditions to which our national economy must conform in the current market conditions of international capitalism, the Pellervo journalist sees the situation as dire and writes “unemployment will increase year by year, even if the market doesn't go into crisis”. Because the mechanization and rationalization carried out in industry and agriculture for the sake of profitability, will remove from production larger and larger amounts of people and then “the sons and daughters of small peasants, who cannot find work in their own field or industry, are forced to become emigrant workers in other countries (where? There is already unemployment in all capitalist countries as it is – A. H.) or to end up permanently in the unemployment registry”. Therefore “a rise in the population won't give us any benefit, unless the possibilities for life also increase” – the journalist concludes hopelessly.

But without caring about the weakening of the living possibilities of the population, in our country also, monopolies acquire one field of food production after another. Through it they attempt to keep production and the market in balance to avoid overproduction which causes lowering of prices and decrease of profits. Dairy, eggs and meat industries are already controlled by monopolies. Undoubtedly development is going increasingly towards rule by monopolies also in other fields of agricultural production and trade. As a result it will cause the removal of ever larger amounts of people from the land and stable production and them ending up in the permanently malnourished army of unemployed. The struggle for livelihood will increase between the monopolistic owners of the means of production and the masses who have been torn away from the means of production.

But that struggle is not the blind struggle for survival under conditions of shortage, caused by natural laws, but conscious social class struggle, whose goal is to free nature and man from the chains of monopoly capitalism and secure harmony between human society and nature, which is beneficial for social development.

**THE PRODUCTS OF NATURE ARE LIMITLESS**

The socialist construction of the Soviet Union, with its nature transforming gigantic plans and achievements, are the living proof in our times that all kinds of neo-malthusian theories about the scarcity of natural products are completely baseless. The creative energy of the people and freeing of nature from the chains of monopolistic private ownership of means of production in the Soviet Union, has opened up unlimited possibilities for the application of science and technology to agriculture and has led to an unprecedented growth, variety and industrialization of agricultural production. Soviet science, which has stepped out from the lecture halls of the academies and universities onto the collective farm fields and livestock farms, has in a short time achieved such revolutionary results that they have practically completely debunked bourgeois theories about the falling fertility of the land and the mendelian gene theory of heredity in breeding plants and animals. Michurinist revolutionary methods in breeding new plant varieties and cattle breeds have lead to results which open limitless possibilities in increasing production of animal and plant products and making nature serve the will of man and strivings for providing a high living standard for the people.

While in capitalist Europe they recommend “reasonable reduction of production” and to use hand labor to prevent “over mechanization” of agriculture, and make laws to protect “reasonable” profits of agriculture by maintaining high prices, in the socialist Soviet Union they recommend mechanization and rationalization of agriculture on an unprecedented scale. Soviet people know, that only machines and science can make their labor easier and more productive, that only people armed by first grade technology and progressive science can subjugate natural laws, emancipate people from scarcity and
create an over abundance of essentials of life. That is why in the Soviet Union when developing branches of agriculture they have paid particular attention to all-round mechanization. Soviet agriculture is becoming a branch of production utilizing highly productive mechanized labor and requiring great professional skill and specialization. The difference between agriculture and industry, agricultural labor and industrial labor which is so typical for capitalism, is disappearing. The 246,000 collective farms and 4,540 state farms of the Soviet Union are being served by 8,000 machine-tractor stations, which already in 1938 had 483,500 tractors equipped with all the modern plowing, sowing and harvesting tools. After the war even more effective and varied mechanization of agriculture has continued. For example during the previous year, agriculture received 150,000 new tractors, 29,000 combine harvesters and 1.6 million other agricultural machines, including tens of new machine types for different branches of agriculture. During this year 85-90% of all plowing and 61% of sowing in kolkhoz farms will be done using tractors from machine stations.

Mechanization and michurinist agronomy used by the collective peasantry have provided magnificent results in raising yields in agricultural and improving cattle breeding. The grain harvest last year rose already to 7.6 billion poods (a pood is approx. 16kg), which nearly meets the plan target for 1950. The tremendous increase in production of bread grain has provided the possibilities for increasing variety in agricultural production. A situation is arising, where transitioning to principles of communist society in distribution of goods, to each according to need, will gradually become a reality, as over abundance of goods is achieved.

Lately, special attention has been paid to development of livestock raising, in the form of the 3 year plan for the development of livestock raising of the bolshevik party and the executive committee of the Soviet government. Last year the achievements in this field surpassed all plan targets. 120,000 new livestock farms were created in collective farms. Cattle increased by 21%, out which milk cows increased by 27%. Amount of pigs increased by 65%, sheep by 18% and horses by 22%. This year the development of livestock economy has proceeded just as successfully. But Soviet people are not satisfied only increasing the amount of crops and livestock, but also strive to revolutionarily transform the living conditions of plants and animals, so that their utility to humans would be as large as possible. Tools in this are not only industrially produced fertilizers and animal feed, soil improvement and traditional breeding. Soviet people have embarked on a much more gigantic work, to transform the foundations of nature itself. They transform steppe which is inhospitable for plants into fertile land, moderate the burning and drought causing climate of the steppe to become favorable for plants, and move southern plants far to the north, increasing variety in the agriculture of northern areas.

In this struggle Soviet society has already achieved large victories. Not only have southern grapes adapted to the conditions of the Moscow region, plums have become successful around Leningrad, vegetables on the Kola peninsula and in the cold open country of Yakutia. A large number of entirely new, more productive plant varieties and cattle breeds have been created. But most magnificent must be the battle waged by collective peasants of the steppe, lead by the best scientists, to defeat the steppe which resists against the will and strivings of man. Shelter forest belts have been planted already on more than 800,000 hectares, 306,800 hectares in this spring alone. An irrigation system for 122,000 hectares has been completed, for which it was necessary to build 8,000 irrigation pools and water tanks. The tasks for this year include planting of 700,000 hectares of forest and building of 7,587 irrigation pools.

But this task, which is beyond comparison, the goal of which is to make fertile and secure crops from steppe areas as large as France, England, Italy, Belgium and the Netherlands combined, is not the only gigantic struggle to be carried out by Soviet people. Another gigantic plan is also being fulfilled,
through which the rivers of Siberia will be made to flow in the opposite direction, into the Caspian sea, by which the steppe regions around the Caspian sea will be made fertile.

“Soviet science has demonstrated, not only in words but also in deeds, that in living nature there are hidden such possibilities, which when skillfully used, can satisfy the needs of the entire population of the planet even during continuous increase of the population”, said the well known Soviet biologist, academician Oparin in his lecture, which he gave during his recent visit to Finland.

The limitless growth of production, especially in agriculture, has become possible only because the contradiction and strife inside society caused by capitalist private ownership has been abolished by taking means of production and natural resources into the hands of the state controlled by the people, which uses them in a planned way to satisfy the needs of the people, and not for profiteering. As a contradiction which stimulates progress, there remains the battle between nature and human society, in which humans victoriously master nature and its blind laws, and make them serve humanity and the limitless requirements of social progress.

On this bright path of socialist development have entered also the hundreds of millions of peasants in East European people's democracies and China. In favor of entering on this path, millions of enslaved and impoverished peasants struggle in capitalist countries. Life itself teaches us that the hunting after rodents and plant killing fungi recommended by capitalist agricultural politicians, and their malthusian worship of natural laws, cannot prevent poverty and hunger. To stop hunger we need to overthrow the power of capitalist monopolies, which causes hunger and profiteers on starvation, and to replace it with the socialist planned economy which is based on satisfying the needs of people. Consciousness about this is rapidly spreading among the working peasantry also in Finland.