

1 J.M. 51 & 52.

28. 7. 1958.

VIEWPOINTS AND PERSPECTIVES.

Vol. 1, No.2, June 1953: No.3, February 1954.

These two issues of the "Publication of the Johannesburg Discussion Club" contain exclusively high-level papers and discussions by intellectuals on social, political and economical problems of contemporary South Africa. Everything said in them is based on the assumption of, at least, marxian views of Class struggle. Capitalist, etc.- views which are also - but not exclusively - held by Communists. The publication is certainly socialist in the broad meaning of the word, which includes Communism. There are some indications which point toward the conclusion, that the authors and speakers are not Socialists in the Western meaning of the word, but Communists. e.g., only a Communist can say (No.3, p.28) that Germany is virtually a Colony of the U.S.A.; and only a Communist will use such expression as (ib. p.38); "Crude opportunist distortion of and deviation from scientific political theory". Also, the whole discussion moves inside the frame of a theory which seems to be Leninist, even if some authors, like Mr. Bernstein merit certainly the above qualification of "deviationists", because they misunderstood the Leninist theory of the national-democratic revolution. It seems also that the authors and speakers combine with a high degree of refinement a certain crudity, which manifests itself in such statements as "every question is, at its roots, a class question", in a rather slavish holding of some major tenets of Leninism concerning the role of petty Bourgeoisie etc.

However, the discussion turns around points which were never decided by Communist authorities. South

Africa seems, as a matter of fact, to offer to Communism problems seldom, if ever, met before; namely of a country, in which pre-feudal ways of economy are combined with a powerful development of local industry and, consequently, with the formation of a native proletariat (all that stated here purposely by me in Communist slang). There are no clear solutions to the South African Communist problems in Communist "classics" or in the current Soviet literature. Consequently, the able thinkers (who most of the authors and speakers are) are talking about things which may be discussed without showing what the dogmatic assumptions are. If these authors and speakers are Communist, this need not appear very closely in their statements.

A.E.P. 27 (A).

(NO TITLE: THE TEXT BEGINS WITH THE WORDS:
"THE FAMOUS COMMUNIST MANIFESTO.....")

Mimeographed or typed: 17 pp.

A part of a series of lectures of typically Communist content. Marxist political Economy, Leninist theory of Imperialism, dialectical materialism, historical materialism, theory of the revolution, etc. are being explained in conformity to the standard of Communist rules.

LECTURES BY DR. H.J. SIMONS.

Mimeographed or typed: 21 pp.

Communist lectures, explaining the Leninist doctrine of Imperialism as the last stage of Capitalism, identifying Socialism with Communism, insisting on the Communist doctrine of the evolution of the society, on the Lenin-Stalin theory of Colonialism etc.

BT. 27

IMPERIALISM

Typed or mimeographed: 4 pp.

A typically Communist lecture.

BT. 28

CAPITALISM

Typed or mimeographed: 3 pp.

Communist lecture on Capitalism, with glorification
of the October revolution.

HOW CAP. WORKS.

A re-statement with a few data from recent economic (British) history of some capital theories of Marx. Such theories are a part of the Communist doctrines, but are also found in other trends (some socialist trends). Yet witness inclines strongly to the hypothesis that the paper has been written by a Communist, because of its extremely naive and dogmatic character (theory of crisis etc.)

Incidentally, the author, unconsciously, describes the methods used by the Soviet and "people democratic" managements to extort more production from the workers.

RULE OF THE T.U. UNDER CAPITALISM.

Much of that paper is devoted to the analysis of South African Labour problems, which witness does not know, but there are certain features which suggest that the paper is Communist:-

1. The thesis that Trade Unions should engage in political action.
2. The assertion that the proletariat is the "vanguard".
3. The use of Communist terminology ("fascism" etc.)

PEOPLE'S DEMOCRACY FOR S.A.

Commentary on two points of the "Freedom Charter" which seems to me to go farther than the Charter itself toward the state monopoly of ^{means of} production. This is accompanied by a rather utopian view of a sort of paradise which will result from the nationalisation of factories. The resulting image is a curious blend of what Communists call "Socialism" and what they term "Communism" in the strict meaning of the word. The terminology used is communist, the underlying ideas Marxian.

The document seems to be the work of somebody who read and heard a lot of Communist statements, did not understand them very well, and finds them excellent,

DEMANDS OF THE PEOPLE

Mimeographed (or typed): 2 pp.

A set of postulates, similar to those contained in the Freedom Charter, but somewhat more radical: e.g. the confiscation of large landholds is explicitly demanded and there is a point about collective farms.

This programme is probably Communist, because it is nearly a perfect blueprint for the type of state to be established by the so-called "democratic national revolution", a Communist theory.

DIALECTICAL AND HISTORICAL MATERIALISM.

Consists of two parts, which apparently belong to two quite different documents:

pp. 1 - 3, philosophical;

pp. 4 - 10, economical.

The first part is a set of short notes (for a lecture, etc) of typically Communist content - mostly taken out of Stalin's pamphlet "On Dialectical and Historical Materialism".

The second part is also typically communist; it contains notes (for a lecture etc.) drawn as it seems mostly from a Communist textbook of political Economy, like that published in 1954 (Politiceskaja Ekonomija).

Certainly Communist.

S.D.(N).55 - NOTES ON LECTURING.

Typed 9 pages.

This paper is composed of:

- (1). Advice for the lecturer on Marxism and Leninism.
- (2) Seven chapters of schemes for lecturers each followed by "questions"

<u>CHAPTER 1.</u>	A scientific view of the world.
II.	The laws of Soviet development.
	1. The class struggle.
	2. Ideas and Institutions.
IV	The Imperialist stage of capitalism.
III	(This order) (Title difficult to read).
V	Class struggles and the State.
VI	Socialist society.
VII	The Marxian view of nature.
	1. Materialism and idealism.
	2. Dialectical materialism.
	3. The meaning of the materialist outlook.

It is an elementary course of lectures on the basic Communist doctrines. The doctrines summarised in it are taken primarily from Lenin's "Imperialism", "State and Revolution" and Stalin "On the dialectical and historical Materialism". The sources are followed slavishly, excepted for the order which is instructive.

A typically Communist document.

(Series of lectures (?) without a general title, comprehending):-

1. Imperialism.
2. Socialism to-day.
3. Colonial Politics and Nationalisms.
4. War or Peace.
5. Integration and Segregation in South Africa.
6. Class and Race.
7. National Liberation and Socialism.

Mimeographed or typed, 21 pp.

This is, rather learned typically Communist document, especially because of the content of chapters 1, 2 and 4. Chapter 1 states the theory of Imperialism exactly as Lenin and Stalin did it (with some developments), not excluding such nonsense as considering Nazism as a form of developed Capitalism. Chapter 2 identifies Socialism with Communism, which is another Communist doctrine, Chapter 4 explains the well-known Communist doctrine of Peace.

D.S. 38.

D.S. 38. "MARXISM AND THE NATIONAL AND COLONIAL
QUESTION. (Typed 11 pp.)

Extract from Stalin's work under the same title.
Pure Stalinism.

Bibliog.

A. N. C. (A)

Most of these documents are originated either by official information agencies of Communist Countries, or by Communist sponsored movements (WFDY, WIDF, WPC).

SOUTH AFRICAN CONGRESS OF DEMOCRATS.

Nearly all items are publications of Communist-sponsored organisations.

S A C T U.

One classical work of Lenin, the remainder mostly documents of Communist sponsored organisations (WFTU, WFDY, WCP); one statement by a notorious French Communist (Joliot Curie); one document of Soviet propaganda.

S. A. C. T. U. (D. 64 & 65.)

Two among the basic classical works of
Communism.

NEW AGE.

One writing of the main Chinese Communist leader;
one publication of an official Soviet Propaganda Agency;
one document of a Communist sponsored organisation.

PEACE COUNCIL

Nearly all items are publications of the WPC - a Communist sponsored organisation - or of other similar bodies, or of Communist Propaganda agencies (of satellite states).

F. ADAMS

A valuable collection of classical communist works,
propaganda publications of Communist States and
publications of Communist sponsored organisations,
One critical book on histomat (F.A.8).

H. BARSEL

Same opinion as on the library of F. Adams, but with the qualification that this is a more serious Communist library, containing less propaganda and more fundamental works, with particular stress on Lenin.

F. BEYLEVELD

Out of the four items listed, one (P.B.1) by N. Berdyaev, is a classical work of criticism of Communism. The other three items are typically Communist.

P. H. SIMELANE

Two documents published in a Communist country
by a Communist sponsored organisation.

L. BERNSTEIN

This is again a rather serious small Communist library. The set is remarkable by the fact that alongside with classical works and the usual Communist propaganda material, it contains also a number of writings on Soviet Russia. The collection is valuable.

P. J. HODGSON

Nearly all items listed are Communist writings,
mostly propaganda.

HELEN JOSEPH

Out of the 6 items listed, 4 are "classics" of
Communism (H.J. 36 edited by a non-Communist) two
are Communist ~~an~~ or pro-Communist writings.

PAUL JOSEPH

Nearly all writings listed are known as Communist to me. Few among them are classics, the majority are different recent statements by Soviet leaders, papers originated by Communist sponsored movements and propaganda.

The set is less valuable than those in possession of Messrs. Adams, Barsel and Bernstein.

A.M. KATHRADA

There are a few classics, and some propaganda and/or information originated by official Soviet agencies. Some of the writings are publications of Communist sponsored organisations.

JERRY KUMALO

The book quoted is a classical work of Communism,
one of the most important ones.

MOSES KOTANE

All four items listed are Communist writings or
Soviet propaganda.

S. LOLLAN

The two items quoted are writings published by
notoriously Communist sponsored movements.

AARON MAHLANGU

The first writing listed is a Soviet statement,
the second a document of the Communist Party of the
Soviet Union.

HENRY MAKGOTHI

The book quoted is a Soviet propaganda publication.

TENNYSON MAKIWANE

The set comprehends 6 volumes of Lenin's selected works, one important writing of Mao Tse-Tung and a number of various Communist writings, published by official agencies in Communist countries, by well-known Communist publishers in the west, and/or by Communist sponsored movements. A quite typical, if not very good Communist library.

J. MAKWE

One speech by a Soviet leader and three documents
published by the Communist sponsored World Council of
Peace.

N. MANDELA.

Some of the items listed are fundamental theoretical works of Communism others are propaganda statements by Communist sponsored movements.

LESLIE MASINA

All works listed are Communist, or published by Communist sponsored movements. The set comprehends "The Capital", one work of Lenin, one paper of Mao - otherwise Soviet and Western Communist propaganda and statements by notorious pro-communist organisations. Two items about Hungary (LLM 34 and 35).

P. MATHOLE

Both books listed ate Communist propaganda.

MOOSA MOOLLA

All items quoted are Communist or edited by
Communist sponsored movements.

JOSEPH MOLEFI

All items quoted are Soviet and/or Communist
propaganda, or publications by Communist sponsored
organisations.

E. P. MORETSELE

Two Soviet statements.

S. M. NATHIE

One official Soviet propaganda publication, the
other is Communist propaganda.

P. P. D. NOKWE

Nearly all of the writings listed are known to me as Communist texts, mostly propaganda. (138/9 are not comm.)

P. NTHITHE

All items listed are official Communist
publications.

L. NGOYI.

Official Soviet propaganda.

Collection: 1956 Treason Trial
Collection number: AD1812

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