

The workers demonstrations in

East Berlin and in the industrial districts in Eastern Germany have been widely interpreted as the revolt of the proletariat against the "dictatorship of the proletariat". Recent events in Czechoslovakia and in Eastern Germany have been widely interpreted as proofs that the "iron curtain" is no "workers' paradise". The grim irony of a workers' revolt against Communist Governments in Czechoslovakia and in Eastern Germany has been widely stressed.

In East Berlin and in Eastern Germany the workers' demonstrations in protest against increased work "norms" had taken a political turn. Russia is an occupying Power in Eastern Germany. She has an army stationed there. A revolt could not have occurred in East Berlin, it is argued, without a major hitch between General Chinkov, the Commander of the Russian forces and Herr Grotewohl, the Premier of the Communist East German Government. Imaginative commentators have jumped to the conclusion that the riots were engineered by Communist *agents provocateurs* to discredit the Grotewohl regime. Herr Grotewohl has admitted that his Government has made mistakes. But he has not yet been replaced.

Immediately before the violent demonstrations in East Berlin, Moscow implemented changes which indicated a new diplomatic move. General Chinkov was not ousted from his post, but M Seminov was entrusted with duties which indicated that he was to function as the Soviet opposite number to the then Western High Commissioner. Dr Adenauer was dismayed. Western Germany's Federal Chancellor warned the Western Powers not to fall into the diplomatic trap laid by the Communists. He reiterated his suspicion that these political moves were deliberately planned to discredit the Bonn Administration.

Followed riots in East Berlin. Dr Adenauer was prompt to exploit the ugly situation. Always suspicious of Russian moves for unification of Germany, he urged the Western Powers to call a four-power conference on Germany. His invitation to the Western Powers has had a poor response. Could it be that they are waiting for the Bermuda Meeting to formulate a policy on Germany? This is a possibility. But does not it seem strange that the Western Powers have been so unresponsive to Dr Adenauer's re-

quest? From their attitude the conclusion is permissible that they have no co-ordinated policy for unification of German. Whether the worker behind the "iron curtain" is exploited or not, is not an irrelevant question. Whether the Western Powers are in favour of a united, sovereign Germany is an equally relevant query.

### **Praja Socialist Showdown**

**O**FFER of resignation is a gesture of protest in a Party executive or elsewhere and its withdrawal, after submission of resignation, by the same token, amounts to a vote of confidence, after which the leaders resume their charge with redoubled assurance. "Who really won and who lost at the Praja Socialist Conference, however, was not decided as conclusively as one would normally expect in such a showdown. Dr Lohia holds the trump card so long as he can carry the rank and file of the Party with him. It is no secret that he is against the PSP leaders carrying on talks or negotiating with the Congress or rather Pandit Nehru; for so long as there is hope of a rapprochement, the Party will suffer from a lack of purpose and sense of direction. The anti-idea is inseparable from the group idea. Whom are they against, has never been quite clear to the followers of the Party. It will never be, if the leaders hope for and look nostalgically to rescuing Pandit Nehru from the bad company in which he has fallen.

True, there is no point in discussing a minimum programme unless there is a possibility of working that programme. Dr Lohia definitely wants the door to be closed once and for all and leave no traces. How can Acharya Kripalani or for the matter of that, Jai Prakash Narain do the same? The showdown therefore is not likely to prove as decisive as it was intended to be. Asoka Mehta has declined to withdraw his resignation and is now definitely out from the Executive of the Party. Whether he is in it or not, Dr Lohia remains the *enfant terrible* of the party, preferring the role of a mentor rather than that of an active partner.

### **More TCA Agreements**

**T**HE statement made in a recent Weekly Note (June 13, 1953) that the allocation of TCA Funds for the fiscal year 1953 had been completed, was apparently rather premature. \$460,000 saved from

the allocation of \$0,000,000 under Supplementary Agreement Number 1 (See "Second Year of TCA" May 2, 1953) for the supply of fertiliser has now been allocated by two new agreements signed this week.

The first agreement undertakes to provide equipment and supplies to augment the existing facilities for an exploratory project for lignite excavation in South Arcot District in Madras. The joint cost of this project is estimated at \$250,000 and Rs 25 lakhs.

Under the second agreement, which is the supplementary to Operational Agreement No 10, it is proposed to acquire certain items of additional equipment for the completion of the pilot plant of the Cellulose and Paper Branch of the Forest Research Institute, Dehra Dun, the construction of which is already under way. The total estimated joint cost of the project for the fiscal year 1953-54 is \$210,000 and Rs 3,20,000.

The agreement concerning the malaria control project was also amended at the same time to provide 15 additional malaria control units, thereby raising the number of such units from 75 to 90. About 90 million people will receive protection from malaria under the amended agreement. The amendment does not involve any additional dollar expenditure but the rupee cost of the project will increase by about Rs 29 lakhs.

Another technical assistance agreement was also signed providing for assistance in obtaining detailed proposals for expanding the Sindri Fertiliser Plant for the production of urea and ammonium nitrate, and the productive utilisation of the coke oven gas of the plant. A reference to this scheme was made in last week's note on Sindri. The US Government will provide a sum not exceeding \$50,000 for this purpose. This amount will not come from Fund A, allocations from which are made by operational agreements.

### **Erratum**

**A**N error crept inadvertently into the Weekly Note on Sindri published last week. The cement plant, to be set up at Sindri by the Associated Cement Companies Ltd for the utilisation of the calcium carbonate sludge obtained as a by-product, was stated to have a capacity of 600 tons per annum. This is, in fact, the capacity per day