

THE NINETIETH ANNIVERSARY OF THE BIRTH OF V. I. LENIN

(К 90-ЛЕТИЮ СО ДНΙΑ РОЗHDENIIA LENINA)

Vladimir Ilich Lenin, the creator of the Communist Party of the Soviet Union and the founder of the Soviet nation, was born ninety years ago this April 22. Lenin devoted his life to freeing the workers and the peasants from the yoke of Capitalism and to constructing the Socialist State. He carried forward the ideas of Marx into a new epoch and elevated them to a higher plane. The philosophy of Lenin was born in the era of the victory of Socialism in the U.S.S.R. and the growth of Socialism in the Peoples' Democracies. It represents the highest fulfilment of Russian and world civilisation.

Lenin himself was an exceptionally brilliant man. Being a person of many interests and great knowledge, he was active in diverse areas of public and political activity. Hardly a branch of political, philosophical, scientific or cultural life can be found in which Lenin did not exercise his decisive and beneficial influence. A deep-thinking political scientist, he studied problems of philosophy, political economy, strategy and technology during the Revolution as well as during the post-Revolutionary period.

Lenin gave much thought to bourgeois economic theories and in 1916 he wrote the classic work *Imperialism as the Highest Stage of Capitalism* which represents an outstanding contribution to the treasure-chest of creative Marxism. This book was the result of much research into economic, political, technological and diplomatic problems, into the workers' movement and other questions of government in various imperialist countries, and his thesis was developed from factual material. In this book, his abilities as a true scientist and indefatigable researcher are most brilliantly reflected.

Lenin created a scientific foundation for the planning of the proper construction of Socialism and Communism. The most important parts of this program constituted the socialistic industrialisation of the country and the creation of cooperatives in agriculture. The economic foundation of Socialism – the basis of the power of the Soviet nation and the source of the people's well-being – Lenin considered to be the industrialisation and electrification of the country. This ideology is the corner-stone of Communism in the U.S.S.R.

At the Tenth All-Russian Conference of the Bolshevik Russian Communist

Party, Lenin said:

"There is one, and only one, basic strength on which to create a Socialist society, and that is complete industrialisation. Without efficient industry there can be no Socialism in any country and even less in an agricultural country. We, in Russia, realise this now more than we have ever done, and instead of an undetermined, incoherent industry, we plan an integrated program of electrification." (*Works*, Vol. 32, p.385).

Lenin's belief that heavy industry and electrification were the essential basis of Socialism represented the fundamental direction in the effort to create a plan for electrification of Russia. The plan GOELRO (State Commission for the Electrification of Russia) which represented the realisation of these ideas, was created in 1920 during the years of destruction caused by the Civil War and the military intervention directed against the young Soviet nation.

Lenin indicated the means for the socialistic reorganisation of the villages and the introduction of the farmers to cooperative construction. Based on his plan, the Communist Party worked out a program for the collectivisation of agriculture— one of the most important steps in the transformation of an economically backward Russia into a leading, powerful Socialist nation. The Soviet people under the direction of the Communist Party have successfully realised Socialism, and today we observe the construction of Socialism in the Peoples' Democracies.

Lenin pointed out that to equal and surpass the production of goods per capita of population of the most developed Capitalist countries Communism must have a material-technical basis.

Thanks to the creative work of the Twenty-First Congress of the Communist Party of the Soviet Union, the country entered a period of increased construction based on the lucid and coherent program developed by Marx and Lenin. Our people, proceeding along the path indicated by Lenin, direct their efforts towards the creation of a material-technical basis of Communism. In his address to the Twenty-First Congress of the Communist Party of the Soviet Union, N.S. Krushchev pointed out:

"Today, the task consists in achieving a victory of the Socialist system over the Capitalist system in world production, to surpass the most-developed capitalist countries in the productivity of heavy basic industries per capita of the population, and to ensure the highest standard of living in the world."

The philosophical heritage of Lenin cannot be underestimated.

With all the passion of a revolutionary and a true scientist Lenin fought against idealism for materialism. He defended and developed

dialectical materialism, which is immeasurably richer in content and is incomparably more logical than all the preceding forms of this philosophy.

Lenin's book *Materialism and Emperio-Criticism* was of outstanding significance. The reactionary philosophy of emperio-criticism is critically surveyed and the theoretical foundation of Marxism, namely, dialectic and historical materialism, was defended.

His critique was a brilliant exposé of the fallacies inherent in bourgeois philosophy and philosophic revisionism. In *Materialism and Emperio-Criticism* – a masterly review of creative Marxism – Lenin presented and developed the basic problems of Marxist philosophy: the materialism of the world, its objectivity and the objective character of the laws of nature and society. Of prime importance to him was the theory of knowledge, the possibility of scientific investigation of the roles of nature and society, its historic character and the decisive role of practice.

In the new experimental facts and modern physical theories appearing in the early twentieth century, Lenin saw perspectives of fruitful development of new physics. He uncovered the basic content of the development in physics in our time and gave an interpretation of this revolution from the point of view of materialistic philosophy.

With characteristic lucidity and precision, Lenin discussed the correct approach to facts, the correct method of scientific research: "... In order to know a subject it is necessary to consider all its aspects and interrelations. We shall never be able to achieve this completely, but the requirement of diversity will prevent us from committing errors and becoming sterile. This is first. Secondly, the dialectic logic requires that a subject be considered in its development, in its self-generation..., its changes... Thirdly, all human activity must enter into the complete "determination" of the subject, both as a criterion of truth, and also as a practical measure of the connection between the subject with that which is necessary to the human being. Fourthly, dialectic logic teaches that there is no abstract truth, the truth is always concrete ..." (*Works*, Vol. 32, p. 72).

Today, dialectic and historic materialism conducts a broad ideological attack on obscurantism and imperialistic ideology, being the sharpest weapon in the battle for social progress against contemporary reaction, bourgeois philosophy and philosophic revisionism.

From the beginning of the post-October period, Lenin emphasized that all achievements on the frontiers of science and technology should be directed to the service of a great cause, namely, the transformation of

society. This may be seen from his *Outline of a Plan for Scientific and Technical Research* (*Works*, Vol. 27, p. 282) written in 1918, in which he welcomes the study of natural productive resources initiated by the Academy of Sciences and suggests a plan to reorganize the industry and economy of Russia on the basis of advanced technology, and of the electrification of the Russian economy.

The great October Socialist revolution stamped out everything which inhibited the development of science and technology in Russia. Following Lenin's advice, the Communist Party of the Soviet Union believed and still believes in the importance of science in Communist construction. In the 42 years of the Soviet regime a new socialistic culture has been created. The colossal development of Soviet science and technology has culminated in amazing achievements, the most important of these today being the use of atomic energy for peaceful purposes and the conquest of cosmic space. A broad network of scientific research institutions whose activity is devoted to varied problems of civilization and economy has been developed. Conditions for most fruitful work of scientists have been created.

The program evolved at the Twenty-First Congress of the Communist Party of the Soviet Union and at the June meeting of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of the Soviet Union foresees a huge development of the economy, the culture and the material wellbeing of the people; this plan represents the development and perfection of economic production, and the adoption of the most modern scientific and technological achievements. Continuing technological progress is a necessity for this development. In this connection, the development of technology acquires great significance. Great problems are to be found in mechanics, which is the basis of most technical science. The progress in automation and mechanization of production requires a perfection of methods of automatic control. Studies in general mechanics are very significant in this area of technology and other branches of mechanics, such as aerodynamics and hydrodynamics, are necessary for the solution of a large category of problems, from cosmic flights to the exploitation of underground petroleum and gas. A successful development of machine construction presupposes a perfection of the methods of analysis of engineering structures, whose foundation is the theory of elasticity and plasticity.

Finally, the conquest of space, one of the most important problems of today, requires a deep and broad development of all branches of mechanics,

There is no doubt that Soviet scientists, armed with the great ideas of Lenin, will successfully resolve these problems. Under the banner of Leninism, under the direction of the Communist Party, the peoples of our country march resolutely toward the glowing heights of Communism.

The name of Lenin is the banner of the world's workers in their battle for a bright future for all people.