

organization to prevent a certain course of action. Now, one of the great powers has consistently been using its veto to prevent constructive action of any kind from being adopted. It is a state in which totalitarian communism prevails and it has, by its veto, attempted to prevent constructive action on our part and at the same time has sponsored and supported subversive revolutionary communism in many other countries.

I shall not attempt to make anything like a complete survey of what has been going on, but I will point out two or three of the salient features of this terrible situation:

There has been, first of all, the failure to reach any agreement about the German peace settlement. It must be obvious that without some agreement on the solution, political and economic, of the problem presented by 80 million Germans located in the very heart of Europe, there can be no assurance either of economic stability or political security in any part of Europe. Up to the present, there has been no such agreement and there seems to be little immediate hope for an overall settlement.

The policy of Russia seems to be to insist on action entirely and exclusively in her own interest or, if that is not agreed to, on inaction in the hope that the dislocations of economy of Germany and the drain of the resources of the U.K. and the U.S.A. and even France, which these dislocations make inevitable, will so weaken them as eventually to force a decision on her own terms.

Naturally, it is a matter of concern for the U.S.S.R. as it is for the other states, that the industrial potential of Western Germany and the strength of the German people shall not again, some day, be directed against any one of them.

It is possible to recognize the force of some of the Soviet claims without agreeing to the establishment of a powerful central government in Germany, susceptible to communistic influence or to a 10 billion dollar account for reparations on current German production; or giving the U.S.S.R. a voice in the control of the Rhur and the Rhineland unless her attitude in regard to Eastern Germany radically changes.

The result of the present stalemate is the continued division of Germany, which threatens to bring about her total collapse, unless proper steps are taken at once to prevent it. Yet, as long as the German economy lies stagnant, the occupying powers have to make vast expenditures to prevent actual starvation and the Western European countries, like Holland and Belgium, who normally derive substantial benefits from trade with Germany are handicapped in their own recovery.

There is in all this, a chain of vicious consequences which is, of course, exploited by the Communist parties for purposes which have now unfortunately become too familiar to the rest of us.

Distress and starvation and even despair are stirred by the Communists, who flourish on these things, into political disorder and ideological strife. Starvation becomes