

**PART II :**

# The challenge of communism

## Fifth McGill Conference On World Affairs

By George Cook  
Dalhousie Delegate to the Conference

The 'peaceful co-existence' theme left by the Soviet Ambassador, Amasasp A. Aroutunian, and by the two Soviet student visitors was the same old story we have been hearing for a long time now. On the surface, it appeared a hopeful message, inviting co-operation, but in actual fact it contained no real hope for peace.

**Recognition**

Socialism, it was said, by its very nature must have peace, so the Soviets have no desire for war. Such a policy had been advocated by Lenin himself. However, this policy had to be shelved temporarily because of capitalist interference and because of the aberrations perpetrated by that arch-demon of the personality cult—Joseph Stalin. Since socialism inherently needs peace, and the rest of the world does not want to be devastated, the only hope for the world is complete and total disarmament and 'peaceful co-existence'.

Before this can be done, however, certain conditions must be fulfilled to secure the right environment. These are: the final elimination of colonialism and of the remnants of World War II, recognition of the People's Republic of China, improvement of U.N. machinery, and more exchanges and communication.

These themselves were not too much to ask, and certainly seemed desirable to some, but when discussing 'peaceful co-existence' for what it really is, one has second thoughts.

'Peaceful co-existence' simply means that the struggle between

whatever it is they have and whatever it is we have shall go on, but without resort to a major war. This means there is to be no let up in their determination to achieve the communist society and so they will continue to support 'wars of liberation' and to interfere in nations to bring about the communist revolution. Let history, they say, decide the issue, and having the correct interpretation of the scientific laws of history, they feel the issue will evolve in their favour.

**The Infallibility of Communism**

Why have the Soviets resorted to this line of attack? The Russians have become a mature power now, and, wishing to make their system respectable, their former catastrophic concept of violence pursued by Stalin has been cast aside. No self-respecting power can advocate a policy that holds that a war between the forces of socialism and of capitalism is inevitable in this day and age of nuclear weapons. This accounts for the real difference of opinion between the theoretically mature Marxists like Khrushchev and the immature Chinese who are still radical idealists.

The Soviets feel, with good reason in the light of recent history,

that the forces in the world are in their favour and will continue so. Since the capitalist world has little to offer the rest of the world, communists feel confident that the nations of Africa, Latin America, and Asia will adopt their system as the only way to end their grinding poverty.

If surplus capital could no longer be exported to these areas, according to Lenin's concept of imperialism the capitalist world will shrivel up and die.

Can we accept 'peaceful co-existence' under such terms? It is not a benign concept, nor is it conceived of as a "live and a let live" situation. It is merely another form of struggle which, if intensified, could lead to war.

We must have genuine peace, genuine co-existence, if we are to avoid war. This implies a respect for existing spheres and interests, combined with a realization that social change is essential to the world. Both sides must realize that they do not have the one and only truth that must be imposed upon the other, and that both can learn much from the other. Both must admit an element of doubt.

Because we are concerned with ideology which one knows to be

— Please Turn To Page Eight —



### New Dance Sensation

(Special News Release) — A new dance sensation called **The Push** has sprung into being at Dalhousie University, Halifax. Usually reliable sources said last Friday that the first public exhibition of this new craze will occur in the course of the Dalhousie musical, "Fly Fly Duckie", which will be presented on February 27th, 28th, March 1st, and 2nd.

To perform this dance, the girls stand on the right hand side of the hall and the boys on the left. Each group faces the orchestra. To the strains of "Let's Push Again," the dancers lean forward, extend their left arms in front of them, quiver, and push at the air.

"It's really quite simple," said Conrad Duckie. "In fact, it's a push over."

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