

"The limits of coexistence are set by the opposite characters of the two systems between which there is opposition and conflict. Within the limits allowed by these two systems, but only within these limits, agreement is quite possible."

Then, more recently Stalin's successor, Mr. Khrushchev on September 17 last, in addressing an East German delegation in Moscow, said this, and these words are now pretty well known:

"We always tell the truth to our friends as well as to our enemies. We are in favour of a detente; but if anyone thinks that for this reason we shall forget about Marx, Engels and Lenin he is mistaken. This will happen when shrimps learn to whistle."

He went on:

"We are for coexistence because there is in the world a capitalist and a socialist system, but we shall always adhere to the building of socialism. We do not believe that war is necessary to that end. Peaceful competition will be sufficient."

That should be reassuring but it is not so reassuring when you try to analyse what is meant by the kind of competition which is referred to; competition under their rules, or under no rules. I suggest we must face the fact of their kind of competition.

Another objective which has not changed because of any Geneva spirit is to win over, subvert and eventually engulf the uncommitted millions of Asia and Africa. The recent visit of Soviet leaders to India is just one example of their determination to pursue their objective—a visit which I am sure did not deceive our Indian friends. Another example is the Soviet policy in backing Arab states military and politically.

This objective, I think, is fixed but here again their tactics are flexible. They are willing to either take the peace approach to the achievement of their objective or the force approach. Mr. Khrushchev is an outstanding example of the ability to use either tactic. In India he could pay pious if unconvincing tributes to Gandhi, the great apostle of pacificism, on one day and the next day boast that one of their hydrogen bombs could destroy an Indian city. The most important tactic of all in the achievement of this objective is, of course, to exploit and lead, if possible through local communist parties, the insistent demand for political freedom, racial equality and social betterment which exists in that part of the world today. They are having too much success in the achievement of that objective.