

# TODAY ABROAD

by Joseph Clark

## Tito Answers Questions About New World Changes

SO LITTLE information appears on relations between Yugoslav and Soviet Communists that the following excerpts from an interview with Tito may prove useful. Originally published in the Paris newspaper, "Le Monde" the following is translated from the Soviet newspaper Pravda which featured it very prominently.

Asked about the changes going on in the Soviet Union, Tito said these "have great significance for the future of the Soviet Union as well as for the future of the other socialist countries and of the entire world, since the application of the new methods in world relations can assist in strengthening peace. It was just in that way that the 20th congress of the CPSU approached that question."

Noting that "some people in the West are skeptical about this new situation and wish to see in it only a tactical maneuver," Tito said: "This is a fundamental mistake."

Le Monde's reporter asked whether democracy required a single or multi-party system, and Tito replied:

"Neither I nor any of us thinks that only a system of multiple parties allows free expression of opinion. . . . I consider that free discussion is fully possible in such a system as ours, as well as in the other socialist countries. The most democratic method consists of the acceptance of the already formulated opinion of the majority."

LE MONDE'S correspondent asked: "In your opinion, is it possible to reconcile the rights of man proclaimed by the French revolution of 1789 with the needs of socialist society?" and: "What in your opinion are the characteristic features, which differentiate, if I may say so, Western humanism from Marxist humanism?" Tito replied:

"I see a big difference in the near future as well as in the

more distant perspective. Western humanism is more a declaration of intentions. It is not in harmony with the economic system, nor with the possibilities of each person to realize his rights under this system. At present no socialist country has as yet the material conditions necessary for paying each person not only according to his work but according to his needs. . . . But there is perspective under socialism and we are on the road which leads to full realization of the rights of the individual and of society. The Western perspective does not provide this possibility."

ASKED IF "bloody revolutions" would be necessary in France, England or the United States if those countries were ripe for socialism, Tito replied:

"Neither bloodshed nor barricades are necessary to bring about a change of system. I believe that this can be fully accomplished by means of political-parliamentary struggle and similar means. But the tempo of this evolution depends largely on the economic conditions under which the people live, on the level of their consciousness and on their strength. They depend also on the consciousness of their leaders who should adopt the proper measures. . . ."

"Undoubtedly it is easier for the Western countries to establish a socialist system than in the more backward countries where it has been established. This would inevitably happen sooner or later, since the means of production are more and more slipping away from the hands of the private owners and are being nationalized within the limits of state capitalism or in socialist forms. . . ."

ASKED whether a new International could unite the Communist and Socialist countries, Tito replied:

"After the break up of the Cominform, there can be no talk of the creation of a new organization, wider and of a similar character. The situation in the world is characterized as follows:

"In the East, there exist socialist countries where the Communists are in power; and in the Western states, there are Communist and Socialist parties. Between these parties there can take place meetings of a consultative character, either for a study of the world situation, or for an exchange of acquired experience."

"But there is, however, a great difference between these Communist groups—between those who are in power, and those who, living under another system, struggle along parliamentary lines in other various ways to win, if they can, a majority."

"Today, therefore, there cannot exist an International, composed of Communist parties in power and out of power. But contacts are necessary between these organizations, especially between the organizations in the East, for generalization of their experience. For example, the USSR, Czechoslovakia or Yugoslavia can have much better contacts than at present; with the proviso that it be done freely, without any compulsion."

"The construction of Socialism, the creation of a new Socialist state, taking into account the specific, characteristic features of each country is too complicated an undertaking, for any world organization to be able to decide what ought to be done here or there."

"But it goes without saying that world solidarity should exist; contacts should be established between Communist and Socialist parties, as well as between them and any progressive organizations in the world, for an exchange of opinions on various problems of a general character that interest them. In this way, new successes can be achieved in the world."