

Soviet Union. But unofficial or not, Mr. Mikoyan's tour is being carefully covered by foreign correspondents who are reporting to capitals abroad. The absence of official U.S. representation in the Mikoyan party will certainly be misread by peoples in allied and neutral countries.

On top of this, the behavior of Hungarian patriots does little credit to the righteousness of their cause. Egg-throwing, bomb threats and personal abuse reduce the high tragedy of Hungary to farcical and meaningless dimensions. The suc-

cess of the pickets has been due in no small degree to the failure of Washington to provide adequate security measures to a high dignitary of a foreign state. When similar incidents happened to our own Vice President abroad several months ago, there was a rattling of weapons and a call to the Marines. This parallel will not be missed by a watchful world, which still out of habit if not out of conviction looks to the United States for leadership in the battle against hunger, disorder and tyranny.

in the magazines

Hans. J. Morgenthau, writing in the *New Republic* for December 29, calls on the Eighty-sixth Congress to assume leadership in mounting a national policy that will meet the Soviet challenge on all fronts. His article, "The Last Years of Our Greatness?" attacks the Administration for having "erected the balanced budget to the measure of all policy." And he writes, "The issue which must for us overshadow all others is not how to save money but, first, how to survive and, then, how to emerge victorious from this contest. The nations which would persuade itself that it cannot afford the policies which would assure its survival would have forfeited its claim to greatness and jeopardized its very existence as well."

The Executive Branch of the government, charges Professor Morgenthau, has become an unwieldy assortment of delegated, and conflicting, powers, incapable of the "swift, decisive, coordinated action [and] instantaneous responses to sudden challenge" which are needed to counter the menace of Soviet efficiency. In urging the initiative upon Congress, Professor Morgenthau notes that "Congressional government is a poor way of governing a great nation in the most perilous period of its history." But such are the political conditions of the day that "we have to choose, alas, not between Presidential and Congressional government, but between Congressional government and no effective government at all."

In the December 22 issue of the *New Leader*, Denis Healey is also concerned to establish some economic solution to the continuing Soviet threat.

So far, Mr. Healey finds, the West is failing in its "double task—to set Asia an example of economic growth more impressive than that of Russia, and to help Asia to follow that example." He points out that, not only does Asia depend largely on the markets provided by the developed industrial countries, but

that the strengthening of Asian economies would, in turn, be a stimulus to growth in the West. Neither the international stabilization of commodity prices nor the establishment, on a limited regional basis, of such enterprises as the European Common Market would be of any great help in the long run. A "global economic response" is what we need, even though it "will require the abandonment of dearly cherished economic dogmas."

"Faith and Responsibility" is the subject of an eloquent article by John C. Bennett in the December 3 issue of the *Christian Century*. Dr. Bennett considers three areas where religious faith and insight are engaged by social and political problems: the area of racial justice—"an inescapable personal problem for Christians"; the dilemmas of foreign policy—"basic rethinking is necessary"; and the anxieties of the cultural situation—here "the pastoral and the prophetic functions of the church meet."

In his discussion of foreign policy, Dr. Bennett cites some of the most dangerous aspects of our current thinking—the obsession with nuclear armaments, the failure to realize that the real struggle with Communism is political and economic rather than military, the American tendency toward "offensive self-righteousness" in dealing with other nations, the unwillingness to "accept the fact that two great Communist nations exist and will continue to exist" and that "as nations they have legitimate interests and reasonable fears."

With the aid of the church we may administer possible correctives; but commitments to social responsibility which are based on faith and theology are not "guarantees of success. We are called to obey what we believe to be God's will for us in humility and love, and to employ every available means to discover the wisest policies."

PAMPHILUS