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CONCLUSIONI CONGRESSO PCI - 1969

The XII Congress of the Italian Communist Party

At the close of its proceedings, the XII Congress of the PCI unanimously re-elected the Hon. Luigi Longo secretary general of the party, in a great demonstration of warm affection.

Shortly before, the Hon. Enrico Berlinguer, elected vice-secretary of the party, had drawn the conclusions of the debate, and the Hon. Alessandro Natta had presented the report of the Organization Commission.

The XII Congress opened on February 8 in Bologna. The interest aroused by its proceedings was confirmed by the presence of many important figures in Italian political life, such as Senator Parri, socialist Lombardi and Santi, leaders of the Italian Socialist Party of Proletarian Unity, and observers from the Christian Democrat and Republican Parties. The press box was crowded with 263 foreign and Italian journalists, from whom a well-equipped press room had been prepared. Here we see the vice-secretary of the Italian Socialist Party of Proletarian Unity as he conveys the greetings of his party to the Congress.

An impressive number of delegations from fellow communist and working class parties and national liberation movements were present at the congress, and the presentation of their greetings represented an important moment in the proceedings. An exceptional demonstration of enthusiasm and solidarity accompanied the greetings of the North Vietnamese and South Vietnamese National Liberation Front delegations.

The congress lasted ten days - ten days of intense work and high level debate on the problems of society and the political struggle in Italy and in the world. Sixty-eight speakers took the floor during the full sessions and more than a hundred in the commissions.

Peasants, workers, students, intellectuals, and, above all, young people, present in great number at the Congress, discussed and mapped out the lines of political initiative for the party in the coming years. The presence of the party in today's social struggle was underlined by the warmth with which the Congress saluted the struggles in course. Here we see the representatives from Vajent, the Venetian city victim of the speculations of the monopolies, and here the workers from the Apollon factory, occupied now for nine months. It was this atmosphere of determined struggle that characterized the proceedings of the XII Congress of the PCI.

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