

Development of the Constitution and People's Sovereignty

By Hans Leichtfuß

As a study on the history of the constitution of the GDR this article bases on the thesis that the GDR Constitution of 1949 has proved its historic verification. It secured the achievements of the antifascist-democratic Order, helped the people on the way forward to socialism, in shaping a peaceful life in welfare, security and culture for all citizens and in developing socialist democracy. It was a dynamic constitution because the social foundations, reflected and secured by it were dynamic themselves, and because the people under the leadership of the working-class and their party by their erection and expansion became the sovereign of the shaping of the constitutional reality themselves. This dynamic excluded a stiffness of the new state power: it conditioned the further development of the structure and the working method of the organs of the state power inspired by the development of the productive forces and the relations of production, the growing social activity and consciousness of the population and the changes in the class-structure. In this way also the constitution passed a further development.

As a good example the author shows the continuity of the development of the constitution by a section of the history of the constitution — the preparations of the legislation in the fields of public administration in 1957. From historical sight he demonstrates how the population has framed the constitution under socialist aspects in a multifarious process under the leadership of the party of the working-class. He demonstrates the system of the framing of the constitution, investigates the inherent social con-

333 traditions and the character of their

solution and proves the principal importance of the then stage of the history of the constitution.

National Property and Law concerning National Property in the Process of the Development of the Economic System of Socialism

By Rolf Schuesseler

The author starts from the fact that with the development of the economic system of Socialism a further development of the social-planned appropriation takes place which demands to reach a new determination of the people's property and the law concerning the people's property. He discusses different opinions which were put forward on this problem namely in the last time.

First he explains the Marxist definition on property whereby he investigates and makes known the two different aspects — property as process of appropriation and property as specific relation of distribution, which is proved in a certain socio-economic state in their connection. Based on this a determination of the definition of people's property follows. The essence of the people's property is characterized as a process of the whole social appropriation which in a planned manner becomes real under the conditions and in accordance with the necessities of a developed socialist production of goods.

People's property — as a specific relationship of distribution, a property in the proper sense — is principally to be seen as property of the *community* of the working people *organized in the state* with respect to *all* (completely) socialized means of production the stock of which constantly changes in the process of the increased reproduction and