

PEKING

MARCH 18

1958

3

REVIEW

The East Wind Prevails Over the West Wind

The myth of American "strength" exploded. The forces of peace and socialism are now stronger than the forces of war and colonialism (p. 6).

The Great Debate on the Literary Front

An analysis of the great debate and the anti-rightist struggle that have taken place in China's literary circles (p. 8).

Twelve-Year Plan for Agriculture

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Supporting the
Peace Proposal of
the Democratic
Republic of
Viet-nam; On
SEATO Council
Session**

**FINE ARTS,
WHAT'S ON
IN PEKING
AND OTHER
FEATURES**

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A popular account of events in China and her international relations from 1840 to 1949 — A background to today

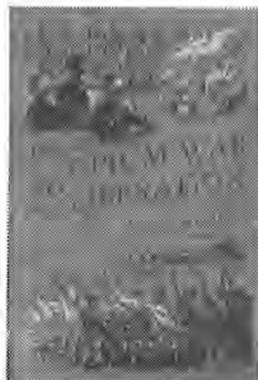
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146 pp.

— Hsieh Lien-tsao

Associate Research Fellow of the Institute of Modern History, Chinese Academy of Sciences.



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March 18, 1958 Vol. I No. 3

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Who's Against Peace in Asia?

NATIONAL independence or colonial bondage? Peace or war? Over these fundamentals, two groups of forces are now contending in Asia.

Since February of this year, efforts for peace have been initiated by one Asian country after another. The Korean Democratic People's Republic started the ball rolling; it put forward proposals for unifying Korea by peaceful means. People's China promptly backed up the Korean motion with action. Chinese People's Volunteers are now pulling out of Korea, in stages.

Concrete proposals for the peaceful unification of Viet-nam were also made by the Democratic Republic of Viet-nam. And they were warmly supported by China.

Premier Nehru of India has repeatedly voiced his opposition to the introduction of atomic weapons into Asia. Since March 1 mass campaigns have been under way in various countries of Asia, protesting against nuclear weapons. The government and people of Indonesia are acting resolutely against the imperialist-supported rebels in Central Sumatra, in defence of their hard-won national independence.

All this proves the ardent desire of the peoples of Asia for independence, freedom and peace.

In sharp contrast, a hostile force is working hard to aggravate tensions in Asia. It is against the desires of the Korean and Viet-namese peoples to bring about the peaceful unification of their artificially divided homelands. It refuses to leave Asia alone as an atomic-free continent and let the peoples of Asia administer their own affairs as they see fit. It interferes crudely in the domestic affairs of Indonesia. All this has been done under the pretext of combating what Mr. Dulles and his associates call the "Communist menace."

Who is threatening Asia's peace and independence? What country has established a vast network of military bases in Asian countries several thousand kilometres away from its own borders? What country has shipped nuclear and rocket weapons to Japan, Taiwan and South Korea? Whose aeroplanes, loaded with nuclear arms, are flying over Asia, posing a constant danger to the life and property of the Asian peoples? Who is aiding and abetting subversion in Indonesia?

No socialist country has done anything of this sort. It is rather the red-baiting government of the U.S.A. that has been doing all of these things. The much ballyhooed "Communist menace," in reality, is nothing but a pretext for continued cold war by the aggressive circles in the United States.

The Chinese Government in a statement issued on March 10 voiced its opposition to the use of SEATO by the United States to interfere in Indonesia's domestic affairs. It also proposed banishing atomic weapons from Asia and concluding a treaty of collective peace. And the withdrawal of Chinese People's Volunteers from Korea is practical implementation of a programme of peace in Asia.

Asia is no longer what it used to be. Gone for ever are the days when the sabre-rattling imperialists and gun-boat colonialists could ride roughshod over the peoples of Asia and have things all their own way. Widespread anti-imperialist sentiments are bringing the peoples of Asia together in a common effort to guarantee that independence, freedom and peace will prevail in Asia.

ROUND THE WEEK

Welcome Home

As we go to press the first groups of the Chinese People's Volunteers are leaving Korea. A special committee, with representatives from all political parties and public bodies, has been formed to welcome them and prepare the homecoming festivities in the border town of Antung.

Antung, which overlooks the Yalu River, is in great holiday spirit. Flags and bunting are out and red lanterns and streamers inscribed with warm words of welcome are visible everywhere. A triumphal arch towers above the Yalu River bridge across which the men and officers in the first-stage withdrawal from Korea will be marching home. Home after more than seven years in embattled Korea where, shoulder to shoulder with the valiant Korean people, they fought and beat back the aggressors from across the Pacific to the 38th Parallel, from which the invasion was launched.

Seven years ago, when the Volunteers answered the call to go to Korea, they left their homeland immersed in the task of reconstruction and rehabilitation after decades of misrule. They return to a China which looks much different than when they left, to a strong and confident China well advanced in its socialist transformation. Much of what has been achieved by the people at home is due to the Volunteers, who safeguarded the country and enabled uninterrupted construction in both the economic and cultural fields. For this the entire nation will always be grateful to them.

The Volunteers are great fighters for peace. They return to take their place in the peaceful construction on the home front.

Putting the Common Good First

With mass discussions and debates and literally millions of proposals for doing things more effectively welling up from below, every sphere of life in China is changing. In this revolutionary ferment, the people's consciousness of the merits of socialism has become surer and deeper.

In this atmosphere the industrialists and business men, members of the democratic parties, and intellectuals of bourgeois origin are extending their vision. In industry, in agriculture and in every branch of the economy, they are wit-

nessing new progress. That is why they are re-examining old beliefs and old prejudices, and are trying to play their part in the advance of New China which is rooted deep in the national and popular will.

This means attuning themselves to the times, remoulding themselves, discarding outlooks which hinder them and studying and accepting socialism because of the good that it has brought to the people of China.

This is not an easy process of change. It has been going on for some time and has evolved out of the specific historical development of the democratic revolution and socialist revolution in China. It is accelerated by the rectification campaign.

The following is typical of what is going on in the democratic parties of China today. Ten veteran members of the Revolutionary Committee of the Kuomintang, men in their seventies, have written what is known in China as "socialist pledges" to emulate their younger colleagues in socialist transformation. This is voluntary and conscious participation in the progress of New China. Some of these ten septuagenarians held high posts in old China. Weng Wen-hao, for example, was Chiang Kai-shek's prime minister in the last years of his rule.

In Peking, Tientsin, Shanghai and other big cities in China the industrialists and business men are challenging each other to see who can make the quickest and the most progress in putting the common good before personal interests. Many are becoming more and more convinced, through experience, that the socialist way is China's only way ahead. With this understanding, many of them are reshaping their lives and are seriously endeavouring to shed their capitalist habits and become full-fledged participants in China's socialist construction.

Science to Aid Production

The role of the scientists in China was discussed at length by Vice-Premier Nieh Jung-chen at the fifth session of the Planning Committee for the Development of Science which met in Peking from March 5 to March 12.

Nieh Jung-chen, Chairman of the Committee, stressed the principle that science should serve the needs of production. As industry and agriculture are going forward by leaps and bounds, science should

keep pace. There is a pressing demand for a revolution in production techniques and the replacement of old-fashioned tools with modern ones. This is a challenge to the scientists, from the working people, for better equipment and methods of production. Nieh Jung-chen said that men of science must meet this challenge.

He discussed the rectification campaign among the scientists and pointed out how bourgeois thoughts and habits harm the political understanding of the scientists and impede the progress of scientific work. For the tasks that confront China today there are not enough scientists. The older scientists, therefore, must assume the responsibilities of training the younger generation, he said, while trying to do more for the country themselves.

New Efficiency Records

The operators of an open-hearth furnace in Anshan, China's key steel city in the north-east, established a national record with a daily average of 10.64 tons of steel per square metre of the furnace hearth area. This came close to the record of 10.77 tons held by the Magnitogorsk iron and steel combine in the Soviet Union. It will add a further 1.20 million tons of steel this year, if the efficiency of the rest of Anshan's open-hearth furnaces is raised to this level.

The iron and steel plant in Taiyuan, north China, has successfully introduced the method of three tapping troughs to lead molten steel to the casting ladles. This will revolutionize iron and steel production in China. With this new method, Taiyuan will be able to raise its steel output by 42 per cent.

In Kirin Province, which is becoming an important chemicals centre, two paper mills on the Tumen River made headlines. On March 4, one mill shortened the time for one digester of sulphite unbleached pulp from 7 hours 20 minutes to 4 hours 51 minutes. This tops the best time in Canada and other advanced paper-making countries. Two days later a second mill further reduced the time for this process to 4 hours 10 minutes. This record was broken on March 8 with an average time of 3 hours 55 minutes. With this acceleration of the pulp-making process the five-year targets of the two paper mills are expected to be fulfilled in one year.

In Shanghai, the new efficiency of China's international cable operators took their colleagues in London by surprise. It used to take at least half an hour to get service messages from Shanghai to London, and 20 minutes the other way round. Shanghai shortened the time for service messages to London to 3 minutes 18 seconds, about six times faster than the London-to-Shanghai service. The cable

operators in London congratulated the Shanghai operators on the speed of the service replies from Shanghai and said they would try to be as fast.

In Dairen the dockers have established a new record in per-hatch hour loading which beats London's. In loading and unloading cement, for example, the per-hatch hour in London ranges from 30,480 to 33,820.8 kilogrammes. The figure reached by the Dairen dockers is 40,000 kilogrammes. Ships in Dairen are now loaded and unloaded faster than in London.

These are but five examples of the current "leap forward" in China. There's a method to these records, a method sweeping the country and known here as "to compare with the advanced, learn from the advanced, and overtake the advanced."

Turning China Green

A million people in the north China province of Shansi, mostly young peasants, are out planting trees all along the course of the Yellow River and its tributary, the Fen River, in their province. It involves a stretch of 1,500 kilometres but the people are set to complete the job before the month is out, so as to secure the banks of the two rivers.

In mountainous Kweichow too, young people have turned out in force to line both banks of the Wukiang, the longest river in the province, with green. In Yen-an, base of the Chinese revolution, the people are also going all out. Everyday since the Spring Festival (Feb. 18-20) 3,000 pairs of willing hands have turned to tree-planting and conservancy work in this famed city. The barren hills, near which Chairman Mao Tse-tung and Vice-Chairman Chu Teh made their headquarters during the anti-Japanese war, are being clad with mulberries, cypresses and fruit-trees.

Afforestation, mainly for crops and timber but partly to beautify, is proceeding in all parts of the country. In Tibet, during the first week of March, Tibetan and Han office workers and students planted 140,000 trees in the outskirts of Lhasa. Tree-planting has also started in Shigatse, Chamdo and other Tibetan cities.

Many provinces are planning to fulfil their plans in three to five years, instead of the 10 years originally proposed in the National Programme for Agricultural Development. They are starting with a big push this year. Kiangsu Province, for instance, planted more than 1,300 million trees in two months. Honan, Chekiang, Hunan, and Kweichow (apart from the tree-planting along the Wukiang) and the Kwangsi Chuang Autonomous

Region plan to cover 120 counties with greenery this spring. But the record for tree-planting is held by a tiny mountain village in Shansi—Hsiachuangchun—which, with a population of 215, has already planted 946,050 trees this winter. That's over 4,000 trees per head of population.

Good Health County

Chisan County, in coal-producing Shansi Province, has made a name for itself with its complete network of medical and health facilities. It has a health centre for every township, complete with a full-time doctor, anti-epidemic workers, and trained nurses to look after the welfare of women and children. These centres are joint efforts of the agricultural co-operatives. Under each there is a health unit, with three to five nurses, attached to the village or co-op. These are the primary working units, but there is a hospital in every town and above that, a larger hospital, health centre and anti-epidemic department in the county seat.

Chisan County now has a doctor for every 700 people and a hospital bed for every 1,000, as well as 470 trained nurses and 883 midwives with modern scientific training. By the end of 1957 more than a hundred villages in the county were commended for their model sanitation work. In February this year 229 villages were given the title of "Five-No's Village"—no grain-eating sparrows, no rodents, no bugs, no fleas, no lice. Once a county of ill-health and disease, Chisan today is free from the cholera, smallpox, typhoid fever, and other diseases that used to plague it.

Weight-lifting Champions

China carried off two gold medals and one silver one at the International Weight-lifting Championships which just ended at the Lenin Sports Palace in Moscow. The strains of China's national anthem—*March of the Volunteers*—heralded China's new world champions. Chen Ching-kai, bantam-weight champion of China and bantam weight clean and jerk world record holder, wrested the title from Stephen Ulianov of the U.S.S.R., world record holder for the press event. Twenty-seven-year-old Huang Chiang-hui, a mechanical engineering student, won the laurels in the light-weight events after a close contest with world record holder Victor Bushuev of the U.S.S.R. Chao Ching-kuei, the third participant from China, took second place in the light-heavy weight events.

This is a creditable performance for the Chinese sportsmen. Although only nine countries were represented, the world's best weightmen, winners of the first three places of all events in 1957, took part in the contest. Despite fierce

competition the three men put China on the map.

FOR YOUR INFORMATION

Chinese Phonetic Alphabet A large number of pamphlets and other literature, written in a popular style to explain the Chinese phonetic alphabet, has been published by the Committee for Reforming the Chinese Written Language.

* * *

Fushun Coal Fushun, China's largest coalfield in the north-east, will produce 11 million tons of coal in 1958, as against 9.23 million last year. It will also produce 15.7 million tons of oil shale, according to its revised plan.

* * *

Methane Power Stations Chekiang in east China, short of petrol, coal and hydro-electricity, but with abundant raw materials for methane gas, will build one hundred methane power stations this year to run water pumps and mills.

* * *

Oil City in the South Maoming, in southern Kwangtung Province, south China, is emerging as an important oil city. It will produce petroleum and high grade fuel oil from oil shale deposits, in which it abounds.

* * *

First Women Police Hupeh Province in central China has the distinction of having the first women police in the country. On March 8, International Women's Day, the first group of thirteen young women police went on duty in the streets of Hankow, directing traffic and taking up their beats.

* * *

Paotow-Lanchow Railway Track-laying, after the winter recess, has resumed on the railway linking Paotow, the new iron and steel centre in the Inner Mongolian Autonomous Region, with transport-busy Lanchow, Kansu Province, in the north-west. The construction of this 1,100-kilometre railway is expected to be completed by the end of the year.

* * *

Sugar China plans to produce 1.24 million tons of sugar in 1958 instead of the 1.01 million tons previously announced. Production will go up to 6 million tons annually during the Second Five-Year Plan.

* * *

Abattoir One of China's biggest meat packers—the Meat Processing Factory in Wuhan, rail hub on the Yangtse—went into operation on March 10. It has an up-to-date abattoir for slaughtering 4,000 pigs per 8-hour shift.

* * *

Peking Evening News Peking's first evening paper, *Beijing Wanbao* (Peking Evening News), began publication on March 15.

The East Wind Prevails Over the West Wind

by LIN HAI

In numbers, in morale and the material resources that count, the forces of peace surpass those of war. The U.S. policy of trying to dictate to the world from "positions of strength" was never more evidently bankrupt than it is today.

THE SEATO meeting in Manila last week was another adverse current in the present course of world events. As it did at the Ankara meeting of the Bagdad bloc in January and the Paris meeting of NATO last December, the United States tried in Manila to patch up its "cold war" front and stem the surging tide for peaceful co-existence.

But world trends are determined by more fundamental factors. Despite Washington's manoeuvres, conditions for securing a lasting world peace are more favourable than before. In the last analysis, the forces of peace and socialism today are stronger than the forces of war and imperialism. Or, as Chairman Mao Tse-tung put it figuratively; "The east wind now prevails over the west wind."

International Line-up

The countries of the world now fall into three categories: socialist countries; former colonies which are now independent sovereign states and countries still fighting for independence or full independence; and countries of the imperialist camp.

There are now 13 socialist countries in Europe and Asia, which form a continuous area geographically. With an aggregate population of nearly 1,000 million, over one-third of the people of the entire world, they cover more than a quarter of the earth's land surface. Their industrial and agricultural output has reached one-third of the world's total. For instance, the output of coal in the socialist countries now amounts to 38 per cent of that of the world; of steel 25 per cent; of pig iron 26 per cent; of grains 40 per cent; of cotton 30 per cent. All these figures point to the fact that the socialist countries are a mighty force internationally.

Some twenty or more former colonies of imperialism have become independent states since World War II. Their population adds up to over 700 million. Though their foreign policies are not the same throughout, they are generally inclined against the colonial policy of the imperialist powers. They oppose war and are in favour of world peace. Then there are the countries which are still fighting for independence or complete independence.

Their population amounts to another 600 million. The recent Asian-African People's Solidarity Conference in Cairo, in which nearly 50 countries participated, highlighted the emergence of these countries as a new and dynamic world force to be reckoned with.

United for Peaceful Co-existence

Many of the nationally independent countries have established friendly relations with the Soviet Union, China and other socialist states. There is close unity between the socialist countries and these independent countries. They are united in their fight for the peaceful co-existence of nations. This unity plays a decisive part in the current international situation.

The rest of the world's people, about 400 million, are nationals of the countries in the imperialist camp — they number less than half of the population of the socialist countries. Moreover, in contrast to the socialist world where countries are united on the basis of equality and close co-operation and where the people firmly support their own government, the imperialist countries are divided; the overwhelming majority of their people are against the war policy of the few monopoly capitalists.

A weighing of this situation reveals that the forces of peace and socialism are obviously superior to the forces of war and imperialism.

This is borne out further by the development of the movement for socialism in the world. Before the First World War there were no socialist countries. Before the Second World War there was only one — the Soviet Union. Now there are 13 with the population and resources cited above. In the socialist countries, the Communist Party is in power. In a number of capitalist countries, the Communist Parties have enlisted widespread support in the working class and among other sections of the people in the fight for peace, democracy and socialism.

This advance of the socialist forces and their international solidarity was made even more evident by the two Moscow meetings last November. Over 60 Communist Parties and Workers' Parties sent delegates to celebrate the 40th anniversary of the Great October Socialist Revolution. After the celebrations, delegates of the Communist and Workers' Parties of 12 socialist countries held a meeting; later, delegates of the Communist and Workers' Parties of 64 countries held another. A declaration was adopted by the former and a peace manifesto by the latter. These two Moscow meetings and the two declarations are

an announcement of the fact that the world movement for socialism has entered a new period of advance and vitality hitherto unknown in its history. They add to the inescapable conviction that the strength of socialism has surpassed that of imperialism.

Some people may contend that, despite their huge population, the socialist countries still lag behind in economic strength. For instance, they may ask, since the iron and steel output in the United States is still double that of the Soviet Union, how can one say that the socialist camp is stronger than the imperialist camp?

Quite apart from the fact that the speed of economic development in the socialist countries is far greater than that in the imperialist camp, a series of historical events since the Second World War provides the answer to this question.

It's the People that Count

During the Second World War, the steel output of the United States was 60 million tons per year; that of Britain over 10 million tons. In 1940, at the beginning of the war, the Soviet Union produced only 18 million tons of steel annually; in the subsequent years, its steel output was only half that of the 1940 output, as many of its territories fell into the hands of Nazi Germany and a large number of industrial plants were destroyed. Nevertheless it was the Soviet Union, not the combined forces of the United States and Britain, that annihilated the main forces of Hitlerite Germany. It was only when the Soviet Union had wiped out most of the Wehrmacht in battles on Soviet soil, and had begun to march on Germany, that the forces of the United States and Britain succeeded in occupying the territory west of the Elbe without bitter fighting. In the Pacific theatre of war, it was only when Soviet troops entered north-east China and wiped out the Kwantung Army, Japan's best, that the latter was forced to surrender.

After the Second World War, there were many instances in which weaker forces defeated apparently stronger forces—poorly armed revolutionary forces defeated enemies armed to the teeth.

During China's own War of Liberation in 1946-49, the United States imperialists armed several million troops for Chiang Kai-shek, and spent U.S.\$6,000 million to back him, but it was the Chinese people who won the war in the end.

In the three-year Korean war, the United States, leader of the imperialist camp, mobilized one-third of its land forces, one-fifth of its air forces and a good part of its naval forces, reinforced by troops from 15 of its satellite countries, in an attempt to subjugate the Korean and Chinese peoples. As far as weapons were concerned, there was no doubt that the United States and its hangers-on had more. All the same, the war ended in an armistice and the aggressor was forced back to the 38th Parallel from which he had started.

After years of bitter struggle between 1946 and 1954, the people of Viet-nam eventually defeated the French colonialists, who had the support of the United States. In the battle of Dienbienphu in 1954, the French troops were smashed by the Viet-namese. This forced France to sign a truce.

Both before and after the victories of the Chinese, Korean and Viet-namese peoples, many countries freed themselves from the colonial rule of the imperialists and gained independence.

India, Burma, Ceylon and Egypt won independence and British rule came to an end. The independence of Sudan was proclaimed in 1956, of Ghana and the Federation of Malaya in 1957.

After more than 300 years of Dutch colonial rule, the independent Indonesian Republic was founded. Today the people of Indonesia are fighting resolutely for the recovery of their territory of West Irian and against the attempts by domestic reaction and foreign imperialism to subvert their young republic.

French colonial rule has ended in Syria, Lebanon, Tunisia and Morocco. The people of Algeria are also fighting against French colonial rule; their strength is growing day by day. And the recent founding of the United Arab Republic represented another big step forward in the Arab people's struggle against colonialism and imperialism.

All these countries, be they socialist, such as China, Korea, and Viet-nam, or other nationally independent countries such as India, Burma, Indonesia, and the United Arab Republic, are, by the standards of imperialist countries such as the United States, Britain or France, economically underdeveloped. But history shows that these struggles ended not with the victory of the well-armed and economically well-developed imperialist powers, but with victory for countries that were weaker in these respects. The strength of a country does not lie only in material conditions but in the people who are the decisive factor. As for material forces, it all depends on who controls them. Revolutionary forces which stand for justice have the sympathy and support not only of their own peoples but also of the overwhelming majority of people abroad. Even if they start with not an ounce of iron in their hands, they manage to arm themselves in the course of struggle and grow strong and finally beat their formidable enemies.

United States Falls Behind

But this is not the whole story. Even in economic strength, technology and science, the socialist countries are also gradually getting the better of the imperialists. Thanks to the excellence of the socialist system, their economic construction is forging ahead at a speed quite unthinkable under capitalism. In the last few years, the Soviet Union has set up the world's first atomic power station, built the world's first batch of jet airliners, set up the world's biggest synchrotron, launched the world's first atomic-powered icebreaker, manufactured the world's first inter-continental ballistic missiles, and last but not least, launched the first and second artificial satellites of the Earth. All these feats prove that in industry, national defence, and certain important branches of science and technology, the Soviet Union has surpassed or is catching up with the United States.

Particularly significant was the launching of the two Soviet sputniks. It opened a new era in the conquest of nature by mankind. It announced to the world that the Soviet Union has beaten the United States, indeed left it

far behind in some of the most important branches of science and technology. Mustering all its resources to make up for the "flopnik" fiasco, the United States launched only a small satellite weighing one thirty-eighth of the second Soviet sputnik. For the first time American military strategists, politicians and scientists are talking about "catching up with the Soviet Union."

On the occasion of the 40th anniversary of the October Socialist Revolution, the Soviet Union called on the Soviet people not only to catch up with, but also to surpass, the United States in the output of the most important products within fifteen years. Recently, China announced plans to catch up with, or surpass, Britain in the output of iron, steel and other important industrial products within fifteen years. Other socialist countries too are carrying on socialist construction at top speed. There is every reason to believe that fifteen years from now, the imperialist camp will lag far behind the socialist camp.

With the myth of American "strength" and "superiority" exploded, the allies of the United States are showing increasingly eccentric signs. At the NATO meeting last December, for instance, many Western countries were noticeably reticent about American plans for setting up missile bases on their territories; they were reluctant to

risk their own fates for the sake of Washington. The imperialist camp is faced not only with growing disunity, but also with a deepening economic recession — as evidenced by the 5 million unemployed in the United States today. This is further evidence that the forces of socialism and peace are now preponderant over the forces of imperialism and war.

The socialist countries, instead of bullying others with their enhanced strength, are working even more actively for peaceful co-existence. The Soviet Union's repeated efforts to bring about a "summit" conference, the Polish proposal for a denuclearized zone in central Europe and the recent decision of the Chinese People's Volunteers to withdraw from Korea this year all testify to this.

What, then, are the prospects for peace under these new circumstances? The Chinese view was summarized by Premier Chou En-lai when he stated at the National People's Congress last month: "So long as all the peace-loving countries and peoples maintain their solidarity and persevere in the struggle, as they have done up till now, they will be able to cause the international situation to continue to develop in favour of peace and compel the imperialist aggressive forces to accept peaceful co-existence."

The Great Debate on the Literary Front

by CHOU YANG

We present selections from a lengthy and detailed article, on the great debate and the anti-rightist struggle that have been going on in China's literary circles, by Chou Yang, Vice-Director of the Propaganda Department of the Central Committee of the Chinese Communist Party and Vice-Chairman of the All-China Federation of Writers and Artists. The article, an expanded version of a speech delivered at the Communist Party branch of the Union of Chinese Writers, appeared in "Renmin Ribao" on February 28. Our selections are confined to questions of literary theory and policy and omit the author's discussion of individual writers and their works. Those interested in the Chinese literary scene will be able to read the full text of Chou Yang's article in English in "Chinese Literature" No. 3 which will be published on April 21. Following is the first instalment of our selections. The second will appear in our next issue.

DURING the nation-wide counter-offensive against the bourgeois rightists, our literary and art circles have exposed and denounced the anti-Party clique headed by Ting Ling* and Chen Chi-hsia,** as well as other rightists, and scored a great victory. This is a battle over funda-

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** Former associate editor of *Wen Yi Pao* (Literary Gazette).

mental issues of right and wrong — a battle between the socialist line and the anti-socialist line in literature and art. It is a reflection in the realm of literature and art of the struggle now going on in our country between the proletariat and the bourgeoisie, between the socialist way and the capitalist way.

I. The Test of These Stormy Times

The principle of handling contradictions among the people correctly, put forward by the Central Committee of our Party and Chairman Mao, the policy of "letting a hundred flowers blossom, a hundred schools of thought contend," and the directives on the rectification campaign in the Party issued immediately afterward, have all had an incalculable effect in consolidating and developing our socialist system.

Nevertheless, anti-socialist individuals among our intellectuals drew encouragement from the international anti-Communist campaign. After the spring of 1956, and especially after the events in Hungary, they could no longer contain themselves. They twisted the correct policy of "letting a hundred flowers blossom, a hundred schools of thought contend" to suit themselves. In fact, we

advocated free discussion and the exchange of divergent academic views and free competition between various styles in art in order to develop socialist culture. We shall steadfastly carry out this policy for a long time to come.

We believe that a monopoly position, without competition or comparison, cannot enrich science and art but can only cause them to decline. We believe that the working class is strong enough to overcome bourgeois culture through free competition and debate. The bourgeois rightists, however, interpreted this policy as a repudiation of the movement for Marxist ideas. They detest ideological remoulding. They asserted that a "thaw" had set in and that "spring" would soon be here. They did not aim to start an academic debate or to compete in the realm of art, but tried to use this slogan to set afoot a political movement against socialism. Therefore when our Party began to carry out its rectification campaign and called on the masses for their criticism, the rightists felt that they had an opportunity to remould the Party according to their ideas. The spearhead of their attack was first aimed at the ideological and cultural fields. They were eager to capture these, and considered that here the line was comparatively weak and could more easily be broken through. Next they launched an all-out offensive against socialism as a whole. In a sense this was a good thing, for now the rightists have exposed their real selves, and this has helped to educate the people to see them in their true colours.

Which is better—the socialist way or the capitalist way? To be a revolutionary or a reactionary? This is the urgent choice before each Chinese. During the period of the democratic revolution anyone who opposed imperialism, feudalism and bureaucrat-capitalism was a revolutionary. But today, during the socialist revolution, anyone who wants to be a revolutionary must oppose capitalism and go the socialist way. If you want to go the capitalist way you are a reactionary. The choice lies between the two: there is no middle way.

For our intellectuals it is much harder to pass the test of socialism than that of democratic revolution.

During this period revisionism began to crop up among writers and artists. Rightists and revisionists alike were against the principle that literature and art should serve workers, peasants and soldiers and help to build socialism. They claimed that Chairman Mao's *Talks at the Yenan Forum on Art and Literature* (in 1942) was "out of date," that the principle of socialist realism should be modified or abandoned. Under such slogans as "write truthfully" or "speak up about life," they called for an exposure of "the seamy side of life," claiming that this alone was "the new path in realism." For a time it did indeed seem as if a great storm were rising: the wind was blowing towards the right in the literary field. Thereupon some dogmatists of the "left" took fright and wanted to use rash, simple, repressive measures to allay this ill wind. But of course repressive measures and dogmatism are powerless to defeat revisionism. The dogmatists were afraid of the full airing of views because they had no confidence in the strength of the working class and the people as a whole, or in the strength of Marxism-Leninism. Their "leftist" appearance actually reflected "rightist" convictions. The Party resolutely allowed the rightists to speak out freely, for they were frantically

demanding freedom to express themselves, hoping to devour the Communist Party. They lost all sense of proportion, betrayed socialism, flouted the Constitution, and went back on their own word.

The Party has publicly stated that we are not afraid of poisonous weeds—we shall pull them up to provide fertilizer. We are not afraid of monsters and freaks—we shall use their errors to educate the people. We saw that there are poisonous weeds and let them grow; for weeds exist, and when they grow apace it simply means that the time has come for the working class to get out its hoes. It would show stupidity and a lack of understanding of the tactics of the class struggle, if we were to cover up weeds and not let them raise their heads, or try to crush them as soon as they come out. Such a method would certainly cause more trouble in the long run, and a greater effort would be needed to get rid of them later. The Party believes that the people are able to recognize poisonous weeds and to cope with them. The Party knows how to deal with class enemies. So the rightists among writers and artists, like those in other circles, exposed their real nature and seized this chance to go into action and form an opposition camp. Both sides were pleased: the rightists, i.e. the reactionaries, because they believed the Communist Party would soon be overthrown and capitalism would return, the revolutionaries because now that large numbers of these monsters and freaks were coming out into the open they would have the opportunity to cope with them.

This great anti-rightist debate has been a profound education for all of us, including myself. The vast majority of our writers and artists now take a more resolute stand on the side of socialism, and their socialist enthusiasm has soared. The only way out for the rightists is to repent thoroughly and make a fresh start: no other path is open to them. The Party and the people are willing to help them reform themselves, but this must depend mainly on their own efforts.

II. Two Irreconcilable World Outlooks

The question may be asked: How could Ting Ling and Feng Hsueh-feng,* who were old Party members and left-wing writers, turn into rightists? What lessons can we draw from their cases?

To answer this, we must look back at the road which intellectuals like ourselves have travelled. Many of us come from feudal landlord families in decline or from other exploiting classes. In general our education and world outlook were those of bourgeois intellectuals. The May the Fourth new cultural movement (in 1919) brought us democracy, science, and the new ideas of socialism. We eagerly absorbed everything new from abroad, unable at the time to differentiate between anarchism and socialism, between individualism and collectivism. Nietzsche, Kropotkin and Karl Marx attracted us almost equally. It was not till later that we came to see that Marxism-Leninism was the only truth and only weapon for the liberation of mankind. But though we dedicated ourselves to the cause of the liberation of the working class, no fundamental change took place in our bourgeois individualist outlook, emotions and habits. We believed in commu-

*A literary critic.

nism in the abstract, but our actions were often motivated by the longing to prove ourselves heroes. We were not in close touch with the workers and peasants, and seldom even approached them. The democratic revolution was our immediate goal, the socialist revolution a distant ideal.

Many of us were really petty-bourgeois revolutionary democrats rather than proletarian revolutionaries. For a long time we were strongly influenced by individualism. At first we associated it with such concepts as "the emancipation of the personality" or "independence of character," and it encouraged us in our fight against feudal oppression and for freedom. Many outstanding works of literature in 19th century Europe describe the conflict between the individual and society, the revolt against social conventions, the fight of the lonely anarchist; and these made a very deep impression on us. We revered Ibsen and cherished his famous dictum: "The strongest man in the world is he who stands most alone." Many of us took the revolutionary path after struggling as individualists, joining the revolution with our individualist outlook unimpaired.

Bourgeois individualism and proletarian collectivism are irreconcilable. Our aim is not only to carry through the bourgeois democratic revolution (which in China could succeed only under the leadership of the proletariat), but also the socialist revolution. This means that our bourgeois individualism has become the greatest obstacle in our path.

There are two basically different methods of dealing with bourgeois individualism. Some people by dint of a long period of revolutionary work, Party education, steeling in actual struggles and conscious self-remoulding, gradually become fighters for the collective. They are determined to get rid of individualism, to remould their ideas and serve the interests of the proletarian collective. Their thoughts and feelings undergo a revolutionary change, and they pass from one class to another. To overcome individualism is not easy; often it is achieved gradually after much stumbling and many hard knocks. But once it is overcome, a man feels freed of a burden and light-hearted; he can then become one with the masses and with the Party, and so find infinite strength in the collective. Only when this happens does it seem natural, easy and right to subordinate individual interests to group interests. Men who have achieved this will be loyal to the people's cause under any circumstances.

Some other people are quite the opposite. They never overcome individualism, but always remain preoccupied with personal losses and gains, personal favours or grudges. Even after many hard knocks and much stumbling, they will not change their selfish outlook but go from bad to worse. Instead of remoulding themselves in the spirit of collectivism, they want to remould the Party and the revolution according to their individualist outlook. Self-centred and opposed to collective life, they are not one with the Party. The least achievement makes them conceited; but if criticized for any mistake, they are loud in their complaints. They cannot stand up to any serious test. When a crisis comes, they do not hesitate to betray the working class.

The majority of our Party members belong to the first type or are striving to join it; but quite a few belong

to the second group, and Ting Ling and Feng Hsueh-leng are among their number.

The "One-Book" Theory

Many people have rightly pointed out the error of Ting Ling's "one-book theory." This was very worth while.

Advocates of the "one-book theory" look on writing as a means to satisfy their personal ambitions, and imagine that after producing one successful book they can start making demands on society and remain above the masses. "With one good book your position is unassailable," they maintain. Not a few of our writers and artists hold this view. After writing one book, painting one picture, making one film or gaining a little fame they look down on everyone. The greater their individual fame, the less the Party and the people mean to them, and the more divorced they become in thought and feeling from the masses. They think the people are indebted to them and should show gratitude. They forget that their honour was given them by the people. A craving for fame and profit, as well as conceit, are at the root of the decadence of many writers and artists in their personal life and in their political outlook.

Authors with this outlook consider writing superior to everything else and believe that individual talent alone can create good works. They do not realize that no work of genius could come into being if divorced from the struggle of the people around, or from the accumulation of material and spiritual wealth created by the labouring people through the ages. Only the labouring people, who have made history with their toil, wisdom and lives, are truly immortal. A book is immortal only in so far as it gives a truthful picture of a small fraction of the great deeds of the labouring people, only in so far as it expresses their thoughts and feelings and voices what is in their hearts.

The ancients recognized three kinds of achievements: in virtue, in deeds and in words. Achievements in virtue and in deeds come before those in words. Without the people's virtue and splendid deeds, what achievement can there be in "words"? Unless you are the spokesman of the people, what can you achieve in words? We have no

Talks at the Yen-an Forum on Art and Literature

by Mao Tse-tung

This pamphlet contains the two speeches that ushered in a new period for China's art and literature. Given in May 1942 before artists and writers in Yen-an, the talks expound from the Marxist-Leninist viewpoint why art and literature should and can serve the workers, peasants and soldiers, the relation between art and literature and politics, the sources of artistic and literary creation and the criteria of artistic and literary criticism. 51 pp.

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right to feel the least proud in front of the people. If a writer's aim is merely to make money or become famous, and if after writing one or two small books he becomes complacent and arrogant, he is certainly pathetic and despicable. Such writers will never be needed by the people. As for those who use the few books they have written as capital with which to oppose the Party, their behaviour is even more intolerable. But in order to make young people their tools, these adventurers go so far as to utilize their weakness, lack of experience and ambition, and by encouraging their pride lead them towards the path of reaction.

III. The Revisionist Line in Literature and Art

Owing to differences in class stand and world outlook, there is a fundamental difference between us and the bourgeois rightists in our views on literature and art. There are two lines. One is that literature and art should serve the interests of the workers, peasants and all labouring people, give true expression to their life and struggles, and, in a way intelligible and pleasing to them, elevate their ideas and feelings, and increase their confidence in their power to build a new life. Literature and art of this kind accelerate social development and progress. This is the socialist line in literature and art which we advocate, and also the Marxist line. The other line is that literature and art should not serve the interests and needs of the masses of the people, but only those of the few, simply expressing the personality of the writer or artist, satisfying his craving for fame or money, and catering to the tastes of a minority. Instead of arousing the people's

revolutionary enthusiasm, they sap their fighting spirit. Literature and art of this kind do not hasten the development of society but retard it. This is the bourgeois line in literature and art advocated by the rightists, the anti-Marxist or revisionist line.

The proletarian outlook on literature and art has always been diametrically opposed to that of the bourgeois reactionaries. Indeed it was in the struggle between these two that socialist literature grew. Socialist literature is a genuine literature of the labouring people, which attracts to its ranks all writers who are inspired by the great goal of socialism and are willing to serve the working people; at the same time it is constantly attacked, slandered and ridiculed by the aristocracy of bourgeois letters. For over twenty years, the proletarian literary movement in China resisted the savage persecution of the reactionary rulers, and waged a sharp struggle against all kinds of literary spokesmen of the exploiting classes. The bourgeoisie will never abandon its attack on socialist literature and art. During the recent anti-Communist campaign abroad and in China, socialist literature and art have been subjected to fresh attacks. The revisionists have stepped out to cross swords with us. Most of them did not openly attack socialist literature and art, but used relatively subtle methods. They isolated and exaggerated certain faults in our literature and art, to smear socialist literature and art. Chinese rightists and revisionists aped reactionary bourgeois authors abroad in slandering socialist literature in the Soviet Union and our country.

(Conclusion next week)

Twelve-Year Plan for Agriculture

by YANG MIN

The National Programme for Agricultural Development gave a big boost to the co-operative movement in China's villages. The new draft is helping to mobilize the whole nation to raise agricultural yields and output.

THE first draft of the National Programme for Agricultural Development, 1956-1967, appeared in January 1956 at a time when the movement for turning individual farms into co-operative farms was in full flood. The peasants' enthusiasm for co-operation swept aside the objections of the conservatives — "tottering along like a woman with bound feet" in Chairman Mao Tse-tung's phrase — who tried to hold things back. The 40-point programme gave them a vision of socialist farming. On the basis of concrete, verifiable possibilities, it showed how yields could be increased, the grain output more than doubled in twelve years, and scientific, mechanized farming

methods gradually introduced to give still higher yields and output, and a better life.

Boldly conceived, this plan played an immense role in encouraging the peasants not only to enter the co-ops and collective farms, but to embark on their new life with such enthusiasm and energy that, despite unprecedented floods and other natural calamities, they raised some seven and a half million tons of grain more than in 1955, which was itself a year of record crops.

New Situation

Two years have passed by since then. A lot of new experience has been gained in socialist methods of farming. This has led the Central Committee of the Chinese Communist Party to make certain amendments and additions to the original draft. The revised draft, published last October, is now being discussed throughout the country.

The situation today differs radically from what it was when the original plan was published. Then, at the end

of 1955, only about 63 per cent of China's peasant households were in co-op farms. About 3.9 per cent of the nation's peasant households were in the more advanced, socialist type of co-op farms — collective farms. By last June 96.8 per cent of all farm households were in collective farms or co-op farms. Only a little over 3 per cent are in co-op farms. Practically all China's agriculture is now run on co-operative, socialist lines. But most of these collective farms and co-ops are fledglings. They started out without much capital, farm tools or experience. The essential task today is to put them on a firm foundation for a new advance. The new socialist programme for farming will help to do just that.

The central theme of the programme is to raise output by getting higher yields. Bigger output will consolidate the co-ops and provide the material foundation on which to realize the programme's other plans dealing with improvements in the peasants' material and cultural life.

The output targets for agriculture, forestry, livestock-breeding and fishery are the key links of the whole programme, and, since most of China's cultivated area is sown to grain crops, the grain targets are especially important.

For convenience in planning, the country is divided into three zones each with its target. The first zone comprises the areas north of the Yellow River, Tsinling Mountains, River Pailung and the Yellow River in Chinghai Province. The second zone includes the areas south of the Yellow River and north of the Huai. The third comprises the areas south of the Huai River, the Tsinling Mountains and the River Pailung.

With the exception of places where conditions for farming are very unfavourable, average annual grain yields in these three zones should be raised respectively from 150, 208 and 400 catties a *mou* (annual averages in 1955) to 400, 500 and 800 catties a *mou* within the twelve-year period, 1956-1967. On this basis, it is roughly estimated that China's grain output in 1967 will be double what it was in 1955.

The average annual yield of ginned cotton, according to the programme, shall be raised from the national average of 35 catties a *mou* in 1955 to 40, 60, 80 or 100 catties a *mou* in 1967 depending on local conditions. This means a threefold increase in the country's output of ginned cotton.

Encouraging progress has already been made in reaching these targets. Outstanding farms have reaped 3,000 catties of rice per *mou* in a single year. Others have raised annual yields of more than 1,000 catties of wheat or 300 catties of ginned cotton per *mou*. Such yields are several times as heavy as the national averages for these crops. It is true that not every place can reach such yields, but nearly every locality has one or two farms which have good records and their experience can readily be adopted by neighbouring farms.

CHINESE WEIGHTS and MEASURES at a GLANCE

1 *mou* = 0.06 hectare or 0.1647 acre

1 *tan* (picul) = 0.05 ton or 0.984 hundredweight

1 *chin* (catty) = 0.5 kilogramme or 1.1023 pounds

In 1956 the programme's grain targets were reached or surpassed by 29 counties and suburban areas. By 1957 the number jumped to 65. In addition, 25,700 co-ops had fields embracing a huge area where the targets were reached. Last year 86 million *mou* were planted with cotton; the programme's targets were reached on nearly a third of this area — and the programme has another ten years to go.

Higher Per Capita Income

A new paragraph in the revised draft programme proposes that during the Second Five-Year Plan period, 1958-1962, every effort should be made to "enable the majority of the co-operatives to reach or surpass the level of production and income of the local well-off middle peasants."

In other words, adding together the income of the co-op from all sources and earnings of members from side-occupations, the per capita average income of co-op members should reach or surpass that of the local well-to-do middle peasants.

When the tide of co-operation was running strong in the latter half of 1955, most of the well-to-do middle peasants joined the farming co-ops. But a considerable number of those who joined still have doubts about the value of the co-op way of doing things. This is partly because, as individual farmers, they got bigger crops than their co-ops now do. They usually had better land than most other farmers, more draught animals and enough farm tools to run their farms well, so, as a general rule, their land yielded as much as a quarter or a third more than that of the average run of peasants or poor peasants in the neighbourhood. And they can remember that their yields were usually 20 per cent more than the newly established co-ops get.

Experience already shows, however, that within two or three years of its inception, a well-run co-op can reach the yields and output of the local well-to-do middle peasants and, furthermore, that they can keep up a steady advance at this pace year after year. It is therefore quite feasible for all co-ops to raise production within five years to the level of that of their local well-to-do middle peasants.

Well-to-do middle peasants who waver in their loyalty to the co-ops and hanker after the capitalist way of doing things, naturally don't always keep their doubts to themselves. To a certain extent they influence the poor and less well-off middle peasants. When the majority of co-ops succeed in showing that they can do better than any middle peasant could do working individually, this wavering will stop. Backsliders then will find it hard to find followers. This will be a red-letter day for socialism in its struggle against capitalist ways of life and thinking in the countryside.

A survey of more than 300,000 co-ops shows that a quarter of them have already reached or surpassed the best efforts of well-to-do individual middle peasants in their areas. The whole Changyeh Administrative Area in Kansu has done this; over 70 per cent of its peasants are living as well as the local well-off middle peasants ever did. Most of the co-ops in Lunghsi, Haicheng and Changchow (Fukien) have emulated this example and so

CHINA'S THREE AGRICULTURAL ZONES

ZONE I North of the Yellow River, Tsinling Mountains, River Pailung and the Yellow River within Chinghai Province:

This vast zone has 730 million *mou* of cultivated land, 44.7 per cent of the national total, and huge tracts of reclaimable land. Its weather is generally good for agriculture. Areas north of the Great Wall have 120-170 frost-free days each year, and as a general rule one crop is reaped annually. South of the Great Wall and in the Liaotung Peninsula, about 200 days a year are suitable for plant growth, and crops are harvested three times every two years.

Annual rainfall: north-east region — 600 mm, eastern Hopei — 630 mm. Sinkiang — less than 200 mm. Other areas — around 400 mm.

Main crops — wheat, maize, millet, *kaoliang* (sorghum), and soya bean. Cotton, flax and sugar-beet are grown in certain areas.

ZONE II South of the Yellow River and north of the Huai River:

This zone consists largely of the plains between the two rivers. It has more than 290 million *mou* of cultivated land or 17.8 per cent of the national total. It has a warm temperate climate.

Annual rainfall: about 600 mm., providing more than 220 days a year suitable for plant growth.

Three crops every two years are the general rule but some areas reap five crops every three years or two crops a year.

Its grain crops are similar to those in Zone I. Main industrial crops include cotton and more than half of the national output of tobacco (cured).

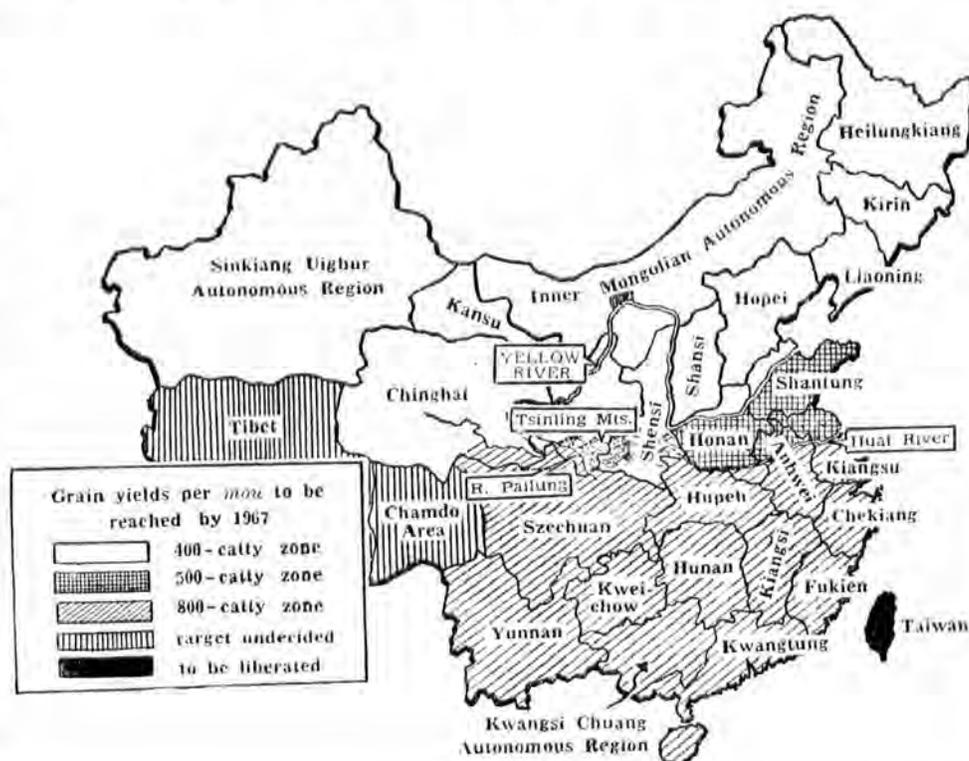
ZONE III South of the Huai River, Tsinling Mountains and River Pailung:

This zone has 620 million *mou* of cultivated land or 37.5 per cent of the national total. It includes places enjoying the highest temperatures and biggest rainfalls in the country. The Yangtse Valley has 250-300 frost-free days a year. Two or three crops are reaped each year.

Annual rainfall: 1,000 mm.

Areas south of the Wuling Mountains are practically frost free. Three crops a year is the rule here, with an annual rainfall of 1,500-2,000 mm.

This zone harvests the most varied crops. The most important are rice, maize, potatoes and wheat, but it also raises jute, hemp, sugar-cane, cotton, tobacco, rape-seed, tea, rubber, coffee, lemon grass, coconuts and many other tropical fruits and silkworm cocoons.



have 20 per cent of the co-ops in the Hantan Administrative Area (Hopei) and 17 per cent of the co-ops in Shensi Province.

How to Strengthen a Co-op

This really means that although the vast majority of China's peasant households were in co-ops or collective farms by 1957 it may take another five years or a bit more to put all of them on a solid foundation. The newly-added first article of the revised draft National Programme for Agricultural Development lists six points that must be considered in strengthening the co-ops. First, the leadership of the co-op must be retained in the hands of those members who were originally poor peasants, hired farm labourers or lower middle peasants, but at the same time adequate representation must be given to the well-to-do middle peasants. Secondly, the co-ops must be run democratically. Thirdly, they must be run in a thrifty way and members must be industrious. Fourthly, they should steadily increase production (so as to reach or sur-

pass the output and income of the local well-off middle peasants by 1962). Fifthly, when distributing the income of the farms, care should be taken to give proper consideration to the interests of the state, the co-operatives as a body and to those of individual members, and to increase the common funds of the co-op and members' incomes every year on a basis of constantly increasing production. Lastly, political and ideological education in general in the co-ops must be improved. There should be a regular annual summing-up of the year's work and more attention to socialist education in the countryside.

This revised agricultural programme is now being widely discussed by the peasants and people of China and further amendments may be made to it in the light of this discussion. It will then be discussed by the National Congress of the Chinese Communist Party and later by the State Council. Finally it will be submitted to the National People's Congress for discussion, adoption and promulgation.

Co-ops Running Ahead

“CHANGE the face of the Chinese countryside by three years of hard work!” This slogan is spurring co-operative farmers throughout the country to heroic feats. Virtually all provinces have drawn up plans to fulfil the National Programme for Agricultural Development for 1956-67 far ahead of time. Over a third of China's counties and suburban rural areas intend to achieve the final goals of the programme, i.e. the grain yields planned for 1967, this year.

Setting the Pace

China's southern province of Kwangtung has drawn up its own speeded-up 12-year programme for agricultural development. It aims at bringing its per *mou* grain output up from 440 catties in 1955 to 800 catties by 1962 and further to 1,000 catties by 1967. Kwangtung has long had a grain deficit, now it will top the National Programme for 1967 (800 catties per *mou*) five years ahead of terminal date. It will become one of the first “thousand-catty provinces” in the country, with a big grain surplus over its needs.

To realize these goals, Kwangtung's co-operative farmers are rallying to “break the three barriers.”

First is the “water conservancy barrier.” To overcome it, they will build irrigation and drainage works to avoid drought and ordinary floods before the 1959 spring ploughing. On 70 per cent of all land in the province, this has already been done.

No. 2 is the “fertilizer barrier,” to be smashed by accumulating at least 400 *tan* of manure for application to every *mou* of land.

To tackle the third or “technology barrier,” new techniques will be systematically introduced to increase the average number of crops per year from 2 in 1957 to 2.6 or 2.7 in 1960. By then, there will be no single-crop fields in Kwangtung; and nearly all will be planted to three crops a year.

Just as the province is aiming to surpass the National Programme, so some of its sections have resolved to beat the provincial. All Kwangtung is to reach the 1,000-catty mark ten years from now. But the Swatow Administrative Area, consisting of 15 counties and two suburban rural areas, has pledged to attain it in 1958, having been the first area of comparable size in the whole country, as long ago as 1956, to top the national 800-catty goal.

More Rice in Shantung

Shantung is a province long known for its sparse grain yields. Now it plans to double its grain yield of 1956, which was a good year, by 1962, the last year of the Second Five-Year Plan. This means that it will reap 1,000 catties of grain annually for every person in the province—nearly twice as much as the present national average.

One of the principal ways is to expand the acreage of rice, a fine grain of high yield. This may sound bold for an area used to growing millet, *kaoliang* (sorghum) and other coarse grains on dry fields. But Shantung is determined to enlarge its area under rice twentyfold or more, from less than 130,000 *mou* in 1957 to 20-40 million *mou* by 1962. Rice will be the principal crop of the province.

Rice is grown on irrigated fields. Over 15 million people in Shantung are busy digging reservoirs, irrigation channels and wells. By the end of February, they had already brought water to 20 million *mou* and raised their sights to a target of 30 million. Now they expect to irrigate by far the greater part of Shantung's land by 1960.

Ford the Yellow River! Cross the Yangtse!

Another slogan is “Ford the Yellow River! Cross the Yangtse!” It is used in northern areas which want to reach not only their own yield goals but those of areas south of the Yellow River (500 catties per *mou*) and even south of the Yangtse (800 catties per *mou*). Shansi Province has girded itself to do this. Nearly half



Harvest

Woodcut by Li Hua

of its 14 million people are giving every available minute to building water conservancy works, gathering manure and other preparations for spring sowing. They aim to reach by 1962, i.e. five years ahead of schedule, the 1967 goal of 400 catties per *mou* for areas north of the Yellow River (in which the province lies). Later they will "march towards the Yangtse." By 1967, the provincial average will be 600 catties and the greater part of the land will reach the 800-catty mark.

Can Shansi do it? Its record was only 156 catties per *mou* in 1956, a fair year. Sixty per cent of its arable land is in mountainous regions. North Shansi used to be notorious for its low yields — 50-60 catties per *mou* before the liberation and less than 100 catties even now. So there is a long way to go.

But when the revolutionary spirit grips the people, one cannot judge by the past. Shansi's co-operative farmers are working on no less than 400,000 water conservancy undertakings big and small. When these are completed before the end of April, 8 million *mou* of dry land will have been brought under irrigation, more than twice the previous total in the province, after thousands of years of work by past generations. Within three years, it is expected that 55 million *mou*, or 84 per cent of all its cultivated area, will be under irrigation. In short, the province will be a different place.

Mechanization the Key

Heilungkiang — China's northernmost province — faces two big difficulties agriculturally. Its frost-free period is very short (from 103 to 148 days). And there is a shortage of labour power in relation to arable land (53 *mou* to every able-bodied farmer). As planting and harvesting with such a brief growing season must be very timely, the shortage of labour is felt even more acutely.

Yet this province too plans to reach north China's 400-catty mark by 1962 instead of 1967. It can do it because apart from the country-wide revolutionary enthusiasm, Heilungkiang has a credit side to its balance —

fertile soil and quite a lot of industry. Cities like Harbin, Tsitsihar and Kiamusze have recently built modern engineering plants which can turn out large quantities of agricultural machinery.

Moreover, mechanized farming has a history of ten years in the province (Heilungkiang was liberated in 1945). There are over 70 big mechanized state farms and 28 machine and tractor stations. Tractor-ploughed land already constitutes 10 per cent of the total and another 15 per cent is tilled by new-type ploughs and other improved implements. A further advantage is that most of the farm co-ops have been consolidated. They have accumulated investment funds on a fairly large scale. Some co-ops in Paichuan County have already bought tractors.

Anhwei Sets an Example

For Anhwei Province to reach the National Programme goals, its southern section must attain the 800-catty mark, and the rest 500 catties. This means that Anhwei's total grain crop must be doubled (from 24,000 million catties, as in 1957, to 48,300 million catties) — a truly colossal task particularly because the province has been one of the worst sufferers from natural calamities in past years. In December 1957, a plan was drawn up to reach the National Programme targets in ten years as required. But within a month or so the situation changed drastically. By the end of January, Anhwei's co-op farmers had fulfilled the plan of 800 million cubic metres of earthwork in water conservancy twice over, and begun to work on a third 800 million cubic metres. (This again has now been exceeded.) The targets for manure-collection and afforestation were overfulfilled too.

So a new plan was made. The province now intends, by 1962, to increase its total grain yield to 51,000 million catties. The per *mou* yield on land north of the Huai will be raised from 204 catties to 530 catties, and on land south of the Huai from 397 catties to 841 catties. Both will thus top the National Programme targets five years ahead of deadline.

National Equality

Regional Autonomy for the Chuang People

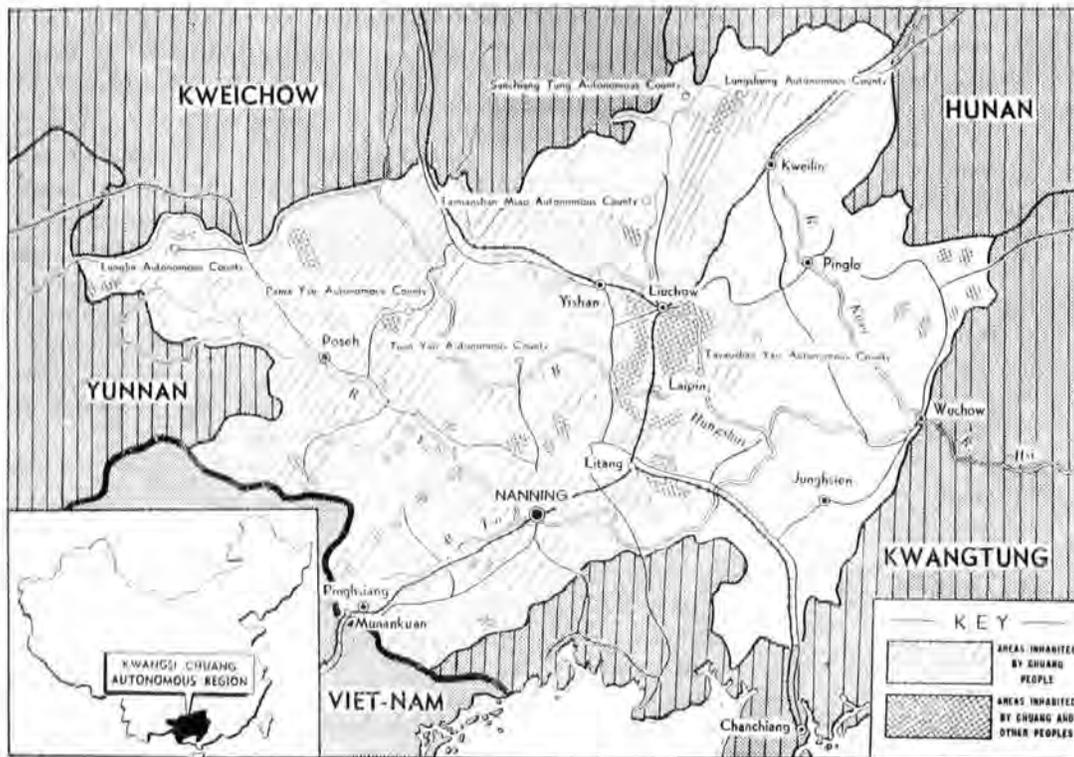
ON March 5, as we reported last week, the former Kwangsi Province became the new Kwangsi Chuang Autonomous Region, China's third autonomous area of provincial rank. (The two others are the Inner Mongolian Autonomous Region and the Sinkiang Uighur Autonomous Region.)

More than 2,000 years ago the Chuangs, then known as the Luoyu people, lived along China's south-eastern coast. Because of the national oppression by the reactionary rulers of the past they gradually moved to the interior. Their present name first appeared in the writings of the Sung dynasty (960-1279) and was later found in the official records of the Yuan dynasty (1279-1368).

The Chuang people is the largest national minority in China and is comparatively advanced in political, economic and cultural development. They have not only worked diligently in the development of their inhabited areas, but have made valuable contributions to the common revolutionary cause of all the Chinese nationalities.

Revolutionary Tradition

In old China, minority peoples were oppressed and discriminated against by the reactionary ruling class. The Chuangs were no exception. It is for this reason that the Chuangs have long been supporters of and participants in China's revolutionary movements. The first Taiping



SKETCH MAP OF KWANGSI CHUANG AUTONOMOUS REGION

Map by Shu Shih

The Constitution of the People's Republic of China ensures all national minorities the right to exercise autonomy wherever they live in compact communities. In addition to the general functions and powers of the local state bodies, organs of self-government in national autonomous areas may administer their own local finances within the limits of the law, and organize their own local public security forces in accordance with the state military system. They may also draw up regulations on the exercise of autonomy and other special regulations to suit the characteristics of nationalities in a given area. The form of organs of self-government may be determined by the wishes of the people enjoying regional autonomy in that area. Up to now China has more than eighty national autonomous areas of different sizes, covering over 90 per cent of the territory where minorities live in compact communities.

revolutionary uprising in the 19th century broke out in Kwangsi and the leadership included people of the Chuang nationality.

In the revolution led by the Chinese Communist Party all the peoples in Kwangsi made contributions. During the First Revolutionary Civil War (1924-1927), there was a widespread peasants' movement in the Yu River basin. Wei Pa-chun, a Chuang leader of that movement and a member of the Chinese Communist Party, is remembered and honoured as a martyr of the revolution. During the Second Revolutionary Civil War (1927-1936), a revolutionary government existed in the areas along the Tso and Yu Rivers. At that time the Seventh and Eighth Red Armies were formed and these troops were later merged into the Chinese People's Liberation Army. A number of the functionaries in these areas engaged in long-term underground struggles and guerrilla warfare.

China's National Minorities

Liberation brought an end to national oppression throughout the country and all nationalities are now on an equal footing with each other. National regional autonomy is China's basic policy to solve her national question.

National minorities account for only about 6 per cent of China's population but they inhabit some 60 per cent of the country's area. These two factors—the large, concentrated population in the Han inhabited areas and the abundant natural resources in the minority areas—must be combined to achieve common progress and prosperity. Unity and mutual help among all the nationalities become a necessity.

The peoples and nationalities of China, through economic co-operation and cultural exchanges during the past centuries, have all played a part in shaping the country's history and have enriched Chinese culture.

The West Kwangsi Chuang Autonomous Chou, embracing 42 counties, was established in 1952. A great number of Chuang functionaries were trained to reinforce the veterans tempered in previous revolutionary struggles. In deciding to create an autonomous region in the entire province of Kwangsi, consideration was given to the fact that there are many other nationalities in Kwangsi. These include the Hans, Yaos, Miaos, Tungs, Huis, etc. The Hans are among the most numerous in the province and exercise a rather large political influence too. But they have all lived and worked together for a long time to tap the local resources and have waged common revolutionary struggles. There have long been close economic and cultural ties and friendly relations among them. The present decision will not separate the Chuangs from the other nationalities in the province. It follows the spirit of China's policy towards nationalities and conforms to the common interest of the people there.

Yesterday and Today

Under Kuomintang rule the area now comprising the Kwangsi Chuang Autonomous Region had virtually no modern industrial plants. A total of 418 industrial enterprises were built or renovated during the First Five-Year Plan alone. In these five years the total value of industrial output increased by 313 per cent. Now Kwangsi has up-to-date sugar refining, food processing, chemical, engineering, electric power and mining industries.

Progress in agriculture has also been noteworthy. Whereas the highest annual grain output in pre-liberation days was 7,260 million catties, it rose to 10,800 million catties in 1957. For the first time in history Kwangsi became self-sufficient in her grain supply.

FACTS AND FIGURES

Area: 215,000 sq. km.

Population: 19 million

Nationalities: Chuang (7,003,000*), Han, Yao (468,000), Miao (203,000), Tung (149,000), Hui (10,000), etc.

Climate: Subtropical in most parts of the region, two or three crops a year

Cultivated land: 37 million *mou*

Vegetation: Rice, cotton, tung tree, sugar-cane, fruits, medicinal herbs, rubber, etc.

Mineral resources: Manganese (the largest deposit in the country), tin (ranks second in the country), gold, coal, iron, lead, tungsten, etc.

Water resources: 15 million kw. generating capacity (estimated)

* This comprises about 37 per cent of the population in the autonomous region. The figure 60 per cent mentioned in "Round the Week" in our last issue was incorrect.

After liberation two railways were built, one from Laipin to Munankuan (420 kilometres) and another from Litang to Chanchiang in Kwangtung (314 kilometres). Restoration and construction of the railway from Chinchengchiang to Kweiyang, capital of Kweichow, has been under way. Altogether there are 1,360 kilometres of railways open to traffic in the autonomous region, 2.7 times as long as in the days before liberation. The mileage of highways and waterways has also increased greatly.

Cultural progress in the region can be gauged from the increase in the number of students. The number of students attending institutions of higher learning is 25 per cent greater than before liberation, in secondary schools 118 per cent higher, and in primary schools 25 per cent higher.

The Chuang language belongs to the Sino-Tai branch of the Sino-Tibetan family. In the past the Chuang people had no written language of their own and used the Han language (Chinese) to make their own records. At present an alphabet to write Chuang language has been created and is being popularized. This augurs well for the improvement of the Chuang people's cultural status and their work in wiping out illiteracy. More than 100,000 Chuang people have already mastered the use of the Chuang written language.

Industrial Future

According to preliminary plan the value of industrial output of the autonomous region will be 3,400 million yuan in 1962 or 6.6 times as much as in 1957. In the same year the value of output of local industries will be 47.77 per cent that of the total value of industrial and agricultural production of the whole region. Thus it is quite possible for industry to catch up with agriculture in six years.

Ko Yu (Song Festival)

The Chuang people are fond of singing. The Chuang people living along the Tso and Yu Rivers in Kwangsi have a festival which they call *Ko Yu*. It is held four times a year on the fifteenth day of the first moon, third day of the third moon, eighth day of the fourth moon, and twelfth day of the fifth moon. During this festival the young people get together in their holiday best to sing and make merry. The number of participants varies from hundreds to thousands. The festival often lasts until the wee hours of the morning. The best singers can freely extemporize. The young men and women court each other and exchange gifts.

During the period of the Second Five-Year Plan the production of pig iron will rise 154-fold, electric power 28-fold, coal 7-fold, sugar 27-fold, machine-made paper 203-fold, and gold 36-fold. In five years or so the region will have bases of the following industries: iron and steel, chemical fertilizers, coal, non-ferrous metals, engineering, sugar, and paper.

Grain production in the autonomous region will reach an average of 800 catties per *mou* in 1963, fulfilling the target set by the National Programme for Agricultural Development four years in advance. The grain production of the region in 1963 will consequently be 24,000 million catties, an increase of 122 per cent over that of 1957.

In the past drought has been the region's greatest natural calamity. Nearly 3 million people are now working on water conservancy works. Up to the early part of February this year construction had begun on more than 120,000 such works. When completed they will irrigate an area of 12 million *mou*, surpassing the total increase of irrigated land in the whole First Five-Year Plan. They also surpass all the water conservancy works built in Kwangsi during the two thousand years preceding liberation. At the beginning of this month 64 per cent of the works had been completed.

The total mileage of highways in 1962 will be 12,000 kilometres. Efforts will be made to have 3,000 kilometres of rivers navigable by steamships and barges by 1967. Technical renovation is being introduced in railways and more than 500 kilometres of new lines are planned for the future.

The creation of the autonomous region will offer the best opportunities for the Kwangsi people to pool their efforts in building socialism. The tradition of co-operation and mutual aid among all the nationalities, especially between the Chuangs and the Hans, will certainly be strengthened and Kwangsi's economy and culture will flourish.



Chuang song festival

Drawing by Hsia Tung-kuang

CHINESE PRESS OPINION

SEATO Plots Condemned

"The SEATO Council session in Manila has tooled up a set of intrigues for arms expansion, war preparations and interference in the internal affairs of South-east Asian countries," *Renmin Ribao* (People's Daily) declared in its editorial on March 15. But, it noted that owing to the pressure of world public opinion and divisions within the bloc itself, the session did not live up to Washington's expectations. "Dulles ran his head up against a number of walls," the paper asserted.

"The U.S. demand for further interference in Indonesia's domestic affairs was actually the main item on the conference agenda," *Renmin Ribao* said. But the Thailand and Pakistan delegates were reluctant to follow the United States in this. France, too, was not enthusiastic.

Washington originally intended to establish nuclear and rocket bases in the Asian member countries of the Manila bloc, *Renmin Ribao* pointed out, but this plan was not mentioned in the conference communique because of the strong pressure for peace exerted by the peoples of various Asian countries and the hesitation of certain member nations of the bloc. However, this does not mean that the United States has abandoned its plan, the editorial cautioned.

The paper reminded the imperialist powers that the "people of Asia have seen through the insidious activities of the Manila conference." That is why, it concluded, public opinion in many Asian countries has warmly welcomed the peace proposals of the Soviet Union and China (see statement of the Chinese Government on the SEATO Council session on pp. 22-23) and sternly warned the Manila bloc about its provocations against peace and interference in the internal affairs of South-east Asian countries.

Turning Point in Indonesia

"An important turning point in Indonesia's political situation" is the way *Renmin Ribao* (March 14) editorially described the successful landing of Indonesian Government troops in Central Sumatra to suppress the rebel separatists with the aid of the local people. It also expressed confidence that the Indonesian people's determination to defend their independence and safeguard national

unity will finally triumph over all difficulties and imperialist-instigated subversion and foreign intervention. The editorial drew attention to the firm line taken by the Indonesian Government and the fact that all patriotic and democratic forces in Indonesia had become more firmly united.

Referring to the stepping up of imperialist intervention in Indonesia's internal affairs, the editorial declared: "After frustrating imperialist aggression and intervention in Egypt and Syria, the peoples of Asia and Africa, together with the peace-loving nations and peoples of the rest of the world, will certainly not allow the imperialists a free hand in unleashing new aggressive adventures in Asia." *Renmin Ribao* concluded with a reaffirmation of China's unswerving support for Indonesia in her just struggle.

Voice of Peace from Hanoi

A fresh move for peace by another country of the socialist camp, the Democratic Republic of Viet-nam, threw the war preparations at Manila into sharper relief. In a letter to Ngo Dinh Diem, leader of the South Viet-nam regime, on March 7, Premier Pham Van Dong proposed direct contacts between the authorities of both parts of Viet-nam to discuss reduction of troops and seek avenues for mutual trade.

"This not only opens up a path for the peaceful unification of Viet-nam but

also contributes to the creation of a peaceful atmosphere in Indo-China and Asia," said *Renmin Ribao* on March 9.

In the three years and more since the signing of the Geneva Agreements, the paper pointed out, the Democratic Republic of Viet-nam has repeatedly proposed to the South Viet-nam authorities that consultations be held to discuss the question of general elections. It has made great efforts for restoration of normal relations between North and South Viet-nam and unification of the country. But its proposals have been blocked by the United States and the Ngo Dinh Diem clique. Now the Democratic Republic of Viet-nam has demanded an end to the illegal American intervention in South Viet-nam and this, said *Renmin Ribao*, "is entirely reasonable and justified."

Referring to the recent series of peace proposals of the Soviet Union, Poland and Korea, and the Chinese People's Volunteers' decision to withdraw from Korea, *Renmin Ribao* said that "all this provides greater possibilities for West and East to solve major international problems by peaceful negotiations." "Will the South Viet-nam authorities, by following the trend of the world and the common aspirations of the people of Viet-nam, accept the proposal of the Democratic Republic of Viet-nam and take a step forward towards the peaceful unification of the country and to uphold national sovereignty and dignity? Or will they, by willingly allowing themselves to be influenced by the U.S. co-

THE PASSING SHOW

So Let's Join the Bears!

5,000,000 unemployed in the U.S. means 5,000,000 workers with no pay envelopes. Hardly what a worker would call a minor matter. But for the well-heeled, it's evidently different. Herbert Hoover, reports the *New York Times*, "declares the slump is minor!"

But wasn't Hoover U.S. President at the start of the Great Depression? Wasn't it he who uttered the immortal words: "Prosperity is just around the corner!"

Looks as if you'll have to sell that Cadillac, after all!

Fully-fashioned Handcuffs

President Eisenhower has declared in his message to the House of Representatives that "foreign aid" is absolutely essential for U.S. security.

A report from Damascus, however, has revealed that as part of American aid a pleneload of American handcuffs was recently rushed to Amman to fill a shortage caused by mass arrests of Jordanian patriots protesting against U.S. interference in their country's affairs.

This, while hardly commendable, is understandable, but it is more difficult to see what is the effect on American security of another piquant detail revealed by the Foreign Affairs Committee of the General Accounting Office of the U.S.A.: musical instruments, swivel chairs, cold drinks . . . and nylons are being sent as part of U.S. military aid to Turkey. Surely the Turks will find nylons rather thin for marching in.



lonialists, reject this proposal and continue to betray the national interests of their motherland? Now is the time for them to consider this and make a decision."

Commenting on the Chinese Government's statement of March 9 (see full text of the statement on page 22) supporting the peace proposal of the Democratic Republic of Viet-nam, *Da Gong Bao* (Impartial Daily) said that the Vietnamese proposal as well as the Chinese statement "conform to the national aspirations of the Viet-namese people and the spirit of the Geneva Agreements."

Volunteers Start Withdrawal from Korea

All papers prominently reported the announcement of the first-stage withdrawal, starting on March 15, of six divisions of Chinese People's Volunteers (C.P.V.) from Korea and the warm send-off meetings being given them by the Korean people. *Renmin Ribao* on March 13 editorially demanded that "the United States and other nations with troops in South Korea take similar steps by withdrawing all their troops from South Korea without delay."

Although the C.P.V. are to leave Korea shortly, *Renmin Ribao* remarked, the people of China and Korea will, as always, be one at heart. The paper again warned that should the United States and its followers regard the C.P.V. withdrawal as a sign of weakness and launch another aggressive war in Korea, "then double blows and more ignominious defeat will await them."

U. S. Evades Summit Talks

"Every time the Soviet Union takes a step to meet it, the United States retreats," comments *Renmin Ribao* (March 11) discussing Washington's negative response to the Soviet Union's February 28 memorandum and Bulganin's letter of March 3 to Eisenhower on summit talks.

The paper noted that in deference to the desire of the United States and other Western countries, the Soviet Union had proposed a foreign ministers' conference in April to fix the agenda, composition, date and site for a summit conference. On the agenda, the Soviet Union had reiterated its own proposals and accepted some U.S. views. It was willing to include the question of prohibiting the use of space for military purposes and the removal of foreign military bases from the territory of other countries, the question of signing a peace treaty with Germany and the question of developing contacts among countries. "This means," *Renmin Ribao* said, "that

the Soviet Union is giving every consideration to the opinions of the Western powers, especially the United States, so as to promote the early convening of the conference."

"The United States has now insisted that preparations for a summit conference should include going into the substance of the problems to be discussed," the paper continued. In fact this was a further condition advanced for a summit conference so as to prevent it from being held.

Da Gong Bao in a commentary on March 9 also refuted point by point American arguments against an early summit conference. "If major questions of substance could be solved by foreign ministers, then there would be no need for the heads of governments to meet," the paper pointed out in regard to the U.S. demand for a pre-summit foreign ministers' meeting to discuss questions of substance.

Matters which concern the German people themselves, *Da Gong Bao* declared, referring to the United States proposal to discuss the German reunification issue, should clearly not be discussed by the heads of governments of other countries. By insisting on discussing the so-called East European issue, the United States also wants to intervene in the internal affairs of the socialist countries, the paper continued, and added: "If the summit conference starts debating the social systems of other countries, it will get nowhere."

Co-existence in Action

"Countries with different social systems can find a common language on many important international questions if they strive for international co-operation and are interested in world peace," declared *Da Gong Bao*, commenting on March 11 on the Rumanian-Indian talks in New Delhi. The communique issued on March 9 by Prime Ministers Nehru and Stoica, who is visiting in Asia, was "a good example," the paper said. "It shows that the two countries have achieved unanimous views on many important international questions. Both welcome the proposal for a summit conference and



Coming or going?

Ying Tao in "Renmin Ribao"



Dulles: "Now I'll touch on the question of anti-subversion. . . ."

Ke Chao-chuan in "Gongren Ribao"

stress the urgency for a practical approach to disarmament and especially the banning of nuclear tests."

The Chinese people, the commentary added, have noted with pleasure the reaffirmation by the Indian and Rumanian leaders of their endeavours for the restoration of its rightful place in the United Nations to the Chinese People's Republic and the welcome they gave to the decision on the withdrawal of the Chinese People's Volunteers from Korea.

Free Djamila Bourheid!

Public interest in the fate of the Algerian patriot, Djamila Bourheid, is unabated in China although world-wide protests compelled the French colonialists to stay her execution set for March 7.

Zhongguo Qingnian Bao (China Youth News) appealed on March 10 to world public opinion to continue the struggle until Djamila regains her freedom. Both *Da Gong Bao* and *Guangming Ribao* (Enlightenment Daily) on March 9 demanded her immediate release. "It is a shame and a crime for France to punish the innocent," wrote the former.

CHINA AND THE WORLD

SINO-SOVIET CO- OPERATION

Navigation Agreement

The Sino-Soviet merchant shipping agreement, signed in Moscow last December, was approved by the Standing Committee of the Chinese National People's Congress on March 7.

Numerous rivers border or run through China and the Soviet Union. With a total navigable length of 5,790 kilometres, many of them have been traditional trade routes for people on both sides of the border. Due to lack of a navigation agreement, however, they have not been utilized to their full capacity.

The new agreement allows Chinese and Soviet merchant vessels to navigate freely along such famous waterways as the Heilungkiang (Amur), Sungari, Ussuri, Argun, Cherny Irtys, Ili and Sungacha Rivers and on Lake Khanka. This will facilitate transport by the cheapest and shortest routes between Harbin and Kiamusze in north-east China and Khabarovsk and Komsomolsk-on-Amur in the Soviet Far East; between China's Sinkiang Uighur Autonomous Region and Soviet Kazakhstan.

Under the terms of the new agreement, cargoes going from one country to the other are to be allocated to local Chinese and Soviet shipping companies on a fair basis. Chinese and Soviet port authorities will provide suitable facilities for loading and unloading, fuelling, laying in supplies of food and medical assistance to merchant vessels of both countries.

Heilungkiang River Project

The Joint Sino-Soviet Scientific Committee which is mapping out plans for the over-all development of the Heilungkiang River valley that lies in both Chinese and Soviet territory summed up current work at its latest conference in Peking this month.

According to present plans, by 1960 the committee will have in hand all data necessary for building a 2.2 million kw. hydro-electric power station. Plans will also be drawn up for flood control and reclamation of wasteland.

A seven-member Soviet scientific mission is now assisting Chinese scientists in

the study of sea life around Hainan Island. This work forms part of the 1958 agreement on scientific co-operation between the two countries.

TRADE NEWS

Surplus Goods Barter

Soviet-made bicycles, aluminium ware, wrist-watches, cameras, portable electric fans, vacuum-cleaners and other consumer goods are being exchanged for Chinese consumer goods such as handicrafts, stationery and leather goods. These are surplus commodities, exchanged strictly on a barter basis. They are not included in each country's annual import and export plans and no question of foreign exchange is involved.

Chinese trade authorities are negotiating similar exchanges of consumer goods this year with Democratic Germany, Czechoslovakia, Poland, Hungary and Bulgaria.

Animal Products for Export

Animal products now occupy an important place in China's export trade. In 1957 alone the total value of such exports was equivalent to 1,100,000 tons of steel.

Bristles, wool, cashmere, hides and furs make up the bulk of the 160 items shipped abroad. But with the growth of manufacturing industries during the First Five-Year Plan, more finished products — bristle brushes, shoes, suitcases and other goods — are being exported. These Chinese lines are popular with customers in some 55 countries. In 1957 they constituted 9 per cent of the total value of animal products exported.

Last year three breeding centres for fur-bearing animals were established in Heilungkiang, Shantung and Kweichow Provinces. These are successfully raising minks, nutrias, musquash and silver foxes for export.

War Victim in Japan

The Chinese Red Cross Society has cabled the Japanese Red Cross, the Japan-China Friendship Association and the Japan Peace Liaison Committee asking them to investigate the extraordinary case of Liu Lien-jen and to help speed Liu's return to his homeland.

Liu, a peasant living in Chucheng County, Shantung Province, was seized by Japanese troops in 1944 and sent to Hokkaido. He escaped from forced labour in a mine there in 1945 and lived in mountain caves for thirteen years, not knowing the war had ended. Discovered over a month ago, he has been threatened by the Japanese authorities with prosecution as an "illegal emigrant."

In Liu's home county, where the fate of more than 200 similarly abducted people is still unknown, bitter protests have been voiced against the Japanese authorities' action.

CULTURAL NEWS

The Japanese Matsuyama Ballet Company led by Ballerina Matsuyama Mikiko is the current hit in Peking. *The White-Haired Girl*, a ballet version of the famous Chinese opera, is the central attraction on its programme. The group will later visit Shanghai, Wuhan and other cities during its 45-day tour in China.

A Chinese acrobatic troupe visiting Ghana for the first time gave a special performance in Accra on March 6 in honour of Ghana's first anniversary. It was attended by Prime Minister Kwame Nkrumah and other government officials.

The troupe, which has been touring the Middle East and African countries for the past six months, has recently concluded a very successful series of performances in Morocco.

Another Chinese acrobatic troupe (from Tsitsihar, north-east China) is touring the Viet-nam Democratic Republic.

At the first Afro-Asian conference on ophthalmology held recently in Cairo, China was represented by Professors Chou Cheng-hu and Lo Tsung-hsien.

Chou Hsiao-yen, the Chinese soprano, and the pianist Wu Lo-yi recently completed a series of recitals in Bulgaria.

The Sofia paper *Workers' Cause*, praising the artistry of the Chinese musicians, showed special interest in the work of contemporary Chinese composers.

Four young Chinese musicians — pianists Ku Sheng-ying and Liu Shih-kun and violinists Yang Ping-sun and Lin Keh-han — will take part in the Moscow International Tchaikovsky Piano and Violin Competitions scheduled for March 18 to April 14. Ku Sheng-ying was a gold medallist at the Sixth World Youth Festival last year.

SPORTS

The Soviet World Cup Football Team has concluded its tour in China's major cities. It played ten matches against home teams in Canton, Shanghai and Peking, winning eight and drawing two.

In the two return matches played in Peking against the Peking Team and the "August First" Team with whom they drew in Canton, the visitors impressed football fans in the capital with their speed, stamina, brilliant ball control, and superb team work. The Soviet eleven won both these return matches, beating the Peking Team 2:1 and the "August First" Team 3:0.

FINE ARTS

Graphic Art Exhibition

The third national graphic art exhibition at the Peking galleries of the Artists' Union broke new ground in several fields even though it was not as exciting as one might have wished it to be.

Over 1,700 prints were submitted to the jury. The 300 finally selected came from all the major art centres of the country and—a feature of this show—from places like the Inner Mongolian Autonomous Region and the regions of the Miao and Puyi peoples, which never before sent entries to a national show. There were other welcome features; a large number of prints from veteran artists such as Ma Ta, Chen Yen-chiao, Huang Hsin-po, Wu Shih, Shen Jou-chien and Wang Shu-yi and also from the young artists who showed for the first time at the last national exhibition in 1956 and continue to make progress. There were also a number of new names. The solid core of revolutionary artists that emerged before liberation is now being joined by a new generation not only

in the old art centres, but in the national minority areas. This means that, leaving out the thousands of folk and amateur artists, the social basis of graphic art in China is broadening.

The subject matter in this exhibition is much more varied than in the last. Artists are handling themes of today—scenes of industry and construction, life on the co-op farms, cityscapes and landscapes—with greater confidence. More of them are using graphic techniques—lithography, etching, aquatint, coloured wood-engraving—seldom used by professional artists before the liberation and using them with greater skill and invention than at the 1956 show. There is a greater variety of approach too, more searching after new forms for new content, more experiment, more intelligent doubting of old, too well-tryed ways.

Among the more arresting prints are Li Hua's woodcuts on co-op farm life; landscapes by Chang Tsung-chun, Chen Tien-jan, Huang Hsin-po; Yueh Feng's spikily patterned pine-wood forest; Huang Yung-yu's lyrical girl forest surveyor; illustrations to children's stories by him and Chao Tsung-tsao; and Tibetan scenes by Li Huan-min and Hsiao Kang. The young Mongolian artist Puhochaolu in his unaffected engravings captures the atmosphere of the northern steppes. Chen Hsiao-nan, in his aquatint and etching of a steel works and his *Building New Peking*, handles his medium surely and as surely catches the spirit of his theme.

Choice of theme, however, is only a first step in the direction which the majority of artists avowedly intend to take. They want their art to participate actively and progressively in the forward movement of the new socialist society that is being built in China. While that does not by any means entail an exclusive interest in the things of today, it does mean an accent on today; given a certain level of craftsmanship, the artist should be fully aware of contemporary reality. It is here that some of the works at this exhibition is open to criticism.

Graphic art is by nature and by tradition in modern China a medium quick to react to contemporary trends, but it is clear that many artists as yet do not

feel at home in the complex bustle of modern industrial enterprises and construction or even in the new countryside. Their works often suffer from lack of first-hand experience of sufficient scope and from naturalistic tendencies of



Illustration for "The Good Gentleman," a fable

By Yeh Fei

merely producing "photographic" pictures. It is to remedy this that the Artists' Union is making a big effort to enable its members to get out into the countryside, factories and construction sites for long enough to steep themselves in the life there.

The question of national form is one commanding the increasingly conscious attention of artists. This is reflected at this exhibition. It is true that Chinese woodcuts, for instance, can usually be spotted at a glance in any exhibition and that while Chinese engravers have learned a lot from Soviet and other Western artists, they have, by and large, created and maintained a clearly defined modern national style. This exhibition, however, indicates that a closer study of traditional Chinese graphic art forms offers a fertile source of artistic inspiration whether in composition, handling of themes or texture. The woodcuts of the Ming and Ching dynasties; Han stone carvings (many new examples of which have been discovered recently) and stone and metal engravings of Han and Chin times are all coming in for increased attention by artists. Ma Ta and Tsen Ching-chu make an interesting, if not altogether successful, attempt to adapt old stone carving techniques in their picture of the Kuanting Hydro-electric Power Plant.

As a whole, this exhibition demonstrates a lively spirit, an inquisitiveness towards life, an eagerness for the new and a fund of creative invention that give confidence that the weaknesses revealed will be overcome as a result of concentrated, conscious effort.



Building the dam

Woodcut by Tu Yung-chiao

STATEMENT SUPPORTING THE PEACE PROPOSAL OF THE DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC OF VIET-NAM

The Government of the People's Republic of China issued the following statement on March 9, 1958.

On March 7, 1958, Premier Pham Van Dong of the Democratic Republic of Viet-nam sent a letter to the South Viet-nam authorities condemning the United States action of intervening more and more openly in South Viet-nam and obstructing the peaceful unification of Viet-nam in violation of the Geneva Agreements, and advancing the concrete proposal that the authorities of North and South Viet-nam meet at an early date to discuss the reduction of troops of both sides and work out ways of mutual trade so as to promote the peaceful unification of Viet-nam. This is another major effort made by the Government of the Democratic Republic of Viet-nam for realizing the peaceful unification of their country by the entire Viet-namese people, carrying through the Geneva Agreements and easing the tension in Indo-China and Asia. The Chinese Government fully supports this opportune peace proposal initiated by the Government of the Democratic Republic of Viet-nam.

Since the restoration of peace in the three countries in Indo-China in accordance with the Geneva Agreements, the Government of the Democratic Republic of Viet-nam has worked unceasingly for progress towards the peaceful unification of Viet-nam. Owing to United States intervention, however, Viet-nam remains divided, although more than a year has passed since the date stipulated in the Geneva Agreements for free general elections in Viet-nam—a fact not to be tolerated by all Viet-namese people, both in the North and in the South.

What is more, the United States is introducing large numbers of military personnel and reinforcing war material and establishing military bases in South Viet-nam. The United States has not only openly placed South Viet-nam under the so-called "protection" of the Manila aggressive bloc, but is trying by all means to further drag it into the Manila bloc. All these are acts in gross violation of the Geneva Agreements. This policy of the United States not only obstructs the peaceful unification longed for by the Viet-namese people, but also threatens the peace and security of South-east Asia. As a signatory to the Geneva Agreements and a close neighbour of the Indo-Chinese countries, China cannot but express grave concern over this situation.

The provisions of the Geneva Agreements for unification of Viet-nam through free general elections must be carried out. According to the explicit statement of the United States representative to the Geneva Conference, the United States has undertaken to refrain from disturbing the implementation of the Geneva Agreements. The Chinese Government holds that the proposal of the Government of the Democratic Republic of Viet-nam should be given serious consideration and accepted by the South Viet-nam authorities. At the same time, we have reason to demand that the United States Government keep its promise and stop intervention in South Viet-nam. The Chinese Government also hopes that all countries which participated in the Geneva Conference and all those countries and people concerned for peace in Indo-China and Asia will take a positive attitude towards the proposal put forward by the Government of the Democratic Republic of Viet-nam.

STATEMENT ON SEATO COUNCIL SESSION

The Government of the People's Republic of China issued the following statement on March 10, 1958.

A Council session of the South-east Asia Treaty Organization will begin in Manila on March 11. Through this session the Western colonial powers headed by the United States attempt to interfere further in the internal affairs of the South-east Asian countries, step up arms expansion and war preparations, set up U.S. bases for nuclear and rocket weapons on the territories of the Asian member states of this bloc, expand the sphere of activity of this aggressive bloc, and aggravate tension in Asia and the Pacific region. These aggressive designs of the United States are diametrically opposed to the present fervent desire of the peace-loving countries and people throughout the world and, first of all, those in Asia for an end to the cold war and for a further relaxation of international tension.

Making use of the aggressive Manila bloc, the United States has all along been interfering in the internal affairs of many South-east Asian countries under the pretext of combating so-called Communist subversive activities, and recently it has directed its spearhead against Indonesia in particular. Not long ago, U.S. Secretary of State Dulles made statements against the President and Government of Indonesia, crudely intervening in the domestic affairs of a sovereign state. At the same time, as everybody knows, Manila and Singapore have become the main bases through which the rebel elements of Indonesia get their supplies and contact others. The United States Seventh Fleet made a show of force and posed a threat by moving to the vicinity of the territorial waters of Indonesia under the pretext of manoeuvres. At the current Manila meeting, the United States is attempting to muster more countries to interfere further in the internal affairs of Indonesia. This cannot but attract the serious attention of all countries and peoples who love peace and treasure their own sovereignty. The Chinese Government and people fully support

the Government and people of Indonesia in their just struggle to safeguard their national independence and sovereignty against outside intervention and subversive plots, and are firmly convinced that this struggle will triumph ultimately. The Chinese Government holds that the Asian member states of the Manila bloc should honour the obligations they undertook at the Bandung Asian-African Conference and refuse to follow the United States in interfering in the internal affairs of another Asian country; they should know that it will bring them no good to pull chestnuts out of the fire for the United States. The Chinese Government deems it necessary to point out that the U.S. interference in Indonesia has already aroused ever-mounting censure and opposition from the people of Indonesia and Asia, and that any further action will certainly lead to serious consequences. The United States must immediately stop its interference in the internal affairs of Indonesia, or else bear full responsibility for all consequences arising therefrom.

As it did at the NATO Paris conference and the Bagdad treaty Ankara meeting held not long ago, the United States also attempts at the present Manila meeting to enlarge its network of bases for nuclear and rocket weapons in Asia and the Pacific region. The setting up by the United States of bases for launching rockets with nuclear warheads on China's territory of Taiwan which it occupies, and in South Korea and Japan has aggravated tension in the Far East and has already met with the strong opposition of the Chinese people and the peoples of other Asian countries. The setting up of such bases in more countries not only will tighten U.S. control over these countries and increase the danger of war, but will bring incalculable disaster upon these countries first of all should war be started by the United States. The Chinese Government and people are firmly opposed to the deployment by the United States of nuclear and rocket weapons in any part of Asia, and are all out for the establishment throughout Asia of an area of peace free from atomic weapons and the conclusion

of a treaty of collective peace. We believe these to be in full accord with the vital interests of the peoples of all Asian countries. But in the Asian member states of the Manila bloc there are actually certain leaders who, in disregard of the interests of their own countries and in defiance of the opposition of the people all over the world, have openly welcomed the setting up of bases for nuclear and rocket weapons on the territories of their countries by the United States. Itself an Asian country, China and these countries have the common duty to observe the resolution of the Bandung Asian-African Conference on the ten principles of peaceful co-existence. As a neighbour of these countries, the Chinese Government cannot but express serious concern over the establishment of U.S. bases for nuclear and rocket weapons on their territories.

The people of the whole world are eager for peace and ardently desire negotiations between the Eastern and the Western countries, prohibition of atomic and nuclear weapons, and peace-

ful co-existence among all peoples. To realize these desires, the Soviet Union, China and other peace-loving countries have put forward a series of peace proposals and took the initiative in measures which have met with universal welcome and support. However, the United States ruling circles have tried hard to obstruct the development of this mainstream in the international situation, press on with arms expansion and war preparations, and bolster up their aggressive blocs which are finding themselves in an increasingly critical situation. The present Manila meeting is precisely part of this struggle put up by the United States. This perverse line of action of the United States will only make it more isolated, and will by no means be able to stem the advance of the powerful current of peace throughout the world. So long as the people of the Asian countries strengthen their unity, heighten their vigilance and persist in their struggle, all conspiratorial activities carried out by the United States and other Western colonial powers through the Manila bloc are doomed to failure.

WHAT'S ON IN PEKING

— Highlights of Current Entertainment, Exhibitions, etc. —

Programmes are subject to change. Where dates are not listed, consult theatre or daily press.

PEKING OPERA

● **THE WHITE-HAIRED GIRL** A special presentation of China's most famous modern opera in Peking opera form. It is based on the actual story of a peasant girl who, forced to flee to a mountain wilderness from landlord oppression, returns to the world of man after liberation. The all-star cast includes Tu Chin-fang, Yeh Sheng-lan, Yuan Shih-hai and Li Shao-chun.

Mar. 22-24, evgs. at *People's Theatre*

PINGCHU OPERA

● **SISTER-IN-LAW HSIANG LIN**, adapted from Lu Hsun's moving story about the tragic fate of a peasant woman in the old society. Starring Hsin Feng-hsia.

Mar. 19 at 7 p.m., *Ta Chung Theatre*

● **SANLIWAN VILLAGE**, tells about new people and new happenings in the Chinese countryside. Based on the novel by the popular modern writer Chao Shu-li.

Mar. 21 at 1 p.m. and Mar. 23 at 3:30 a.m., *Ta Chung Theatre*

● **RETURN OF THE PHOENIX**, a comedy of errors. Young man wins girl despite schemes of wicked stepmother.

Mar. 21 at 7 p.m., *People's Theatre*

KUNCHU OPERA

● **YEN YANG LOU** (Brilliant Sunshine Pavilion) — A poor girl abducted by a high official's son is rescued by a chivalrous passer-by. Brilliant acrobatics by Hou Yung-kuei, one of China's leading Kunchu opera actors. Produced by the North Kunchu Opera Theatre.

Mar. 22 at 7:15 p.m., *Hsitan Theatre*
Tickets on sale beginning Mar. 19

CHU YI

● **RICKSHAW BOY** adapted from Lao She's popular novel about the life of the dispossessed in old Peking. Sung in *chu chu* style, a new kind of opera developed since liberation. Peking Chu Yi Troupe.

Mar. 21 at *Hsizu Workers' Club*
Mar. 23 at *Hsitan Theatre*

THEATRE

● **A DOLL'S HOUSE**, Ibsen's well-known play produced in Chinese (under the title of *Nora*) by the China Youth Art Theatre.

Mar. 20-24 at 7 p.m., *China Youth Art Theatre*

● **MISTRESS CLEVER**, a favourite folk tale of the Chinese people. A fairy steps out of a painting to wed a poor wood-cutter. The envious emperor who tries to abduct her is foiled by her magic, and the couple lives

happily ever after. Produced by the China Children's Theatre.

Mar. 18-24 at the *Peking Theatre*

● **PUT DOWN YOUR WHIP! SIXTEEN GUNS, DOWN WITH THE REACTIONARIES!, MAKING MONEY OUT OF WAR, A BUNCH OF MONKEYS, A HAPPY ENCOUNTER, CHAO SHAO-LAN**, seven playlets reflecting the life of the Chinese people during the Japanese invasion, the corruption of the Kuomintang, and the revolutionary struggle led by the Communist Party before liberation. The last, *Chao Shao-lan*, is about the New Marriage Law and women's new status since liberation. Produced by the Central Drama School in commemoration of the 50th anniversary of China's modern drama movement.

Three or four of these plays will be staged nightly at the *Experimental Theatre* from Mar. 20-23

BALLET

The **MATSUYAMA MIKIKO BALLET COMPANY** now touring China

PRESENTS

● **The White-Haired Girl** — China's famous modern opera in ballet form (together with)

● **Peter and the Wolf** — Prokofiev's musical story for children

(or)

● **Extracts from Ballets** Music by Chopin, Asafyev (*Bakhchisarai Fountain*) and other composers.

Prima Ballerina: Matsuyama Mikiko
March 18, 19, 20, 22, 23 at 7:15,
the *Tienchiao Theatre*

FILMS

New Chinese Films

● **SOUL OF THE SEA** The story of the crew of a Kuomintang warship which mutinies against its reactionary officers and comes over to liberated China. Produced by the Shanghai Hai Yen Film Studio.

Mar. 22 at *Capital Cinema, Peking Workers' Club*

Mar. 23 at *Chiao Tao Kou, Tungzu Workers' Club*

Mar. 24 at *Hsin Chieh Kou*

● **BATTLE OF WITS**, is the colour film version of the famous Peking opera of an episode from the historical novel *Romance of the Three Kingdoms*. With veteran actors Ma Lien-liang, Chiu Sheng-yung, Tan Fu-ying and Yuan Shih-hai.

Mar. 22 at *Sheng Li, Soviet Exhibition Centre Cinema*

Mar. 23 at *Capital Cinema, Peking Workers' Club*

Mar. 24 at *Chiao Tao Kou, Tungzu Workers' Club*

● **SONG OF THE PHOENIX**, tells the story of a "child-bride" of the old society who becomes head of a co-op in the new. With many new Chinese songs.

Mar. 22 *Hsin Chieh Kou*

Mar. 23 *Kwangan Men, Hsin Chung Kuo*

Mar. 24 *Chung Yang*

● **BLOOD RIVER** An Argentine feature film telling a story of tea plantation workers on the upper reaches of the Parana River and their fight against oppression.

Mar. 18 at *Peking Theatre, Kwangho Theatre, Tungzu Workers' Club*

Mar. 18-19 at *Ta Hua, Children's Cinema, Chiao Tao Kou, Soviet Exhibition Centre Cinema, Hsin Chieh Kou*

● **LOVE IN BERLIN** The love story of an auto worker in West Berlin and a girl in East Berlin, and how they settle the problem of their future home's address. A Defa Film production from the German Democratic Republic.

Mar. 20-21 at *Ta Hua, Children's Cinema, Chiao Tao Kou, Peking Theatre, Tungzu Workers' Club*

● **SCHILLER** The life of the great eighteenth century German poet. Produced by the Defa Film Studio.

Mar. 20-21 at *Soviet Exhibition Centre Cinema, Hsin Chieh Kou*

CONCERTS

● The Central Philharmonic Chorus Presents A programme of Chinese songs and selections from *La Traviata, Rigoletto*, etc.

Conductor: Chiu Li

Mar. 19 at 7:15 p.m., *Experimental Theatre*

EXHIBITIONS

● **NEW CARTOON EXHIBITION** — Over 100 cartoons reflecting the present "leap forward" in all fields.

At the *Art Gallery of the Artists' Union*

Till April 2

● **PALACE MUSEUM**

International Friendship Rooms A display of over 3,000 gifts from 54 countries received by Chinese government leaders since liberation.

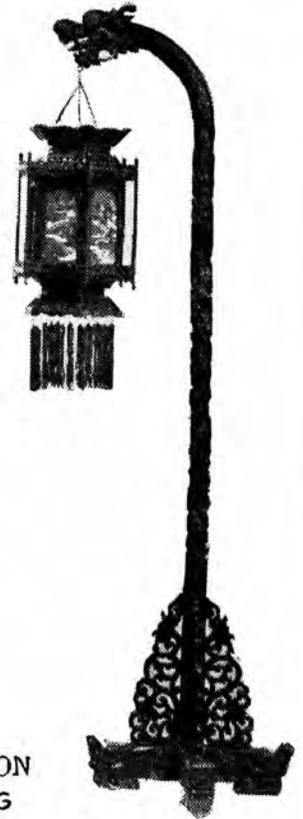
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Imperial Palace Rooms Exhibition rooms showing how the Ching emperors and their consorts lived, with many of their personal belongings.

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