

PEKING

April 15, 1958

7

REVIEW

Asia Without Nuclear Weapons

An interview with Kuo Mo-jo, Chairman of the China Peace Committee, on the proposal to turn Asia into a denuclearized zone (p. 8).

Building Industry All Over China

Expansion of local industry, a new trend in economic development, is discussed in its relation to the growing nation-wide industrial network (p. 6).

Hsiaochang Township Fights Illiteracy

A Birthday Greeting to Paul Robeson

MR. DULLES MAKES IT CLEAR—MORE OR LESS
—an Imaginary Interview by Lao Sheh

A WEEKLY MAGAZINE OF CHINESE NEWS AND VIEWS

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Just Published

BEFORE *the* DAWN

by Chao Tsu

A deeply moving story of a young Shanghai worker, Wang Hsiao-ho, who gave his life for the revolution at the early age of twenty-four, and whose name has become synonymous with revolutionary heroism. The book also tells the little-known story of the underground working-class struggles, led by the Chinese Communist Party, during the days of terror before liberation.

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PEKING REVIEW

北京周报

(BEIJING ZHOUBAO)

A WEEKLY MAGAZINE OF CHINESE
NEWS AND VIEWS

April 15, 1958

Vol. I No. 7

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"No" Is No Answer

EISENHOWER'S reply to Khrushchev on the suspension of nuclear tests came as no surprise. Particularly interesting was the fact that because of the mounting pressure of world opinion the U.S. President did not dare say "No" openly. Instead, he sought refuge in red-herring tactics to confuse the issue. But his meaning was clear.

As a footnote to Eisenhower's letter, Dulles declared on the same day his chief replied to Khrushchev that further U.S. nuclear tests would be needed.

Moscow's bold initiative and Washington's pig-headed intransigence are in sharp contrast. People the world over can see who is working for relaxation of tensions and who is doing the contrary. The Soviet decision is a real contribution towards freeing humanity from the spectre of nuclear peril.

World public opinion welcomed the Soviet decision with enthusiasm and high hopes. A widespread movement against nuclear weapons is gaining momentum. Striking evidence came from Britain and the United States, the two countries other than the Soviet Union able to produce nuclear weapons. In Britain, the four-day 50-mile Aldermaston protest march represented every shade of British opinion. *New Statesman* described it as "the first political demonstration since the Labour election campaign of 1945 to have caught the imagination of the young and cleared the miasma of cynicism and apathy with which the under-40 generation has responded to the party game in the last 12 years."

In the United States, the National Committee for a Sane Nuclear Policy, sponsored by an influential group of eminent scientists, professors, editors, writers, artists, trade union and church leaders has appealed to President Eisenhower to go before the United Nations and propose, among other things, that all nuclear test explosions be stopped immediately, because "the earth is too small for intercontinental ballistic missiles and nuclear bombs." It says that "no nation has the moral right to contaminate the air that belongs to all peoples, or to devitalize the land or to tamper with the genetic integrity of man himself."

Similar protest movements are spreading in Japan and West Germany. Student delegates in Tokyo demonstrated in front of the U.S. embassy to protest against continued U.S. nuclear test explosions. In West Germany the campaign against "atomic death" is enlisting ever wider support from the people who are demanding a nuclear-free zone in central Europe and no nuclear weapons for the Bundeswehr or foreign troops stationed in West Germany.

Immediate suspension of nuclear tests is the first step on the road to the prohibition of the manufacture and use of nuclear weapons. Now that the Soviet Union has taken this first step, the security and happiness of mankind demands that the United States and Britain follow suit.

The peoples of Asia are particularly concerned. The reason is obvious. The first two atomic bombs were dropped on Japan. It is in the Pacific that the United States and Britain are carrying out test explosions.

The peoples of the world demand an end to nuclear weapons and they won't take "No" for an answer either from Eisenhower or from Macmillan.

ROUND THE WEEK

First Quarter Results

Output in the first quarter of the year is usually lower than other quarters. But not this year. Reports of overfulfilment of targets and increases in the first quarter of this year are coming in from all parts of the country. In large measure this is the fruit of the campaign against waste and conservative ideas and practices.

Coal: The miners hewed 2.76 million tons more than the target set for the quarter. Total production was 27.98 million tons. Output was 35.52 per cent higher than during the same period last year.

Electricity: Output was 26 per cent greater than the first quarter last year. The power stations in Peking and Shanghai, in the provinces of Shansi, Kansu and Hunan and in the Inner Mongolian Autonomous Region, exceeded their quarterly target by 7 per cent, on the average.

Oil: The Yumen oilfields in Kansu Province, one of China's oil centres, overfulfilled planned output by 3,000 tons of crude oil. They surpassed the state plan in oil extraction, refining and drilling, and registered an increase of 1,930 tons of six different kinds of petroleum products.

Timber: The lumberjacks in the Great Khingan Mountains in Inner Mongolia felled 1,125,700 cubic metres of timber, 52 per cent more than the original state plan.

The Source of Speed

As indicated above and as we have shown in past issues, industry and agriculture are recording unprecedented accomplishments. The amazing results of the "big leap forward," achieving in weeks or months what used to take years, decades or even centuries, as in the case of the irrigation works constructed this winter, are no enigma to those who know the current Chinese scene.

A decisive factor is the revolutionary fervour of the Chinese workers and peasants, fed by the tangible evidence that they are winning the battle against economic and cultural backwardness, that their work for the good of the country as a whole, for socialism, is work for their own good, which they can measure in their improved standards of living and access to culture. In every shovel-

ful of earth moved away, in every inch of coal hewn, in every railway bridge and factory built, they can see how they are eliminating the economic fetters of the past. They can see the future—a future of prosperity—before them. They can see that there is meaning and value to every exertion they make, now that the destiny of the country is in their hands.

This is the secret of their powers of endurance, their resourcefulness, the ingenious contraptions they invent, their urge to work as hard as they can. That is why they are running ahead of the calendar and beyond planned targets. In their eagerness to reach their desired destination workers have suggested extra hours of work without pay. This selflessness of the workers shows a high level of dedication to, and leadership in, socialist construction.

But the Communist Party has stressed from the very beginning that the "leap forward" in China is not based on working longer hours, but on better methods of operation, advanced forms of organization of manpower and technological progress which are opening an entirely new rate of advance in China.

Accent on the Present

Should teaching and research studies in philosophy and the social sciences concentrate more on the present than on the past, or vice versa? This is a question that is being widely discussed in Chinese academic circles today. It is a natural sequel to the debate on the relationship between "red and expert" ("red" meaning socialist in outlook and "expert" professionally proficient) which is now in the forefront of the thinking of the intellectuals.

This question of the correct proportion between the present and the past was first posed by university professors and research workers anxious to keep up with the high-powered advances made in other fields, especially in industry and agriculture. Can philosophy and the social sciences keep pace? If so, how? they asked.

Chen Po-ta, Vice-Director of the Propaganda Department of the Communist Party's Central Committee, said they could, in a recent talk entitled "Concentrate More on the Present Than on the Past, and Learn While You Work." He declared that the trouble with many philosophers and social scientists is that

they dwell too much in the past, divorce themselves from actual life, from the practice of the revolution. It is necessary, of course, to study the past, he said, but the essential thing is to understand the present. We study the past, making the best use of the wisdom of our forefathers in philosophy, literature and the sciences, to serve the present and to build socialism.

Forums have been held here in the capital, in Shanghai and elsewhere to weigh the pros and cons of the matter. These discussions have spelled out the negative effect of undue emphasis on the study of the past, to the disparagement of the present. One philosopher said it is necessary to get away from the cloistered life of their studies in which historical figures are dealt with to the exclusion of contemporaries.

In the universities and research institutes the exchange of views on the subject has crystallized the view that greater concentration on the present, and less preoccupation with the past, should be the direction of research and study. The past is studied not as a separate entity in itself, but to have it serve the needs of the present.

Cavalcade of Agricultural Progress

A national agricultural conference will be held in Peking this winter, a joint notice of the Central Committee of the Communist Party and the State Council announced. The purpose of the conference is to provide opportunities for the representatives of all parts of the country to exchange experience, to pick and honour the best hands in farming and to map out the course of action to change the face of the countryside in the coming three years.

Anybody in the rural areas, units or individuals, who has made an outstanding contribution to production or excelled in other fields is entitled to be chosen as a delegate to the conference. The calling of the conference will give impetus to the "big leap" targets for 1958 and to fulfilment of the National Programme for Agricultural Development ahead of schedule.

Although only a quarter of the year has passed the peasants have already achieved much in the winter months by way of irrigation and preparation of farmyard fertilizer. Still more is expected.

At present the peasants are preoccupied, among other things, with revolutionizing their tools. *Renmin Ribao* in a leading article (April 9) commenting on the decision to convene the conference, noted that mechanization and electrification in agriculture are not mysterious things, and should not be

viewed as remote possibilities. Sudden change is the result of gradual changes, qualitative change is the result of quantitative changes, it stressed. The great thing now is to lead the present mass movement of transforming tools in the countryside to a full-fledged technical revolution and to mechanization itself.

Fibre from Wild Plants

Szechuan, the granary of China, is pioneering in turning wild plants to full account. It has established the first factory in the country to process fibre out of wild plants growing in the province. The factory is in Santai County. A national conference was recently held there with representatives from 21 provinces and cities who came to study how it uses wild fibrous plants for the textile industry.

In Szechuan Province alone 141 kinds of wild fibrous plants have been found with an annual yield of 6 million piculs. The province has decided to make use of these plants to produce 150,000 piculs of synthetic cotton this year. It plans to produce 2.5 million piculs by 1960, 1.6 times the cotton harvest of 1957, which was a good year.

The use of wild fibrous plants will go a long way to help solve the rival claims of cotton and grain for land. It will help the development of local industries and particularly the economy of mountain areas.

China is rich in wild plants of great economic value. In the neighbouring province of Yunnan, known to many as a botanical paradise, 1,455 different kinds of wild plants have been found in 25 of its counties. Yunnan has decided to build 7,000 factories, mostly small ones, to process these wild plants.

Apart from fibrous plants that can be used for textiles, others can be utilized for pulp-making, brewing, oil-pressing and manufacturing chemicals. The State Council has instructed all areas in the country to pay attention to wild plants that can be used to supplement raw materials for light industry. In the present stage of economic development in China the quest for, and utilization of, wild plants is still another way of tapping the riches of nature.

Wenshan: New Autonomous Chou

Yunnan, a province of many nationalities in southwest China, has just set up another autonomous *chou* in Wenshan, an area of some 30,000 square kilometres bordering on the Kwangsi Autonomous Region of the Chuang People in the east and the Viet-nam Democratic Republic

in the south. It is the seventh in Yunnan. The first one was the Hsishuangpanna Autonomous Chou of the Tai People in southern Yunnan, set up in 1953. The Wenshan Autonomous Chou is for Chuangs and Miaos, the two biggest national groups in the area. Together they constitute 43 per cent of the *chou*'s population of 1.4 million.

China now has 30 autonomous *chou*. An autonomous *chou* is an intermediate administrative level between autonomous regions and provinces on the one hand and autonomous counties, counties and municipalities on the other. It is set up where people of one or more national minorities live in compact communities. Its purpose is to provide regional autonomy to the national minorities.

Wenshan abounds in mineral wealth and other resources. Its timber alone is sufficient to meet the needs of the entire country for two years running. Wenshan produces 28 of the 39 medicinal herbs listed as the most valuable in China.



Map by Su Li

But with all its natural wealth, for centuries the people led a life of abject misery.

Great changes came with liberation. The government granted loans to open up the riches of the land and spent 7.5 million yuan on water conservancy and other projects alone.

Industry and agriculture began to develop. In 1952 Wenshan produced 500 million catties of grain and other food-stuffs; 880 million catties in 1957. In the old days there was only one small tobacco factory with some 30 workers in the entire area. Today there are 63 factories and mines in the *chou*. For decades the people in these parts had to be content with a miserable 82 kilometres of bumpy and unrepared highways, now there are 850 kilometres of good motor roads linking every county in the autonomous *chou*.

Purchasing power has risen 150 per cent. Health and sanitation have also taken big strides forward. Contagious diseases such as malaria, smallpox and

plague, which once menaced the population year in and year out, are now under control. The mortality rate in 1956 showed a sharp fall of 97 per cent as compared with 1952. During the First Five-Year Plan period the population increased by 149,000.

Only 10 students of national minority origin, out of 500, were enrolled in the five secondary schools at the time of liberation. Now there are five additional middle schools in the area with 5,800 students. Nearly 25 per cent of them are from national minority families. The number of primary schools has increased from 261 to 1,207, and the number of students is 13.3 times higher.

Like other autonomous *chou* in the province, Wenshan is thriving thanks to the policy towards nationalities pursued by the Communist Party and the government of China.

FOR YOUR INFORMATION

Tip Lorries. The first lot of Chinese-made tip lorries, with a loading capacity of 3.5 tons, has come off the assembly lines at the First Motor Works at Changchun.

Electro-slag Welding Machine. Another "first" for China is the electro-slag welding machine built in Shanghai with the help of Soviet experts. It joins large steel plates and is used in the manufacture of equipment for heavy rolling mills and shipbuilding.

Peking Steel Plant. A new steel mill is nearing completion on the outskirts of Peking. It will be in commission before May Day. It has a capacity of 200,000 tons of ingot and rolled steel annually.

China's First Pipeline. China is building her first oil pipeline in the Sinkiang Uighur Autonomous Region. The 147-kilometre pipeline will carry 400,000 tons of petroleum annually from the Karamai oilfields to the refineries at Tushantse.

Folk Songs. The Yunnan Provincial Committee of the Communist Party has asked all local Party organizations to collect the new folk songs, ballads and tunes popular among the more than 20 national minorities in the province. An effort is also being made to record old folk songs.

Neolithic Settlement Museum. In Sian, northwest China, a museum on the site of a neolithic settlement dating back some 5,000 years has been opened to the public. Remnants of ancient dwellings and articles found there are preserved intact in their original places. It is the first museum of its kind in China.

Building Industry All Over China

by CHANG PEI

To speed up her industrialization programme, China sets a guiding principle: to build more, faster, better and more economically. Industry is to be built not only in cities but also in small towns and in rural areas, co-ordinating small and medium industries with big ones in a nation-wide network.

IN the First Five-Year Plan (1953-1957), China's total industrial output more than doubled and her heavy industrial output trebled. She began to build 825 big factories, mines and other enterprises with the 156 projects designed with Soviet help as the core. More than 54 per cent of these were fully or partially completed. They form the initial basis for the country's industrialization. China can now produce for the first time in her history motor vehicles, tractors, jet aircraft, metallurgical, mining and power-generating equipment as well as high-grade alloy steel. At the same time, China's corps of engineers, technicians and industrial designers grew greatly. In short, she has made very big strides in her ability to build a comprehensive industrial system.*

Nonetheless, with such an immense area and huge population, though much has been accomplished, much more needs to be done in industrialization, and she must do it faster. Now she has set the goal—in output of major industrial products—of catching up with and surpassing Britain, which has an industrial history of two centuries, in a space of 15 years. This idea has gripped the imagination of the whole nation.

Guiding Policy

How to proceed? How to utilize the nation's rich resources and manpower and at the same time meet all the immense needs as soon as possible? The way is to build more, faster, better and more economically. It is, further, to simultaneously develop big industrial units run by the central government and smaller units run by local authorities. Industry is to be built not only in cities but also in small towns and in rural areas, integrating industrial and agricultural development and co-ordinating small and medium industries with big ones in a nation-wide network.

*For further details of industrial progress under the First Five-Year Plan see "Industrializing China: Preliminary Stage," *Peking Review*, March 25, 1958.

During the Second Five-Year Plan (1958-1962), many more large-scale modern enterprises will be built in the iron and steel, coal, electric power, machine-building and locomotive engineering industries. Without these China cannot be industrialized. But, side by side with them, small and medium-sized industries will be set up everywhere. Special attention will be given to building small enterprises which require smaller investments and yield quicker returns.

Four Reasons

There are several reasons for such a course.

First, China has single provinces which are as big and as populous as some whole European states. This poses special problems. She is also an immense agricultural country and her farms urgently need vast amounts of industrial goods that cannot be readily supplied by big, centrally-run industrial enterprises alone.

Secondly, rich mineral resources are widely distributed. A preliminary survey, for instance, shows there are coal deposits in hundreds of counties. To bring them rapidly into use, the best way is to start low-cost local workings that yield quick results, and take the burden of supplying local industries and consumers off the big mines run by the central authorities.

Thirdly, if localities build their own industries, the investments and efforts of the central authorities can be concentrated on large-scale projects of key importance to the whole country. The two processes, going forward together, can speed the industrialization of China as a whole.

Fourthly, the appearance of innumerable local factories and mines will impel agriculture forward, providing it with tools and machines, chemical fertilizers, irrigation pumps and electric power.

The whole programme is seen as an expression, in the industrial field, of the "mass line" which guides the Chinese Communist Party in all its work. It is aimed to bring the initiative and energy of local authorities and the people into full play. Fostering of industrial development will be part of the duties of administrators at all levels. Everyone will be called upon to contribute his share. At the same time, there will be over-all planning, and leadership of all this work must be improved.

In the past, the lower levels depended for industrial construction on the relevant ministries and departments of the central government. These did a good job, but the enterprises built could not satisfy every need. Now the arousing of the initiative of local authorities and the people has already revealed inexhaustible sources of strength. In the past few months, medium and small-sized industries have been springing up like mushrooms — they have proved cheaper and quicker to build and have served their purpose well. Industry has been brought to a large number of places that had none before. Closely connected with the productive activities and livelihood of the people in its area, local industry plays a big role in fostering local economic growth and prosperity.

Local industries are to be founded in all provinces, special administrative regions, counties — right down to the townships and agricultural producers' co-operatives. They will develop into local industrial networks. This is without precedent in China's history. Side by side with the upsurge in agricultural production it represents a new stage in her economic development.

The relatively bigger industrial enterprises established by provincial or special administrative region governments help to promote the growth of those built by the local authorities at lower levels. "Multi-purpose factories" set up at the county level will, in their turn, act as centres helping enterprises started by districts, townships and farm co-ops. One such factory recently set up in Chin County, Shansi Province, to make and repair agricultural implements and process farm produce has proved so successful that it has become a model which many other counties are emulating. Most industrial units in townships and co-ops are of the handicraft types, closely linked to day-to-day farming and the everyday needs of the people.

Although the whole complex process is still embryonic, it has already proved eminently right for Chinese conditions. Everywhere the enthusiasm of the people is high and unused potentialities are being brought into play.

Fanyu Sets an Example

In this connection, Fanyu County in Kwangtung Province is a good example. It is building many small factories this year — in the county seat, townships and co-ops. The county authorities have already erected and are operating a fertilizer plant with a capacity of 1,200 tons annually, and a shipyard that builds 100 steam-powered craft each year. To be completed in June are a nitrate fertilizer factory (output 8,000 tons per annum), a factory to process farm produce and three cement plants whose total output is enough to make the county self-sufficient in this important construction material.

Engineers and workers in the county are busy making and trying out all-purpose tractors, wind-driven motors, internal combustion engines and a number of other items. Each township in Fanyu is preparing to set up repair and assembly shops for agricultural machinery, cement works and units making nitrate fertilizers — on the

principle of comprehensive use of all raw materials immediately at hand. In 68 co-ops, methane-gas power stations are being built. In a few years, every Fanyu township and co-operative will have its own small industries, and the state-owned units run by the county government will serve as their core.

Predominance of Industry

In a few years, with widespread initiative of this kind, the total output value of local industries in the country will surpass that of farming. Coupled with the output of large-scale industry run by the central government, this will mean a decisive predominance of industry on a national scale. It will be a solid basis for China's industrialization.

Over-all planning, of course, is needed — to provide a rational division of labour both nationally and within each province. Local authorities will map their own industrial programmes in accordance with the resources at hand. Then national planning organs will strike a proper balance. The aim of local industries has been made clear. It is, in the first place, to serve agriculture and the development of large-scale industry; and in the second place to satisfy the day-to-day needs of the people. Existing enterprises are to be developed to their full potential, and to serve as a foundation for others. Local authorities are instructed to give priority to small factories that can improve or repair farm machines. Handicrafts, especially those that can help improve farm tools, are to be organized into the scheme.

Funds will come from local government revenue, capital accumulation (ploughed-back profits from the industries), and the accumulations of agricultural and handicraftsmen's co-ops. Local bonds may be issued when needed. As things look now, capital will not be a snag. Once the signal was given to go ahead on local factories, many places managed to find large sums in short order.

To help the local units, industrial ministries of the central government are drawing standard designs (already available for small chemical fertilizer plants and oil refineries) and arranging technical assistance. Some factories formerly under central management have been re-assigned to local authorities. These will serve as the basis for the development of local industry.

Stronger guidance is needed if local industries are to run well. To ensure this, Communist Party committees at the various levels are giving such work an important place in their activity. Officials below the county level are urged to become competent at running factories as well as co-op farms.

There is every reason to expect that, with local industrialization, techniques of production throughout China will be revolutionized. The scientific and technical level of the entire people will be greatly advanced, as will education and public health. Rural life will be materially and culturally transformed, and the country's industrialization as a whole will be greatly accelerated.

Asia Without Nuclear Weapons

by KUO MO-JO

Chairman, China Peace Committee
Vice-Chairman, World Peace Council

Following are Kuo Mo-jo's answers to questions put to him by the Peking fortnightly magazine "Shijie Zhishi" (Knowledge of the World).

Q. Will you tell us why the proposal to make Asia a denuclearized zone is timely. What is its significance and what should be done to realize it?

A. Nuclear weapons are highly devastating. Not only are they exceedingly destructive, but their radioactive fall-out damages the health of mankind and menaces the health of future generations. That is why people the world over, in the past few years, have strongly opposed the use and testing of nuclear weapons. This is the common demand of peace-loving people everywhere in the world.

In Europe, the establishment of a denuclearized zone in central Europe has been proposed and this should be an easy step to take. The establishment of a denuclearized zone throughout Asia has also been proposed and this can be done, too.

The United States often has aeroplanes carrying nuclear warheads flying over the European countries and its own territory. This is very dangerous. Several times these weapons have fallen down in its own territory. The question is not quite as serious in its own territory. If and when they fall down in the territory of other countries, a world war could follow. Therefore, the present proposal to establish a denuclearized zone is timely, and also easily realizable. Such a denuclearized

The Government of the People's Republic of China, in its statement on the SEATO Council Session issued on March 10, 1958, declared: "... 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 for the conclusion of a treaty of collective peace. . . ."

zone will remove the dangers that could come from the negligence or nervous strain of the pilots.

The establishment of a denuclearized zone, of course, is only a temporary measure. In the future nuclear weapons should be banned entirely so that atomic energy may serve peace. This is the ideal. But much has to be done before this can be achieved. The establishment of denuclearized zones is a beginning.

To establish an Asian denuclearized zone means preventing the United States from setting up nuclear weapon bases in Asia. Asian countries should not allow the United States to bring nuclear weapons to their soil. At the same time they should unite to give common support to this proposal and to combat measures that violate it. As long as the people of every country firmly refuse to allow the United States to establish nuclear weapon bases, this proposal will be realized. Public opinion is powerful. The United States will have to move cautiously in the face of unanimous opposition.

A world conference against atomic and hydrogen bombs has been held annually in Japan, in the month of August, since 1955. It will convene this year too. We support this struggle to the best of our ability. This proposal may be stressed at this year's conference.

A meeting on disarmament and international co-operation called by the World Peace Council will also be held this July. Asian delegates may also put forward this proposal at this meeting. Personally, I think another peace conference of the Asian and Pacific regions may also be convoked, at a proper time, to discuss the establishment of a denuclearized zone, so that this proposal may be extended to Pacific regions such as Australia, New Zealand and Latin-America. In this way more countries and peoples could be freed from the menace of nuclear weapons. This is quite necessary.

Q. The Japanese people have been the victims of atomic weapons and have firmly demanded that menace of nuclear war be checked. How, in your opinion, can the people of China and Japan unite to oppose the establishment of U.S. nuclear weapon bases on Asian soil?

Same ends

— same end.



Cartoon by Jack Chen

A. Japan has twice suffered the calamity of atom bombs, in Hiroshima and Nagasaki. Later there was the "*Fukuryu Maru Incident*."* Japan is the only country in the world that has suffered the devastation of atomic weapons directly. I went to Hiroshima in 1955 and found the damaged area still in ruins. Some of the atomic bomb victims in Japan are dying one by one because no medical treatment can cure their disease. The Japanese people, therefore, are well aware of the havoc wrought by nuclear weapons and their campaign against nuclear weapons has been going on very successfully.

Since the conference of Asian countries held in New Delhi in 1955, we have been consistently and energetically giving support to the international conferences against atomic and nuclear weapons held in Japan. We also contribute financially, every year, to aid the victims of atomic bombs in Japan. We have formed a united front with the Japanese people and in the future the people of the two countries will have to strengthen their unity

*Radioactive dust fell on the Japanese fishing boat *Fukuryu Maru* when the United States tested hydrogen bombs in the Pacific in March 1954. Twenty-three members of its crew were affected and one of them died later after much suffering.

and co-operation further, so as to realize the proposal for an Asian denuclearized zone.

The Japanese people, I am afraid, have to do more in this struggle. That's because Japan is still under U.S. control and there are several hundred U.S. military bases in Japan. American influence has infiltrated the political, economic and cultural fields and daily life, spreading like a cancer. The unfortunate thing is that in Japan today there are still compradors, die-hard politicians and military persons whose ideas have not changed. In the main, they are pro-American, red-baiting and anti-Soviet, who take a stand contrary to the one taken by the Japanese people. They are few in number, but quite influential. The Japanese people, therefore, have much to do to overcome these negative forces before they can achieve the desired end—banning nuclear weapons.

The United States has shipped nuclear weapons to Japan, South Korea, and our territory, Taiwan. This menaces peace in Asia and is cause for concern. The Chinese people, therefore, will have to co-operate closely not only with the Japanese people, but with the peoples of all other Asian countries as well. If we oppose nuclear weapons, we must first of all see to it that a denuclearized zone is set up throughout Asia. The next step is to ban nuclear weapons entirely. Only in this way can world peace and the happiness of mankind be ensured.

Raising More Livestock

by TENG HSIN

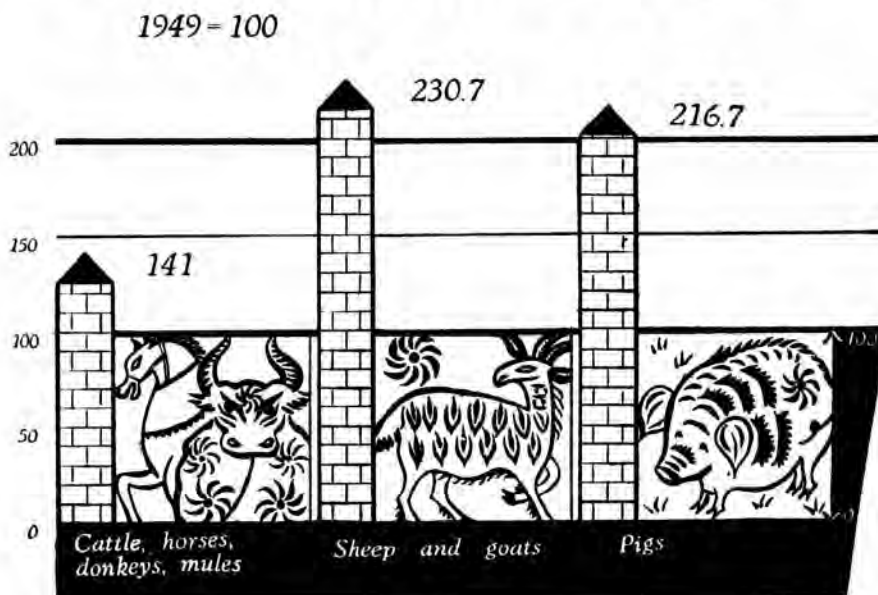
ANIMAL husbandry has grown steadily in China over the past few years. In 1957, there were 84,380,000 head of cattle, horses, mules and donkeys, 41 per cent more than in 1949; and 18 per cent more than in 1936, the pre-liberation peak year. There were 97,694,000 head of sheep and goats, 130.7 per cent more than in 1949; and 56.3 per cent more than in 1936, the pre-liberation record year. The increases during the First Five-Year Plan (1953-57) were respectively 10.7 and 58.1 per cent. The number of pigs—125,000,000—has likewise topped the pre-liberation peak by 59.4 per cent and the 1952 figure by 39.4 per cent.

This growth has played a many-sided role in helping to bring about the present flourishing state of China's national economy. First and foremost, animal husbandry helps to turn the wheels for agriculture. In 1957, the 52,510,000 draught animals in the country were ploughing and cultivating more than 90 per cent of the country's farm land. Every year Inner Mongolia and other pastoral areas send large numbers of animals to the farms. Animal husbandry also provides a huge amount of farm manure. The transport services use 737,000 animals, and if we include those used as part-time carriers the figure is still

larger. Large quantities of goods are still carried by beasts of burden, particularly in mountain areas.

Animal husbandry supplies handicraft and light industries with furs, hides and other animal products; these included 27,515,000 cattle and 103,630,000 sheep or goat skins and 276,000 tons of wool during the past eight

HEAD OF LIVESTOCK IN 1957



years. It provides food-meat, milk and milk products — for town and country. Sales of animals and animal products and their bigger herds raised the incomes of the herdsmen and their standard of living. From 1953 to 1956, the first four years of the First Five-Year Plan, an average of 6,240 million yuan a year of the national income came from stock breeding. This accounted for 11.5 per cent of the total value of output from agriculture and subsidiary farm occupations.

Socialist Transformation

One of the important new developments in livestock raising is the growth of a socialist animal husbandry in the pastoral areas. This follows on the carrying out of democratic reforms and the growth of mutual aid, and is paving the way for the complete socialist transformation of the stock-raising areas. In the agricultural areas, of course, animal husbandry was brought into the scope of collective ownership together with agriculture.

Livestock farms owned and run by the state are also making headway. Last year there were 639 state-owned livestock farms in the country, 129 of them in Inner Mongolia, Sinkiang, Kansu and Chinghai. These farms have set an example in the breeding of better livestock and running ranches in a socialist, collective way.

Over the past few years, as part of this groundwork for development of a modern, socialist animal husbandry economy, the number of livestock-breeding stations has increased to 3,700; and more than 16,000 veterinary surgeons have been trained with advanced and intermediate qualifications. Rinderpest has been eliminated in the main and foot and mouth diseases brought under control. There is a noticeable improvement in bloodstock. Nearly 4 million horses, sheep and goats in the country are of improved strains.

Despite these big advances, however, the country has not got as many animals as it should have according to quotas set by the First Five-Year Plan. The results stood between 86 and 90 per cent of the targets set for different animals under the plan. Over the past two or three

years, there has been a sag in the curve of the graph showing the rate of net increase of large domestic animals. In 1957 there were somewhat more horses and buffaloes but fewer cows, mules and donkeys than in 1956.

The reason for this failure to maintain the swift and steady increase in the number of livestock in the pastoral areas was a combination of natural disasters and shortcomings in work. There were severe blizzards and a bad drought in certain pastoral areas last year. Most herds and flocks are still fed by being led from pasture to pasture; this greatly limits their growth. Much still remains to be desired in the way animals are brought to market; in preventing disease; in supplying pedigree male animals and establishing factories to process animal products within easy reach of the livestock-raising areas and potential markets. The socialist transformation of animal husbandry in the livestock-raising areas is still not complete, so it is still not possible to put animal husbandry on a completely modern, socialist basis in these areas.

In the agricultural areas, not enough attention was paid to the question of draught animals. Over the past few years in these areas, the importance of agriculture was stressed to the neglect of livestock breeding. Among other contributory causes is the fact that throughout the advance to farm co-operation, timely and effective measures suited to the new forms of collective economy were not taken to foster animal husbandry.

Policy and Tasks

China enjoys good conditions for raising livestock. She has a huge territory of 14,400 million *mou*. Only 11.7 per cent of this is cultivated land and 10 per cent forests. Excluding deserts and snow-bound mountains, the remaining 60 to 70 per cent are grasslands, mountains or hills which, for the most part, can be usefully employed for livestock raising on a big scale.

At a recent national conference on animal husbandry, Vice-Premier Teng Tzu-hui outlined national policy and tasks in this field.

To clarify the problems involved, he divided China's stock-raising areas roughly into three categories. The

Animal Husbandry in the National Minority Areas

China has extensive pasture regions. These are distributed mainly in the 200 counties and administrative units of county level in Inner Mongolia, Sinkiang, Chinghai, Kansu, north-west Szechuan and Tibet. They cover a total area of about 3,245,000 square kilometres, or 38 per cent of the area of the whole country. Almost all of them are inhabited by people of the national minorities.

The most famous ranch lands in the country are the Silingol and Hulunbair grasslands in Inner Mongolia, the Tsaidam Basin in Chinghai, the Dzungaria Basin in Sinkiang and the northern Tibet grasslands.

Around 65 per cent of the total area of these regions are suitable for raising livestock but actually only two-thirds of these potential ranch lands are as yet utilized.

The latest figures available up to the end of 1957 show that over 300,000 households or over 2,200,000 people among the national minorities are engaged in animal husbandry. Most of them are Tibetans, Mongolians, Kazakhs, Tadzhiks, and Khalkhas.

Horses, cattle, yaks, camels, donkeys, mules, sheep and goats are the principal livestock raised.

The process of socialist transformation is going ahead at a rapid rate. By the end of November 1957, these regions had 9,469 mutual-aid teams and 1,763 producers' co-operatives; 52 per cent of all households engaged in animal husbandry had joined such teams or co-ops. Large ranches owned by private individuals are being transformed into state-private joint enterprises; they numbered 92 at that time. Nearly 200 state-owned ranches have been set up.

northern pasture areas form the first category; the sub-tropical and hilly areas of south China, the second; and agricultural areas, the third.

The areas in the first category — mainly Inner Mongolia, Sinkiang, Kansu, Chinghai and north-west Szechuan — are over 90 per cent inhabited by national minorities who have been engaged in raising livestock for generations and have a great wealth of experience to draw on. The present state of animal husbandry in these areas, however, still leaves much to be desired. Despite the advances made, existing social and cultural conditions do not yet permit the use of the most up-to-date, scientific methods. Although there is a ready market for animal products, poor communications in the pastoral areas and particularly lack of processing facilities hamper sales. In view of all this, animal husbandry in the pastoral areas will be developed on the basis of steady progress in socialist transformation — the organization of co-op and joint state and private ranches. The herdsmen will thus be able to live a more settled life instead of having to wander from pasture to pasture. Animal husbandry will be linked up with agriculture, with the planting of fodder crops for a start. The processing of animal products will

be taken up as a side occupation. A diversified economy will thus be developed with livestock breeding as its core.

In sub-tropical and hilly areas, energetic efforts will be made to develop animal husbandry while taking care to ensure self-sufficiency in grain. A diversified economy will be developed here by linking agriculture, forestry and livestock breeding.

Both of these areas have been given the task of breeding animals not only for their own use, but for export to other areas; and not only for meat and animal products, but to provide draught animals and transport for agricultural areas.

The agricultural areas on their part are being called upon to gradually make themselves wholly or partly self-sufficient in livestock for all purposes.

Each province is making bigger plans to increase its livestock. The Inner Mongolian Autonomous Region, Kiangsu, Heilungkiang and three other provinces will double their livestock by 1962. Several other provinces have already revised their targets for this year. Livestock breeding won't be trailing behind in the nation-wide leap forward in every field.

A Case History

Hsiao-chang Township Fights Illiteracy

by WU PIN

Illiteracy is being licked in China today. Thirty million people who were formerly illiterate have learned to read and write in the past eight years. Entire counties, townships, villages and farming co-ops without illiterates are already a reality in different parts of the country. This represents the beginnings of a cultural revolution among the peasants achieved by studying while working on the farm. It is a product of China's advances in industry and agriculture and of the new social relations in the countryside. The following story of how it was done in a small rural township in Hopei Province is a typical case history.

HSIAOCHANG Township in Tsunhua County of Hopei Province is surrounded by mountains and hills. Its inhabitants have traditionally been widely dispersed. The township is divided into nine villages. In the old days, both the economy and the cultural life were very backward in the township. Well over 95 per cent of its population were illiterate and nearly all the young people were unable to read and write. Those who did have a little schooling were mainly landlords or rich peasants. The poor simply didn't have a chance to learn to read and write. A man who could keep simple accounts or write a deed of transfer was looked upon as a "sage."

After the liberation, the people gradually improved their life and evinced a desire to learn how to read and write. When the peasants turned to mutual-aid and co-operation in farming, the need for literacy was most keenly felt. Many were the villages, in those days, where you couldn't find a person able to record the work-points earned by the co-op members. Some co-ops had no accountants, so they had to get one every evening from villages often quite some distance away. Under these circumstances, the demand for setting up schools became quite insistent. But in this mountainous area with so many illiterates who lived far from one another, this was easier said than done.

Winter schools were first established in the township in 1950 and regular peasants' schools were started in 1952. In the beginning, it was a very tough job. First, there weren't enough teachers, classrooms, benches and desks. In addition, some people were rather diffident and thought that going to school would be a waste of time. Others remarked sarcastically, "You can sow seeds only when you have land, you can breed fish only when you have water. When there is no teacher, how can you teach pupils?" But something is better than nothing. If fully

qualified teachers were not available, less qualified teachers would also serve the purpose to some extent. Fourteen old men who had had a bit of education in the old-fashioned private schools were persuaded to serve as teachers. That was a temporary solution to the teacher problem. Then the Youth Leaguers and young people agreed to empty their spare rooms for classrooms, and wooden boards and earthen floors served initially as desks. In this way peasants' schools came into being.

More Time More Study

The peasants were able to study all the year round because their schooling was closely linked with their farming. The general principle was that "when you have more time, study more; and when you have less time, study less. When you are busiest, stop studying for a while." Guided by this principle, they studied two hours and a half in the evening in winter and the time was gradually shortened to one hour and a half after the spring ploughing. The method of "learning the lesson in the classroom and reviewing it in the fields" was promoted. To render ready help to the peasants when they review their lessons, each production team had several members who were more advanced in literacy. The peasants studied reading and writing five times a week, from Monday to Friday.

After the introduction of fully socialist co-operation in agriculture, and with the growth of production, the peasants' demand for literacy grew. New planning was called for. In the spring of 1957, a survey was conducted in the township. It showed that 282 of the township's 486 young illiterates, 58 per cent, had achieved literacy. Of the remaining 204 young illiterates, 45 could not study because of physical disabilities. The rest, 159, were fit for study and most of them were already in schools. In the light of these figures, the old plans were revised under the direction of the township's Communist Party committee and a new target was put forward: "Wipe out illiteracy among the young peasants by August 1957 and among the middle-aged peasants by August 1958."

Youth Leaguers Start the Push

The Youth League branch started a wide-spread publicity campaign in the township and persuaded the remaining young illiterates to enter schools. But it wasn't all easy sailing. The young peasants had their troubles. Some thought their memory was failing and that they were too old to learn; some were afraid that they would be too preoccupied with farming to study. And some young women had to look after their children and household chores, and so didn't have a real chance to study. The Youth League branch set in motion a lively publicity campaign. The peasants were encouraged to discuss their life today and their hopes for tomorrow. The whole community became even more conscious of the pressing need for literacy in co-operative farming and mastering agricultural techniques, in raising political consciousness, in managing everyday work and enriching cultural life. To free young mothers from their household duties, "mothers-in-law meetings" were held in the villages and the mothers-in-law were persuaded to help their daughters-

in-law look after the children. After the meetings, forty mothers entered schools.

To speed up the work of wiping out illiteracy, the Youth League branch decided to set up youth literacy classes. In the past, the young and the middle-aged peasants studied in the same class. Two or three different grades used to study in a single class. This was a strain on the work of the teacher and the students. Two lessons a week were too much of a burden for the middle-aged peasants, but not enough for the young. The Youth League branch reorganized the young people in the township into several youth classes. Those who, for practical reasons, were unable to attend these classes, were provided with other ways of study so that everybody could learn to read and write. With the new system the progress of study virtually doubled — four lessons a week and keener interest.

Improving Teaching Ability

More qualified teachers were also sent to the youth literacy classes. The teachers spent half a day on Sundays preparing their lessons together. They also studied together every two weeks. To swap teaching experience and learn from one another, the teachers attended each other's classes. These activities not only improved the teaching ability of the teachers but helped balance the rate of progress in different villages.

A key factor in the rapid elimination of illiteracy in the township was the effective leadership provided by the local Party committee which regularly studied this work and placed a comrade in charge of it. When the committee members made their inspection rounds in the villages, they always kept the work in mind. People were also appointed in the farming co-ops and production teams to concentrate on it. Things were run this way: the township government and Party committee gave the leadership, the farming co-ops made the arrangements, and the production teams saw to it that everything was done to implement the plans.

Wiping out illiteracy is a regular item on the agenda of the meetings of the Youth League. The township branch checked up monthly and analysed the periodic reports from the village branches. Problems were promptly dealt with. The secretary of the township branch personally guided the work and issued a call: "Let the whole League be up and doing to wipe out illiteracy!" The secretaries and the comrades in charge of propaganda and culture in all the village branches also paid attention to this work. Some of the Youth League branch members were principals or teachers of the peasants' schools.

Today Hsiao-chang has no young illiterates; it is one of a growing number of townships without young illiterates in the country.

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

Prospects for Land Reclamation

by HSIAO YU

THERE are about 1,500 million *mou* of wasteland in China that could be reclaimed for agricultural use. Since the liberation 850 million *mou* have been surveyed, and 500 million have been found to be reclaimable readily. Reclamation of this land will contribute greatly to the growth of China's agriculture which is now concentrating chiefly on increasing the yield per *mou*.

The waste and virgin soil lies mainly in Sinkiang in the north-west, in Heilungkiang in the north-east and in south China. Sinkiang, with its longer period of sunshine, fewer natural calamities, high and stable yields, is a fine place for cotton. Here, 180 million *mou* of uncultivated land have been surveyed, of which over 70 million *mou* can be reclaimed taking the water conservancy potential into account. With the present area of cultivated land in Sinkiang — 28 million *mou* — this will make about 100 million *mou*. What if 30 per cent of the whole is planted with cotton? Besides ensuring local grain supply this will produce from 20 to 30 million *tan* of cotton each year — which is about nine-tenths the output of the entire country today.

In Heilungkiang, a major soya bean growing area, more than 100 million *mou* can be reclaimed. When this is done the province will have over 200 million *mou* of cultivated land. If 30 per cent is sown to soya beans, the annual output will reach 5 million tons, about half the present national total.

South China, which produces tropical and sub-tropical crops, has 120 million *mou* of reclaimable wasteland in the provinces of Kwangtung, Kwangsi, Yunnan and Fukien. Hainan Island (of Kwangtung) possesses an estimated 20 million *mou* of land suitable for cultivation of which less than one-third is now in use. Rubber and coffee trees, sisal-hemp, coconuts and oil palms grow splendidly on the island, as does sugar cane.

Along the Yangtse, waste lake-shore lands and swamps can be reclaimed. They lie in areas known for good communications, rich soil and abundant labour force. If the reclaimed land is sown to rice, yields may reach 500-800 catties per *mou*.

Some Limitations

But most of the wasteland in China lies in far away and border areas, where large-scale reclamation cannot soon be undertaken.

To go to work on these outlying tracts involves big capital outlays. Such investments are not yet available — nor is the large number of agricultural machines required.

All this shows that it is advisable to start with small tracts and to proceed economically and in accordance with

the policy of building the country through hard work and thrift. Farm co-operatives can do much by organizing to help reclaim small tracts beginning with favourably situated areas where the outlay involved is small and higher farm output results. Large tracts in frontier regions will be tackled when necessary and permitted by national resources.

During the First Five-Year Plan, 77.6 million *mou* of wasteland were opened.

Three Methods

In this period, three methods have been used: small-scale reclamation by members of farm co-ops, resettlement and setting up state farms.

The first method is the best, as it is easy to carry out. Small waste tracts in the various provinces amount to more than 80 million *mou*. So there is plenty to do in this regard.

There are still some difficulties in organizing farm co-ops for larger-scale jobs. In areas with an ample labour force, wasteland is sparse; and where wasteland is abundant, manpower is short. Water conservancy projects have absorbed a lot of manpower in many places, and there often haven't been enough draught animals to spare.

During the Second Five-Year Plan, however, farm co-ops will be better consolidated, manpower will be more rationally organized, and there will be more draught animals, large-type farm machines, and drainage and irrigation equipment. This makes it possible to do more minor-scale reclamation provided that care is taken to avoid water and soil erosion.

Besides, in their production plans, the co-operatives take care that more rational use is made of existing lands, i.e. agricultural land will be increased as much as possible and non-planted land will be reduced. Such rational utilization can increase the cultivated acreage of each co-op by an average 2 per cent. On a national scale, this means an increase of nearly 40 million *mou*.

The methods of reclaiming large tracts are, as we have said, resettlement and state farms.

In long-distance resettlement,* totally new villages are built for the settlers. Many residents, particularly young people in densely populated areas, have volunteered to open up virgin land in frontier areas. The preliminary

* There is also short-distance resettlement within provinces, but this is really relocation of farmers displaced by the use of land for industries or water conservancy works and has a connection with small-scale reclamation only.

estimate is that, during the Second Five-Year Plan, 15 to 20 million *mou* will be reclaimed by such schemes.

The most effective way of opening large tracts, however, is through state farms, which have modern equipment and can get higher yields than the co-ops. (For wheat in 1956, state farms got yields 27 per cent higher than the national average; for rice, 15 per cent; for cotton, 54 per cent.) Moreover, a much greater proportion of their produce goes to the market.

The incomes earned by state farms from their sales are turned over to the state. As successful state farms have shown, the investments made by the government in their establishment can be recouped in less than ten

years, sometimes in as few as three or four. Resettlement, on the other hand, brings slower returns, since the crop remains in the hands of the peasants who are also exempt from tax during their first three to five years on the new land.

During the period of the Second Five-Year Plan, according to preliminary figures, state farms under the Ministry of State Farms and Land Reclamation will reclaim 82 million *mou* of wasteland, mainly in Heilungkiang, Sinkiang, south China and in areas adjacent to lakes in the interior of the country. It is estimated that by 1962, chiefly as a result of this work, land cultivated by state farms will reach 100 million *mou* or about 6 per cent of all that in the country.

A Birthday Greeting to Paul Robeson

by CHIEN CHUN-JUI

The 60th birthday of Paul Robeson, the great American Negro artist, was widely celebrated in China on April 9. More than a thousand cultural workers, writers and musicians attended a special celebration meeting in Peking sponsored by the China Peace Committee and three cultural associations. The Chinese press printed articles, poems and pictures honouring the American peace fighter. Following is an abridged translation of the greeting by Chien Chun-jui, who is Vice-Minister of Culture, published in the Peking "Renmin Ribao" (April 9).

Dear Paul Robeson,

We respect you, and working people the world over respect you. You are a splendid son of the American working people. Your father was born a slave and you have worked as a farmhand, docker, and servant. In your own person you have suffered exploitation, oppression, discrimination and insults. But you are loyal to the cause of the working people, and have shown, in the words of the Chinese saying, that you are: "Unspoiled by wealth and position; undeterred by poverty and low origins; unshaken by violence." Your watchword is: I want to live and work among the broadest masses.

You are the great singer of our great era. Your voice is like a giant bell, like thunder. It is full of passion for truth and aspiration for freedom. It is full of the lofty ideals of the people. It attracts and moves every human heart. You sing the people, sing labour, you sing the



Paul Robeson Woodcut by Huang Yung-yu

struggle for peace and freedom. Your songs spur the people to go forward heroically.

As you yourself are so deeply convinced, you are not at all isolated. Your work, your struggle, has won the hearts of hundreds of millions. Your ideas embrace the world and the world embraces you closely. Every genuine American, every genuine Englishman, every genuine Frenchman and Italian, the people as a whole in all the countries of the socialist camp, and all those in every corner of the globe who have a heart, whether they have seen you or not, are thinking of you, longing to hear your voice. In the world today, dear Paul Robeson, it is not you who is isolated, but a small handful of pests—the ringleaders of aggression and the warmongers.

Today is the happy day of your 60th birthday. We congratulate you. What an unusual sixty years! You yourself have grown up from the child of a slave into a giant of the working people of the world fighting for freedom and peace. In these sixty years capitalism has passed from its full maturity to a day-by-day approach to its death everywhere, while the bright, new-born socialist order has grown up into a powerful, invincible world system. The East wind prevails over the West wind; from winter mankind has begun to step into spring.

Today the fifteen million American Negroes and the American working people warmly congratulate you on

your 60th birthday because for several decades you have fought tirelessly for their freedom. Listen to the powerful strains of *Ballad for Americans* first sung by you and a chorus in 1939:

*Man in white skin can never be free
While his black brother is in slavery. . .
Our country's strong, our country's young,
And her greatest songs are still unsung. . .*

This America, as you have said, is never the America of evil forces, but an America defending freedom and the peace of the people.

Today the working people of Britain also congratulate you on your birthday. In the past thirty years, your ideas have been closely connected with the development of the socialist ideas of the British working class; Britain has also shown you the monstrous face of colonialism. Your voice, your performance, especially your performance in Shakespeare's *Othello* have moved the hearts of its people.

Today the Spanish people also greet you with special fervour and gratitude. In the thirties when the Spanish people stood up to fight against Franco's fascist tyranny, you were with them; in trenches, in ammunition plants in Madrid, you sang for them day and night, inspiring them to go forward.

You have an extremely profound friendship for the Chinese people. Long ago you displayed your sympathy for the Chinese people's struggle for liberation. Prior to the War of Resistance to Japanese Aggression, you supported our fight against the Japanese invaders with your songs. The birth of New China gave you tremendous joy and strengthened your confidence in the struggle of the oppressed nations for liberty. You once told the American youth that the Chinese people have freed themselves for ever from being bullied and the life of creating profit for foreign imperialists and are going to turn their country into a land of freedom, dignity and security and inspire the entire Far East. Although you have never been to China you have learned the Chinese language and many Chinese songs, of which your favourite is our national anthem today — *March of the Volunteers* (*Chee Lai*).

In 1949 we met for the first time in Prague. Later we met again in Warsaw and Moscow. I felt strongly that you are a bosom friend of the Chinese people. During your talks with me you frankly pinned your hopes for the future of mankind on the Soviet Union and China, which was not yet completely liberated at that time. You are deeply convinced that socialism is the only right way to save mankind. You want to come to China. "My heart," you said to me, "is like a bird that has already flown to China. I have so many things that I want to tell the Chinese people. I want to sing day and night for the great and industrious Chinese people, and sing in Chinese. I have learned few Chinese songs, but I'll try hard to learn more. What great strength the victory of the Chinese people has brought to the Negroes, the Africans and the Asians!" In answer to our request, you said: "I'll come next year, definitely, first to the Philippines, then to China." But in 1950, demonstrating American-

style "democracy" and "freedom" to the whole world, the U.S. State Department cancelled your passport. So to this day your wish to visit China and the fervent wish of the Chinese people to meet their friend has not been realized.

Only mean and silly people, however, can think of silencing your voice. The Chinese people, the Soviet people, and the people all over the world, can still hear its thunderous sound. You sing the battle song of our time. It reverberates around the globe, and no one can stop it. Persecution by McCarthyism, the sound and fury of the Ku Klux Klan, the unreasonable obstruction of the Dulleses, cannot stop the grand sound of Robeson's songs that are spreading to the four corners of the earth.

Nearly a century ago the poet Whitman sang:

*As I heard you shouting loud, your sonorous voice
ringing across the continent. . .
Heard your determin'd voice launch'd forth again and
again.*

This applies well to your firm and powerful voice.

Today, from the distant East, from Peking, we congratulate you, dear friend, and wish you long life "as evergreen as the fir and pine."* So let all Chinese and real Americans join hands closely for the happiness of mankind and lasting peace in the world!

* A traditional Chinese birthday greeting, signifying eternal youth.

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— Translator's preface

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Forgotten Yuan Murals of the Yunglo Temple

Up to quite recently art historians have been pretty much in the dark about the mural painting of the Yuan dynasty (1280-1368 A.D.). The splendid murals of the Tunhuang grottoes are fairly well known, but how did this art develop in the Yuan dynasty? Some fragments of "Yuan" murals have turned up in Western museums, but due to the way in which they were removed from their original sites, these have been often without clues as to their origin and some doubt has existed as to their authenticity. A particular interest thus attached to the recent exhibition of copies of murals from the half-forgotten Yunglo Temple in Shansi. Here for the first time many scholars had easy access to a rich collection of fully authenticated Yuan murals which are, in addition, among the finest and best preserved murals in all north China.

The Yunglokung is a Taoist temple situated near the town of Yunglo, 60 kilometres south of the county seat of Yungchi in the bend of the Yellow River, in the south-western corner of Shansi Province. When it became clear that the building of the Sanmen Gorge Reservoir on the Yellow River would necessitate removal of the temple to another site, the Ministry of Culture sent a group of painters to the temple in the spring of 1957 to make copies of its murals. Their excellent copies exhibited in the Peking Palace Museum have given the general public an opportunity to see treasures which have long been lost in oblivion.

The town of Yunglo was the birthplace of Lu Tung-pin, one of the "Eight Immortals" of Chinese Taoist folklore. Said to have been born in the 9th century, he is one of the most popular figures in Chinese mythology and many tales are told about his exploits. The Yunglo Temple was built and dedicated to him in the 13th century. It consists of three halls and two gateways, all profusely adorned with mural paintings. Pictures of the nearly 300 Taoist Day Gods (*Chih Jih Shen*, one of whom is reputedly on duty each day) decorate

the walls of the main hall, the Sanching-tien. They form a single great composition over 90 metres long and 426 cm. high around the walls. Inscriptions show that they were done in the second year of the reign of Tai Ting of the Yuan dynasty, that is, in 1325 A.D. Their colours and outlines are remarkably fresh; 600 years have given them a warm "patina."

The Day Gods are depicted at some gorgeous ceremony. Eight gods and goddesses, monumental in size, seated or standing, and attended by "Jade Maidens" holding fans, form the central points of the composition. Around these are gathered the ranks of lesser

gods and goddesses, immortals acting as attendants, fairies and guardians in varying postures and moods, dressed in flowing garments or armour and carrying the attributes of their divinity. The painters have lavished inexhaustible artistic invention on these numerous figures. There is endless variety in poses, expressions and dress. Some are of heroic proportions, yet embellished with details with the delicacy of miniatures. Warrior gods with staring eyes and bristling whiskers are the epitome of demoniac fury. Taoist saints in elaborate head-dresses and flowing robes look pensively into the future. Graceful maidens wait on these divinities with flowers in their hands. Some of the figures are in philosophic converse, others move in ceremonial dignity, still others seem borne forward on a gale of wind. Seated, standing or in procession, each figure has its own distinct character and attributes. Yet all this vast variety is moulded by a firm hand into a single, homogeneous composition.

These Yunglo murals of the Day Gods compare favourably with similar paintings of the Tang and Sung dynasties. Whether depicting feminine grace or warlike ferocity and power, the brush strokes are sure. Expert opinion is unanimous in agreeing that the style of the murals shows the influence of Yen Li-pen, the famous figure painter of the Tang dynasty. It is also clear that the painters of Yunglo are heavily indebted to the masters of the Tunhuang grottoes.

The Yunglo murals are painted with a rich palette. Vermilion, with white and gold additions, predominates in the dresses of the central gods and goddesses, so they stand out against the blues, greens and pinks of the lesser figures. Ochres highlight the richer, deeper colours used. Bright yellows and whites lend touches of shimmering richness. Sustaining a note of beauty, grace and dignity, the dresses of the female figures are mostly in blue, green and white, skilfully varied with crimson and rose. This rich palette, however, has been kept under strict control and balance. There is not a jarring note anywhere.

The murals in the inner hall of the Yunglo Temple, the Chunyangtien, were painted some thirty years later, and are consequently in a different style. They are mainly genre paintings telling the story of the Immortal Lu Tung-pin's life. They remind one of the Jatakas (stories



Detail of the mural painting in the main hall of Yunglo Temple depicting the Day Gods and their attendants (14 ft. high)

CHINA AND THE WORLD

Sino-Rumanian Solidarity

Complete unanimity of views on the current international situation and on Chinese-Rumanian relations was expressed in a statement signed by Premier Chou En-lai and Chairman Chivu Stoica in Peking on April 7.

Premier Chou En-lai has accepted an invitation from Chairman Stoica to visit Rumania.

Highlights of the statement are:

- * Unreserved backing for the Soviet proposals for a summit conference and for the unilateral Soviet decision to discontinue nuclear weapon tests. The United States and Britain are called upon to stop their tests too.

- * A joint demand for dissolution of military blocs in Europe and Asia and their replacement by systems of collective security; the scrapping of military bases on foreign territories and withdrawal of troops stationed on foreign soil.

- * Full support for the proposals of the German Democratic Republic to bring about mutual understanding and approaches between the two existing German states; of the Polish Government for an atom-free zone in central Europe; of the Korean Democratic People's Republic for peaceful settlement of the Korean question; and of the Viet-nam Democratic Republic for peaceful unification of Viet-nam.

- * Firm support for the Indonesian people's struggle to defend their national sovereignty against subversive activities instigated from outside and for the Algerian people's struggle for national independence.

- * A statement of Chinese support for the Rumanian proposal for the holding of a top-level conference of Balkan States.

- * A statement of Rumania's view that complete withdrawal of the Chinese People's Volunteers from Korea is a major contribution towards relaxation of tension in the Far East.

- * A joint demand that the United States and other countries participating in the United Nations Forces should also withdraw their troops from Korea without delay.

- * A pledge by both signatories to continue efforts to strengthen solidarity and co-operation among the socialist countries headed by the Soviet Union.

- * An announcement that negotiations will be held in the near future for a long-term trade agreement as part of further measures to be taken to develop mutual political, economic and cultural co-operation between China and Rumania.

Long-term Trade with Poland

A long-term trade agreement between China and Poland covering the period 1959-1962 was signed in Peking on April 7.

It sets the rate at which the volume of trade will increase each year between 1959 and 1962 and lists the most important commodities each signatory will supply the other.

Poland will provide China with transport equipment, heavy machine-tools, rolled steel, and installations for seventeen plants including coal dressing,

chemical fertilizer plants, etc. China will supply Poland with iron, tungsten and molybdenum ores, mercury, soya beans, tea, canned fruits, oranges, silks, and other goods.

A trade protocol for 1958 signed at the same time arranges for trade on a considerably larger scale than last year.

This long-term agreement marks a significant step forward in Sino-Polish economic co-operation. In recent years, Polish aid in sugar refining, coal mining, and ocean and railway transport has been of big assistance to China. During the same period, China has steadily increased its supplies of industrial raw materials to Poland. The fact that the volume of Sino-Polish trade is expected to be over 17 times larger this year than it was in 1950 indicates the rapid growth of this co-operation.

Long-term trade arrangements are one of the new forms which economic planning and co-ordination among the socialist countries is taking. It is of special importance at a time when both China and Poland are pushing ahead with socialist construction on a growing scale. It helps each country to plan production better by ensuring steady supplies and markets on a long-term basis. It is a form of division of labour among the socialist countries.

The new agreement fully conforms to the guiding principle in the fraternal relations between the socialist countries which Premier Chou En-lai has defined as "mutual support, aid and co-operation in the interest of the common advance of socialist construction."

Protest to Britain

A Chiang Kai-shek naval patrol bomber force-landed in Hongkong on April 7 after carrying out harassing activities

of the Buddha) painted on the walls of the Tunhuang grottoes, but the treatment is much more elaborate. Fifty-two stories are illustrated. They depict Lu Tung-pin's birth, boyhood, quest for truth, initiation into the secrets of Taoism, missionary activities, good works and adventures. A wealth of knowledge of the social and cultural life of the Chinese people in the 13th century can be garnered from these pictures. We are introduced to their architecture, various kinds of domestic utensils, and dress of various classes and much else.

The murals of the innermost and last hall, called the Chungyangtien, were probably painted at the same time and are similar in style to those in the second hall, but they relate to another Taoist sage, Wang Chung-yang, founder of the School of Perfect Truth, the *Chuan Chen Chiao* sect of Taoism. These too contain

a mass of interesting details, supplementary to their main theme. They take you into the innermost sanctums of palatial mansions and humble homes, imperial offices and tea-houses, with many other scenes of urban and rural life. There are lively portrayals of workers, officials, landlords and peasants, men and women, old and young. At one end of the west wall the birth of a baby is pictured. It is a scene of happiness and excitement. The mother is lying in bed. Two women are washing the baby. In an adjoining room a servant is preparing a meal while outside others are drawing water and lighting a fire in a brazier.

The different episodes of the mural are separated by clouds, rockery, trees, architectural motifs, streams and waterfalls, but the whole thing is combined with great skill into a single composition.

The Yunglo murals are certainly based on the work of the masters of the Tang and Sung. But the Yuan artists who painted them are far from being mere disciples. They have achieved an original development of a great tradition. The murals of the Day Gods are especially noteworthy. One will immediately recognize the close kinship between them and the part of a fresco of Chen Wu, Prince of the North Pole, and attendants, in the collection of the Royal Ontario Museum, Toronto, and assigned to the 13th or 14th century A.D. It is clear that we have here the finest murals so far discovered in the area of the middle reaches of the Yellow River. If they give an illuminating vision of the high attainments of the Yuan masters in mural painting, they also give a further clue to the achievements of the Tang and Sung in this branch of art.

over the Chinese mainland. The Chinese Foreign Ministry on April 9 lodged a strong protest against the British action in allowing the plane and its crew to fly back to Taiwan.

In its note handed to the British *chargé d'affaires* office in Peking, the Foreign Ministry declared: "This action of the British Government and the British authorities in Hongkong is extremely unfriendly and harbours hostility towards the Chinese Government and people. It will certainly adversely affect Sino-British relations."

The British action, the note pointed out, is tantamount to deliberate connivance with and encouragement to the Chiang Kai-shek clique to use Hongkong as a base and place of refuge for military activities against China and is contrary to the British Government's avowal that it has no intention of permitting Hongkong to be used as a base for hostile activities against anyone.

It may be recalled that in 1956, despite protests from the Chinese Government, a Chiang Kai-shek fighter which landed in Hongkong to escape pursuing Chinese air force planes, was also allowed to return to Taiwan.

Friendly Aid to Algeria

"I am returning home full of confidence, knowing that the Chinese people support us," declared Brahim Ghafa, representative of the Algerian National Liberation Front in Canton on April 8. Mr. Ghafa came to China to attend the Support Algeria rallies held in Peking and Shanghai. (See *Peking Review*, No. 6)

"China once also suffered from imperialist and colonial oppression," the Algerian representative said, "so it is easy for our two peoples to understand each other. We share the common desire for liberation of the Asian and African peoples."

Earlier, the Chinese Asian Solidarity Committee, the All-China Federation of Trade Unions and the Chinese Islamic Association jointly donated a sum of 500 thousand yuan to the Algerian National Liberation Front.

C.P.V. Withdrawal

The Chinese People's Volunteers continue their withdrawal from Korea. By April 5, three of their divisions had already returned to China. Upon arrival in Antung, the Volunteers entrained for various parts of the country.

Dyke on River Tumen

China and Korea are going to build a dyke along the lower reaches of the

River Tumen which forms their common border.

This 520-kilometre river has long been a trouble-maker, constantly changing its course and inundating thousands of hectares of farm land on both banks. In October last, the Chinese and Korean Governments agreed to pool efforts to tame it. A survey of the Tumen has been made; blueprints of the dyke are ready, and building operations will soon start. Smaller works will also be built for drainage and to strengthen the river banks.

TRADE NEWS

A Soviet trade delegation led by I. G. Kabanov, Minister of Foreign Trade, arrived in Peking on April 7.

Earlier, another delegation led by A. I. Smirnov, First Vice-Minister of Trade, left for home after a month's stay in China. The delegation visited Chinese commercial establishments, department stores and restaurants and discussed with Chinese authorities further arrangements for the mutual exchange of surplus commodities.

Tientsin, biggest seaport in north China, handled 32 per cent more foreign trade in the first quarter of this year than in the corresponding period of last year. Ocean-going shipping calling at Tientsin went up 35 per cent in the same period.

CULTURAL CO-OPERATION

Co-operation in science, education, broadcasting, cinematography and the arts, public health and athletics is provided for in this year's Sino-Hungarian cultural agreement signed in Budapest on April 3. China will send to Hungary scholars, professors and post-graduates to lecture or for research work. There will be an exchange of visits by educationists, writers, artists and theatrical directors. A Chinese 'acrobatic troupe will perform in Budapest and a Hungarian ballet troupe will tour China.

Chinese artists, sculptors, museum and other cultural workers will visit Yugoslavia this year and, in return, Yugoslav scientists and artists will come to China. An exhibition of reproductions of the famous Tunhuang murals will also be sent to Yugoslavia in exchange for a Yugoslav photographic art exhibition. These are some of the arrangements made in the 1958 Sino-Yugoslav cultural agreement recently signed in Belgrade.

A feature film in colour is one of six pictures jointly produced by Chinese and

Soviet film companies this year. A story of Sino-Soviet friendship woven around an episode of flood-fighting, it will be made both for ordinary and wide-screen presentation.

The full-length colour documentary taken along the route of the international Alma-Ata—Lanchow Railway now under construction, is another joint effort nearing completion.

The other four films are a documentary of animal life in south China, a cartoon film based on a Chinese folk tale, and two wide-screen documentaries on the Yangtse and Volga Rivers.

A large collection of Chinese *objets d'art* from the 18th century to the present day is now on display at the Moscow Museum of Oriental Arts.

Gifts from China, the exhibits include porcelains, stone carvings, woodcuts, embroideries, modern Chinese paintings and graphic art.

Exponents of various schools of Indian dancing will be invited to teach in China. This was announced by Madame Chen Chin-ching, Vice-President of the Peking School of Dancing. She attended the New Delhi Dance Seminar which closed on April 7, as an observer.

A Chinese-Polish dictionary is being compiled at the Oriental Institute of the Polish Academy of Sciences. The first of its kind ever to be published in Poland, the dictionary will include 5,000 Chinese characters and 25,000 terms.

Visitors

Twenty-five Swedish tourists, the first such group to visit New China by arrangement between the Chinese International Travel Service and the Swedish ROS, left for home following a 17-day visit in China. While in Peking, Dr. Hanna Rydh, the leader of the group, an archaeologist and a former M.P., called on China's foremost archaeologists Cheng Chen-to and Hsia Nai.

Yunnan Province is playing host to a 56-member Burmese Students' Goodwill Mission travelling by land to Kunming. Led by U Hla Shwe, a lecturer of Rangoon University, the group includes members of student organizations in Rangoon University and young dancers and musicians.

Academician M. Lavrentyev, Vice-President of the Soviet Academy of Sciences and President of the Siberian Academy of Sciences is in Peking as guest of the Chinese Academy of Sciences.

CHINESE PRESS OPINION

Open Interference

"Indonesia, as an independent country is entirely within its sovereign rights to buy arms and other things from other countries. It's none of anybody else's business." This is *Renmin Ribao's* rejoinder to the U.S. State Department's expression of "regret" over Indonesia's buying arms from socialist countries.

Describing the remarks made in Washington by the State Department's spokesman Lincoln White as "open interference in Indonesia's domestic affairs

arms to the rebels and threatening Indonesian independence and Asian peace, acts criminally. The Indonesian and other Asian peoples feel more than regretful about this; they are downright angry."

Meddling Through a Puppet

On April 7, *Renmin Ribao's* commentator demanded that the United States immediately stop using the Chiang Kai-shek clique in Taiwan to meddle in Indonesia's home affairs. The employ-

and an insult to the Indonesian people," the paper's commentator wrote on April 9: "The Indonesian Government acts rightly in buying arms from other countries and suppressing the rebels.

But the United States, in surreptitiously supplying

ment of Taiwan as a base against Indonesia has created a very grave situation, he pointed out, citing as proof the air dropping of arms by U.S. planes based on Taiwan, the selling of weapons to the Indonesian rebels through Chiang Kai-shek "merchants" and covert dispatch of Chiang's military men to Indonesia.

"The Chinese Government," the commentator warned, "has pointed out that any further interference by the United States in Indonesia's affairs is fraught with grave implications. . . . The United States must stop its criminal activities to wreck Asian peace, otherwise it will have to take all the consequences."

The commentator also pointed out that the United States picked on the Chiang Kai-shek clique as its major tool against Indonesia because it was unable to mobilize the SEATO countries for the purpose. "The United States is so isolated in Asia that many of the SEATO coun-

THE PASSING SHOW

Mr. Dulles Makes It Clear — More or Less

An imaginary interview with the U.S. Secretary of State

by LAO SHEH

Q. Mr. Secretary: may I ask why the Soviet Union is always reducing its armed forces?

D. Because the more the Soviet Union reduces its armed forces, the more it has and the more warlike it is.

Q. Mr. Secretary: is the U.S. also prepared to reduce its armed forces?

D. No. We are going to expand them.

Q. Why, may I ask?

D. The more the U.S. expands its forces, the smaller and more peaceful they are.

Q. Pardon me; I'm a bit confused!

D. Sometimes, the more a number is increased the smaller it is. Sometimes the more it is reduced, the bigger it is.

Q. I'm still puzzled. The Soviet Union has launched two sputniks. What do you think of that, Mr. Secretary?

D. I think nothing of it.

Q. Is it because the less Mr. Secretary thinks the more he is impressed, and the more he thinks the less he is impressed?

D. That's about it! You're catching on!

Q. Have you seen the two sputniks?

D. No, I have not.

TOGETHER: The less I look, the more I see. The more I look, the less I see!

Q. May I ask what logic this is, Mr. Secretary?

D. It's a little hard to say.

Q. Can it be described as: the more confused, the more logical. The clearer, the less logical?

D. Most profound!

Q. Thank you, Mr. Secretary! May I ask, why does the Soviet Union stop nuclear weapon tests?

D. The more it stops tests, the more nuclear weapons it has.

Q. Is the U.S. also prepared to stop tests?

D. Oh, no. The more it does not stop, the less nuclear weapons it has.

Q. Mr. Secretary: isn't it also that the more it doesn't stop tests the more world peace there is?

D. Exactly! Now you can think as I do!

Q. The whole world wants the tests stopped. What shall we do?

D. The more the people demand stopping the tests, the more tests we'll make.

Q. In that case the more the Soviet decision wins popular support, the more popular support the United States loses. What shall we do then?

D. The more popular, the worse.

Q. Why worse?

D. The more you ask, the less I'll say.

Q. But what about the whole world and the American people? They all insist on asking you this.

D. I still won't tell them.

Q. If you don't tell them, what will you do if they want to get rid of you?

D. The more they want to get rid of me, the more I'm not going to be gotten rid of.

Q. How so?

D. The more you get to the bottom of things, the less I'll say. Well, so long!

Q. So long, Mr. Secretary. Just one thing more: It won't be so long now before it'll be good-bye!

D. How so?

Q. The more you ask, the less I'll say.



tries failed to support this U.S. plot at the Manila conference."

"The attempt to cover up its direct interference in Indonesia is futile," the commentator concluded. "It is common knowledge that the Chinese territory of Taiwan under illegal U.S. occupation is an important base for U.S. aggression in the Far East and that the Chiang clique is just a bunch of desperadoes propped up by U.S. bayonets."

Kishi's Inescapable Duty

The Japanese Government's treatment of Liu Lien-jen, the Chinese who was abducted by the invading Japanese army and taken to forced labour in Japan (see *Peking Review*, No. 3), has caused grave concern in Peking. Many papers have cited the report of the Japanese Foreign Ministry of March 1, 1946 which admitted that around 40,000 Chinese were forcibly taken to Japan during the war. The fate of many of these is still unknown.

"Tens of thousands of our countrymen," recalled the April 10 commentary in *Da Gong Bao*, "were seized to do forced labour in Japan during its war of aggression against China. Many of them were killed."

"The fate of Liu Lien-jen leads us to suspect that in Japan today there are many more Chinese in similar plight. We cannot sit by idly while our countrymen live in misery. . . . The Japanese Government is duty bound to account in a responsible manner for them."

More on the Powell Case

"It is clear that the U.S. Government wants to conduct an unfair trial and frame the editor of the former *Shanghai China Monthly Review*, John Powell, and his wife on a trumped up charge," wrote *Renmin Ribao* (April 6). It was commenting on U.S. rejection of the request by the Powells' defence lawyer, Wirin, that it negotiate with the Chinese Government on judicial assistance.

"The case against the Powells (see *Peking Review*, No. 2) involves the actual facts of American aggression against China. A fair trial can be conducted only with the evidence and testimony of Chinese witnesses. . . ."

"The U.S. refusal to negotiate a judicial assistance agreement with China is in fact a refusal to allow Chinese witnesses to give evidence in the case. . . ."

"This unreasonable attitude in Washington reveals more than its hostility towards the Chinese people. It shows that it is far from being enthusiastic

about getting testimony from witnesses in trying the Powell case. . . ."

"It is clear that the case against the Powells," the commentator concluded, "is designed merely as deceitful propaganda to whitewash and cover up the American crimes of invading China and Korea, conducting bacteriological warfare and undermining the Korean armistice talks. . . . Washington's guilty conscience made it refuse to negotiate with the Chinese Government on judicial assistance and exclude Chinese witnesses from the Powell case."

U.S. Economy in Trouble

The worsening U.S. economic situation is coming in for increasing attention in the Peking press.

Renmin Ribao (April 5) in its fortnightly international review referred to the view of the U.S. economist Victor Perlo that a crisis of over-production had reached the United States and might be the beginning of a large-scale economic crisis for world capitalism.

Commenting on the measures adopted by the U.S. Government to check the drop in industrial output and rising unemployment and prices, the review noted that "because of divergent interests among the various monopoly groups, there are also divergences on methods of dealing with the recession. Mutual attacks and bickering within the U.S. Government, and between the Republican and Democratic Parties, are growing fiercer."

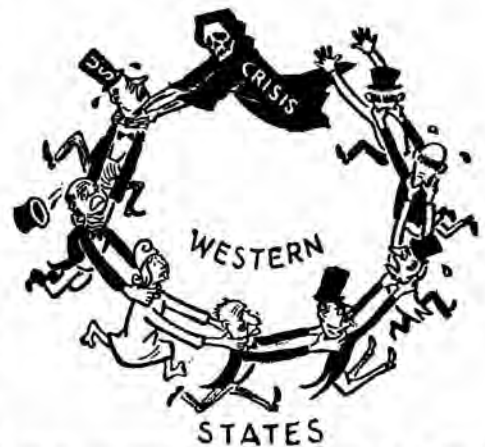
"The economic recession," *Renmin Ribao* wrote, "has already spread to the entire capitalist world. Many Western countries are suffering from inflation. As prices shoot up, real wages are falling. Workers are facing increasing difficulties. In the past two weeks, there have been a growing number of strikes for higher wages in France, West Germany and Japan. . . ."

Giving a general survey of the U.S. economic situation, an article in *Da Gong Bao* on April 7 also touched on the anti-recession measures of the U.S. Government. These, it noted, fell into two categories: a freer money policy and an increase in government spending. But the former could not appreciably stimulate business investment or the building of homes during a period of economic crisis while the latter meant more taxes and the issue of more bonds or paper currency, all of which would result in the further impoverishment of the people. Tax cuts, on the other hand, would lead to a huge budgetary deficit which would in turn cause serious inflation.



A refresher

Ying Tao in "Manhua"



Chain reaction

Ku Pu in "Renmin Ribao"



The exorciser

Wei Chi-mei in "Renmin Ribao"

SPORTS



World Weight-lifting Record

Champion weight-lifter Huang Chiang-hui earned headlines last March when, at the International Weight-lifting Championships held in Moscow, he wrested the laurels for the light-weight class from world record holder Bushuev of the U.S.S.R. with a lift-total of 382.5 kg. On April 7, Huang again made a splash when he broke the world record for the clean and jerk event by lifting 155 kg. during the 1958 National Weight-lifting Championships held in Chungking.

After both snatching and pressing 105 kg., Huang Chiang-hui jerked 145 kg. at the first try. He immediately asked for the weight to be increased to 155 kg. There was a stir among the spectators when this was announced; it meant that Huang was out to break the world record of 154 kg. held by Soviet weight-lifter Nikolai Saksonov. There was a tense silence in the hall as Huang readied his grip on the bar-bells, and a murmur of sympathy when his first attempt failed. But Huang Chiang-hui was his usual calm and confident self. After a pause, he made a second try. Spectators rose to their feet cheering as the judges signalled unanimous approval by switching on the white lights. That evening Huang Chiang-hui weighed 67.25 kg.

This young weight-lifter has progressed by leaps and bounds over the past few years. In 1953, he was only able to lift a total of 272.5 kg. in snatch, press and jerk. In 1955, however, benefiting from the advice of Soviet coaches while he was on his way home after participating in the Fifth World Youth Festival in Warsaw, he improved his lift-total from 285 kg. to 335 kg. In August 1957, he took part in the Third International Friendly Youth Games in Moscow and got second place with a lift-total of 367.5 kg. Last March at the International Weight-lifting Championships held in Moscow he lifted 382.5 kg., which was only 2.5 kg. less than the world record.

Millions Take to Sports

Sports activities have become part of the daily life of the people in New China, in the cities and the countryside. More and more people are participating in sports under the auspices of the Commission for Physical Culture and Sports. Millions of people in factories, mines, offices and schools turn out twice a day—in morning and afternoon breaks—to do callisthenics, conducted by radio.

At present there are 21 national sports associations which have been organized by the workers in various industries. In addition, there are more than 38,000 sports associations at the grass-root level, with a total membership of 5 million people. Games and athletics are no longer confined to a few schools.

To promote physical culture the government has appropriated large sums of money for building public sports facilities. By the end of 1957, there were throughout the country 53 stadia, 27 gymnasiums, 108 swimming pools and 2 indoor stadia for track and field.

These figures do not include the local facilities in enterprises, schools, military units, factories and mines. According to the figures compiled by 25 provinces and municipalities, two autonomous regions and the railway administration, over 26,000 sports grounds, 200 swimming pools and some 600 skating rinks were built by the end of 1956. There were thousands of rural basketball and volleyball courts.

To train personnel for the popularization of sports, the government has established special schools and classes. At present China has six institutes and eleven secondary schools for physical culture. In addition to this, there are 22 departments of physical culture in institutes of higher education. Since liberation more than 5,000 students have graduated from these institutions. At present there are over 10,000 students attending these courses, more than the total number of students in the physical education schools in the thirty years preceding liberation. These figures do not include the students in the many spare-time schools for young people.

To get an idea of the progress New China has made in the realm of physical culture and sports, we can take the Peking Institute of Physical Culture as an example. It was established in 1953. It provides a large range of courses. In the first four years of its existence it had to its credit 1,852 graduates. The old Peking Normal University, which had the largest number of physical culture students in any single institution in old China, graduated the grand total of 440 students in a period of thirty years.

In old China sports were available to a small minority of the people. But now things have radically changed. In the rural areas, for instance, as a result of the rapid progress in the co-operative movement and in agricultural production, the life of the peasants has gradually improved, and an increasing number of them are taking to sports in their spare time. Basketball is their favourite game. There are basketball courts and teams in almost every village in China.

Basketball tournaments of exclusively peasant teams, on a provincial scale,

were held last year in Kwangsi, Fukien and other provinces. This is something which the peasants of old China never dreamt of. Football is also quite popular. In Meih sien County of Kwangtung Province, for instance, there is at least one football team in every agricultural producers' co-operative. An all-county football tournament between co-ops was held in December last year. Twelve football teams selected from the co-ops in 25 townships took part in the final round of matches, from which 22 players were chosen to represent the agricultural co-ops of Meih sien for the year 1958.

Old favourites like *wu shu* (boxing), at which people in the countryside are skilled, have developed nation-wide popularity. In those regions where minority peoples live, horse-racing, wrestling and archery are actively promoted.

Workers in factories are also taking an active part in sports in their spare time. In the state-owned No. 3 Cotton Mill of Chengchow, for instance, there were only two basketball teams and one volleyball team in 1955. Out of a total of 6,000 workers, only 40 played on these teams. With the formation of a physical culture association in the mill in May 1956, sports activities were accelerated. Twenty-two basketball teams, 14 volleyball teams, 5 football teams and 4 table-tennis teams were formed, and the number of workers taking part in these sports increased to 626. By 1957, there were 62 teams for the above-mentioned sports, with weight-lifting, cycling and wrestling added.

Athletic activities became so popular in the Chengchow cotton mill that the physical culture association opened a training class in the factory. One hundred and fifty physical culture leaders were trained. Now about 80 per cent of the workers do the physical exercises conducted by radio during the morning and afternoon breaks. The association also trained 30 coaches and referees. Frequently other teams in the city have been invited to play with the workers. From time to time lectures are given by well-known coaches.

With the popularization of sports, the general standard has greatly improved. From the millions upon millions of people taking part, many talented sportsmen have come to the fore. New national records have been set up, some of which are up to or nearing the world's best. With the promotion of sports and education on a nation-wide scale, New China is developing into a nation of physically fit and intellectually alert people—builders of socialism.

New Table-tennis Champions

The Inter-city Table-tennis Tournament held last month in Shanghai witnessed

the defeat of last year's champions in both the men's and women's matches. Yung Kuo-tuan, a young player who hails from Canton, smashed his way to the championship title, defeating tough opponents from nine cities, including China's top-ranking players Wang Chuan-yao, Chiang Yung-ning and Chuang Chia-fu. As both Yung Kuo-tuan and Wang Chuan-yao, China's national champion for 1957, had to their credit victories over Japan's Ogimura, former world champion, the final match for the single's title between Yung and Wang packed Shanghai's big gymnasium to the doors.

Yung Kuo-tuan won in three straight games, but right up to the winning shot the match was a tense struggle between two hard-hitting players. Up to the very last minute it was anybody's guess who would emerge the victor. With elusive spin serves which Wang found difficult to return, Yung smashed home with an easy victory in the first game, winning 21 to 12. The second game found Wang hard on the attack. But Yung remained calm and continuously drove the ball hard down Wang's centre, foiling his attempts to take the offensive. This game Yung won by 21 to 19. Wang went

all out in the third and final game to retrieve the situation. Though they drew level time and again, Yung carried the day by defeating Wang 23 to 21.

Yung Kuo-tuan also helped the Canton team to win the team title. The Canton team defeated the Peking A Team by five games to four, of which Yung alone accounted for three.

In the women's matches, Chiu Chung-hui, former champion of China, made a comeback. She won the single's title by defeating last year's national champion Yeh Pei-chiung.

WHAT'S ON IN PEKING

— Highlights of Current Entertainment, Exhibitions, etc. —

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

PEKING OPERA

▲ **THE FEAST OF THE FIVE HEROES** A play by famous Yuan dynasty playwright Kuan Han-ching. It tells how a mother, living a wretched life as a landlord's servant, is reunited with her long-lost son who has become a famous general.

April 16 at Changan Theatre

April 17 at Chi Hsiang Theatre

▲ **THE THEFT OF THE NINE-DRAGON CUP**, in which a clever thief wins his bet with a mandarin that he can steal his highly-prized cup of carved jade.

April 20 matinee at People's Theatre

▲ **THREE ATTACKS ON CHU VILLAGE** An episode from *Water Margin* (or *All Men Are Brothers*), in which Sung Chiang, the leading character in the novel, successfully employs a clever stratagem to win over his opponents in Chu Village.

April 21 at People's Theatre

PINGCHU OPERA

▲ **RICKSHAW BOY** Adapted from Lao Sheh's famous novel about the life of the dispossessed in old Peking. Performed by the Peking Pingchu Opera Company which has just returned from a tour in Korea.

April 17-19 at Min Chu Theatre

CHU YI

▲ **STIRRINGS OF THE HEART AND HOME TO THE VILLAGE** Two new *chu yi* operas on life and love in the new Chinese countryside. Wei Hsi-kuei, noted *chu yi* opera actress, stars in the former. Produced by the Peking Chu Yi Troupe.

April 15 at Changan Theatre

April 17 & 18 at Yuan En Szu Theatre

▲ **THE MAGIC CHAIR** Adapted from the Hungarian film of the same name. A sparkling farce on "upper class society" in old Hungary. A magic chair makes anyone sitting on it reveal his innermost thoughts — and some very startling things come to light. Performed in the *hsiang sheng* style (comic dialogue with stage costumes and some acting) by the Peking Chu Yi Troupe.

April 18 matinee at Min Chu Theatre

THEATRE

▲ **THE STORY OF LIU CHIEH-MEI** The true story, now known and discussed throughout China, of a former poor peasant who comes to realize that the capitalist road is the wrong one. Produced by the Hupeh Modern Drama Troupe.

April 15-18 at Tienchiiao Theatre

▲ **PEKING MAN** A play by Tsao Yu. An outstanding portrayal of a feudal family in old China and its inevitable disintegration. Produced by the Peking People's Art Theatre.

April 15 at Chung Ho Theatre

▲ **RED STORM** A new play portraying the great "February 7" railway workers' strike

in 1923. Written collectively by a group of playwrights of the China Youth Art Theatre and directed by Chin Shan.

April 15-21 at China Youth Art Theatre

▲ **THE TEA-SHOP** By Lao Sheh. First staging of a new play by this well-known playwright. The atmosphere of the old society is subtly reflected through the diverse fates of habitués of a famous old Peking tea-shop. Directed by Chiao Chu-yin and Hsia Shun. Produced by the Peking People's Art Theatre.

April 15-21 at Capital Theatre

▲ **A DOLL'S HOUSE** Ibsen's famous play produced in Chinese (under the title of *Nora*) by the China Youth Art Theatre.

April 15 & 16 at People's Theatre

MODERN OPERA

▲ **IN THE SHADE OF A LOCUST TREE** A new version of an old folktale; a modern Chinese opera in classical costume. Produced by the Central Experimental Modern Opera Company.

April 19 at Changan Theatre

▲ **LA TRAVIATA** — Verdi's famous opera produced in Chinese by the Central Experimental Modern Opera Company.

April 20 at Tienchiiao Theatre

▲ **FIFTY YUAN, WOMAN CO-OP MEMBER, HUNG NIANG** The first two are operettas on post-liberation themes, the last a Honan opera version of an episode from the famous Yuan dynasty play *The West Chamber*.

April 21 at Changan Theatre

FILMS

▲ **SECRET WATCH IN CANTON** describes the work of security forces on the trail of U.S. and Kuomintang secret agents. Produced by the Shanghai Hai Yen Film Studio.

April 19-21 Chiao Tao Kou, Chung Yang, Kwangan Men, Peking Workers' Club, Children's Cinema

April 20 & 21 Ta Hua, Hsin Chung Kuo, Kwangho Theatre

▲ **TROUBLE ON THE SPORTS GROUND** Another new production of the Shanghai Hai Yen Film Studio telling how a long-neglected basketball court comes into its own again through the efforts of some young sports-enthusiasts.

April 15-20 Ta Hua, Peking Theatre, Tungzu Workers' Club

April 16-19 Children's Cinema

▲ **UNDER ONE SKY** A new Soviet wide-screen documentary in colour recording the 1957 World Youth Festival in Moscow.

April 15-21 Capital Cinema

▲ **THE ADVENTURES OF ARTEMIS** A Soviet feature film telling the story of a lovable boy cobbler and how he becomes the comrade of a revolutionary in the days of tsarist Russia.

April 15-18 Kwangan Men, Peking Workers' Club

▲ **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 where their future home will be. A Defa

Film production from the German Democratic Republic.

April 15-18 Chung Yang, April 15-17 Sheng Li, April 15 & 18 Hsin Chieh Kou, April 15 Soviet Exhibition Centre Cinema

▲ **BEL AMI** Coloured French film adapted from Maupassant's novel of the same name.

April 15-20 Kwangho Theatre, April 16-19 Hsin Chung Kuo, April 18 Kwangan Men, Peking Workers' Club

▲ **OTHELLO** The great Shakespearean tragedy produced in colour in the Soviet Union.

April 18-20 Tungtan Workers' Club

CONCERTS

▲ **LIGHT MUSIC CONCERT**—Chinese and Western compositions. Performed by the Central Radio Music Ensemble.

April 20 at Hsitan Workers' Club

RECITALS

*Poetry — Poems by the Chinese poet Tsang Keh-chia and the Soviet poet Mayakovsky

*Literature — Reading of selections from the new novel *In the Snowy Forest* by Chu Po

*Drama — A short skit: "A Piece of Vegetable Pie"

Performed by the Central Radio Drama Group
April 20 at 7 p.m., at the Cultural Club of the Sino-Soviet Friendship Association and at the Working People's Palace of Culture

EXHIBITIONS

▲ **NATIONAL LIGHT INDUSTRIAL PRODUCTS EXHIBITION** Open daily from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. at the Soviet Exhibition Centre till May 10. Some of the products are on sale at the exhibition.

▲ **BULGARIAN GRAPHIC ARTS EXHIBITION** Over 130 prints reflecting the life of the Bulgarian people. Closing date: April 22, at Peihai Park.

ACROBATICS

▲ Joint programme of conjuring, juggling, and acrobatics presented by the China Acrobatics Troupe and Chinese music performed by the Central Radio Folk Instruments Orchestra, gold medal-winner at the 1957 World Youth Festival.

April 18 at Tungtan Workers' Club
April 19 at Yuan En Szu Theatre
April 20 at Kwangho Theatre

TRAVELLING MENAGERIE

▲ **THE TUNG FA TRAVELLING MENAGERIE FROM SOOCHOW** Open each day from 9:30 a.m. — 6 p.m.

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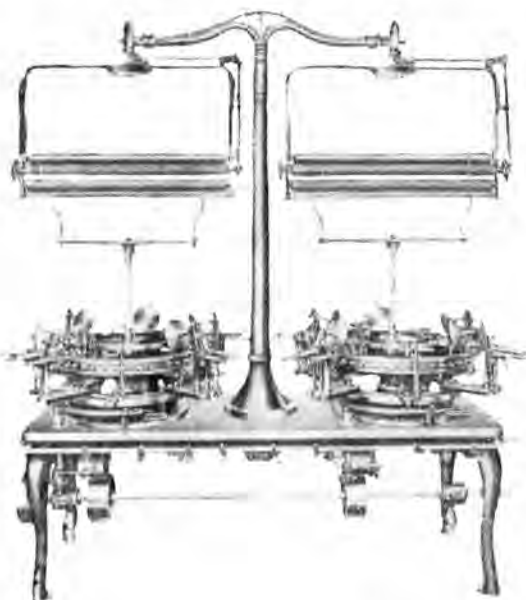
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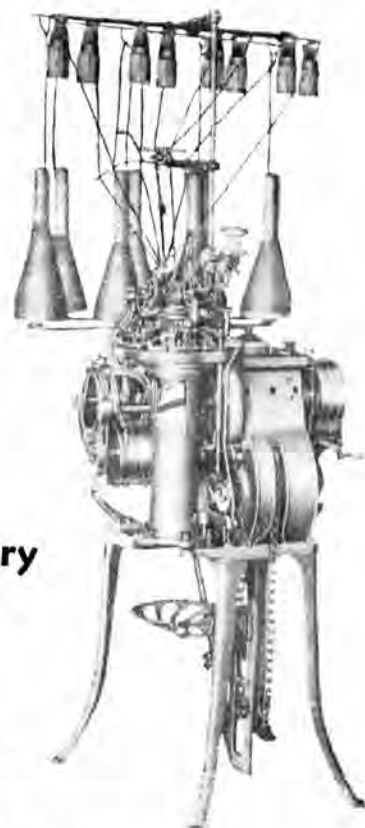
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