

December 9, 1958

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PEKING REVIEW

WHY IS U.S. IMPERIALISM A PAPER TIGER?

Machine-Building Industry Races Ahead

A progress report from a key branch of the national economy (p. 10).

Factories Run Schools

The second in the series of articles on new phases of education in China today (p. 13).

Women Builders of Socialism

Highlights of the National Conference of Women Builders of Socialism now meeting in Peking (p. 12).

China Welcomes Algerian Delegation

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256 pp.

70 maps, illustrations and photos.

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What are they? How did they come to be organized? What role do they play in a socialist society? Is this communism? This collection of important recent articles on the people's commune movement in China gives you the facts. Included are the resolution on the establishment of people's communes in rural areas adopted by the Central Committee of the Chinese Communist Party, and the provisional regulations of the Sputnik People's Commune in Honan.

90 pp.

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(BEIJING ZHOUBAO)

A WEEKLY MAGAZINE OF CHINESE
NEWS AND VIEWS

December 9, 1958 Vol. I No. 41

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One, Two, Three

THE 1959 plan of the No. 1 Motor Works in Changchun to raise its annual production capacity from 30,000 to 150,000 vehicles has aroused widespread interest. The planned fivefold increase, as reported in our last issue, was made possible by the vigorous implementation of the policy of developing industry by means of mass movements.

In the Changchun plant, people are talking about "one change" (revising or discarding all outmoded rules and regulations), "two participations" (workers' participation in planning and management and the participation of administrative personnel in production), and "three in one" (the combination of leading cadres, workers and technicians into one entity).

The revision of outmoded rules and regulations, as shown in the current big leap forward, has further freed the productive forces and led to a greater release of the latent energy of the masses. It is something much more than technical innovation. In one sense, it is part of the ideological revolution.

The participation of rank and file workers in planning and management has yielded remarkable results. The policy, tasks and production plans of the motor works, before they are finally decided upon, are presented to the workers for detailed discussion and revision at their mass meetings, workshop meetings and in their wall papers. Since the workers play a direct part in policy-making, planning of production and factory management, they take a personal interest in the affairs of the plant. They often talk about "our plans" and "our plant" and feel a higher sense of responsibility for seeing to it that these plans are fulfilled or overfulfilled and that the plant is well managed.

The participation of administrative personnel in work on the production line serves a double purpose. In one respect, the cadres are thus given the opportunity of remoulding and tempering themselves through labour. In another respect, it shows the workers concretely the working-class solidarity between the workers and the administrative cadres and helps remove any barriers that may exist between them.

Close co-operation between the leading cadres, the workers and the technical personnel has successfully solved many highly complicated technical problems. The workers' wealth of practical experience and technical skills and their imaginative resourcefulness have helped the technical personnel overcome their weakness — divorce of theory from practice. On the other hand, the technical know-how of the technicians has also helped the workers to systematize their practical experience. Thus both the workers and technicians have profited.

This method of "one change," "two participations" and "three in one" is best suited to bring about the integration of the leadership with the rank and file, politics with economics and technical know-how with practical production.

* * *

Paper Tiger

Is imperialism a paper tiger or not? This question has touched off widespread discussion. Elsewhere in this issue is an article stating the pro side of the argument. We would appreciate our readers' views on this subject and welcome your opinions.

ROUND THE WEEK

Steel: 9,690,000 Tons

China's steel output reached 9,690,000 tons by the end of November. Compared with the previous month, output in November represents an increase of 29.1 per cent. The decisive battle in the nationwide drive for steel was won.

This year's target of 10.7 million tons—double last year's output—is well within sight.

Workers Set Their Own Norms

In China, the worker not only has his say in the actual running of the factories, he is given a voice in drawing up production plans and setting his own work norms. This is a new development in what is known in Chinese industrial circles as the "two participations and one change," a system which has done much to bring about the big leap in industry.

"Two participations" means participation of the managerial staff in actual production work and participation of the workers in management. "One change" stands for the changing of all outmoded regulations and conventions which tend to shackle the initiative and energy of the workers. To draw upon the wisdom of the masses still further, some of the factories have begun inviting workers to take part in working out annual and quarterly production targets.

There are obvious advantages. What the workers can and want to do to accelerate the building of socialism in China the workers themselves know best. But their potentiality was often underestimated before. Now, with workers taking part in setting production norms for the factory and themselves, their initiative and enthusiasm can be employed in the best way. The whole process of planning can moreover be expedited. Quarterly and monthly production plans used to take several days to prepare. They are now completed in a couple of hours. What is more, this novel practice has given a greater impetus to the technical revolution that is sweeping the entire country. Technological rationalization proposals have trebled and quadrupled in a number of factories since the inception of this method. Production, working efficiency and productivity have gone up.

In some enterprises the workers are not only invited to take part in drawing

up production plans, they are also drawn into the work of examining engineering designs before they are actually carried out. This confidence in the workers' ability and wisdom to do the best for themselves and the country is another reflection of the Communist Party's mass line in industry.

Up in 47 Days

The Palace of Nationalities, now under construction in the western part of Peking, provides a striking example of what contribution the workers can make when they are given a chance to take a direct part in planning. It is an illustration of high-speed construction, very much a part of the big leap forward in present-day China (see *Peking Review*, No. 39, November 25, p. 6).

The Palace of Nationalities, with 13 storeys running to a height of 65 metres, will tower over the broad avenue linking east and west Peking. According to the original timetable, the main structure was to have been completed by October 1959. But on November 29 this year, to the beating of gongs and drums which marked the occasion, the entire structure of the building, from the ground floor to the 13th storey, was completed in the record time of 47 days.

This huge building, which will be the main centre of activities for China's various national minorities, is complex in design and calls for more work than usual. The fact that it was put up in less than 7 weeks was due to the initiative and ingenuity of the workers on



the construction site who took an active part in revising and setting the pace for the job.

In the picture an old-style Peking house can still be seen standing in front of the new building with its complex scaffolding. There are many such scenes in the capital, as elsewhere in China today, where the old for the time being still drags out its existence but will soon have to give way to a new and better order of things.

Discussion in the Communes

China's people's communes are preparing for their next stage of development. Many are summing up experiences with an eye to the road ahead. Only a few months ago the first group of people's communes came into being in the rural areas. In no time their numbers multiplied. Their advantages over the farm co-ops, which they replaced, were obvious, highlighted by the fact that practically the whole of rural China had taken to this new form of organization by October.

How shall the newly born communes consolidate? There was hardly time to examine this question in great detail, what with the national drive for steel, the gathering of the bumper autumn harvest, the autumn ploughing and sowing that closely followed one another or took place simultaneously. Now with the battle for steel more or less won and work in the fields for the autumn season completed, attention can be focussed on the development plans of the people's communes on the basis of the opinions and aspirations of the commune members.

Some of the provinces have organized inspection teams to see how the various communes are faring. Anhwei Province, for example, is sending out 10,000 people. They will check up on production, the distribution of income, welfare and amenities, etc. The Communist Party organizations in other provinces are proceeding along similar lines, with special attention to the democratic management of the communes and welfare facilities for the general satisfaction of the commune members.

Better Food and More Wine

Remember Pih sien County of the rice-bowl province of Szechuan, scene of Chairman Mao's visit earlier in the year (*Peking Review*, No. 8, April 22)? The county is typical of the efforts being made throughout the countryside to pay still greater attention to the question of welfare.

Pih sien has some 40,000 peasant households. It did extremely well in both the



Sipping wine on market day
in a Tai village in Yunnan

Painting by Cheng Shih-fa

summer and autumn harvests. The rich crops, of course, mean more money to be ploughed back to expand production still further and more benefits for the peasants. Of all these benefits, the most talked about was the introduction of free meals which began with the establishment of the people's communes. But the county Communist Party committee did much else besides to gratify the wishes of commune members.

Knowing that the peasants like to have a drink every now and then at the local public house, eat out at the inns on market day, or while away a couple of free hours at the tea-houses, the county Party committee took specific steps to expand and improve these services. Hitherto the county had only one brewery and distillery and depended on supplies from outside. Now there are more than 20 such breweries and distilleries producing about 150,000 *jin* of wine and spirits, which is more than the people can consume locally. Moreover, the well-known Pitung brewery has resumed production once again after a 20-year standstill.

Facilities are also provided for drinks and popular snacks and side-dishes to be served at the community dining-rooms. Tea-houses have been opened near the communal dining-rooms for the convenience of the commune members. There is also a greater supply of pastries and more variety. All this has met with the appreciation of the peasants who have lauded the services of the community dining-rooms.

What Pih sien is doing is just one instance of many measures taken in Szechuan and other parts of China, including the national minority areas, to ensure that the peasant and his family can really enjoy themselves after the day's work is done. The fact that the culinary art of making small side-dishes, for which China is justly famous, will thus be further developed is a happy, though chance, consequence.

Ma Hsiao-tsui: Teen-age Teacher

After sitting for 11 days, the Second Conference of Active Young Builders of Socialism concluded its sessions in Peking on December 2. It was a meeting of talents, of enterprising and stalwart young men and women from all walks of life (see *Peking Review*, No. 40, December 2). Each of these young people, likened to the "morning sun at about eight or nine o'clock" by Chairman Mao, has done much for the country. Some are still in their teens. Let us introduce you to one of the delegates—a girl of 16 from Lushan County in Honan Province.

Her name is Ma Hsiao-tsui. In 1955, at the age of 12, she graduated from the primary school and returned to her home in the mountain village, determined to pass on all she knew to the illiterate peasants. She related her plan to the head of the township, but he scorned her suggestion to open a literacy class, and turned it down with the excuse that there was no teacher. When she offered to do the teaching herself, the man just laughed it off and told her to run home and play.

Just then, however, Lushan County was launching a campaign to wipe out illiteracy. Since no one but Hsiao-tsui in these parts could read and write she was sent along to attend the campaign meetings.

The county seat was some 180 *li* away. Hsiao-tsui trekked three and a half days to get to the meeting place, climbing several mountains on the way. No one took her seriously. People asked if she had come with her mother. Just a chit of a girl and what cheek to sit at a conference table with her elders—that was the consensus of opinion at the conference. Hsiao-tsui bore their chaff with good humour and resolved to show them that young and small as she was, she was going to teach her people in the mountain areas to read.

Whenever she had the chance, at meetings or social gatherings, she would speak about the advantages of studying. The grown-ups were not interested. So she went from one mountain village to

another to persuade children of her age to come to her class. To kindle their interest, she told them stories of the revolution, taught them to sing songs, regaled them with interesting bits of news of the county towns she knew. By and by she collected five or six boys and girls together. Her parents were dead set against her pedagogical activities. So she had to talk a relative on the other side of the mountain into lending her the use of a mill shed for a classroom, but then only after the class agreed to collect manure for the relative. And so the first literacy class in the mountain region of Lushan, consisting of a handful of boys and girls, came into being.

It got on fine. The parents saw there was something in the girl's effort. Five more children came to her class. But the big problem was lack of proper textbooks. If the pupils went home for money to buy textbooks, it might mean the end of their school days. Hsiao-tsui was worried as to how to carry on. Then she remembered the six yuan her father had given her to buy a new dress. Without breathing a word to anyone, she walked 50 *li* to a nearby town and spent the entire sum on textbooks and picture story books. When she came home after two days, she had to lie to her father that she had lost her money. He gave her a hiding.

The great thing was that Hsiao-tsui's literacy class now had real books. The word spread. The following day scores applied for admission. That same night over a hundred people assembled at the little mill shed, wanting to become Hsiao-tsui's pupils. Among them was the township head who only a few months ago had spurned Hsiao-tsui's offer to teach. Soon all the mountain villages gave their support to Hsiao-tsui. She trained two of her earlier pupils, also children, to help her cope with the growing classes. In a little over a year's time 177 young men and women had learned to read and write and 24 to keep accounts. In the mountain villages where Ma Hsiao-tsui lives today every family is able to read the newspapers and write letters, thanks to her relentless efforts. The good work was recognized. Ma Hsiao-tsui not only became the "principal" of the school but in 1957, at the age of 14, was elected vice-chairman of the farm co-op of her region.

It is people like Ma Hsiao-tsui, selfless and persistent, daring and indomitable, that came to Peking to attend the Conference of Young Builders of Socialism and to report to the nation of their achievements and what they plan to do in the days ahead.

Why Is U.S. Imperialism a Paper Tiger?

by YANG KAN-LING

Why is imperialism a paper tiger? That's a question which has many people wondering. Nationwide discussion of this question is going on in China since the publication of the collection of excerpts from writings by Chairman Mao Tse-tung on this theme. Here is an answer to this question from the political, military and economic points of view.

"IMPERIALISM and all reactionaries are paper tigers." That is how Chairman Mao Tse-tung sized them up back in 1946 on the basis of an analytical study of contemporary world history. The march of events during the past twelve years has fully borne out Chairman Mao's prophetic assertion. The collapse of Nazi Germany and militarist Japan in World War II in spite of their initial impressive military successes; the eviction of imperialism from India, Burma, Indonesia, and other countries; the victory of the Chinese revolution; the thorough defeat of U.S. aggression in Korea; the withdrawal of France from Indo-China; the miserable failure of the Anglo-French military adventure against Egypt; the ignominious fiasco of U.S.-British armed intervention in Lebanon and Jordan; and, more recently, the utter isolation of U.S. imperialism in its military provocations in the Taiwan Straits—to cite a few instances—fully corroborate Chairman Mao's estimate of imperialism and all the reactionaries. History has shed a good deal of revealing light on this point and has proved Chairman Mao right.

Some people may ask: How is it that imperialism, for all its apparently imposing economic power and military might, is to all intents and purposes a paper tiger?

To answer this question, an objective and dispassionate analysis is in order.

First, let's take a look at the political aspect of the question. At the very start, it is essential to have a clear understanding of what imperialism is. Lenin defined imperialism as a specific historical stage of capitalism, as "parasitic, or decaying capitalism," and "moribund capitalism."

In plain English, imperialism is a decaying force, something on its way out. As earlier articles in this magazine have explained (see *Peking Review*, No. 25, pages 8-12), in human history the forces of the new always defeat the forces of decay. New, budding forces, though seemingly weak, always prevail in the end over the old moribund forces which still appear strong. The newborn inevitably replaces the decaying—that is the law of development in nature and in human society.

A clear idea of the relative strength of the old, decaying forces and the new, budding forces can be obtained

by a comparison between a raw youngster of 15 and a stoutly-built man of 50. On the face of it, the youngster, still under age, may look physically weak and mentally under-developed while the middle-aged man appears physically strong and mentally mature. However, there is a fundamental difference between them. They are moving in two entirely different directions. The lad is **growing up**, becoming stronger and stronger as the years pass, while the man of 50 is physically **going downhill**, moving nearer to the grave with each passing year. The future belongs to the rising generation, and not to the oldsters who hold sway at present.

Contradictions of Imperialism

Imperialism is plagued with inherent, irreconcilable contradictions. For one thing, imperialist aggression and intervention against other countries, whatever the pretext, meet with mounting opposition not only from the peoples of the victim countries, but from peace- and freedom-loving people the world over. Lebanon and Jordan are good examples. U.S. armed intervention in Lebanon and the British military adventure in Jordan were opposed by decent-minded people throughout the world, and not only by the peoples of Lebanon and Jordan. The more acts of aggression the imperialists commit, the more violent the opposition they will run into and the weaker their political position will become.

Moreover, bitter rivalry and sharp contradictions exist among the imperialist countries themselves. Take U.S.-British relations, for instance. In an article published in the U.S. quarterly *Foreign Affairs* (October 1957), Mr. Aneurin Bevan complained bitterly about U.S. pressure on the British Empire.

"It is openly stated in Britain," the Labour leader wrote, "that the United States is assisting in the liquidation of the British Empire so that she can be the residuary legatee. It is felt that this is particularly true of the Middle East, where British and American oil interests are in persistent collision."

Mr. Bevan added: "... The Lion had been driven back to its lair only in order that the American Eagle could dominate the same territory."

French newspapers voice opposition to U.S. manoeuvres in Africa at the expense of France. U.S.-British domination of NATO is being challenged by France which demands an equal voice in NATO affairs.

The squabbles and antagonisms among the imperialist countries are bound to sharpen for the simple reason that now, with the East wind prevailing over the West wind, the imperialists are finding it increasingly difficult

to engage in outright aggression and territorial aggrandizement and are likely to fight among themselves for re-division of their colonial interests. That is why the ruling circles in Britain and France are extremely sensitive to, and worried about, the U.S. intrigues to step into their shoes in their colonial empires.

Even back at home, the imperialists stand isolated. As Lenin pointed out, imperialism is monopoly capitalism. The monopoly capitalists comprise only a handful of people. It is generally said that "sixty families" rule over the United States. The ordinary American people have nothing to gain from U.S. aggression abroad and once they see the situation clearly they come out against the insane policy of their imperialist rulers. American newspapers have admitted that the State Department's mail from private citizens ran heavily against U.S. policy in the Taiwan Straits. Mr. Dulles felt compelled to concede that "most of the letters were written by people who don't want to have a war" and stated, as a soothing gesture, that "there is nobody that is less anxious to have a war than President Eisenhower is."

All these irreconcilable contradictions inherent in imperialism are at work constantly, gnawing away at the foundations of imperialism and undermining its very existence. And this process of disintegration and collapse is further accelerated by the growing prosperity of the socialist countries, the strengthening of the nationally independent countries and the rapidly developing national liberation movements in various parts of the world.

In short, imperialism represents reaction, injustice and slavery. It is a decaying force. Historically, its doom is sealed.

Some Military Considerations

Next we come to the military aspect of the question. Imperialism used to brag about its "superior military power." U.S. imperialism takes much pride in its long string of military bases abroad and its possession of nuclear weapons and employs these as big sticks to force other countries to toe the American line.

What is the actual situation? An article in *Foreign Affairs* (October 1958) boasted that "today U.S. forces are stationed in about 35 separate countries and territories, exclusive of additional areas where U.S. military representation is confined to training and advisory missions."

What is the practical military value of these overseas bases? This question has raised doubts and misgivings in the minds of U.S. military leaders. The reasons are not difficult to understand.

In the first place, since these bases are widely scattered around the globe, how to defend them and keep them in operating shape in time of war is a big question. The fighting line is much too long to defend and affords an adversary many positions to concentrate forces for major breakthroughs.

In the second place, all of these overseas bases are located on foreign soil. Not only the people but some government leaders of these countries have expressed their opposition to U.S. bases on political and military grounds.

Militarily, it is generally felt in Europe that the establishment of American missile bases in NATO is of

primary benefit to the United States. It spreads risks without adding to mutual security. Viscount Hinchinbrooke wailed in the British Parliament: "With these rockets we are clearly inviting the risk of attack in some way and we are giving a one-sided protection to the United States."

Politically, U.S. military bases in foreign countries are virtually a state within a state. In respect to U.S. bases in the Philippines, an article in the current issue of *Foreign Affairs* notes: "We have accepted native liaison officers at each base and have agreed to fly the Philippine flag, but aside from these gestures, the bases are regarded as a strictly U.S. operation."

In point of fact, the presence of U.S. bases overseas constitutes a flagrant infringement on the sovereignty of those countries in which such bases are situated and is therefore bitterly resented by the local people. Mr. Townsend Hoopes, Consultant to the White House on overseas bases, discloses in his article in *Foreign Affairs* (October 1958) that "the base system generates frictions at many points and creates acute difficulties between the United States and the host countries." Tracing the origin of these difficulties, Mr. Hoopes has something interesting to say. "We would do well to recognize," he asserts, "that most of the difficulties are inherent in the relationship created between **foreign** power and host country. It (the host country—*Ed.*) wants to assert its national independence by removing the foreign military presence, and, indeed, anything else that suggests foreign influence and control."

Apart from that, the United States is using its overseas bases to play politics. Let Mr. Hoopes give an example. "In Libya," the base Consultant discloses, "the establishment of a military base provides a means of promoting and defending U.S. political interests which might not otherwise be open to us. Wheelus Field, for example, serves the needs of our strategical and tactical air forces; it also gives rise to an intergovernmental relationship which has enabled us to equip the Libyan army and to provide economic assistance, two programs which . . . constitute a measurable counterweight to Egyptian influence."

U.S. Bases Not Wanted

West Germany in Europe and Japan in Asia are the two vitally important bases of U.S. imperialism in its preparations for future wars. But there too, Washington has much to worry about. Mr. Hoopes notes with alarm:

Public opinion (in Japan) is so sensitive on the question of atomic weapons that it is at best doubtful whether a situation which called for U.S. military operations in Korea, Southeast Asia or elsewhere in the area could now be supported from bases in Japan. . . .

Nor is atomic fear confined to the "grey areas." The last elections in West Germany were distinguished chiefly by a gathering protest against the storage and prospective use of atomic weapons on German soil, and more generally, against their manufacture anywhere. . . .

In view of these prevailing sentiments among the Japanese and German peoples, what guarantee is there that U.S. imperialism will be able to make good use of its bases in these two countries in the event of war?

Furthermore, recent technical and political developments make the military value of these overseas bases all the more questionable. The United States is now compelled to reassess the fundamentals of its strategic position. Let Mr. Hoopes tell the story: "The principal military development which calls forth the reassessment is the dangerously rapid and impressive growth of Soviet atomic striking power which has increased the vulnerability of the overseas bases to a point which now makes their use for sustained operation a very dubious proposition. . . ."

Even the fire-eating jingoes in the Pentagon are getting more and more worried about the growing vulnerability of their military bases abroad and are reported to be taking remedial measures in the light of the changed situation. According to Mr. Hoopes, "in the face of this stark new condition, the U.S. has worked hard to devise improved air refueling and other techniques which would make possible a gradual pull-back of units into the Western Hemisphere and the gradual transformation of the overseas air bases into what are essentially landing fields for pre-strike and post-strike ground refueling."

Actually these far-flung military bases of the United States are more of a liability than an asset. In the words of Chairman Mao Tse-tung, "all U.S. military bases on foreign territories are like nooses tied round the necks of U.S. imperialists. . . . The longer the U.S. aggressors remain in these places, the tighter the nooses round their necks will become."

As to U.S. bragging about its nuclear weapons, it needs only to be pointed out that the United States is not the only country in the world that is armed with such weapons. U.S. military leaders admit, although grudgingly, that America lags behind the Soviet Union in rockets and missiles. From the viewpoint of geographical distribution of population and industry, the United States has most to suffer should nuclear warfare be unleashed.

Morale — A Big Problem

A more important factor in examining the military aspect of the question is the morale of the people. Chairman Mao Tse-tung says: "Weapons are an important factor in war but not the decisive one; it is man and not material that is decisive. The contest of forces is not only a contest of military and economic power, but also one of the power and morale of man. Military and economic power must be controlled by man."

Should U.S. imperialism start war today, it would have to tell the American people what they are going to fight for and who they are going to fight. In World War I, President Wilson asked the American people to go to war in the name of "making the world safe for democracy." In World War II, President Roosevelt called on the American people to fight Nazism and fascism to defend democracy. In both wars, it was the other guy who fired the first shot.

Now the situation is completely changed. It is U.S. imperialism that is bullying other countries. To ask the American people to fight for imperialist interests would be extremely difficult.

In the recent military provocations in the Taiwan Straits, Eisenhower and Dulles found it quite impossible to ask the American people to fight on account of Quemoy and Matsu. Under overwhelming popular pressure, Dulles felt compelled to say in public: "We don't intend to have a war just on account of Quemoy and Matsu."

U.S. imperialism is playing up the slogan of "combating communism" as a smokescreen for warmongering and aggression. But the anti-communist banner which Hitler, Mussolini and Tojo held aloft in World War II taught the people of the world what this slogan really means. The British and French peoples suffered the first blow from Nazi Germany and the American people witnessed the tragedy of Pearl Harbour caused by Japan. Since the conclusion of World War II, the United States has taken up the long-discredited anti-communist banner to serve its ulterior purposes. Commenting on the high-pitched, loose talk of U.S. reactionaries about a U.S.-Soviet War, Chairman Mao pointed out in 1946: "Under the anti-Soviet slogan they (the U.S. reactionaries — *Ed.*) are frantically attacking the American workers and democratic elements and turning all the countries which are objects of U.S. expansion abroad into U.S. appendages."

The people of Lebanon fully understand the true meaning of the Washington talk about fighting communist infiltration in their country. Even British Conservatives see through the steady flow of anti-communist nonsense from Washington. Mr. Bevan wrote: "It is not enough that America feels she is constrained to do what she is doing as the champion of the free world in the struggle against communism. British Conservatives are not consoled if, whenever a blow is struck at communism, they are made to bleed."

U.S. imperialism can advance no inspiring slogan or programme to rally and mobilize its own people for war. In the previous two world wars, the United States did not enter the war until others had done much of the fighting. If U.S. imperialism should start war this time, it cannot hope to ask others to pull the chestnuts out of the fire for it. U.S. imperialism will have to do the fighting itself. In the recent military provocations in the Taiwan Straits, Britain openly declared that it had no military commitment to the United States in regard to Taiwan.

Some Economic Considerations

Space limitations do not permit detailed analysis of the economic aspect of the question. The contrast between the deteriorating imperialist economy and the flourishing socialist economy, however, is much too obvious to need any further elaboration. Here let us just take a brief look at the raw material problem as American economists themselves view it. Manly Fleischmann, writing in the *Annals of American Academy of Political and Social Science*, pointed out that of 38 important industrial minerals the U.S. is self-sufficient in only nine and that many essential resources for a jet-age economy are not even available anywhere in the Western Hemisphere. The Paley Report of 1951 painted a gloomy picture of the severe problems the U.S. faced in the acquisition of essential raw materials. Evaluating the Paley Report and others in *Harper's Magazine*, (April 1956) Mr. Peter



Drucker commented: "It can be said quite bluntly that international economic relations are the Achilles' heel of the American economy. . . . Our basic long-range position in the international economy is not one of strength but one of great potential weakness."

The facts and reasons touched on in the foregoing paragraphs add up to the conclusion that U.S. imperialism is outwardly strong but inwardly weak. That is precisely what a paper tiger is like.

The reactionary imperialist policy of Eisenhower and Dulles has brought deep disgrace to the land of George Washington, Thomas Jefferson and Abraham Lincoln. It has caused profound humiliation to the American people. Today, "the United States is the most hated nation in the world," deplored the American foreign affairs specialist George F. Kennan.

Never before has the United States stood so isolated and discredited in the eyes of world public opinion as it does today. Mr. Urban Whitaker sounds a warning in *The Western Political Quarterly*, (June 1958): "We need more friends more desperately than we need more bombs."

Standing Alone

The American weekly *U.S. News & World Report*, related with deep sorrow in its issue of October 10, 1958:

This is what especially disturbs American officials overseas just now: U.S., in moments of crisis, is seriously misunderstood in Allied capitals. U.S. policies, it is felt, are misinterpreted by the press. . . .

Take the situation that has blown up over Quemoy, for example: U.S. firmness . . . is interpreted by the London press as pushing the world into war. On the other hand . . . U.S. willingness to talk, to negotiate with the Reds, is seized as an American reversal of policy, a significant retreat.

Similarly, when American troops moved into Beirut last July, you heard cries of alarm in Europe and Asia. U.S. was said to be asking for war. . . . But now, with the troops on the way out, the withdrawal is called proof of the failure of U.S. policy in the Middle East.

So you see, U.S. imperialism now finds itself in a tough spot. Now that things have come to such a pass, the American people naturally want to know who is to blame for this nasty mess. The crushing defeat of the Republican Party in the recent mid-term elections was actually a protest vote against the reactionary policies of Eisenhower and Dulles.

Imperialism and all reactionaries are paper tigers. We have every reason to scorn them. But Chairman Mao Tse-tung also teaches us that in regard to each individual part and each concrete struggle we should take full account of the enemy. In other words, strategically we should scorn all enemies, but tactically we should take full account of them. Any strategical over-estimation of the enemy is likely to lead to mistakes of opportunism while any tactical under-estimation of the enemy is likely to lead to mistakes of adventurism. Both must be avoided if we are to have a correct assessment of imperialism and struggle against it most effectively.

Machine-Building Industry Races Ahead

by CHU CHI-LIN

CHINA'S machine-building industry is racing full steam ahead under the impact of soaring steel production. In the eleven months ending November, engineering plants have turned out 10,564 blast furnaces with capacities of more than three cubic metres, over 5,500 steel-smelting furnaces (including open hearth furnaces, electric furnaces and converters) and 45,113 blowers. As a result, the country's iron and steel-smelting capacities have increased by over 30 million tons each. Power generating, transport and other equipment have also been produced in large quantities. Tens of thousands of machine-tools have been turned out to equip the machine-building industry itself. The total output of machine-tools this year is estimated at four or five times last year's figure.

An indication of the technical levels attained is given by the list of new products successfully produced in recent months. They include a 25,000 kw. steam turbine generator, a 4,000 h.p. internal combustion locomotive, a 13,400-ton ocean-going freighter, a 3,000 h.p. low speed diesel engine, a programme-controlled milling machine, a 5-metre hobbing machine, a 98 h.p. free piston-gas turbine, a digital computer, internal combustion rock drills and a 2,500-ton hydraulic press. Some of these products are technically comparable to the best made in the world.

The Mass Way

The secret of this remarkable success is the dynamic initiative shown by the broad masses of workers both in the giant modern engineering plants and in small "native-style" workshops, particularly in the latter. Machine building has become everybody's business.

In the spring of this year, a farm tools reform movement took place on a large scale in China's countryside. This was followed by movements to use all sorts of vehicles to replace the shoulder pole and to put all axles on ball-bearings. These were the beginnings of mass movements in the machine-building industry.

In August, the centre of attention shifted from agriculture to industry in general and steel-making in particular. This brought the machine-building industry into prominence and from then on it became known as one of the three "marshals" (the other two being steel and grain) leading the big leap forward of the national economy.

The real high tide in machine building, however, came in the wake of the tremendous upsurge in steel. To meet the increasing demand for metallurgical equipment occasioned by the present nationwide drive for 10.7 million

tons of steel, headquarters have been formed all the way down the line from provinces to workshops with secretaries of the various Communist Party organizations personally assuming leadership in machine building. A considerable portion of the machine-building facilities has been mobilized to make metallurgical and allied equipment. In Liaoning Province, more than 150 factories in ten cities, including Shenyang, Lushun-Talien and Chinchow were organized to produce metallurgical equipment. Working in close co-ordination, with their minds emancipated, through debates and discussions, from rigid belief in old-established technical procedures and with their initiative encouraged by direct participation in management, the 100,000 workers in these factories completed a full year's work in the two months of October and November. Among other things they produced 33 blast furnaces with capacities ranging from 100 cubic metres up, 3,570 blowers and 32 rolling mills. This equipment alone is enough to produce 5.7 million tons of iron and over 4 million tons of steel products per annum.

In this upsurge the speed at which things moved surpassed expectations. When the workers and staff of the Shenyang Ventilating Equipment Works discussed its production plan it was calculated that working according to existing work norms, it would take eight years to produce 2,000 blowers. But the workers boldly introduced a new design which not only simplified the construction but also increased its efficiency. By drastically overhauling working methods, the plant turned out 2,400 blowers in a little over two months!

New Trend

The way workers in Shenyang and elsewhere manufacture heavy equipment with light and simple tools constitutes an important new trend in China's machine-building industry. Workers of the Northeast Engineering Works in Shenyang, devised 19 special machine-tools to make a high pressure compressor weighing 182 tons. Known as "ants nibbling at the bone," this method of devising a number of small, special machine-tools to process large items of equipment has been rapidly popularized throughout the country and improved upon. An agricultural machinery works in Chekiang, which previously only manufactured ordinary farm implements, used a similar method to turn out a 250 mm. rolling mill with an annual capacity of 30,000 tons of steel products.

An important development of these "ant" methods was made by workers of the Chilian Machine Works in

Harbin who have devised "building block" type machines. The three main parts of such "machines" — the cutting tool, transmission mechanism and the body — can be taken apart and put together in different ways to suit specific jobs. This has certain advantages over the ordinary "ant" method, as it gives greater flexibility in production. Using such simple small "machines" made from scrap material, the Chilian workers processed cylinders up to 3 metres in diameter, bored 1.5 metre holes, milled and planed 4-metre surfaces.

When small plants using the "ant" method go in for big jobs, a new problem arises: shortage of big billets. In other words, a shortage of "bones" for the "ants" to nibble at. Working-class resourcefulness solved this problem, too. Workers of the Shenyang Mining Equipment Works adopted a method called "boiling the pig in a teapot": they produced seven tons of steel from a 3-ton electric furnace. Workers of the Tangshan Machine Works (Hopei Province) found another way. They successfully manufactured a complete 650 mm. blooming mill even though they had no large open hearth furnace available. They cast the frame of the blooming mill in two separate pieces and then welded them together with the electro-slag welding machine.

Substitute materials have also been employed with success. In Anshan, China's great steel centre, workers successfully made a 1,100 mm. blooming mill roller of nodular cast iron instead of alloy steel. Workers in Shanghai and Harbin used cast steel instead of forged steel to make high-pressure compressors. In both cases the quality is excellent.

Such methods are enabling small, poorly equipped machine plants to undertake big jobs previously thought beyond their capacity. They are making heavy machine building a truly mass affair.

Native-style Machine-tools

Another important development in China's machine-building industry is the making of machine-tools not only by modern plants but also by small "native-style" workshops. Once locally produced iron and steel become available and the people have dispelled the aura of mystery which previously shrouded machine-tool making, more and more people begin to equip themselves with their own machine-tools.

It is true that most of these native-style machine-tools are rather crude and need to be gradually improved. But they serve a useful purpose and some give excellent performances. An example is the native-style bevel-gear milling machine made by Shanghai workers which can process precision gears for automobiles and tractors. What is even more important is that, since native-style machine-tools are simple in construction and economical on materials, they can be made quickly by practically anybody. Local machine-building industries equipped with such machine-tools can be established in a very short time. Not so long ago there were no modern machine-tool factories in the Tientsin Special Administrative Region. No county in that region had more than a few dilapidated machine-tools. Yet within three months, the people of the region

made more than 4,000 machine-tools and multiplied their machine-tool equipment tenfold. All factories and workshops, including those run by the people's communes, are now equipped with native-style machine-tools.

A similar situation existed in Fuyang Special Administrative Region, Anhwei Province. There was practically no machine-building industry here, yet in six months, 5,300 machine-tools were made and a machine-building industry has taken shape in the region with 33 engineering works at the county level and repair workshops in every people's commune. With such native-style machine-tools, the people of Fuyang have already produced 20 8-cubic-metre blast furnaces, 1,000 blowers, 4.8 million sets of ball-bearings, 1,350 water-wheels, lorries, diesel engines, gas engines, electric motors and transformers. This has given an enormous boost to the industrial and agricultural development of the region.

In Modern Plants

The initiative shown by the rank and file workers in the modern engineering plants, which form the backbone of China's growing machine-building industry, has also produced some astonishing results. In our last issue, we described the way workers of the Changchun No. 1 Motor Works are working for a fivefold increase in output. This is only one of many examples. By breaking down conservatism in technical matters and introducing technical innovations, workers of the Harbin Generator Works, a giant modern plant built in the First Five-Year Plan, increased output more than sevenfold this year alone.

Designing has generally been regarded as a job for engineers and technicians. But in many machine-building plants in China, rank and file workers and administrative personnel are also taking part in designing with impressive results. In Shenyang No. 1 Machine-tool Works, another giant built during the First Five-Year Plan, workers as well as technical and administrative staff were invited to modify the design of three standard lathes (the C620, C630 and C650). Their joint efforts resulted in the elimination of 1,200 redundant parts. Considerable savings of steel and labour time were thus effected without detriment to the performance of the lathes. The workers describe this procedure as "cutting out the appendix." More and more machine-tool plants are catching on to this idea and establishing "native-style designing institutes" right inside the workshops.

Great as its achievements are, China's machine-building industry is confronted with even greater tasks. Far more mining and steel-rolling equipment has to be produced to ensure the continuous forward leap in steel. The fast expanding power industry is demanding more and more generating equipment. The sharply rising needs for transport, oil-refining, cement making and chemical engineering equipment also have to be met. A fully modernized machine-building industry in China needs an enlarged capacity to produce heavy and large machines, precision machines and equipment for the ultra modern technology of today. The advances already made and practical plans prepared ensure that next year will see the growth of China's machine-building industry on a scale and at a speed that is not known before.

Women Builders of Socialism

by OUR CORRESPONDENT

EIGHT hundred women brought gifts in procession to the First National Conference of Women Builders of Socialism when it opened in Peking on December 3. They carried giant melons and turnips, appetizingly plump Peking ducks, embroideries as light as gossamer, glittering cloissoné, models of steel works and lathes that they are helping to build, semi-conductor transformers, new fashions and much else, charts, banners and posters in a display of the multitude of things women are doing during this year of the great leap forward. Women workers of an engineering plant presented a fabulous machine that in two hours can make enough dumplings, steamed rolls, bread and noodles for a meal for 12,000 people. And all this was from the women of Peking alone.

Representing Different Walks of Life

The conference, scheduled to last 10 days, is attended by some 2,500 delegates. They are women who have distinguished themselves in building socialism in agriculture, industry, culture, health, administration and science. They are from various provinces and autonomous regions, cities, government offices and the armed forces . . . teachers and nurses, militia women from the frontlines on the Fukien coasts, and cooks, child-care workers, shop assistants and postwomen, all distinguished in their various professions. The oldest is 84-year-old Liu Sze-po from Hunan, a noted raiser of pigs; the youngest is 12-year-old Li Ai-lan, a cotton-growing expert. On the presidium sat Shih Liang, Minister of Justice, Kang Keh-ching, Vice-Chairman of the National Women's Federation of China, a woman peasant scientist, a steel plant director, an army general, a Uighur county magistrate, an actress, housewives and mothers. Thirty-nine different nationalities are represented among the delegates.

The slogan of the day is spelled out in golden letters on the purple velvet screen before the conference hall: "With a still higher level of political consciousness, raise the level of your skills and forward to socialist construction!"

The overwhelming fact that emerges from delegates' speeches is that China's more than 300 million women are ridding themselves fast of the last shackles of the past and are advancing, emancipated and in unity with their menfolk to the building of socialism.

This year alone there has been a great new influx of women into industry, both to the bench and to the offices. In Peking alone over 210,000 housewives have joined in productive work in the last few months.

Throughout the country, practically every woman member of the people's communes is taking an active part in the social life and work of the communes.

When the mass movement started to run industry with steel making as its pivot, women as well as men joined in the drive for steel. Since those "early days" just a few months ago, many women have been promoted to leading positions as managers of steel plants and work-

shops and leaders of shock brigades. Steel has caught the women's imagination.

Only a few months ago only Shouchang County, Shantung, knew of the "Nine girls with wills of steel." Today the national press has carried their story. In 1949 the land on their farms was covered by a flood with three to nine feet of sand. Yields went down so much that for years the peasants there depended on government relief. When the Communist Party put out a call in 1955 to turn barren land into fertile soil Chao Chi-yun, a Youth League member, and four other girls, formed a shock brigade to battle the sand. Sheer hard work and grit won them through to success. Now they are raising high yields on the land reclaimed, have inspired another team of four to follow their example.

Service to the Community

Such women are inspired by a new type of "ambition," the ambition of service to the community. Chang Ah-mei, another delegate, is director of a stock-breeding yard in a people's commune in Chekiang. For a commune the development of efficient community dining-rooms, nurseries, and other public services is essential, but at the start there was a bit of a feeling that serving in a community dining-room was "waiting on others." Old ideas and attitudes sometimes die hard. Chang Ah-mei, volunteered for the job of cook: "I'm a Party member and head of the co-op. It's my duty to take the lead." Her daughter-in-law and her elder daughter followed her into the community kitchen and her second daughter went to the nursery. Public opinion among the women about community services in their commune changed overnight.

In China today this attitude is hailed as "the communist spirit." The whole country now knows Chang Chiu-hsiang, another conference delegate, a record breaking cotton grower, successful co-op deputy chairman and the first peasant woman in China to be admitted to the Shensi Institute of Agricultural Sciences as a special research worker. *Peking Review* (No. 32) has already told a bit of the story of how she helped her competitor who challenged her cotton-growing record.

This conference of the women "activists" of China, the women who are taking the lead among women in the building of socialism, has been called to sum up the experience already gained in this new advance of women so as to bring this vast reserve of woman power more fully into play. As Li Teh-chuan, Minister of Health and Vice-Chairman of the National Women's Federation put it in her opening address: "It is a grand review of the achievements of women throughout the nation, a conference to pledge a bigger leap forward in socialist construction."

In his address to the conference Peng Teh-huai, speaking on behalf of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of China pictured the role now being played by women in the context of the general line of

advance of China to its socialist aims. He said that "we must speed up the development of our social productive forces at a high tempo, step by step carry out the industrialization of the country, the running of industries in the people's communes and farming along factory lines. We must carry on the cultural and technical revolutions, transform the backward state of our culture and technique to catch up with the world's most advanced levels and so turn our country into a great socialist land with a modern industry, agriculture, science and culture."

A New Historical Stage

In this context he noted "The women's movement in China has entered on a new historical stage." In the communes and towns and industrial centres, thanks to the growth of socialist social services, community dining-rooms, nurseries and kindergartens, laundry and mending services, more and more women are being freed from the drudgery of household work. This has led to a great surge of women into creative work and labour. This is not only a quantitative addition. In whatever field they appear, women are bringing new initiative to old tasks and new.

Peng Teh-huai pointed out that the old patriarchal system handed down from the hoary past with its subjection of women is being wiped out, and "the dream of the complete emancipation of women and genuine equality between men and women is now on the way to becoming a reality. . . . The family is no longer a place where the intelligence of women is held in check and her energies are worn out. Family life based on genuine happiness, democracy and unity can only be realized under the socialist system."

He stressed the special responsibilities that were women's in the task of raising up the coming generation.

"Women must assume their responsibilities in the home, the nursery and the kindergarten so as to ensure that the young generation grows up physically and mentally worthy heirs to the communist future."

Tsai Chang, Chairman of the National Women's Federation of China, in urging women to carry out the directives of the Party's Central Committee, said: "In agricultural production, we women should strive to take such a part as to make ourselves the major force in this field." In industrial production she could say with pride "women do a great deal and should continue to do it well." She called on women to take a yet more active part in cultural, educational, medical and public health work, as well as in welfare and other social services. She said women should gradually replace men in all such work that was specially suitable for women so as to attain a more reasonable distribution of social labour force.

She reminded her audience that "the aim of labour and development of production is the gradual improvement of the people's livelihood." While taking a lead in production women should also take a lead in making life for the people more comfortable. "We are setting up community dining-rooms, nurseries, kindergartens and so on, not to negate the significance of household work, but to change household work, originally carried out on an individual, scattered basis, into collective, social work, both in form and in essence. In this way we can get the housework done better."

This conference of China's active women is discussing questions of the utmost importance to their sex and to the country as a whole. In small group discussions and in plenary sessions delegates are considering these momentous issues and their practical implications. Their decisions will be embodied in the conference resolutions and at its close they will carry the results of their deliberations back to every corner of the land.

New Phase in Education

Factories Run Schools

by LI FANG

Schools run by factories are another aspect of the big leap forward in education. They go hand in hand with the factories run by schools* in the nationwide movement to combine education with productive labour.

"OUR factories, while producing such material things as iron and steel, machinery, electric power, etc." said Liu Shao-chi, on a tour of inspection in Kiangsu Province, "also have the responsibility of training new men, cultured, and with professional skill—builders of communism. They should turn out university students, technicians, engineers and cadres." In this spirit, the Chinese factories today have established numerous primary and secondary schools, colleges and universities to keep

pace with the rapid advance of the technical and cultural revolutions which are now sweeping the country. The Chinese workers, denied educational opportunities in the old society, can now receive education. In most cases they can acquire both general and technical education without having to go outside their factory premises.

Workers' education has always received the closest attention of the Chinese Communist Party. Great successes have been achieved in eliminating illiteracy among the workers throughout the country since liberation. To date, illiteracy has been eliminated among the great majority of young and adult workers in many provinces.

During the big leap forward in production this year, the development of both spare-time schools and part-work, part-study schools has made great headway. Factories throughout the country are now running 275,100 spare-time schools of various types and grades, with 13,515,000

* See *Peking Review*, No. 39, November 25, 1958.—Ed.

students, and 8,450 part-work, part-study schools, with 1,242,000 students.

The part-work, part-study schools represent a new stage in education for the workers of China. It arises from the need to satisfy the urge of the workers to raise their cultural and technical levels as rapidly as possible. It also helps train more and more specialists and technicians to speed up the country's socialist construction.

The schools run by the factories are devoted to raising the cultural level of the workers as well as their technical skills. That is because factories are not only responsible for turning out new products, but training working-class intellectuals. Only when the cultural level of the workers has been raised greatly can there be rapid advances in technique and production, facilitating the building of factories of a communist character in which physical and mental labour is integrated.

A Comprehensive System

Many factories have set up a comprehensive educational system ranging from literacy classes and primary schools to university education, embracing both spare-time schools and part-work, part-study schools. There are courses of both a general educational character and technical courses. The workers enter the grades and types of schools that their educational level qualifies them for.

The combination of politics, culture and technical science is the main feature of the curriculum in these schools.

Factory technicians, experienced workers and innovators teach the technical courses. General educational courses are taught by full-time or part-time professional teachers from schools in the area of the factory. Political studies are co-ordinated with current political campaigns. The workshops are the laboratories. The study of technical problems encountered in the actual process of production provides the best way to link theory with practice. In these schools the workers and students are one—an organic combination of education and productive labour.

In the Taiyuan Iron and Steel Works, more than 13,000 workers are now studying in spare-time primary schools, middle schools and secondary technical schools established and run by the steel mill. Some workers attend class in the morning, others in the evening, depending on whether

they work on the day shift or the night shift. The texts and teaching materials in these schools have been adapted and re-edited so that the students can complete the last two years of primary school and middle school education in four and a half years. In the past this normally took eight years and for some spare-time students as long as eleven years. Actual problems relating to steel production have been embodied in the new teaching materials, a reform which helps the workers to learn more in a shorter time. In addition, the factory has established an Institute of Iron and Steel Technology which was formerly only a part of the factory's spare-time educational system. Its aim was to help the intermediate grade technicians improve their theoretical and technical knowledge and pave the way for training higher grade technicians. In July of this year it was converted into a regular university and named the Taiyuan Institute of Iron and Steel Technology as a step in the nationwide drive to boost steel production.

Two hundred students enrolled this year: 100 graduates of senior middle schools, 50 veteran workers and veteran cadres and 50 young workers.

The course for full-time students is one and a half years, for part-time students two and a half years, and for spare-time students three years. Full-time students work two afternoons every week in the shops while they attend elementary technical courses.

In some factories in Kirin Province primary and junior middle school education for the workers is organized by the workshops. The factories themselves concentrate on conducting senior middle school and college education. Teaching is closely related to the production of the individual shops. The workers arrange their own times for work and study so that they can attend the classes regularly.

The part-work, part-study schools run by the factories satisfy the desire of the workers to advance their education as quickly as possible. The school established by the State No. 1 Cotton Textile Mill in Tientsin set an example for the whole city. Since liberation more than two-thirds of the factory's workers have devoted six hours a week to spare-time education. At this rate it will take eight years to finish a secondary school education. In the part-work, part-study schools now run by the factory, the workers study 18 hours a week—two hours taken from the work time plus one hour of spare time every day. In addition to general educational subjects adapted to middle schools they also take elementary technical courses such as principles of mechanics and electrical engineering, etc. They can now complete a secondary school education in three and a half years.

Many schools established by factories in Tientsin have adopted the system of six hours a day of factory work and two hours of classroom study. Schools run along these lines include technical colleges and secondary technical schools to train technicians of higher and intermediate grades and secondary schools

FACTORIES RUN SCHOOLS AND SCHOOLS RUN FACTORIES



Worker: Good-bye, I'm off to class.
Student: Good-bye, I'm off to the workshop.

By Liao Yin-tang

to provide general education for the workers.

The State No. 17 Cotton Textile Mill in Shanghai established a textile college, in which the stages of secondary school and college education are merged. A worker who is literate can complete the course in six years. The workers attend classes about three hours a day, five days a week. There are 48 weeks of study in an academic year. Teaching materials are linked with actual production in the factory and its important technical problems.

Close Co-operation

In some factories, the part-work, part-study system for the workers has been integrated with that for the students. The Changchun Municipal Gas Company, for instance, has established an Institute of Chemical Engineering in co-operation with the No. 10 Middle School of the city. The Gas Company invested 70,000 yuan to build two auxiliary plants in the school and sent its technicians there to give technical advice to the students. The school, on its part, sent 150 students to work in the factory every afternoon to take over the jobs of the workers who went to school. The teachers of the middle school also serve as instructors in the Institute of Chemical Engineering.

The advantages of factories running schools are obvious. It is one of the best ways of thoroughly implementing the Communist Party's educational policy of combining education with productive labour. It facilitates the training of working-class intellectuals—a major task of the cultural revolution. It also accelerates the training of vast numbers of technicians to push forward the technical revolution. Schools run by the factories are the best places to eliminate the difference between physical and mental labour gradually. When all the workers have acquired a high degree of cultural and scientific knowledge, coupled with a high degree of communist consciousness, factories truly communist in character will emerge.

The establishment of schools by the factories is an important aspect of education run by the whole people. The swift expansion of workers' education shows that the national goal of realizing the introduction of universal higher education in 15 years or so will certainly be attained.

China and the World

China Welcomes Algerian Delegation

Closer contacts between China and the African countries have been one of the most significant developments of the past week. These new relations were highlighted by the arrival in China of the Delegation of the Algerian Provisional Government headed by Minister of Social Affairs Ben Youssef Ben Khedda.

The Chinese people have a tremendous admiration for the heroic national-independence struggle which the Algerian people are waging against the ruthless colonialism of the French imperialists. Eager to show their feelings now that the representative of the Algerian people are here, the Chinese people gave a grand welcome to the Algerian Delegation when it arrived in Peking on December 3.

At the airport where the new Algerian national flag was flown alongside the Chinese flag, the delegation was met by Vice-Premier and Minister of National Defence Peng Teh-huai, other leading government officials, hundreds of representatives of various people's organizations and members of the diplomatic corps. It reviewed a guard of honour.

In his speech of welcome Vice-Premier Peng Teh-huai paid the highest tribute to the courageous Algerian people. He said though many miles separated China and Algeria a common experience and a common struggle have linked the two peoples closely together. The Chinese people, he said, have always regarded "your victories as our own and drawn great inspiration and support from them." He expressed the wish of the Chinese people to develop the militant friendship between the two peoples and to strengthen their mutual support in their common struggle.

Rally in Peking

At a rally held on December 5, over 1,000 representatives from all walks of life in the capital greeted the Algerian delegates with a standing ovation lasting several minutes. It reflected the feelings of the entire Chinese people.

Burhan Shahidi, Vice-Chairman of the Chinese Committee for Afro-Asian Solidarity who spoke in welcome, pledged that the 600 million people of China would "always stand by the fighting Algerian people to whom ultimate victory belongs." He asked the delegation to convey this message to the Algerian people. "The heroic struggle of the Algerian people,"

he said, "has won the sympathy and support of all countries and peoples of the world who love peace and justice; it has greatly inspired the peoples of Africa, Asia and Latin America in their struggles to win independence and freedom."

Reviewing the unprecedented advances made by the African peoples in their struggle for national independence in recent years, Burhan Shahidi declared: "Dawn over 'Dark' Africa has come. The day is not far off when imperialism will have to get out of the African Continent."

Burhan described the "elections" to the French National Assembly recently staged by the de Gaulle government as a "political conspiracy" and said that de Gaulle would still have to rely on bayonets. "Such political conspiracies cannot fool the Algerian patriots, nor will they bring any good to the de Gaulle regime itself," he said.

"No matter what means the French colonialists employ in continuing their colonial war against the Algerian people, so long as they refuse to face reality and recognize the national independence of Algeria, they will be unable to free themselves from the noose whose end is held in the hands of the Algerian people."

Burhan condemned the U.S. imperialists who are helping the French colonialists in their bloody crimes against the Algerian people. "It can be said that without American support France would not have been able to carry on this dirty war," he declared.

"Yet the United States has pretended to 'sympathize' with the national independence movements in Algeria and Africa. The U.S. imperialists aim to supplant the British and French imperialists in their colonial positions in Africa and to impose the shackles of a new colonialism on the African people."

"So long as those peoples who are still being oppressed by imperialism unite under the banner of anti-colonialism and persist in their unremitting struggle, they will certainly succeed in overthrowing imperialist rule and win the final great victory," Burhan commented.

He stated: "We are utterly certain of the final triumph of the Algerian people, the African peoples, the Asian and Latin American peoples and all the oppressed peoples of the world!"



Breaking the chains of imperialism

Woodcut by Huang Yung-yu

On his approach to the rostrum, Minister Ben Youssef Ben Khedda was greeted with a prolonged ovation. He declared that the Algerian people were determined to fight to the end for their freedom and national independence. There was firm conviction in his voice when he stated that the Algerian people would triumph because theirs was a just cause and they were on the side of the forces of progress. Relying on their own unshakable will for liberation, their patriotism, their self-sacrificing spirit and the support of all anti-colonial peoples, and the peoples of Asia and Africa, in particular, Ben Youssef Ben Khedda said, the Algerian people were absolutely certain of victory.

With the six hundred million Chinese people and two-thirds of mankind solidly behind them, the Algerian people had no fear of the material power and massive backing France was receiving from its allies, particularly from the United States, the Algerian leader declared.

The activities of the delegation, fully reported in the press, are being followed with great interest by the Chinese people. They were particularly deeply moved when the delegation as its first public act in Peking went to place a wreath at the memorial to the Chinese revolutionary heroes on Tien An Men Square.

Press Comments

The leading papers have all published editorials welcoming the Algerian Delegation and have carried special articles and features on the Algerian liberation struggle.

Renmin Ribao cites the heroic struggle of the Algerian people and its success, as proving that a nation is unconquerable

once it rises and struggles resolutely for its freedom. It stresses that today, it is no longer the imperialist forces, but the forces of socialism and national revolution which are powerful. Although the imperialists still seem to be on the rampage, sending troops now here, now there to show off their military strength, they are nothing but paper tigers. The growth of the national independence movement in the Middle East and Africa has eloquently confirmed this truth. "Final victory will go to the Algerian people," the paper concludes.

Da Gong Bao revealed the sentiments of the Chinese people when it wrote: The hearts of the Chinese people have been with the Algerians since the start of the French colonial war in November 1954. They have watched for every bit of news heralding the victory of the Algerian people. They have rejoiced over every victory of the Algerian people and burned with anger against the cruelties of the French colonialists—their seizure of the five Algerian leaders, the bestial treatment of the girl patriot Djamila Bourheid . . . and were overjoyed when news of the founding of the Provisional Government of the Algerian Republic came.

"Quit Africa Day" in China

The way "Quit Africa Day" was observed in China gave a further indication of the deep sympathy and enthusiastic support which the Chinese people give to the struggle of the African peoples.

On November 30, the Chinese Committee for Afro-Asian Solidarity issued a statement declaring the stand of the Chinese people (see page 18). The major public organizations, the All-China Fed-

eration of Trade Unions, the All-China Youth Federation and the All-China Students' Federation and the Chinese National Women's Federation cabled messages of solidarity to their opposite numbers in Africa.

Periodicals and newspapers forcefully expressed this unanimous mass support for the African peoples' struggle, and marked the occasion with many articles reviewing those struggles in Morocco, Cameroons, Nigeria, etc. *Renmin Ribao* carried a full page on the liberation movements of the African peoples.

All papers carried the full text of the message sent by Premier Chou En-lai to the All-African Peoples' Conference when it opened in Accra on December 5. The message wished the conference all success in uniting the African peoples in the righteous struggle against imperialism, and for national independence and world peace. The Chinese People's Committee for Afro-Asian Solidarity also sent greetings to the conference (see page 18).

Relations with Sudan

Still another landmark of this growth of relations with Africa is the decision by China to establish diplomatic relations with Sudan. This was announced in separate messages sent on December 1 by Chairman Mao Tse-tung and Foreign Minister Chen Yi to General Ibrahim Abboud, President of the Supreme Council of the Sudanese Armed Forces, and Ahmed Kheir, Sudanese Foreign Minister.

The two messages were replies to messages from President Ibrahim Abboud and Foreign Minister Ahmed Kheir announcing the decision of the Sudanese Government to extend recognition to China and its desire to enter into diplomatic relations.

Since Sudan proclaimed its independence in 1956, economic and cultural ties between the two countries have grown steadily, and trade, cultural and other delegations have been exchanged. The growth of friendly relations between the two peoples will certainly be facilitated by the establishment of diplomatic relations.

Support for Soviet Berlin Proposal

Vice-Premier and Foreign Minister Chen Yi on November 29 expressed China's unreserved backing for the Soviet proposal to liquidate the occupation status of Berlin and make west Berlin a demilitarized, free city.

Speaking at a reception given by the Albanian Ambassador to Peking, Vice-Premier Chen Yi declared that the Soviet proposal "will help greatly to ease tension in Europe and throughout the world.

The Chinese Government fully supports this reasonable proposal and is of the opinion that there is no reason whatsoever for U.S., British and French forces to remain in west Berlin any longer."

Socialist Co-operation

China and Viet-nam are the richer for an 87-kilometre long irrigation canal built by the joint efforts of the peoples on the Sino-Vietnamese border. Three thousand people from both countries came to the ceremony on December 1 at Shihlung at which the sluice-gates were opened to send water coursing to the fields of the border region.

Built in four months this year it runs for nine kilometres along high mountain slopes, and involved 1.9 million cubic metres of earthwork and 130,000 cubic metres of stonework.

The Reszica Combine Factory of Rumania has built twenty locomotives for China a month ahead of schedule. When a red flag was presented to the factory by the China National Transport Machinery Import Corporation on December 1 to express its thanks, the Reszica workers said they looked on their work on the Chinese order as an expression of support for the strengthening of the socialist camp, and China's just struggle for the liberation of Taiwan and against U.S. aggression. In 1959, they will be delivering twelve turbo-blowers and ten turbines to China.

Cultural News

Chinese films are proving popular in Bagdad. All four so far shown have drawn packed houses.

Tung Tsun-ju, a feature about a Chinese People's Liberation Army hero, ran for three straight weeks and was seen by over 63 thousand people. Extra seats had to be provided at every show. *Reconnaissance Across the Yangtse*, *The Capture of Huashan Mountain* and *Guerillas on the Railway*, all films about the Chinese people's struggles during the anti-imperialist war and the war of liberation, have also been popular successes.

A local cinema manager told Hsinhua's correspondent in Bagdad that an American film at best could draw only one-third of the audience attracted by *Tung Tsun-ju*. He hoped that more Chinese films would be available for Bagdad showings.

The Chinese Acrobatic Troupe, after a most successful tour in Argentina and Brazil, is now in Uruguay. It will give a series of performances in Montevideo, the Uruguayan capital.

During its six weeks' stay in Brazil, the Chinese troupe performed in Rio de Janeiro, Niteroi, Belo Horizonte and Sao

Paulo to audiences totalling 200,000 people. In addition it gave two television shows and a radio concert.

Visitors

A Hungarian military delegation led by Minister of National Defence General Geza Revesz.

A Polish delegation led by Minister of Labour and Social Welfare Aleksander Zawadzki.

A Bulgarian trade delegation headed by Vice-Minister of Trade D. Aleksiev.

An 11-member delegation of Iraqi public leaders headed by Najy Yousif.

FOREIGN TRADE NOTES

● Autumn Export Fair Ends

The 1958 Autumn Commodities Fair which closed in Canton on November 30 was the largest of its kind ever held in China. It resulted in twelve thousand transactions totalling £64 million sterling.

Trade with the Southeast Asian countries increased and there were also notable advances in business with European, African, Australian and Latin American firms. Trade with the latter areas accounted for one-third of the value of transactions concluded at the fair.

Over 3,000 businessmen visited the fair from 41 countries and areas including India, Indonesia, Ceylon, Cambodia, Burma, the United Arab Republic, Iraq, Ghana, Britain, France, Holland, Norway, Chile and Canada. Many well-known firms sent representatives and concluded major deals.

● Striking a Chinese Note

China is now producing high-quality pianos, wood-wind, string and brass musical instruments. By working in close contact with musical specialists, and radically improving workmanship, design and materials, Shanghai, Peking and Tientsin enterprises are now producing some really excellent instruments. The quality of some of these can stand up to the severest comparisons. Before liberation, most of them had to be imported into China.

Pride of place among these new products undoubtedly goes to the Hsinhai piano. This is named after the late well-known musician Hsien Hsin-hai, pioneer of modern Chinese music and widely known for his *Yellow River Cantata*. Highly skilled workers with at least forty to fifty years of experience are making these pianos under the supervision of the best technicians and pianists in the country. The Peking Musical Instruments Works which makes these instruments uses only the finest selected materials for them. Each is really a "custom-built" job. Some of the important components, such as strings and hammers, are im-

ported from the world's best makers. The body is made of choice wood. It comes as an upright, a 9-foot grand or in baby grand sizes. They are now being sold in Malaya, Canada, Finland, Switzerland, Norway and the Egyptian Region of the United Arab Republic.

Temple of Heaven accordions now being produced in Tientsin are as "good as the best made in Italy," say accordion enthusiasts. The keys are of light metal with high-quality springs; the bellows are not affected by climatic changes and give out only the sounds the player puts into them! The keyboard is supplemented with two to fourteen stops which give the different tones of the clarinet, piccolo, flute, mouth-organ, violin, saxophone, etc.

Red Dawn and Peking violins are also new Tientsin exports which have more than made the grade. The Peking make in particular can be confidently compared to those produced in many other countries. Woods and varnish used are of the best and they are being carved by the most competent and experienced craftsmen in the country.

Clarinets, saxophones, bassoons, oboes and many of the other instruments needed for symphony orchestras, as well as guitars, mandolins and timpani are now also being made in this country. Peking's Yihua Musical Instruments Works has increased its range of brass and wood-wind instruments from the four types produced in 1952 to 37 types today. Its clarinets, saxophones, flutes, bassoons and trumpets are all being made to reach recognized international standards. Its brass instruments are all attractively silver plated. Brass band enthusiasts rate them easy to play and excellent in tone.

Chinese traditional instruments of course are being produced in larger quantities and to higher standards than ever before, both for the home and overseas market. Now Chinese-made musical instruments for the Occidental orchestra are winning an enviable name for themselves overseas.

Imperialists: Quit Africa!

The following statement was issued on November 30, 1958 by the Chinese Committee for Afro-Asian Solidarity on the "Quit Africa Day" of struggle against the imperialists.—Ed.

The Chinese Committee for Afro-Asian Solidarity warmly responds to and supports the call of the Permanent Secretariat of the Afro-Asian Peoples' Solidarity Council to observe December 1 as "Imperialists: Quit Africa!" Day. This mighty call voices the strong desire of the millions of African people for national independence and an end to colonial domination; it also expresses the common will of the peoples of Asia and of all the world to oppose imperialist aggression and defend world peace.

The victories won by the Asian and African peoples, particularly the peoples of West Asia and Africa, in their struggle against imperialism and for national independence have become greater and greater in recent years. The heroic people of the United Arab Republic defeated the armed attack of the British and French imperialists, and frustrated the war threats and subversive conspiracies of U.S. imperialism. The Iraqi people have burnt away the chains of the Bagdad Pact with the flame of national revolution. The Algerian people have persisted in their successful armed struggle and formally established the Provisional Government of the Algerian Republic. The U.S. and British imperialists, having suffered ignominious defeat in their armed aggression against Lebanon and Jordan, were forced to withdraw their aggressive forces. One after another Sudan, Morocco, Tunisia, Ghana and Guinea proclaimed their independence. Inspired and encouraged by this series of victories, the peoples of all of Africa are awakening more and more. Africa, once regarded as the "dark continent," is now in the fore of the battle against imperialism.

The imperialists, however, will certainly not get out of Africa of their own accord. They are putting up a desperate struggle. They vainly hope to maintain their criminal rule and continue their enslavement of the African peoples by intensifying their ruthless suppression and by political chicanery. What deserves particular attention is the fact that the U.S. imperialists, in the name of "aid," are taking advantage of the ardent desire of the African peoples for

independence and are eagerly interfering in Africa's affairs. The United States is stepping up its economic plunder in Africa, establishing military bases there and doing its utmost to undermine the unity of the African peoples. All these plots of the United States are aimed at replacing British and French imperialism and imposing the fetters of a new colonialism on the African peoples. But these tricks of the imperialists cannot fool the African peoples. Colonialism, be it old or new, cannot halt the march of the heroic African peoples to independence and freedom.

The observance of "Imperialists: Quit Africa!" Day is not only a symbol of the further strengthening of the solidarity of the peoples of Asia and Africa and a great encouragement to the African peoples in their struggle for national independence, but also a

powerful support to the forthcoming All-African Peoples' Conference to be held in Accra. The All-African Peoples' Conference is an important political event in Africa today. It is our belief that this conference will make a positive contribution to promoting the movement for national independence in Africa and strengthening the unity of the African peoples.

The Chinese people have always sympathized with and supported the African peoples in their just struggle for national independence and against colonialism and racial discrimination. At the same time, the Chinese people have drawn great encouragement from the struggle of the African peoples. The Chinese people will strive for ever closer friendship with the African peoples and strengthen our mutual support. The Chinese people are convinced that with the support of the peoples of the socialist countries and all the peace-loving countries and peoples of the world, the great African peoples will certainly overcome all difficulties and drive the imperialist forces out of Africa. The peoples of Asia, Africa and Latin America will certainly win final victory in their struggle for national liberation.

Chinese Greetings to All-African Peoples' Conference

On December 4, the Chinese Committee for Afro-Asian Solidarity sent the following message of greetings to the All-African Peoples' Conference in Accra, Ghana.—Ed.

On the occasion of the convocation of the All-African Peoples' Conference in Accra, the Chinese Committee for Afro-Asian Solidarity sends its warm greetings to the Conference.

The Chinese people rejoice to see that the heroic African people are winning ever greater victories in their struggle for achieving national independence and ending colonial rule. But the colonialists are still waging a desperate struggle. They vainly attempt to maintain their sanguinary rule by brutal suppression and political deception. At the same time new colonialism, in various disguises, and in an attempt to replace the old colonialism and enslave the African people, is stepping up economic plunder and military expansion in Africa and is doing its utmost to undermine the national independence movements in Africa. None of this, however, can save the odious colonial system from collapse or prevent the great African people, who

are daily awakening and uniting to a greater and greater extent, from marching to independence and freedom. We believe that the All-African Peoples' Conference will make a positive contribution to strengthening the unity of the African people, to pushing forward the African national independence movement and to promoting friendship and co-operation between the peoples of Asia and Africa.

The Chinese people who suffered long and bitterly from imperialist oppression, always sympathize with and support the African people in their just struggle for national independence and against colonialism and racial discrimination. In the fight against our common enemy, we Chinese people will for ever stand by the African people and exert our utmost efforts to strengthen the friendship, co-operation and mutual support between us. We are firmly convinced that by maintaining solid unity and persisting in their struggle, the African people will finally drive out all imperialist forces from their lands. Victory certainly belongs to the great African people.

CHINESE PRESS OPINION

The French Political Situation

Sino-Sudanese Relations

Renmin Ribao (December 2) editorially greets the establishment of diplomatic relations between China and Sudan as an outstanding event in the history of relations between the two countries. "China and Sudan both participated in the Bandung Conference," says the paper, "their governments have actively upheld the ten principles adopted by that conference and it is on this basis that the two peoples established friendly relations. The diplomatic relations that have been established mark a new development in those relations."

As the paper recalls, the Chinese people have always taken a keen interest in the protracted struggle which the Sudanese waged to win national independence, and they joyfully welcomed the proclamation of an independent Sudan on January 1, 1956. China eagerly looks forward to new Sudanese successes in consolidating their independence and building their economy.

"We are confident that the establishment of diplomatic relations will open up broader possibilities for a further growth in friendly relations between the two peoples," the paper concludes.

Viet-nam-Korea Talks

Commenting on the Joint Communiqué issued by the Governments of the Democratic Republic of Viet-nam and the Korean Democratic People's Republic during Premier Kim Il Sung's recent visit to Viet-nam, *Renmin Ribao* writes in its December 4 editorial: "The Viet-nam-Korea talks have strengthened the solidarity of the peoples of Viet-nam and Korea and the socialist camp as a whole. They were a significant contribution to the cause of world peace."

The communiqué points out that Viet-nam and Korea must and will certainly achieve national unification of their countries. The Governments of the Viet-nam Democratic Republic and the Korean Democratic People's Republic, states the editorial, have made great efforts for the national unification of their countries while the U.S. imperialists have violated the provisions of the Geneva Agreement and the Korean Armistice Agreement and established military bases in the southern parts of Viet-nam and south Korea. Viet-nam and Korea firmly demand that U.S. imperialism cease forthwith its intervention in the southern part of Viet-nam and stand firm on the point that the U.S. armed forces must make an

early withdrawal from south Korea. This is the just call of the peoples of Viet-nam and Korea and also the universal demand of all fair-minded people.

"The Chinese people extend heartfelt thanks to the Viet-namese and Korean peoples for their active support to our struggle for the liberation of our territory of Taiwan and the coastal islands," it continues, "at the same time, the Chinese people warmly support the Viet-namese and Korean peoples in their just struggle for national unification."

"We are firmly convinced that, just as the Chinese people will liberate Taiwan and the coastal islands, the aspirations of the Viet-namese and Korean peoples for national unification will be realized."

Soviet Proposal on West Berlin

Renmin Ribao editorially describes the Soviet proposal on November 27 to make west Berlin a demilitarized free city as "another major effort of the Soviet Government for the reunification of Germany and easing of tension in Europe."

The editorial on November 30, points out that the Western powers have turned west Berlin into a centre from which to threaten and subvert the German Democratic Republic and other socialist countries. This has created a focal point of contradictions and conflicts between east and west Berlin and heightened tension in the heart of Europe. This state of affairs is fraught with the danger of a drift to a new war."

"Once west Berlin becomes a demilitarized, free city," the paper says, "this cold war base will be converted into a peaceable city. This will eliminate to a considerable extent the tension existing in the Berlin area and will be conducive to the amelioration of the situation in the heart of Europe in which two sides confront each other militarily. It will also be instrumental in establishing a durable peace in Europe."

"The Soviet Government's proposal has earned a welcome and support from the people of Germany and the peace-loving peoples of the world," states the editorial. "But, the Western powers, the United States in particular, have been declaring vociferously that they will not give up their 'prerogatives' in Berlin. This only serves to show that they do not want to see a peaceful, united and prosperous Germany, the relaxation of international tension and improvement of relations among the nations."

Commenting on the French political situation, *Renmin Ribao* writes (December 3) that the fantastic results of the French National Assembly elections vividly show how false bourgeois democracy is. The Communist Party of France obtained 20 per cent of the votes but only 2 per cent of the seats in the Assembly. People of good will who still have illusions about bourgeois democracy should draw conclusions from these elections and discard their illusions," the paper points out.

The shift from parliamentary politics to military dictatorship, *Renmin Ribao* notes, is inseparable from the basic changes in the relations of class forces in France, and the bankruptcy of the reactionary domestic and foreign policies of the French capitalist ruling circles. The "dirty war" in Indo-China ended with the driving out of the French colonialists from Indo-China. Nor has the colonial war in Algeria, now four years old, helped in any way to preserve its colonial framework in Africa. Today the French colonial empire is more divided than ever and is collapsing. Twelve years of colonial warfare have imposed an unbearable burden of military expenses on the French people and have brought them untold casualties and impoverishment. The U.S. "aid" France has received, for the price of toeing the American line, can neither cover the limitless expenses of the colonial war nor help solve the financial crisis in France.

The French bourgeoisie has become so weak that it can no longer maintain its rule in the old way and has found it necessary to put up de Gaulle as its tool to preserve its political power. Actually de Gaulle has succeeded only in seizing power, but the seizure of power does not mean ability to solve the grave situation now confronting the French ruling circles, the editorial continues. "In the first place, the de Gaulle government is impotent in the face of its most important colonial problem. After de Gaulle assumed office the Provisional Government of the Algerian Republic and the Republic of Guinea were proclaimed. The Algerian war spark-plugged the downfall of recent cabinets and will remain a killer for the de Gaulle regime. French foundations in North Africa have crumbled and a conflagration is now sweeping over west Africa. The de Gaulle government cannot possibly pull the neck of the French colonialists out of the tightening nooses. Moreover, de Gaulle is likewise incapable of building a truly stable and powerful regime. By means of cajolery and intimidation, he has managed to ram through the dictatorial "constitution." He has succeeded in depriving the French Communist Party of the great majority of its seats in the National Assembly by

resorting to an undemocratic election. But the anti-fascist forces, with the French Communist Party as their core, possess a broad mass basis and a strong fighting will. They will not allow de Gaulle to turn the country fascist. In stepping up the war of aggression in Algeria, the de Gaulle government continues to aggravate the financial situation in the country. It is helpless in the face of a serious economic crisis. The conflicts and strife among the various fascist and right-wing groupings which have enthroned de Gaulle are developing due to their clashing interests and their differing views on important issues, especially Algeria. This will inevitably affect the stability of de Gaulle's regime.

The political situation in France today is indeed bad for the French people, the paper continues. The French people will have to suffer for a while the calamities brought about by the reactionary de Gaulle government; their democratic rights will also suffer further infringement; the democratic forces in France will find themselves in a still more difficult position. But the temporary rampancy of the reactionary forces can be turned to good account. The French reactionary force represented by de Gaulle is a poison long embedded in French political life. Since this poison exists, it is well to let the poison come out so that the French people can find some means to strengthen their antibodies, to be tempered in struggle. The democratic forces in France led by the French Communist Party which are firmly opposed to the de Gaullist dictatorial road represent the genuine and free will of the French people, the core of the popular forces in France. Those who are confused and threatened today have as their teachers both the French Communist Party, by its positive example, and de Gaulle, by his negative example. Disillusioned by de Gaulle, they will soon see through the true nature of his reactionary rule and eventually rally around the democratic forces of France and march ahead along the road of revolution.

The example of de Gaulle's efforts to turn France fascist will also be instructive to all other peoples in Western Europe. What happens to a country like France which used to take pride in its bourgeois democracy most clearly demonstrates that bourgeois parliamentarism is a mere tool which the bourgeoisie is ready to abandon at any moment. The road traversed by France will increasingly awaken the peoples of Western Europe and shatter their illusions about bourgeois democracy. This will enable them to intensify their revolutionary struggle and rally closer around the Communist Party.

The threat of fascism in France will inevitably be smashed by the forces of the French people, the editorial concludes.

Art of the Socialist Countries

China is sending a representative selection of recent works by its artists to the joint exhibition of painting, sculpture and graphic art which twelve socialist countries—the Soviet Union, Czechoslovakia, Hungary, Poland, Bulgaria, Rumania, the German Democratic Republic, Korea, Viet-nam, Mongolia, Albania and China—are holding in Moscow this month. Like those from the other participating countries, the Chinese exhibits will be mostly works produced after the Second World War, chosen to reflect the struggle for socialist construction and peace and the life of the people under socialism.

This is the first such exhibition of socialist art ever organized, and Chinese artists have made a big effort to send a worthy contribution. Since April this year when the Ministry of Culture and the Union of Chinese Artists called on them for a special creative effort, they have been going out to villages and factories, construction sites, border areas and national minority regions, to wherever the struggle for socialism was most tense and interesting to get up-to-date material for pictures reflecting the building of New China.

Out of the thousands of traditional Chinese paintings, oil paintings, sculpture and graphic art submitted to branches of the Union of Artists in various parts of the country, 1,270 were selected and sent to Peking where a final selection of 280 pieces was made. Most of these were completed in the past year. The opportunity which Peking had of seeing them at the Gallery of the Artists' Union before they were sent to Moscow, showed that the closer contact which artists have established with the people and with reality has borne good fruit. When out on such creative work today, artists make a practice of "getting the masses' opinion on their work." The suggestions so made have clearly been of enormous help in getting greater authenticity in detail and in helping the artist get a better grip on his subject as a whole.

At the Peking preview, paintings in traditional Chinese style attracted particular attention. Traditional painters are shaking off the bad tradition of academism that led to divorce from reality. Now they are paying more attention to the realist precepts of the greatest

classical masters and the demands of the times. They are going out into the midst of the people to get material for their paintings and they have been genuinely inspired by the tremendous progress made since liberation. This is giving a new vitality to their brushes. The new men and new things which have moved them have vastly increased the scope of the themes they treat in their paintings. New subject matter, new feelings, new problems of treatment have demanded original artistic solutions and vision in applying traditional techniques. All this has added up to a new and intense interest in the growth of traditional painting.

Kuan Shan-yueh, a famous landscape painter, presents *The Leap Forward in the Mountain Villages* in the traditional form of a long scroll 1,536 cm. X 31.5 cm. As it unfolds, the scroll depicts village scenes from spring to winter: the people working diligently and joyously in the fields and villages, digging irrigation ditches, leading streams across the hills, improving farming implements, studying methods of raising production, playing games and at other recreations. . . . It is a pastorate on the theme of "conquering nature and raising production" by the Chinese peasants.

The Institute of Chinese Painting in Kiangsu Province has contributed a collective work, *Battle for Steel*, which reflects China's mass movement to pro-



Free meals for all

Painting in traditional Chinese style



Battle for steel!

Painting in traditional Chinese style

duce more steel for her expanding industries. The depiction of a number of native-style blast furnaces belching smoke, surrounded by the activity of a steel yard, creates an effect of boisterous activity seldom seen in paintings of the traditional style. Another collective work by this institute is entitled: *Free Meals for All*. This, and Chen Lin-hsiang's *People's Communes Light Up the Way*, and Wu Tso-jen's *Home for the Old*, depict the changes in the people's life since the formation of people's communes in the villages. Only ten years ago, peasants such as those depicted lived a life of hunger and misery; today, in many of the people's communes they enjoy free meals as much as they can eat, while the children and the old people are leading a happy carefree life.

The big construction projects that New China has built and is building are naturally the themes of many of the paintings being sent to Moscow. The building of the Ming Tombs Reservoir near Peking, which has become a symbol of what mass action can do when led by the Communist Party, is the theme of several paintings. A collectively painted scroll by artists of the Peking Institute of Chinese Painting shows what the area round the famous reservoir will look like in the future, when its shores will have been landscaped into a garden. An oil painting by Wang Shih-kuo captures the time when Chairman Mao Tse-tung and other government leaders went there to work with the people. Li Hu has created an effective water-colour painting of a night scene at the construction site.

Moving Mountains and Filling Up the Valleys is a picture of the building of the Yingt'an-Amoy Railway by Li Shih-ching. This, a good example of the varied themes now being treated, is a lively picture of workers slicing and laying a way for the lines on the cliff-like slopes of the mountains and across deep gorges.

A few of the exhibits being sent to Moscow have been chosen from among those produced in the earlier years after the liberation. Most of these deal with

themes of the revolution: *Eight Heroines of the Peony River* by Wang Sheng-lieh depicts in the traditional style the eight girl members of a guerrilla unit operating against the Japanese invaders in 1936 who drowned themselves in the Peony River rather than surrender to the enemy; *In Those Difficult Years*, Pan Ho's sculpture of a veteran of the Chinese Red Army playing the flute as a "little devil" listens to him, is a little lyric of the revolutionary optimism of the men of the Chinese Red Army during the Second Revolutionary Civil War (1927-1937); Tung Hsi-wen's well-known oil painting, *Inauguration of the People's Republic of China*, showing Chairman Mao proclaiming the founding of the People's Republic, is also being sent.

The Chinese exhibits will also include new works by China's folk artists, such as coloured clay figurines and wood engravings, and cartoons and posters. These latter mostly deal with the struggle against imperialist aggression.

— Yu Feng

BOOKS

A Simple Geography of China

by Wang Chun-heng

Foreign Languages Press. 256 pp.

Those wishing to have a handy, comprehensive reference book on the geographical facts of life in China will find this new publication in English a useful addition to their bookshelves.

With the daily growth of friendship between this nation and peoples in other parts of the world, there is an urgent and constantly growing demand abroad for the facts about New China. Increasing knowledge about the great achievements made and the radical changes taking place in the country have made it all the more necessary to have an up-to-date background on the general facts of Chinese geography. This book answers this need.

It is in two parts. Part I deals with the general geography of China. It

gives a systematic account of its topography, mineral resources, rivers and lakes, and population, etc. Part II is in twelve sections dealing in detail with the twelve geographical regions into which China is customarily divided. The location and main physical features, climate, soil and vegetation, of each region are given with descriptions of its utilization and control of rivers and lakes, its inhabitants with particular reference to the various national minorities, economic development, communications and cities.

There are quite a number of books on Chinese geography in foreign languages, but none has been able to draw, as fully as this does, on geographical data produced by recent Chinese research and the events that have changed Chinese geography since the liberation in 1949 and the building of socialism in China.

This handbook thus publishes new material for the first time in English. It gives a satisfactory treatment of the latest Chinese geographical data, the conditions of its inhabitants, economic development, changes in the key systems of water conservancy, and the latest information about distribution of mineral resources, communications and cities since the founding of the People's Republic of China in 1949. The writing is concise and to the point, terse and clear. Maps and illustrations are well printed and there is a useful index.

But even this book has failed to keep pace with events in this fast-moving country. Since it went to press the building of new towns and completion of great new construction projects have been reported; new deposits of natural resources and mineral wealth have been discovered and there have been changes in her administrative regions. In October this year, for instance, the establishment of the Ninghsia Hui Autonomous Region with 1,822,000 inhabitants was announced.

Although, as the title suggests, this book makes only modest claims for itself, still it would have been welcome

to have got a slightly deeper treatment of the conditions of the inhabitants in various regions and more details about economic developments. Some more illustrations showing systematically the various types of geological structure found in China would have helped readers get a better idea of the conditions met with.

There are also some slips that need correction in further editions: The population of Inner Mongolia is not 739,000, but 7,390,000. But all in all, this is well worth recommending as an introduction to New China's geography.

—Yi Ren

SPORTS

World Weight-lifting Records

China's weight-lifting champions are again in the limelight. Two world records were set up during the friendly contest between weight-lifters of the Central Council of Trade Unions of Poland, the Uzbek Soviet Socialist

Republic and China on November 29 and 30 in Peking. Light-weight champion Huang Chiang-hui broke the world record of 157.5 kg. for the clean and jerk with a lift of 158 kg., and light-heavy-weight champion Chao Ching-kuei jerked 177.5 kg. which is 1 kg. more than the world record he himself set up on September 30.

Huang Chiang-hui competed on the first day. After both pressing and snatching 115 kg. which gave him a good lead over his opponents, he set out to break the world record for the clean and jerk. He got a big hand from spectators when he jerked the bar-bells successfully over his head, lifting 158 kg., 0.5 kg. more than the world record set up by Tan Howe Liang of Singapore. Weighing in that day at 67.4 kg., his performance during the contest was excellent. He won first place in the light-weight class with a total lift of 388 kg. which is only 2 kg. less than the world record now held by Bushuev of the Soviet Union.

On the second day, it was light-heavy-weight champion Chao Ching-kuei who became the centre of attrac-

tion. Last July competing against the weight-lifters of the United Arab Republic, he made a vain attempt to break the world records for the snatch and the jerk. Undaunted, he continued training and on September 30 this 22-year-old youngster successfully jerked 176.5 kg. to break the world record of 176 kg. held by Jim George of the United States. On November 30, at the Poland-Soviet Uzbekistan-China contest, he had another go at breaking the world record for the jerk. After pressing 125 kg. and snatching 127.5 kg., he jerked 167.5 kg. at the first try. Then he asked for 177.5 kg., which he successfully jerked at his third try. He won first place in his class with a total lift of 430 kg.

China won the contest with a total of 17 points; Soviet Uzbekistan came second with 16 points, and the Central Council of Trade Unions of Poland third with 8 points. China's Chen Ching-kai won first place in the bantam-weight class with a total of 322.5 kg., and Li Pai-yu won first place in the middle-heavy-weight class with a total lift of 420 kg.

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 RIVER PAVILION** A play written by the famous Yuan dynasty playwright Kuan Han-ching, about a beautiful woman who outwits the schemes of the powerful Lord Yang to get rid of her husband and possess her.

Dec. 9, 7:00 p.m. Chang An Theatre

▲ **GENERALS OF THE YANG FAMILY** The story of Yang Chi-yeh, a famous general in the Sung dynasty, and his eight soldier sons. They are defeated by foreign invaders with the traitors at the Chinese court.

Dec. 10, 7:00 p.m. Chang An Theatre

▲ **YAO CHI** A traditional opera. The story of Liu Hsiu's ingratitude to his supporter, General Yao Chi, once he becomes the ruler of the Eastern Han Empire.

Dec. 11, 7:00 p.m. Ji Xiang Theatre

▲ **FOUR SCHOLARS** Four scholars who pledge themselves to serve the people as they enter the civil service are involved in a murder case. Three of them fail to keep their promise, but one keeps his word and brings the murderers to justice.

Dec. 12, 7:00 p.m. Ji Xiang Theatre

▲ **YU TANG CHUN** A well-known opera based on the love story of a famous Ming courtesan, named Yu Tang Chun.

Dec. 14, 7:00 p.m. Guang He Theatre

(Operas listed above are produced by the Peking Opera Company of Peking, starring such well-known artists as Ma Lien-liang, Tan Fu-ying, Chang Chun-chiu, and Chiu Sheng-jung.)

PINGJU OPERA

▲ **YANG NAI-WU AND HSIAO PAI-TSAI** A well-known murder case of the Ching dynasty. Produced by the China Pingju Opera Theatre.

Dec. 11-12, 7:00 p.m. Da Zhong Theatre

▲ **DRIVE FOR STEEL** A new Pingju opera describes the "big leap" in a steel plant during the national drive for steel. Produced by the China Pingju Opera Theatre.

Dec. 13, 7:00 p.m. Da Zhong Theatre

THEATRE

▲ **HEARTS AFLAME** A group of Volunteers back from Korea set up a factory in a disused building. Battling difficulties they make it a success. Produced by the Peking People's Art Theatre.

Dec. 9-16, 7:30 p.m. Peking Workers' Club

▲ **PAPER TIGER** A satire on the men in Washington who dream of annexing China's Taiwan. Produced by the China Youth Art Theatre.

Dec. 9-15, 7:00 p.m. China Youth Art Theatre

▲ **SONG OF YOUTH** Adapted from Yang Mo's popular novel of the same title. A stirring description of the revolutionary youth movements in Peking and its struggle against the Kuomintang terror in 1931-1935. Produced by the Central Drama School.

Dec. 9-13, 7:30 p.m. Shiyun Theatre

KOREAN CONCERT TROUPE

The Song and Dance Troupe of the Korean Democratic People's Republic will perform at the Shoudu Theatre.

Dec. 9 & 10, 7:15 p.m.

FILMS

▲ **CROSSING THE NATURAL BARRIER** How the People's Liberation Army fighting against nature succeeds in building a bridge on the Sikang-Tibet Highway. A feature film produced by "August 1" Film Studio.

Dec. 9-12, Shoudu Theatre, Dong Dan Workers' Club, Peking Theatre

Dec. 12-15, Shengli, Xi Dan Workers' Club

▲ **AND QUIET FLOWS THE DON** Adapted from Sholokhov's famous novel of the same title. The life and struggles of the Don Cossacks during World War I; the love story of a Cossack youth. A Soviet colour film dubbed in Chinese.

Dec. 9-12, Da Hua, Jiao Dao Kou, Ertong

Dec. 13-15, Zhongyang, Guang An Men, Peking Workers' Club

▲ **CAPTAIN KOLN** A G.D.R. film dubbed in Chinese. An unemployed restaurant attendant, mistaken for an ex-Nazi army officer and war criminal, becomes a protegee of the West German monopoly capitalists who get him elected to the Bundestag. When his real identity is revealed, he is sentenced to five years in jail for not being a real war criminal.

Dec. 9-12, Peking Exhibition Centre Cinema, Xin Jie Kou, Zhongyang, Peking Workers' Club, Guang An Men

Dec. 13-15, Da Hua, Jiao Dao Kou, Ertong

EXHIBITIONS

▲ **EXHIBITION ON THE ACHIEVEMENTS OF THE ACTIVE YOUNG BUILDERS OF SOCIALISM** Open daily (except Mon.) 8:30 a.m.-5:00 p.m. at 13 West Kung Yuan St., inside Chien Kuo Men Gate.

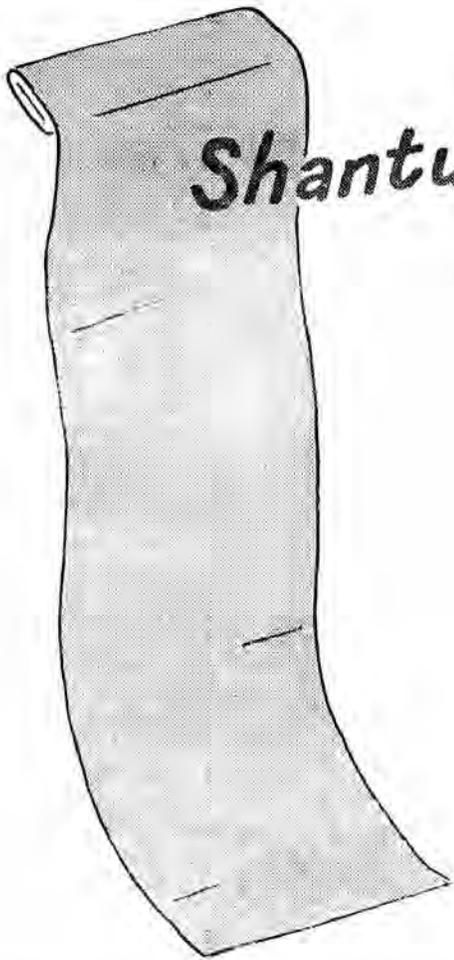
▲ **EXHIBITION ON THE INTEGRATION OF EDUCATION WITH PRODUCTIVE LABOUR** Guided by the educational policy of the Chinese Communist Party, students show what they can do under the "work while you study" programme. Open daily (except Mon.) 9:00 a.m.-5:00 p.m. at the College of Agricultural Mechanization, outside Teh Sheng Men Gate, and the College of Educational Administration, outside He Ping Men Gate.

▲ **NATIONAL EXHIBITION OF INDUSTRY AND COMMUNICATIONS** Open daily (except Mon.) 9:00 a.m.-5:00 p.m.

At Peking Exhibition Centre and Building Construction Exhibition Centre

▲ **EXHIBITION OF COLOURED WOOD-BLOCK PRINTS BY JUNG PAO CHAI** Over 300 new reproductions of peasant drawings, folk art, masterpieces of the Sung, Yuan, Ming and Ching dynasties as well as work by modern artists. Among other outstanding prints: *Horse Drinking in an Autumn Field* by the Yuan dynasty painter Chao Meng-fu. Open daily 9:30 a.m.-8:30 p.m. till Dec. 10.

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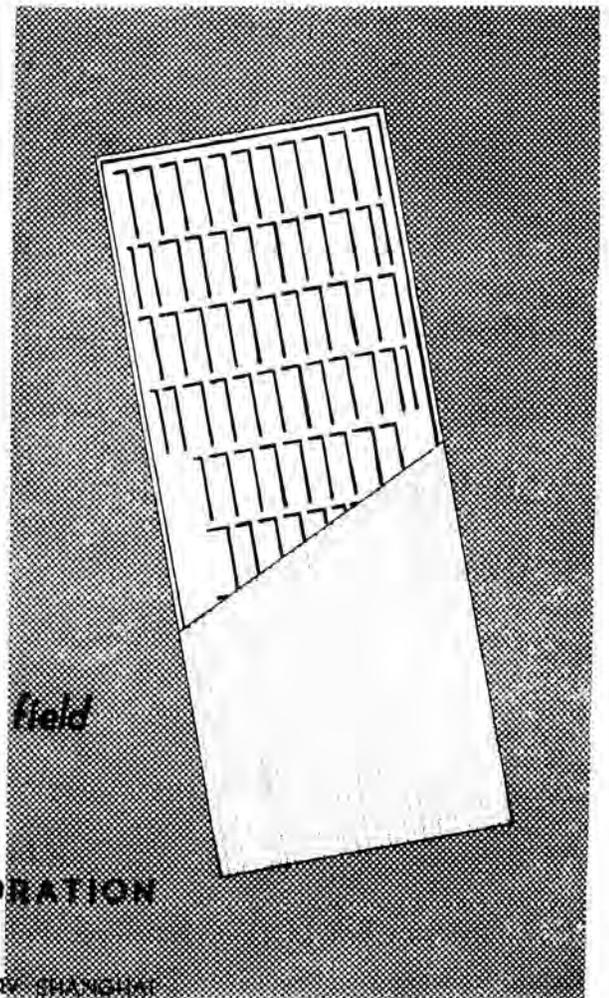
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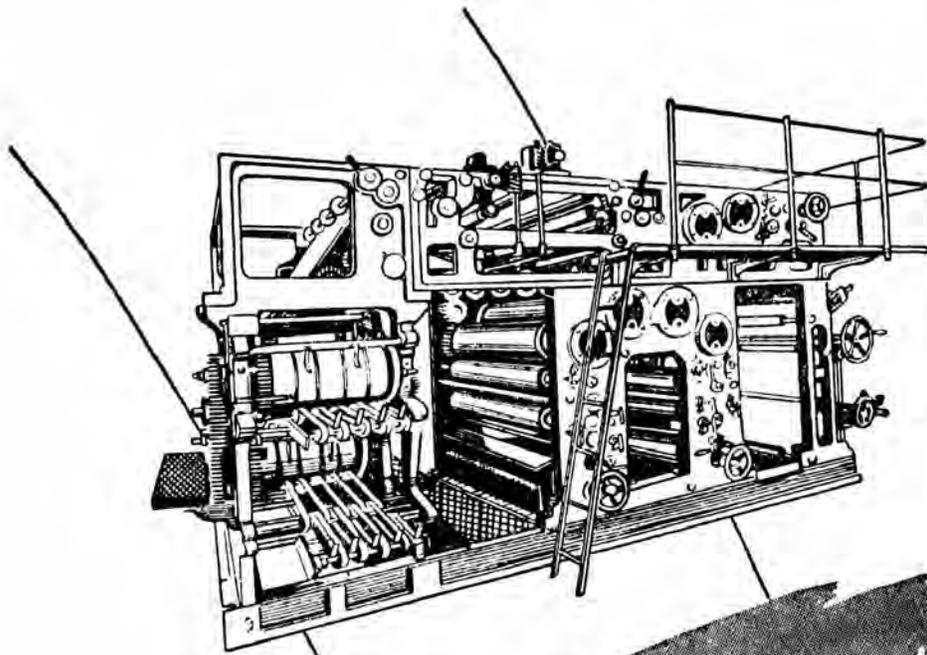
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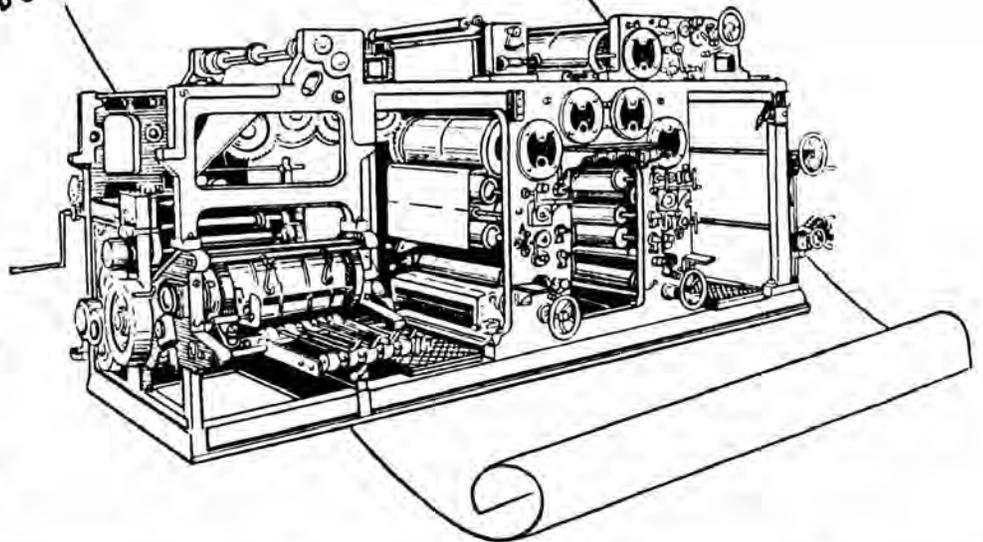
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