Chairman Mao Meets President Nixon

The Principle of Acupunctural Anaesthesia

Diplomatic Relations Established Between China and Mexico and Between China and Argentina
CONTENTS

THE WEEK

Chairman Mao Meets President Nixon
Chairman Mao’s Message of Condolences to Mrs. Snow
Edgar Snow’s Death Mourned
New Method for Treating Bone Fractures
Message of Greetings to the Communist Party of Brazil
Agreement Between China and Cambodia
Collecting and Purchasing of Grain Completed

ARTICLES AND DOCUMENTS

President Nixon Arrives in Peking
At Banquet Welcoming President Nixon:
Premier Chou’s Toast
President Nixon’s Toast
Studying Marxist Works: Restudying “A Single Spark Can Start a Prairie Fire” —
by the Writing Group of the Yunnan Provincial Committee of the Communist
Party of China
Kailon: Miners Today and Yesterday — Our Correspondents
Medical Discussion: The Principle of Acupuncture Anaesthesia — by the Peking
Acupuncture Anaesthesia Co-ordinating Group
How Thoracic Operations Are Done Under Acupuncture Anaesthesia
New Successes in 1971: Shanghai Industrial Exhibition — Our Correspondents
A Seaside Village: Mechanized Fishing
Diplomatic Relations Established Between China and Mexico
Diplomatic Relations Established Between China and Argentina
Soto and Co.: “Ignorant” or Pretending to Be Ignorant?
Firmly Support the Northern Irish People’s Just Struggle — Renmin Ribao Comment-
tator
Worsening Economic Situation in West Europe

ROUND THE WORLD

Italy: Strikes Against Rising Unemployment
Japan: “Disciplinary Action” Against Fujiyama
Chairman Mao Meets President Nixon

Chairman Mao Tsetung met President of the United States Richard Nixon on the afternoon of February 21 in Chungnanhai. They held serious and frank discussions.

Present on the American side was Dr. Henry Kissinger, Assistant to the President on National Security Affairs.

Present on the Chinese side were Chou En-lai, Premier of the State Council, Wang Hai-jung, Deputy Director of the Protocol Department of the Foreign Ministry, and Tang Wen-sheng, interpreter.
Chairman Mao’s Message of Condolences
To Mrs. Snow

Mrs. Lois Snow:

Please accept my deep condolences and heartfelt sympathy on the untimely passing away of Mr. Edgar Snow from illness.

Mr. Snow was a friend of the Chinese people. He exerted unremitting efforts throughout his life and made important contributions in promoting the mutual understanding and friendship between the Chinese and American peoples. His memory will live for ever in the hearts of the Chinese people.

Mao Tsetung
February 16, 1972

Edgar Snow’s Death Mourned

Mr. Edgar Snow, a friend of the Chinese people and a well-known American author, died of illness on February 15. Chairman Mao Tsetung, Soong Ching Ling, Vice-Chairman of the People’s Republic of China, and Premier Chou En-lai sent messages of condolences on February 16 respectively to Mrs. Snow.

In her message, Vice-Chairman Soong Ching Ling said: “Just received your grievous message of the untimely passing of our most sincere friend who staunchly supported our struggle against native fascist reaction and Japanese military invasion during our war of resistance. Our strong friendship symbolized also mutual support in the just cause of the Chinese and American peoples.”

In his message, Premier Chou said: “Mr. Snow’s life was a testimony to the sincere friendship between the Chinese and American peoples. Back in the period of the Chinese people’s national-democratic revolution, he already entered into friendship with China’s revolutionary forces. Breaking through the numerous obstacles of that time, he enthusiastically introduced to the American and other peoples the Chinese revolutionary struggles and the 25 thousand ‘li Long March’ of the Chinese Workers’ and Peasants’ Red Army, which were undertaken under the leadership of Chairman Mao Tsetung. After the liberation of our country, he came again on several visits and reported the progress of the people’s revolutionary cause of New China led by Chairman Mao. His writings were widely appreciated both in China and abroad. Even during his serious illness, he never ceased turning his mind to working for better understanding and friendship between the Chinese and American peoples. The Chinese people will not forget such an old friend of theirs.”

“Mr. Snow has left us, but we believe that the friendship between the Chinese and American peoples, for which he worked all his life, will certainly grow daily.”

People of various circles in Peking held a solemn ceremony on February 19 to pay their last respects to Mr. Snow. Presented by Chairman Mao, a wreath in the hall had these words inscribed on the white ribbon: “To Edgar Snow, a friend of the Chinese people.” Wreaths were also presented by Vice-Chairman Soong Ching Ling, other leading Chinese comrades, organizations concerned and Mr. Snow’s friends. Among those attending the ceremony were Chou En-lai, Chiang Ching, Li Fu-chun, Kuo Mo-jo, Tsai Chang, Teng Ying-chiao and other leading comrades. Also present were Frank Coe, an American friend, and Djawoto, Secretary-General of the Afro-Asian Journalists’ Association, as well as other foreign friends in the capital.

The ceremony was presided over by Kuo Mo-jo, Vice-Foreign Minister Chiou Kuan-hua delivered the memorial speech.

During Mr. Snow’s illness, Comrade Chen Chi-fang, Chinese Ambassador to Switzerland, and Comrade Huang Hua, China’s Permanent Representative on the Security Council of the United Nations, visited him to convey the heartfelt regards of China’s Party and state leading comrades. Chinese doctors, nurses and working personnel made a special trip to Switzerland to visit him.

New Method for Treating Bone Fractures

Combining traditional Chinese and Western medicine, doctors in Tianjin’s Fanti Hospital have developed a new method for treating bone fractures. To fix the fractures, instead of using a plaster cast which involves encasing the joints both above and below the fractures, the doctors use splints made of elastic willow wood and paper pads which they bandage to the fractured parts. With the splints on, the patients take appropriate exercise under the guidance of medical personnel to promote early union of fractures and restoration of functions of the injured limbs. They have used this method to treat over 13,000 cases with heartening results since 1958. Compared with the usual Western method employed in the past, the time needed for the joining of fractures has been shortened by one-third or half; since the patients take exercise to restore the functions of injured limbs simultaneously with the joining of fractures, the time needed for treatment has been shortened by half or even two-thirds. Many patients have thus been freed from undue pain caused by an operation, traction or plaster cast.

A young woman has a comminuted fracture of the right elbow joint and the ulna of her forearm was severed into three parts. After setting the fractures by hand and bandaging willow wood splints on the elbow and forearm, the doctors told the patient to exercise her elbow gently. Six weeks later, the splints were removed, and another month or so of
Message of Greetings to the Communist Party of Brazil

The Central Committee of the Communist Party of China on February 17 sent a message of greetings to the Central Committee of the Communist Party of Brazil on the occasion of the 50th anniversary of the founding and the 10th anniversary of the reorganization of the Communist Party of Brazil. The message reads:

The Central Committee of the Communist Party of China, on behalf of all Party members and the people of China, extends its warmest greetings to the Communist Party of Brazil and the Brazilian people on the occasion of the 50th anniversary of the founding and the 10th anniversary of the reorganization of the glorious Communist Party of Brazil.

"For the last 50 years, the brilliant Communists of Brazil have fought heroically and wave upon wave for the liberation of the Brazilian people and waged an irreconcilable struggle against opportunism of various descriptions. Since 1962 in particular when the Marxist-Leninists of the Party broke with the revisionist clique and reorganized the Communist Party of Brazil, they have strived to integrate the universal truth of Marxism-Leninism with the concrete practice of revolution of the country and scored important successes in their revolutionary struggle. We are rejoiced and inspired by each and every success of the fraternal Communist Party of Brazil.

"The Communist Party of China and the Chinese people, armed with Marxism-Leninism-Mao Tsetung Thought, resolutely support the Communist Party of Brazil in its struggle against imperialism, revisionism and the reactionaries at home. The fighting unity and friendship forged between our two Parties and between our two peoples in the great struggle against their common enemies will surely be consolidated and develop with each passing day.

"Long live the glorious Communist Party of Brazil!
"Long live invincible Marxism-Leninism!"

massaging, physiotherapy and exercises completely restored the shape and functions of the injured arm.

A foundry worker with a fracture of the thigh bone receiving the same treatment could walk three weeks later with the help of crutches. After seven weeks, the splints were removed and the worker left the hospital without crutches.

A peasant injured at the waist had his second lumbar vertebra compressed and flattened and his lamina fractured. Without any medicine applied to the fractured parts or other treatment, the patient took appropriate exercises instead in accordance with the doctors’ advice. Six weeks later, the flattened vertebral body was restored almost to normal and the fractured lamina began to heal. So far, there has been no symptom of lumbago or other after-effect.

These successes of the Tientsin hospital are a tremendous inspiration to Chinese medical workers who are redoubling their efforts in exploring the treasure-house of traditional Chinese medicine and further raising their vocational proficiency by combining traditional Chinese and Western medicine.

Agreement Between China And Cambodia

An agreement was signed in Peking on February 11 between the Government of the People’s Republic of China and the Royal Government of National Union of Cambodia on China’s economic aid and military supplies to Cambodia for 1972.

Attending the signing ceremony were:

Samdech Norodom Sihanouk, Head of State of Cambodia, Samdech Penn Nouth, Prime Minister of the Royal Government of National Union of Cambodia, and Ieng Sary, Special Envoy of the Interior Part of Cambodia; and

Chou En-lai, Premier of the State Council, Yeh Chien-ying, Vice-Chairman of the Military Commission, and Li Hsien-nien, Vice-Premier of the State Council.

Sarin Chhak, Minister of Foreign Affairs of the R.G.N.U.C., and Chi Peng-fei, Foreign Minister of the People's Republic of China, signed the agreement on behalf of their respective Governments.

Collecting and Purchasing Of Grain Completed

Doing their bit in support of socialist construction, members of people’s communes throughout the country have actively delivered grain (agricultural tax in kind) and sold their surplus to the state. As a result, the 1971 grain levy was met, while purchasing targets were over-fulfilled. Grain received by the state granaries was rated good quality.

All this reflects the excellent situation in China’s farm production. Last year the country gathered its tenth consecutive rich harvest.

In collecting and purchasing the grain, departments concerned took into consideration the interests of the state, the collective and individuals. Not only did state granaries receive more grain than in the previous year, the collective reserve grain of people’s communes also increased, with a corresponding improvement in the commune members’ living standards.

February 25, 1972
President Nixon Arrives in Peking

Richard Nixon, President of the United States of America, arrived in Peking by special plane on the morning of February 21 on a visit at the invitation of the Government of the People’s Republic of China.

Mrs. Patricia Nixon is accompanying him on his visit.

The other members of the official party accompanying President Nixon on his visit are William P. Rogers, Secretary of State; Dr. Henry A. Kissinger, Assistant to the President on National Security Affairs; H.R. Haldeman, Assistant to the President; Ronald L. Ziegler, Press Secretary to the President; General Brent Scowcroft, Military Assistant to the President; Marshall Green, Assistant Secretary of State for East Asian and Pacific Affairs; Dwight L. Chapin, Deputy Assistant to the President; John A. Scali, Special Consultant to the President; Patrick J. Buchanan, Special Assistant to the President; Miss Rose Mary Woods, Personal Secretary to the President; Alfred le S. Jenkins, director of a bureau of the State Department; John Holdridge, Senior Staff Member on the National Security Council; and Winston Lord, Senior Staff Assistant to Dr. Kissinger. Also accompanying President Nixon are 22 members of the unofficial party, as well as technical personnel and the press corps.

Greeting President Nixon and his party at the airport were Chou En-lai, Premier of the State Council; Yeh Chien-ying, Vice-Chairman of the Military Commission; Li Hsien-nien, Vice-Premier of the State Council, and his wife Madame Lin Chia-mei; Kuo Mo-jo, Vice-Chairman of the Standing Committee of the National People’s Congress; Chi Peng-fei, Minister of Foreign Affairs, and his wife Madame Hsu Han-ping; Wu Teh, Vice-Chairman of the Peking Municipal Revolutionary Committee; and others.

Also present at Peking Airport were Members of the Standing Committee of the National People’s Congress; a member of the Standing Committee of the National Committee of the Chinese People’s Political Consultative Conference; and leading members of government departments, the Chinese People’s Liberation Army, the Peking Municipal Revolutionary Committee and other organizations concerned.

Premier Chou En-lai and other Chinese leaders shook hands with President and Mrs. Nixon and the others in welcome when they stepped down from the plane.

Peking Airport flew the national flags of China and the United States. The band played the national anthems of the United States and China. President Nixon, accompanied by Premier Chou En-lai, reviewed a guard of honour made up of men of the ground, naval and air forces of the Chinese People’s Liberation Army.

President and Mrs. Nixon and others, accompanied by Premier Chou En-lai and others, drove to the Guest House.

Madame Teng Ying-chao, wife of Premier Chou En-lai, and Madame Yu Li-chun, wife of N.P.C. Standing Committee Vice-Chairman Kuo Mo-jo, greeted President and Mrs. Nixon at the Guest House.

Chiao Kuan-hua, Vice-Minister of Foreign Affairs, Chang Wen-chin, Director of the Department of West European, American and Australian Affairs, and Wang Hai-jung, Deputy Director of the Protocol Department, of the Foreign Ministry, and others went to Shanghai to meet President and Mrs. Nixon and accompanied them to Peking.

Talks Held

Premier Chou En-lai held talks with President Nixon the afternoon of the latter’s arrival.


Taking part in the talks on the Chinese side were Yeh Chien-ying, Li Hsien-nien, Chi Peng-fei, Chiao Kuan-hua, and leading members and staff members of departments concerned Hsiung Hsiang-hui, Chang Wen-chin, Han Hsu, Wang Hai-jung, Peng Hua, Chien Ta-yung and others.

Premier Chou Gives Banquet

Premier Chou En-lai gave a banquet in the banquet hall of the Great Hall of the People on the evening of February 21 to welcome the President and Mrs. Nixon.
Accompanied by Premier Chou, President Nixon reviews the guard of honour made up of men of the ground, naval and air forces of the Chinese People's Liberation Army.

Premier Chou En-lai and others with President and Mrs. Nixon, members of the official party and the unofficial party.

The national flags of the United States and China hung in the banquet hall. The banquet began with the band playing the national anthems of the United States and China. Premier Chou En-lai and President Nixon proposed toasts at the banquet (for full texts of their toasts see pp. 8-9). The band played Chinese and American songs, including Sailing the Seas Depends on the Helmsman and America the Beautiful.

Attending on invitation were the members of the official party William P. Rogers, Henry A. Kissinger, H.R. Haldeman, Ronald L. Ziegler, Brent Scowcroft,
Marshall Green, Dwight L. Chapin, John A. Scali, Patrick J. Buchanan, Miss Rose Mary Woods, Alfred le S. Jenkins, John Holdridge, and Winston Lord; the members of the unofficial party; and the technical personnel, the press corps and the plane crew accompanying President Nixon on his visit.

Present were Yeh Chien-ying, Li Hsien-nien and his wife, Kuo Mo-jo, Ngapo Ngawang-Jigme, Vice-Chairman of the Standing Committee of the National People's Congress, Fu Tso-yi, Vice-Chairman of the National Committee of the Chinese People's Political Consultative Conference, Chi Peng-fei and his wife, Chiao Kuan-hua, and Wu Teh.

Prior to the banquet, Premier Chou En-lai and other Chinese leaders met President and Mrs. Nixon and members of the official party, the unofficial party, the technical personnel, the press corps and the plane crew accompanying President Nixon on his visit, and had photographs taken with them separately.

Also present at the banquet were:


Members of the N.P.C. Standing Committee Hsieh Fu-min, Pei Shih-chang, Hua Lo-keng, Chi Fang, Chu Ko-chen, Lin Chiao-chih, Hu Yu-chih and Lo Shuchang;

Members of the Standing Committee of the National Committee of the Chinese People's Political Consultative Conference Chou Pei-yuan, Chu Yun-shan, Liu Fei, Liu Wen-hui, and Jung Yi-jen; Members of the C.P.P.C.C. National Committee Feng Yu-lan, Tu Yu-ming and Cheng Tung-kuo; and well-known personage Cheng Szu-yuan; and


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At Banquet Welcoming President Nixon

Premier Chou's Toast

Mr. President and Mrs. Nixon,

Ladies and Gentlemen,

Comrades and Friends,

First of all, I have the pleasure on behalf of Chairman Mao Tsetung and the Chinese Government to extend our welcome to Mr. President and Mrs. Nixon and to our other American guests.

I also wish to take this opportunity to extend on behalf of the Chinese people cordial greetings to the American people on the other side of the great ocean.

President Nixon's visit to our country at the invitation of the Chinese Government provides the leaders of the two countries with an opportunity of meeting in person to seek the normalization of relations between the two countries and also to exchange views on questions of concern to the two sides. This is a positive move in conformity with the desire of the Chinese and American peoples and an event unprecedented in the history of the relations between China and the United States.

The American people are a great people. The Chinese people are a great people. The peoples of our two countries have always been friendly to each other. But owing to reasons known to all, contacts between the two peoples were suspended for over twenty years. Now, through the common efforts of China and the United States, the gate to friendly contacts has finally been opened. At the present time it has become a strong desire of the Chinese and American peoples to promote the normalization of relations between the two countries and work for the relaxation of tension. The people, and the people alone, are the motive force in the making of world history. We are confident that the day will surely come when this common desire of our two peoples will be realized.

The social systems of China and the United States are fundamentally different, and there exist great differences between the Chinese Government and the

Peking Review, Nos. 7-8
United States Government. However, these differences should not hinder China and the United States from establishing normal state relations on the basis of the Five Principles of mutual respect for sovereignty and territorial integrity, mutual non-aggression, non-interference in each other's internal affairs, equality and mutual benefit, and peaceful coexistence; still less should they lead to war. As early as 1955 the Chinese Government publicly stated that the Chinese people do not want to have a war with the United States and that the Chinese Government is willing to sit down and enter into negotiations with the United States Government. This is a policy which we have pursued consistently. We have taken note of the fact that in his speech before setting out for China President Nixon on his part said that “what we must do is to find a way to see that we can have differences without being enemies in war.” We hope that, through a frank exchange of views between our two sides to gain a clearer notion of our differences and make efforts to find common ground, a new start can be made in the relations between our two countries.

In conclusion, I propose a toast

to the health of Mr. President and Mrs. Nixon,

to the health of our other American guests,

to the health of all our friends and comrades present, and


to the friendship between the Chinese and American peoples!

President Nixon’s Toast

Mr. Prime Minister and all of your distinguished guests this evening:

On behalf of all of your American guests, I wish to thank you for the incomparable hospitality for which the Chinese people are justly famous throughout the world. I particularly want to pay tribute, not only to those who prepared the magnificent dinner, but also to those who have provided the splendid music. Never have I heard American music played better in a foreign land.

Mr. Prime Minister, I wish to thank you for your very gracious and eloquent remarks. At this very moment, through the wonder of telecommunications, more people are seeing and hearing what we say than on any other such occasion in the whole history of the world. Yet, what we say here will not be long remembered. What we do here can change the world.

As you said in your toast, the Chinese people are a great people, the American people are a great people. If our two people are enemies the future of this world we share together is dark indeed. But if we can find common ground to work together, the chance for world peace is immeasurably increased.

In the spirit of frankness which I hope will characterize our talks this week, let us recognize at the outset these points: We have at times in the past been enemies. We have great differences today. What brings us together is that we have common interests which transcend those differences. As we discuss our differences, neither of us will compromise our principles. But while we cannot close the gulf between us, we can try to bridge it so that we may be able to talk across it.

So, let us, in these next five days, start a long march together, not in lockstep, but on different roads leading to the same goal, the goal of building a world structure of peace and justice in which all may stand together with equal dignity and in which each nation, large or small, has a right to determine its own form of government, free of outside interference or domination. The world watches. The world waits to see what we will do. What is the world? In a personal sense, I think of my eldest daughter whose birthday is today. As I think of her, I think of all the children in the world, in Asia, in Africa, in Europe, in the Americas, most of whom were born since the date of the foundation of the People’s Republic of China.

What legacy shall we leave our children? Are they destined to die for the hatreds which have plagued the old world, or are they destined to live because we had the vision to build a new world?

There is no reason for us to be enemies. Neither of us seeks the territory of the other; neither of us seeks domination over the other, neither of us seeks to stretch out our hands and rule the world.

Chairman Mao has written, “So many deeds cry out to be done, and always urgently; The world rolls on, Time presses. Ten thousand years are too long, Seize the day, seize the hour!”

This is the hour. This is the day for our two peoples to rise to the heights of greatness which can build a new and a better world.

In that spirit, I ask all of you present to join me in raising your glasses to Chairman Mao, to Prime Minister Chou, and to the friendship of the Chinese and American people which can lead to friendship and peace for all people in the world.

February 25, 1972
Restudying “A Single Spark Can Start a Prairie Fire”

by the Writing Group of the Yunnan Provincial Committee of the Communist Party of China

Today when socialist revolution and socialist construction in China are forging ahead and when the revolutionary struggle of the world’s people is advancing, we are tremendously inspired by restudying our great leader Chairman Mao’s A Single Spark Can Start a Prairie Fire. The development of history has proved that Chairman Mao’s correct line reflects the objective law of the Chinese revolution and all the erroneous lines that have appeared run counter to this law. Chairman Mao’s thesis that “a single spark can start a prairie fire” is a Marxist-Leninist scientific foresight and revolutionary truth, and it will always inspire us to advance triumphantly along Chairman Mao’s correct line.

Correct Analysis of Revolutionary Situation

A Single Spark Can Start a Prairie Fire was a well-known letter written by Chairman Mao in the early stage of the Second Revolutionary Civil War (1927-37) in criticism of pessimistic ideas in the Party. Following the defeat of the momentous revolution in 1927, the revolution was temporarily at a low ebb throughout the country. At this crucial juncture, there was in the Party an extremely intense struggle between the two lines centring around the basic question of how to appraise the revolutionary situation and future and what road the Chinese revolution should take.

Frightened to death by Chiang Kai-shek’s bloody massacre, the Right capitulatists represented by Chen Tu-hsiu were pessimistic about the future of the revolution. Raving that China’s democratic revolution had ended and that the proletariat could only wait for some future day to stage a “socialist revolution,” they slid from capitulationism to liquidationism. The “Left” putschists represented by Chu Chiu-pai, on the other hand, refused to admit that the great revolution had failed and, mistakenly regarding China’s revolutionary situation as a “permanent upsurge,” tried to organize, with the big cities as the centres, a series of local uprisings which had no prospect of success. If the “Left” or Right opportunist lines had been followed, the result could only have been the end of the Chinese revolution. With fearless proletarian revolutionary spirit, Chairman Mao waged a tit-for-tat struggle against the opportunist lines of Chen Tu-hsiu and Chu Chiu-pai and opened the way to victory for the Chinese revolution.

Lenin, great teacher of the revolution, pointed out: “Marxism requires of us a strictly exact and objectively verifiable analysis of the relations of classes and of the concrete features peculiar to each historical situation.” (Letters on Tactics.) Whether a correct appraisal of the balance of class forces and of the situation in class struggle can be made or not is a precondition of whether the correct line and policies can be formulated and the proletarian revolution can be ensured to advance along the correct road. In A Single Spark Can Start a Prairie Fire, Chairman Mao began with the question of appraising the current situation. Scientifically analysing the contradictions in Chinese society and the situation in class struggle at that time, Chairman Mao pointed out clearly that “the counter-revolutionary tide had begun to ebb and the revolutionary tide to rise again,” that the revolutionary force’s “growth is not only possible but indeed inevitable,” and that “all China is littered with dry faggots which will soon be aflame.” Though the revolution was temporarily at a low ebb at that time, Chairman Mao optimistically foresaw that the revolutionary high tide would soon arrive. “It is like a ship far out at sea whose mast-head can already be seen from the shore; it is like the morning sun in the east whose shimmering rays are visible from a high mountain top; it is like a child about to be born moving restlessly in its mother’s womb.”
Contrary to Chairman Mao’s scientific thesis, those persons in the Party persistently maintaining pessimistic ideas failed after Chen Tu-hsiu’s liquidationism and, considering the situation at that time completely bleak, spread all kinds of pessimism. They did not believe that the revolutionary high tide was imminent and held that the situation “gave no cause for optimism” and that the prospects of victory were “remote.” They even asked the question: “How long can we keep the Red Flag flying?” Misled by the transient phenomenon of an overcast sky and frightened by the Kuomintang reactionaries’ attacks, the pessimists began to waver in working for the cause of the people’s revolution.

Deciding on the Correct Road

Different appraisals of the situation inevitably led to different conclusions with regard to the road the Chinese revolution should take. Integrating the universal truth of Marxism-Leninism with the concrete practice of the Chinese revolution, Chairman Mao pointed out for our Party the only correct road of the Chinese revolution, which was: Under the leadership of the Communist Party, build rural base areas and use the countryside to encircle and finally capture the cities. This revolutionary road was correct because it was based on a scientific analysis of contradictions in Chinese society and of the revolutionary situation and balance of class forces, and it was in complete conformity with the objective law governing the development of the Chinese revolution. In The Chinese Revolution and the Chinese Communist Party, Chairman Mao pointed out: “The contradiction between imperialism and the Chinese nation and the contradiction between feudalism and the great masses of the people are the basic contradictions in modern Chinese society. Of course, there are others, such as the contradiction between the bourgeoisie and the proletariat and the contradictions within the reactionary ruling classes themselves. But the contradiction between imperialism and the Chinese nation is the principal one.” The feudal landlord class was the main social base of imperialist rule in China, while the peasants were the main force of the Chinese revolution. If help was not given to the peasants in overthrowing the feudal landlord class, then a strong force of the Chinese revolution could not be organized to overthrow imperialist rule. Therefore, “the peasant problem becomes the basic problem of the Chinese revolution.” In order to lead the Chinese revolution to victory, the proletariat had to mobilize and arm the peasants, carry out the land revolution and build solid revolutionary base areas in the countryside. As a result of contention among the imperialist countries, China was not politically and economically unified, and there were prolonged splits and incessant wars within the reactionary ruling classes. This made possible the establishment and expansion of revolutionary base areas in the countryside. “In semi-colonial China the establishment and expansion of the Red Army, the guerrilla forces and the Red areas is the highest form of peasant struggle under the leadership of the proletariat, the inevitable outcome of the growth of the semi-colonial peasant struggle.”

Proceeding from a wrong appraisal of the situation, the pessimists did everything they could to oppose Chairman Mao’s correct thinking on building rural revolutionary base areas. They spread the nonsense that the revolutionary high tide was still remote and that it was “futile” to undertake the arduous task of building political power. They put forward the fallacy of “first winning over the masses and then building political power.” They were neither willing to admit nor did they understand the various contradictions in Chinese society and their interconnections; instead, they kept their eyes shut and talked nonsense, trying to substitute “roving guerrilla actions” for the establishment of rural revolutionary base areas. This was completely out of accord with the actual state of the Chinese revolution, and was a wrong line. Whether or not to build rural revolutionary base areas was a major question of principle over which Chairman Mao waged repeated struggles against both the “Left” and Right opportunist lines in the period of the democratic revolution. How could the land revolution be carried out and the masses won over without establishing rural revolutionary base areas? How could political influence be increased without consolidated rural revolutionary base areas? And without such base areas and using them as the basis for continued advance in a series of waves, how could the revolutionary forces be accumulated, the people’s armed forces expanded and the nationwide great revolutionary high tide hastened? Instead of building rural revolutionary base areas, they babbled about “winning over the masses,” “extending our political influence” and “a great nationwide revolution.” All this was diametrically opposed to Chairman Mao’s correct line.

In the course of leading the Chinese revolution, Chairman Mao repeatedly criticized the ideology of roving rebel bands which did not want to build base areas. In Problems of Strategy in Guerrilla War Against Japan, Chairman Mao stressed: “The conflict between the idea of establishing base areas and that of fighting like roving rebels, arises in all guerrilla warfare.” “Ridding the minds of guerrilla commanders of this idea [roving-rebel idea] is a prerequisite for deciding on a policy of establishing base areas.” The erroneous idea of not establishing revolutionary base areas criticized here corresponds with the pessimism criticized in A Single Spark Can Start a Prairie Fire.

Two different roads lead to two different futures. By mobilizing the masses of peasants to take an active part in the land revolution in accordance with Chairman Mao’s revolutionary line, we succeeded in building the Red Army even when we did not have one before, established revolutionary base areas from scratch and expanded these base areas. The result was a single spark rapidly became a prairie fire. If we had acted
according to the pessimists, the result would only have been separation from the masses and liquidation of the revolution.

Irresistible Historical Tide

Pessimistic ideas have their deep roots in world outlook. Keeping in mind the idealistic and metaphysical world outlook of the pessimists, Chairman Mao said in *A Single Spark Can Start a Prairie Fire*: “When we look at a thing, we must examine its essence and treat its appearance merely as an usher at the threshold, and once we cross the threshold, we must grasp the essence of the thing; this is the only reliable and scientific method of analysis.” An important question in the Marxist theory of knowledge is to see through the phenomena and grasp the essence. In appraising a situation or comparing our forces with those of the enemy, pessimists act contrary to this Marxist theory of knowledge. They always mistake phenomena for the essence, minor aspects for the main aspects, and the parts for the whole, and regard things that are developing and changing as static and isolated. After the defeat of the great revolution, they failed to understand that although the subjective forces of the Chinese revolution were weak, the forces of the counter-revolution were relatively weak too, that although the subjective forces of the revolution were small, they could expand rapidly, and that although the revolution was temporarily at a low ebb, the revolutionary high tide would come soon. They did not know that small and big, weak and strong, defeat and victory, and darkness and brightness were all two contradictory aspects each of which, in given conditions, would transform itself into its opposite. Reactionary forces look ferocious, but since they represent the corrupt and decadent classes, they are bound to be defeated. On the other hand, revolutionary forces represent the direction in which history develops, so in essence they are invincible. At the beginning, they may be weak and small, and may even suffer temporary setbacks, but as long as they have a Marxist-Leninist line, they can grow in size and strength and turn defeat into victory.

Pessimism is the world outlook of the declining landlord and capitalist classes. Those who cling to such an outlook always overestimate the strength of the enemy and underestimate the strength of the people; they never have faith in the masses and do not rely on them, and they do not have faith in or rely on the Party. When they meet temporary difficulties or when the revolution is at a low ebb, they waver, run away, become traitors or resort to adventurism and putschism. When the revolution advances smoothly or is at a high tide, they often take an ultra-“Left” stand, regard all successes as their own and push a reactionary line that is ultra-“Left” or “Left” in form but Right in essence. Persons clinging to this reactionary world outlook will inevitably set themselves against the masses, keep back the tide of history and become reactionaries vainly trying to stop the earth from rotating.

Lenin pointed out: “A revolutionary is not one who becomes revolutionary with the onset of the revolution, but one who defends the principles and slogans of the revolution when reaction is most violent and when liberals and democrats vacillate to the greatest degree.” *Notes of a Publicist.* Chairman Mao’s criticism of pessimistic ideas demonstrates the proletarian revolutionary’s firm principled stand and fearless spirit in struggling against erroneous trends. With the same spirit of upholding principle, Chairman Mao waged resolute struggles against Wang Ming’s “Left” and Right opportunist lines and against Chang Kuo-tao’s Right splitalist line, and led the democratic revolution in China to victory.

* * *

The 50-year history of our Party has proved that the struggle between the two lines always begins with different appraisals of the revolutionary situation. To oppose Chairman Mao’s proletarian revolutionary line, opportunists and revisionists who vainly try to hold back the tide of history always distort and vilify the excellent revolutionary situation and create public opinion for pushing their counter-revolutionary revisionist line. This is true of such renegades as Chen Tu-hsiu, Wang Ming and Chang Kuo-tao, and also true of Liu Shao-chi and other political swindlers. This is what we should be on special guard against. In studying the brilliant work *A Single Spark Can Start a Prairie Fire*, we should learn to use Marxist-Leninist methods to analyse the political situation and appraise the class forces, constantly raise our consciousness of class struggle and the struggle between the two lines, see through in good time the counter-revolutionary features of the class enemies and smash their sinister plots.

Chairman Mao’s scientific thesis that “a single spark can start a prairie fire” has revealed the objective law of the development of the revolutionary tide. In his great practice in leading the Chinese revolution, Chairman Mao always educates and inspires the whole Party and the people of the entire country with the concept “A single spark can start a prairie fire” and the thoroughgoing revolutionary spirit of daring to struggle and to win, in order to defeat domestic and foreign enemies, overcome opportunist adverse currents within the Party and continuously advance from victory to victory. “A single spark can start a prairie fire” is an apt description of the progress of the Chinese revolution, one of continuous victory of Chairman Mao’s proletarian revolutionary line over “Left” and Right opportunist lines within the Party. The correctness or incorrectness of its line decides the success or failure of a political party. If the line is correct, then revolutionary sparks will rapidly become a prairie fire, but if the line is incorrect, a political party will lose the political power it has seized. The 50-year history of our Party and the history of the international communist movement have proved this irrefutably.

*(Abridged translation of an article published in “Hongqi,” No. 13, 1971.)*

Peking Review, Nos. 7-8
Miners Today and Yesterday

by Our Correspondents

IT was a few days before New Year's Day when we visited the Kailan Coal Mine, one of China's big coal mines. The whole place was buzzing with activity when the news of successes in overfulfilling the year's production plan and achieving new production records made the rounds. With the 1971 target met seven days ahead of schedule, the miners were ready to do even better in 1972.

During our visit we went to see miners and their families.

Masters of the Mine

The Kailan Coal Mine has a long history. Chinese labouring people began digging coal here 500 years ago. After the imperialists sank their claws into China at the end of the 19th century, the mine was taken over for half a century. One foreign plunderer leaving Kailan after the city of Tangshan was liberated said venomously: "The miners can never run the mine. Without us, Kailan will have to close down in three months."

But the dialectics of history are inexorable. Today, it is miners from the old days and their descendants who lead and manage the mine and have given it an entirely new look.

Fourth generation miner Kao Yung-sheng is Vice-Chairman of the Revolutionary Committee of the Tangshan Mine which is almost 100 years old.

His great grandfather Kao Chen-chung sweated under the capitalist lash. He was squeezed out of a crowded cage filled with dozens of miners and was killed. Unable to keep alive, his grandfather Kao Ho-ming had to go back to the mine. Working more than 10 hours a day, the grandfather still could not earn enough to support his family. Because he was so poor, he couldn't get medical treatment for his illness and died. Kao Kuo-en, Kao Yung-sheng's father, had sworn that he himself would never be a miner. He hired himself out as a farm-hand and also did other backbreaking work, but he still couldn't earn enough to keep body and soul together. Driven to the wall, the father was forced to work in the hell that was the Tangshan Mine when he was 20. Later, 14-year-old Kao Yung-sheng, too, worked in the mine as a child-labourer, living like a beast of burden.

The life of four generations of the Kao family reflects the Kailan miners' history of blood and tears in the 50 years before liberation.

The founding of New China in 1949 announced that history had entered a new era, one in which people became their own masters. Cultivated and educated by the Party and state, many miners have grown to maturity and have become leading cadres. Kao Yung-sheng's case is not unique.

More than 80 per cent of the cadres now managing the mine came up from the workers' ranks, and 44 per cent of the revolutionary committee members in the different collieries and plants are miners directly engaged in production.

As masters of their destinies, the miners all have a part in managing the mine. They can make their criticisms and suggestions at any time for improving production, mine management and workers' well-being. The cadres on their part always listen to their opinions.

For example, in 1970, veteran worker Ma Yung-kuang wrote a big-character poster criticizing the leadership here. It said: "The leadership achieved successes in the past and was praised. What should be done today? Will it advance quickly or go slow?" The whole mine was agitated and the poster was supported by all the miners. The leadership then made a self-criticism. This big-character poster played an important role in helping raise coal production.

The miners now have a firm grasp of production techniques which foreign plunderers once asserted were far too advanced for them. Many of the problems which could not be solved under imperialist rule have been solved by them. The imperialists cast a covetous eye on the rich coal deposits in Fankouhuang. They tried more than once to build a shaft there but failed because the problem of moving sand could not be cleared up. A big modern shaft was erected after liberation. The chief engineer who led the technical work in the shaft was Ouyang Chi-hsiu, a miner in the old society.

Having suffered greatly in that society, he was sent to study in the Peking Mining Institute after liberation. For him to learn all the courses from primary school to college level in only a few years was not going to be easy. Recalling the miserable life in
the old society in which his wife and children had starved to death and the trouble he had because education and technique had been denied to him, he refused to bow before difficulties. Determined to win honour for the working class and master modern scientific techniques, he finished his six years' study in the institute. When he returned to the mine, he still wanted to be a worker so that what he learnt in the institute could be tested in practice. Because of his excellent record in making many technical innovations, he was promoted to technician, then engineer and finally chief engineer in a period of more than 10 years.

Miners today also take part in managing state affairs. Kaiian Coal Mine workers are to be found among the deputies to the Hopei Provincial and Tangshan Municipal People's Congresses and the National People's Congress, and among the Members of the Party Central Committee and Party committees at various levels. Comrade Fan Teh-ling, Alternate Member of the Ninth Central Committee of the Communist Party of China, is a miner in the Kaiian Coal Mine.

**Safety Guaranteed**

"The shaft is hell, people's lives have to be sacrificed to get coal." This was what the local people had to say about the wretched working conditions in the Kaiian Coal Mine which had been seized by imperialism for a long time. In reality that was the case. What the foreign capitalists wanted was coal; they did not care a hang about lives. Accidents caused by water, fire, gas and cave-ins occurred constantly. Many miners were buried in the shafts.

Kao Ching-hai, responsible for safety in the mine, is one of the very few survivors of the old miners.

When we met him, he had just finished a lecture to a safety personnel training class. He told us: "Classes like this are held regularly. Several thousand people are responsible for safety work in the whole mine. They receive special training from time to time."

Nothing is more appropriate than choosing people like Kao Ching-hai to be in charge of safety work. In the old society, he personally experienced accidents in the shafts and saw with his own eyes many brother miners die. Now, he works with all his energy for the safety of his class brothers.

He told us a story of 30 years ago. One day, when his father went down into the shaft, there was a sudden gas explosion. To protect it, the capitalists ordered the exit closed. All 432 miners working in one section of the shaft were killed. At that time Kao's father fortunately was working in another tunnel and he survived. Another time, when there was a serious water seepage in the same shaft, the first thing the foreman did was to save the coal-carrying animals, and afterwards he blocked the tunnel and dozens of miners were drowned. Kao's father had left this work-face a few minutes before the tragedy to carry loads somewhere else, so once again he had a narrow escape.

Just as his father, Kao Ching-hai also had a close call. He was digging coal with five other miners when the foreman ordered them to dig in a dangerous spot. Rocks dropped on the miners working there, three were killed and the two others seriously injured. Kao luckily was not at that spot and was later rescued.

He angrily told us that for decades foreign capitalists had stolen from Kaiian 200 million tons of high-quality coal, which, if built into a one-metre-high and one-metre-wide wall, could circle the globe four times.

The Party and Government set out to improve the miners' safety and working conditions after liberation. The state invested a large sum of money to buy new equipment and sent many cadres there to do the job. Kaiian's safety situation has been basically improved.
Accidents due to water, fire, gas and cave-ins have been effectively checked.

Ventilation is an essential factor guaranteeing good working conditions in production. Before liberation, Kailan had very few ventilators and these were ineffective. A worker in a shaft got less than one cubic metre of fresh air per minute. Working in the shaft was like being in a kiln, and there were frequent gas explosions. With the building of 11 fan shafts and installation of many high-efficiency ventilators and fans, every worker in a shaft now gets 6 to 9 cubic metres of fresh air per minute.

There was not a single dust-control pipeline before liberation. In opening one cubic metre of work-face, miners absorbed 500 to 600 mgs. of dust sometimes nearly 1,000 mgs. So large a quantity of dust and dirt made many silicosis victims. Today because more than 100,000 metres of dust-control pipeline have been laid and comprehensive wet dust-control measures adopted, dust has been reduced to 2 mgs. per cubic metre. Those who suffered silicosis before liberation are mostly in the sanatorium. Since liberation anyone with the slightest symptom of silicosis immediately gets medical treatment or is transferred to another job. There have been very few silicosis patients in the past 20 years.

An automatic drainage system has been installed to solve the problem of water seepage.

A safety system has also been set up. Every colliery has one main cadre in charge of safety, and a check is made every month. Apart from safety personnel, there are those who are specially responsible for fire prevention, checking water, ventilation, tunnel maintenance, and gas; and examining dust—all to prevent accidents. If any does happen, effective measures will be taken to keep losses at a minimum.

The miners have better labour protection conditions, all unimaginable in the old society. Work clothes and raincoats are free. There is hot water and the miners eat one hot meal in the shaft. When the miners come up, there are large bath houses with sulphur baths to prevent skin disease. Sun lamp treatment (the mine has sun lamps with a total power of 19,000 watts) is available for the miners who spend 8 hours a day below the surface.

On the streets of Tangshan city we saw healthy looking, cleanly dressed miners on their way home from work, happy that they had fulfilled their production quotas.

Miners' New Life

We went to see veteran miner Li Tzu-tsai. He lives in a workers’ new village which has over a thousand households located on the sunny side of some slopes, an ordinary residential quarter in north China.

Only Li Tzu-tsai and his wife were home. We saw a porcelain statue of Chairman Mao in the room. On the chest of drawers were a radio, clock and tea-set, near a sewing machine and chairs. The room was fragrant with the smell of camellias and chrysanthemums. Coloured bedding was piled high on the warm kang in the room. We saw Chairman Mao's works and some books and newspapers on the table on the other side of the room. There also were Manifesto of the Communist Party, Anti-Dühring, The Civil War in France and other books which the cadres and the masses are studying in response to the call of the Party.

Li Tzu-tsai was very busy those days. He had come home late the night before and gone to work early in the morning. He had just come in when we got there. He told us that the 1972 production plan was being worked on.

The hostess talked with us while preparing tea.

Li wore a broad smile as he talked about his elder son. “This lucky boy is in a university,” he said. After graduating from middle school, he had worked in the same shaft with his father and was sent to the university last year. The family's expenses take only half his income.

From our observation, Li is in the habit of reading. In his talk with us he ranged from family life to his studies. We wondered how this man who went hungry in the old society got his education? After liberation, he attended a literacy class, workers’ spare-time school and correspondence school which were run by the mine.
to help the workers raise their educational level. He now can read newspapers and books. He told us he was studying Chairman Mao's philosophical works and taking part in criticizing the idealist “apriorism” spread by Liu Shao-chi and other political swindlers. He has also studied The Civil War in France, which was somewhat difficult for him. But he could ask other comrades to help him.

We visited the mine's administration office which specially handles workers' welfare. Members of the staff told us: Average wages of miners in the shaft are one-third higher than for those doing other kinds of work. Generally speaking, a miner's income is four or five times that of basic household expenses (clothing, food, housing and transportation). Like everyone else in China, miners do not pay income tax or other extra expenses.

Parents pay very little for their children's education and have no worries about them getting jobs which are arranged by the state based on an overall plan.

The miners have seen fundamental improvements in housing. Many in the old society were too poor to marry; even when they were over 30 and 40 many still were bachelors. Most miners lived in run-down dormitories or rooms — often dozens of people in one room — owned by the capitalists.

In the more than 20 years since liberation, miners' housing built by the state is 6 times what was built in the previous 70 years. The residences of a few high-ranking employees in the past are now lived in by miners at very low rents. Rentals amount to a few cents a square metre for maintenance and repairs, and water and electricity are free. Dormitories have been put up for the unmarried rent free. And there are also rooms for the miners to rest in the shafts.

The mining area has wide-ranging health facilities. Medical personnel are on duty every shift in the shafts, and mobile medical teams make the rounds of all residences. There are sanatoria for those with chronic diseases as well as places where they can recuperate. Compared to pre-liberation days, the number of medical personnel has gone up more than 7 times and the increase in hospital beds is six-fold. All mining workers and staff enjoy free medical service; family members pay half the cost of medicines.

There are several dozen canteens of different sizes which are open 24 hours a day. Wages of the kitchen staff come out of the welfare fund and half the cost of coal, water and electricity used by the canteens are state subsidized.

Miners' family members and some who have retired have voluntarily organized to grow vegetables and fruit. They also raise animals and fish and have set up dairy farms. Fresh vegetables and meat are thus available to the miners all year round.

People working in the nurseries, barber shops, laundries and other services are paid from the welfare fund. An infant over 50 days old can be put in a nursery for only two yuan a month. From kindergarten through middle school, schooling is available to the children here without them having to go outside the Kaian area. For parents this means less need to look after them at home.

According to a comrade in the administration office, the state spends an average of 140 yuan a year for each miner's welfare. This amount, which comes from the production fund, equals the one and a half months' wage of an ordinary miner. Basic living standards of retired workers are guaranteed, the average outlay for them being more than 70 yuan a month.

The same comrade told us: "There is still a lot of work to do. For instance, we've not been able to completely solve the housing question. While a number of buildings have gone up, they still aren't enough for what is needed. We still have to do better."

Our last call was on a retired worker, Sung Ping-ho. As it turned out, he was not at home. He had gone to the countryside as a member of a delegation organized by Hopei Province to visit educated young people who had settled there.

However, the man's wife, Yao Tso-lien, and a daughter who works in a grinding tool plant were home. The wife was very glad to see us and told us how proud she was of her family which in addition to her husband includes five children. Usually, she said, only the two of them are at home because the children are working. On holidays sons, daughters, daughter-in-laws, son-in-laws and grandchildren come over and crowd into the three large rooms like they do when joining them to celebrate New Year's Day.

"Actually," Yao Tso-lien said, "Old Sung and I don't stay home much. He has his activities, like going with this or that delegation. I'm in the residential area's art troupe. A few days ago when a Japanese mining delegation came to Kaian, our troupe put on a performance." She had sung an aria from The Red Lantern.

It was dusk when we took our leave. As we walked past row after row of well-lighted homes, many thoughts came to mind. On the eve of the liberation of China, Chairman Mao had said: "Not only can the Chinese people live without begging alms from the imperialists, they will live a better life than that in the imperialist countries."

The changes in the lives of the Kaian miners for over 20 years have completely proved how correct his prediction was.
The Principle of Acupunctural Anaesthesia

by the Peking Acupunctural Anaesthesia Co-ordinating Group

Anaesthetization by acupuncture is a new accomplishment derived from integration of traditional Chinese and Western medicine. (See “Peking Review,” No. 33, 1971.) Its clinical practice and theoretical study are constantly being developed and enriched. In the course of study and research, different views concerning its principle have been brought forward. The following article explains the preliminary views of some Peking medical workers regarding several more commonly debated questions. — Ed.

Anaesthetization by acupuncture involves needling certain points on a patient’s body to induce analgesia. Since more and more such points have been found for anaesthetization during operations, attention is focused on the study of points on the human body.

Points for Needling

Traditional Chinese medicine holds that needling certain points is particularly efficacious for certain ailments. For instance, needling the hoku point, between the metacarpi of the thumb and forefinger, is especially effective for toothaches and needling the tsusanli point, on the external side of the leg just below the knee, is good for gastrointestinal diseases. We can see under the fluoroscope that needling the tsusanli point of a human or animal intensifies intestinal peristalsis. Chinese medical workers have in the last few years discovered many new points and cured many “incurable” diseases. Deep needling of the yumen point, for instance, enables deaf-mutes to hear and speak, and in some cases of infantile paralysis or paraplegia, suitable stimuli from needling certain points can, after a period of treatment, restore the functions of limbs paralysed for years. This shows that in acupuncture treatment different points are specific in the effect they produce.

Repeated practice in using acupunctural anaesthesia for pneumonectomies has enabled us to gradually reduce the number of needles from 40 to 1 to do a successful operation. But this does not mean needling any one point will produce the desired effect. Even in the case of the two groups of points we usually prescribe, the results are different: one is particularly efficacious in preventing difficulty in breathing after the chest has been opened, while the other is good for stopping pain. After analysing the results of some 20 different combinations of points used in 300 appendectomy cases performed with acupunctural anaesthesia, we found one combination most effective. Later, using this combination, we obtained the desired result in most of the 100 or so similar operations.

When acupunctural anaesthesia is used for uterine surgery, operations are sometimes hampered by the inflated intestine bulging out of the abdominal cavity. If that occurs, immediate relief can be obtained by giving a strong stimulus through needling the tsusanli point. If a patient has spasm of the diaphragm during a splenectomy performed with this kind of anaesthetization, relief can be obtained by immediately needling the chuehmen point in the middle of the inner side of the forearm. There are many other similar cases which show that the specificity of different points is of great importance in acupunctural anaesthesia.

The specificity of acupuncture points is of course relative. While many points, when needled, produce a certain degree of analgesic effect on some parts of the body, careful analysis reveals that some points are more effective than the others. This is a manifestation of the relative specificity of points with regard to suppressing pain.

Since we do not yet have a completely objective method of reflecting pain, it is difficult to make an accurate comparison between the analgesic effects on a particular region by needling points on different parts of the body. But it has been proved through practice that stimulating certain points produces effects on particular organs or regions of the body. This shows that selection of points for needling is a relatively important factor in acupunctural anaesthesia.

February 25, 1972
"Chinglo" and Nerves

The relative specificities of points reflect the fact that there are certain special connections between different parts of the body (including the special connections between different parts of the body surface, between different internal organs and between the body surface and internal organs). But how are these connections effected? There are two different views. One school of traditional Chinese medicine holds that this connection is effected by means of chinglo (or meridian), while modern physiology maintains that it is effected mainly through the nerves.

Traditional Chinese medicine has revealed that morbid conditions of certain internal organs are often reflected on certain parts of the body surface. Needling certain points has conspicuous healing effects on ailments of the internal organs concerned. The pathway by which the connections between different parts of the body surface and certain internal organs are effected is called chinglo which links up all the viscera and different parts of the body surface, making the human body an integrated whole.

Modern physiology has also verified that different parts of the body are interconnected, but maintains that these connections are mainly effected through the nerves.

A question, therefore, arises: What is the relationship between chinglo and the nerves?

After making a correlative analysis of the results of acupunctural anaesthesia and segmental innervation, we found that chinglo and nerves in a large measure correspond with each other. Judging by the records concerning the functions and morphology of chinglo in traditional Chinese medical treatises, chinglo probably includes the nerve, blood vessel and endocrine structures and some of their functions. Nevertheless, the theory of chinglo concerning the connections between various parts of the body cannot be explained entirely by our present knowledge of neuro-anatomy and neuro-physiology. For instance, according to the chinglo theory, the kuangming point in the lower part of the leg is the main point for treating eye diseases. Good results have been obtained in needling this point to induce analgesia for eye operations. But how does needling the kuangming point affect the eyes and how are these two parts connected? It is very difficult to explain these facts with our present knowledge of neuro-anatomy and neuro-physiology. In addition, we have found that when pain is produced with thermal stimulation of certain parts of the limbs, sensitivity to pain appears in the corresponding areas on the ears. This shows that points on the ears have certain specific connections with other parts of the body. Explaining these connections with our present knowledge of neuro-anatomy and neuro-physiology is also difficult.

We consider, therefore, that chinglo includes not only the nerves and blood vessels but may also include certain connecting pathways and activities inside the human body, and the laws governing them are still unknown. In our opinion, chinglo may not necessarily be a system by itself, because the functions of the various systems in the human body are very complex and our present knowledge of them is very limited and incomplete.

Acupuncture Anaesthesia and Operations

Operations involve incising the skin and muscles, removing diseased organs or tissues and suturing the incised parts. The incision is sometimes many centimetres long, and the operation may last several or even more than ten hours. This produces a great deal of trauma to the body tissues. Why is it that when a few small needles are inserted into certain points, the patient undergoing an operation feels little or no pain?

Anaesthetization by acupuncture is to induce analgesia by needling certain points. To grasp the principle of acupunctural anaesthesia, therefore, we must first of all know what are the main physiological effects produced by needling certain points.

Using modern scientific methods, Chinese medical personnel and scientific workers have ascertained the following two main physiological effects.

First, the analgesic effect. Widespread clinical practice has proved that needling points on the body is very effective in stopping pain. Toothaches, headaches, lumbago and pain in the legs, chest and abdomen can be stopped immediately by needling or pressing certain points. Needling also produces conspicuous results in stopping post-operative pain. We experimented on ourselves and other normal persons to
measure the amount of pain sensation. From the more than 100,000 observations, we have found that sensitivity to pain on certain parts of the body is dulled by needling certain points, and normal pain sensation is felt again only after a much stronger stimulus than the original is given. This proves that needling the points not only stops but also prevents the feeling of pain.

Secondly, the regulating effect. That needling has such great power is also because of the regulating effect it produces, as was recorded in the Neiching, the oldest extant Chinese medical treatise. In fact, such regulating effect is the most important effect of acupuncture. It restores the disrupted functions of the human body to normal. Clinically, we often find that needling the same point corrects both diarrhoea and constipation, and brings a rapid or slow heart rate back to normal. Needling is good for high or low blood pressure, helps those who have fainted or are in a state of shock to regain consciousness, provides sedation for the agitated and helps those suffering from insomnia to get a good sleep. Needling is also efficacious for certain cases of inflammation. Experimental study has shown that needling certain points on the body of a normal person or animal increases the number of white blood corpuscles and intensifies phagocytosis.

We are of the opinion that the effect of needling in preventing and suppressing pain and its regulating effect are interconnected and react on each other, and it is precisely these effects that help increase the patient's endurance to withstand the operative procedure and reduce his sensitivity to pain. When this kind of anaesthetization is used, the patient, apart from feeling little or no pain, is fully conscious during an operation and can withstand its attendant trauma. This is why the relatively small stimulation produced by needling can overwhelm the much stronger stimulation resulting from surgical trauma.

On which parts of the body are these needling effects produced? And how are they produced?

A patient is fully conscious when acupunctural anaesthetization is administered. Therefore, whatever he feels inevitably passes on to the brain which plays the primary role in the functional regulation of the body. Feeling produced by needling the points and pain sensation resulting from the operation invariably go to the brain; hence the brain is the centre where the two react on each other.

We experimented on animals to study and verify the role played by the brain in acupunctural anaesthesia. When pain stimulus was applied on certain parts of an animal's body, we saw obvious electroencephalographic changes in a certain part of the cerebral cortex. Another form of electroencephalographic change appeared when a different point was needled. While simulating the process of performing an operation with acupunctural anaesthesia, first needling the points and then applying the pain stimulus, we noticed that electroencephalographic changes in the cerebral cortex caused by needling certain points could completely suppress or markedly weaken the electroencephalographic changes caused by the pain stimulus. Such effects differed when different points were needled. We think the principle of acupunctural anaesthesia may be related to this. Experiments have proved that similar phenomena also appear at various subcortical levels of the central nervous system. Therefore, the effects of acupunctural anaesthesia are in fact related to the different levels of the central nervous system, with possible participation of other factors, such as humoral factors. But since acupunctural anaesthesia is administered when patients are fully conscious, it is inevitable that the primary, regulating role of the brain with regard to the whole body is brought into play.

Since a patient is fully conscious after acupunctural anaesthesia is given him, his subjective dynamic role can be brought into play and he can co-operate with the doctors during the operation. This is unattainable by other methods of anaesthetization. For instance, using drug anaesthesia for removing the acoustic neura-oma, one may inadvertently damage other cerebro-nerve tissues, sometimes with serious consequences. But using acupunctural anaesthesia, the doctors have the full co-operation of the patient who can tell the doctor what sensation he is feeling, thereby enabling the operation to be carried out accurately and without damaging other cerebro-nerve tissues.

We know that a person's mental state exercises certain influence on the stimuli from the sensory organs. If he is in excellent spirits, sensitivity to stimuli may be reduced and hence the pain threshold is raised. Mental stability on the part of a patient coupled with his subjective dynamic role can bring better results to anaesthetization by acupuncture.

However, the patient's initiative alone cannot replace acupunctural anaesthesia in carrying out an operation. Acting together, the two can raise the patient's threshold for pain. Once we had a patient suffering from tuberculosis of the lung. When she was told that a pneumonectomy was required, she doubted whether such a big operation could be carried out under anaesthetization by acupuncture. But after the needle was inserted with resulting anaesthesia and the operation was under way, the unexpected, good results completely dispelled her tension and fear. With the patient taking the initiative in co-operating with the doctors, the operation proved a complete success.
"Often, correct knowledge can be arrived at only after many repetitions of the process leading from matter to consciousness and then back to matter, that is, leading from practice to knowledge and then back to practice." We have only just begun the study of the principle of acupunctural anaesthesia, and what we have tried to explain here is only a rough idea of our thoughts on the subject. The theoretical study of this kind of anaesthetization involves some yet unsolved questions in relevant branches of modern medicine and biology, and involves also the very substance of the chinglo theory in traditional Chinese medicine. Moreover, such study is conducive to further raising the effectiveness of acupunctural anaesthesia. At present, our understanding of the structure and functions of the human body is far from complete, and we cannot fully explain certain phenomena in anaesthetization by acupuncture. We still lack a comprehensive knowledge of the chinglo theory and related theories in traditional Chinese medicine. All this demands that while we gradually improve acupunctural anaesthesia through practice, we should carry out careful and painstaking scientific research.

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How Thoracic Operations Are Done Under Acupunctural Anaesthesia

Two of our Austrian readers have asked us how Chinese surgeons can open the chest and perform a pneumonectomy without giving the patient positive pressure breathing. If such breathing (administered under general anaesthesia) were not given, won't the patient suffocate because of the atmospheric pressure on the lung after the chest has been opened?

For the past six years, the Peking Tuberculosis Research Institute has successfully performed more than 400 pneumonectomies under acupunctural anaesthesia. We asked the institute for an explanation. — Ed.

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The development of chest surgery is closely related to improvement in the instruments and technique for giving the patient positive pressure breathing. Before the surgeons mastered this technique, it was very dangerous to perform chest surgery under normal atmospheric pressure. When we first began performing a pneumonectomy under acupunctural anaesthesia, apart from inserting needles in those points which induce analgesia, we also inserted needles in the points which could improve the patient's breathing in order to avoid physiological breathing disorders due to the sudden opening of the chest. With this method, although no danger emerged due to atelectasis, the patient still had difficulty in breathing.

To solve this problem, we injected air into the side of the chest to be operated on to deflate the lung beforehand in order to create artificial atelectasis. This enabled the patient to adapt to comparatively strong air pressure when the chest was opened during the operation. This still could not solve mediastinal flutter — big vibration of some organs in the chest cavity following a shortage of breath — and disorder in breathing.

In addition to acupunctural anaesthesia, we applied the breathing therapy of traditional Chinese medicinal practice. Before the operation, we asked the patient to practise deep abdominal breathing. Because breathing was mainly compensated for by the other lung, slow abdominal breathing by the patient during the operation and full function of the other lung helped maintain his breathing and overcome flutters of the organs so as to facilitate the operation.

Performing a pneumonectomy under acupunctural anaesthesia is being continually developed and perfected. A patient previously had to be needled at 40 points on his limbs and four medical workers had to twirl the needles without let-up during the operation. The number of points needed gradually has been reduced to 16. Then 12 and, later, only 2. In the past year or so, we have successfully performed more than 100 lung operations by deeply inserting only one needle on the external side of the patient's forearm involving two points.

There are still some problems to be handled in thoracic operations under acupunctural anaesthesia. The question we are now studying is how to perform an operation on a patient with a low pulmonary function.

— Department of acupunctural anaesthesia of the Peking Tuberculosis Research Institute

Peking Review, Nos. 7-8
Shanghai Industrial Exhibition

by Our Correspondents

We visited the Shanghai Industrial Exhibition, an epitome of the city’s flourishing industry, in January this year. During our visit we saw last year’s accomplishments by the city’s working class and scenes of its revolutionary spirit of self-reliance and hard struggle.

Motive Force Promoting Production

Many lots of gleaming iron and steel and non-ferrous metal products are on display. Among the things which specially caught our eye were: seamless stainless steel tubes with a wall as thin as less than 0.2 mm.; 3.5-mm. diameter irregularly shaped corrugated tubes, 100 of which weigh less than 200 grammes; high-grade alloy wire with a diameter of only 0.005 mm.; different high strength and high temperature resistant alloy plates; and various new alloy steels capable of standing a temperature between more than 100 degrees C. below zero and more than 600 degrees C. Shanghai’s steel and rolled steel output rose 16.8 and 15.1 per cent respectively last year above the 1970 figures, and more than 360 new varieties of rolled steel were trial-produced. The city is now able to produce over 1,000 varieties of steel and more than 10,000 specifications of rolled steel. Production, speed of development and varieties all set new records.

“The correctness or incorrectness of the ideological and political line decides everything.” The changes represented by these figures deeply reflect the struggle between the two classes and the two lines. During the last year Shanghai’s metallurgical workers exposed and criticized the revisionist line advocated by Liu Shao-chi and other swindlers like him and their crimes in sabotaging progress in the iron and steel industry. This raised the workers’ political consciousness. “No matter how great the difficulties,” they pledged, “we members of the working class are determined to overcome them; no matter how hot the weather is, our drive to get high output will best it.” They worked out the new technology of feeding converters with scrap steel directly and producing high-quality steel, thereby shattering the fallacy that “the converters cannot produce high-quality steel” spread by Liu Shao-chi and his gang. The workers created the new experience of maintaining normal production without stopping the furnaces while the furnaces were being overhauled. During the hot days of the year they succeeded in getting high output. Consequently the city’s iron and steel industry maintained stable output at a high level throughout the year and the annual state plans for steel and rolled steel were fulfilled 57 and 50 days ahead of time respectively.

Because of the interference and sabotage by Liu Shao-chi’s revisionist line before the Great Proletarian Cultural Revolution, some Shanghai steel plants advanced slowly in making low alloy steel. There were only five varieties in 1965. During the Great Cultural Revolution, the metallurgical workers and technical personnel produced one lot of new and unique varieties of steel on the basis of China’s resources of alloy elements. Steel varieties in this category now exceed 80. Output of a kind of high-grade alloy wire on display used to be very low. Though a few “experts” worked several years before the Great Cultural Revolution, they could not even work out a technological programme. Technical personnel and workers, with the latter as the mainstay, devised a new technology in a short period of time last year which merged the original seven processes into one and drew out the alloy wire blank while smelting was going on. Production shot up rapidly.

Using simple equipment the workers and staff members of the Shanghai Irregularly Shaped Steel Tube Plant made more than 2,200 varieties and specifications of seamless steel tubes, irregularly shaped alloy steel tubes and irregularly shaped rare metal tubes urgently needed by the state. The average increase was 175 varieties and specifications a year. They added another 280 or so varieties and specifications to their products in 1971, the first year of the Fourth Five-Year Plan.
The large numbers of varieties of steel and rolled steel on exhibition show that Shanghai’s metallurgical industry has begun to form a metal material base which is up to a certain technical level, turns out relatively complete varieties and specifications of products and is well co-ordinated. Compared with 1965, the year before the Great Proletarian Cultural Revolution began, steel varieties more than trebled and specifications of rolled steel nearly quadrupled.

Results of Technical Innovations

Continuously following Chairman Mao’s teaching “Maintaining independence and keeping the initiative in our own hands and relying on our own efforts” in the first year of the Fourth Five-Year Plan, Shanghai’s working class took on extensive socialist co-operation, sparked upsurges in the mass movement for technical innovations and made or devised many new products, techniques, technological processes and raw materials of an advanced level.

The electrical and other machines on display, including precision machine tools, equipment for big power stations, models of 10,000-ton ships, mining equipment, farm machines and tip lorries for mines, reflect in a concentrated way the new level achieved by Shanghai’s industry. Total output value of electrical and other machines in 1971 rose more than 10 per cent over that of 1970. Tremendous increases in mining, rolling and steel-making equipment gave the iron and steel industry and mine construction strong support.

The extra-long pipe conductor on display is an important wire in a generator with an inner water-cooled stator and rotor. This type of wire used to be made according to foreign technology, and not only was large equipment needed but the length of wire was limited. To improve this technology, the workers and staff members of the Shanghai Electrical Machinery Plant visited 22 concerned units and set up a three-in-one group, including people from plants making the needed equipment, organizations using pipe conductors and related scientific research institutes. By launching a vigorous mass movement and after dozens of experiments, the group trial-produced China’s first continuous casting and drawing equipment for copper pipe conductor. The total weight of this equipment is only one-25th that of a similar one. In addition, it also reduced a dozen or so processes and sets no limit on the length of the pipe conductors made.

The large high-precision screw thread grinder made by the workers and staff members of the Shanghai Machine Tool Plant last year has many characteristics, such as serving many purposes, a simple structure, small size, high precision and convenience in operation and maintenance. The grinder can process first-grade lead screws of 400 mm. in diameter and 5 metres in length. At the same time, it can do cylindrical grinding and automatically measure the pitch precision. The plant thus provided new technical equipment for the country to develop industries making precision machine tools, heavy machine tools and aircraft.

Models of 10,000-ton-class ocean-going freighters, mud-dredgers and ice-breakers on exhibit show the development of Shanghai’s shipbuilding industry. Having criticized Liu Shao-chi’s revisionist line of “putting the stress on repairing ships” and “repairing but not building ships,” China’s shipbuilders are determined to transform the backward features of the nation’s shipbuilding industry. Relying on their own efforts, they worked hard on the berths, combining a revolutionary spirit with a strict scientific approach. In 1970

(Continued on p. 31.)
A Seaside Village

Mechanized Fishing

Situated in the southeastern part of the Chiaotung Peninsula in Shantung Province, the Tayutao Brigade is a fishing village with more than 1,200 households. Relying on hard work after the establishment of the people's communes, the brigade has gradually mechanized production. Instead of netting fish by ordinary boats as they did before, brigade fishermen are now hauling in their catches with motorized junks they made themselves. They have built their once poor and backward old village into a new and rich socialist one.

Get Organized

A familiar saying in the village went like this: “Despots and shops in fisheries are like wolves; they collude with officials to fleece our folk. Their steel yards and guns bring untold suffering to us fishermen.” This was the real story of life in Tayutao before liberation. Though the village had less than 300 households then, more than 30 were either despots in the fishing trade or landlords. Taking advantage of their connections with the local authorities, they set up shops which exploited the fishermen by renting boats and nets, issuing usurious loans and hiring workers and robbed the poverty-stricken fishermen by using over-weighted steel yards when they bought fish, keeping false accounts and deliberately reducing the fish price. As a result of such heavy exploitation, 72 of Tayutao's households were forced to leave the village to seek a living somewhere else, 33 had to sell their children and 68 lived by begging. Of the over 1,000 inhabitants, 150 were hired by the year, 46 died of cold and hunger and 74 died in disasters at sea while fishing.

Masters of their country after their area was liberated, the fishermen were determined to build Tayutao into a new fishing village.

The villagers followed Chairman Mao's teaching “Get organized” and formed mutual-aid teams in 1953. Three years later they set up a fishing co-op. Responding to Chairman Mao's call “It is good to set up people's communes,” they organized a people's commune in 1958. As collectivization went ahead, production shot up. Soon afterwards, eight motorized junks were bought in turn by Tayutao from its public accumulation and it started mechanizing production.

Taking the Road of Self-Reliance

Motorized junks did not solve all the problems.

During the busy spring fishing season of 1959, two of them had engine trouble and lay on the shore for seven days. They were later repaired at a state shipyard, but the round trip took another six days. All this time the two junks were out of production.

Under these conditions, the general Party branch of the Tayutao Brigade organized the fishermen to study Chairman Mao's teachings on “self-reliance” and “hard struggle” and discuss: “Can we fishermen repair our motorized junks ourselves?” They all said they could by implementing the principle of self-reliance, carrying forward the revolutionary spirit of hard work and overcoming difficulties.

Three veteran fishermen and four girls who had just finished school formed a repair group, but none had an inkling of the needed skills. All they had were a lathe and an old motor which they had bought not long before and simple tools like screw drivers. Overcoming obstacles and working hard, they modestly learnt the various techniques and fixed up old or discarded equipment to meet their machine needs.

Chang Shu-jung, a 17-year-old girl, had never touched a lathe before she joined the group. To master operating it in the shortest possible time, she was around the lathe day and night, studying. After working hours she went to a county-run plant three kilometres away every day and learnt from veteran workers there. Then she would put what she had learnt into practice on the lathe. To get to know the functions of a particular part of the lathe, she often
squatted down beside it studying technical books and thinking things over carefully. Sometimes she stayed by the lathe the whole night and people found her falling asleep against it. She soon learnt all that was required to operate a lathe.

Learning while doing and doing while learning, the repair group rapidly mastered repairing every big or small part of the motorized junks.

During the Great Proletarian Cultural Revolution, the brigade’s general Party branch raised a new topic for discussion among the fishermen: Since we Tayutao people are now able to buy and repair motorized junks, can we build them ourselves?

A handful of overthrown landlords and fishery despots derided the fishermen behind their backs: “If fishermen can build junks, what’s the use of state shipyards?” They scoffed at the fishermen for “doing what’s beyond their ability” in going into building junks.

Some people were afraid of taking on this job without proper conditions. They thought there were lots of difficulties — no dock, shipyard buildings and equipment and little know-how.

The fishermen, however, replied boldly: Chairman Mao has taught us “It is people, not things, that are decisive” and conditions are created by man. The general Party branch enthusiastically supported this.

Despite very cold weather, they began building a dock.

A six-metre-high mound had to be removed at the dock site. The sea splashing over it formed a thick layer of ice. After the fishermen came to the place, they lighted a campfire, bored holes into the frozen mound, filled them with dynamite and blasted it. Though their hands were blistered and their arms swollen, they all ignored such hardship. Pi Ko-yu, secretary of the general Party branch and a demobbed soldier, had won the title “hard-boned fighter” because of outstanding service on the battlefield. He took the lead in hammering and cutting rock, working wherever there were tough jobs.

The billets were worn out and needed reforging. Wheelbarrows for hauling needed repairing. Chang Chu-wen and 11 other old fishermen voluntarily came to work and took over all the work of reforging billets and repairing wheelbarrows. This enabled the younger people to concentrate on removing the mound and speeding up the work.

After 76 days of arduous labour they excavated more than 6,000 cubic metres of stone and earth, removed the mound and built a dock with four slideways and capable of taking seven motorized junks.

One motorized junk needs more than one ton of different types of screws. At the beginning, they produced the screws by hand and production lagged behind the needs. A young man named Chou Chien-kuo decided to make a motor. He and several other youths went to a state plant to study the related techniques and, after their return, carried out repeated experiments. To overcome the technical difficulties, they sometimes even forgot their meals and slept. They discussed how to revise designs deep into the night. After working for a fortnight or so, they finally made a motor and thus increased efficiency in producing screws 21-fold compared with that by manual methods.

To build ships they needed a six-metre-long lathe to process big pieces, something the fishermen had no experience in making. The “three-in-one” group composed of workers, technicians and cadres tried to make it by their own methods. Because the stove they used in casting the body of the lathe was so small, the iron flowed slowly into the mould and temperature varied. Thus the congealed piece was not up to standard. In addition, the moulds were often broken when iron flowed in. Repeated experiments all ended in failure. They eventually decided to bury the moulds in the sand to reinforce them and put on a fire to keep regular temperature. They succeeded in casting the body of the lathe they needed.

Motorized junks which fishermen made themselves going out to sea.
The Tayutao people have made different kinds of machinery and equipment to build many motorized junks.

When the first motorized junk sailed out to sea, tears rolled down an 86-year-old fisherman’s cheeks as he felt the gleaming varnished ship. He said: “I have been a fisherman more than 60 years. I toiled most of my life for fish despots and only used small wooden boats. I never thought we would ever build motorized junks. How can we have today’s life without the Communist Party and Chairman Mao!”

Tayutao Brigade now has its own shipbuilding yard. It has trained a number of skilled shipbuilders and built 37 motorized junks, large and small. Except the main engines, the brigade made all the parts themselves.

Changes in the Wake of Mechanization

For generations the Tayutao people rowed their wooden boats to sea for fishing. Not only was production low, fishermen had no protection for their lives and property.

Their fishing grounds keep expanding because of the motorized junks. They now fish in the Yellow Sea as well as in the Pohai Sea and East China Sea, sometimes even as far as an area more than 500 kilometres away. Every junk has a shoal detector, telegraph transmitter and receiver and radio to contact the shore and other junks. Fishing methods have been improved. The brigade’s fish haul in 1971 was over 20 million jin, 40 times the annual catch just after liberation.

There is full protection for the fishermen’s lives. Veteran fisherman Wang Chun-kuang understands this more fully than others. In the old society he laboured for the fish despots in the first half of his life and had to sail no matter what the weather.

It was a day in May 1933, and there was a heavy rain pelting down when the despot mercilessly forced 32 fishermen to go out. In less than an hour they were in a big storm and their small boat capsized. All of the 32 except Wang were swallowed by the waves. Wang survived because he was carried on to the shore by the waves.

Today he is chief mate of the No. 52 motorized junk. Once when the boat was 350 kilometres at sea, typhoon warning on the radio told all the junks to come back to harbour. Shortly after this the brigade’s general Party secretary telegraphed them. Wang Chun-kuang and his crew returned to shore in time.

Mechanization of fishing has made much manpower available for other production. Over the past few years the Tayutao people have cultivated more than 1,000 mu of kelp in three different areas, which added more than 600,000 yuan to their annual income. They use small fish and shrimp for breeding minks; they get glue from the root of kelp and other sea plants and set up an iodine factory. Meanwhile, they have terraced some 200 mu of fields on slopes and planted over 3,000 fruit trees. The brigade’s per-mu grain output reached 1,000 jin last year and fruit trees bore rich fruit. Income from these side-line occupations made up more than 40 per cent of the brigade’s total income.

There have been big changes in the lives of the fishing people. Straw huts have been replaced largely by new brick and tile houses. Along wide streets are a clinic, a kindergarten, a club, a cinema, a store, a school and other amenities. All school-age children are in school and medical treatment is free. The brigade’s public accumulation has reached 7.1 million yuan. Average income per head in 1970 was 6.5 times that of the years immediately after liberation. Many families have bought new daily necessities and have a savings account in the bank.

Veteran fisherman Chang Li-tien fished for despots in the old society and lived in a dilapidated hut and scarcely had anything to eat. One daughter died of cold and starvation. His family of five now lives in eight new rooms. He and his son are brigade cadres and his daughter-in-law works in the brigade’s factory. The annual cash income of the whole family is more than 1,100.

The brigade’s general Party branch is working on a new plan to build the brigade into a more prosperous one.
Diplomatic Relations Established Between China and Mexico

Huang Hua, Permanent Representative of the People's Republic of China to the United Nations, and Alfonso García Robles, Permanent Representative of the United States of Mexico to the United Nations, signed a joint communique on the establishment of diplomatic relations between China and Mexico in New York on February 14, 1972.

The communique said: The permanent representatives of the two countries to the United Nations, as a result of negotiations carried out with due authorization from their respective governments, have agreed upon the following:

1. In accordance with the principles of juridical equality of the states, mutual respect for their sovereignty, independence and territorial integrity, non-aggression, and non-intervention in their internal or external affairs, the Governments of the People's Republic of China and of the United States of Mexico have decided to establish diplomatic relations, effective from this date, and to exchange ambassadors as soon as possible.

2. The Chinese Government and the Mexican Government have agreed to mutually provide all necessary assistance for the establishment of diplomatic missions in their respective capitals and the performance of their functions, on the basis of equality and reciprocity and in accordance with international law and practice.

3. The Chinese Government supports the just position of Mexico and other Latin American states on the establishment of a nuclear-weapon-free zone in Latin America and holds that all nuclear-weapons should undertake the obligation not to use nuclear weapons against the zone or states mentioned above. The Mexican Government takes note with appreciation of this position of the Chinese Government.

Renmin Ribao carried an editorial on February 17, warmly greeting the establishment of diplomatic relations between China and Mexico. It said: "Long-standing and traditional friendship exists between the peoples of China and Mexico. We have always sympathized and supported each other in the protracted struggle against imperialism." "Speaking at the 26th Session of the U.N. General Assembly last October, Mexican President Luis Echeverria was in favour of the restoration to our country of its legitimate seat in the Security Council and held that 'the sovereignty and territorial integrity' of the People's Republic of China 'are juridically indivisible.' The Mexican representative supported the resolution of Albania, Algeria and 21 other countries calling for the restoration of all the legitimate rights of the People's Republic of China in the United Nations and the immediate expulsion of the representatives of the Chiang Kai-shek clique from it. Later on, the Mexican Government resolutely severed relations with the Chiang Kai-shek clique. The Chinese people express thanks and appreciation for this courageous act of the Mexican Government."

It concluded: "The establishment of diplomatic relations between China and Mexico has opened a new page in the history of relations between the two countries and will certainly open new prospects for the development of their friendship and co-operation."

Diplomatic Relations Established Between China and Argentina

A joint communique on the establishment of diplomatic relations between the People's Republic of China and the Argentine Republic was issued on February 19. The communique said:

"The Government of the People's Republic of China and the Government of the Argentine Republic have decided to normalize diplomatic relations on the basis of mutual respect for the principles of sovereignty, territorial integrity, non-intervention in each other's internal or external affairs, equality and mutual benefit, effective February 19, 1972.


"The Chinese Government reaffirms that Taiwan is an inalienable part of the territory of the People's Republic of China. The Argentine Government takes note of this position of the Chinese Government."

"The Government of the People's Republic of China recognizes the rights of jurisdiction of the Argentine Republic over the maritime zone adjacent to its coasts within the limit of 200 nautical miles."

"The two Governments have agreed to adopt active measures for the development of trade relations between the two countries."

"The Government of the People's Republic of China and the Government of the Argentine Re-
public have agreed to exchange ambassadors as soon as the administrative formalities and preparations are completed. To that effect, both Governments agree to provide all necessary assistance for the establishment of diplomatic missions in their respective capitals and the performance of their functions, in accordance with international law."

The communiqué was signed in Bucharest on February 16 by Chang Hai-feng, Ambassador of the People’s Republic of China to Romania, and Jose Maria Ruda, Ambassador Under-Secretary for Foreign Relations and Worship of the Argentine Republic.

In its February 20 editorial, Renmin Ribao acclaimed the establishment of diplomatic relations between China and Argentina. It pointed out: “The establishment of diplomatic relations between China and Argentina is a significant event in the history of their relations.”

It said: “Latin American countries and peoples today are waging heroic struggles to defend national independence and state sovereignty.”

“The Chinese people firmly support the just struggle by Argentina and other Latin American countries and peoples to defend their territorial sea rights.”

It added: “The Government of the People’s Republic of China is the sole legal Government of the Chinese people. Taiwan is an inalienable part of the sacred territory of our country. To create so-called ‘one China, one Taiwan,’ ‘one China, two governments,’ to allege that ‘the status of Taiwan remains to be determined,’ to create ‘an independent Taiwan’ or any similar sinister plots are invariably doomed to failure. No force can shake the Chinese people’s determination to liberate Taiwan.”

In conclusion, the editorial said: “We firmly believe that following the establishment of diplomatic relations between China and Argentina, the relations between the two countries and the friendship between their peoples will be further promoted and developed through their common efforts.”

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**Sato and Co.**

**“Ignorant” or Pretending to Be Ignorant?**

Japanese Prime Minister Eisaku Sato has of late talked vociferously about hoping “to see diplomatic relations between Japan and China resumed this year” and repeatedly declared that Japan would not work for the “two Chinas” scheme. His right-hand man Kiichi Aichi, Chairman of the Foreign Affairs Research Council of the Liberal Democratic Party, said: “Japan will adopt the attitude of being ignorant of the Taiwan independence movement.”

On first hearing, it seems that Sato and his ilk have given up their ambition to annex China’s territory Taiwan Province again. In fact, far from “being ignorant of it,” they have been plotting intensely to create an “independent Taiwan”; by pretending to be ignorant of it, they are only trying to deceive others.

The Japanese militarists have become more frenzied since the latter part of 1971 in their sinister manoeuvres to annex China’s Taiwan Province. They have whipped up public opinion and recruited followers for creating an “independent Taiwan” and even chosen the main actors for the performance. Nearly all these dirty moves are directly or indirectly connected with Japanese Prime Minister Sato, Foreign Minister Fukuda and arch war criminal Kishi, and some were planned by them personally.

Soon after the United Nations General Assembly adopted by an overwhelming majority last October the resolution on the restoration of the legitimate seat of the People’s Republic of China in the United Nations and the immediate expulsion of the representatives of the Chiang Kai-shek gang, the “Japan-China Economic Bulletin” published by the Japan-Chiang “co-operation committee” carried a series of ridiculous articles advocating that “the destiny of Taiwan is a matter for the local people to decide.” Beating the drum for the “Taiwan independence movement,” Kishi clamoured in Taiwan last January that “one China or two Chinas should be decided entirely by the 15 million masses of people of Taiwan themselves.”

Whom did the Japanese reactionaries mean when they talked of the “local people” and the “masses”? Japanese newspapers have disclosed that the “Taiwan independence league” in Japan has raked together a handful of Taiwan-born elements in the pay of the Japanese reactionaries. Once chairman of the “league,” Ku Kuan-min is the son of the notorious scoundrel Ku Hsien-jung, scum of the Chinese nation, who had been a member of the Japanese Upper House during the Japanese imperialists’ rule because he had helped Japanese aggressor troops commit innumerable crimes in Taiwan. He has close relations with Ryoichi Sasakawa, chieftain of Japanese Right-wing elements. It is through Sasakawa and company that Ku Kuan-min conspires with the reactionary Japanese Government.

The “league” has recently changed its tactics under instructions from the “Taiwan lobby” of the Liberal Democratic Party. It dropped the “anti-Chiang” slogans and began to “cooperate” with the Chiang Kai-shek clique. Kishi went to Taiwan for secret talks with Chang Chun, a pro-Japanese element of the Chiang gang, between October 6 and 9 last year. Shortly afterwards, three “league” chieftains arrived in Taipei from Tokyo. Kishi assured the three
they could travel freely between Tokyo and Taipei. Another big war criminal, Okinori Kaya, helped them obtain loans from a Japanese bank for financing their political activities. In other words, both the "league's" tactics and funds come from the Japanese reactionaries.

Moreover, Sasakawa, the chieftain of Japanese Right-wing elements who is an "old friend" of Ku Kuan-min and his father, went to Taiwan many times in the latter part of last year for secret deals with the pro-Japanese elements of the Chiang gang—Chang Chun, Ho Ying-chin, Ku Cheng-kang and others. He openly advocated setting up a "Taiwan state." Last October, Sasakawa briefed Fukuda on his Taiwan tour. Japanese progressive paper Japan and China revealed that the Japanese reactionaries have compiled a list of persons to hold offices after the forthcoming Kuomintang "presidential election" as a means of rigging up a pro-Japanese puppet regime in China's Taiwan Province.

While the Japanese reactionaries are plotting to set up a pro-Japanese puppet regime in Taiwan, Japanese Prime Minister Sato alleged at his New Year press conference that since "the regime [of the Chiang gang] and a Japan-China treaty [meaning Japan-Chiang treaty] are in existence" there is the "need to recognize it as it is" by the Japanese Government. The aim is to prepare the ground for creating an "independent Taiwan."

It is quite clear that when the Japanese reactionaries advertised the decision on Taiwan's "destiny" by the "local people" and the "masses" and the "need" to "recognize it as it is," they are attempting to create an "independent Taiwan" through a bunch of Chinese traitors in their pay, so as to reduce Taiwan to a Japanese colony again. Such a tactic is indeed identical with the devilish stratagem of the Japanese imperialists in rigging up "Manchu-kuo" more than 40 years ago!

Sato and his ilk have committed all these crimes in an attempt to re-annex China's Taiwan Province, but they are trying to hide their design by claiming to "be ignorant of it." The trick of pretending to be ignorant after committing foul deeds is a legacy of the old-line militarists. Sato and company are worthy disciples of Tojo. Whatever trick they may resort to, they can in no way prevent the Chinese people from liberating Taiwan or the Taiwan compatriots from returning to the bosom of their motherland.

Firmly Support the Northern Irish People's Just Struggle

by "Renmin Ribao" Commentator

Of late, the people of Northern Ireland have waged a massive struggle for their democratic rights. The British Government, however, resorted to armed suppression, resulting in serious bloodshed. The incident has aroused profound indignation among all the people of the world, the British people included. The Chinese people pledge firm support for the just struggle of the Northern Irish people.

The national question in Northern Ireland is a product of the policy of national oppression practised by the British ruling class. Ireland became completely independent in 1922 when it proclaimed its separation from the British Commonwealth. Forced to recognize the Republic of Ireland, Britain refused to incorporate the six northern counties into the Republic and continued ruling the Northern Irish people. The Northern Irish people have carried on a long and unyielding struggle against national oppression and for their democratic rights and national independence. The British Government's intensified suppression of them in recent years has met with their ever stronger resistance.

On the Indo-Pakistan question, the British Government assumed the posture of justice, and talked profusely about so-called respect for "the wishes of the people" and trying to find a "civilized solution."

Actually, it sided with the Indian expansionists who have dismembered Pakistan through armed aggression. Why don't you show any respect, it is asked, for the just wishes of the Northern Irish people to have their democratic rights, since you always talk about respecting "the wishes of the people"? You have made a hullabalo about a "civilized solution," but why have you acted so barbarously in slaughtering the Northern Irish demonstrators and why are you continually sending troops and police to carry out armed suppression on a larger scale? The fact that the British Government has resorted to trickery in Rhodesia, the fraud of sham "independence," to maintain the enslavement of the Zimbabwean people by the Smith white racist regime, has completely revealed the hypocrisy of imperialism. Now, the bloody suppression of the Northern Irish people by the British Government once again reveals its so-called "civilization."

The Northern Irish people are not isolated. Their struggle has won sympathy and support from the British and Irish people. People all over the world also stand on their side. The Northern Irish people are sure to overcome all obstacles and win new victory in their unremitting struggle.

(February 8)
Worsening Economic Situation
In West Europe

Symptoms of production stagnation and inflation have appeared since the beginning of 1971 in all the major West European capitalist countries. Signs of a new economic crisis are evident.

The economy of the West European Common Market countries which enjoyed a faster rate of growth throughout the 1960s is showing signs of deterioration. A Common Market commission report published on December 23, 1971 disclosed that industrial production in the Common Market countries (with the exception of France) is generally below the normal rate. Unemployment in the Common Market countries has gone up. Some West European authorities consider that the “Common Market faces the worst (economic) situation since its inception.”

Italy. Of all the Common Market countries, Italy is in the worst economic situation. Industrial production in 1971 was at a lower level than two years before. According to official statistics, the monthly industrial production index for the first nine months of 1971 was down 3.2 per cent compared with the same period of the previous year.

Official statistics show that the number of unemployed in Italy now exceeds one million. Press reports say that in addition to this official figure there are “about 300,000 workers on short-time work, or temporarily resting.” Prices in 1971 were 7 per cent higher than in the previous year. Some Italian official and industrial circles describe Italy as now in its “worst crisis since the war ended.”

West Germany. The West German economic situation is also deteriorating. Major symptoms are shown in the fact that industrial production is gradually slackening, output in some key industries is dropping and unemployment rising. At the same time inflation is a very serious threat. Some West German bankers and industrialists feel that West Germany is “on the verge of a recession.”

The annual industrial growth rate which was 6.1 per cent in 1970 fell to only 2.2 per cent in the first eight months of 1971.

Steel production since the beginning of last year has been declining steadily. All steel concerns cut down work hours in the second half of that year. Production was lower in such key industries as chemicals and machine-building.

Unemployment also went up sharply last year in West Germany where the number of unemployed had been comparatively low in the capitalist world. In October 1971 it was 53.5 per cent higher than in the same period of 1970, the total number of unemployed reaching 170,000. Added to this figure were about 60,000 partially unemployed workers. Prices last year were 6 per cent higher than in 1970 because of growing inflation.

France. In spite of some 1971 growth in industrial production, unemployment rose 25 per cent, and consumer prices were 5 per cent higher than in 1970.

Britain. The economy in 1971 continued to be stagnant on the whole. The general index of industrial production in the first three quarters of 1971 increased less than 1.5 per cent compared with the same period of 1970. The country’s steel output in the first nine months of 1971 dropped about 10 per cent compared with the same period of 1970 and was lower than the 1968 and 1969 figures. Investment in manufacturing industries were down 6 to 8 per cent.

Britain’s unemployed now number nearly one million. There have been massive lay-offs by many monopoly enterprises and many factories have been closed. The cost of living index last June showed a 10.3 per cent increase compared with a year before, the biggest rise among the West European countries.

Difficult Factors

What worries financial and economic circles in West Europe is that as a result of the attack on the economy of various capitalist countries by the U.S. “new economic policy,” a far-reaching economic crisis may break out even quicker.

They have also predicted with great anxiety that in the event of a new economic crisis, it would be hardly possible for the West European countries to extricate themselves from the crisis by expanding exports, and the stagnation and decline of their economies would last longer than in previous cases. West German businessmen and economists fear that it will be difficult for West Germany to pull out of a new crisis through another “export drive,” as it did during the 1966-67 economic crisis, because trade prospects in the capitalist world are bleak and West Germany’s competitive position has been weakened by the revaluation of the West German mark. Guido Carli, Governor of the Bank of Italy, warned some time ago that it might be harder for Italy to get out of the coming crisis than in 1964.

Another worrying factor for the West European countries is that the Japanese economy is also facing serious difficulties from the blow of the U.S. Government’s “new economic policy.” They are worried about the possibility that Japanese commodities, after being squeezed out of the U.S. market, might break into the West European market with even greater force, thus intensifying competition there.

All this indicates that, in the shadow of a new economic crisis, the contradictions among capitalist countries in their scramble for markets are deepening and intensifying. The “new economic policy” pursued by the United States has sharpened the contradictions between the United States and West European countries.
ROUND THE WORLD

ITALY

 Strikes Against Rising Unemployment

Workers' strikes and demonstrations have repeatedly taken place in Rome and other parts of Italy against rising unemployment and for better working conditions.

In Rome and Rome Province, workers in various trades held a 24-hour general strike on February 3, demanding full employment and social and economic reforms. Factories, building sites, public transport, airports, railway stations and postal services, offices, banks and shops in Rome were paralysed. Schools, universities and cinemas were closed, no newspapers were printed, gas and electricity were stopped, and hospitals treated only emergency cases. Life in the whole city came to a standstill. Meanwhile, about 100,000 demonstrators, including several thousand students, marched in Rome.

The Italian economic situation has drastically deteriorated since 1971. Industrial production has dropped and prices have never stopped climbing. Unemployment is growing rapidly as the Italian monopoly capitalists close down factories and cut working hours in their effort to shift the burden of the economic crisis on to the working class. According to official figures, unemployment topped the one million mark in 1971, but trade union estimates put the number at nearly 1.5 million.

In the building industry, a key Rome industry, nearly 30,000 out of the 80,000 building workers are on the jobless list. In addition, there are 20,000 unemployed workers in other trades. Since the beginning of the year, over 1.5 million work hours have been cut in about 200 enterprises. Many unemployed workers have no place to live and the number of homeless families in Rome has reached 15,000.

Industrial casualties have been abominably high in Italy because the monopoly capitalists have intensified their exploitation of the workers and pay no heed to working conditions. Official statistics show that in the last few years, on an average, there were 1.5 million accidents yearly and 5,000 workers were killed every year.

The monopoly capitalist class onslaught on the Italian working class has met strong resistance. To prevent the capitalists from closing down factories, more than 2,000 workers in Rome have occupied 11 factories for a long time—one 26 months, four others eight to ten months, the other six over two months.

Last year saw no less than ten strikes, involving nearly one million workers each.

The Italian working people's struggle in defence of their vital interests is hitting monopoly capital where it hurts.

JAPAN

"Disciplinary Action" Against Fujiyama

Eisaku Sato, chieftain of the Japanese ruling Liberal Democratic Party, and company, are plotting to take "disciplinary action" against Aiichiro Fujiyama, Chairman of the Dietmen's League for Promoting the Restoration of Japan-China Diplomatic Relations. Their aim is to strike at the mass movement for Japan-China friendship and restoration of Japan-China diplomatic relations and choke off the voice in the Liberal Democratic Party advocating normalization of Japan-China relations so as to continue their reactionary pro-U.S. and anti-China policy.

In accordance with Sato's instruction, the Disciplinary Committee of the Liberal Democratic Party in a recent statement gave "reasons" for "disciplinary action" against Fujiyama, who had signed a joint statement with the China-Japan Friendship Association during his visit to China last October as the head of a delegation of the Dietmen's League for Promoting the Restoration of Japan-China Diplomatic Relations. Listing as "reasons" for this "punitive" action the just demand for Japan-China friendship and the denunciation of the revival of Japanese militarism expressed in the joint statement, Sato and his ilk decided to suspend Fujiyama from all executive posts. (The disciplinary action is not to be immediately carried out.)

The designers of this measure are annoyed by the joint statement Fujiyama signed, which uncompromisingly pointed out that the Japan-Chiang treaty is illegal and invalid and should be abrogated. Failing to produce any convincing reason against the joint statement, however, they asserted that when there are "two governments" in one country, it will not do to decide, according to the size of territory, which one is orthodox. Sato and his ilk are trying to use this disguised "two Chinas" scheme to prove the legality of the treaty between the reactionary Japanese Government and the Chiang gang. Refuting this allegation at a February 5 press conference, Fujiyama said: If Japan takes the position that there is only one China, that is, the People's Republic of China, then the Chiang gang cannot be considered as a state, and the Japan-Chiang treaty is illegal and invalid and it is natural for Japan to abrogate it.

The L.D.P. Disciplinary Committee statement said that the demand for the withdrawal of all U.S. armed forces and their military installations from Indochina and other parts of the Far East made in the joint statement means a "negation" of Japan's "basic lines of defence and foreign

30
policy,” and therefore Fujiyama has to be “censured.” Such an assertion fully reveals that the “basic lines” of Sato and those like him are to throw themselves into the lap of U.S. imperialism and support the U.S. imperialists in their acts of aggression and war in this region.

The statement also claimed that the denunciation of the militarization of Japan in the joint statement was “improper.” Sato and the others are practically deprived of all arguments in the face of the numerous facts about the revival of Japanese militarism exposed by Asian and world public opinion and by the Japanese press itself. They can only resort to such deceitful talk as “Japan is a pacifist country,” “it has no intention to invade other countries.”

The statement which trumpeted Sato’s anti-China policy further shows that Sato was openly lying when he recently spoke about “improving relations with China” and “striving for establishing diplomatic relations with China within the year.” Such unpopular and despicable action by Sato and his crowd has aroused strong opposition among the Japanese people and far-sighted persons in the Liberal Democratic Party. Diet member Takao Miki and others have one after another demanded an investigation into Sato’s responsibility. In the circumstances, the Party’s Executive Council had to refer the question of disciplinary action against Fujiyama back to the Disciplinary Committee on February 8 for re-examination.

(Continued from p. 22.)

six 10,000-ton-class ships in 1970. Last year saw another four 10,000-ton, one 20,000-ton and one 25,000-ton ships sailing or on trial voyages.

Before liberation, Shanghai could only assemble imported machine parts for the imperialists or repair or make parts for light industry. Today a relatively complete industrial system had begun to be established. We saw electric and other machines using new electronic, fluidic, pneumatic and hydraulic techniques. And new technological processes of precision casting, swaged forging and cold extruding, powder metallurgy and plastics application and new techniques in metallurgy, such as pure oxygen top brown, continuous casting and drawing have been popularized. Meter factories, light industry plants, textile mills and handicraft workshops are striving to have streamlined and automatic production lines and to use electronic techniques.

New Daily Necessities

Visitors soon notice the light industry goods for daily use, the textiles and the handicraft made in Shanghai. On exhibit are bicycles, sewing machines, clocks, watches, cameras, aluminium ware, toilet soaps, canned food, cigarettes, wines, candies, knitwear, chemical fibre fabrics and silk products. They all are welcomed at home and abroad. There are also electric tuning fork clocks with a standard frequency, ultrasonic electronic button-hole makers, high frequency watches, colour photographic paper, electronic lighters and other new products. These exhibits vividly reflect the fact that in 1971 Shanghai made new achievements in enriching people’s lives and making the market flourish. Over the last year Shanghai’s light industry provided a large amount of daily commodities for workers, peasants and soldiers. Over 10,000 new varieties were added. Among the 110 major light industrial goods the quality of 100 was improved, with most of them reaching advanced levels.

Acting in accordance with Chairman Mao’s teaching “Serve the people wholeheartedly,” workers and staff members in this field are doing their best to turn out good, durable and cheap daily consumer goods. To listen to consumers’ opinions and demands, they went with personnel from trade departments to different factories, farms and barracks to hold forums. Leading cadres of many enterprises served as salesmen or visited customers. At the masses’ suggestions, Shanghai textile workers and staff members designed many kinds of both plain and attractive patterns. More than 200 new patterns of printed cloth were produced, 40 colours were added to khaki and more than 400 new varieties of worsted or woollen fabrics went on the market, all greatly welcomed by workers, peasants and soldiers.

To trial-produce effective ointment for protecting the skin of those working in paddyfields, light industrial workers went several times and worked bare-foot with poor and lower-middle peasants in the fields. Repeated experiments improved the ingredients. They eventually succeeded in making such ointment, and ointment for treating leech bites, oil to keep away insects and other labour protection products used in the rural areas, which are welcomed by peasants.

To meet new, more strenuous tasks in 1972, Shanghai’s workers have made up their minds to redouble their efforts, guard against arrogance and rashness and advance along Chairman Mao’s revolutionary line to win still greater victories.
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