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MAY DAY ADDRESS
by
Liu Shao-chi
VICE-CHAIRMAN OF THE CHINESE CENTRAL PEOPLE'S GOVERNMENT
MAY DAY ADDRESS
by Liu Shao-chi

Delivered at a higher cadres' meeting held in Peking under the auspices of the National Committee of the People's Political Consultative Conference, April 29, 1950.

Comrades:

With great elation we celebrate the first May Day since the founding of the People's Republic of China. Except in the liberated areas, in past years the majority of the Chinese toilers not only did not enjoy government protection but were strictly prohibited by the reactionary governments from celebrating their own festival.

They could only celebrate or pass their holiday under the watchful eyes of reactionary troops, secret agents and police and in self-sacrificing struggle.

But today as the Chinese working people celebrate May Day, the situation is entirely different.

The Chinese People's Government has decided that May Day shall be one of the most important official festivals by our people and our country. Labour Day must command the highest respect in the world, workers must command the highest respect in the world, and Labour Day must become a day most deserving our celebration by our people and our country. Labour Day is a festival of solidarity between us workers and all other working people, a festival of international solidarity of the workers and the labouring people throughout the world.

On this day, we must with solemn ceremony honour all that the workers have created, celebrate all that the workers have achieved by their labour, thank the workers for all the means of production and life and the means of enjoyment of culture and art given by them to mankind, and inspire the people to the highest enthusiasm for further labour and creation. At the same time, we give our fraternal salute, with the greatest enthusiasm, to the working class and labouring people of all the countries in the world, first and foremost the working class and labouring people of the Soviet Union!

The Chinese people's revolution is victorious and the Chinese working people have been liberated, but the ideas and habits of paying respect to the social parasites who never work but live on the labour of others and of despising work and workers have existed for thousands of years in Chinese society, and are still alive. In celebrating May 1, Labour Day, we must
It is a beautiful day. The sun is shining, and the birds are singing. The streets are bustling with people, and the gardens are blooming with flowers. It is a day of great joy and beauty. People are enjoying the outdoors, and the air is fresh and crisp. It is a day to be remembered.}

The sun shines brightly in the sky, casting a warm glow over the landscape. The birds chirp merrily as they flit from branch to branch, their feathers glistening in the sunlight. The gardens are teeming with life, the flowers blooming in vibrant shades of red, yellow, and purple. The streets are alive with activity, people of all ages out and about, enjoying the day. It is a beautiful day, a day of great happiness and joy.
the sale of cloth in the Northeast was 800,000 bolts in 1947, 1,200,000 bolts in 1948, 3,200,000 in 1949 and 1950 is expected to reach nine million bolts. Two million five hundred thousand bolts have been sold during the first quarter of 1950. In other words, after land reform the peasant production has increased, their standard of living has improved, their purchasing power has greatly risen and the market for industrial goods has expanded considerably. We have created or are now creating the most fundamental and important conditions for stimulating industrial development. After the completion of the land reform and after two or three reasonably good harvests, the present shrunken purchasing power in the rural districts will be swiftly revived and will gradually increase so that industry and commerce in the urban areas will flourish. This is beyond any shadow of doubt.

Fourth. At the present time, the financial and economic work of the state has been unified, the state revenue and expenditure are approaching balance, and we shall shortly be able to affirm that the budget and governmental prices will soon become stabilized. This is in the interests of the majority of the people throughout the country.

Apart from the victories of the People's Liberation Army at the front, this is the greatest achievement for the people of the Central People's Government since its inauguration. Historically, Chinese finance and economics have never been unified. For many decades, state revenue and expenditure were never balanced and the reactionary governments issued a large volume of banknotes and contracted large domestic and foreign debts to maintain their existence. Financial and price stability have been unknown in China for the past twelve years and the people had to pay heavily for the losses suffered through inflation.

The people's government, however, carried out important measures and attained results in a very short time, with the war not yet over and despite great difficulties as well as the imperialist blockade. This is something which no reactionary government could possibly achieve and in fact could only be achieved by a genuine people's government. This proves that our slogan for the unification of China is not an empty slogan, but one full of serious political, military and economic content.

This is an extremely important step forward for our country. With this step, the conditions have been created for the rehabilitation and development of all legitimate industrial and commercial and other productive enterprises, so that capital will not be used for speculation and squandered in inflation, but used for legitimate industry, commerce and other productive enterprises.

Naturally, some sufferings and difficulties are inevitably bound to arise in this period as the new, progressive situation is born. They are like the labour pains just before childbirth. In order to balance the budget and stabilize prices, the people's government has had to be very strict about collecting public grain and taxes, issuing public bonds and cutting down expenses. The only alternative was further inflation and devaluation. To correct these shortcomings and errors, we hope that the mass of the people will develop criticism of the work of the government and put forward proper suggestions so as to ensure that the government personnel will correct their shortcomings and errors and so reduce unnecessary sufferings and difficulties. Yes, there are shortcomings and errors. There are sufferings and difficulties. But, after all, our sufferings and difficulties are brought about by us, in which revenue and expenditure are approaching balance and prices are approaching stability. Comrades! Countrymen of all circles! Clench you teeth, continue exerting your efforts and after some time the critical phase will pass. Our sufferings and difficulties are a purely temporary phenomenon. This is beyond doubt.

Fifth. The international conditions for carrying out our construction work are also very good. The cause of peace and socialist reconstruction of the whole country, we shall urgently need a peaceful environment to carry out our economic construction. In the diplomatic sphere, the people's government, of course, earnestly pursues a policy of peace and fights for the defence of world peace side by side with the Soviet Union and the New Democracies.

It is very clear that the imperialists are extremely hostile to the liberation of the Chinese people. The American imperialists are still helping the imperialist-tainted Tsai-シェk gang in Taiwan and engaging in all sorts of conspiratorial and disruptive activities against New China. Therefore, the people throughout the country and the People's Liberation Army must enhance their vigilance, resolutely liberate Taiwan, consolidate national defence and be prepared to counter any possible imperialist provocation.

However, the imperialist camp of aggression, headed by the United States, has already met with and will continue to meet with the resolute resistance of all peace-loving people throughout the world. The strength of the camp of peace and democracy has increased and has been seen unprecedented growth. If the imperialists dare to stage a provocation and launch a war of adventure, the result will be the complete doom of the imperialist system. As a result of the signing of the Sino-Soviet Treaty of Friendship, in which China and the Soviet Union have formed a powerful ally. As Chairman Mao Tse-tung said, this will free our hands to carry out construction work. We have also received low-interest loans and the help of specialists from the Soviet Union. Moreover, we are co-operating with the Soviet Union in setting up several enterprises which we would have been unable to start by ourselves in the near future. This will reduce the difficulties arising from lack of capital and experience.

Summing up the above-mentioned favourable conditions, it can be seen that without doubt our present difficulties will be overcome one by one. Our economic situation will gradually improve after a short period of hardship and will change fundamentally for the better in two or three years.

THE PRESENT TASKS

From this analysis, we can see clearly what should be the present tasks and the direction of effort of the Chinese people. The Central Committee of the Communist Party of China, in its Eighth Plenary Session, put forward 38 slogans which it issued for May Day, has clearly and correctly posed the tasks on all fronts and I shall only add a few remarks on the following points.

1. The liberation of Taiwan and Tibet, the wiping out of all bandits and enemy agents and the consolidation of national defence.

People's Liberation Army troops at the front should prepare actively for the campaign to liberate Tibet and Taiwan and other enemy-occupied islands, and thus end the nation-wide war. People's Liberation Army troops, public security organizations and troops on duty in the rear must, as swiftly as possible, wipe out all bandits and secret agents and safeguard social order, thus enabling the people to engage in production with peaceful minds. At the same time troops in the rear should also engage in production and general education, raise the level
of their military technique and consolidate national defence. These are the foremost demands of the people at the present moment. People all over the country, including the people of Taiwan and Tibet, should devote their full energy to supporting and cooperating with the People's Liberation Army in fulfilling these glorious tasks. But now we want to say a few words to the KMT generals on Taiwan and other islands and to the rulers of Tibet: Stop your futile resistance immediately, sever all relations with the imperialists and send representatives to negotiate with, the People's Liberation Army. Either cross over to the People's Liberation Army or give up your arms in co-ordination with the People's Liberation Army's operations to liberate these places. Only by doing this will it be possible for the people's government to pardon your past crimes. Only thus will you have the best reason for asking the people's government to forgive your past and observe your future actions. This is your last chance to obtain the people's pardon.

2. Readjustment of industry and commerce and the relations between public and private enterprises.

The Central People's Government, in accordance with the Common Programme and the directions of Chairman Mao Tse-tung, will take certain concrete measures to readjust industry and commerce. By this, we mean to give proper measurement to the relations between public and private enterprises. This will permit the organization and planning of the economic life of our country in the present circumstances, so as to enable the derangement and anarchy in the relations between public and private enterprises and between different branches of enterprises to be overcome.

The people's government must render assistance to the readjustment of public and private enterprises which can possibly be maintained, which are beneficial to the national economy and the livelihood of the people, but which are facing difficulties. The proprietors and the workers of those enterprises also must jointly do everything in their power to ensure that these enterprises can be maintained and wait for conditions to improve.

It is extremely important to centralize and utilize all the resources and endow all goods of the state institutions and state enterprises in the most appropriate manner, in order to readjust industry and commerce and the relations between public and private enterprises and overcome the present difficulties. The amount of these orders and volume of processing are very great and defects and losses have very often occurred owing to lack of proper centralization and allocation. Our military and administrative institutions and enterprises must take all possible steps to improve these defects.

The government and administrative institutions and enterprises must cut down their budgets of orders and processing for given periods, especially the budgets for large orders and processing, and hand them to the industrial, commercial and trading institutions and enterprises, which will regulate and adjust them together with their own views. At the same time, the industrial, commercial and trading institutions in different places must reduce their local public and privately-owned productive enterprises factual reports on the conditions of production. They must investigate these conditions and determine which enterprises will be able to centralize and commercialize and trading institutions to centralize and allocate the various state orders and purchase of the various enterprises properly. In this way, the state institutions, on the one hand, can avoid certain unnecessary losses and, on the other, regulate the measures and adjust production, extend relief to many productive enterprises which are facing difficulties and stimulate the development of new productive enterprises. In regard to state orders and processing, it is also necessary to adjust the allocation to the industries and commerce in Shanghai which are facing particular difficulties.

The shift of certain kinds of production to other trades and the way out for private capital.

There is no future for enterprises which served imperialism, feudalism and bureaucratic capitalism in the past, such as those making high-grade consumer goods and goods used for superstitious purposes or for businesses dealing in commodities dealing in ivory and stock-market speculation. All such enterprises should turn to other trades. Some industries which are suffering from temporary difficulties over spending, cloth industries, match and soap industries, have temporarily to reduce their production or turn to other trades. Some industries must earnily make substantial changes in their products to suit the needs of the people before they expand their market. Moreover, because speculation has ceased, large sums of idle capital are available in society to be invested in production.

Fundamentally, these are without doubt good phenomena. Without doubt, also, they will cause some pain. The reduction of output, the suspension of work, the shift to other trades, will inevitably cause some workers to become unemployed and others to change their occupation. At present there are some people raising the question: I am willing to change to another trade but what to turn to? Will the people's government please tell me, what are the enterprises which may be operated? It is correct to raise this question.

In order to answer each one of these questions concretely and precisely, there are certain enterprises which can only make a reply after general lines. That is, all those enterprises can be operated which properly serve the needs of the people, especially the manufacturers and distributors of food to meet the needs of the peasants and which cannot at present be operated by the state or which, though put into operation, are still small in number. Communications and transport and those branches of industry dealing with the revival of national economy at key points as medical as well as medical enterprises can also be operated. Apart from these, the state will sign contracts under suitable conditions with private persons and permit them to operate the exploiting and refining of certain special minerals, the building of certain factories, the installation of certain power stations.

The people's government has not at present forbidden private persons to set up any enterprises which are beneficial to the people and do not cause damage to the national interest over the people's livelihood. The sphere of operation of private enterprises is therefore very wide. Certain inappropriate phenomena of competition between enterprises and improper orders and inappropriate conditions in ordering and processing goods should be corrected in the work of readjusting industry and commerce.

Labour-capital relations may also be directed into normal channels by labour legislation of the state, collective agreements and other institutions, and private enterprises, to endow private enterprises with capital consultative organs. Hence, private capital is not without a way out. Of course, the enterprises should be conducted honestly and the workers should be free of fear of expendrion of energy and capital in the operation of those really beneficial to national economy and livelihood of the people. The government will give the necessary facilities and direction to those entrepreneurs who are honest and do not with- hold from spending energy and capital in production, so as to maintain national cleanliness and to succeed in their enterprises.

4. Relief for the people affected by natural calamities, and for unemployed workers.

As the result of the efforts made by the people's government and the broad masses of the people to transport grains, we can certainly say that the food supply situation this year is assured.

The wheat harvest is now only forty odd days away. The present moment is critical for relief work and, therefore, relief workers in such places should not hold the relief grain in reserve. The government should distribute it swiftly in accordance with the policy of organizing the people in the affected areas to help themselves in production, thus facilitating the recovery of the different regions. As a result of the efforts of the people themselves and large-scale organizational work of the people's government, we can certainly get rid of the difficulties caused by an insufficient relief of food grain from foreign countries. Having helped the Chiang Kai-shek gang to kill several millions of Chinese people, the American imperialists phatically said that they would come here to relieve the people in the affected areas. The purpose of their so-called relief is to conduct subversive activities among the people of the affected areas of China. The Chinese people welcome really well-intentioned assistance from abroad, but as to the "good intentions" of the imperialists, we have learned enough. We do not need these people to come to conduct subversive activities.

Since certain economic enterprises must unavoidably contract, suspend work or shift into other occupations, all possible relief must be given to unemployed workers in all major cities. This is so naturally may be deferred. The Central People's Government has decided to allot a certain amount of grain and money and, at the same time, has asked the industries and commerce of the state to employ as many unemployed workers, to contribute some money as a relief fund for unemployed workers. The Ministry of Labour of the Central People's Government is beginning the relief of the unemployed workers and is preparing to set up relief departments and employment agencies for unemployed workers in all major cities. Before the time that the Central People's Government are made public, temporary relief measures may be taken in Shanghai and certain other cities. Former governments of China has not helped the unemployed workers, but the people's government, although it is still confronted by difficulties, will decide on practical relief measures for unemployed workers and will carry them out.

5. Future land reform.

The land reform should be carried out this autumn in those parts of the newly liberated areas where land ownership has been done away with. But these regions should not be too extensive. In view of the fact that victory has now been basically won, only the landlord's land and public land should in future be confiscated and
distributed in land reform to landless and land-poor peasants. Landlords will also be given a similar share and the rich peasants' land and property should not be touched. Other properties of the landlords will not be subject to confiscation and distribution, with the exception of these means of production needed by the peasants. These points will be regulated in detail in the forthcoming new agrarian law. On the basis of past experience, the land reform in the future should be carried out with leadership, preparation and order. Disorder cannot be permitted. Therefore, we must not be impatient to complete the land reform in all newly liberated areas, but must carry it out step by step, period by period and area by area. If we can mainly carry out land reform throughout the country in the coming three years, that will be quick enough and a very big success.

6. Serious correction of shortcomings and errors and the training of cadres.

Since the field armies of the People's Liberation Army began the advance to the South and the Northwest on April the 20th last year, the entire Chinese mainland, with the exception of Tibet, and its 300 million population, have been liberated within this very brief period. The territory under our control is vast and the various features of the work are heavy and complicated. We have insufficient experienced cadres and large numbers of new cadres have joined. All these factors, plus the lack of time for training, have caused many shortcomings and errors to arise in the course of attaining these great achievements. We must have an overall view of the question. That is, we should see both the achievements and the shortcomings and errors in the work; both the hard work and the defects of the cadres. Under-estimation of any aspect should be avoided. Now people throughout the country are acclaiming our achievements and at the same time are demanding that we correct the shortcomings and errors which have already occurred. We should face these shortcomings and errors squarely and correct them. The Central Committee of the Communist Party of China has already decided to expand criticism and self-criticism and to train cadres. After these steps have been taken, we believe that our shortcomings and errors will be corrected.

The most fatal among our mistakes is that of merely enforcing orders. We have a considerable number of cadres who, although striving to fulfill the tasks assigned to them by the state and the Party, do not take the trouble to execute them according to the policies of the state and the Party. They do not fulfill those tasks within the limits of strictly pursuing the policies of the state and the Party. Instead, they adopt a rude manner of work, taking no heed of the actual situation and its possibilities, unwilling to consult the local people humbly but simply fulfilling the tasks. The result is that tasks have been fulfilled, but the people have suffered losses which were entirely avoidable. Such simple enforcement of orders is quite serious in the work of levying public grain, collecting taxes and selling Victory Bonds, and it has aroused the dissatisfaction of many persons. If this is not corrected, we shall be estranged from the masses. Before long, we shall carry out agrarian reform over a vast territory and it will be difficult to do this work well without taking out time for training cadres.

Concerning such an erroneous style of work among our cadres, the Central Committee of the Communist Party of China has every year been giving instructions emphasizing the need for its correction. But, even after it has been corrected repeatedly, it may recur.

The Communist Party now has a membership of four million, nearly half of whom have been members of the Party for just two and a half years, two years, one year or even a few months. During the past year or more, we have taken over large numbers of old personnel to work in government institutions. In this entirely new situation, we are required to undertake large-scale training work immediately, first of all the training of cadres. The main task will be to review our work and correct authoritarian styles of work and, secondly, to correct other mistakes and shortcomings.

Comrades! If our style of work is better, our shortcomings and mistakes less, and our work better done, then we can be better unite with the people throughout the country and encourage their enthusiasm, further strengthen the people, enable our country and people to tide over the present difficulties more quickly and create a bright future. All these are objectives which we set ourselves to achieve as we celebrate May Day this year.

Long live May Day—the great day of unity of the labouring people throughout China, and throughout the world!

Long live the unity and co-operation of all nationalities, all democratic classes, all democratic parties and groups and all people's organizations throughout China!
NEW CHINA HAS CONQUERED INFLATION

The victory achieved by the Chinese people on the financial and economic front has been as decisive as that won on the military front. Despite the facts that the War of Liberation is still in progress, that a blockade of the Chinese coast is still maintained under the aegis of the imperialists, and that some parts of the country are affected by food shortages, inflation has been effectively checked and the efforts to balance the budget and to stabilize prices have been crowned with success.

Last December the Central People's Government announced its first budget—a practical budget unprecedented in Chinese history. The balance of payments in the calendar year of 1949 shows a deficit of some 68 per cent, which may be taken to account for the four series of increases in commodity prices which took place during the year. The year 1950 presents a very different story: since the liberation of the entire mainland is basically assured, the Central People's Government has aimed to approach a balanced budget. Budgetary estimates show that state revenue from taxes, public grain, and victory bonds, etc., will amount to 38.5 per cent of expenditure, leaving a deficit of only 11.5 per cent.

Last February the Government again reviewed the situation and found an overall improvement. It was decided that the deficit could be further reduced. The following month the Government announced the Plan for the Centralized Management of the Nation's Finances and Economy in which further measures were set forth for consolidating the control of financial and economic operations on a national scale, with special reference to finance, trade, and currency, in order to stop inflationary trends which had gone unchecked during the last twelve years. The Government set itself to realize three goals:

a) to balance revenue and expenditure by economy in spending. Emphasis will be put on four items, namely, the liberation of Taiwan and Tibet (Taiwan is now already freed); the ensuring of an adequate standard of living for government cadres, educational personnel and members of the armed forces; the allocation and transport of foodstuffs to guard against famine; and the rehabilitation of the national economy.

b) to effect an equilibrium in the allocation of goods by placing the state trading concerns throughout the country under the unified control of the central authorities. In this way, goods can be allocated and transported so as to balance demand and supply.

c) to bring about an equilibrium in the flow of paper currency in and out of the state bank. It is the hope of the Government to recall surplus notes to the treasury by means of taxation, the levying of sales taxes on goods by state trading concerns and an increase in bank deposits. The People's Bank of China is designated as the central organ to conduct such a redistribution of currency.

In the period of less than two months' time since the Plan for the Centralized Management of the Nation's Finances and Economy was put into operation, a great change has come over China's finances and economy. In the first place, a balancing of the budget is in sight. Secondly, as a result of a co-ordinated allocation of goods, shops are now filling up with commodities. As state trading concerns pour goods into the market, merchants are compelled to give up hoarding and try to get rid of stocks in hand. For the first time, retail prices in the shops are lower than those quoted in state trading concerns. It was something of a surprise that a bag of flour produced twelve years ago in Harbin was offered on the Tientsin market. This marked the end of a long period of reliance on hoarding and speculation as a means of earning a living. Taking the country as a whole, prices have dropped on an average of more than 20 per cent.

Thirdly, an equilibrium in the recall and disbursement of bank-notes has now been successfully realized: new issues of bank-notes have ceased. Deposits in banks have more than doubled.

Such achievements, as Comrade Liu Shao-ch'i, Vice-Chairman of the Central People's Government, pointed out in his May Day address, are unprecedented in the history of China. The people's government has carried out important financial and economic measures and achieved substantial results in a very short space of time.

It is only to be expected that the imperialists are shocked to find China victorious in the battle against inflation and in stabilizing its national
The first question on which I want to report to the Government Council meeting is the financial situation.

The nation's financial situation has taken a turn for the better during the four months since the 1950 state budget was passed by the Fourth National Assembly of the People's Republic of China on April 17, 1950. The People's Liberation Army (PLA) has planted its triumphant flag atop the Five Finger Mountains.

The Chinese people are assured of the impending liberation of Taiwan. The Hainan campaign was its prelude.

**PROLOGUE TO TAIWAN**

When the Chinese people learned of the liberation of Hainan, their first thought was to congratulate their compatriots there whose long ordeal under the KMT had now at last long been ended.

The reports of KMT atrocities on Hainan, the usual sickening record of multiplying taxes, corruption, ruthless conceit and despoilation, filled the people of liberated China with the profoundest indignation.

As the Island detachment of the People's Liberation Army grew, the local KMT warlords increased their savage persecutions of all who supported the cause of liberation.

The brave and eager way the people of Hainan volunteered their aid to the PLA landing parties testified to the depth of their hatred for the American-supported tyrants.

The victorious completion of the Hainan campaign opens a new chapter in the glorious annals of the People's forces. Though they had wiped out 7,500,000 KMT troops on the mainland, their qualitites had not yet been tested on the sea. New within a fortnight since the main landing on April 17, the PLA has planted its triumphant flag atop the Five Finger Mountains.

As Comrade Liu Shao-chi points out in his May Day address (printed as a supplement to this number), the brilliant success of this amphibious operation, ending in the liberation of Hainan, demonstrates the PLA's mastery of the art of seaborne landings.

The Chinese people are assured of the impending liberation of Taiwan. The Hainan campaign was its prelude.

**SALUTE TO A STAUNCH COMRADE-IN-ARMS**

The Chinese people are deeply grieved by the death of one of their staunchest American friends, Agnes Smedley.

Miss Smedley, the daughter of a miner, placed her entire life in the service of all peoples struggling to free themselves from imperialist servitude.

The end of World War II found her incarcerated in a New York penal institution, arrested by the American government at British request for the purpose of safeguarding her fearless efforts on the Indian revolutionary movement.

After her release, she worked her passage to Europe where she continued her self-sacrificing support for every anti-imperialist cause throughout the world.

Miss Smedley's talent and emotion-charged writings have served as an important bridge between the revolutionary Chinese people and progressives throughout the world. The fervor with which General Douglas MacArthur and his ilk have relentlessly hounded Agnes Smedley to her death is an excellent yardstick for measuring her impressive contribution to China's struggle against American imperialism.

The Chinese people will always cherish the memory of the heroic daughter of the American people whose whole life stands as a monument to the true and lasting friendship of these two great peoples.

**THE FINANCIAL AND FOOD SITUATION**

Chen Yun

The first question on which I want to report to the Government Council meeting is the financial situation.

The nation's financial situation has taken a turn for the better during the four months since the 1950 state budget was passed by the Fourth National Assembly of the People's Republic of China, held on December 2 last year. Over 70 per cent of the present budget of public grain is already stored in the storerooms of the central government and its agencies. Hence, the expectation of the central government is to export grain at the earliest possible moment.

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should be attributed to the expansion of China’s liberated areas, which increased the region in which the people’s currency circulated, or to the fact that certain small-scale industries were set up. Since temporary stability was due to these conditions and not to a balance in the state's revenue and expenditure of public finance, subsequent fluctuations were unavoidable.

At present the situation is different. Revenue and expenditure are nearly balanced, the deficit is reduced to a minimum, and the government has made the necessary preparations to keep certain main commodities on hand so as to regulate army and civilian supplies and market prices. If in the future small monthly amounts of additional currency should be issued, the main purpose will not be to cover a deficit. This is the basic difference from the situation last year.

The people throughout the country, including industrialists and merchants, have faced inflation throughout the past 12 years. Their way of living and conducting business cannot but be patterned upon the conditions of the past. But it must be realized that conditions are beginning to change.

The change from the stable pre-war financial situation to the subsequent inflation of the past 12 years caused profound effects upon the people and to law-abiding industrialists and merchants.

We should also realize that the present transition from a prosperous and fluctuating currency and commodity prices to a period of stability presents certain difficulties. This is especially true because after 12 years of war, the purchasing power of the people and some of the industrial and commercial enterprises have long engaged in speculation.

Therefore, we hope that industrialists and merchants throughout the country will become aware of this change and make necessary preparations to overcome the difficulties arising out of the change. We hope that they will not only assist the government to improve the situation. We also hope that those who lived by speculation during the inflation will change their former behaviour and turn to lawful business, so as to go against the country’s interests and their own.

It should be noted that our difficulties arise out of a change from bad to good; therefore the difficulties can only be solved by the KMT régime. A continued fall in prices would not be beneficial to the national economy, and the government will take appropriate steps to stabilize prices if the difficulties are not overcome.

[The rest of the text is continued on page 7.]

People's China
CHINA INCREASES HER GRAIN PRODUCTION

C. N. Wu

In his recent report to the Central People's Government Council on the nation's financial and food situation, Chen Yuan, Vice-Premier of the Government Administration Council, revealed that the quantity of public grain to be marketed amounts to 4,500,000 tons—sufficient to supply one-third of the populations of all cities and towns for one year; and that there will be no grain shortages, nor abrupt fluctuations of grain prices this year. He also pointed out that the state's revenue and expenditure are approaching equilibrium; that the movement of commodity prices may be stabilized for a long time to come; and that inflation, from which the people have suffered so much, will be prevented from recurring. All this points to the fact that our work in the field of finance and economy has thus far been very successful, and indicates that from now on, we can steadily and systematically push ahead with China's new economic development.

In the field of agriculture, we can derive an equally firm confidence from the current nationwide movement to increase grain production.

Last December, the Ministry of Agriculture of the Central People's Government called a National Agricultural Conference. Taking into account the different conditions in the newly liberated areas, the limitations of manpower, materials and supplies, and environmental conditions, this December plan did not include production by the People's Liberation Army around Kwantung and Sinkiang provinces and the suburbs of Peking.

China's pre-war grain output was 384,500,000 catties per year (the average of the period from 1931 to 1936). Taking the average of production in 1938 and the period between 1941 and 1945, the corresponding figure for the war years was 229,000,000,000 catties. Last year, because of floods and droughts, the total grain output was estimated at only 228,500,000 catties. This represents a decrease of 20.7 per cent from the pre-war level, and of 5.6 per cent from the war-time level. The estimated figure for this year, calculated on the basis of the average year's yield, will be approaching 235,500,000,000 catties. If the projected increases for this year are realized, the total grain output will be raised to 250,000,000,000 catties, which is greater than the pre-war level. In existing provinces, such as Kiangsi and Kiangnan, output will be raised 40,500,000 catties, or 12.1 per cent, less than the pre-war figure. It is expected that output will further be increased by 5 per cent in each of the coming two or three years. This means that grain production will regain the pre-war level two years hence and will certainly surpass it in the near future.

The accompanying figures show increases planned for different regions. The increase in the five newly liberated provinces, compared with those originally called for by the Central People's Government, is distributed as follows:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Area</th>
<th>Original Plan</th>
<th>New Quota</th>
<th>Percentage Increase</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Northeast China</td>
<td>2,400,000,000</td>
<td>2,600,000,000</td>
<td>8.3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>North China</td>
<td>2,500,000,000</td>
<td>2,700,000,000</td>
<td>7.9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>East China</td>
<td>330,000,000</td>
<td>334,200,000</td>
<td>1.2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>West China</td>
<td>5,200,000,000</td>
<td>5,256,500,000</td>
<td>1.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Central and South China</td>
<td>1,650,000,000</td>
<td>2,250,000,000</td>
<td>20.9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>10,600,000,000</td>
<td>11,350,000,000</td>
<td>6.9</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
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Conference set a goal of increasing the nation's grain output by 19,080,000,000 catties, or about 5,000,000 tons.

Reports from various areas have brought us encouraging news: the production quotas called for by the government will not only be fulfilled, but surpassed by 4,450,000,000 catties. This means that the nation's grain output will have increased 20 per cent over the year by 14,580,000,000 catties, which represents a 44.1 per cent increase over the original target. (The

Including army production in Sinkiang, Kwantung and the suburbs of Peking, the aggregate total of increased production in the various regions is 14,630,000,000 catties or 44.1% above the original target as previously stated.

In its December plan, the Central People's Government set a rather moderate goal for Hunan and Kiangsi provinces in Central and South China. This was because these three provinces were still newly liberated, and furthermore, suffered from floods last year. While Honan, a province in the same area, was required to increase its grain production by 650,000,000 catties, the three afore-mentioned provinces were required to raise production by only 1,000,000,000 catties. Of this amount, 200,000,000 catties were allotted to Hunan and 300,000,000 catties to Kiangsi. Hupeh, however, has raised its quota by 510,000,000 catties. It is also expected that 500,000,000 catties will be released to the market in Hunan and Hupeh, and 300,000,000 in Kiangsi.

These three provinces were once the main rice-producing centre of China. They have 12,000,000,000 mow of fertile crop lands. Although the agrarian reform has not been completed, the peasants' livelihood is steadily improving as a result of rent reduction and agricultural production. Furthermore, they are eager to produce more. There is thus good reason to believe that their goal will be fulfilled. And, "with a bumper crop reaped in Hupeh and Hupeh," as an old saying goes, "there will be no food shortages under the sky."

Basis for Grain Increase

When the Central People's Government adopted the plan of increasing grain output by five million tons, it based the programme on the following conditions:

1. Of the 1,000,000,000 more of land under plough in this country, 600,000,000 mow in the old liberated areas has been redistributed through the agrarian reform. The yield of the most part of this land will be raised to 1.5 catties per mow. This accounts for a total increase of 6,000,000,000 catties.

2. The development of water conservancy, prevention of pest damages and plant diseases, distribution of better seeds, increased use of fertilizers, and reclamation of wasteland are expected to result in an increase of 1,000,000,000 catties.

3. The extension of protection from flood to 50,000,000 mow of land which were inundated last year should raise the yield per mow from 60 catties as compared with 1949, and give a total increase of 3,000,000 catties.

On the basis of these calculations the Ministry of Agriculture called on the old liberated areas to raise their production level 10 per cent above that of 1949. In areas where conditions are relatively more favourable, efforts should be made to restore production to the pre-war level; and in areas affected by droughts and floods, production should be raised as much as conditions permit.

The newly liberated areas, in general, are required to maintain the level of 1949. Where conditions are relatively more favourable, production should be raised somewhat, but those newly liberated areas which have only expected to overcome the effects of floods and droughts so that production can be resumed.

In response to the call of the Central People's Government, the authorities in various areas and provinces throughout the country successively called conferences to devise concrete plans for increasing agricultural production. The decisions were then handed down to the lower administrative levels until every village had its own programme. In addition to such production conferences, all the areas, provinces, administrative districts and counties made further preparations covering all aspects of the programme through such organizations as the All-Circles People's Representative Conferences, peasant representatives' conferences and local economic conferences. Meanwhile, many specialist meetings, such as water conservancy conferences, farming technique conferences and conferences of labour heroes and model workers, have been convened in different parts of the country to further intensify preparations.

The latest surveys have shown that in general, the newly liberated areas in China will be able to attain the pre-war production level this year; and that a number of villages will even surpass it. According to statistics taken in the Huping Administrative District, Hupel province, 67 per cent of the villages fall into the former category and 33 per cent in the latter. In Shansi province, 33 counties will be able to attain the pre-war level this year. It is generally estimated that, with a few exceptions, the pre-war level will be attained by 1951 in all areas of the country where land reform is carried out, and that a considerable number of districts will even surpass it.

The following is an account of what the emancipated peasants in the areas where land reform has been completed, are doing in this mammoth production drive.

The old liberated areas are required to increase the use of fertilizers by 15 per cent this year. In Shansi province, for instance, these peasants have prepared during the last two months 5,200,000 tons of manure for each mow of land, which represents 75 per cent of the total amount to be used this year. In Northeast China, it was in the past customary among these peasants not to use fertilizers. But this year, fertilizer is being applied on an increasingly large scale. In the best districts, manured land now comprises over 90 per cent of the total area under plough; and in average areas, 50 to 60 per cent.

Farm Tool Situation

According to statistics taken in 19 counties of Shanpi province, the peasants have thus far repaired or made 100,000 agricultural implements. Reports from Chahar province show that 140,000 farming tools have been manufactured. In Northeast China, 20,000 pieces of entirely new farming equipment and 40,000 improved implements are being put into use. To popularize the use of new horse-drawn tools in selected areas, the Agricultural Authorities has established 42 farm-implement stations in North
Modern science was only introduced into China within the past 40 years. The first scientific research institution, the Geological Survey of China, was founded by the Peking government's Ministry of Industry in 1916. Six years later, the Science Society of China was founded as a branch of the Peking Imperial University in Nanking. About the time of the May Fourth Movement in 1919, the National University of Peking took the lead in appealing for the nation-wide promotion of science. Gradually scientific research gained a footing in the universities. Associations devoted to various branches of science, such as the Chinese Geological Society, the Chinese Physical Society, etc., were founded one after another. The Academia Sinica was established in 1928, and the National Academy of Peking in 1929.

In the 31 years since the May Fourth Movement, China has produced a few talented scientists who have made individual contributions to the study of science and are now internationally known. But, generally speaking, a survey of how much they have promoted the people's idea of the scientific values they have made towards the advancement of science in general, would reveal relatively slender results.

The reason why past scientific research in China reaped so meagre results was most probably traced to political and economic factors. The reactionary KMT government never gave science much encouragement, and regarded science as something having merely academic significance. Scientific research could hardly make any headway in view of the fact that government grants for research institutes were barely sufficient to cover the living expenses of the scientists. The advancement and popularization of science had lagged behind, and successful scientists were few and far between. J. D. Bernal, Professor of Physics at the University of London, wrote in his book The Freedom Necessary (published in 1949) : "For the science of the future, annually directed plans will be an absolute necessity; the type of that planning we can see already in the Soviet Union where science is the fruit of a state organization and scientific research, therefore, is made possible to build, on the narrow foundations which the present state of knowledge makes possible, the kind of modern Soviet science. In a generation, a nation of scientists is becoming a nation of scientists, and the line has been moved both in terms of science and in war."

China, a predominantly agricultural country, is even more backward in its industrial production, mass education and general living conditions than Russia was before the October Revolution. It will be, therefore, an extremely difficult task to raise production step by step, to eliminate illiteracy and to construct a new China. However, the present government has attached the importance of advancing learning in general, and of developing scientific research in particular. Although Taiwan is yet to be liberated and we are still facing numerous difficulties in the government's budget, covering expenditures in scientific research has already doubled the KMT government's previous allocations for scientific research.

In October last year, the President of the Academia Sinica, Prof. C. T. Sah, visited the United States. After returning to China, the President of the Academia Sinica last October by combining and further expanding the old Academia Sinica in Nanking and the National Academy of Peking. In the half-year since then, the 24 national research institutes under those two academies have been reorganized and amalgamated into five research institutes. Each institute now has its own individual sphere of responsibility and has been assigned its role in the nation's overall construction programme.

In physics, for example, the three former institutes, one in Peking and two in Nanking, had never in the past differentiated their work. Now they have been combined and reorganized into two new institutes. One is called the Institute of Modern Physics, specializing in the study of such broad, fundamental subjects as atomic energy and cosmic rays. The second, the Institute of Applied Physics, will mainly devote its energy to research in practical matters. It has manufactured optical parts for 500 microscopes and 200 theodolites. It maintains a department for designing and grinding optical lenses. In the future, it will co-operate closely with optical lens manufacturers in order to ensure an adequate national supply of optical instruments. The Institute of Applied Physics has also devised a new method for making quartz photoelectric cells for frequency stabilization in radio broadcasting.

Similar readjustments have been made in the field of biological research, in order to streamline communication and co-operation in scientific work. A great deal of the people's welfare, such as the work of the Chinese Agro-herb, has been realized. The importance of the research is also reflected in the fact that, during the period of travel and research in both Honan and Hopei provinces, they discovered that although the cotton aphids can exist on more than 120 kinds of host plants in northern China, they lived above the ground on some host plant throughout the year.

But, after the liberation, the North China People's Government invited Dr. Chu Hung-fu, of the Institute of Zoology, and his assistant to go to the infested district to make a study of the cotton aphids. Two years later, after years of travel and research in both Honan and Hopei provinces, they discovered that the cotton aphids can exist on more than 120 kinds of host plants in northern China. They also found that the aphids can live on a kind of weed called Eruca Sinicacina Versicolor.

In winter, the aphids do not live above ground, but cling to roots five or six inches below the earth. It was reported that when the aphids come out of the soil and migrate to the young cotton plant at the first opportunity. Now that the life cycle of this parasite is known, the possibilities of exterminating the cotton aphids become greatly enhanced. The Academia Sinica, in cooperation with the Ministry of Agriculture, has launched a fierce campaign against this pest. Prevention measures have been taken and the results are already showing. If the campaign is successful, it will be later tried in other parts of China.

The National Academy of Peking, with the Ministry of Education, has launched a training programme for about 250 prospective teachers and administrators in science. The Academy Sinica and its component institutes are inseparable of advancing scientific research. The work of the National Academy of Peking and the Academia Sinica is not only a great contribution to national economic recovery but a prodigious effort of all ministries, universities and other scientific institutions, acting under the guidance of a systematic long-range plan, can this aim be achieved. The establishment of the Academy Sinica is notable for the strong voting great energy to the task of organizing (Continued on page 27)
THE MAY FOURTH MOVEMENT
Ping Chien

For three decades the Anniversary of May Fourth has given a renewed inspiration and encouragement to the progressive forces of China. For the feudal and reactionary elements it was a day to dread. Long before the actual date, the reactionary ruling group, whether of northern warlords or Chiang Kai-shek’s gang, would mobilize all their police forces to block the gates of factories and schools and cordon off the main thoroughfares. Black Miasis combed the streets to round up revolutionary suspects. Bayonets and machine-guns were arrayed to suppress the popular demonstrations. Since that day in 1919, reaction has employed every devilish means at its disposal to erase this red-letter day from the political calendar of the Chinese people. All its attempts failed lamentably. May Fourth has remained a day of revolutionary re-dedication and remembrance.

This year workers and students again paraded on the Tien An Men Square where 31 years ago on that historic occasion their predecessors demonstrated against imperialism and feudalism and were attacked and arrested by a ruthless police force. But this year, for the first time, their joyous demonstration of youth and revolutionary zeal was greeted by the leaders of their own government. The May Fourth Movement marked the dividing line between the old and New Democracy in China — this is the reason for the reactionaries’ fearful hatred for this day. It sounded the knell of feudalism and imperialism. It armed the Chinese people with an invincible weapon — Marxism-Leninism. Taking place 19 months after the great October Revolution in Russia, it was a powerful response by the Chinese people to the clarion call of Socialism from their great neighbour, the Soviet Union. The May Fourth Movement was thus fundamentally a part of the world proletarian revolutionary tide.

First Major Clash

There are people outside China who describe this Movement either as a purely cultural one (hence the epithet “Renaissance of China”) or merely as a protest by the Chinese students against a particular act of foreign policy. Such narrow and pedantic interpretations, however, are warranted neither by the events that led up to the Movement nor by the developments which issued out of it.

The immediate cause of the Movement was of course the notorious Twenty-One Demands which the Japanese imperialists had forced the traitorous warlord Yuan Shih-kai to sign and to which the Western imperialists were parties. This, in the eyes of the Chinese people, was a fateful blow to China, a fateful blow to the Chinese people. A great many of the imperialists, however, wereBulletin of the Chinese University Press, 1921, pp. 12-13.
A canal is damned with sandbags, the first step in building a new irrigation system.

The surveying began in winter.

In the workshop, spades are forged...

Milling flour for the army mess.

Each unit raises sheep, cattle.

PLA troops protect the people from floods and foes.

At work, he also learns a new trade.

...and hafted by the army, too.

Battle oath — this time for production.

Ploughing up former wasteland trained cavalry horses.
Youth Celebrate Their Day

On May 4th, 80,000 youth parade past Tien An Men, the main entrance to the former imperial palace.

The People's Army Turns to Production

Chen Tan

China is today a land of great change. Even the courses of rivers are being altered, and the barren mountainsides are turning green with new-planted forests. Deserts and great tracts of wasteland, abandoned during 12 years of war and famine, are being gradually webed with irrigation networks and broken to plough.

The People's Liberation Army, whose heroic achievements laid the foundation for these changes, is undertaking an increasingly important role in transforming the face of China. Although it has a long tradition of part-time production, the PLA has launched a production campaign this year that is unprecedented in scope and character. No longer is the sole aim to reduce the people's tax burdens and to raise army living standards - though these remain factors in the programme. Today the main aim is to help put the nation back on its economic feet and to speed the process of industrialization.

At present, only rear area units are assigned to this task. With the liberation of Taiwan and Tibet, all the PLA's 3,000,000 men can join the all-out assault on the production front. Army production, like state production, strengthens the socialist sector of the national economy. Therefore the PLA's long-term production campaign will be of incalculable significance in hastening China's transition from New Democracy to Socialism.

The army group's headquarters for its great production offensive had a distinctly front-line atmosphere. Huge topographical military maps covered two walls from floor to ceiling. Little red flags bearing army numbers marked the position of our forces. But the enemy in this East Hopei sector was no longer the KMT, whose troops had all been enriched and disarmed by this same army group more than a year ago. Today the enemy was Nature; the task was to harness its tremendous but undisciplined forces and make them serve the local population.

When I entered the room, the Chief-of-Staff was seated at the head of a long, glass-topped conference table. Before him lay a sheet of progress reports from various field command posts. The blueprint of an elevated concrete reservoir was spread out across the lower end of the table, where a group of staff officers were discussing a technical engineering problem.

The Chief-of-Staff, whom I had not seen since Tientsin's liberation, wasted no time on formalities or reminiscences. "What do you think our men have done now?" he asked as he shook my hand warmly. There was a note of intense pride in his voice as he continued:

"You know the East Ying River project, where we are digging a section of the new canal? Well, we had calculated that it would take 10,000 men three months to dig this 3.23 kilometre stretch. After all, it means moving 5,000,000 cubic metres of earth. But our troops have been at work now for two weeks, and they are upsetting all our careful planning. They've talked the job over, and now they are confident they can finish it up in 50 days instead of 90. What do you think of that?"

"And just look at this," he continued, taking my arm and drawing me over to the charts and graphs lining a third wall. "Here's the record of our 29 big army farms - that's only counting the farms of more than 1,000 mow. Just look, not a single one is lagging behind schedule. Here's the 11th Regiment - finishing up spring planting a week ahead of its plan."

But perhaps even more impressive than the record of achievement documented in these blue and red crayoned lines was the military efficiency and precision with which the staff headquarters was directing this vast, complex production campaign. The walls of the room were lined with almost a glance the current rate of production at the army group's paper mill, the previous week's catch of its fishing fleet, its progress in reclaiming 120,000 square miles of wasteland, the number of farm tools being turned out at the army's machine shop, and current daily output in a score of other enterprises.

All this wide variety of productive activity had been set into motion only five months earlier. On December 3, 1949, Comrade Mao Tse-tung, as Chairman of the People's Revolutionary Military Council, issued a directive calling on the People's Liberation Army to become "not only an army of national defence but an army of production to help the people throughout the country to conquer the difficulties left behind by a long war and to speed up the construction of a New Democratic economy." This directive instructed the army to undertake long-term construction projects, placing main emphasis upon "increasing the wealth of the society and state through production."

It prohibited the army from engaging in commercial transactions or undermining the interests of civilian production. Produce not needed by the army's own needs could only be sold to state trading corporations, not on the open market. Chairman Mao then went on to give clear and detailed guidance on how to launch and conduct the production mass movement in the army ranks.

The commanding staff immediately went into action, first carrying out extensive preparations just as it would before a major battle.
Meetings to discuss Chairman Mao’s instructions were held at all levels so that every person in the entire army group could fully grasp the significance of the task ahead. These meetings, which received hundreds of suggestions from the ranks on how to complete the assignment more efficiently, once again proved the PLA saying that “16,000 brains are better than one.”

Production Organization

While the troops were being ideologically mobilized to tackle this entirely new line of duty, the army authorities were setting up the organization necessary to get the production drive underway. With the help of the Communist Party branches, production committees were organized at each level from the company up. These were entrusted with responsibility for planning and supervising the campaign. Production co-operators were set up under each committee to put the plans into practice and to handle day-to-day matters. The production headquarters level, with the army commander as its chairman, was vested with top authority for the unit's entire production.

After a month of demonstrative discussions involving everyone from the orderlies to the highest commanders, the broad outlines of the year’s production plan had been hammered into shape. By this time, the division of labour between the various army units had also been determined. In two months, each unit made detailed plans and preparations for completing its assignment on schedule. The army authorities welcomed this demonstrative discussions in drawing up this plan of action. Meanwhile, Communist Party members completed individual production plans for the year, for the armed forces formed mutual-aid groups with non-Party members. The slogan of the day became: “We are heroes in fighting — now we must be heroes in production.”

By March 29, all the preliminaries had been completed for the production campaign, which was officially launched on that day with a Grand Review, again just as if the army group were setting off for battle. The soldiers lined up for inspection, carrying both their weapons and tools — and it was hard to say which had been polished the most. As the ceremony ended, the troops were instructed to fulfill the task assigned to them.

The army group’s 1,500 plan consisted of four general categories: (1) Agricultural production designed to lay the foundation for large, scientifically-run and highly-mechanized army farms of the future, which will make the state farms the model to modern collective farming in China. (2) Industrial and handicraft production, starting modestly to accumulate experience in this new branch of army activity but with the ultimate goal of providing the bulk of the army’s agricultural output. (3) Civil engineering projects essential to national reconstruction and flood prevention. (4) Training, with production aimed solely at raising living standards within the army.

Reclaiming Land

According to this plan, the army will reclaim 120,000 mu of wasteland and raise crops conservatively valued at 21,200,000 catties of millet.

Reclaiming land around the western coast of the Gulf of Chihli is not just a matter of running a plough or spade into the earth, even in Shal-kwan, where the Great Wall runs into the sea, to the mouth of the Yellow River, in northern Shantung province, stretches a vast, flat expanse of alkaline wasteland — an area as bleak and barren as the surface of the moon. Until recently, this area was submersed under sea water. In order to cultivate such land, the top soil must first be washed clean of salts and other impurities by flooding with running water for several weeks. Afterwards, the fields must be flooded once a day to prevent more sea water from seeping in. The soil, which means that there must be a constant supply of water, and that it must be harrowed by a system of canals, dams, reservoirs, irrigation ditches and gates.

New Rice Supply

There are 4,000,000 mu of such alkaline wasteland in the area where this army group is stationed. With the aid of several thousand people, including legislators representing the basic army group, the cabinet of the central government, the representatives of the PLA, and the army group’s own production co-operators, the group plans to conduct a five-year campaign. In the first year, the group plans to carry out preliminary draft plans, at least one-fourth of this land will have been turned into a green garden of rice capable of adding more than the 1,000,000 catties of fish that the army group expects to catch this year with its 17-boat fishing fleet. This type of production, according to the 1950 plan, will turn out a total of 12,343,486 catties of millet by the end of the year.

Own Food Supply

In addition, each of the army group’s component units has undertaken a food self-sufficiency mission to cover its needs for six months. Approximately one-twelfth of the land brought under cultivation has been set aside for this purpose. The various units are also raising livestock and poultry, starting up bean curd production and engaging in other similar activities to improve their food supply.

All of these multiple activities are being launched without any additional burden on the Chinese taxpaying public, but are being consummated as a part of the national recovery programme. In 1949, this army unit conducted a string of economy drive and managed to save a substantial part of its governmental allocation. Then, after the campaign was initiated, the government paid the army group one month’s salary in advance, on the understanding that the sum would be made up by the end of the year. In this way, the government was able to assist the production movement without defraying its fiscal budget. After the army’s production co-operatives were set up, shares were offered to the troops which would be redeemed with interest after autumn harvest. Most of the soldiers invested at least one month’s pocket allowance, amounting to six catties of millet. By the end of the year, the army group accumulated more than 18,000,000 catties of millet as its working capital.

This year’s production is expected to net the group 36,000,000 catties of millet after part of the expenses have been deducted. (The heavy initial investments represent a deduction over a three-to-five-year period.) In accordance with Chairman Mao’s instructions, 40 per cent of this amount will be distributed among the soldiers who have engaged in the work. The men may send their share of the income home to their families or use it as they wish. The remaining 60 per cent will be divided into three equal parts — one part will be remitted to the central board of production; another will be used to cover the army’s daily expenses, thus lightening the people’s tax burden next year; and the third will be remitted over to the government as taxes.

Although this military unit is being transformed into "an army of production," it must maintain its great traditions as a steel-hard and highly-disciplined "army of national defense." While 78 per cent of its personnel will engage in production until autumn harvest time, the remaining 25 per cent are preparing an intensified military training programme for the coming winter. These preparations include sending many men and officers to military academies so they can learn more about modern mechanized warfare.

Battle-line Spirit

One of the most noteworthy aspects of the army production campaign is the battle-line spirit with which the revolutionary soldiers have charged into the task. The prevailing attitude is summed up by a popular slogan that has come up from the ranks:

“An army’s work — everything — our singing shoulders, blistered hands and tired legs — because we are the starting point of benefitting millions of people in East Hopei and Shantung.”

Most of the PLA soldiers come from peasant homes and they welcome the chance to get back to the soil which has fed their families generation after generation. With hundreds of poems, commonly known as "plo poems," which the soldiers compose themselves and paste up on the walls of straw huts, the soldiers keep alive their front-line tradition of making up "rice poems" to paste on the butts of their guns.

Hoe, hoe, old friend of mine,
We have parted since I joined the army.

Today we are hand in hand again.
Let us unite as one.

For the glorious task of production.

Army Life Retained

Many other features of army life are carried over into the production battle. Wherever large units are mobilized, long straw mats are laid on the grass to make the site into a regular military encampment. As always, the soldiers are awakened at 5 a.m. and must spend 2½ hours of study into their day’s routine. Work-hours are fixed from 8 to 4, with an hour out for lunch and rest. Evenings are spent for discussions covering the work and reading, games and theatrical performances.

The troopers are displaying their cavalry traditions in devising ways to handle their work more effectively. Someone on a cavalry digging project suggested, for example, that the soldiers could use a rope to keep track of the loads of earth it carried by dropping a bocak in a bowl at the end of every round-trip. A proposal was also made for the establishment of a work brigades and is now the basis for heated competitions between various units as to which can move the most earth in a day. A soldier found an ingenious way to pull the sharp upper-edge of a spade with an old shoe sole slipped down over the handle to keep the foot off the toes of the diggers but also saved the foot of the soldier. Not only good shoes, which had been rapidly cut to pieces when they preceded the marching army, are now being replaced.

The scene of an army work project resembles a carnival. The soldiers paraded their share of the work with militant, fast-tempo rhythms. Army cultural teams stage skits and gung-ho dances during the rest periods. Most of the soldiers have learned to "keep up their kapers" in areas having no convenient walls, give a vivid running account of progress achieved, or even stage small comedies which spontaneously arise and of different production experiences.

(Continued on page 22)
In Peking's greatest May Day demonstration — the first in China since the establishment of the People's Republic — over 200,000 of its workers, soldiers and citizens, undeterred by torrential rain, marched on Tien An Men (Gate of Heavenly Peace) Square in an impressive salute to the international workers' day. There on Peking's "Red Square" they greeted Chairman Mao Tse-tung and his colleagues of the government and leaders of the democratic parties and people's organizations, who cheered them in response to the rostrum above the main entrance to Forbidden City.

From early in the morning the organized columns of the people converged on the square and took up their allotted places to await the opening of the parade. At three o'clock precisely, salvos from the People's Artillery echoed like thunder from the heavy clouds that overcast the sky. Peking's Mayor Nieh Ch'ing-chun spoke through the microphone to the waiting thousands.

"We are here to celebrate the unprecedented strength and growth of the world's camp for peace and democracy headed by the Soviet Union; the great victory of the Chinese people's revolution and the great victory of the Chinese labouring people." As he ended, the first contingent of the People's Liberation Army entered the square from the Eastern Gate, to the music of the massed band.

At the centre of the big square there must have past the resplendent red-coated Tien An Men at the middle of which is the rostrum of the revolutionary leaders. Flanking the gate itself are two stands for the leaders of the democratic parties and groups and for guests and the diplomatic corps.

The site is one of extraordinary and typical Chinese beauty. The surrounding red walls, the glittering yellow tiles of the triple-roofs of the Tien An Men, the marble balustrades of the Forbidden City, the spring green of the trees, the multi-coloured masses of people, waving flags, banners and symbols, the portraits of revolutionary leaders, formed an ever-changing pattern under the clear light of Peking's sky. This clouds which lower over the downpour of rain added an overtone of strength not only to colours and forms, but brought a spirit of determination to the people of Peking. The elements. This was felt by everyone present. It was as if these masses had spoken: "Today we demonstrate our solidarity with all the toilers of the world. Our enemies are watching. They will rejoice if we flinch before a mere rainstorm."

Men of the PLA led the parade. Units of the Air Force were followed by women's service detachments in neat khaki uniforms. All wore the new style of khaki hats with the black peaks that have now replaced the informal cloth caps of the PLA in its early days. Renewed bursts of cheers from the spectators and the reviewing stands greeted each contingent. The representatives of the armed forces were followed by the columns of the workers. A massed band of more than 500 drums and cymbals brought a new exhilarating rhythm to the militant music of the brass bands. The blue, red and yellow costumes of the players gave added strength to the huge red silk banners of the Peking Trade Union Council. These surrounded large portraits of Chairman Mao and of other leaders of the armed forces. Through the microphone the voice of Tso-tung could be heard greeting the workers of Peking and a great shout answered him:

"Long Live Chairman Mao! Long Live Stalin!"

Often accompanied by their own bands of massed drums and groups of guzheng (koto) players, the metal workers, railwaymen, printers and miners filed past their leaders. The municipal workers in their blue summer uniforms formed a solid mass of marchers, linked arms in arm, twenty abreast and 10,000 strong. Workers from the Chang-hsingtien Railway Depot proudly carried their tools with them. A huge model shoe propped there of a Peking rubber shoe factory.

If the parade of the troops was notable for solidarity and dignity of bearing as they passed the review post in the pouring rain, the march of the workers was characterized by the human and spontaneous warmth of the greetings to the leaders, each group giving a special hurrah for Chairman Mao and were delighted to cheer his response. Many carried their children astride their shoulders as they marched, showering bouquets of flowers, flaming their caps into the air as they cheered. One veteran postal worker was so deeply moved that he produced the portrait of Chairman Mao through a pair of binoculars that he struggled way behind his advancing column.

When the marchers saw the representatives of the working class of other countries on the platforms, there were renewed cheers, shouted with an enthusiasm that was clearly meant to express this brave and warm-hearted people's unity with the workers of the world against oppression.

There was real joy in the response of "Wan Suei Wan Suei! (Long May He Live!) that greeted every cheerful cheers for Chairman Mao. There were constant ovations for the delegations of Soviet Youth and the Indonesian Trade Union delegation which was present.

Faces turned upwards as fighter planes flew overhead in formation. Voices from the rostrum led the cheers: "Long Live the People's Air Forces!"

The columns of workers were followed by representatives of the peasants, by the students and contingents from many popular organizations. There were white-bearded old men and women with the pitiful bound feet of another era walking in step with the youth of today. Girls and boys danced with verve to the rhythm of the guzheng.

Towards the late afternoon, just as the students entered the square, the weather relented. The sky cleared and the sun shone. A rainbow arch appeared. As night fell the procession continued through the square, gay with flood lights and lit by a full moon. It was, after eight, when the columns passed Tien An Men and Peking, capital of the new China, ended its mighty demonstration of solidarity with the masses of all China, of its famous and historic cities, Canton, Shanghai, Nanjing, Chiang-Kai-shek and Munchen, of its towns and villages arrayed in their military garb, with the working class of the world in an invincible vanguard of peace and democracy.

THE MAY FOURTH MOVEMENT
(Continued from page 12)

that date when the movement of progressive intellectuals merged with revolutionary politics. The main body of revolutionary intellectuals in China became and has remained a reliable ally of the worker movement. It is true that on the right wing of the Movement there was a group of bourgeoisie reformists represented by Hu Shih, which opposed the genuine progressives led by the revolutionary martyr Li Tse-chung, harbinger of Communism in China. But the revolutionary intellectuals were an unprotesting and victorious struggle against the sabotage of the reformists. This is a characteristic feature of the cultural history of China during the past thirty years.

From the very beginning, Hu Shih, leader of the reformists, stood for compromise with the reactionaries. He confessed that "In July, 1917, when I first came back to China, I resolved to keep away from politics for twenty years." He found "all this talk of Guild Socialism and Marxist Socialism, class warfare and surpluse value, irksome." He was willing to solve social problems fundamentally because that "would mean passing a death sentence on all that which causes the distressing reality of the people." (Continued on page 22)
The Capital Rejoices

Three days after Peking's biggest May Day parade, 80,000 of the city's youth marched before the Gate of Heavenly Peace to celebrate China's Youth Day, May 4th. For five hours, contingents of soldiers, workers, and other groups of young folk, marched, danced and sang their way across the quarter-mile square in a kaleidoscope of brilliant colour. They hailed the victory of the aims put forward by the May 4th Movement 31 years ago and pledged themselves to struggle for peace. The parade was reviewed by Chiang, Shao-chi, Vice-Chairman of the Central People's Government, government officials and the Soviet Youth Delegates.

Soviet Youth Delegation

The delegation of Soviet youth, headed by N. A. Mintskov, General Secretary of the Leninist Young Communist League, has been working through a full programme of meetings, parades and entertainments. Among the 24 delegates are Stakhanovites, writers and artists. Performances by the artists accompanying the delegation have drawn huge crowds of young people.

China's Youth League

The New Democratic Youth League of China, now one year old, had, by February, a membership of some 1,800,000. It now has a great number of new members, students, villagers, schools and the armed services. Many League members are labour heroes, model farmers, outstanding students and gallant soldiers. The League sponsors every sort of educational, artistic and athletic activity and also leads the work of the 470,000 members of the Chinese Pioneer Corps.

A Quarter's Achievements

China's peaceful reconstruction has made remarkable achievements during the first quarter of the current year, according to statistics recently released by the government.

Irrigation. More than 60 per cent of the nation's 1950 water conservation projects were completed during the first three months of the year. Some 5,000,000 peasants, in government pay, threw up 210,000,000 cubic metres of earthworks in February and March. This year, dykes along sections of the Yangtze, Yellow, Hui and other rivers will be raised one or 1½ metres above the highest 1949 flood levels.

Coal Production. State colleries have beaten the government target for the first quarter of the year by 5.5 per cent. Manchuria exceeded its quota by 11 per cent, and Central-South China by 3 per cent.

Railways. By March, China's railways had budget surpluses, had fulfilled their transport plans, paid $32,000,000 in business taxes and invested considerable sums in new installations. This was made possible by a general railway management, though passenger fares are far lower and freight rates only one-sixth of those imposed under the KMT regime.

Relief Work

Relief and welfare work in China will be unified under the Chinese People's Relief Association, formed on April 29. The new body incorporates the former Chinese Liberated Areas Relief Association and several other organizations. It will continue the policy of helping the people in crop-damaged areas mainly by providing work to unemployed persons. The Chinese Relief Association, set up in 1949 to helpannexed territories, will be dissolved. The new body will include the former Chinese Relief Association, set up in 1949 to help annexed territories.

Sweden. Mr. Torsten Ludwig Hammarstrom has been appointed Swedish Ambassador to China and General Kung Pin as Chinese Ambassadorto Sweden.

The American Government is spending US$40,000 to repair the Kim Po airfield, near Seoul, as a base for B-29 long-range bombers. In January, five other airfields were constructed in South Korea. Chiang Ka-shek's propaganda plane, Syngman Rhee to permit his American-supplied warplanes to use these bases in attacks on northern China.

There's great interest in building Korean military airbases to replace those lost with the liberation of Tientsin and Shanghai and is further explained by the confessions of two U.S. army airmen. E. C. Rende and W. C. Taylor have given a reconnaissance plane in the Shantung Liberated Area in October, 1948. They have stated the “flying myths about the sight was to reconnoitre the railways and (and) to discover what construction projects were under way in Lialyang . . . The flyers were recently released after they repudiated their act of military aggression.

Claire Tennant has been active behind the scenes in organizing the “harmonious policy air brigade” to be placed at Chiang Ka-shek's service. N. Castle, former U.S. Air Force three-star general, tendered his resignation as commander of this 'brigade,' was quoted by UP as saying: "If the State Department continues its "harmonious policy," the group, will be activated by July." He added that American F-51, B-26 and British Lancastor planes are being made "available" for his collection of American, British and Canadian desperadoes. Volunteers are being recruited in the Far East with enticements of U.S. Air Force wage scales, "plus 50 per cent hazard pay."
May Fourth Celebrations

Two Historic Rooms

In commemoration of the 31st Anniversary of the May Fourth Movement, Peking University has restored to their original form the two historic rooms in its Red Brick Building where Mao Tse-tung and the late Li Ta-chao once worked.

In 1918, Li Ta-chao moved into his office as Chief Librarian of National Peking University and it was from these two small rooms in the east corner of the Red Brick Building that this proletarian thinker, and the only matured Chinese Marxist of that time, directed the May Fourth Movement and waged the ideological struggle against the bourgeois reformist Hu Shih and other disrupters of the Chinese revolutionary movement. It was here that Li and the youth around him organized the Marxist Study Group whose members later became the backbone of the Chinese Communist Party on its foundation in 1921 at Shanghai.

Arriving in Peking from Hunan at that time, Mao Tse-tung was introduced to Li by a friendly professor and was offered and accepted a post in Li's library. The two small rooms which he shared with Li are once again furnished as they were thirty years ago. There are the immortal librarian's writing desk, the long table around which the first Chinese Communists confered, the small three-drawer desk on which Comrade Mao worked, the rattan easy chair and book cases. On the wall are a photo of Li Ta-chao, specimens of his calligraphy and correspondence and an order issued by the then Minister of Education to "suppress the danger of the Communist Li Ta-chao's dangerous activities."

In the room in which Chairman Mao had worked are his portrait bust, his manuscripts and collections of his published works. The two rooms are open to the public and there is a lively interest in this place where the early pages of the Chinese revolutionary movement were written.

Scientific Democracy

Following the ceremony to inaugurate the two Memorial Rooms, Peking University held a series of commemorative lectures, meetings and entertainments. On May 4, Guest lecturers, Professors Ho-Lung, the mathematician, gave a comparison of American and Soviet science. He drew a vivid picture of two worlds in which science develops in opposite directions. Falling into the hands of monopoly capital, atomic energy in the United States is developed to destroy mankind. In the Soviet Union in the hands of the people, it moves mountains and changes the courses of rivers, serving mankind.

Professor Hu drew the lessons for China in this comparison. "The banners of Democracy and Science were first lifted in China on May Fourth 31 years ago. With the birth of New China, we have achieved democracy. Our task today is to develop science. Let us set it to with a will!"

Youth Exhibition

A comprehensive exhibition of historical materials in the Chinese young movement held in Peking's Chung Shan Park shows vividly how the glorious tradition of China's youth in the fight for democracy and national liberation has been valiantly maintained by a united front of young workers, peasants and intellectuals.

At the entrance to the exhibition is a charming inscription from Chairman Mao Tse-tung: "A Spark Can Kindle a Mighty Confignation!" There are pictures of Li Ta- chao, the poet, the young revolutionary, which he shared with Li and the youth around him organized the Marxist Study Group whose members later became the backbone of the Chinese Communist Party on its foundation in 1921 at Shanghai. The above eight items total over 1,532,000,000 catties, or 766,000 tons. If necessary, this amount can even be appropriately increased.

1932 Relief Picture

Last year took a look at the "Year Book of China" and of the much food relief grain was used in 1932. According to the report of the flood relief committee of the bogus "national government" of that time, the following amounts were spent: Relief grain - 420,000,000 catties. Grain for work relief projects - 600,000,000 catties. Agricultural loans and seeds - 100,000,000 catties. Total: 1,000,000,000 catties, or 510,000 tons. Of this amount, at least 300,000,000 catties, or 150,000 tons, did not reach the devastated areas, the same source revealed. According to the earlier-mentioned data, the population in the afflicted areas this year is over 12,000,000 less than that of 1932. However, relief grain allocations are 256,000 tons more than in 1932 and the afflicted get all of this grain. Furthermore, under the reactionary KMT rule, because of exceptionally poor inland communication facilities — all the big cities such as Peking, Tientsin, Shanghai, Canton, Wuhan and Nanking and other large centers in the various provinces will have necessary food supplies.

The amount of public grain alone to be sold on the market (including grain to be delivered after the harvest) but not including surpluses for (Northeast China) equals 9,000,000,000 catties, or 4,500,000 tons. The total urban population in China does not exceed 90,000,000. This 4,500,000 tons can supply one-third of the poor work in these regions. For the state to move such huge quantities of grain into the cities is unprecedented in the history of China.

On the Question of Relief in the Anfiliated Areas

There are 12,000,000 more of devastated land in Liaotung and Jehol provinces in Manchuria, affecting 2,600,000 people, and the Northeast People's Government is now carrying on relief work in these regions. The Central People's Government has made the following allocations for various relief measures in afflicted areas south of the Great Wall: Immediate relief grain - 150,000,000 catties. Grain payment for water conservancy work relief projects - 45,640,000 catties. Grain agricultural loans - 9,450,000 catties. Grain invested as capital in cooperatives - 120,000,000 catties. Grain payment for those taking part in transport work - 200,000,000 catties. Grain payment for cloth manufactured by injured persons - 196,500,000 catties. Unharrowed grain loans for peasants to be repaid after wheat harvest - 145,000,000 catties. Relief grain allocated by local governments - 100,000,000 catties. The above eight items total over 1,532,000,000 catties, or 766,000 tons. If necessary, this amount can even be appropriately increased.
corruption and embezzlement were commonplace in relief work, whereas the people's government never allows corruption among relief work personnel.

Our method of relieving the peasants in afflicted areas is to encourage the inhabitants in production to enable them to save themselves. The relief grain issued by the government is used to help the inhabitants of the afflicted areas to engage in various types of productive activity. It is not issued simply as relief, without mobilizing the people for production.

If we conduct our work well and carry on energetically, it will be completely possible to help the inhabitants in the afflicted areas overcome the spring food shortage period.

Difficulties Being Overcome

The inhabitants of the afflicted areas are in distress and all have a hard life. This is the result of more than a century of imperialist aggression in China and the long reactionary rule of the KMT. Precisely because of this, the people throughout the country, having defeated Japanese imperialism, were determined to overthrow the KMT reactionary rule swiftly and establish their own people's government. The victory of the Peasant Liberation War brought hope to the people throughout China and to the Chinese people's government. For the present, the province of Hopei is still under the control of the Central People's Government and people's governments of various levels have created the prerequisites for remolding the national economy. The people throughout China are working with the government in a concerted effort to eliminate the enemies remnants, to rehabilitate the economy and to overcome all difficulties.

The experience at others' misfortunes. The handbook of reactions in island exile are also dreaming of a so-called food crisis on the mainland. Let them dream! Rain has been received from North China and from Honan and Shantung provinces (with the exception of Kiao-tung Peninsula in Shantung) and the wheat harvest is promising. This should enable the peasants throughout the country to start spring planting. Those who rejoice at our distress and hope that we shall have a food crisis are doomed to disappointment. The nation's production is not only overcoming all the calamities but, moreover, we will stabilize grain prices for the first time in years.

CHINA INCREASES HER GRAIN PRODUCTION

(Continued from page 9)

and East China and has recently expanded the former tractor training stations in a regular manner. Over 300 graduates from the school have been sent out to work on mechanised state farms in various provinces. Meanwhile, orders have been placed for over 1,000 new sets of machinery in order to develop the state farms in various places in a planned and systematic manner.

The water conservation work this year is centred around the prevention of floods and drainage of inundated land. In areas affected by drought, the emphasis is laid on irrigation by building canals. Work has been started on all projects scheduled for this year. It is certain that agricultural production can be resumed in most parts of the distressed areas.

In North Kiangsu, for instance, 770,000 peasants led by 22,500 cadres are working on several large-scale water conservation projects, including the construction of irrigation canals. The completion of this spring's work will extend flood protection to 6,500,000 mow of grain fields and 2,000,000 mow of cotton fields, and at the same time, it will divert 10,000,000 mow of fertile land along the Yangtze River and the Grand Canal.

Meanwhile, the peasants in various places are working vigorously under the leadership of the rural cadres. In all Hopei province, for instance, 18,000 canals are being cut. In Chahar province, the government is rescheduling the irrigation facilities. The peasants are digging a considerable number of ditches, and building irrigation ditches in various provinces. The total work on irrigation projects is a gigantic undertaking unexampled in recent decades.

Prevention of Pests and Diseases

The Ministry of Agriculture has convened a North China Pest and Disease Prevention Conference last February, which considered the prevention of pests and crop diseases. It was decided to increase the production of insecticides and to set up permanent spraying stations in severely infested areas. The various provincial governments are intensifying efforts to teach the peasants preventive techniques and organizing mass campaigns to exterminate pests. Meanwhile, large-scale attacks on pests attacked crops in Hopei province last March, an insecticide comprising 800 cadres from various administrative levels was immediately organised to help the peasants combat the pests and assist their spring cultivation. The Ministry of Agriculture has also imported large quantities of insecticides and equipment to guard against further outbreaks of such diseases.

Details about relief for distressed peasants have been given by Vice-Premier Chen Yun in his report, but it should be noted that already the unprecedentedly large sums of 1,532,000,000 mow of grain has been assigned for this purpose. Added by the local governments, the peasants in the various distressed areas are resuming production. Surveys made last summer by the political departments in the respective areas, led by the local governments, have drained 80 percent of the flooded land and planted it to wheat. This spring, the government again called on the distressed peasants to grow crops of emergency items. In ten counties of eastern Hopei province, for instance, spring wheat has been sown on 400,000 mow of land; and in southern Anhwei province, on 2,000,000 mow, with the result that a large area of spring grain planted by the distressed peasants in North Kiangsu have planted over 1,000,000 mow to vegetables.

To attain the goal of the production drive, it has been decided in various areas that activities throughout the year will centre around grain and cotton production and that the emphasis will be placed on rehabilitation, as the basis for further development.

In the vast countryside where land reform has been completed, the peasants have entirely freed themselves from feudal exploitation. In the newly liberated areas the peasants have taken on a new lease of life as a result of the reduction of rents and interest rates, the suppression of local despots and the equitable allocation of taxation. Since they know that the future belongs to them, the new post-revolutionary peasantry are eager to work hard and produce more. It is anticipated that the quotas set for the various areas will not only be fulfilled, but will be surpassed.

The figures in this article are based on the latest available data compiled from the most recent data given in the article "Chinese Agriculture in Speedy Rehabilitation" which appeared in the third issue of this journal. —Ed.

SCIENCE IN NEW CHINA

(Continued from page 11)

Chinese scientists. In July, 1949, the government convened a conference of scientific workers in Peking to discuss the problems of developing a new All-China Conference of Scientific Workers. Since last December, many ministries of the new government have held national conferences to discuss food and the relations between science, sanitation, soil conservation, fuel, fisheries, etc. Specialists from all sections of the country met at these conferences to draw up detailed plans for the future science programme.

When the KMT government was in power, such meetings of scientists and other specialists merely resulted in a batch of resolutions that were never executed. The situation is entirely different today. Now these conferences are not convened until careful preparatory work has been completed. Only proposals that can be put into effect are placed on the agenda. After the meeting, its resolutions and decisions are quickly and efficiently carried out. For instance, at the end of last February, a group of geologists was called to Peking. It required only two weeks to complete its work and two months later the government was able to allocate responsibility for the field work for various regions to different scientific units. Within one month and half after the meeting closed, 80 geologists were sent out into the field. It can be seen that the scientific planning and organization has come to an advanced stage.

As the new government has declared, the Chinese people's key to science is one of the five virtues which every patriotic Chinese should cultivate. To love science means that one must acquire a scientific approach to all problems. In dealing with any question whether it is one's own purely personal affairs or that of national administration, such as the restoration of communications, the stabilization of commodity prices, etc., a scientific approach is necessary. A thorough scientific viewpoint, and must be handled with in a scientific way. Science in China is like a transplanted fruit tree, it languished in the unfavorable climate before, but for the better and the soil has become fertile. Therefore, it will soon strike deep roots, and in due time it will burst into beautiful blossom and bear magnificent fruits.