

July 15, 1958  
20

# PEKING REVIEW

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## FARM TOOLS REFORM

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## Romanticism and Realism

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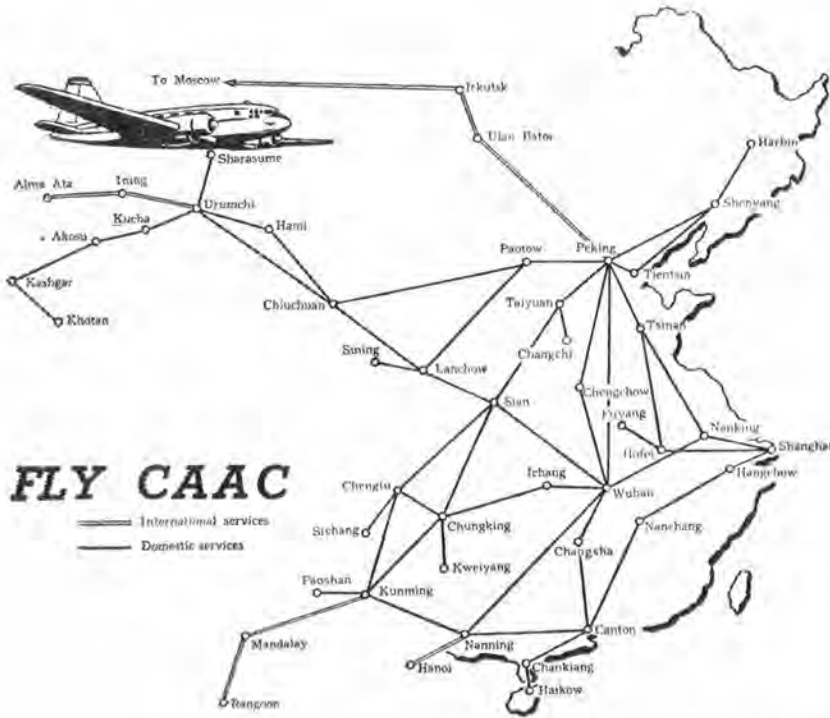
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# PEKING REVIEW

北京周報

(BEIJING ZHOUBAO)

A WEEKLY MAGAZINE OF CHINESE  
NEWS AND VIEWS

July 15, 1958 Vol. 1 No. 20

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## Socialist Emancipation of Women

WITH the rapid expansion of China's national economy, a shortage of manpower is becoming more and more of a problem, strange as this may seem to those who think China is "overpopulated." The record-breaking activities of industry and agriculture call for the labour of millions of hands. Against this background, unprecedented numbers of women are going to work, in the factories, on the farms and in cultural and educational institutions.

To enable women to make their contribution to the "big leap forward," it has become particularly necessary to free them from household drudgery. A good deal has been done in this respect in recent months. Take Harbin for example. Over four thousand nurseries and creches and other child-care service centres have been set up in a matter of two months. They care for 129,000 children, about 93 per cent of the under school-age children in the city. In Peking, a large number of public canteens, laundries, dress-making shops and nurseries have been established. In the rural suburbs of the capital, 1,849 canteens and 700 sewing groups have sprung up. As a result, approximately 70,000 mothers and housewives are doing farm work.

Freeing women from the household chores and enabling them to engage in socialist construction is of tremendous significance, politically as well as economically. For women, it means a further great step forward in elevating their position. As actual producers, they are able to earn their own livelihood. Economic independence further ensures their complete equality with men.

Moreover, free from household drudgery, women have more time for acquiring education and technical skills. In the Tientsin Special Administrative Region, for example, thanks to the extensive establishment of public canteens, nurseries, and other service centres, the number of women attending literacy classes and technical training courses rose to 355,000 in June, an increase of 110,000 over last year.

More significant, new organization of production calls for a new way of life. The setting up of a vast network of nurseries and creches, public canteens, laundries and other service centres represents a concrete step in the socialist emancipation of women.

For the first time in Chinese history women have become masters of their own fate. They are working shoulder to shoulder with men as equal partners and comrades-in-arms to create a fuller and richer life. The founding of the Chinese People's Republic created the necessary political and economic conditions for Chinese women to attain equality with men in all spheres of public life. During the last nine years the status of Chinese women has undergone a fundamental change. The current "leap forward" has opened up new opportunities for China's women. As active builders of socialism they are reaping the fruits of their emancipation.



# ROUND THE WEEK

## More University Students

In the next ten days or so university entrance examinations will be held in all the major cities of China to select 148,000 freshmen for the colleges and universities. The national dailies are featuring articles giving essential information about the institutions of higher learning to help young men and women make up their minds as to where they want to go and what subjects to choose.

The enrolment figure of 148,000, which may be exceeded, is 40,000 bigger than last year's, with a major proportion of the students to be enrolled in the engineering and teachers training departments. The accelerated tempo of industrial and agricultural expansion calls for the training of more engineers and scientists. At present there are not enough to fill the posts on the various production fronts. And the battle for knowledge, as keenly felt in the cities as in the country, exerts great pressure on the schools to turn out more and more teachers.

Priority will be given to students from worker and peasant families and to many of the veteran revolutionaries who want to go back to school again to extend their education. More than 80 per cent of the country's population consists of workers and peasants. In pre-liberation days only a handful had a chance of going to college. In the colleges and universities today the number of students of worker and peasant origin has risen sharply, accounting for about 30 per cent or so of the student body, but far from adequate to meet the needs of workers and peasants. The accent now is on admitting a far greater number of students from working people's families to remedy this disparity.

This year a number of new courses in the latest scientific developments are being offered at Tsinghua, Peking, Chiao-tung, Fudan and other universities. It is an indication of China's rapid advances in science during the past few years.

As the colleges and universities are getting ready to admit new students, more than 79,000 graduates are saying goodbye to teachers and fellow students to take up their first jobs in different parts of the country. This year the number of university graduates has risen by 23,000, the largest since liberation. In the past nine years New China has had 437,900 university graduates, more than double the aggregate number trained in

the 36 years between 1912-1947. The stress on training engineering students to meet the pressing needs of industrial expansion can be seen from the large proportion of engineering graduates. 35,000 engineers graduated in the last two years. This exceeds the total for the 20 years between 1928-1947 by 11 per cent. Despite such startling increases, the demand for more and more trained technicians grows daily.

## Soldiers of Peace

"Man the country's ramparts with one hand and help construction with the other"—is the new slogan of the Chinese People's Liberation Army. Men and officers of the P.L.A. who have been helping the peasants with their summer harvests and sowing are today devoting attention to the development of industry in their garrison areas.

P.L.A. units in Hupeh Province, central China, following the example of other parts of the country, are turning to steel-making. With the credits extended them by the local authorities they are building an iron and steel complex with an annual capacity of 1 million to 1.2 million tons. The new works is called "August First," in commemoration of the founding anniversary of the P.L.A. thirty-one years ago.

In Lanchow, in Kansu Province in northwest China, the motor repair plant operated by the P.L.A. units there has turned out its first tractors and baby locomotives and is making high speed tool steel and medium carbon steel. The plant is being renovated to expand the facilities for smelting steel. Kansu which, as we reported last week, is working energetically to cover the province with a short-distance railway network, is already using the small-sized engines manufactured by this army motor repair plant. The villagers nicknamed these locomotives the "P.L.A. engines."

The P.L.A. units in Tsinan, Shantung Province, are making all-purpose tractors for the farms, motor-cycles, generators and lathes. P.L.A. units in other provinces are also keeping their men and officers occupied, making equipment for sugar mills, lathes, water pumps and fishing vessels.

**P.L.A. Railway Builders.** July 5 was the tenth anniversary of the founding of the railway engineers corps of the Chinese People's Liberation Army. During the past ten years this branch of the Chi-

nese army has been serving the people well. When it first came into being it made a signal contribution by repairing important sections of the railways in northeast China in record time, so as to help rush men and material to the people's forces in the campaigns to liberate the strategic cities of Changchun, Shenyang, Chinchow, etc. which paved the way for the liberation of all of north China.

In 1949, when the People's Liberation Army fought its way to the south to free the country, once and for all, from the grip of the Chiang Kai-shek forces, the railway engineers corps had a slogan "where the army is, the railway builders go." In a short time it put over 8,000 kilometres of railways back into service again. In 28 days, working unceasingly, they managed to repair 28 bridges on the Canton-Hankow Railway, a bridge a day. When the Kuomintang general who had fleeced and bled the people of Kwangsi white fled the country he boasted that the dirty job his men did in blowing up the Hunan-Kwangsi Railway was so thorough it would take several years to make it serviceable again. The P.L.A. engineers corps put the entire line into operation again in only a month's time.

Today the army's railway builders are constructing new lines in all parts of the country, from Sinkiang in the far west to Fukien on the east coast, from Inner Mongolia in the north to Kwangtung in the south. They are also undertaking some of the most difficult engineering jobs, such as laying the line through drifting desert sands to connect Paotow, in Inner Mongolia, with Lanchow in northwest China. But the most gigantic job to date is the construction of the 3,000-kilometre railway which will traverse five provinces in south and southwest China, running from Fukien through Hunan to Yunnan. (See page 15).

## Mechanization of Handicrafts

China's five million handicraftsmen are turning to machines. Generations of handicraftsmen have worked by hand. Now a movement is afoot to introduce machines wherever possible to replace heavy manual labour.

In Tsingtao, a textiles centre and holiday resort famous for its beach on the east China coast, 24,000 handicraftsmen are writing finis to the old, back-breaking way of work handed down by their forefathers. In the last few months some 2,000 rationalization proposals for mechanization or semi-mechanization were put forward. At one handicraft shop the men themselves designed and pro-

duced 18 electric hammers and had them installed in the forging workshop. Efficiency rose over tenfold at once.

In Yangcheng, in the leading coal-producing province of Shansi, to take another example, a blacksmiths' handicraft co-operative is switching over to mechanization by transforming itself into a small integrated iron and steel plant, complete with smelting and rolling facilities. In addition, it is building five blast furnaces and a Bessemer converter. This is typical of the way things are going with the handicraftsmen in China—efficiency and production up and labour considerably lightened, with the help of mechanical aids.

The handicrafts industry in China has always been the mainstay in the supply of means of production and articles of daily use for the peasants. Even now when the townships and farm co-ops are also engaged in industrial production, the peasants must still rely on the handicrafts to supply part of the equipment and farm implements they need. And this need can only be met adequately and timely by mechanizing the handicrafts. The goal now is to put the handicrafts of China on a modern technical basis within the next two or three years.

## Shanghai's First Fruits

When *Beijing Wanbao* (Peking Evening News) reported that over 200 different kinds of new products from Shanghai—the first fruits of the city's "big leap" in industry—were on sale at the department store on Wangfuching, the news attracted thousands of early shoppers the following morning. The counters on the second floor where these new products were on sale were so crowded with people that those who hadn't read about the news might have thought things were being handed out free.

Much of the attraction lay with the novelty of the new products and with the fact that they were made since the "big leap." There were plenty of similar products in other parts of the department store, just as good in quality, but they didn't draw crowds. Take handkerchiefs and enamelware, for example. At the Shanghai new products counters perfumed handkerchiefs were sold. The perfume, the shop assistant explained, would keep for a month or so despite washing. Within an hour all the 100 dozens went like hot cakes. It was the same with the specially designed enamelware, water basins and jugs, which were very popular with the housewives.

A few of the products have not been released for general sale yet, such as a light portable radio, several new brands

of bicycles which match the best British makes, a shotgun which can fire 25 rounds without reloading, and a 17-jewelled wrist watch, with a beautiful finish, which is the showpiece of all the new products from Shanghai. In the Opinions Book kept by the department store shoppers hailed the workmanship of these products and suggested putting them on sale at an early date. The department store expects to put on sale another 300 new products from Shanghai in the next few weeks. But what the department store in Peking offers to the public is only a fraction of the new products turned out by this industrial centre in east China. **In heavy industry Shanghai has turned out more products in the first half of this year than in any other period of its history.** The thousands of new types of equipment and machine-tools which came off the assembly lines are going to all parts of the country to help build and expand local industry. It is also going in for top grade products never made before. In steel-making for example, it turned out over 40 kinds of high quality alloy steels and top grade steels. As a result of this rapid expansion, Shanghai's industrial output value in the first six months of this year was 23 per cent higher than in the same period last year.

## Workers and Peasants As Writers

The current issue of *Wenyi Yuebao* (Art and Literature Monthly) is an attractive special number, devoted to creative writing by factory workers in Shanghai. The 100-page Shanghai cultural magazine publishes short stories, reportages, comic dialogues and writing in other genres reflecting the life and thoughts of the working people during the "big leap" in Shanghai—the human drama of conflict with conservative ideas and practices and of difficulties overcome to achieve what had at first seemed impossible. There are light episodes from the workshops and clubs that evince a chuckle from the reader, daring and imaginative approaches to bolder and bigger things promised for next year that will in all likelihood be pulled off this year. In fact, it is a cross-section of workers' life and thinking expressed by the workers themselves.

This special workers' number gives only an inkling of the prolific literary work in the factories. In the last three or four months the workers of Shanghai produced a total of two million pieces of writing—short stories, poems, articles, etc.—only a fraction of which have had a chance of getting into print, so rapid is the new writing pace of the workers taking to the pens.

In the countryside, similar things are taking place. Peasants who can write give voice to their thoughts and emotions with an abandon never witnessed before, in poems, ditties, comic dialogues, etc. In Hunan Province, the granary of central China, the peasants are creating poems in such abundance that people of Hengshan County describe the present flowering of literary talents as "thousands of poems issuing forth from under the hoes." The workers and peasants of the province created more than a million pieces of writing in the first five months of the year—and all in their spare time.

## Leaving the Kitchen

The sketch on this page by the well-known artist, Shao Yu, is a reflection of the times. As our editorial points out, the breath-taking advances in all departments of the national economy are raising the problem of labour shortage in China increasingly. Various measures have been taken to solve this problem. One of these is the offer of jobs to housewives. "Hands Wanted" advertisements can be seen on busy streets and even at the corners of *hutungs* (lanes) in Peking, offering housewives work in tailoring establishments, handicraft shops, canteens, etc. To enable the housewives to take up jobs free from worry about their normal household duties, the city's neighbourhood committees are opening residential canteens and a greater number of nurseries and creches.



Housewives studying "Hands Wanted" ads in Peking  
Sketch by Shao Yu



# TOOLS REFORM: FIRST STAGE IN FARM MECHANIZATION

by LI CHING-YU

*Assistant Minister of Agriculture*

**T**HE tools reform movement now sweeping China is, in fact, the first stage of the technical revolution on the farms. The intensity and scope of this mass movement, coupled with the country's rapid industrial growth, opens the new perspective that within five to seven years the mechanization of China's agriculture will be accomplished.

In the great leap forward in agriculture—the building of more irrigation works, the collection of more manure, silt and other types of fertilizer, the increase in the number of crops taken annually from fields, more intensive farming in general and fuller development of farm sidelines, all require more labour. China's countryside at present has a labour shortage rather than a surplus as some people seem to believe. Labour shortage is particularly keen during the busy seasons. When one crop is being harvested and another planted and there is other farm work to do all at the same time, more efficient and handy tools and farm machines become an urgent demand to save time and labour. This is why industry is rushing the production of increased quantities of farm machinery for the countryside and why the tools reform movement has grown so quickly to massive proportions and is still developing.

## **New and Improved Implements**

Up to June 10, 1958, more than 73,000 types of new or improved tools had been devised by the people in 24 provinces and regions; more than 50 million such tools were in use. They include tools for irrigation, agricultural construction, cultivation, transport, plant protection and the processing of farm produce. Designed to suit the special conditions of various localities, they are mainly made out of locally available materials and are simple, handy, efficient and cheap to produce. This explains the great multiplicity of types and also why they are liked and readily accepted by the people. It's a usual thing now for farmer craftsmen to improve on tools while making them; news of improved implements soon gets round these days. Quick results are obtained since new tools are put to use as soon as made. This accounts for the rapid popularization of good, new tools.

The tools reform movement has greatly increased labour efficiency and reduced the intensity of labour. It has already appreciably alleviated the shortage of labour power and draught animals. In this sense and by making the peasants machine and technique conscious, the tools reform movement is actually a mass movement for farm mechanization.

The technical revolution in agriculture consists of two parts: tools reform—which is the decisive factor—and

reform in the system and method of farming. It is aimed to put China's agricultural economy on a technological basis of modern, large-scale production. That means mechanization. Some of these peasant inventions may seem small things individually. But altogether they add up to a vast change in ways of doing and thinking on China's farms—the preparation and first stage in the mechanization of agriculture.

Several points emerge from a consideration of the development of the tools reform movement in the past few months.

## **The Peasants Do the Job**

It is already clear that this is the right road for the realization of agricultural mechanization in China, in accordance with the general line of producing more, faster, better and more economically. The peasants themselves finance and produce most of the raw materials needed for the manufacture of the tools they are going to use. It is the broad masses of peasants themselves who improve on the old tools and invent new ones. This means that the improved tools really answer the needs of those who use them, that the funds and raw materials in the hands of the masses are used most effectively, and that the peasants' practical experience and wisdom are brought into full play.

Only such a "mass line"—mobilizing the energies of the masses—could enable China to advance to farm mechanization at a rapid rate.

The tools reform movement unfolded at a time when the peasants were concentrating on building more water conservancy works and collecting more manure than ever before. The first tools to be reformed were those needed for irrigation and transport. Later the movement spread to farm tools and tools for processing farm products and finally to all fields of agricultural production.

All sorts of new tools, with hand or foot levers, driven by wind or water, by animals, etc. have been devised. These reformed tools not only answer the actual needs of the peasants but also give an indication as to the various types and kinds of agricultural machinery needed for agricultural mechanization in China's different localities and under various conditions. The experience being gathered now will be invaluable to industry as a guide in making various types of agricultural machinery in the future.

Tools reform now is directly serving the big leap forward in agricultural output, and helping the fulfilment of plans for increasing production. It increases the income of the farm co-ops so that they can put more money

into reserves. This means that the peasants can increase investments in agricultural mechanization. This is an important guarantee that agricultural mechanization will be carried through.

The drive to reform tools is naturally stimulating the local industries which should serve the villages in the first place. The growth of local industry to make tools, repair and supply parts, will in its turn push forward the tools reform movement. This simultaneous development of industry and agriculture and their mutual stimulation will hasten the pace of the mechanization of agriculture.

### The Sure Road

China is advancing to mechanization of her agriculture but she can't achieve it overnight. Her industry is still not yet developed to the point where it can fully satisfy the needs of agricultural mechanization. The farm co-ops on their part have not yet accumulated enough funds to buy large numbers of modern agricultural machines. At the present time, when mechanization co-exists with semi-mechanization and improved tools, tools reform is the primary task; semi-mechanization and mechanization will be realized step by step and as soon as possible.

As socialist industry progresses and the government and people accumulate more funds, the improved and newly invented tools made by the masses will, after further technical improvements, be turned into power-driven, mechanized or semi-mechanized tools. But even then, hand tools will continue to play a part in farming, though not so decisive a part as mechanized tools.

China has already done a great deal to mechanize agriculture in the eight years since liberation. Hundreds of machine and tractor stations and mechanized state farms have been set up all over the country. Much experience

has been gained in this field and a large number of people has been trained in the handling of farm machines. These stations and farms have set a good example for the peasants to follow. All this has paved the way for the masses to take the initiative themselves in agricultural mechanization.

Today, in addition to the machine and tractor stations some co-op farms themselves operate farm machines which are either owned by the state or by the co-ops. Industry too is turning out more and more farm machines; so far, 173 types of tractors have been manufactured mostly by local industrial plants. Shale oil and coal tar oil for fuel are being made by small plants in many parts of the country by easy and simple methods. People are also making fuller use of wind power, water power, electric power, methane gas and steam power. In addition to institutions of higher learning and secondary technical schools, short-term training classes have been set up in various parts of the country to train large numbers of technicians to service agricultural machinery and tractor drivers and skilled workers to operate draining and irrigation machines. The government is also working out an over-all plan for mechanizing agriculture, to determine what types and patterns of agricultural machines are needed in different parts of the country. A large number of technicians has been sent to the villages so that they may, while giving help to the tools reform movement, assist the local people to work out plans for mechanization. It is expected that an over-all plan for mechanizing agriculture and industry's part in it, will be put forward in the near future.

All this work is still in its initial stages and there are bound to be difficulties in the course of progress. Nevertheless, the sure road to the mechanization of China's agriculture has been found. The main part of the journey will be covered in the next five to seven years.

# ROMANTICISM AND REALISM

by KUO MO-JO

*In an essay in the July 1 issue of "Hongqi" (Red Flag), Kuo Mo-jo, poet and historian, expresses his views on revolutionary romanticism and revolutionary realism, a question which is now being discussed in China's literary circles. We present an abridged translation of the article. — Ed.*

SINCE the victory of the October Socialist Revolution forty years ago, more than a third of the entire human race, guided by Marxism-Leninism, has taken its destiny into its own hands and is daily working miracles never known before in history. In the sphere of literature, Marxism-Leninism has supplied romanticism with an ideal and realism with a soul, thus providing the revolutionary romanticism and revolutionary realism which we need

today, or the appropriate synthesis of both—socialist realism.

For the last hundred years and more China has been continuously influenced by Western ideas; but owing to the semi-colonial status into which the country gradually lapsed, the Chinese bourgeoisie was never able to lead the bourgeois democratic revolution to victory. When the May the Fourth Movement was launched in 1919, the Chinese literary movement came into direct contact with Western ideas. Such terms as romanticism and realism were then introduced to China, and were used by some as labels for the literary groups which appeared after that time. Thus the Creation Society was called "romantic" and the Literary Research Association "realist," when in fact they



merely bore certain resemblances to these schools. This method of distinction is not without merit, however. It shows that romanticism and realism arose at the same time in modern China. Both were anti-imperialist and anti-feudal, and in less than a decade, developing simultaneously, they covered the ground traversed in the last century or two of modern European history. Under the leadership of the Chinese Communist Party, the "Romantic School" and "Realist School" were, in the main, long ago merged to form a cultural army for the revolution. This army, as Mao Tse-tung said, "has helped the Chinese revolution in gradually reducing the domain and weakening the influence of China's feudal culture and her comprador culture which is adapted to imperialist aggression." China's historical conditions made this inevitable. Chinese romanticism never lost its revolutionary character, but early accepted a distinct ideal; while Chinese realism remained uncontaminated by the decadent influence of the West, and early acquired a revolutionary soul. This was particularly true after the publication in 1942 of Mao Tse-tung's *Talks at the Yenan Forum on Art and Literature* which, we have no hesitation in saying, gave a clearer orientation to the revolutionary literature of the Chinese proletariat.

### Imagination and Fantasy

Strictly speaking, there are occasions when it is quite difficult to distinguish between the romantic and realist spirit and essence in literature. In general, romanticism lays stress on the emotions, realism on the intellect. But as each individual's spiritual life is a compound of emotions and intellect, no one can have one alone without the other. It is probably safe to say that most men have more of romanticism and less of realism in their young days, while when they grow older the situation may be reversed altogether. Thus it is impossible to analyse a writer or a work of literature by chemical methods of qualitative or quantitative analysis to determine the percentage of romanticism and the percentage of realism. Literature is a reflection and criticism of actual life, and in this sense its nature should be realistic. But creative writing means thinking in images, and allows for the exercise of imagination and indeed of exaggeration. The truly great writers invariably make a synthesis based on life itself, to create typical characters in typical circumstances; and since this creative process involves fantasy, we should also be justified in calling it romantic. If we compare writing with scientific research, it is obvious that science is relatively realistic and literature relatively romantic. But even in science you require imagination and the ability to synthesize. Sometimes a scientist has to deduce ten possible facts from one known premise by the exercise of scientific prevision. In such cases he must rely upon a well-regulated imagination. A synthesis of the results of different research projects may produce something quite new in the world of nature, such as the incomparable sputnik — which required a high degree of creative correlation. Hence even scientific research has a rich share of romanticism. Karl Marx's *Capital* has been called a supreme drama, and this description brings out the essential identity or dialectic unity of art and science, romanticism and realism. It is frequently very hard to say whether the greatest writers of ancient or modern

times are romantics or realists. Let me give a few examples of this.

Our great ancient poet, Chu Yuan, looks like a romantic. His *Li Sao*, *Nine Odes* and *Nine Elegies* draw heavily on the supernatural. He speaks of riding on the clouds, the rainbow, the dragon and the phoenix, of urging on the sun and moon, the wind and thunder, and wandering ceaselessly through the sky. He ascends to Paradise, returns to remote antiquity, soars to the roof of the world, or descends to the bottom of Tungting Lake. He caresses the comet in outer space, and talks of love to goddesses in the clouds. . . . Surely here we have an out-and-out romantic. But Chu Yuan makes no attempt to escape from reality in order to satisfy his personal desires, or to create art for art's sake. He seeks an ideal and an ideal ruler in order to save his country and its people, and help to unify the China of his day. He sets out from completely realistic premises and finally returns to reality. Moreover he sets no store by his own life and death. He takes an interest in everything under the sun. Some of the questions about the universe he poses in the *Riddles* have not been answered to this day. We cannot, therefore, but admit that at the same time he is a great realist.

Another example is Lu Hsun, a great writer of our modern times. Most readers would acknowledge that he is beyond any doubt a realist. His stories in the *Call to Arms* and *Wandering* brim over with the spirit of modern realism. Some characterize Lu Hsun as: "Cold, cold, and cold again." On a superficial reading this view seems warranted, for Lu Hsun's razor-sharp scalpel can indeed "make you shiver though not with cold." But is Lu Hsun really cold? Far from it! His works are filled with passion, as everyone knows. His *Old Tales Retold* are based on material from fairy tales and legends, some of them dealing with the time before the creation of heaven and earth; and relying on his superb imagination he creates brilliant, kaleidoscopic pictures. Of course, he used these themes to satirize reality; but can anyone deny that those stories brim over with a romantic spirit. This is why I affirm that Lu Hsun is not cold. His apparent coldness should be interpreted as white heat — a heat so intense that it throws off no sparks. He suppresses instead of showing his intense passion. His coldness is capable of burning your hand. "He stares icily at all who point the finger of scorn." Resolute fighters like Lu Hsun are bound to be intensely passionate. It follows that, while Lu Hsun is undeniably a great realist, he also evinces a high degree of romanticism. In fact, I should say he has these qualities in almost equal proportions.

### A Good Example

The clearest example of all is Comrade Mao Tse-tung, our great leader, who has developed Marxism-Leninism in the actual practice of the Chinese revolution. One of the greatest realists, he is also — I say this with full confidence — one of the greatest romantics. A great revolutionary, he is at the same time an outstanding writer and poet. His theoretical writing has tremendous appeal and, like the works of Marx and Lenin, is of a high literary order. But Comrade Mao Tse-tung does not merely write theoretical works. Over the past few years he has published nineteen poems in the classical style which, it is now generally agreed, are our finest example of a



synthesis of revolutionary realism and revolutionary romanticism. To illustrate this, I will simply quote *The Immortals*.<sup>1</sup>

*I lost my proud poplar, and you your willow;<sup>2</sup>  
Poplar and willow spiralled to the heaven of heavens;  
Wu Kang,<sup>3</sup> when asked what he had to offer,  
Presented them with cassia wine.*

*The lonely goddess in the moon<sup>4</sup> spreads her ample sleeves  
To dance for these good souls in the endless sky;  
Of a sudden comes word of the Tiger's<sup>5</sup> defeat on earth,  
And they break into tears of torrential rain.*

The central theme of this poem is no mere remembrance of the past, but a proud approbation of the revolution. From it we can see: 1) The spirit of revolutionary martyrs is immortal. 2) Revolutionaries have revolutionary optimism, and are dedicated to the cause of the revolution beyond their lives. 3) All those with a sense of justice (represented here by Wu Kang and the goddess of the moon) have deep sympathy and respect for the revolution and the revolutionary martyrs. 4) The relationship between the revolutionary cadres and the people should be close and comradely. In sixty Chinese characters, this poem evokes a clear image of these ideas. Here we have the brave spirits of the revolutionary martyrs Yang Kai-hui and Liu Chih-hsun, as well as mythological figures; we have the palace of the moon, the cassia tree there and the wine made from the cassia; tears of joy can turn into torrential rain, and earth and heaven are one, for now we are with the immortals, now in the world of men. It is hardly necessary to say that here is none of the extravagant sentiment of certain classical poets, for even the heroic spirit of Su Tung-po (1036-1101) and Hsin Chi-chi (1140-1207), famous poets of the Sung dynasty, pales by comparison with this poem. Romantic exaggeration here throws the realist theme into relief in a completely natural and moving manner. We may truly say that this poetic way has never been surpassed. If we want to learn how to combine revolutionary realism with revolutionary romanticism in our writing, the poems of Comrade Mao Tse-tung are our best models.

Of course, as I pointed out earlier, Comrade Mao Tse-tung is skilled at using the methods of romanticism in his theoretical writing also to make his language sharper.

1. This poem was written on May 11, 1957 for Li Shu-yi, a teacher in Changsha, Hunan Province. It refers to her husband Liu Chih-hsun, a Communist and a comrade-in-arms of the author, who fell in the Battle of Hunghu in Hupeh in 1933. Yang Kai-hui, the author's wife and a close friend of Li Shu-yi, was killed by the warlord Ho Chien when the Red Army withdrew from Changsha in 1930.

2. "Poplar" refers to Yang Kai-hui, for the character *yang* means "poplar." "Willow" refers to Liu Chih-hsun, for *liu* means "willow."

3. According to an ancient legend, Wu Kang committed some crimes during his search for immortality and was therefore condemned to cut down the cassia tree in the moon. Each time he raises his axe the tree becomes whole again. Thus he has to go on felling it for ever.

4. Tradition has it that Chang Ngo stole the elixir of immortality and fled to the moon, where she lives a lonely goddess.

5. In the Chinese original an allusion to the counter-revolution.

more vivid and moving. I need not give any more examples here, for his works abound in them, and readers can read them for themselves. I will just quote one simple case to illustrate my meaning. That is a sentence from "Introducing a Co-operative" in the first issue of *Hongqi* (Red Flag): "There are undoubtedly some who will never change till their dying day, preferring to meet their maker with heads as hard as granite; but this does not affect the general situation." The phrase "preferring to meet their maker with heads as hard as granite" symbolizes "who will never change till their dying day," and this exaggerated image makes the statement clearer and more striking. I think even the rightist gentlemen, those with "heads as hard as granite," will think twice when they read this. Should they be stubborn to the end and "meet their maker with heads as hard as granite"? Or should they thoroughly change themselves to meet the makers of this world — the people? This is a very simple illustration of a concrete example. Lengthy abstract arguments are often less effective than one specific example like this. Herein lies the vitality of thinking in images.

### Epitome of Collectivism

We should learn from Comrade Mao Tse-tung: learn from his skilful use of Marxism-Leninism applied to conditions in China, which has enabled the revolution to achieve victory and Marxism-Leninism to attain further development, and learn from his skilful integration of romanticism with realism which has enabled him to write immortal theoretical and literary works. I must say frankly that I have a tremendous admiration for Comrade Mao Tse-tung. This is not blind worship of the individual.

### FORTHCOMING

## Nineteen Poems

by MAO TSE-TUNG

(With Notes and an Appreciation)

Written in the traditional style, these poems give pictures of contemporary Chinese history seen through the eyes of the leader of the Chinese revolution. They have a tremendous range, and a beauty and vision which will make them live as long as classical Chinese poetry is read. Also included is a letter on the writing of poetry from the poet to the magazine *Poetry*.

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I, for one, am opposed to the blind worship of individuals. By blind worship we mean the veneration of some individual who does not really represent the truth. If the individual is a leader who really represents the truth, such as Marx, Lenin and Mao Tse-tung, why shouldn't we respect him as our teacher? Of course, these outstanding teachers of ours have their own teachers—the people. Comrade Mao Tse-tung has said: "Only by becoming the pupil of the masses can he become their teacher." Marx, Lenin and Mao Tse-tung have pooled the wisdom of the masses. Mao Tse-tung has constantly urged us to adhere to the principle of "from the masses, to the masses."\* He has absorbed the wisdom of the broad masses of the people and, as far as possible, all useful knowledge ancient and modern, Chinese and foreign. And precisely because he is a good student, he is a good thinker, speaker, man of action and teacher. He is a most democratic leader, and a teacher most skilled in guiding the people. Such outstanding individuals are the epitome of collectivism, and show the pre-eminence not of the individual but of the collective whole. We must not ignore the leading role in the revolution of individuals who stand for the pre-eminence of the collective merely because we oppose the "cult of the individual." Of course, we not merely respect but learn from them. If we learn well, we may excel our teachers. And I believe this is what Comrade Mao Tse-tung expects of us.

To learn well is not easy, but neither is it impossible. To learn from Comrade Mao Tse-tung we must, of course, study his works; and writers should also make a careful study of the style of his poems. Naturally the study of poetry requires training in the use of the language. As the ancients said: "To find one word, the poet plucks several hairs from his beard." It looks as if anyone who wishes to become an eminent poet, will have to sacrifice his whole beard! I am sure Comrade Mao Tse-tung is too busy to pore over his poems like that, yet they have attained heights unrivalled by his predecessors. The secret here is that in order to be a poet one has first to be a real man. Poetry and literature are verbal arts, and writers must of course have some technical training. But it is not merely a question of technique. There have been a great many poets in ancient and modern times, in China and elsewhere, but how many of them can be said to be outstanding? We can say with certainty that all the outstanding poets not only write good poetry but are good men—in fact their lives may be even better than their poetry. If we want to learn from Comrade Mao Tse-tung, we must follow the example of his life.

Comrade Mao Tse-tung has told us to change our class standpoint, and set the example himself. Let me quote what he says about this in his *Talks at the Yen-an Forum on Art and Literature*:

If you want the masses to understand you and want to become one with them, you must be determined to

\* This is a quotation from Mao Tse-tung's *On Methods of Leadership* meaning, as he himself puts it, "summing up (i.e. co-ordinating and systematizing after careful study) the views of the masses (i.e. views scattered and unsystematic), then taking the resulting ideas back to the masses, explaining and popularizing them until the masses embrace the ideas as their own, stand up for them and translate them into action by way of testing their correctness."—Ed.

undergo a long and even painful process of remoulding. In this connection I might mention the transformation of my own feelings. I began as a student and acquired at school the habits of a student; in the presence of a crowd of students who could neither fetch nor carry for themselves, I used to feel it undignified to do any manual labour, such as shouldering my own luggage. At that time it seemed to me that the intellectuals were the only clean persons in the world, and the workers and peasants seemed rather dirty beside them. I could put on the clothes of other intellectuals because I thought they were clean, but I would not put on clothes belonging to a worker or peasant because I felt they were dirty. Having become a revolutionary I found myself in the same ranks as the workers, peasants and soldiers of the revolutionary army, and gradually I became familiar with them and they with me too. It was then and only then that a fundamental change occurred in the bourgeois and petty-bourgeois feelings implanted in me by the bourgeois schools. I came to feel that it was those unremoulded intellectuals who were unclean as compared with the workers and peasants, while the workers and peasants are after all the cleanest persons, cleaner than both the bourgeois and the petty-bourgeois intellectuals, even though their hands are soiled and their feet smeared with cow dung. This is what is meant by having one's feelings transformed, changed from those of one class into those of another.

What a penetrating and inspiring description this is of Comrade Mao Tse-tung's personal experience! It is a pity that many of us have not learnt to do likewise although sixteen years have passed since these words were spoken. Of course, it is still not too late to learn. Here I feel very deeply the supreme correctness and importance of the policy now being carried out of sending government workers to the countryside or to factories. As Mao Tse-tung has so often advised us to go to the villages or factories to "ride past and see the flowers" or "dismount and look at the flowers," I also went recently to the special administrative region of Changchiakou and spent two weeks there. That was a very good education for me. Today the great leap forward in industry and agriculture means that the enthusiasm of our people everywhere for construction is like a flame licking sky-high. New sights are to be seen on all sides, as well as poems and drawings so vivid and so lofty in thought that they take one's breath away. This is one vast melting-pot. Everyone who goes there will inevitably be carried away by it. The air is charged with energy and enthusiasm—not a trace of coldness or gloom. Yet there is no sign of fluster, nor are the people "so busy as to be completely tied down."

### A Flood of Poems and Songs

If we want to find recent works of socialist realism, we must surely look for them in the countryside, in the factories and the construction sites. The working people's enthusiasm for socialist construction has overflowed into a flood of poems and songs. It is here that writers must look if they want to learn and are searching for a classroom. We can call the present period of the great leap forward the era of revolutionary romanticism and of revolutionary realism. Real life has raced ahead, and it is up to the writers to reflect this in their work. When I was at Changchiakou, I wrote dozens of poems on the spur of the moment, and the last of them ends: "How can I write down the poems which are all around?" That was how I felt then. These poems



were not mine: they were composed by the working people — I simply jotted them down. How intimate human relations have become! Never before has such intimacy existed, no, not between brothers, not between fathers and sons, not even between man and wife. A new relationship has come into being, bringing genuine joy to each individual. It seems that flowers and trees, birds and beasts, mountains, rocks and minerals all feel the new wind which is blowing.

How can men remain unchanged in such a situation? Those who were trampled underfoot by landlords and rich peasants in the old days are now directors of co-operatives. Impulsive youngsters are now model workers who also play the fiddle well. Young girls have now mastered their job, are also teaching others to read and write and, taught by veteran actors after work, are able to perform Shansi opera. Now that rivers are climbing up hills and the earth is yielding its treasures, we can only say that the present age is the age of talents.

Moreover, this state of affairs is not transient but has come to stay. The sun above may set, but not the sun on earth. It seems that the sun in the sky is lagging behind. In a folk song about the great leap forward, men challenge the sun.

*Hey, Sun!*  
*Will you take us on?*  
*We're out at work for hours*  
*While you're still snug abed;*  
*We grope our way home through the dark*  
*Long after you down tools and hide your head.*  
*Hey, Sun!*  
*Dare you take us on?*

I fancy Comrade Sun will have to raise his hands and say with a smile: I surrender! Allow me to answer the challenge for the sun with another poem.

*Bravo! Well asked, my friend,*  
*I've to raise my hands and surrender.*  
*It's because I have to travel west*  
*That I desert your eastern sky so long.*  
*I tell you this: The West's a pretty mess,*  
*With the privileged classes indulged in orgies.*  
*You won't need fifteen years to catch up England —*  
*That's absolutely certain!*

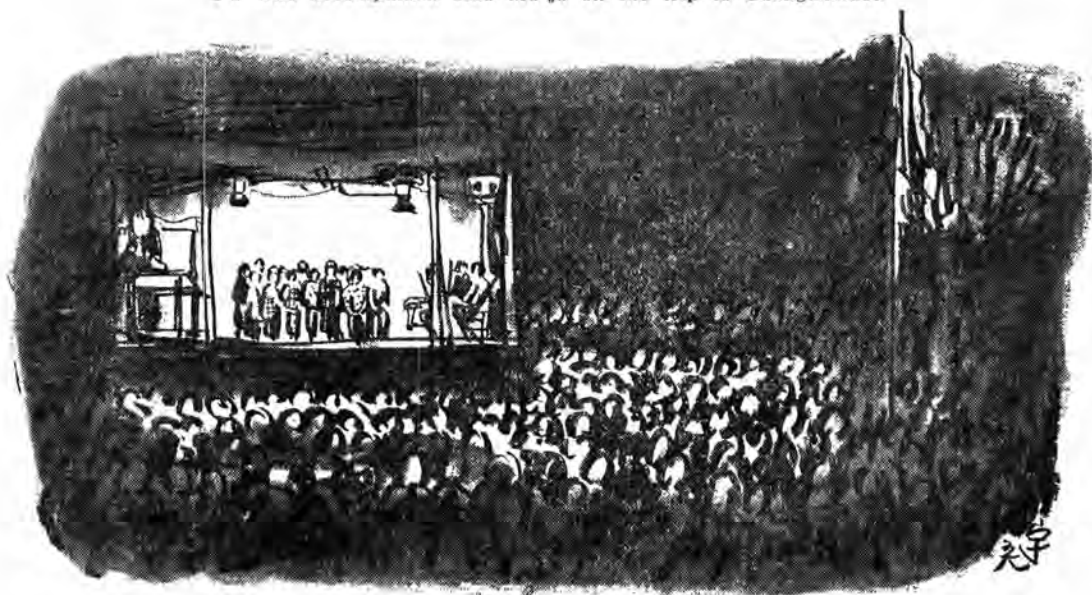
All one can do after a short stay in the countryside is to absorb the atmosphere of revolutionary romanticism and write a few poems or short articles. Poetry has a lyric character, and it takes a special delight in romanticism. But a longer stay in the countryside enables you

to observe things more closely, grasp them more deeply, conceive more perfect themes and so produce great works. In this way you are better able to express yourself in the style of revolutionary realism. The prospect before us is as clear as all that.

To me, romanticism and realism are both good so long as they are revolutionary. Revolutionary romanticism takes romanticism as its keynote, but blends it with realism. Perhaps this style is especially suited to poetry. Revolutionary realism takes realism as its keynote and blends it with romanticism. Perhaps novels are best able to develop this style. The forms of poetry and of the novel may change. I believe that those writers who have thrown themselves into the crucible of life and reality will one day melt down the old forms and forge new ones which accord with the spirit of the times and the needs of the people. This is to be expected.



Young girls in the countryside work the fields during the day ↑ and are performers at night ↓ The sketches are by Shao Yu who accompanied Kuo Mo-jo on the trip to Changchiakou





# Long-Term Trade Agreements

by TING KE-CHUAN

CHINA has signed long-term trade agreements this year with Poland and Hungary. Similar agreements with the other fraternal socialist countries will also be concluded.

Long-term trade agreements will be the main form of economic co-operation between the socialist countries in the future. By means of such agreements the foreign trade plans of various socialist countries can be linked so as to promote a common economic upsurge.

Compared with the annual trade agreement, the long-term trade agreement makes it easier for both parties concerned to arrange for long-term production. It is a factor conducive to the industrial and agricultural development in these countries because the signatories do not have to worry about markets abroad or difficulties in importing what they need.

The long-term trade agreements between the socialist countries have nothing in common with those advocated by the imperialist powers. As the economic crisis in the capitalist world becomes more and more severe, as the capitalist world market shrinks steadily and contradictions between the imperialist countries grow more acute, the struggle for markets in colonies and underdeveloped countries becomes fiercer. The imperialist powers also conclude long-term trade agreements with their dependencies and with certain economically backward countries. But that is for the purpose of permanently controlling these markets so that they can dump their commodities and buy up strategic raw materials and other goods at fixed and low prices. This is one of the dirtiest imperialist tricks to intensify plunder of the colonies and underdeveloped countries.

A new type of international relations based on the principle of proletarian internationalism exists between the socialist countries. Their economic co-operation is founded on the principle of equality and mutual benefit, mutual aid and respect. Relying on the superiority of the socialist economic system in various countries, this kind of co-operation helps develop their respective productive forces and augments the economic strength of the entire socialist camp. Long-term trade agreements between the socialist countries, made in light of the needs and possibilities of economic development in these countries, are an expression of this socialist economic co-operation. By means of such agreements, trade between these countries is further expanded and their fraternal relations become still closer.

## Contracts for Goods

In the past few years, China has concluded contracts with the Soviet Union and the People's Democracies for goods as well as business agreements for the supply of goods, which are in the nature of long-term trade agreements. The 211 giant engineering projects recon-

structed or built with the help of the Soviet Union are in essence China's long-term orders for Soviet goods in the First Five-Year Plan and the following years. Agreements relating to this aid are in fact trade agreements of a long-term nature. The amount of complete installations for these projects accounts for a very great proportion of China's total imports from the Soviet Union each year. In 1956, together with other long-term orders for machinery equipment, they constituted about 34 per cent of China's total imports from the Soviet Union.

During the First Five-Year Plan, China ordered scores of complete installations from the fraternal countries in Eastern Europe. At the same time, according to her productive capacity and the needs of the People's Democracies in Asia, China also exported a number of complete installations for light industries to the Mongolian People's Republic, the Korean Democratic People's Republic and the Viet-namese Democratic Republic.

In the meantime, China also signed long-term agreements with the Soviet Union and the People's Democracies covering the supply of a number of Chinese exports to them. The implementation of these long-term orders and agreements has done much to meet the needs of the importing parties and promote the production and construction of all the countries concerned.

## Co-ordination Will Strengthen

The countries in the socialist camp are fully confident of eventual triumph in their peaceful economic competition with capitalism. The Chinese people are now in a high pitch of industrial and agricultural construction and production, and are carrying out technical and cultural revolutions in their country. Industrially they aim to catch up with or surpass Britain in 15 years or less. Agriculturally they also aim to surpass rapidly the capitalist countries. In science and technology, they are striving to attain the world's most advanced levels as soon as possible. The unprecedented economic upsurge in the socialist countries is creating even better conditions for them to enter into long-term trade agreements.

From the beginning of this year, China has been further strengthening her economic ties with the fraternal countries. This new situation is very gratifying. China's volume of trade with the socialist countries this year will increase considerably compared with last year. She has already concluded long-term trade agreements with Poland and Hungary. These agreements not only establish the rate of annual growth of trade between the signatory countries but also specify the main items to be exchanged.

According to the 1959-1962 Sino-Polish long-term trade agreement, China will supply Poland with various kinds of industrial raw materials, industrial goods and other commodities. Poland, in turn, will supply China with various types of steel products, machine-tools, transportation facilities and industrial equipment, including

The author is Vice-Director of the General Office of the Ministry of Foreign Trade.

equipment for coal dressing plant, nitrogenous fertilizer plant, cement works and plant manufacturing railway wagons.

According to the 1959-1962 Sino-Hungarian long-term trade agreement, China will supply Hungary with soya beans, tungsten ores, molybdenum ores, fine tin, mercury, tinned food, silk, tea, rubber tyres, machine-tools, textile machinery, electronic tubes and radio parts, etc. Hungary, in turn, will provide China with equipment for power stations, medium pressure hydrogenation equipment, equipment for cold storage, diesel engine locomotives, diesel engine trains, pressed and forged steel products, machine-tools and carrier frequency equipment.

## Mass Line

# Conference On-the-Spot

by TAO LI-WEN

**T**O study the factors responsible for Hupeh's record wheat harvest this year, the provincial committee of the Communist Party called a conference of the province's leading cadres and agricultural experts at Hsiangyang where the best crop was reaped. The meeting was quite unique. It was a real "field conference." The participants spent nine out of their thirteen days of conference time visiting 19 farm co-ops and three local state farms spread out over six counties. And most of the discussions were held while visiting the fields!

### Meetings of a New Type

This new type of conference known as "on-the-spot meetings," represents a new trend in methods of leadership in China today. With the rapid advances in socialist construction, ways of doing things also change. Old, traditional methods must give way to new, more effective methods in order to keep pace with the current tempo of life. Even ways of holding meetings have to be modified.

The Central Government customarily convened national conferences every year to discuss work in various fields. As a rule they were held in the capital. Since early this year, however, most of these conferences have been held in various local regions, generally in the centres of production. Over a dozen such on-the-spot meetings, both national and regional, have been convened by the Agricultural and Water Conservancy Ministries alone. Local authorities at different levels too have been solving all sorts of problems by means of such meetings. More recently a number of on-the-spot meetings have been held in various provinces to sum up the experiences of the wheat harvest, to plan for winter sowing and water conservancy works in the coming winter. All of these meetings have yielded excellent results.

The national conference on the utilization of wild-growing plant fibres held in Santai County, Szechuan Province, in April is a good example.

Last year people in southwestern China discovered that many kinds of wild plants in the countryside and

On April 23, a treaty of commerce and navigation, which also lays special emphasis on long-term trade agreement, was signed with the Soviet Union. China will also sign similar long-term trade agreements with other socialist countries this year.

China has always maintained that trade relations with the capitalist countries can be established on the basis of equality and mutual benefit, the exchange of what one has for what one needs. Much has been done in this respect and China will continue to maintain these relations. We believe that this is not only beneficial to the economies of the countries concerned but is also in the interests of world peace.

in the hilly regions could be used to make good fibres and artificial cotton. Despite the fact that several places, notably Szechuan and Kweichow Provinces, had energetically promoted the utilization of these wild plants, many people in other provinces were still reluctant to do anything about it. Some thought it would be too complicated technically. Others argued that it would cost too much to start with. Still others claimed that it would be too much trouble and just didn't want to bother.

To promote the utilization of the wild plants, the Second Ministry of Commerce, the Ministry of Textile Industry, and the Ministry of Light Industry jointly called an on-the-spot conference at Santai County, attended by representatives from 27 provinces and autonomous regions.

Santai had pioneered in utilizing wild plants and making artificial cotton. The now famous Santai Wild Plant Fibres Plant did a fine job.

Actually the Plant is not as imposing as the name may sound. The site of the factory is an old temple, about two *li* out of the South Gate of Santai county town. Here the entire process, from the selection of raw materials to steaming and collecting the fibres, was done in the "native," simple way. Almost all of the production was done by hand. The initial cost was only 4500 yuan, and it took only 15 days to set the plant up. Yet in March it was already producing 500 catties of artificial cotton a day. The raw materials include such things as cotton stalks, barks of palms and mulberry trees, rice stalks, etc. Besides producing artificial cotton, in co-ordination with textile co-operatives in the locality, the factory succeeded in turning out 33 different types of products such as cloth, rugs, bed sheets, table cloths, scarves, socks and other items made of the fibres they manufactured.

During the conference, aside from discussing the main problems in the conference hall, delegates not only had a good look at how things were done in the Plant but also heard reports from other representatives on wild plants. There was a report on how their fibres were made use of by modern textile mills. A representative from a research



institute in Chungking reported on scientific studies of the fibres. The delegates also visited an exhibition specially arranged for them, in which various kinds of wild plants, their fibres, and various articles made of the artificial cotton were on display. Later on the delegates delved into the technical process. The open ground in front of the old temple was converted into a laboratory where rows of ovens and cauldrons were set up. There, amidst smoke and steam, the eager delegates started trial manufacture with instruction booklets in hand and under the guidance of the workers. While they were doing this they exchanged views, pooled experiences and drew conclusions. The doubts and questions they had before the conference vanished. They realized that there was a great future for wild plant fibres. They were neither too costly nor too troublesome to make. Wild plants, which are abundant in many provinces in China, are good sources of fibres. To utilize them fully and effectively, in addition to modern factories of medium and large size which should be built in some cities, the main principle should be to establish a large number of local, small workshops, the conference decided. In that way the local raw materials and other resources can be fully used in the spirit of building "more, faster, better, and more economically." Many conveyed their experiences home by telephone and telegrams, proposing that they start such production in their home regions even before the conference wound up!

### Conservative Ideas Shattered

Here is another example. Last year, Hsinghua County, in Kiangsu, reaped a bumper harvest of rapeseed, an oil-bearing crop. It had the highest per *mou* yield of rapeseed in the country—170 per cent more than the national average. People in other places imagined that it was due to the outstanding natural conditions the county enjoyed. Last March the Ministry of Agriculture called a national conference in Hsinghua to launch a drive for more rapeseed. When the representatives from the various provinces visited the farms they found to their surprise that conditions there were extremely bad. The peasants in Hsinghua achieved their successes entirely by their efforts in improving farm techniques and field management. The visitors now came to understand that it was their conservative ideas that had been holding down the rapeseed crops in their provinces. The conference lasted only three days but the problem was solved.

These two meetings went a long way in promoting the utilization of wild plant fibres and increasing rapeseed output. But they are not isolated events. On-the-spot conferences are contributing to progress in many other fields. The general consensus of opinion is: "They solve problems more efficiently. . . . In the meetings in the cities, you forget more; at such meetings you pick up more."

A Chinese proverb says "Seeing it once is better than hearing it a hundred times." That is one of the chief virtues of on-the-spot meetings. They bring the participants closer to reality and actual production. Their conclusions are more practical, and the experiences summed up, therefore, provide better guidance. The accent is on grasping the facts. Those who attend the meeting observe and study first of all, before they start grappling with their problems.

On-the-spot meetings are actually a method of Marxist leadership. From the viewpoint of those in leading posi-

tions, such meetings are useful in exercising leadership by giving good examples, an effective method for the advanced to help the backward forward. At some of the ordinary conferences held in the capital in the past, experiences and problems from the grass-roots levels were often reduced to skeleton ideas when submitted to the central authorities through various administrative levels. Likewise, the experiences summed up at the conferences would frequently lose much of their originality, flavour and strength, and be reduced to cut-and-dried instructions by the time they were transmitted to the administrative units at basic levels. On-the-spot meetings are just the cure for this.

Theoretically speaking the convening of on-the-spot meetings is an expression of the mass line of the Chinese Communist Party. To hold such meetings leaders must be among the masses, and go out to practical life, to discover the new, progressive and the advanced things. To do so they have to observe, investigate and study the facts personally and then sum up the good experiences. By showing the people such practical experiences at on-the-spot meetings individual experiences become general knowledge. In such a way the masses are educated by the masses themselves. In such a process the advanced are able to teach the backward to catch up. This is the fundamental process of the mass line in action, which is, in the words of Mao Tse-tung, "from the masses, to the masses."

During the present big upsurge in socialist construction in China, at a time when things which normally "would take twenty years to get done are done in one day," the leaders must keep in the van to provide proper guidance in order to help the people push the movement forward. New methods of leadership are therefore devised. On-the-spot meetings emerged from the drive for bigger agricultural production last year. Now widely applied to other fields, they are contributing greatly to boosting the nation's production.

### Collective Wisdom

When leaders leave their offices and get to the sources of production the distance between them and reality, between them and the masses, is greatly shortened. They discuss and solve the problems they face in production together with the masses. They become of one mind and collective wisdom can be brought into full play.

Not long ago, the Party Committee of the Tientsin Special Administrative Region decided, at the request of the people, to build a number of small hydro-electric power stations in the region. But they were worried because, first, they had no experience whatsoever in guiding such work, and secondly, they lacked the necessary technicians and technical know-how. But they were resolved to try it out anyhow. They gathered together several hundred carpenters, masons and other workers and held an on-the-spot conference in Chenkuantun, Chinghai County. Here the people, the cadres and the leaders worked shoulder to shoulder. They studied while they worked, learnt while they built. They pooled the wisdom of all. The problems they met were successfully tackled one by one. In five days a small hydro-electric power station was built! In five days, too, they trained a force of builders. Many leading cadres, too, have learnt how to give active leadership in production and they have added to their confidence in leading the nation in socialist construction.



# New East-West Trunk Line

A NEW railway is now being built to link the sea-board province of Fukien with Kiangsi, Hunan, Kweichow and Yunnan in southwest China.

This, the first east-west trunk line to be built south of the Yangtse River, is one of the major railway construction projects of the Second Five-Year Plan (1958-1962). Starting at Chuanchow on the coast of southeast Fukien it will run 3,000 kilometres to its terminus at Tali in west Yunnan. It is of major economic significance.

While other sections are being surveyed, construction work has already started on two sections of the railway—a 57-kilometre stretch from Changping in southern Fukien to Lungyen in western Fukien and the Hunan-Kweichow section from Siangtan, Chairman Mao Tse-tung's native town in Hunan Province, to Kweiyang, capital of Kweichow Province. The entire line will be completed before the end of the Second Five-Year Plan.

This new railway will not only be one of the longest in China but also one of the most difficult to build. It will traverse the hilly regions of southeast China and mountainous regions in southwest China. Some 600 tunnels with a total length of 170 kilometres and many bridges will have to be built. The longest tunnel at Meihuashan near Shuicheng in Kweichow Province will be more than 3,900 metres—1,500 metres longer than the Tsinling tunnel on the Paochi-Chengtou line, at present the longest in China. Some of the bridges will be as high as fifty metres.

The importance of this line can hardly be exaggerated. It runs through areas rich in agricultural and mineral resources. Southern Fukien, southern Kiangsi and central Hunan are all fertile rice growing areas. The hemp of Kiangsi and the Siang and Yuan river valleys in Hunan, the tung oil and tea of western Hunan, the medicinal herbs of Yunnan and Kweichow, the sugar cane of southern Fukien and the mushrooms of western Fukien are famous throughout the country. It will traverse areas rich in timber and important minerals such as iron, coal, tin, tungsten, antimony, lead, manganese, copper and aluminium. Modern transport facilities are urgently needed to exploit these resources.

It will be a key link in the national railway network. As the east-west axis of the railway network that is shaping up in southern China, it will connect up with the Peking-Canton, Chekiang-Kiangsi and Hunan-Kwangsi lines at Chuchow in Hunan and with the Kweichow-Kwangsi line at Tuyun in Kweichow, the Szechuan-Kweichow line (now under construction) at Kweiyang and with the Neikiang-Kunming line (now being built) at Yungfeng in Yunnan Province.

When that section of this line west of Chuchow is linked up with the Chekiang-Kiangsi line and, through it, with the Shanghai-Hangchow line, south China will have another east-west axis starting at Shanghai and terminating at Tali. This will cut travel time from Shanghai to Yunnan by three to four days.

This axis traverses the important industrial area of the Shanghai-Nanking-Hangchow triangle with its concentration of both heavy and light industries. It also taps the new potential industrial base in Kiangsi Province centred on the iron and steel industry which is being energetically developed. Further west down the line, new industrial centres are rising in Hunan, Kweichow and Yunnan Provinces. Within a few years' time, these new industrial centres will be linked by a first-rate railway network.



The Fukien-Yunnan Railway

Sketch map by Su Li

# SCIENCE

## Yangtse River Project

Two hundred and sixty experts and government leaders met in Wuhan last month to discuss the technical problems involved in building what promises to be the biggest hydraulic project in the world on the Yangtse River. This multi-purpose engineering project is to be built at the famous Three Gorges which contain China's richest water resources. It is part of the gigantic scheme to control China's longest river.

Some 250 scientific and technical topics were discussed and designated to be studied by the scientists. Many of the problems are either unsolved or have not been dealt with by world science. They cover geology, hydrology, machinery and electrical engineering, civil engineering, power, metallurgy, automatic and remote-control, meteorology, seismology and archaeology.

Electrical engineers plan to study and design turbo-generators with a capacity of 400,000 and 600,000 kilowatts and more. The research work on power transmission of 500 to 600 kilovolts, both in alternating and direct current have been arranged and started. Machine-building experts and other scientists will study the manufacture of cranes with a capacity of 2,000 tons, twice as big as the world's largest today, to solve the problem of moving extra-heavy weights, 60-ton lorries to solve the transport problem, large electronic computers to tackle engineering problems requiring highly complex calculations, and the largest ship-lifting installation to solve the navigation problem.

Because of the unusually big water flow and sharp fall at the Three Gorges, the pressure to be borne by the projected sluice gate there will be extremely heavy. A professor announced he would conduct research on this problem and suggested that a fish-shaped streamlined valve be installed instead of the conventional pattern.

Some hydraulic engineers proposed the use of high pressured water jets to clear the river-bed and to open tunnels. Some proposed the method of drilling down into the river-bed, sinking pipes and pouring in concrete under pressure to build the coffer dam, which will be a part of the dam. If this problem is solved, it will mean a revolution in hydraulic engineering.

The meteorologists attending the meeting discussed the problems involving the heavy rainfall in the area which have a great effect on the changes of water flow. They plan to set up a medium and long-range weather forecasting service, which is still an unsolved scientific problem, to serve the Three Gorges project.

Hundreds of government departments and research institutes have concluded agreements to co-ordinate their research work. The extent of the co-ordination among scientists and technicians on this single engineering project has no parallel in Chinese history.

Soviet specialists who took part in the meeting also made many valuable suggestions.

At the present stage, the emphasis has shifted from general planning to designing.

## Separating Rare Earth Elements

For the first time in this country, young scientists of the Institute of Chemistry of the Chinese Academy of Sciences have succeeded in separating eleven specure rare earths from Chinese minerals. These rare earth elements are: lanthanum, cerium, praseodymium, neodymium, samarium, gadolinium, dysprosium, ytterbium, yttrium, holmium and erbium. Their quality is at a par with the British and American level. The oxide of erbium separated through the Chinese process is purer than the products of the world-famous British firm Johnson & Smith; another two rare earth elements—thulium and lutecium—separated have a purity as high as 99 and over 90 per cent respectively.

Lately, scientists of the Institute of Applied Chemistry in Changchun, north-east China, have again succeeded in separating europium, terbium and gadolinium, the separation of which is most difficult. In the case of europium, it constitutes only 0.01 per cent (1/10,000) of total rare earth content of the mineral.

The chemical and physical properties of the rare earth elements are so similar that their separation involves a very long and tedious process. Altogether there are 16 rare earth elements. Besides those mentioned above, there is also promethium which does not exist in natural minerals. They are a part of the 64 non-ferrous metals. Today there is a growing need for rare earth elements in modern scientific research work and in industry. Neodymium, for instance, can be used to make a kind of high temperature resisting alloy for jet planes; thulium is a raw

material for making portable X-ray machines and exploring machines; gadolinium is a valuable material for the use of atomic energy for peaceful purposes and is much used in the study of nuclear physics. China has the richest rare earth elements deposits in the world but she could not separate them in the past. Every year she had to spend a huge amount of foreign currency to buy them from abroad. Rare earth elements are very expensive; the price of europium, gadolinium and terbium is several hundred times as high as gold.

## New Rice-Sorghum Hybrid

Five new strains of rice with stronger stalks and longer ears have been successfully cultivated by a young peasant in Sunwui County, Kwangtung Province, through cross-breeding rice with sorghum. This success came as a surprise to agronomists in the country. It proves that the earlier idea that strains derived from distant hybridization are unable to retain their quality is untrue.

Chou Han-hua, the 23-year-old seed cultivator, was visited by 120 responsible members of various agricultural departments, professors and experts on June 7—members of a national seed study group then in Kwangtung Province. Ting Ying, Director of the Academy of Agricultural Science, also paid him a visit to get a full account of his experience in cultivating new strains of rice.

The guests examined the five new rice species on the farm. The "happiness" species, the best of these hybrids, has stalks as big as a finger, with long blades twice as broad as the ordinary ones. The roots strike deep and the ear is more than 9 inches in length, with 300 grains on the average. Before the cross-breeding, the ear of this species was only 6 inches long with 120 to 130 grains. The four other species also have long ears and strong stalks, manifesting to a greater or lesser extent the characteristics of sorghum.

Scientists estimated that the per-hectare yield of these species would come to 15 tons in an average harvest.

Chou Han-hua said these rice species have unusually strong resistance to wind and pests. The first generation was attacked by wind of gale force last year, while blooming, but the grains were still full. They were again attacked by strong winds this year but remained firm while the rice plants around fell.

The son of a poor-peasant family, Chou Han-hua has had only four and a half years of schooling. He joined an agro-



# A R T

## Modern Paintings in Traditional Style

Closing recently after a six-week showing in the pavilions of Peihai Park, the fourth exhibition arranged by the Peking Research Society of Traditional Chinese Painting was chiefly interesting for the opportunity it gave of seeing how traditional techniques are being adapted to present-day themes. In recent years, considerable controversy developed as to whether or how traditional style painting could be effectively transformed into a means of expression of modern life. Some pessimists doubted its future, holding that its whole style and manner were suited only to certain decorative purposes and its traditional themes—birds, bamboos and flowers, fauna, romantic and fanciful landscapes and the philosophic outlooks of the old literati.

With the liberation, this has become an increasingly pressing issue. There is an urgent social demand for the reflection of the new life of the people in the traditional idiom. The people love their classical art heritage—Peking's fine collection of classical paintings was never better attended—but they also want to see the subjects of our time—the co-op farms, factories, new towns, new outlooks and new men depicted in the classical techniques that they love.

The artists' problem is to see and comprehend this new reality and adapt traditional brushwork and other means to the reproduction of new visual forms, textures, moods, types and tempos of movement, to the invention of new terms and artistic symbols, expressions of a new social outlook in a land of socialism.

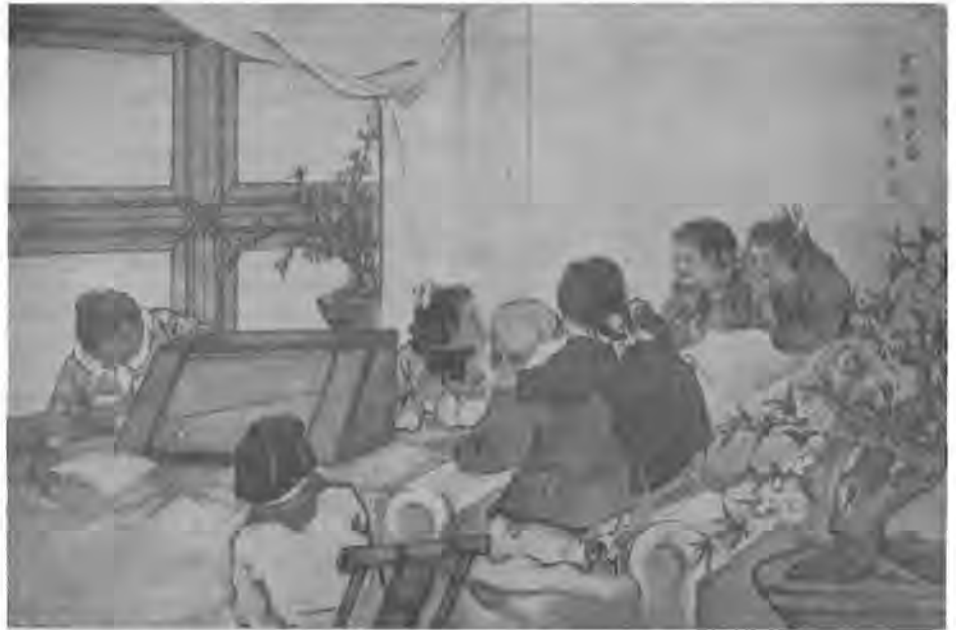
The problem has been complicated because since the 17th century academism has laid a heavy hand on traditional art. More and more classical style artists became copyists, imitators and plagiarists taking elements from various masters to produce academic *pastiches*. So it has been a heartening fact that exhibitions held over the last few years in Peking and elsewhere have shown a steady growth of the movement among artists working in traditional techniques to free themselves from the yoke of academism and regain creative liberty in treating new—and old—themes.

At the recent Peihai exhibition there was a relatively larger number of paintings that reflect contemporary themes: building the Ming Tombs Reservoir, planting trees in Peking, co-op farm work, genre pictures. A wider range of subjects are treated: life among the national minorities, Tai youngsters in a banana

grove, Mongolian girls herding cattle, a wedding in the steppes, scenes of industrial construction. Old themes get new twists of meaning. Classical painting abounds in sages in their sylvan retreats. Here we have pictures of intellectuals who have volunteered to work in the villages.

Several painters, such as Wu Tso-jen, Yeh Chien-yu and others, have accomplished skill with the traditional techniques and long ago began experimenting with these to treat modern themes. They are among the 200 exhibitors who show 320 paintings. But what is particularly interesting about this latest exhibition is that their example is now being followed by an increasing number of artists who were formerly rather conservative in their attitude to classical academism.

Wu Kuang-yu is a fifty-year-old veteran who has specialized in the painting of



Listening to a broadcast

Painting in ink and colour by Wu Kuang-yu

technical class in 1955 and began to experiment with seed cultivation a year later.

## Record of China's Flora to Be Published

The first seven volumes of a 20-million word record of Chinese flora, *Flora Reipublicae Popularis Chinensis*, are scheduled to come off the press on October 1, next year.

The early publication of this mammoth work represents a big advance in the field of systematic botany in China, resulting from the recent campaign against conservatism. Some plant taxonomists in China previously thought that it

would take scores of years to do the work.

The complete set, to be finished in ten years, will have seventy or more volumes with over 3,000 illustrations.

It will contain information about the names of the plants, in Latin and in Chinese, their family, genus, species, description, geographical distribution in China and the whole world, the environment and natural conditions of their growth, their economic value and data contained in reference books of all countries.

China, one of the richest botanical regions in the world, has so far discovered about 30,000 species of vascular plants.

## New Types of Artificial Silk

Scientists of the Changchun Institute of Applied Chemistry under the Chinese Academy of Sciences recently succeeded in making artificial silk from reed. The cost is only half of the artificial silk made from wood pulp. When it goes into mass production, people will be dressed in attractive artificial silk costing no more than cotton cloth.

Before this, an artificial silk plant in Shanghai trial produced two new kinds of artificial silk from sugar cane and *Pinus massoniana*.

Since China has abundant resources of reed, sugar cane and *Pinus massoniana*, these experiments open up new supplies of raw materials for China's viscose fibre industry.



historical figures in the style of the Sung and Tang dynasties. He also likes to paint children at play in similar classical vein. His exhibit at the Peihai show was a startling departure from all this: a lively group of school children seated round a table listening to a radio broadcast.

Wang Chu-chiu, now aged 60, a student of the late Chi Pai-shih, has long been known as a painter of charming flower and bird pieces. He showed an incident from the recent campaign against sparrows, a pest on Peking farms. In the foreground is a typical old Peking lane; behind it rise the golden palace roofs, the tall newly-erected buildings and crenellated walls of the capital. People sit on roofs, atop trees and line the lane beating gongs, saucepans and whatnot or waving flags to keep the sparrows from resting and drive them to the snarers. In the treatment one can see the influence of Shih Tao the Monk, the master of the early Ching dynasty. In its highly original way it evokes a vivid memory of those three memorable days when Peking fought the fourth of the Four Pests.

Wang Hui-lan is a 36-year-old artist who studied figure painting with Chen Liu-tsai and landscape painting with Chang Ta-chien. After several more years spent copying the famous Tunhuang murals, her work took on a pronounced decorative touch. Now she has taken to sketching from nature. She exhibits a scroll entitled *Emulation*: a young man and a woman worker hurrying with baskets of sand for the dam at the Ming Tombs Reservoir where the painter herself worked as a volunteer. In the background are similarly busy figures. This is an attractive result of this new departure in her work. Both in brushwork and conception it bears the marks of her previous pre-occupations and teachers.

The exhibition also contained scrolls in the classical style by such veteran masters as Yu Fei-an, Ho Hsiang-ning and Chen Pan-ting, many more in the academic style and not a few incompletely conceived syntheses of old and new. First steps in a new direction are not infrequently a bit awkward. But as a whole it left no doubt that the classical academic artists in the main are now consciously coming to grips with one of the key problems facing their art. In getting out to see life in the towns and countryside, they are seeing new subjects and looking at traditional subject matter—the eternal mountains and beauties of China—with new insight. Popular comment warmly welcomes the fact that they are casting aside the trammels of conservatism, getting bolder in conception, and seeking greater freedom of expression in adapting to contemporary

social demands the great heritage of which they are the prime custodians.

—Hu Pei-heng

### Sculpture Exhibition

The gallery of the artists' union has just shown the works of a group of students of the Central Academy of Fine Arts who have studied for the last two years in a special course under the Soviet sculptor N.N. Klindukhov.

The twenty young sculptors in the course presented a selection of their works, including 19 sculptures, several of which are monumental designs, and 43 school studies. Their work is full of promise. They already have considerable technical skill. They are not afraid of tackling complex subject compositions based on China's revolutionary struggle, and they show no small ability in finding plastic solutions for the representational problems involved.

They leave no doubt as to where their sympathies and interests lie. There is a youthful directness in their work. This is shown in the sincere feeling which they put into their portrayals of China's working people and the heroes of our time. *The Iron Smelter* by Chao Shu-tung, *Sewing for a Partisan* by Chen Chinnan, a portrait figure of the late composer Hsien Hsin-hai by Shen Wen-chiang are typical works. *The Red Flag* is a monumental group—a fallen revolutionary passing on his banner to a comrade-in-arms—by Su Hui. Yu Tsin-yuan has designed a moving memorial to the eight girls of the Northeast Anti-Japanese United Army who, rather than surrender to the Japanese, drowned themselves in the Peony River in 1936.

*An Old Shepherd* by Ma Kai-hu has much of the delicacy of form and feeling associated with the best of China's miniature sculpture. This link with folk tradition is also seen in several coloured sculptures that attracted considerable at-

tention at the show. It is a valuable trait that these young sculptors, while learning all they can from their Soviet teacher, are paying serious attention to the fine traditions of their own national art.

—Ko Lu

### Sketches of the Farms and Factories

Peihai Park has recently held an exhibition of sketches by artists who have gone out to work on the farms and in the factories as part of the great campaign among intellectuals to carry their talents to the people and remould themselves into socialist artists while working with and among the people.

Over 70 artists have sent in sketches from various parts of the country. Most are from the countryside. They and their ability to draw and paint have been warmly welcomed by the peasants. Besides working on the farms, they have drawn murals, chalked up slogans and taught the peasants to read and write. They eat, live and work with the peasants, made many new friends and now have no lack of themes for their art. The sketches displayed at Peihai are the raw materials of many paintings to be.

The woodcut artist Ku Yuan who is now in Tsunhwa, Hopei, has sent eleven sketches in pencil or water colour. But there are several clearly indicating that the artist conceives of them as future engravings. Most are sketches of farm work and genre scenes of modern country life, done with that buoyancy of feeling that characterizes all his work.

Sketches that win the admiration of the visitors, including *Workshop Repairing Windmills* and *Building Dykes* by Chin Wei, a water colour painter now working in Hsinghua, Kiangsu Province, are also attractive fruits of this artistic invasion of the countryside.

—Ma Sung



The Eight Heroines of the Peony River

Sculpture by Yu Tsin-yuan

# CHINA AND THE WORLD

## Sino-Soviet Scientific Protocol

Mutual, free exchange of scientific and technical documents and data in 1958 is provided for in a protocol signed in Moscow on July 4 at a recent session of the Sino-Soviet Committee for Scientific and Technical Co-operation. The committee also heard reports from both countries on their latest achievements in science and technology. It decided to extend direct contacts between research institutes of the two countries working in the same field.

Under the new protocol the Soviet Union will receive Chinese experts for the study of Soviet experience in planning and operating aluminium plants, petroleum machinery and power-generating machinery works, low pressure equipment works, heavy engineering plants, and in designing ocean-going cargo ships, electrified railways and underground railways; as well as in manufacturing and research work in diesel engines, plastic fibres, etc.

China in turn will receive Soviet experts for the study of Chinese experience in chlorine plants and coal-mines, exploiting and processing oil shales, producing various iron alloys, the use of heat-resistant cement for the outer walls of smelting furnaces, and new types of textile machines. They will study Chinese techniques in cotton, hemp and silk weaving, in cultivating maize and soya beans, preserving fruits and vegetables, methods of acupuncture and cautery and other aspects of traditional Chinese medical science.

## First Chinese Vessel in U.S.S.R.

A tug-boat, towing four barges loaded with 3,000 tons of goods, the first Chinese vessel to sail in Soviet inland waters, arrived in the city of Khabarovsk on July 9. The tug left the Sungari river-port of Harbin on July 5 on the Heilungkiang River (Amur) route.

This, with the arrival in May this year of the first convoy of two Soviet vessels at the Sungari port of Fuchin, marked the beginning of direct river transport between northeast Chinese cities and the Soviet Far East. This direct, cheap transport service is of great importance to the industrial development of China's northeast. These shipping arrangements

are one of the results of the Sino-Soviet agreement on merchant shipping on boundary rivers and lakes, signed at the end of last year.

## Japanese Return Home

Five hundred and seventy-six Japanese residents in China left Tientsin for home on board the Japanese S.S. *Hakusan Maru* on July 8.

They are the last group of the roughly 2,000 Japanese who were helped to return home by the Chinese Red Cross Society this year.

A representative of the Japanese returnees speaking at a farewell party in the north China port, expressed his gratitude to the Chinese people and the Chinese Red Cross Society for their warm-hearted help. He deplored the hostile attitude of the Kishi government towards China. "We will struggle to build a bridge of Sino-Japanese friendship spanning the seas that separate our two countries," he declared.

Since 1953, the Chinese Red Cross has helped more than 32,000 Japanese residents in China to return home.

## CULTURAL NEWS

**Chinese Troupe in London:** Prolonged applause, repeated curtain calls after every item, and a tumultuous standing ovation at the end of the programme highlighted the great success of the London premiere of the Chinese Theatrical and Dance Troupe on July 7.

The audience was especially delighted by such classical items as "Presentation of the Sword," "The Jade Bracelet," "Tiger Valley," and "Ssuchow City." "The Dragon Dance," in which two giant illuminated dragons on a darkened stage whirled through floating clouds in pursuit of a fiery red pearl, brought the entire audience to its feet, clapping and cheering for several minutes.

The London performances are the beginning of a six weeks' season in England. This follows successful tours in France, Belgium and Luxemburg. The troupe will visit Italy and Switzerland before returning to China.

**China at Karlovy Vary:** China is again taking part in this year's International Film Festival now on at Karlovy Vary, Czechoslovakia. Her entries include *The Kite*, a colour feature film jointly produced by the Peking Film Studio and the French Garance Film Company, *Flames on the Border*, another feature film, the short documentary *Yangtse River Bridge* and other films.

**Film Gift to Cambodian Royal Family:** A colour documentary film was presented on July 3 to the King and Queen of Cambodia by Yeh Ching-hao, chief of the Chinese economic mission in Cambodia.

The documentary was specially produced by the Central Newsreel and Documentary Film Studio of Peking to record the performances of the Cambodian Royal Khmer Ballet Troupe which toured China last year.

**Milton Commemorated:** The July issue of the Chinese literary magazine *Yi Wen* (World Literature) has a special section devoted to the life of John Milton, and translations of selections of his poems. Milton is one of the seven great cultural figures to be commemorated this year.

## EXHIBITIONS ABROAD

**Poland:** An exhibition of Chinese paintings and calligraphy is being held in Warsaw. Works by the late great Chinese artist, Chi Pai-shih, are among the more than 160 scrolls on display.

**Czechoslovakia:** An exhibition of Chinese silks is now on in Prague. It includes samples and pictures describing the history of silk production in China.

**India:** An exhibition of Chinese photographs depicting the life and work of the Chinese people was opened on July 7 in Najni Tal, a famous Indian hill resort. Two days earlier, an exhibition of Chinese graphic art was opened in Calcutta in connection with the conference of the West Bengal India-China Friendship Association.

## BRIEFS

A Chinese delegation of 31 prominent figures from all walks of life headed by Kuo Mo-jo, Chairman of the China Peace Committee, has left Peking to attend the Stockholm Meeting on Disarmament and International Co-operation scheduled to open on July 16.

A fraternal delegation headed by Tung Pi-wu, member of the Political Bureau of the Central Committee of the Chinese Communist Party, is in Berlin to attend the Fifth Congress of the German Socialist Unity Party.

A 13-member youth delegation from West Africa (Afrique Noire) is now visiting China as guests of the All-China Youth Federation.

Shanghai recently air-lifted a consignment of 500 litres of anti-cholera vaccine to Bangkok. It was a contribution of the Chinese Red Cross Society to the fight against cholera epidemics in Thailand. The Thai Red Cross has sent a message of thanks to the Chinese Society.

A Chinese sports team consisting of some of the best archers and wrestlers from the Inner Mongolian Autonomous Region, is now in Ulan Bator to take part in the Nadom sports meet.



# CHINESE PRESS OPINION

## *Latent Imperialism in Japan*

The following are excerpts from the *Renmin Ribao* editorial of July 7 commenting on the latent imperialist tendencies which are coming more and more to the surface in Japan:

The present Kishi cabinet is the most reactionary of all the cabinets formed since the Japanese surrender in 1945. It is a concentrated representative of the interests of those magnates of Japanese monopoly capital who have close ties with the United States and the most aggressive of Japanese monopoly capitalists.

In its foreign and home policies, the Kishi government is following at the heels of the United States, plotting for "two Chinas," maintaining a stubborn hostility to the Chinese people, energetically pushing economic expansion in Southeast Asia, scheming for the resurrection of Japanese militarism, and suppressing the Japanese people at home. These policies fully reflect the latent imperialist ambitions of Japan's monopoly capitalist groups and point up the fact that Japan is being dragged further along the old path of militarism and imperialism.

Since the end of the Second World War the struggle in Japan has centred on whether that country should take the path of independence and peace or of militarism and imperialism. This is a question that gravely concerns the people of those countries, and of China in particular, who were for many years victims of armed Japanese aggression.

The Chinese people, in safeguarding peace in Asia and the world, have hoped that Japan's ruling circles would learn from the disaster which they suffered in the Second World War, free themselves from control by the warmongering forces of the United States and take the path of peace and independence—in the interests of Asian peace and the Japanese people. The Chinese people have been consistent in their sympathy and active support for the struggle of the Japanese people for peace and independence, for friendship with the Chinese people and for the restoration of Sino-Japanese diplomatic relations. Though the state of war between China and Japan has not ended, the Chinese people in the past eight years have acted in the spirit of letting bygones be bygones; they have helped Japanese nationals in China who wanted to go home to return to Japan, dealt

leniently with Japanese who committed war crimes in China, given a friendly welcome to many Japanese visitors from all walks of life, and handled a number of questions of common interest directly with the Japanese people's organizations concerned. This attitude of the Chinese people has won a ready response among the Japanese masses and some of the more far-sighted within the ruling circles of Japan.

## **No Sign of Remorse**

However, the monopolist groups of Japan and the Kishi government which represents their interests have not shown one iota of remorse for their heinous crimes in invading China. They regard the good will shown by the Chinese people as a sign of weakness and look the desire of the Chinese people to develop Sino-Japanese trade on a basis of equality and friendship to be a sign of the need of the Chinese people to rely on Japan in building socialism. Under strong pressure from the Japanese people demanding friendship with China and the restoration of diplomatic relations, the Japanese monopolist groups and the Kishi government have resorted to double-dealing: they tried to make political capital and economic profit from friendly contacts between the Japanese and Chinese peoples, with a view to strengthening their bargaining position with the United States. At the same time, fondly imagining that despite their hostility and insults to the Chinese people, China would still have to trade with Japan, they regarded China as an object of Japanese economic expansion. This is clearly revealed by the arbitrary way in which the Kishi government scrapped the fourth Sino-Japanese trade agreement and connived with hooligans to insult the Chinese national flag in Nagasaki.

It is certainly no accident that the Kishi government is trying hard to drag Japan once more along the old path of imperialism. Japan is a highly developed capitalist country. Though it was defeated in the Second World War, lost its colonies and fell under the control of the United States, the dominant sections of Japanese monopoly capital were preserved by the United States, which wanted to use them to restore Japanese militarism and turn Japan into its tool for aggression in Asia. For its part, Japanese monopoly capital cherishes the hope that by serving the aggressive policy of the United States, it can get its support and gather strength for an eventual comeback.

During the Korean War, Japan played the role of supply base for the U.S. invasion forces. This led to an expansion of Japanese monopoly capital, and inevitably whetted the ambition of Japan's monopoly capitalists to try their hand once again at domination of the Far East.

The industrial boom brought on by the Korean War, reached its peak in July 1957. By February this year, Japan's industrial and mining output was 13 per cent less than in July last year. Industrial and mining stockpiles have been rising since May 1957. By February this year, they were 45 per cent larger than in April last year. By March this year the number of totally unemployed increased to 850,000. Some of Japan's major industries, such as ingot steel, thick steel plates, automobiles, cotton yarn, paper and rayons, are now working 20 to 50 per cent below capacity. These facts show that Japan has plunged into the economic crisis of the capitalist world. This is the economic background to the formation of the present Kishi cabinet.

In an effort to extricate itself from the crisis and shift the burden to others, the Kishi government has thrown itself behind an expansionist economic plan: to increase exports of goods and capital to Southeast Asia, the Near and Middle East and Latin America, and so intensify the fight for foreign markets.

Politically, it is pushing ahead with a project for a northeast Asian anti-communist military alliance with Chiang Kai-shek, Syngman Rhee and Ngo Dinh Diem. Japan now possesses armed forces larger than those of Germany at the time of Hitler's rise to power. With U.S. help, Japan has received equipment for carrying atomic weapons. Japan's military industry has been fully restored, with greater potentialities than it had in the immediate pre-war period. Its network of U.S. military bases can also be used at any time for atomic war.

## **Vain Ambitions**

The future bodes no good for these imperialist ambitions of the Kishi government. During the last war Japanese imperialism was unable to realize its dream of dominating Asia; today, when socialism has become a world system and its superiority over imperialism is overwhelming, it is still more futile for the Japanese militarists to cherish the same old imperialist dreams. Moreover the national independence movement is surging forward in the Asian and African lands. These countries, in resolutely fighting for or preserving their national independence, can count on the friendship and co-operation of the socialist countries. They will never tolerate the unleashing

of any new aggression by the Japanese monopoly groups no matter what form it takes.

The Kishi government sets great store by U.S. support. But in bolstering up the Japanese militarists the purpose of the United States has always been to turn Japan into a dependency and an instrument for its policy of aggression, not to foster a competitor for its markets. Knee deep in economic crisis, the United States is busy trying to shift its troubles on to the other capitalist countries, Japan included.

At home, the forces among the Japanese people which oppose U.S. domination, and stand for independence, democracy, peace and neutrality, are growing steadily. In the last two general elections in Japan, the Liberal Democratic Party failed to obtain the two-thirds majority in the Diet needed for revision of the constitution.

Under such circumstances, it is suicidal for the Japanese monopoly groups to persist in dragging Japan on to the old path of militarism and imperialism. It would be wiser to follow the general trend of development in the world, give up attempts at imperialism, and enjoy peaceful co-existence and economic co-operation with the Asian and African countries in accordance with the Bandung Conference principles.

The Chinese attitude is quite clear. The Chinese people have always been friendly to the Japanese people. But they firmly oppose the latent imperialist ambitions of the Kishi government. If China and Japan establish normal relations on a basis of equality and friendship, co-exist peacefully and develop contacts in various fields, this will conform not only to the desires and interests of the Chinese and Japanese peoples, but also to the interests of peace in Asia and throughout the world. But if the Kishi government persists in its hostility towards the Chinese people, it will have to bear the full responsibility for suspension of all contacts between China and Japan. We are convinced that the struggle of the Japanese people for friendship with China and normal relations between the two countries, like their struggle for peace, independence, and democracy, will overcome all obstacles and difficulties and be finally victorious. In this just struggle the Japanese people will have the firm support of the Chinese people.

### **Tokyo Boomerang**

Its sabotage of the Sino-Japanese trade agreement has boomeranged against the Kishi government, says an article by Yi Chih in *Da Gong Bao* (July 6).

Estimates of the Japan-China Trade Promotion Association place Japanese losses in imports and exports at 25 million pounds sterling. More than four hundred trading agencies are now facing the danger of bankruptcy and closure.

Since mid-May prices have been fluctuating on the Japanese market, especially in textiles and soya beans. Rayon and textile prices dropped, while those for soya beans soared to their highest peak in the past two years. The hold-up of 150,000 tons of iron and steel exports has intensified the slump in the iron and steel industry. Forecasts indicate that July will bring a sharp fall in iron and steel production. Prospects for the cement industry are also gloomy.

Despite their efforts, the Japanese monopoly capitalists have made little headway in Southeast Asia and the Middle and Near East, where competition with British, U.S. and West German interests is fiercer than ever.

The article says that there is growing discontent in Japan at Kishi's sabotage of Sino-Japanese relations. Inside the Japanese Diet these relations have become a focus of discussion. Outside the Diet, the demand for a change in Kishi's hostile policy towards China, pressed by progressive parties, public organizations and business circles, has become more insistent than ever.

### **Two Worlds Contrasted**

In its fortnightly review of international events, *Renmin Ribao* (July 5) cites some telling economic facts showing the superiority of the East over the West.

While the countries of the socialist camp are forging ahead in seven league boots, the economic crisis in the capitalist countries is worsening, the review points out. The Soviet Union's industrial output in the first quarter of this year was 11 per cent greater than in the first quarter of 1957. China's industrial output in May was 46 per cent greater than in May last year. Whereas in the U.S. total industrial output dropped 11.4 per cent in the first five months of this year compared with the same period in 1957.

The Soviet Union's coal output will exceed that of the U.S. this year. Its wheat output is already more than double and its sugar beet output more than treble that of the U.S. It has also outstripped the U.S. in the production of animal fats and is catching up fast in milk production.

China's summer crops this year showed an increase of over 17.5 million tons over last year. Its wheat output is now

second in the world, next only to that of the Soviet Union. China will soon outstrip Britain in the production of steel and iron, coal and chemical fertilizers. China's target for iron ore in 1960 has now been set at 200 million tons, almost double the 1957 U.S. output. Other socialist countries too continue to make steady economic advances.

While Washington is eagerly waiting for the crisis to level off, most American bourgeois economists predict that investments will continue to fall and unemployment increase for the remainder of this year.

Under the impact of the U.S. crisis, the economic situation has begun to deteriorate in all the West European countries. Industrial output in Britain, after standing still for three years, began to take a down turn in February. Steel hit its lowest point in the past four years when it dropped 16 per cent in May compared with May last year. Britain's export trade is also declining and the number of unemployed has risen 33 per cent since May last year.

Italy's economic recovery was comparatively late and production only recently began to show a rise but in March it had to cut iron and steel production. In the first quarter this year its imports dropped 13 per cent and its exports 3 per cent compared with the same quarter last year.

West Germany's industrial output has risen steadily in the past few years, but after a period of teetering it too has begun to show a decline.

### **Soviet Initiative for Peace**

Khrushchov's latest letter to Eisenhower on the prevention of surprise attacks is greeted by *Renmin Ribao's* commentator as "a new initiative of the Soviet Union to bring about East-West talks and eliminate the 'cold war'."

"The positive attitude adopted by the Soviet Union towards a summit conference and its many new proposals will be of great importance in defeating the delaying and obstructive tactics of the United States and its followers. . . . The latest Soviet initiative is another major step leading discussions for a summit conference into actual preparations for the talks," the commentator says.

"The concrete measures advanced in the Soviet proposal to prevent the possibility of surprise attacks are practical and include some ideas previously introduced by certain Western countries. If the Western countries are sincere, there should be no difficulty in reaching agreement on this question," he concludes.



# SIDELIGHTS

**New Crop for an Old Art.** On July 4 the first class of Peking opera students since liberation graduated. Admitted in 1950, they went through extensive and intensive studies for eight years, learning singing, dancing and acrobatics—the essentials of this much appreciated art. Mei Lan-fang, the great impersonator of female roles in Peking opera, who presided over the entrance examinations eight years ago, wrote an article in *Renmin Ribao* congratulating the young artists. He gave them a few tips on how to carry on the best traditions of Peking opera.

**Woman Research Worker.** Chang Chiu-hsiang, deputy director of an agricultural co-operative in Shensi Province, has been appointed a special research worker at the Shensi Institute of Agricultural Science for her imaginative approach and daring in experimenting

with cotton planting and her attainments in high per mou yields. She comes from a poor-peasant family, and didn't have much schooling, but her cotton-growing methods have been so successful that they are today widely used throughout the province. She is the first woman peasant to receive this honour.

**First Television Cable.** A cable factory in Tientsin, the north China industrial city, has succeeded in making cables for television cameras. The cable, designed by Chinese engineers, is the first of its kind in China and its quality is well up to international standards. This success of the Tientsin cable factory workers and engineers will make China independent of foreign supplies.

**30 Balls of Ivory.** Canton, a well-known ivory carving centre in China, has turned out a marvellous piece of work—a carving of 30 concentric balls, five more than the specimen which won a prize at the Panama International Fair

in 1952. The outer ball is patterned on a hundred flowers in bloom and the 18 inner balls are carved with exquisite designs. The ivory has a diameter of 17 centimetres and the spheres rest on a shaft 63 centimetres high rising from an octagonal pavilion with a coiled dragon and soaring phoenix. This work of art was accomplished by a dozen craftsmen in three months' time.

**Cooking with Gas.** The days of Peking's traditional coal stoves are numbered. By October 1, 1959—the tenth anniversary of the Chinese People's Republic—about one million of the city's population will be able to instal gas stoves. A big coking plant is being built in the eastern outskirts of the city.

**Purple Snow Cake.** A popular new Peking product, these hot summer days, is an attractively packaged and tasty bit of coolness known in Chinese as "Purple Snow Cake." In plain English it's a chocolate-covered ice cream bar or Eskimo Pie—and good too.

## WHAT'S ON IN PEKING

— Highlights of Current Entertainment, Exhibitions, etc. —

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

### PEKING OPERA

▲ **CHIN HSIANG-LIEN** A well-known story of the Sung dynasty in which a scholar, after gaining wealth and position, tries to murder his wife and two children. He is brought to justice by Pao Cheng, the just magistrate. Produced by the Peking Opera Company of Peking and starring four of China's best-known actors: Ma Lien-liang, Chang Chun-chiu, Tan Fu-ying and Chiu Sheng-jung.

July 18, 19 & 20 Peking Workers' Club

▲ **TIEN MEN CHEN** (The Gate of Heaven Military Formation)—Historical episode of the Sung dynasty. Mu Kuei-ying, a brave warrior-maid, wins a decisive battle for the Sung forces who are trapped by attacking Liao invaders.

July 17 Peking Theatre

▲ **THREE ATTACKS ON CHU VILLAGE** An episode from *Water Margin* (or *All Men Are Brothers*) in which Sung Chiang, the leader of a peasant rebellion, cleverly wins over his opponents in Chu Village. China Peking Opera Company.

July 19 Chi Hsiang Theatre

### HUCHU OPERA

▲ **REGISTRATION** Adapted from a short story by Chao Shu-h. A young couple struggles against feudal attitudes to marriage—set in the Chinese countryside after the liberation. The Shanghai Huchu Opera Company.

July 15 & 16 People's Theatre

▲ **YANG NAI-WU AND HSIAO PAI-TSAI** A well-known murder case of the Ching dynasty. Produced by the Shanghai Huchu Opera Company.

July 17 & 18 People's Theatre

### HONAN OPERA

▲ **SNOW IN MIDSUMMER** Kuan Han-ching's famous tragedy of a young widow's unjust

execution. Produced by the Loyang Honan Opera Company.

July 17 Changan Theatre

### WUSIH OPERA

▲ **RED SEEDS** The story of the Kiangsu peasants' fight against their Kuomintang oppressors during the War of Liberation. Produced by the Kiangsu Wusih Opera Company.

July 15 & 16 Chi Hsiang Theatre

### THEATRE

▲ **SON OF THE WORKING CLASS** Based on the autobiography of Wu Yun-to, one of China's best-loved revolutionary heroes. Thrice severely wounded, he never stopped working for the revolution. Produced by the Tientsin People's Art Theatre.

July 15-22 Tienchiiao Theatre

▲ **KUAN HAN-CHING** A play by Tien Han in commemoration of the 700th anniversary of the great 13th century playwright. This play shows the indomitable spirit of Kuan Han-ching as he struggles to overcome the difficulties that beset him while writing and staging his famous tragedy *Snow in Midsummer*. Produced by the Peking People's Art Theatre and directed by Chiao Chu-yin and Ouyang Shan-tsun.

July 15-20 Capital Theatre

### FILMS

(All films are dubbed in Chinese unless otherwise stated.)

▲ **LIN CHUNG** An episode from *Water Margin*. Originally a law-abiding citizen, Lin Chung is forced by corrupt officialdom to join the peasant outlaws on Liangshan Mountain. Produced by the Shanghai Kiangnan Film Studio.

July 17-21 Peking Exhibition Centre (formerly the Soviet Exhibition Centre) Cinema, Hsin Chieh Kou, Chung Yang, Kwangan Men, Peking Workers' Club, Ta Hua, Chiao Tao Kou

▲ **SEARCHING THE ACADEMY** Film version of the well-known Kwangtung opera about a servant girl who escapes from bondage and hides in the academy. Friends come to her aid and help her find freedom and happiness. In colour, starring noted Kwangtung opera actor Ma Shih-tseng and actress Hung Hsien-nu.

July 15-21 Children's Cinema

July 15-20 Capital Theatre

July 15-17 Peking Theatre, Hsin Chung Kuo, Kwangho Theatre

▲ **THE LONG ROAD** A coloured Soviet feature film on the fate of two lovers in tsarist Russia.

July 17-21 Peking Theatre, Hsin Chung Kuo, Kwangho Theatre

### EXHIBITIONS

▲ **EXHIBITION OF SOVIET PAINTINGS, SCULPTURES AND WOODCUTS** Over 500 representative works by Soviet artists produced during the period 1955-57. Daily (except Mon.) 9-12 a.m., 3-8 p.m. till August 8.

At the Palace Museum inside Tung Hua Men Gate

▲ **EXHIBITION OF THE "LEAP FORWARD" IN PEKING'S INDUSTRY** Displayed are new industrial machinery and products produced and renovated by Peking workers mostly in the first half of this year since the "big leap." Many products have already reached international standards. Daily 9:00-11:30 a.m., 2-8 p.m.

At the Working People's Palace of Culture

▲ **EXHIBITION OF ANCIENT CHINESE WEAPONS** From the Shang dynasty up to the Ching dynasty. Exhibited in the Historical Museum inside the Palace Museum.

### SPORTS

▲ **FOOTBALL MATCHES** Visiting Hungarian National Team vs. "August 1" Team, July 17; vs. Peking Team, July 20.

At the Peking Stadium

▲ **WEIGHT-LIFTING MATCH** Visiting Egyptian National Weight-lifting Team vs. Chinese National Team.

July 29 at Peking Gymnasium

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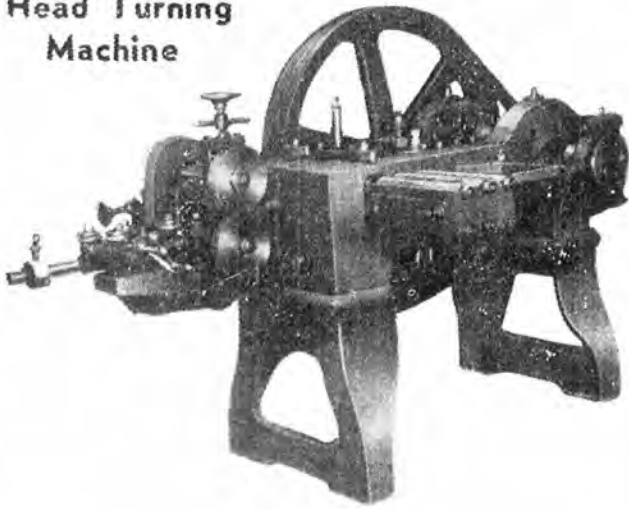
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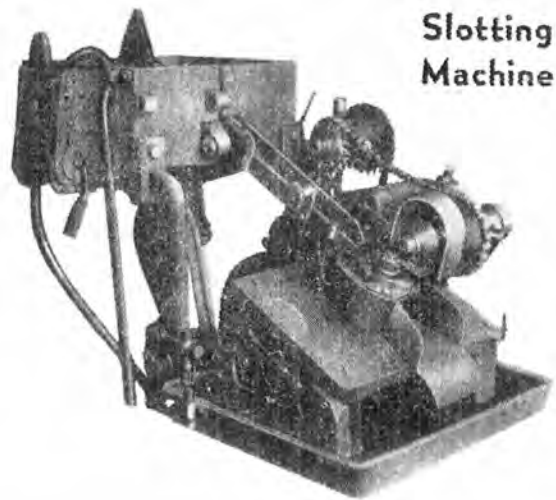


# MACHINES FOR MAKING SCREWS

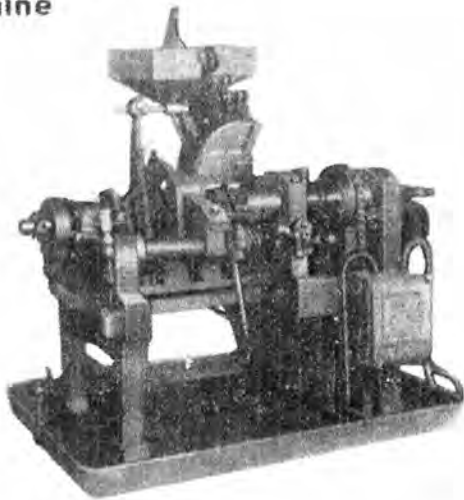
Head Turning  
Machine



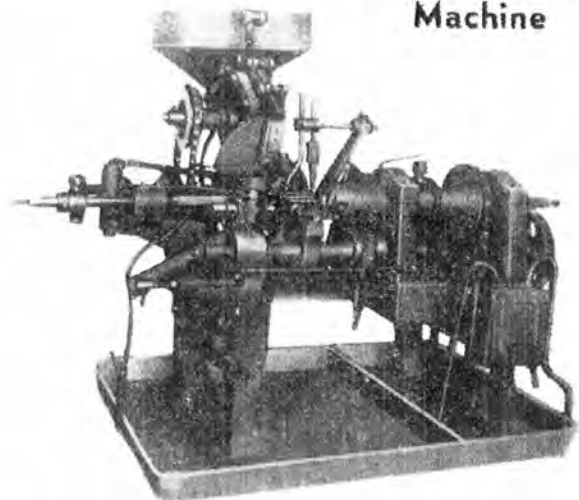
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