

PEKING REVIEW

17

April 28, 1978

北
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報

**Refuting a Wrong Assessment
Of Literature and Art**

**New Victory for Panamanian
People**

Railways: Labour Emulation Drive

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Upswing in Industrial Production

Total industrial output value in Shanghai, China's largest industrial city, in the first quarter of this year topped all previous records for the same period by 26 per cent. Production of over 40 kinds of major industrial goods outstripped the targets set by the state plan. As for the various provinces, municipalities and autonomous regions, gross industrial output value in the first quarter also showed a big increase over that of the same period of last year and hit an all-time high. This speedy growth of industrial production has been sustained since the beginning of April.

A leading member of the State Economic Commission declared that the state plan for the first quarter was fulfilled extremely well — something seldom seen before since the founding of New China. Quotas set by the state

were all overfulfilled in the production of steel, pig iron, rolled steel, eight kinds of non-ferrous metals, power, crude oil, coal, timber, chemical fertilizer, sulphuric acid, caustic soda, cement, chemical fibre, paper, cardboard and in the volume of railway freight transport. Compared with the same period of last year, the output of crude oil, for example, increased by 10.3 per cent, while natural gas rose by 15.1 per cent, coal by 26.8 per cent, and chemical fertilizer, pesticides and tractors by over 50 per cent. The volume of railway freight transport topped that of the same period of last year by 30.2 per cent.

The metallurgical industry which was seriously undermined by the "gang of four" is forging ahead too. Output of steel, pig iron, iron ore, rolled steel, major varieties of steel products and eight kinds of non-ferrous metals in the first three months chalked up big in-

creases over the same 1977 period.

The leading member of the State Economic Commission pointed out that the implementation of the guidelines of the Fifth National People's Congress and the exposure and criticism of the gang's sabotage are a powerful impetus to industrial production. Szechuan, Yunnan, Honan, Chekiang and Kiangsi Provinces' total industrial output in the first quarter registered increases of 30 per cent and more compared with the corresponding period of last year. Industrial departments convened a series of conferences; socialist emulation campaigns were launched between factories, and the workers' initiative is soaring. All this accounts for the growth of industrial production.

IN THE NEWS

• Keng Piao, Member of the Political Bureau and Head of the International Liaison Department of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of China, on April 20 met with a delegation of the Marxist-Leninist Revolutionary Communist Party of France led by its General Secretary Cluzot.

• Li Hsien-nien, Vice-Chairman of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of China, and Keng Piao, Member of the Political Bureau of the C.P.C. Central Committee, on April 21 met with a delegation of the Portuguese Communist Party (Marxist-Leninist) led by its General Secretary Heduino Vilar.



Assembling mining machines at Honan Province's Pingdingshan Coal Mine.

Press On With the Three Great Revolutionary Movements Simultaneously



WE must grasp the three great revolutionary movements of class struggle, the struggle for production and scientific experiment at the same time; this is of vital importance for fulfilling the general task in the new period of development* to build China into a powerful socialist country.

Chairman Mao consistently stressed the need to press on with all three movements together. With the smashing of the "gang of four," the Party Central Committee headed by Chairman Hua has taken firm hold of the class struggle to expose and repudiate the "gang of four," has drawn up very concrete plans for developing the national economy and economic work including agriculture and industry, communications and transport, finance and trade and effectively promoted the development of the country's science, culture and education. They have set splendid examples of grasping the three great revolutionary movements simultaneously. Chairman Hua's report on the work of the government at the Fifth National People's Congress and his speech at the National Science Conference

*The general task in the new period of development is: To firmly carry out the line of the 11th Party Congress, steadfastly continue the revolution under the dictatorship of the proletariat, deepen the three great revolutionary movements of class struggle, the struggle for production and scientific experiment, and make China a great and powerful socialist country with modern agriculture, industry, national defence and science and technology by the end of the century.

provide further exposition of the significance of the three great revolutionary movements and the dialectical relationship between them, and call on us to be good at combining the three movements and to persist in so doing.

The three great revolutionary movements are integral parts of the continued revolution under the dictatorship of the proletariat. They are independent of each other in a relative sense, each has its own characteristics and laws of development, and they are not interchangeable. They are interconnected, are conditioned by each other and promote each other's development. The "gang of four," putting up an ultra-"Left" facade, muddled the people's thinking by spreading the notion that class struggle covers everything. They would not let the people undertake any one of the three great revolutionary movements, in order to give themselves a free hand in plotting to usurp Party and state power and conducting a bourgeois class struggle against the proletariat.

Class struggle is the key link among the three great revolutionary movements and the direct motive force in advancing the socialist revolution and socialist construction. This key link must be grasped at all times in carrying out the general task. "Taking class struggle as the key link" is something entirely different from what the "gang of four" advocated. They used it to persecute people so as to attain their criminal aim of usurping Party and state power.

Class struggle as the key link means paying close attention to the struggle between the two classes, the proletariat and the bourgeoisie, and the struggle between socialist and capitalist roads. At present and for some time to come, it means the struggle to expose and repudiate the "gang of four." Only by grasping this key link can we keep to the socialist orientation, arouse the revolutionary determination of the people, clear away obstacles to the four modernizations and promote production, construction and scientific experiment.

While the "gang of four" were running amuck, China's national economy approached the brink of collapse. The gap between China's level of science and technology and the world's advanced level, which had been gradually narrowed, was widened again. Failure to take class struggle as the key link and to overthrow the "gang of four" would have meant that China's socialist economy and science, education and culture could not go ahead. Now, the "gang of four" has been overthrown, but class struggle is by no means over. The gang's pernicious influence has not been eliminated. The ferocious attack of the capitalist forces against the socialist cause would not cease. Under the circumstances, if we neglect the struggle of exposing and criticizing the "gang of four" the least bit, or if we let the gang's pernicious influence bind us hand and foot or interfere with our work, then our dictatorship of the proletariat will be weakened and undermined, and it will be exceedingly difficult for us to push forward the national economy, to develop science and technology and to improve other work. In order to unfold the struggle for production and scientific experiment, we must firmly adhere to the Party's basic line, carry the struggle of exposing and criticizing the "gang of four" and the struggle against revisionism and capitalism through to the end, strengthen the political and ideological work of the proletariat and do these in close conjunction with the struggle for production and scientific experiment.

The struggle for production is the basic activity of human society. To develop production at high speed by grasping the struggle for pro-

duction well is one of the fundamental tasks of the dictatorship of the proletariat. With political power in the hands of the proletariat, each step in developing production becomes a material force for struggling against capitalist restoration and strengthens the material basis of the dictatorship of the proletariat. If we do not pay attention to the struggle for production, how will we get food or clothing, let alone go in for socialist construction or consolidating the dictatorship of the proletariat? Ordinary attention to production or satisfaction with developing production at ordinary speed will not do. We must bring the superiority of the socialist system into full play so that production develops at high speed. Chairman Hua has pointed out: "The question of the speed of construction is a political rather than a purely economic question. When viewed in the light of the international class struggle, the political nature of this question stands out still more sharply." The "gang of four" kept distorting this question, saying: "Production will automatically rise when revolution is carried out well," "it is all right for production to go down so long as we do a good job in revolution," and "we would rather have a low socialist rate of economic growth." All this is nothing but reactionary nonsense which stands diametrically opposed to the basic principle of Marxism. We adhere to the principle of grasping revolution and promoting production, holding that revolution can surely promote production but cannot replace the latter. The struggle for production has its own laws. The organization of modern large-scale production is complex and difficult. In the new period of development much of our daily work consists of production tasks. Chairman Mao stipulated that Party committees at the county level and above should pay attention to socialist industry and socialist agriculture, and laid down many detailed and concrete rules in this connection. We must act in accordance with Chairman Mao's instructions, make earnest efforts to carry out the ten-year plan for the development of the national economy and the annual state plans. Economic work must be done in a more and more meticulous, deep-going, practical and scientific way.

Scientific experiment is an important component of the three great revolutionary movements. Advances in science and technology, which are part of the productive forces, raise labour productivity greatly, give a new look to production and cause revolutionary changes in people's minds and in the social system. Science and technology are a great revolutionary force, one that propels history forward. The modernization of industry, agriculture and national defence calls for the most advanced science and technology. Therefore, the key to the four modernizations lies in the modernization of science and technology. Marxism teaches us that a great abundance of social products is an important condition for eliminating the differences between town and country, industry and agriculture, and mental and manual labour, for abolishing classes, advancing to communism and implementing the principle of "from each according to his ability, to each according to his needs." The realization of this depends on an extremely high development in science and technology. In the absence of scientific experiment and new technique, we will not be able to raise labour productivity by a big margin, or to demonstrate the superiority of our socialist system. Backwardness will place us in a position of being pushed around. This is a cardinal question on which hinges the whole socialist cause and the destiny and future of our country.

The "gang of four" practised obscurantism, negating scientific experiment and the part played by scientific and technical personnel, claiming that "the more knowledgeable, the more reactionary" and that "it's preferable to have labourers with no culture." Scientific and technological work in China were thus seriously affected and they remain the weak link in the three great revolutionary movements. Now the Party Central Committee has great determination, scientific and technical personnel and other people are full of enthusiasm, and they earnestly demand that Party committees at all levels strengthen their leadership over scientific and technical work. This includes implementation of the Party's line, principles and policies on the

scientific and technological front, the strengthening of political and ideological work, the implementation of the Party's policy toward intellectuals, the expansion of scientific research institutes and the cultivation of a contingent of scientists and technicians, the drawing up and carrying out of plans for scientific research, the guaranteeing of supplies, the widespread application of the results of scientific research, and the popularization of scientific knowledge. All this requires the serious attention of the Party committees at all levels.

Chairman Mao taught us in real earnestness: "Class struggle, the struggle for production and scientific experiment are the three great revolutionary movements for building a mighty socialist country. These movements are a sure guarantee that Communists will be free from bureaucracy and immune against revisionism and dogmatism, and will for ever remain invincible. They are a reliable guarantee that the proletariat will be able to unite with the broad working masses and realize a democratic dictatorship." We must comprehend the deep significance of this instruction from the high plane of continuing the revolution under the dictatorship of the proletariat, of opposing and preventing revisionism and of consolidating this dictatorship, so that we will be more conscious of and firm in grasping all three great revolutionary movements together. Leading cadres at various levels must not only stand on the forefront of class struggle, but as Chairman Mao had always instructed, take part in productive labour and scientific experiment together with the masses. This is of fundamental importance for the socialist system.

A new Long March has begun. Let us press on with the three great revolutionary movements of class struggle, the struggle for production and scientific experiment in earnest, and march forward towards the realization of the grand goal of building China into a modern, powerful socialist country!

(An abridged translation of a "Renmin Ribao" editorial, April 22)

Refuting a Wrong Assessment Of Literature and Art

— Criticizing the “gang of four’s” fallacy of “dictatorship
of a sinister line”

HOW literature and art during the 17 years from nationwide liberation in 1949 to the beginning of the Great Cultural Revolution in 1966 should be evaluated is a major question whose significance reaches beyond the sphere of literature and art. The “gang of four” had declared categorically that during that period literature and art was under the “dictatorship of a sinister line,” that is, a bourgeois or a revisionist line had exercised dictatorship over the proletariat.

Origin

In early 1966, when the Cultural Revolution was in the offing and a battle royal between Chairman Mao’s revolutionary line and Liu Shao-chi’s revisionist line was shaping up, Chiang Ching hurried off to meet Lin Piao in the east China city of Soochow. There, Lin Piao, who was then in charge of the Military Commission of the Party Central Committee, arranged for Chiang Ching to hold a “forum” on literary and art work in the army. (There is a contingent of professional and amateur writers, actors and actresses and other cultural workers in the Chinese People’s Liberation Army who make up an important force in literature and art.)

At the meeting Chiang Ching said explicitly that there had been “a sinister anti-Party and anti-socialist line” in the literary and art circles ever since the founding of the People’s Republic. “It has had us under its dictatorship for 17 years,” she declared, “and it’s got to stop. It’s high time we exercised dictatorship over them!”

Later, Chang Chun-chiao, another member of the “gang of four,” and Chen Po-ta, Lin Piao’s cohort, came up with two absurd claims: First, they alleged that the sinister line could be traced back to the Left-

wing literary and art movement of the 30s. This, in effect, denigrated not only the achievements in literature and art in the 17 post-liberation years but the proletarian literary and art movement led by our Party over the last half century. Second, they asserted that there were no proletarian literature and art in the 100 years from 1871 when Eugene Pottier wrote *The Internationale* until the revolution in Peking opera; proletarian literature and art started only with the advent of the revolution in Peking opera in the 60s, for which Chiang Ching claimed credit.

Terrible Consequences

In the decade and more when the “gang of four” had the literary and art circles and the media in their grip, this “dictatorship of a sinister line” was their “theoretical basis” for wilfully persecuting literary and art workers and negating literary and art works.

Large numbers of writers and artists were maligned as “followers of the sinister line” and forced to stop work. A number of outstanding literary and art workers were cruelly persecuted on groundless charges and some were hounded to their death.

Most post-liberation poems, novels, movies, plays, the fine arts and music were labelled “poisonous weeds.” Fine classical and foreign works were banned. Many local operas and folk arts disappeared. Chinese minority nationalities love to sing and dance but at one stage radios in Sinkiang, Inner Mongolia, Tibet, and Yenpien, where Koreans live in compact communities, were allowed to broadcast only a few local folk songs. Diverse creative and performing styles were prohibited in compliance with Chiang Ching’s absurd claim that “we

don't need so many styles, we need only the revolutionary style."

On the basis of negating every achievement made in the 17 post-liberation years, Chiang Ching and company rigged up an autocratic bourgeois factional setup of sycophantic followers in the literary and art circles. The one-time Minister of Culture, Yu Hui-yung, was one of the gang's lieutenants. The gang kept a tight grip over the literary and art circles and on all important questions what they said went. They even imposed a series of fantastic "theories" on how to write and the Chinese literary and art field was devastated. The few works which did manage to appear were stereotyped hackwork. To make the matter worse, the gang cooked up works centring on the struggle against "capitalist-roaders" in co-ordination with their attempt to usurp Party and state leadership under the pretext of "combating the capitalist-roaders."

The "gang of four" also extended the application of their theory of the "dictatorship of a sinister line" to education, journalism, propaganda, publishing and other fields. Chiang Ching, declared Chen Po-ta in a report, wanted to make a "revolutionary breakthrough" first in the sphere of literature and art. Their negation of all pre-Cultural Revolution achievements in China's socialist revolution and construction was aimed at completely overthrowing the dictatorship of the proletariat in China and seizing the reins of power. As Chang Chun-chiao said,

the Great Proletarian Cultural Revolution was for "one dynasty superseding another."

Correct Assessment

The "gang of four" was always flaunting the banner of Chairman Mao, while in actual fact they were quoting his teachings out of context, distorting and adulterating them to confuse people's minds. So, in order to correctly assess China's literature and art over the past several decades, a comprehensive and correct understanding of Chairman Mao's instructions at various stages is necessary.

Before Liberation. Marxism spread to China after the Russian October Revolution of 1917 and as the new-democratic revolution led by the proletariat gained ground, it brought in its wake the proletarian literary and art movement. In his *On New Democracy* and *Talks at the Yen-an Forum on Literature and Art*, written in the 40s, Chairman Mao made an assessment of this movement in the past few decades. He spoke highly of the anti-imperialist, anti-feudal new cultural movement with Lu Hsun (1881—1936), a great man of letters, as the standard-bearer. "Literature and art have been an important and successful part of the cultural front since the May 4th Movement [1919]," he said. The Chairman also approved the Left-wing literary and art movement of the 30s when he said: "During the ten years' civil war [1927-37], the revolutionary literature and art movement grew rapidly. That movement and the revolutionary war both headed in the same general direction."

Left: Literary and art circles come to life again with the downfall of the "gang of four." Here, Tang Yung, an old painter, is with children art enthusiasts. **Middle:** Famous actress Chang Jui-fang (second from right) starring in a new feature film of the Peking Film Studio. **Right:** The famous Kunchu opera, *Fifteen Strings of Cash*, is restaged after being banned by the gang for many years.



China's proletarian literary and art movement took on a new look under the guidance of Chairman Mao's 1942 Yen-an talks. *Driven to Join the Liangshan Mountain Rebels*, a Peking opera about a 12th-century peasant uprising, was one immediate success. With this opera, created by amateur art workers in Yen-an, "a new life is opening up for the old opera," Chairman Mao said. This was an "epoch-making beginning in the revolutionization of the old opera," he pointed out. Another example was the full-length opera *The White-Haired Girl*, which is an exposure of the harsh exploitation of the peasants by the landlords and depicts the fight put up by the peasants. This absorbing work incorporated local musical idioms and used elements from Chinese and Western opera. It has been widely acclaimed since it first appeared in 1945.

The road forward, of course, was not without its ups and downs. The proletarian literary and art movement has been accompanied all the way by the struggle between the two lines, the Marxist and the revisionist. In his Yen-an talks Chairman Mao had criticized all sorts of mistaken ideas and tendencies current then, but he was not denying the achievements.

Nurtured by Chairman Mao's thinking on literature and art, a fine tradition in Chinese literature and art was formed over the long years of revolutionary war. Many excellent works were brought forth which sang the praise of the worker-peasant revolution and the War of Resistance Against Japan. This tradition

was carried forward after the founding of the People's Republic in 1949 and a contingent of veteran literary and art workers became the backbone force of New China's literature and art.

After Liberation. New China's literature and art have all along developed under the guidance of Chairman Mao's thinking on literature and art and with Premier Chou's help and his careful attention. Many good or fairly good works appeared after liberation. Chairman Mao's revolutionary line was always dominant, in spite of interference and sabotage by Liu Shao-chi's revisionist line and although the struggle was very acute.

In 1951, Chairman Mao launched a criticism of *The Life of Wu Hsun*, a film trumpeting capitulation to the landlord class and the bourgeoisie. In summarizing the nation's work the same year, Chairman Mao pointed out: "Our work of rehabilitation and development in the spheres of economic construction, culture and education has also taken a big stride forward."

Then in 1954, in his *Letter Concerning the Study of "The Dream of the Red Chamber,"* Chairman Mao criticized bourgeois idealism. "We have dealt them [the bourgeoisie] severe blows and are continuing to deal them crushing ones," said Chairman Mao afterwards in affirming the nationwide criticism campaign.

Half a year later saw Chairman Mao launch the struggle against the Hu Feng clique. The struggle ended with the exposure of a counter-

Left: A scene from a comedy staged in Liaoning, which exposes how the "gang of four" heroize a political scoundrel who hands in an unanswered examination paper. **Middle:** Yao Hsueh-yin, author of *Li Tzu-cheng*, a historical novel about a 17th-century peasant uprising in China. **Right:** Chang Tien-min (second right), the young scenario-writer of *Pioneers*, a film depicting the opening of the Taching Oilfield, solicits opinions on his other work about the life of oil workers.



revolutionary faction lurking in the revolutionary camp. Hu Feng, masquerading as a writer, was the faction's ringleader. As a result of the struggle, Party leadership in the sphere of literature and art was strengthened.

The battle against the bourgeois Rightists in 1957 was fairly acute as far as the sphere of literature and art was concerned. Chairman Mao pointed out that this thoroughgoing ideological and political revolution on a nationwide scale blazed the trail for the further development of proletarian literature and art. He set forth the principle of "letting a hundred flowers blossom and a hundred schools of thought contend," and emphasized the creative method of combining revolutionary realism with revolutionary romanticism. All this has a great and far-reaching influence upon China's proletarian literary and art movement.

In the 60s. After 1958, the year of the Big Leap Forward, China was struck by three successive years of natural calamities. Accompanying the anti-China adverse wind blowing through the world, Liu Shao-chi's revisionist line grew even more virulent. The situation in the field of literature and art was just as serious. A number of anti-Party, anti-socialist poisonous weeds appeared and there was a tendency among some leading cadres of the literary and art departments to estrange themselves from the labouring people, act as high and mighty bureaucrats, and advocate arts of a feudal and capitalist nature.

In view of the situation, Chairman Mao issued two directives, in 1963 and 1964, in which he made this trenchant criticism: "Problems abound in all forms of art such as the drama, ballads, music, the fine arts, the dance, the cinema, poetry and literature, and the people involved are numerous; in many departments very little has been achieved so far in socialist transformation. The 'dead' still dominate in many departments. What has been achieved in the cinema, new poetry, folk songs, the fine arts and the novel should not be underestimated, but there, too, quite a few problems exist." After criticizing those leading members in the departments of literature and art who did not carry out the policies of the Party, acted as high and mighty bureaucrats, did not go to the workers, peasants and soldiers and had

not reflected the socialist revolution and socialist construction, he warned: "Unless they remould themselves in real earnest," "at some future date they are bound to become groups like the Hungarian Petofi Club."

Acting on these directives, Premier Chou encouraged literary and art workers to study again Chairman Mao's 1942 Yenan talks and do their best to put what Chairman Mao had said into practice. "Keep working, keep studying and keep transforming your world outlook until you breathe your last," the Premier exhorted them. He said that "revisionist poisonous weeds must be uprooted whenever they emerge." He also pointed out that in the next five years, all comrades should spend three-fifths or two-thirds of the time, or at least two and a half years, among the masses, living with them and remoulding their own world outlook.

The majority of literary and art workers earnestly went about overcoming their shortcomings. The struggle to criticize revisionism got under way and large numbers of literary and art workers went out among the workers, peasants and soldiers. There was a vigorous drive for staging revolutionary modern plays. The 1964 national modern Peking opera festival came about under the guidance of Chairman Mao's revolutionary line. How can all achievements in literature and art in the last few decades be denied and denigrated merely because Chairman Mao had pointed out the existing problems?

In the 70s. In 1971 Chairman Mao pointed out in the course of a conversation that under the dictatorship of the proletariat not most, only a very limited number of people, followed an erroneous line and that most intellectuals supported the socialist system and only a few followed a line which propagated and upheld the feudal, bourgeois and revisionist things. The "gang of four," however, exploiting their power over culture and the media, kept what Chairman Mao had said from the people, and continued to flay people with their fallacy of the "dictatorship of a sinister line."

The gang's bourgeois cultural despotism brought about increasingly disastrous consequences. In July 1975, Chairman Mao spoke of the situation in a conversation with Vice-Premier Teng Hsiao-ping who was then presiding over the work of the State Council: "Model

operas alone are not enough. What is worse, one comes under fire for the slightest fault. No longer are a hundred flowers blossoming. Others are not allowed to offer any opinion, that's no good." "People are afraid to write articles or produce plays. There is nothing in the way of novels and poetry." In a directive Chairman Mao also pointed out: "Apply to writers the principle of learning from past mistakes to avoid future ones and curing the sickness to save the patient. As long as they are not hidden counter-revolutionaries guilty of serious crimes, give them help." Time and again he emphasized: "There should be some readjustments in the Party's policy on literature and art." These instructions of Chairman Mao's pinpointed the essence of the gang's sabotaging revolutionary literature and art under the guise of "making revolution in literature and art." The gang again kept Chairman Mao's teachings from the people and did all they could to oppose these instructions.

* * *

From the above recapitulation it is clear that total negation of pre-Cultural Revolution proletarian literature and art does not tally with the reality of history. Nor does it accord with Chairman Mao's instructions of different times. History, long distorted by the "gang of four," is now being restored to what it actually was.

Stalin made this famous remark in the 1920s: "Not a single other opposition trend in our Party is able to camouflage its opportunism with 'Left' and r-r-r-revolutionary phrases so cunningly and skilfully as Trotskyism." (*The Seventh Enlarged Plenum of the E.C.C.I.: Once More on the Social-Democratic Deviation in Our Party*, 1926). The so-called "dictatorship of a sinister line in literature and art" concocted by Lin Biao and the "gang of four" is a typical example of something "Left" in disguise but Right in essence.

Ratification of New Panama Canal Treaty

New Victory for Panamanian People



The U.S. Senate has finally ratified the new Panama Canal Treaty. The struggle around the ratification shows that a just cause enjoys abundant support and that the struggle of the Panamanian and other Latin American peoples against hegemony is irresistible.

ON April 18 the U.S. Senate approved the new Panama Canal Treaty. The unequal U.S.-Panama Treaty the United States forced on Panama in 1903 has thus been abrogated. It is a major victory for the Panamanian people in their struggle to uphold national independence and state sovereignty as well as for the Latin American people in their struggle against hegemonism.

The new canal treaty and the treaty concerning the permanent neutrality and operation of the canal were signed by the Panamanian Head of Government Torrijos and the U.S. President Carter on September 7, 1977. Since then, a sharp

struggle over the treaty ratification has unfolded between Panama and the United States. The struggle centred on whether the United States should retain its colonial interests or whether Panama should exercise full state sovereignty.

Obstruction to Treaty Ratification

For its part Panama ratified the two treaties in a plebiscite on October 23 last year. In the U.S. Senate, however, where proceedings began on February 8 this year, the ratification was delayed by a marathon debate. A group of senators who opposed the treaty sought to in-

terfere with the debate's progress by constant appeals on "procedural matters." Then they produced more than 30 motions of "revision," "reservation" or "understanding" on the treaty concerning the canal's neutrality, and over 50 amendments to the new canal treaty itself. They did their utmost to prevent the ratification of the treaty in its original form. It was against this background of contention that the notorious "DeConcini amendment" was made to the treaty concerning the canal's neutrality, approved by the U.S. Senate on March 16. This amendment gives the United States the right to keep troops in the Canal Zone after the year 2000 and to use them to "defend" the canal without the consent of Panama. This showed up the hegemonist ambitions of certain forces in the United States who want Washington to continue its intervention in Panama's sovereignty and its colonial occupation of the canal. In a recent interview with the *Chicago Sun-Times*, General Omar Torrijos made a telling comment on the amendment. He said that it constituted a threat to Panama's state sovereignty and was a U.S. version of Brezhnev's theory of "limited sovereignty."

Both the Government and people of Panama were strongly opposed to the "DeConcini amendment" which hurts Panama's national dignity. General Torrijos addressed a letter to the heads of government of the member states of the United Nations in connection with the matter. The Panamanian Government, in various other ways, made it clear that it refused to accept any substantial revision of the signed treaties. At the same time, the public which had been closely following both the debate and the pattern of voting in the U.S. Senate came out with angry protests against the "DeConcini amendment" and demonstrated their determination to fight to the end to achieve full state sovereignty over Panamanian territory.

A Just Cause Enjoys Abundant Support

Panama's stand won the sympathy and support of the third world countries, particularly those in Latin America, and world public opinion also showed great concern. The Presidents of Mexico, Venezuela, Colombia and other Latin American countries expressed support in many ways for the Panamanian people's struggle for

their sovereignty over the canal. Governments of some second world countries including Britain, France, Japan, Canada and West Germany were also in favour of the treaties when they were being debated in the U.S. Senate.

The ratification of the treaty fully reflected the fact that the united struggle of Panama and other Latin American countries against hegemony is irresistible. Latin America belongs to the Latin Americans. The strategic Panama Canal and Canal Zone can only be administered by their owners, the Panamanian people. Any superpower which insists on imposing on the Latin American people anything that violates their sovereignty is bound to fail.

The Struggle Goes On

Of course, it will not be easy to fully implement the new Panama Canal Treaty. The new treaty provides that the Panamanian Government will gradually recover its complete sovereignty and jurisdiction over the Canal Zone before the end of 2000. In the next 22 years, the American opponents of the new canal treaty will not take their defeat lying down. Soviet social-imperialism, which is stepping up its penetration and expansion in Latin America, is covetously eyeing this strategic international waterway and trying to gain a foothold there by every possible means. Consequently, the Panamanian people are still faced with a long struggle.

While celebrating their victory, the Panamanian people are ready to take up new fighting tasks. "Tomorrow morning will see the beginning of a new phase of struggle," declared Panama's Head of Government Torrijos in a statement to the nation on the very day when the new canal treaty was ratified by the U.S. Senate. His statement represents the determination of the 1.8 million people of Panama. The Chinese people have all along sympathized with and supported their just struggle. We are confident that with the resolute support of the people of Latin America and the world, the Panamanian people will surely win final victory in their struggle to uphold national independence and recover completely their sovereignty over the canal and the Canal Zone.

CHINESE PRESS SURVEY

For the Welfare of the Masses

RENMIN RIBAO and other papers recently carried commentaries, reports and readers' letters calling for improved welfare measures.

More Shopping Centres

A rising industrial and railway workers' residential area on the outskirts of Hengyang, Hunan Province, has been praised for making shopping more convenient for the people. Residents once had to do their shopping three kilometres away until this problem was solved by the local state commercial departments and the neighbourhood Party committee. To the delight of the 30,000 local inhabitants, 35 shopping places and 20 or so service centres were set up. These include various stores, repair shops, nurseries, clinics, barbers, and libraries. People wrote in letters praising this shopping and service network. "All this makes things handy for thousands of households," they said, "and it's very heartwarming to see how our welfare is being looked after."

Hantan, a rising industrial city in north China, is another example. Formerly, *Renmin Ribao* reported, workers had to spend their only rest day each week buying daily necessities. To solve this problem, a city Party committee secretary and leading members of departments concerned investigated Hantan's main streets and factories and mines. They asked people their opinions and suggestions and then accordingly expanded the city's commercial and service network by adding 178 new shops and service centres.

An April 19 *Renmin Ribao* commentary urged all cities to pay attention to this problem. Urban commercial and service centres, it said, should be set up on the principle of facilitating production and making things convenient for people and in answer to the demands for building modern socialist cities and the socialization of housework. To this end,

effective measures and a pooling of efforts are necessary by commercial, city planning and capital construction departments as well as factories and mines.

Much yet remains to be done in many cities, the commentary pointed out. Employment in Peking has over the past dozen years gone up 45 per cent but the number of commercial and service centres has been cut back 53 per cent. The number of bicycles on the road has multiplied, but instead of opening up more repair shops a number of bike repair shops have been shut down.

The commentary called on commercial departments to reopen and set up shops and service amenities that are rationally distributed under a unified plan. Small retail shops and repair shops should be set up in the various lanes of residential places also. New residential areas being built must be complete with service utilities. "One should not be bureaucratic and indifferent on the problems concerning the masses' well-being," the commentary added.

Work Nearer Home

Once it was normal practice in Shanghai to help people find work closer to where they lived or find housing nearer to their work. After some years, this is again being done.

A batch of 500 such workers was recently transferred to work nearer their homes, reported Shanghai's *Wen Hui Bao*. Among them was a mother of three children who used to spend more than three hours every day on the road to get to her place of work at the No. 19 Cotton Mill in the east and come home. Her home was in the western part of Shanghai. She is now working in the No. 21 Cotton Mill which is much nearer her home. While helping find work nearer home for a comrade, the rule is to find the same work for the person concerned so as not to have to give up his or her skill and affect production. This particular woman worker today works diligently and has enrolled herself in the mill's spare-time school, as she now has the time.

The problem of workers having to work at jobs far away from their residence has also been tackled in other ways in Shanghai. Some fac-

tories bus workers to and from their homes. Consultations with the bus company have resulted in some nonstop routes for factory workers.

A Fine Tradition Restored

Paying close attention to the people's well-being is a tradition our Party built up over the arduous years of war. Chairman Mao had long called on the whole Party to help the masses solve problems concerning their livelihood. He said: "We should help the masses to realize that we represent their interests, that our lives are intimately bound up with theirs. We should help them to proceed from these things to an understanding of the higher tasks which we have put forward." (*Be Concerned With the Well-Being of the Masses, Pay Attention to Methods of Work*, 1934.)

The "gang of four," a batch of fraudulent Leftists, however, claimed that concern for the



Making shopping more convenient for the miners.

masses' well-being was a revisionist expression of putting undue stress on material benefit. This is one main reason why some problems which could have been solved given the conditions of economic development prevailing at the time and with a little effort had remained unsolved for many years.

Railways (I)

Labour Emulation Drive

by Our Correspondents Li Mu and Hsiang Jung

Beginning with this issue, we shall publish a series of three reports describing the labour emulation campaign now in full swing among railway workers, the nature of our railways which belong to the people and how railways are being built in China through self-reliance. — Ed.

TRAVELLING on the Peking-Shanghai Express a few months ago, we were attracted by the socialist labour emulation among the crew members.

Shortly after our train pulled out of the Peking Railway Station, an announcement came

through the train's public-address system that an emulation drive was on among the crew. The passengers were requested to supervise and check on the work done by the attendants, and see whether the passenger coaches are kept clean, the service including food and drinking water is good, the safety precautions are taken. The award to the winning group is a red banner which would change hands if another group should do better on the next trip.

Twenty hours later, as our train was nearing its destination, each coach was invited to send one or two representatives to a

meeting in the dining car to give their comments.

Passengers' Comments

When we got to the dining car, the passengers' representatives and leading members of the crew were already seated and were talking animatedly among themselves.

When the meeting began, the first to speak was a middle-aged P.L.A. man. As a frequent traveller along this line in the past few years, he said, he was keenly aware of the tremendous changes that had taken place in the railways after the smashing of the "gang of four." Now the train runs on time, the coaches are kept neat and tidy, and everything is in good order.

"I have the same feeling," another passenger chimed in. "In those days when the 'gang of four' held sway, some attendants even quarrelled with the passengers."

The armyman was full of praise for the attendants. The food provided during the journey had also improved. He was impressed, he continued, by the warmth shown by the attendants who took special care of the old people, children and the sick who needed help, finding seats for them, bringing food to the old and heating milk for the babies.

A state farm worker from north China recounted what he had seen during the journey. He made special mention of the coach's attendant Comrade Cheng who helped a blind man with a one-year-old child get on the coach under her charge and later gave porridge to the child and took good care of him. Many fellow-passengers also helped look after the father and son. Deeply moved, the blind man praised Cheng as a really good servant of the people! After getting off the train, the child kept saying "Auntie!"

A similar story was told by a representative from coach No. 3 about how the attendant Han Teh-chen took good care of an elderly woman travelling alone. After she got off the train at Hsuehcheng, she told her son who had come to meet her about the kindness shown her by the attendant. As the train started to move again, the son hurriedly thrust several packages of cigarettes and sweets into Han's hands to

express their thanks. But the attendant kindly declined the offer.

The conductor, Comrade Chiao, presided at the meeting. Again and again he asked all present to point out the shortcomings and make suggestions for improvement in the crew's work. Many good proposals were put forward, such as serving soup as well during the meals and putting the light bags on top of the heavy ones while the attendants helped putting the racks in order.

Following this, an appraisal of the work done in the various coaches was made. The representative of coach No. 3 described in detail the good deeds of Han Teh-chen whom we mentioned above and his warmth and thoughtfulness towards the passengers. After lively discussion, it was decided that the red banner should go this time to that coach. Of the 14 coaches of this train, five others were given commendations through the public-address system.

We went with the conductor who took the red banner to the winning coach where Han received it amidst applause. It was mid-winter, but beads of sweat were trickling down his forehead, obviously from tireless work. Out of comradely concern and heartfelt thanks, a woman passenger passed him her own towel.

The socialist labour emulation drive was going full steam ahead in railway departments.



Han Teh-chen at work.

At the stations and in the warehouses and locomotive and rolling stock factories along the line, we saw lists of advanced workers on huge boards together with their photos, red banners embroidered with golden characters and charts and tables showing the results of the campaign. The drive started after Chairman Hua issued the call at the national conference on railway work convened by the State Council in February last year.

Spreading Communist Ideas

What is the motive force behind the masses' enthusiasm in a socialist country? Not money, of course, because our attendants do not receive any "tips" for their services. Liu Shao-chi's pet idea of "using material incentives as a bait" was criticized long ago. During our interview with cadres in charge of the trains running on the Peking-Shanghai line, Comrade Lu, secretary of the general Party branch, had this to say:

What we stress is putting politics in command. In other words, it means cultivating among the crew members the communist approach towards labour without any thought of rewards. As the railway workers say in plain language: "We seek neither fame nor gain. We devote ourselves heart and soul to building socialism!" For them this is the motive force.

The socialist principle of distribution applied in China at the present stage of development is: To each according to his work; more pay for more work and less pay for less work. We are against equalitarianism. In labour emulation, moral encouragement is combined with material reward, with the stress on the former.

Some people, the Party secretary continued, regard emulation drive as a school for spreading communist ideas and a good method of bringing into full play the initiative and creativeness of the masses in building socialism. In all such campaigns, politics is always in command. The leadership's work is to help the crew solve the question of "For whom?" and organize them to study Chairman Mao's teachings in *Serve the People*, so that they will wholeheartedly serve the workers, peasants and soldiers.

Since the development of things is always uneven and there are always contradictions between the advanced and the backward, it is imperative to tackle the contradictions and find out the trouble and overcome it, so that the backward will catch up with the advanced. Labour emulation is precisely for this purpose, its aim being to "emulate, learn from, catch up with and surpass the advanced and help the less advanced." Through emulation, the workers and staff members learn from and help one another, make progress together and enable everyone to attain the advanced level which only a few people could reach previously.

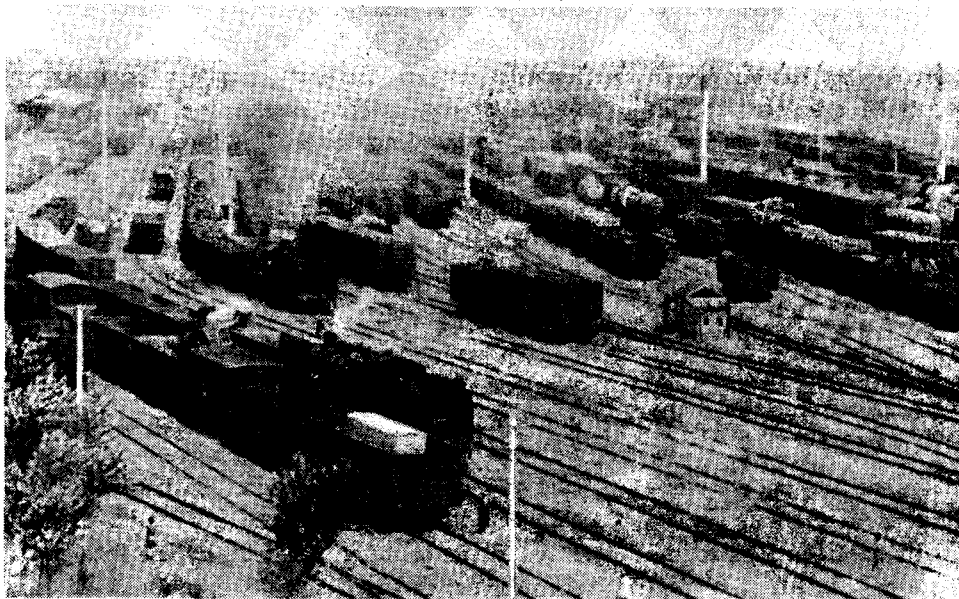
"Field of Labour"

Talking about labour emulation, many comrades quoted Lenin who said that competitions "actually draw the majority of working people into a field of labour in which they can display their abilities, develop the capacities, and reveal those talents." (*How to Organize Competition?*)

Labour emulation is really such a "field of labour." The Chengchow Railway Bureau in central China is a case in point. With four trunk lines crossing the area under its management, the bureau was one of the units that had suffered most from the interference and sabotage by the "gang of four." In 1976 alone, there were nine traffic jams, with trains stranded at the stations all along the lines. At that time the bureau was literally like a patient down with myocardial occlusion.

At the national conference on railway work held in 1977 after the downfall of the "gang of four," this railway bureau was the first to challenge the Peking Railway Bureau, an advanced unit of long standing, to a friendly emulation. It pledged to ensure the smooth running of trains and set the targets for loading, on-schedule running, safety running and maintenance work. Through this emulation, the Chengchow Railway Bureau took on an entirely new look and overfulfilled its 1977 transport plan.

At a big marshalling yard in Chengchow, a worker in charge of the turnround of goods wagons told us that with the existing equip-



**Marshalling yard,
Chengchow Rail-
way Station.**

ment and techniques, a shift working 12 hours on end could at best handle 4,000 incoming and outgoing wagons. But as a result of improved organization and management and new measures to raise efficiency, they have overfulfilled their quotas, for which they were awarded a red banner.

We visited a freight depot in Shanghai where we watched a group of 60 girls, all around 20, giving a demonstration in operating fork-lifts. Shuttling back and forth in the yard, they adroitly lifted big bundles of freight and stacked them in neat piles in the wagons. Group leader Yen told us that labour emulation had spurred them on to train hard and improve their skills so that they would make greater contributions to socialist construction.

In telling us how the depot had overfulfilled its quotas as a result of launching emulation drives, Comrade Yu, a responsible member there, said: "Labour emulation requires that we fulfil our tasks both quantitatively and qualitatively as well as in terms of profits to be handed over to the state. Attention, however, should also be paid to fostering the communist style of giving more thoughts to others than oneself. For example, priority is always given to transporting 'key materials.' When the weather gets cold, we must make good arrangements for the transport of coal for

heating to Peking in time. Though 'key materials' bring in the least profits because of low transport fees, they enjoy priority in transport. We must not think only of our own interests and transport goods with higher transport fees for the purpose of making more profits."

Necessary Regulations

"Labour emulation is possible only under the socialist system." This was said by 47-year-old Comrade Han, the red banner winner on the Peking-Shanghai Express we mentioned above. He gained this understanding through his own experience.

"Before liberation," he said, "the labouring people were enslaved and exploited. How could they work with enthusiasm?"

By way of illustration he told us about his own experience before and after liberation. At the age of eight, he tended sheep for a landlord in north China. Every day when he returned with the flock after grazing, the boss waited for him at the gate and felt the belly of the sheep to see if they had their fill. If the landlord should feel dissatisfied, he would be denied his supper. He said he had never received any pay for the work he had done for the landlord in ten years.

After his native village was liberated, he was recruited as a railway worker loading and unloading goods. He devoted all his energy to his work, for he realized that there was a fundamental difference in the nature of labour and that he was no longer a "slave" of labour. He and the other workers, as masters of the country, were doing their bit in building socialism. Later he became an attendant on a passenger train. Over the last two decades and more, he has always fulfilled the tasks assigned him. He is now a Communist Party member and has attended meetings of advanced workers on many occasions.

"Only under socialism can the people work to the best of their ability, launch labour emulation drives and make their contributions to the building of socialism," he concluded.

For Your Reference

Centenary of Chinese Railways

CHAIRMAN Mao likened the railways to an "advanced party" which must precede the development of the national economy. This shows how important railways are.

Trains have the advantage of transporting goods at high speed and low cost. Long-distance hauls of big loads are essential to a country like ours with a vast territory of 9.6 million square kilometres. Of the modern means of transport, such as trains, trucks, ships, aeroplanes and pipes, it is the trains that carry a very great part of freight. More than 80 per cent of our railway freight are materials for use in farm production, consumer goods for the domestic market and raw and semi-finished materials for industrial use, especially coal, iron, steel and other materials for the metallurgical industry.

The 73 Pre-Liberation Years

The 14-kilometre-long narrow-gauge railway from Shanghai to Wusung was the first railway line in China. It was built in 1876 by

Jardine & Matheson and 26 other British and American firms with the backing of their diplomatic envoys. Strong opposition on the part of the Chinese people against the fraud involved in the building of this line forced the British imperialists to let the Ching government redeem the railway with silver. Then the rails were pulled apart and the carriages thrown into the Whangpoo River. Therefore, the line did not last long.

Following the Opium War in 1840 when the Western imperialists invaded China with the gunboats, they vied with each other in building railways in China as an important means of carrying on their aggression. Statistics in 1937 showed that 46.6 per cent of the length of railways in the country were run by the foreigners themselves, 44.1 per cent were under their control and only 9.3 per cent were managed by ourselves. As *China's Railways*, a book published at that time, put it, "looking around the vast land of China, one finds that nearly all the railways have something to do with foreign capital."

In the 73 pre-liberation years between 1876 and 1949, only a little over 21,000 kilometres of railways (main lines) were built in old China, averaging 300 kilometres a year. At the time of liberation in 1949, only 11,000 kilometres were open to traffic.

To facilitate their plunder of China's resources, the imperialists built the railways mainly in the coastal areas and northeast China. This resulted in an extremely irrational distribution of railways. Moreover, the imperialist countries set their own standards and specifications with regard to construction and management, including the gauge and dispatching system, so as to preserve their patent rights. All this accounted for the confusion in railway management and backwardness in techniques and equipment.

The 28 Post-Liberation Years

After the founding of New China, the People's Government controlled the railways. In the several five-year plans for the development of the national economy, railway construction

always topped the list of state investments in various fields of endeavour.

Over the past 28 years, big advances have been made and a nationwide network of tens of trunk lines with Peking as the hub has been completed. As compared with the early post-liberation years, the mileage open to traffic has more than doubled, the length of rail lines more than trebled, and the number of passengers and volume of cargoes have increased more than five- and nine-fold respectively. The railways have thus made due contributions to the development of the national economy.

The distribution of railways has also undergone great changes as a result of the completion of many new lines linking the hinterland and frontier regions, which were once inaccessible, with the coastal areas. On the arid highland in northwest China, there was only 0.2 metre of railway per square kilometre before liberation. Today, however, there is a railway network made up of the Tienshui-Lanchow, Paotow-Lanchow, Lanchow-Sining and Lanchow-Urumchi Railways linking up different parts and with Lanchow as the centre. In places frequently hit by windstorms and drifting sands, scientists and railway workers have successfully put up windbreaks in the sandy areas to ensure the smooth running of the trains.

In southwest China which bourgeois scholars described as a "forbidden zone" for railway construction because of its complicated geological features marked by high mountains and deep valleys, we have built several railway lines including those from Chungking to Kweiyang, Kweiyang to Kunming and Chengtu to Kunming, forming a network of railways. In addition, there are the Chengtu-Chungking, Paochi-Chengtu, Kweiyang-Liuchow and Chuchow-Kweiyang lines which link the southwest with other parts of the country.

To raise transport efficiency, we have double tracked the major trunk lines from Peking to Kwangchow, Shanghai and Shenyang and built special lines leading to factories, mines,

harbours and forest areas. In addition, 11 provinces and autonomous regions have built mini-railways to meet their own needs.

We have completed the Chengtu-Kunming Railway which passes through one of the few areas in the world regarded as well-nigh impossible for building any railway. In addition, we have built a bridge spanning the Yangtze at Nanking where the river runs deep and rock formations are complex, and we have completed two electrified railway lines and trained a backbone force of more than 70,000 technicians.

China could not make locomotives and rolling stock before liberation, and even the spare parts and accessories had to be imported. Today it can batch-produce passenger coaches, goods wagons and steam engines and build diesel and electric locomotives, king-size special-purpose vehicles, extra-large bridges and communications and signal equipment.

Unfortunately, owing to the interference and sabotage by the counter-revolutionary revisionist line in the various post-liberation periods and shortcomings in our work, our railways have failed to develop at a still faster pace. At present, we have only a few railway networks and there is still a strain on both passenger and freight transport. Much remains to be improved in railway science and technology so as to catch up with the advanced world levels.

The smashing of the "gang of four" has ushered in a new period of development in our socialist revolution and construction. In order to develop the national economy at high speed and bring about the four modernizations as planned, we must build a national railway network employing advanced techniques and equipment, make more electric and diesel locomotives, double track existing lines or build new double lines, and raise the level of automation in railway communications and signals, so that our railway transport will catch up with and surpass the standard of industrially developed countries both in quality and efficiency.

World Grain Production and The Related Struggle



STRIKING imbalance exists between grain output and consumption in various countries of the world today.

For their own benefit, the Soviet Union and the United States are making trouble in one way or another on the question of grain supply, aggravating the situation on the world market. Along with the growth of world population and grain consumption, the problem has become the focus of widespread attention.

Grain Output in Recent Years

Since the 70s, the world's grain output has been increasing, with a yearly rise of 35 million tons in 1970-77. The 1976 output was a record high, totalling 1,477 million tons.

The United States, one of the world's main grain producers, has turned out in recent years 200-250 million tons of grain annually thanks to its favourable natural conditions and advanced technology and equipment. But the monopoly capitalists' desire to maintain their huge profits has hindered full exploitation of the potentialities of U.S. agricultural production. Grain production in the Soviet Union, the other superpower, is erratic. It produced 222.5 million tons in 1973 but only 140 million tons in 1975.

With the exception of Canada, France and Australia which have a surplus for export, quite a number of second world countries are short of grain and have to rely on imports. In Eastern Europe, Hungary has made faster progress in agriculture, with per capita grain output surpassing one ton. Poland, the German Democratic Republic and Czechoslovakia are not self-sufficient in grain.

Among the third world countries, Argentina is the only grain exporter. Over 40 of the remaining 120 countries have become self-sufficient in grain or can supply more than 90 per cent of their needs. As a result of protracted colonial oppression, the developing countries generally have a weak agricultural base and a relatively low level of grain production. Therefore they have had to import large quantities of grain in recent years.

Uneven Production

The United States and the Soviet Union together account for nearly one-eighth of the world population and possess more than one-fourth of the cultivated land in the world. In 1977, their combined grain output totalled more than 455 million tons, or approximately one-third of the world's total. The second world makes up less than 15 per cent of the world population, with 15 to 20 per cent of the world's cultivated area. In recent years, its annual per capita grain output has been about half a ton. The average in the third world which has 73 per cent of the world population is only a quarter of a ton.

Historically, the uneven grain production in the world stems from the protracted exploitation and plunder of the developing countries by the imperialists and colonialists and their introduction of monoculture in these countries. On the one hand, hundreds of millions of people on this planet are suffering from malnutrition and on the other, there exist large quantities of "surplus" grain.

As the No. 1 grain exporter of the world, the United States is dumping its surplus in many

parts of the world. As reported by the U.S. journal *Business Week*, nearly 60 per cent of U.S. wheat and rice, one-fourth of sorghum and over one-fifth of corn are available for export, constituting about half of the world's total grain export. There are innumerable cases in which the United States has made use of grain exports as a political weapon to bring pressure to bear on other countries. A case in point is when it used grain in 1974 to coerce the Arab oil exporting countries into ending an oil embargo on it.

Despite good grain harvests and rising stocks in the past two years, the export prices for wheat last November increased over 60 per cent to 117 U.S. dollars per ton from the 70 dollars in 1972.

The rise in grain prices is largely due to the massive Soviet purchases since 1972. Soviet statistics show that Moscow imported a total of over 83 million tons of grain during the five years from 1972 to 1976. Every shortfall in Soviet agriculture brings upheaval to the world grain market. It has been noted that part of the imports were used as strategic reserves or for re-export.

Although West European countries and Japan have to pay more for their grain imports, they are earning more from higher prices for their exports of industrial products. Therefore, grain importing developing countries are the victims. A large number of third world countries suffer difficulties because of the grain price rises. They run out of grain yet they have no means to buy. This is a phenomenon of the inequitable international economic order in the world today.

Third World Countries Increase Grain Production

In 1960, net grain imports of the third world countries stood at 11.45 million tons. Since the early 70s, the annual imports have gone up to about 30 million tons and even to over 40 million tons.

The grain-deficient countries of the third world have had bitter experiences in relying on grain imports. With this lesson in mind, many of them are concentrating their efforts on raising

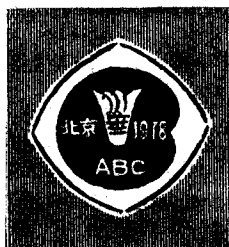
agricultural production so as to change the present situation, safeguard their political and economic independence and wage an effective struggle against the grain blackmail of the superpowers.

It is noteworthy that the third world countries have achieved initial successes in increasing their food supply. In 1975, they registered a 4 per cent average rise in grain production as against the world average of 2 per cent. They have raised their degree of self-sufficiency in grain and have reduced their imports correspondingly. Statistics show that in 1975, their net grain imports were 35 million tons, 6 million tons less than in the previous year. And in 1976, the figure went down to 32 million tons, 3 million tons less than in 1975. A few developing countries such as Nepal, Kenya and Zambia not only have become self-sufficient in grain but can export a small amount.

Over the past few years, a number of international conferences were held to deal with the question of grain production and supply. At these conferences, representatives of the third world countries made strong appeals for discussing and solving the present grain problem. The Sixth Special Session of the U.N. General Assembly in 1974 adopted the Declaration on the Establishment of a New International Economic Order and Programme of Action. Measures were taken to solve the problem such as raising grain production and reserves in the third world, and special assistance to grain-deficient countries.

During recent years the struggle over the question of grain has gone on unceasingly and become a component part of the present international political and economic struggle. The third world countries with the historical mission of opposing imperialism, colonialism and hegemonism have favourable conditions for increasing their grain production. Their people are industrious; they have vast lands, rich resources and great potentialities for production. So long as they can rid themselves of outside control and exploitation, grasp their own economic lifelines, rely on their own strength, make full use of their resources and take effective measures, there is great hope that they will solve the grain problem in the near future.

Sports



Third Asian Badminton Invitation Championships

HELD at the Capital Gymnasium in Peking, the Third Asian Badminton Invitation Championships, which opened on April 15, ended on April 21 after six days of competitions. Ninety-four players from 12 Asian countries and regions took part, playing a total of 202 matches in eight individual events. Cups and medals were awarded to the winners, runners-up and third placings, and each team received a friendship cup. (For results see box on opposite page.)

There were more competitors at the third championships, held shortly after the founding of the World Badminton Federation, than at the two previous championships. Taking part were the teams from Bangladesh, Burma, Hongkong, India, Malaysia, Nepal, Pakistan, the Philippines, Singapore, Sri Lanka, Thailand and China. Present at the championships were leading members of the World Badminton Federation, the Asian Badminton Confederation and the African Badminton Federation as well

as well-known personages in the badminton circles. Delegations and observers from the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Democratic Kampuchea, Laos, Japan and Indonesia were also present at this big gathering.

Badminton is a favourite sport among the Asian people and the championships in Peking provided an excellent opportunity for players to learn from each other's style of play and raise their own skill, thereby helping the development of badminton in Asia as a whole.

A large number of players competed for the men's singles title. Many hard-fought matches were played, with many veterans displaying a high level of skill. Malaysia's Saw Swee Leong who is good at both attack and defence lived up to his reputation as he trounced one opponent after another and made his way to the semi-finals by defeating China's Lin Shih-

Competition under way at Capital Gymnasium.



Learning from each other.



chuan. India's singles champion Padukone Prakash was in good form, and although he lost 1:2 to China's Yu Yao-tung in the quarter-finals, the match was the most exciting and keenly contested at the third championships.

Women players had raised their standard considerably. India's Ami Ghia and Pakistan's Ismat Saeed demonstrated great mastery of the game. Thongkam Kingmanee and Patama Sirisriro of Thailand are ranking women players in Southeast Asian tournaments. Thongkam Kingmanee played a steady game and placed her shots well. Patama Sirisriro, who is 21, played a forceful game and displayed great attacking power. The two teamed up to capture the title in the women's doubles.

Competition for junior players was introduced at the Third Asian Badminton Invitation Championships, with 26 boys and girls from nine countries and regions participating in the various events. This is an indication that attention is being paid to training youngsters who are the hopes of the game in the days to come.

Badminton techniques have changed drastically, and this was much in evidence at the recent championships. The old passive style of play of slow lobbing and placing of drop-shots has given way to speedy attack. Many of Asia's fine players, such as Pakistan's Tariq Wadood, Thailand's Surapong Suharitdamrong, Nepal's Kishor Bahadur Singh and Singapore's Wong Shoon Keat, have adopted the style of leaping high to smash from the back court. Quite a number of women players impressed the spectators with their power in attack.

The Chinese players gave a good account of themselves. This was because, from the point of view of technique, they had a slight edge in speed. Their physical fitness and fast footwork enabled them to move quickly into the attack and force the pace of play. However, they still have much to learn from the players of other Asian countries, such as steadiness in the matches and the variety of strokes.

Competition Results

Men's singles: 1. Yu Yao-tung (China), 2. Chen Tien-lung (China), 3. Luan Ching (China).

Men's doubles: 1. Tang Hsien-hu/Lin Shih-chuan (China), 2. Padukone Prakash/Syed Modi (India), 3. Tariq Wadood/Javed Iqbal (Pakistan).

Women's singles: 1. Liu Hsia (China), 2. Chang Ai-ling (China), 3. Hsu Jung (China).

Women's doubles: 1. Thongkam Kingmanee/Patama Sirisriro (Thailand), 2. Hsu Jung/Yu Chiang-hung (China), 3. Peh Ah Bee (Singapore)/Chang Ai-ling (China).

Boys' singles: 1. Ho Shang-chuan (China), 2. Chang Keng (China), 3. Syed Modi (India).

Boys' doubles: 1. Maung Maung/Win Mar (Burma), 2. Chung Ning/Chan Chi Choi (Hongkong), 3. Robert Lim/Foo Khian Jin (Singapore).

Girls' singles: 1. Amy Chan (Hongkong), 2. Chiang Li-ying (China), 3. Liu Feng (China).

Girls' doubles: 1. Tay Hoe See/Judy Lee (Singapore), 2. Chiang Li-ying/Liu Feng (China), 3. Amy Chan/Li Kam Wah (Hongkong).

* * *

The championships are over and wins or defeats are things of the past, but memories of the days together and the friendship renewed or newly forged will last. As the players shook hands and bade farewell, they all looked forward to seeing each other again in Bangkok. For in October this year, the World Badminton Federation will hold the First World Badminton Championships in the capital of Thailand.

The World Badminton Federation

QUESTION: *When and where was the World Badminton Federation founded?*

ANSWER: It was founded in Hongkong on February 25, 1978.

Q: *How many countries and regions are its members?*

A: At present there are 19: Bangladesh, Brunei, China, Ghana, Hongkong, Iran, Kenya, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Mauritius, Nepal, Nigeria, Pakistan, the Philippines, Singapore, Sri Lanka, Tanzania, Thailand, Zambia and south Korea.

Representatives of the badminton associations of Yugoslavia, Sweden, West Germany, France, Austria, and Mexico, which represented the Pan-American Badminton Confederation, attended the inaugurating meeting of the World Badminton Federation as observers. After the meeting, the delegates of the five European badminton associations held an unofficial meeting at which they agreed that should the International Badminton Federation continue to function as it does now, they would consider joining the World Badminton Federation. As the aims of the World Badminton Federation embody the aspirations of the badminton circles, a number of Asian and African badminton associations, such as those of Kampuchea, Laos, Botswana and Mozambique, have applied for membership.

Q: *How is the World Badminton Federation organized?*

A: Its organization is as follows: *President*, Dawee Chullasapya (Thailand); *First Vice-President*, Chu Tse (China); *Vice-Presidents*, Willibard Kente (Tanzania) representing the African Badminton Federation, and Chumpol Lohachala (Thailand) representing the Asian Badminton Confederation (the posts of vice-presidents for the European and American continents are vacant for the time being); *Honorary Secretary-General*, Teh Gin Sool (Malaysia); *Committee Members** are G.H.M. Shahidi (Iran), Shadrad Rao (Kenya), Lee Kin Tat (Singapore), Joe Kumi (Ghana), and Sarfraz Ahmad (Pakistan); *Honorary President*, Henry Fok Ying Tung (Hongkong); *Honorary Vice-President*, R. Balasubramanian (Sri Lanka).

Q: *What are the aims of the World Badminton Federation?*

A: As stipulated in its statute, the aims are the management of world badminton, the raising of standard, the popularization and development of this sport and the enhancement of friendship among the countries and regions and among players of various countries and regions on the basis of equality and democracy regardless of their size.

Q: *Why was the World Badminton Federation set up?*

A: It was set up in opposition to the International Badminton Federation which, manipulated for years by a few people, stubbornly clings to its unreasonable rules and regulations and, thus, denies its members equal rights. Some have only one vote while some others have as many as ten votes. Many member associations have time and again proposed that each country is entitled to only one vote, but these reasonable demands have all been turned down. Furthermore, the International Badminton Federation has all along refused to expel the Chiang gang and the South African racists. The despotism of the International Badminton Federation has seriously hindered the sound development of badminton and aroused the dissatisfaction of many member states. Hence the demand for setting up the new World Badminton Federation. When the World Badminton Federation's Preparatory Committee was formed in London last September, the African Badminton Federation, in view of the International Badminton Federation's unwarranted haughtiness, announced its withdrawal from the International Badminton Federation and its decision to join the World Badminton Federation which was to be established. The Standing Committee of the Asian Badminton Confederation also has decided to withdraw from the International Badminton Federation and join the World Badminton Federation.

The Asian Badminton Confederation held an extraordinary congress in Hongkong in February this year at which the above decision by the Standing Committee was approved.

* According to the World Badminton Federation's Statute, there are 12 committee members. Since it has just been founded and a number of countries are considering joining, seven vacancies are left to be filled in later so as to ensure a broader representation on the committee.

Edgar Snow and His "Red Star Over China"

by Chiang Shan



The first half of this article (see our last issue) describes Snow's tour of the northern Shensi revolutionary base area in the 1930s after breaking through the Kuomintang reactionaries' blockade. There, he saw a completely new world: the dawning of a people's new China as the filth of old China was being washed away by the current of the revolution. After the tour he wrote the famous book "Red Star Over China." The second half which we publish below is about his visits to post-liberation China and his fresh contributions to the cause of friendship between the Chinese and American peoples. — Ed.

ON October 1, 1949, Chairman Mao stood on the rostrum of the Tien An Men Gate and proclaimed the founding of New China. The old China, dark, backward and subjected to bullying, which Snow detested, was gone, never to return. From the bottom of his heart, he hailed this great victory of the Chinese people's revolutionary struggle and fervently hoped to visit China after liberation.

But owing to his sympathy for the Chinese revolution and his friendly sentiments for the Chinese people, Snow was persecuted by the McCarthyites in the 1950s, and few newspapers or magazines dared to publish his articles. He was compelled to move to Switzerland and settle there with his family.

Visits to Post-Liberation China

In June 1960, after overcoming many difficulties, Snow revisited China after a long separation of 19 years. In 1964 and 1970 he paid

another two visits to China. During each of these three visits, Chairman Mao and Premier Chou met him cordially, or invited him as a guest to their homes, and informed him of China's socialist revolution and construction. Snow was moved.

During these visits, Snow went to villages, factories and sacred revolutionary places, showing great interest in everything he saw. He wanted to see for himself, through comparison and investigation, the great changes which had taken place in China under the leadership of Chairman Mao and the Communist Party. In August 1970, Snow went to Chihtan (formerly Pao An) County in northern Shensi. In 1936, not long after the Red Army had arrived, Snow had come upon a barren scene. But now the county, presenting a picture of prosperity, had changed so much that he could hardly recognize it. He said to the Chinese comrades in his company: "I never imagined that so great a change had occurred in this out-of-the-way place in northwest China!"

On October 4, 1975, a gift-presenting ceremony of immense significance was held in Peking's Great Hall of the People. Mrs. Snow personally handed to Madame Teng Ying-chao a Red Army cap which Chairman Mao had once worn. This grey cap with a bright red star on it had been presented to Edgar Snow by the Red Army during his trip to northern Shensi in 1936. One day, when Snow wanted to take a photo of Chairman Mao at the door of his cave-dwelling, he gave the bareheaded Chairman the cap to put on, and snapped the highly valued picture of "Chairman Mao in



Snow in his study, Switzerland.

Northern Shensi" so many people have seen. Wearing this cap, Snow journeyed from place to place afterwards, crossing one cordon line after another set up by the Kuomintang and the Japanese imperialists. After he settled down, he protected the cap in a fine box made of valuable mahogany and lined with purple velvet. The cap was kept in shape by a steel brace. Thus it can be seen how profound and sincere Snow's feelings were for Chairman Mao and the Chinese people. During his later visits to China, Snow presented the Museum of the Chinese Revolution with the precious historical relics he had kept since he visited the northern Shensi revolutionary base area in 1936 and 1939 — photos (and negatives) taken of Chairman Mao, Premier Chou, Chairman Chu Teh of the Standing Committee of the National People's Congress and other state leaders and a documentary film about the life and struggle of the army men and people in the area.

Dedication to Sino-American Friendship

For reasons known to all, Sino-American relations have been in an abnormal state. Friendly contacts between the Chinese and American peoples were interrupted for over 20 years. But Snow was firmly convinced that the dark clouds over the Pacific Ocean linking China and the United States would eventually

be dispelled and that the springtime of friendly visits between the two peoples would certainly come.

In order to promote their mutual understanding, Snow enthusiastically told the American people how the Chinese people under the leadership of Chairman Mao and the Communist Party had waged their revolutionary struggles and scored their achievements in construction. He did this in his books, lectures, speeches, letters and interviews. Each time he came to report on happenings in China, he often disregarded meal times, went without sleep and sometimes even kept on working despite illness. Shortly before his trip to China in 1970, he had undergone an operation, and fell ill again on arriving in Hongkong. Nevertheless he insisted on continuing his journey to Peking. The Chinese comrades in his company time and again tried to persuade him to go to hospital for a checkup and treatment, but he declined with thanks, saying: "I've come to China to work, not for medical treatment or recuperation."

Snow worked conscientiously. Maintaining a serious attitude, he reported on China as it was. Each time he came to China, he brought with him the original of his *Red Star Over China* so that when the book was to be republished, he could revise it in the light of the latest materials he had obtained. In 1970, he started to write *The Long Revolution*, an all-round account of the course of the Chinese revolution. Before the book was finished, he suddenly fell ill with cancer, which forced him to stop. In view of this, Mrs. Snow repeatedly proposed to publish the book ahead of schedule, but he did not agree. It was not until the eve of his death that he agreed to prepare the manuscript for publication, because he knew he would no longer be able to write. When the book made its appearance in the United States, the author had already passed away.

Snow's China visit of 1970 could be regarded as another unforgettable "tour of northern Shensi," during which Chairman Mao had a long, extremely important talk with him at his home in Chungnanhai. Returning from China, Snow wrote seven articles in which he truthfully reported to the world on the content of his talks with Chairman Mao and Premier Chou, on China's Cultural Revolution, and

other topics, including the important revelation of a possible big advance in Sino-American relations. In all, he played a very good role in furthering friendship between the two peoples.

Even when he was seriously ill, he still bore in mind the cause of friendship between the Chinese and American peoples. Whenever he came to, the first thing he wanted to do was to read newspapers, especially news and articles about Sino-American relations. Later, when he was unable to read newspapers, he asked his son to read aloud while he listened. Once, he grasped the hand of Dr. George Hatem, who had come to Switzerland to treat him, and asked earnestly: "What are your plans for me? How soon can I get back to work?" At another time, when Dr. George Hatem chatted with him, wishing him complete recovery of his physical strength by spring so that he could finish his *The Long Revolution*, he grasped the doctor's hand firmly, his eyes blinking with excitement, and said hopefully: "How idyllic!"

In the Hearts of the Chinese People

In the winter of 1971, Snow, stricken with cancer, underwent an operation. Chairman Mao and Premier Chou showed great concern for his condition. Huang Hua, then Chinese Representative to the United Nations and Chen Chih-fang, then Chinese Ambassador to Switzerland, went to see him in his home many times.

Snow's condition grew critical. The Chinese Government sent a medical team to Switzerland to help with the medical treatment and nursing. The team was made up of Dr. George Hatem, doctors and nurses of Jitan Hospital under the Chinese Academy of Medical Science, and an interpreter. They turned his bedroom into a medical ward where they treated him and looked after him carefully day and night. Members of the Chinese medical team in Algeria went to Switzerland twice to lend a helping hand.

Snow had not realized his long-cherished wish to visit Chairman Mao's native place Shaoshan. More than once, when he was in a coma, he called in a faint voice: "Shaoshan," "Shaoshan."

On the morning of February 15, 1972, Edgar Snow, faithful friend of the Chinese people, breathed his last in his home at the age of 67.

Chairman Mao, the great leader of the Chinese people, deeply grieved over Snow's passing. In his message of condolence to Mrs. Snow, Chairman Mao said: "Mr. Snow was a friend of the Chinese people. He exerted unremitting efforts throughout his life and made important contributions in promoting the mutual understanding and friendship between the Chinese and American peoples. His memory will live for ever in the hearts of the Chinese people." Premier Chou En-lai and Vice-Chairman Soong Ching Ling of the Standing Committee of the National People's Congress also sent separate messages of condolence to Mrs. Snow.

Snow wrote his deathbed will in a brief note: "I love China. I should like part of me to stay there after death as it always did during life. America fostered and nourished me. I should like part of me placed by the Hudson River." In October 1973, in accordance with his will, half of his ashes was buried by the scenic Weiming Lake at Peking University — the lake was part of former Yenching University where he had lectured during his life. The tombstone is inscribed with the Chinese and English words: "In Memory of Edgar Snow, an American Friend of the Chinese People." Premier Chou attended the interment ceremony. Since then, thousands upon thousands of Chinese and foreign friends have come to the site to pay tribute to the late American correspondent.

The American people are a great people. The farsighted Mr. Edgar Snow is one of the millions of American people who uphold justice. In the dark old China of the long past or in today's socialist China under the bright sunshine, he was always straightforward, frank and sincere in his attitude towards the Chinese people and the cause of friendship between the Chinese and American peoples. His friendly contacts with the Chinese people over the past decades constituted a moving and praiseworthy chapter in the annals of friendship between the two peoples.

Edgar Snow will live for ever in the hearts of the Chinese people.

ROUND THE WORLD

DEMOCRATIC KAMPUCHEA

Third Anniversary

The third anniversary of the founding of Democratic Kampuchea fell on April 17. Prior to the National Day, representatives of workers, peasants and revolutionary armymen of the country held a meeting in Phnom Penh. In his speech at the meeting, Khieu Samphan, President of the Presidium of the State of Democratic Kampuchea, dealt with the new successes achieved by the Kampuchean people in building and defending their country.

He said that they had completely met their agricultural targets and fundamentally solved the problem of water conservancy. Reservoirs, each with a capacity of 100-200 million cubic metres, and smaller ones had been built in every region of the country. The rapid fulfilment of the grain production plan [the average per-hectare rice output being 3 tons for a single crop and 6 tons for a double crop] had enabled Kampuchea to export more grain than last year. In addition, progress had been made in industry, handicrafts, transportation, public health and social welfare. "In all fields of national construction," the President said, "our emphasis is on reliance on the strength of the people, and on the strategic line of using domestic materials and capital."

He declared: "We have waged a determined and fierce struggle in defending Democratic

Kampuchea and won complete victory. We have fully defended all our territory in a truly independent way. We are able to defend it today, and more so in the future."

President Khieu Samphan added that in line with Democratic Kampuchea's policy of independence, peace, neutrality and non-alignment, "our people will work steadily for strengthening and developing our unity and friendship with friends far and near, and for perfecting this unity and friendship."

Prior to the National Day, Samdech Norodom Sihanouk and Samdech Penn Nouth each wrote to the Central Committee of the Communist Party of Kampuchea and to the President of the Presidium of the State of Democratic Kampuchea hailing the third anniversary of the founding of Democratic Kampuchea.

ZIMBABWE

Dar-es-Salaam Talks

The two-day conference on Rhodesia between the British and U.S. Governments and the Zimbabwe Patriotic Front ended in Dar-es-Salaam on April 15. Representatives of the five front-line countries — Angola, Botswana, Mozambique, Tanzania and Zambia — and of Nigeria were present as observers.

A joint statement issued by the two sides said that the purpose of the conference was to discuss matters arising from the

Anglo-American proposals on Rhodesia. Progress was made at the conference and basic agreement reached in some important respects. The British-U.S. side, however, deemed it necessary to continue the negotiations over some of the Patriotic Front's proposals.

As the Zimbabwean people's struggle against the racist Smith regime is developing day by day and the threat of Soviet meddling in Rhodesia is growing, the British and U.S. Governments in September last year put forward their proposals for granting independence to Zimbabwe, for the step-down of Smith and the holding of "election," for sending a British-appointed resident commissioner with wide powers prior to independence and dispatching a U.N. force to Rhodesia. Last February, representatives of the Zimbabwe Patriotic Front and those of Britain and the United States held talks in Malta. The Patriotic Front put forward a number of disagreements with the Anglo-American proposals and so no agreement was reached at the talks.

Meanwhile, the Smith regime concocted a so-called "internal settlement" of the issue. It ignored the Patriotic Front and reached an "agreement" with some nationalist leaders and on March 21 proclaimed the formation of a "transitional government." Since then, the British and U.S. Governments have confused their attitude towards Smith's "internal settlement" with their own proposals. On March 6, Presidents of the front-line countries of Tanzania, Botswana, Mozambique, Zambia and leaders of the Zimbabwe

Patriotic Front at a meeting in Dar-es-Salaam reaffirmed their stand for solving the Zimbabwe problem through armed struggle while declaring that this did not exclude real efforts to solve the problem through negotiations. The conference called on Britain and the United States to make clear their stand about their proposals. If they still held to their proposals then a new conference should be convened to discuss the problems left unresolved at the Malta meeting.

ISRAEL

Worsening Economy

The March seamen's strike in Israel was followed by a wave of strikes in April when teachers, airline and radio station employees stopped work to demand a wage increase. These are another indication of Israel's worsening economy.

Israel's budget has been in the red every year since 1948. And after being badly trounced in the Middle East October War of 1973, Israel was plunged into an extremely serious economic crisis because of its 7,000 million U.S. dollar loss, a sharp increase in military expenditure and mounting debts. Aggression and expansion put Israel ahead of the world in four aspects. (1) The Israeli pound since June 1975 has devalued on more than 20 occasions, almost once every month, and sometimes even twice a month. It is the most frequently devalued currency in the world. (2) Israel extorts exorbitant taxes and miscellaneous levies, with income tax alone taking up 46 per cent of the Israeli people's earnings, the heaviest tax levied in the

world. (3) Israel's foreign debt in 1976 stood at 10,700 million U.S. dollars, which means more than 3,000 U.S. dollars per capita, a record figure in the world. (4) Israel's foreign trade deficit runs to 3,500 million U.S. dollars, registering the highest deficit in the world on a per-capita basis.

Since coming to power, Begin has continued to step up Israel's arms expansion and war preparations. In the fiscal 1977-78 budget, the military allocation is about 4.2 million Israeli pounds, 34 per cent of the total budget and 20 per cent higher than in the previous fiscal year. At the same time, the Israeli authorities shifted the economic crisis on to the working people in the name of "economic reforms."

Israel can keep its economy from collapsing only because a superpower gives it support politically and economically. Such a situation, however, cannot be maintained for long.

JAPAN-SOVIET FISHERY AGREEMENT

Japan Forced to Make Concessions

Japan and the Soviet Union signed in Moscow on April 21 a fishery co-operation agreement on the catching of salmon and trout in waters in the north Pacific Ocean outside of the Soviet "200-mile exclusive fishery zone." Japan was forced to make major concessions on the matter.

Negotiations started on February 15 for a new five-year agreement to replace the present Japan-Soviet fishery treaty due to expire on April 29.

During the negotiations, the Soviet side purposely made difficulties for Japan. On March

24, it put forward a draft which limited Japan's annual catch quota to 35,500 tons and the period of operations from May 1 to July 1. The negotiations came to a deadlock as a result of Soviet rejection of Japan's demand for keeping its catch quota at 62,000 tons, the same as last year.

On April 11, the Japanese Government sent Agriculture-Forestry Minister Ichiro Nakagawa to the Soviet Union to carry on the negotiations. The agreement was finally reached only after seven rounds of talks were held and major concessions made by the Japanese side.

The protocol sets the catch quota for Japan in the open seas outside the Soviet 200-mile zone at 42,500 tons this year. The fishing season will start May 1, and end July 31 instead of August 10 as requested by Japan.

On April 20 before the signing of the agreement, Soviet Premier Alexei Kosygin met Japanese Minister Ichiro Nakagawa. Kosygin again peddled the Soviet-proposed Japan-Soviet good neighbourhood and co-operation treaty and expressed the view that relations between Japan and the Soviet Union would "improve further" if the treaty was concluded. Nakagawa said in reply that Japan found it difficult to accept the Soviet proposal on the treaty for it would conclude a peace treaty only when the Soviet Union returned to Japan its northern territories.

Press circles in Japan have expressed dissatisfaction with the negotiations. *Nihon Keizai Shimbun* in a commentary said that the negotiations were close to a complete failure for the Japanese side.

ON THE HOME FRONT

China's Recoverable Satellites

THE majority of our scientific and technical personnel engaged in research and manufacture of recoverable satellites were trained after the founding of New China in 1949.

Since 1975 China has recovered three satellites which functioned in orbit according to plan and provided the departments concerned with useful data about space and the earth.

In designing these satellites, Chinese scientists successfully exploited China's own achievements in materials and technology. As a result of employing a new material, the weight of a certain part was reduced by more than 70 per cent and the cost was only one-ninetieth of the original.

To ensure the quality of the satellites, their elements and

parts were rigorously tested for durability and deterioration. Three million tests were made of the pneumatic control valve in the guidance and control system to ensure reliability.

China's space science developed in response to Chairman Mao's call in 1958. Premier Chou En-lai organized and directed the project and laid down the correct principles for developing China's satellite technology.

China is the third country in the world to master the technology of satellite retrieval.

New Housing in Shanghai

ALONG Chaochiapang Street in the southwest part of Shanghai, nine buildings housing 1,000 apartments have been put up. The new 13- and 16-storey buildings are painted pale green and light yellow. The dwellers include workers,

scientific personnel, teachers, film and publication workers and journalists.

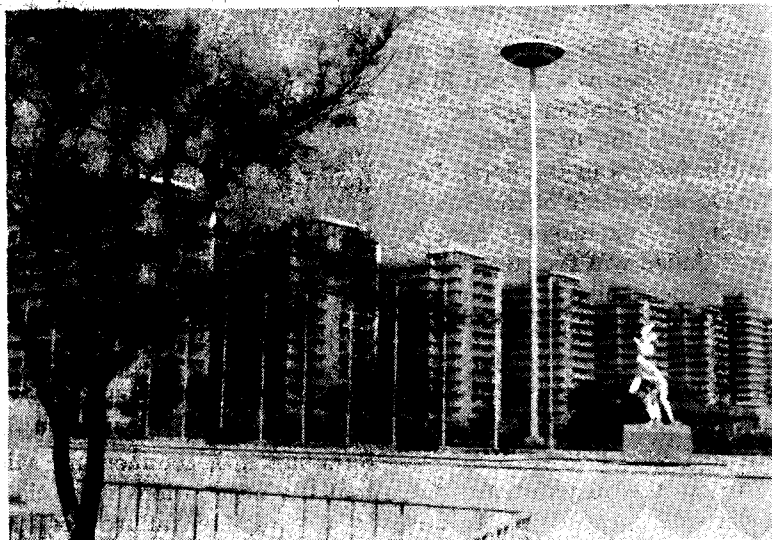
Formerly this place was an open sewer and slums, with garbage everywhere. After liberation in 1949 the People's Government began to clear up slums. The open sewer was filled, two asphalt roads were put in, trees and flowers planted and five-, six- and 14-storey buildings put up. This greatly improved housing for a large number of labouring people. The new buildings that have just gone up make the place even more beautiful.

In 1977, Shanghai put up new housing with 710,000 square metres of floor space, a record for the last dozen years. The city has also built department stores and markets, clinics, nurseries and kindergartens and other public service facilities with a total of 73,000 square metres of floor space.

Largest Protected Natural Reserve

CHINESE scientists and researchers are stepping up their work of protecting and studying rare animals and plants in the Changpai Mountains protected natural reserve, the largest of its kind in China, in Kirin Province. In this 210,000-hectare natural reserve are a large variety of trees and shrubs, rare birds and animals and valuable medicinal herbs. This area produces the three famous articles in the northeast—ginseng, mink and antlers.

In 1960 the state established this reservation and a research institution to protect the natural



New housing in Shanghai.

environment, ecological systems and the natural habitat of living animal and plant species and to carry on comprehensive biological research.

Scientific workers stay there all year round studying the natural evolution of living species, finding out ways to transform nature, accumulating experience in raising wild animals and cultivating wild medicinal herbs and working out theories to this end.

They have made a comprehensive investigation of the animals, plants and pests, collected nearly 10,000 specimens and written many research papers.

Scientific workers are working on two books: *Medicinal Herbs of the Changpai Mountains* and *Changpai Mountain Birds*.

Criticism and Self-Criticism

• Several department stores in Wuhan hung out the following notice not long ago: "Some leather shoes sold recently by this store are made of horsehide or inferior cowhide—not genuine, good quality cowhide as claimed. This is against the interests of consumers. Would comrades who bought these shoes, please bring them in to exchange or for a refund."

Early this year, some customers complained that the shoes they had bought did not look like genuine cowhide. When the city's Second Bureau of Light Industry in charge of shoe production heard this, it investigated the factories concerned and found that some factories had been turning out shoes of horsehide or inferior

cowhide and palming them off as quality cowhide products.

The city Party committee severely criticized this profit-seeking capitalist practice. The bureau issued a circular to all leather-shoe factories in Wuhan pointing out that this violated state laws and Party discipline.

The bureau ordered horsehide shoes be priced at one-half of that of cowhide shoes and the poor-quality cowhide shoes at 70 per cent.

The heads of the factories concerned made public self-criticisms for swindling the public and deceiving their superiors. They pledged to correct their grave mistake and improve the quality of their products.

• A section of the workers from the Peking Mechanized Building Company completed a project for a certain unit in 28 days, instead of 40 days. When they were invited to a big feast by the grateful unit, they turned down the invitation.

Prior to 1975 certain persons of this company, influenced by the selfish bourgeois ideas spread by Lin Piao and the "gang of four," used to expect being wined and dined and loaded with presents by the units they were asked to build for. If they were not, then work would proceed slowly.

In 1975, the company Party committee firmly put a stop to this. But in 1976 this freeloading reappeared when the "gang of four" was trying to throw the country into chaos.

After the "gang of four" was toppled, the company Party committee reactivated the 1975

decision against freeloading and made it a rule that every time a project was completed, the customer must be asked to evaluate the work done, including the naming, if any, of person or persons asking for dinners and gifts. This quickly stamped out this non-socialist practice.

Renmin Ribao recently reported this company's past and present behaviour and criticized enterprises where unethical practices still existed.

• The Party committee of the Kaohuang People's Commune in east China's Anhwei Province made this decision last December: Commune members have the right to criticize cadres spending public money on banquets and even break up such banquets and that all the expenses and damages incurred must be paid by the cadres and the guests involved. Not long afterwards the leader of a production team threw a banquet with public money. Tsao Manting, a member of the team, was so angry that he stormed in and smashed the wine jug. The team leader rushed into Tsao's home and smashed Tsao's cooking-pot.

The production brigade Party branch secretary severely criticized the team leader that very night. The commune Party committee convened and announced its full support for Tsao's action and urged cadres and commune members to learn from him. The banqueters were made to pay for what they ate and drank as well as for articles damaged. The team leader was suspended while making his self-criticism and had to compensate for the broken pot.

WORKS OF MAO TSETUNG

Booklets in English

(Some of his essays written between 1941 and 1945)

Preface and Postscript to *Rural Surveys*

Reform Our Study

Speech at the Assembly of Representatives of the Shensi-Kansu-Ningsia Border Region

Rectify the Party's Style of Work

Oppose Stereotyped Party Writing

Talks at the Yen-an Forum on Literature and Art

A Most Important Policy

The Turning Point in World War II

Economic and Financial Problems in the Anti-Japanese War

Some Questions Concerning Methods of Leadership

Spread the Campaigns to Reduce Rent, Increase Production and "Support the Government and Cherish the People" in the Base Areas

Get Organized!

Our Study and the Current Situation

Serve the People

The United Front in Cultural Work

We Must Learn to Do Economic Work

On Coalition Government

On Production by the Army for Its Own Support and on the Importance of the Great Movements for Rectification and for Production

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