

People's 人民中国 China

March 16, 1951

The Great Unity of the Chinese People

— Cheng Hsin-ju

Education for Workers and Peasants

— Li Shu-sheng

The Australian People Say No to Japanese Rearmament

— W. G. Burchett

6

Supplement: *World Peace Council
Resolutions and Kuo Mo-jo's Speech*

Vol. III

PUBLISHED IN PEKING



People's China

41 Yang Shih Ta Chieh, Peking, China

This journal appears on the 1st and 16th of each month. Entered as first-class printed matter at the General Post Office of China.

Editor: Chiao Kuan-hua

Vol. 3, No. 6

CONTENTS

March 16, 1951

EDITORIALS

- China and the World Peace Council..... 3
 The Consolidation of the People's Democratic Dictatorship..... 4

SPECIAL ARTICLES

- The Great Unity of the Chinese People (1)Cheng Hsin-ju 5
 Agriculture and Water Conservancy in 1951.....Su Ming 9
 The Australian People Say No
 to Japanese Rearmament.....Wilfred G. Burchett 10
 Education for Workers and Peasants.....Li Shu-sheng 12

PICTORIALS

- Support to the Volunteers in Korea..... 15
 Life in a P.O.W. Camp in Korea..... 16
 Labour Hero Tien Yun-hua..... 18
 Settlers Founding Their Happy New Homes.....Woodcut by Yen Han 32

FEATURES

- From the Ranks of Labour.....Chow Hsueh-sheng 19
 American Crimes in Seoul.....Special Correspondent 22
 My Family Breaks Its Walls.....Pu Chun-sheng 23
 Simonov's *Fighting China*.....Hsu Kuo-chang 24
 Women Salute March Eighth.....Ku Ling 27

CULTURAL FRONT

- Scissor-Cuts and Knife-Cuts..... 26

CURRENT CHINA Feb. 26—March 10, 1951..... 28

LETTERS FROM OUR READERS..... 30

SUPPLEMENT

World Peace Council Resolutions and Kuo Mo-jo's Speech

SUBSCRIPTION RATES FOR ABROAD:

	6 months	one year
	(post free)	
U.S.S.R.	Rbbls. 7.00	Rbbls. 13.00
India	Rs. 4.00	Rs. 8.00
U.S.A. and Canada	US \$2.00	US \$3.50
U.K.	9/-	17/-
Hongkong	HK \$7.00	HK \$13.00

China and the World Peace Council

The Chinese people have declared their full support for the decisions adopted by the World Peace Council at its recent session in Berlin.

The people's China, like the Soviet Union, has always upheld the cause of peace. It enthusiastically welcomes the resolution which calls upon the five Great Powers to sign a Peace Pact for the maintenance of international peace and security. It welcomes the resolution which denounces the illegal U.N. resolution slandering the Chinese people as "aggressors" for going to the aid of their Korean brothers, victims of a brutal American invasion. It upholds the resolution calling for the peaceful settlement of the Korean problem, and fully endorses the resolution calling for the settlement of German and Japanese problems by peaceful means.

For the American imperialists and their satellites who have already launched a programme of aggressive re-armament, the proposal for a Peace Pact is an acid test. They can still retrace their steps from the dangerous path of war and accept this proposal. If they reject the just demand of the peoples for a Peace Pact they will further, to their cost, brand themselves in the eyes of the world.

Imperialist America's aggressive actions and war preparations have created a serious threat to world peace. That threat has been intensified by its new drive to re-arm the reactionary, aggressive militarist and fascist forces of Western Germany and Japan and use them to serve its aims of world domination. The Peace Council's resolutions on Germany and Japan thus spotlight two issues pregnant with the danger of war. They present concrete proposals to achieve the signing of a peace treaty with a united Germany "whose demilitarisation ensured by international agreement would be the best guarantee of peace in Europe," and also on the conclusion of a peace treaty with a demilitarised, peace-loving Japan "to remove the danger to peace posed by the remilitarisation of a fascist Japan by the American imperialists."

These two resolutions will further unite the peoples of Europe and Asia in the common fight for peace.

To the Chinese people who suffered most bitterly from Japanese imperialism and who are now fighting so heroically alongside the Korean people against the new aggressors in the Pacific, the resolutions of the Peace Council

—the representative of the peoples of 81 nations—are a fresh source of encouragement.

The Chinese people have demanded consistently that an overall peace treaty be signed with a demilitarised Japan. That this stand is fully supported by the Asian peoples is shown by the indignant protests that took place in every Asian country against the warmonger Dulles' intrigues in Tokyo and Canberra to "legalise" by a separate peace treaty the American re-arming of a fascist Japan. The peoples know that a re-armed Japan harnessed to the American war chariot is a danger to all Asia, and, as history has shown, to the Chinese people in the first place. Japan is even now being used as a base for the U.S. aggression against Korea and against China's Taiwan.

By their action in assisting the Korean people against aggression, the Chinese people have given fresh evidence that their words are not spoken lightly. They have already warned the American imperialists on the consequences of casting aside solemnly agreed international undertakings in regard to Japan.

But so far, the American imperialists have rejected all the demands of the peoples to reverse their aggressive policies. Ignominious defeats in Korea have not yet served to cool these hot-heads. They are now seeking to extricate themselves through even more adventurist gambles. But these, too, are clearly doomed to fail against the resolute action of the peace-loving peoples of the world rallying to support the resolutions of the World Peace Council.

The glorious victories of the Korean People's Army and the Chinese people's volunteers are of immense importance to the cause of peace. Every fresh victory over MacArthur's hordes in Korea means new strength to the camp of peace and democracy headed by the Soviet Union. Continued success in smashing American imperialist aggression will be the best contribution that the Chinese and Korean peoples can make to carrying out the programme of action laid down by the World Peace Council.

The Chinese people are always ready to negotiate a peaceful settlement of all Asian issues including the Korean question and the over-all peace treaty with Japan. But they know that "peace must be won." They will support the resolutions of the World Peace Council by taking further concrete measures against American aggression.

The Consolidation of the People's Democratic Dictatorship

The promulgation of the *Regulations for the Punishment of Counter-Revolutionaries* on February 22 by the Central People's Government of the People's Republic of China is a further expression of the consolidation of the democratic dictatorship of the Chinese people. These Regulations clearly define who are the enemies of the people's state and the punishment they face on conviction after due process of law. They demonstrate the people's will to deal without mercy with incorrigible evil-doers; to show clemency to the repentant.

These Regulations interpret in concrete legal terms the principle set forth in Article VII of the *Common Programme* of the Chinese People's PCC which states: "The People's Republic of China will suppress all counter-revolutionary activities, severely punish all Kuomintang counter-revolutionary war criminals and other leading incorrigible counter-revolutionary elements who collaborate with imperialism, commit treason against the fatherland and oppose the cause of the people's democracy. . . ."

In the past year and a half, the victorious Chinese people have achieved brilliant successes in every field. There have not been lacking attempts by counter-revolutionary elements, instigated by the American imperialists, to sabotage these achievements, but the people's revolutionary vigilance and organs of public security have frustrated these attempts.

The nation-wide victory of the Chinese People's Army did not, of course, mean that all the counter-revolutionaries have been disposed of. The social soil which breeds the enemies of the people has not yet been completely cleared away. A nest of reactionary traitors and intriguers still remains in Taiwan. In areas where land distribution is still to be carried out, the landlord class and other feudal influences are, as can be expected, hostile to the People's Government. Above all, the imperialists, led by the man-haters of Wall Street, are thagrined to see the People's China grow and prosper and, rendered more desperate by their defeats, are plotting further crimes.

"All the counter-revolutionary activities," as Chairman Mao Tse-tung has pointed out, "are directed from behind the scenes by imperialism, particularly by American imperialism. These bandits, special agents and spies are imperialist lackeys."

In order to consolidate the people's democratic dictatorship, to undertake the further tasks of peaceful construction, the Chinese

people must simultaneously cement and broaden their democratic united front and strengthen the effectiveness of their dictatorship against those who conspire against their state and the interests of the people. Chairman Mao has clearly explained this dual nature of the people's democratic dictatorship:

"Under the leadership of the working class and the Communist Party, these classes (the working class, the peasantry, the petty bourgeoisie and the national bourgeoisie—Ed.) unite to form their own state and elect their own government so as to enforce their dictatorship over the henchmen of imperialism—the landlord class and bureaucratic capitalist class, as well as the reactionary clique of the Kuomintang, which represents these classes, and their accomplices. The People's Government will suppress such persons. It will only permit them to behave themselves properly. It will not allow them to speak or act wildly. Should they do so, they will be instantly curbed and punished. The democratic system is to be carried out within the ranks of the people, giving them freedom of speech, assembly and association. The right to vote is given only to the people, not to the reactionaries.

"These two things, democracy for the people and dictatorship for the reactionaries, when combined, constitute the people's democratic dictatorship. (*On the People's Democratic Dictatorship*).

The new Regulations warn the enemies of the people that if they continue their treacherous activities, they will be brought to justice and will be punished according to the extent of their crime against the people and the state. Capital punishment or life imprisonment is decreed for the ringleaders. Clemency will be shown to those who are found to have been forced to be their accomplices. Those who show genuine repentance and who have made up for their crimes by rendering meritorious service to the revolution, will be rewarded.

The *Regulations for the Punishment of Counter-Revolutionaries* summarise the lessons gained from the past experiences of the Chinese people in dealing with their enemies. They express the demands of the broad masses of the people who have given them their full approval and support. With these Regulations, the Chinese people will be in a still better position to suppress the counter-revolutionaries effectively and systematically, to complete their revolutionary tasks and devote their full energies to the great work of rehabilitation and peaceful New Democratic construction.

The Great Unity of the Chinese People (1)

Cheng Hsin-ju

The forces of imperialism, feudalism and bureaucratic capitalism in China were shattered by the united strength of the Chinese people led by the vanguard of the working class—the Chinese Communist Party. It is on this great revolutionary unity that the Central People's Government of the People's Republic of China is founded and through it, that the remarkable successes of the past year have been gained.

A mighty military victory has been achieved. The People's Liberation Army has crushed the reactionary Chiang Kai-shek forces on the mainland, mopped up their remnants in the coastal areas and started the march into Tibet.

A mighty political victory has been achieved. For the first time in history, the Chinese people have their genuine national government. Under the leadership of the Chinese Communist Party and Chairman Mao Tse-tung, they wield a powerful weapon in the form of the people's democratic dictatorship to protect their interests. The anti-revolutionary activities of the reactionary elements are being effectively suppressed. Democracy within the ranks of the democratic classes is being continuously broadened. Throughout the whole country, All-Circles Representatives' Conferences are being held and local people's governments have been set up.

On the international arena, China has emerged from the humiliating status of semi-colonialism to be a mighty bulwark in the struggle for peace and against imperialist aggression.

The lasting friendship between the peoples of China and the Soviet Union has been sealed by the Sino-Soviet Treaty of Friendship, Alliance and Mutual Assistance.

The People's Government has brought order out of the economic chaos left behind by KMT rule. Control of the nation's economy and finance has been unified and centralised; industrial and agricultural production has been greatly increased; prices have been stabilised and relations between public and private enterprises and between labour and capital have been adjusted along New Democratic lines for the benefit of the whole people.

There have also been systematic improvements in the sphere of education, cultural and social work. It is such victories that testify to the unrivalled power of the people's democratic united front.

This great revolutionary unity has been achieved as a result of protracted and bitter struggles against the enemies of the people.

The second part of this article dealing with the united front and the national minorities, the work of the local People's Political Consultative Conferences and the international solidarity of the Chinese people, will appear in our next issue.—Editor.

As Vice-Chairman Liu Shao-chi pointed out in his speech to the First Plenary Session of the People's Political Consultative Conference on September 21, 1949:

"In the course of the hard struggle against imperialism, feudalism and bureaucratic capitalism during the past century, the Chinese people came to a thorough understanding of the fact that only by realising the great revolutionary unity of the whole people could they vanquish the powerful enemies which oppressed them and ensure the consolidation of the fruits of their victory and the successful construction of the new China after they had defeated those enemies. But in the past, the great revolutionary unity of the Chinese people could not be brought to a final organisational form because it was obstructed and suppressed by imperialism and the reactionaries or was destroyed while still in the early stages of its formation."

Formation of the Great Unity

Today, however, the nation-wide victory in the War of Liberation, the complete overthrow of the reactionary Chiang Kai-shek regime which is directly supported by the U.S. imperialists, and the general growth of the political consciousness of the Chinese people have prepared the ground for the final organisational formation of the great revolutionary unity of the Chinese people on an entirely new basis: state power is now in the hands of the people. Using all the powerful organs of their state, the people are strengthening and consolidating their democratic dictatorship. They are suppressing and holding their enemies in check. They are expanding and deepening their revolutionary unity to the greatest possible extent, to defend their Motherland and their revolutionary achievements and accomplish in full the tasks of the New Democracy "to develop steadily from an agricultural into an industrial country, from a New Democratic into a Socialist and eventually Communist Society."—(Mao Tse-tung: *On the People's Democratic Dictatorship*).

The Second Plenum of the Seventh Central Committee of the Communist Party of China (March 1949) pointed out that "the winning of the nation-wide victory of the revolution is only the first step. The revolutionary road that lies ahead is even longer and its work is even greater and more arduous."

The revolutionary united front of the Chinese people is now established and has been consolidated on a scale unprecedented in China's history. This united front is "composed of the working class, peasantry, petty bourgeoisie, national bourgeoisie and other patriotic democratic elements, based on the alliance of the workers and peasants and led by the working class." (*Common Programme of the PPCC*)

This united front "opposes imperialism, feudalism and bureaucratic capitalism," the main forces which have obstructed the development of Chinese society, and it "strives for an independent, democratic, peaceful, united, prosperous and strong China." (*Common Programme of the PPCC*)

This united front is based in the first place "on the alliance of the workers and peasants because these two classes together comprise 80 to 90 per cent of China's population." (Mao Tse-tung: "*On the People's Democratic Dictatorship*") They have been and are still the major force in the struggle to overthrow imperialism and the reactionary forces of the KMT. "The transition from New Democracy to Socialism also depends primarily upon the alliance of these two classes." (Mao Tse-tung, *Ibid*)

This united front must have the leadership of the working class because this class, which has subjected to the most severe triple exploitation of imperialism, feudalism and bureaucratic capitalism, is by virtue of its very position the most far-sighted, the most class-conscious and the most thorough and consistent in carrying the revolution through to its conclusion.

As Chairman Mao Tse-tung has pointed out, "the entire history of revolution proves that without the leadership of the working class, a revolution will fail, but with the leadership of the working class, a revolution will be victorious. In the era of imperialism, no other class in any country can lead any genuine revolution to victory. Proof lies in the fact that China's petty bourgeoisie and national bourgeoisie have led revolutions on many occasions, but all ended in failure." (*Ibid*)

The Working Class

The working class of China achieved and has maintained the leadership of the revolutionary united front because from the very beginning, when it first entered onto the stage of revolution, it has been led by its own organised vanguard,—the Communist Party of China which has now over 5,000,000 members with the brilliant leadership of Comrade Mao Tse-tung. The working class has been assured of correct leadership because its Communist Party is armed with the scientific revolutionary theory of Marxism-Leninism; it has been tested and steeled in the furnace of the protracted revolutionary struggle and gained the support of the masses among whom it enjoys enormous prestige. The working class can fully justify the trust of the masses because its interests and those of the masses coincide.

The leadership of the working class and its Party, which has carried the revolution to nation-wide victory, has been confirmed and strengthened with the establishment of the People's Republic and the start of New Democratic construction. The livelihood of the workers, along with that of the rest of the masses of the people, has steadily improved. The



At the National Committee of the PPCC: From left to right—Mao Tse-tung, Chairman of the Communist Party, Li Chi-shen, Chairman of the Kuomintang Revolutionary Committee, Chang Lan, Chairman of the China Democratic League.

great upsurge of labour enthusiasm, resulting in constantly increasing production, the mass participation of the workers in the trade unions and people's organisations at all levels, testify to their rising political consciousness and the increasingly important part they play in the state, economic, social and cultural construction of New China.

China now has 13,000,000 workers and employees, including over 3,000,000 industrial workers. On the railways alone there are over 454,000 workers. As a result of their rapid growth since liberation, the Trade Unions now have 5,130,000 members compared with the 800,000 in 1945. Eight national committees of the postal and telegraph workers, the railway workers, the textile workers, the electric workers, the transport workers, the miners, the educational workers and the munition workers, and preparatory committees for eight other industries have been formed. The All-China Federation of Labour, affiliated to the WFTU, has become a powerful organisation uniting and educating the workers under the leadership of the Communist Party.

Tens of thousands of workers have been promoted to administrative and technical posts. On the railways, 2,386 workers became staff members last year. In the Northeast, in the past two years, 451 workers became factory directors and 2,247 became technicians. A great number of vocational, spare-time and middle schools have been established for workers and half of the 3,000 students of the first People's University are from the working class. Over 1,200,000 workers in more than 1,200 enterprises have given splendid examples of patriotic emulation. Workers play a leading role in all levels of the people's government. More and more are joining the Communist Party. The China New Democratic Youth League, the young reserves of the Communist Party, now has over 3,000,000 members.

The Peasantry

The peasantry comprising more than 80 per cent of the population, was subjected to brutal forms of

exploitation and oppression in old China. Countless times in the past they have risen vainly in revolt. Finally under the leadership of the working class and forming the main body of the People's Liberation Army and its auxiliaries, they have played a glorious role in achieving the nation-wide victory of the revolution and their own emancipation from age-old feudal oppression.

The alliance of the workers and peasants is firmly founded on their common interests as exploited toilers seeking liberation from the three main forces of reaction. But there are two further special factors that strengthen this revolutionary alliance. Since the majority of workers in China are peasants pauperised and driven from the land by reactionary oppression, there is a natural link between the workers and the masses of the peasantry. Furthermore, since the defeat of the Great Revolution in 1927 until the great victories of the Liberation War, the centre of gravity of the Chinese Revolution was in the countryside. It was here that, waging a protracted and difficult guerrilla war, the working class, in alliance with the peasants, built up the revolutionary bases and established the people's state power. It was here that it gathered the forces which encircled and finally took the cities. Thus it consolidated its revolutionary unity with the peasants by fighting directly alongside with them to achieve their age-old desires for land and freedom through the agrarian reform. In the old liberated areas this reform was completed in an area with a rural population of 145,000,000. It is now being carried out in newly liberated areas with a rural population of 130,000,000 and will be completed on a nation-wide scale by 1952 (with the exception of some areas inhabited

by national minorities). Thus the feudal land system will be uprooted and the system of peasant land ownership established. As experience has already amply demonstrated, the reform results in an unprecedented rise in the labour enthusiasm and productivity of the peasants. By giving the liberated peasants financial and technical aid, and helping them to organise themselves into mutual aid groups and co-operatives of various kinds, the People's Government is successfully guiding the peasants along the path of prosperity and laying the basis in the rural areas for nation-wide industrialisation, for closer relations between rural and urban areas. The peasants' revolutionary political consciousness is being enhanced and their organisations are being expanded as part of the revolutionary united front led by the working class. With state power in the hands of the people, the agrarian reform is now being carried out against the feudal landlords in the countryside with reliance on the poor peasants and farm labourers, in alliance with the middle peasants and the neutralisation of the rich peasants. Thus in the old liberated areas the overwhelming majority of peasants are already organised in the Peasant Associations and their organisations are now rapidly growing in the newly liberated areas.

These developments are of decisive importance for the consolidation of the revolutionary united front. They show that after the peasants have been liberated politically and economically from feudal exploitation, the already powerful alliance of the workers and peasants can be further consolidated and expanded, the hegemony of the workers in this alliance can be further strengthened and the people's democratic dictatorship, led by the working class, can be still more firmly consolidated and expanded to

Major Democratic Political Parties and Groups in China

Political Party or Group	Leader	Government Post
The Communist Party of China	Mao Tse-tung	Chairman of the Central People's Government
The Revolutionary Committee of the Kuomintang of China	Li Chi-shen	Vice-Chairman of the Central People's Gov't
The China Democratic League	Chang Lan	Vice-Chairman of the Central People's Gov't
The Democratic National Construction Association	Huang Yen-pei	Vice-Premier of the Government Administration Council, and concurrently Minister of Light Industry
The China Association for Promoting Democracy	Ma Hsu-lun	Minister of Education
The China Peasants and Workers' Democratic Party	Chang Po-chun	Minister of Communications
The China Chih Kung Tang	Chen Chih-yu	Member of the National Committee of the PPCC
The Chju San Society	Hsu Teh-heng	Vice-Chairman of the Commission of Legislative Affairs
The Taiwan Democratic Self-Government League	Hsieh Hsueh-hung	Member of the National Committee of the PPCC

tackle the great tasks ahead—to defend the revolutionary gains and develop the New Democracy.

The Petty Bourgeoisie

The petty bourgeoisie is diversified and includes various strata. Under the rule of the KMT and their imperialist masters, the petty bourgeoisie found itself in an extremely unstable and insecure social position, daily faced with the threat of bankruptcy and pauperisation. The petty bourgeoisie—mostly the small traders, the handicraftsmen and intellectuals—thus have urgent revolutionary demands, yet, as experience has shown, because of their vacillating nature and lack of organisation, they could not lead the revolution to victory. Nevertheless, the revolutionary petty bourgeois intellectuals fulfilled the function of harbinger of the introduction of the advanced theory of Marxism-Leninism to China. Under the leadership of the working class they participated actively in the revolution and many are numbered among the revolutionary martyrs.

The victory of the Chinese people's revolution and the great work of New Democratic national construction that has started has further drawn the petty bourgeoisie into the ranks of the united front. As a result of the expanding economy of the New Democracy and the great urge to cultural advancement, the petty bourgeoisie and especially the intellectuals have found fertile new channels in which to apply their talents in service of the people. They have strengthened their organisations and parties to support the Common Programme of the PPCC. There is a widespread movement among them for political study and re-education in the spirit of the New Democracy.

The National Bourgeoisie

The special feature of the old China as a semi-feudal and semi-colonial society determined that the bourgeoisie as a whole was split into two groups—the compradore bureaucratic capitalists* and the national bourgeoisie. Because of the differing relations they had with imperialism and feudalism, these two groups have conflicting interests and play different roles in regard to the people's democratic revolution.

The compradore bureaucratic capitalists are the direct agents of the imperialists and have been fostered by the imperialists. They are the enemies of the Chinese people and the people's revolution. On the other hand, the national bourgeoisie—the patriotic merchants, bankers, industrialists—were oppressed by imperialism and the bureaucratic capitalists and fettered by feudalism. This fact determined that in the New Democratic revolutionary struggle, the national bourgeoisie can be brought into alliance by the working class and become an active participant of the united front. China is still backward industrially; the threat of the imperialists is still present;

* The big bourgeoisie of China closely co-operating with foreign capital to whom it served as agent or compradore, typically represented by Chiang Kai-shek, T. V. Soong and H. H. Kung (Chiang's brothers-in-law) and the two Chen brothers, Chen Li-fu and Chen Kuo-fu, Chiang's henchmen—the so-called Big Four Families, who used the whole state apparatus to extend their monopoly control over the nation's finance, trade and industry.

thus the participation of the national bourgeoisie in the united front and its consolidation within the revolutionary unity is thus very important at the present stage.

The whole economic structure of China has been undergoing a massive transformation since the victory of the people's revolution. By stabilising the national economy and effecting the nation-wide land reform, the People's Government has opened up vast possibilities for industrial development. Private enterprises of the national bourgeoisie are given protection and assistance by the People's Government and are playing their respective roles in the nation's economy. Under the guidance of the state enterprises which are socialist in nature, and under the firm direction of the state power which is led by the working class, the private enterprises of the national bourgeoisie will assist the building of the New Democracy.

The great revolutionary upsurge among the democratic strata of the nation—the workers, peasants, petty bourgeoisie and national bourgeoisie—is reflected in the rapid expansion of the mass organisations supporting the New Democracy: the all-China federations of women, (31,000,000 members), youth (7,000,000 members), students (1,600,000 members), the national federations of writers and artists, scientists, teachers, the Sino-Soviet Friendship Association, the Chinese People's Committee in Defence of World Peace and Against American Aggression which mobilised over 230,000,000 signatures behind the Stockholm Peace Appeal.

It is the great achievement of the united front under the leadership of the working class and its vanguard, the Communist Party, that it has been able to make use of every concrete possibility of widening the basis of this revolutionary unity and making it "so consolidated that it had the staunch will and inexhaustible capacity to vanquish all its enemies and overcome all difficulties."

The Chinese People's PCC

The extensive range of the revolutionary united front is concretely demonstrated in the composition of the Chinese People's Political Consultative Conference. The PPCC is composed of the representatives of all the nationalities within China, the democratic parties, people's organisations, overseas Chinese and other patriotic elements. It is thus representative of the people throughout the country and has their support and confidence.

The revolutionary united front has its political programme—the Common Programme of the PPCC. This fundamental law of the Chinese people adopted on the founding of their republic is the programme of revolution and national construction for the period of the New Democracy. It affirms the people's democratic dictatorship as the governmental system of the new China. It stipulates that the organs of the state power shall be the governments elected by the people's congresses according to the principle of democratic centralism.

The confidence and invincible strength of this people's democratic united front stems from the fact

(Continued on page 31)

Agriculture and Water Conservancy in 1951

Su Ming

1950 with its bumper crops was a good year for the Chinese people, and 1951 promises to be an even better one. This is largely because by the spring of this year approximately 275,000,000 peasants will have completed the sweeping land reform, releasing the productive energy of a vast sector of the population.

Confident that the current year will see even greater developments in the speedily rehabilitating agricultural scene than 1950, the Government Administration Council has recently approved plans to increase agricultural production, develop afforestation work and expand the water conservancy programme.

The new agricultural targets anticipate that China's grain output will be increased by 7.1 per cent over the 1950 level, and that the cotton crop will be 36.9 per cent higher than last year's crop.

Nor is there any standing still with last year's achievements in water conservancy. Intensive construction work is being carried out in areas regularly plagued by floods. Many of the preventive measures this year are to be of a permanent nature. The scope of irrigation work is being widened. New irrigation systems now under construction will add millions of *mow* of rich earth to China's existing farmland.

Achievements in 1950

These two far-reaching plans are realistically based on the achievements of the past year in agricultural production and water conservancy. The grain harvest in 1950, for example, exceeded that of the previous year by 11.8 per cent, or 10,000,000 tons—and reached 85.7 per cent of the pre-war yield. In cotton production, too, the gains were noteworthy. There were 260,000 tons, or 58.9 per cent more cotton produced in 1950 than in 1949. The crop not only surpassed the pre-war annual average by 20 per cent but it reached 82.8 per cent of the all-time record of 1936.

1950 was a year of achievement in water conservancy work too. More than 419,000,000 cubic metres of earthwork were moved on many gigantic projects. An area approximating 247,400 hectares was added to the existing irrigated farmland. Flood-prevention work was so successful in 1950 that except in the Huai River's upper and middle basin, i.e., in Eastern Honan and North Anhwei, where the rainfall was heavier and more concentrated than during any year in the past century, no major inundation occurred anywhere to the farmland.

This year, overall agricultural output in all old liberated areas where agrarian reform has been completed (except in those areas where natural damages and war destruction have been heavy) will outstrip the annual average before the outbreak of the Anti-Japanese War in 1937. In areas where agrarian reform was completed during the past winter or will be completed by this spring, the output is expected to approach pre-war annual averages. In areas where rent reduction has been carried out but full-scale agrarian reform has not yet taken place, the goal

for the year anticipates that production will, at least, outstrip the 1950 level.

A series of production policies have been adopted to ensure the fulfilment of this year's agricultural targets. An underlying principle is to encourage the pooling of individual resources through mutual aid teams or other voluntary forms of organisation. Such teams will receive preferential loans for modern farming tools, technical guidance, improved seeds, insecticides and sprayers.

Peasants are encouraged to step up production. Those who raise their output above the annual average through careful cultivation or improved farming techniques will not pay taxes on their extra crops. Increased output through water utilisation is also free from taxation for three to five years. Taxation on the output of newly-reclaimed land (once wasteland) is waived for three to five years.

To encourage the peasants to produce more cotton, tobacco and jute, the state guarantees the purchase and marketing of these products at reasonable rates of exchange with grain.

The co-operative planting of trees and orchards is being widely promoted this year. Trees will be planted on more than 146,000 hectares. Another 3,700 hectares will be used for tree nurseries. The raising of domestic animals is encouraged and as far as possible animals will be inoculated.

Just as important as the organisation of farm labour, farming technique is to be improved in every way possible. The election of model farmers, production exhibitions, technical study classes, comparisons and analyses of crops and harvests are a few of the methods whereby this is being done.

Moreover, local governments in rural areas have been instructed to organise and lead the peasants to fight floods, droughts and pests and to plant green belts to conserve water, check erosion on river banks and protect crops from wind and sand.

Another important way to help develop agricultural production is to ensure the marketing of rural products through contracts between co-operatives, local mutual-aid teams and state trading concerns. Co-operatives and state trading concerns are to join with private merchants to organise the marketing of rural products on a national scale.

New Target Figures

The 1951 target figures using last year's figures as the base 100 are as follows: grain, 107.1 per cent; cotton, 136.9 per cent; jute, 169 per cent; cured tobacco leaves, 424.8 per cent; black tea and green brick tea, 135.1 per cent; domestic silkworm cocoons, 114.9 per cent; wild silkworm cocoons, 150.8 per cent; raw materials for oil, 109.8 per cent; raw materials for sugar, 129.1 per cent; and marine products, 120.7 per cent.

This year, the scale of work in water conservancy will be much greater than the last. Efforts will be focused on permanently solving the flood problem in several of the areas which have long been attacked by flood. First of all, along the whole Huai River basin, at least 3,000,000 peasants will take part in

dredging, dyke repair and construction work this coming spring. This will protect vast plains from reflooding. In the succeeding years, a new outlet to the sea will be provided for the river. The whole of this plan along the Huai river will be completed in 1953.

Anti-flood Projects

The major part of the Yi and Shu projects in Shantung and North Kiangsu provinces and of the Chaopai River project in eastern Hopei Province will also be completed this year.

Preliminary work and preparations for building reservoirs in the middle sections of the Yellow, Yungting and Han rivers are being speeded up. On important points at junctures of the Yangtse and its tributaries huge culverts will be installed to improve agricultural production on more than a third of a million hectares of fertile land in this basin.

Irrigation work in the Northwest will receive special emphasis in 1951. Government loans are making it possible for suitable irrigation systems to be built in parts of the country to regulate the water

supply where rainfall is either too little or too heavily concentrated during brief seasons. Ten new irrigation systems are being planned for North China, 16 for the Northwest, six for East China, and 13 each for Central-South China and Southwest China. Approximately 317,000 hectares of land will be added to the existing farmland through these various measures.

The tasks set for 1951 to increase agricultural production and develop afforestation are tremendous and vital to the steady progress of the nation's economy. The programme for water conservancy, so closely linked with agricultural production, is also building a firm basis for large-scale utilisation of China's abundant water resources—another step in the transformation of China into an industrialised country.

The two giant plans are already in operation. They are big strides in the building of a prosperous and strong New China. The targets for 1951 are based on what the people have already shown they can do. The Chinese people are confident that the new targets will be fully met.

The Australian People Say No to Japanese Rearmament

Wilfred G. Burchett

When John Foster Dulles, chief architect of American aggression arrived in Australia in mid-February, he was met with the largest, hostile demonstration witnessed in Australia for many years. In the centre of Sydney, Australia's biggest city, traffic was brought to a standstill. Dulles had to be escorted with strong police protection and 30 Australians were arrested. Dulles had just arrived from plotting in Japan for the restoration of the Japanese military machine, from plotting with Japanese war criminals for a new war of aggression in the Far East and the Pacific. It was against these intrigues that the Australian people protested.

The overwhelming majority of the Australian people watched with sympathy China's glorious fight against Japanese aggression from 1937 onwards. The workers showed their sympathy in a practical way by refusing to load ships carrying war material to Japan. In one of the greatest strike movements in Australian history, Australian dockers steadfastly refused to load ships despite the brutal repressions of the Menzies government, the same Menzies who is again Australian Prime Minister. Menzies, Spender and others in the reactionary government at that time represented the great industrial and mining concerns in Australia which drew their profits from every drop of blood spilt from Chinese women and children. The contemptuous name which every Australian worker uses today for Menzies is "Scrap-Iron Bob," in memory of his defeat by the dockers in his attempts to ship Australian scrap-iron to Japan.

At that time, it was only the most militant and progressive section of the Australian people who played a direct part in hindering Japanese aggression, but the vague uneasiness shared by the majority

of the population received a rude jolt in December, 1941 when Japanese Fascism extended its aggression to include the whole of the Far East including Australia. The fight which the dockers started in Australia had to be taken up by the entire population, as Japanese forces pushed down through the Pacific to Australia's very doors in New Guinea. Menzies' scrap-iron began to be fired into the stomachs of Australian soldiers in the jungles of New Guinea, was dropped from the air on towns in North and West Australia. The panic-stricken Menzies and Spender hurriedly drew up a "defence" plan which involved abandoning the northern half of Australia to the Japanese. This infamous plan, known as the "Brisbane Line" became known and brought about the downfall of the Menzies government in the early days of the Pacific War—a war which thoughtful people realised would have been launched sooner but for the heroic resistance of the Chinese people.

Although Australia was spared the horrors of Japanese occupation, Australian troops suffered a great deal at the hands of the Japanese. The great majority of Australian troops mobilised in World War II fought against the Japanese in tenacious hand-to-hand combat in the steamy, malarial jungles of New Guinea and other Pacific islands. Thousands of our best troops were captured in the first days of the war when the British surrendered in Malaya. Australians virtually rotted to death, were starved, beaten, tortured and shot, building the railway under brutal Japanese guards, between Thailand and Burma. The Australian people have not forgotten this, the troops have not forgotten the names of the Japanese generals and war criminals; the public has not forgotten the names of the criminal Japanese political leaders including the arch war-criminal Hiroshito.

There has been a deliberate campaign in the Australian press to suppress any news of the depurging of war criminals and the remilitarisation of

WILFRED G. BURCHETT, author of several books on the Far East and representative of the Australian Peace Council, is now the China correspondent of *Liberty* and *Labour News of Australia* and *Ce Soir* of France.

Japan. The same government and the same press which so ardently defended Japan's aggression against China today prevents the Australian people from knowing what is going on. A radio commentator, Professor MacMahon Ball who was sacked from his post as Chief of the British Commonwealth Mission in Japan because he opposed MacArthur's plans for restoring Japanese militarism, recently revealed over the Australian radio that MacArthur had "de-purged", or put back into business 10,000 listed war criminals. For this and some other revelations, MacMahon Ball's radio time was immediately halved on the government-owned radio with oblique threats of further political action.

With the few facts that have leaked through from Japan, the Australian public is aroused, alarmed and indignant. Hence the great protest reception for Dulles when it became known he would put pressure on Australia for agreement on Japanese remilitarisation.

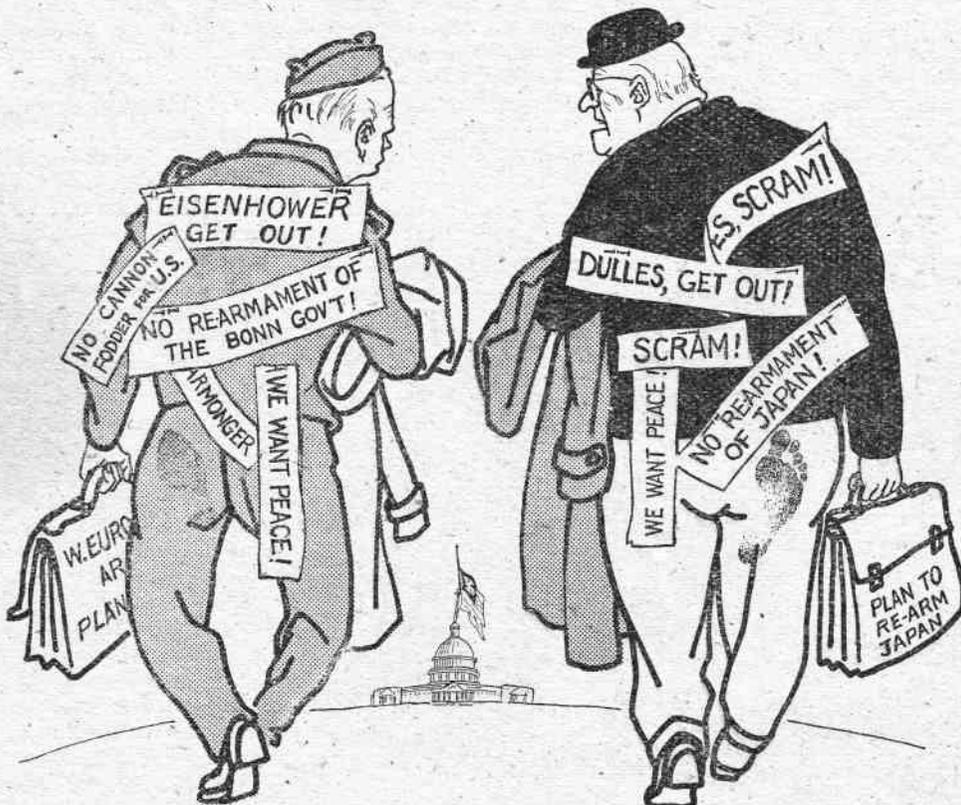
In the last few months before I left Australia, I conducted a lecture tour under the auspices of the Australian Peace Council. This took me through five states from Hobart in the extreme south to Cairns in the extreme north. In three months I addressed over 200 meetings of people from every section of Australian life. I lectured in universities and churches, at factory gates and along the water-front, mainly about the remilitarisation of Germany and about life in the People's Democracies, based on my experiences in those countries for five years after the war.

Despite police and government action in banning halls and confiscating leaflets, breaking up street meetings, despite boycotts in the local press and a slanderous campaign against anything connected with the peace movement, despite intimidation contained in the bill to outlaw the Australian Communist Party and all progressive organisations which is still hanging over the heads of all Australian democrats, meetings were always well-attended. There was great interest and indignation about the re-arming of Germany, great sympathy for the peoples of the People's Democracies building their new life. But above all, in the very widest sections of the population there was interest and a demand for facts about the situation in the Far East. Everywhere I found great sympathy for China and a corresponding mistrust of MacArthur's actions and American policy in Korea and Japan.

Now that the decisions of the Berlin session of the World Peace Council have been made known and the mighty peace movement advances to halt the remilitarisation of Germany and Japan, it is certain that wide sections of the Australian people, headed by the workers and supported by intellectuals, church leaders, farmers and middle class people, will swing behind the lead so effectively given already by the Chinese people.

Australians are a peace-loving people. Despite the unprecedented press campaign and full-page government advertisements, despite military parades, band concerts, introduction of "stars" from America, radio, film, and poster publicity plus individual letters

to tens of thousands of returned soldiers, the government campaign to recruit "volunteers" to fight in Korea and for a third world war, has been a dismal failure. The Australian people, despite the vicious press campaigns, refuse to regard the Allies of yesterday as our enemies of today. They refuse to accept the enemies of yesterday, German Nazism and Japanese Fascism, as their allies today. Australian public opinion is becoming increasingly alive to the truth of Pacific affairs. They will rally to the national leadership which will support the forces of peace to prevent a third world war and establish friendly relations with our great and peaceful neighbour, People's China.



Dulles: "Got a good bargain, Ike?"
 Eisenhower: "Excellent, chum, excellent. How's business?"
 Dulles: "Me the same!"

by Fang Cheng
 Chung Ling

Education for Workers and Peasants

Li Shu-sheng

The great victory of the people's revolution has opened a new era in China's history—the era of the New Democratic state based on the revolutionary alliance of the workers and peasants.

Formerly the workers and peasants were oppressed and enslaved. They were impoverished and lived in the deepest misery, deprived of education and culture. But, in the people's China, they have become the masters of the country, and a broad vista of immense development opens before them. The better to fulfil their great task, they have taken to study and the acquiring of new knowledge with the greatest enthusiasm.

Under the New Democracy the standard of living of the workers and peasants is constantly improving, and their cultural level—their level of general knowledge, their knowledge of social development, history, science, etc.—is rising daily. The people's China is a China that is rapidly liquidating illiteracy, and swiftly building up new cadres of worker-peasant administrators, technicians and specialists for New Democratic construction, a China whose law of development is consistent progress.

In addition to the need for developing universal compulsory elementary education as an immediate task and strengthening secondary and higher education, Article 47 of the Common Programme of the PPCC stresses the need for technical education and particularly the strengthening of "the education of working people during their spare time and that of cadres at their posts."

This is the main direction of worker-peasant

education in New China. And it has been carried out consistently and energetically by the Central People's Government ever since its inauguration. A series of well-planned steps have already been taken in the worker-peasant educational field.

Workers' Education

Workers' education in New China is at the present time centred on the educational needs of the industrial workers. Its first aim is to end illiteracy among the workers. The Central People's Government plans that within three to five years the organised workers will at least be able to read, write and do elementary arithmetic as a basis for further study.

The actual forms and methods of study are varied. If a classroom is not available, lessons are held in any suitable place—in a corner of the workshop, in a dining room, dormitory or even at the pit-head. Spare time schools are established wherever possible as the more centralised form of organisation, while factory workshop or pit-head reading groups are organised as the decentralised form. Both, however, have definite curricula.

As a general rule, study periods are concentrated on three definite days of the week with three lessons each of two hours. On these study days no extra shifts are allowed and students are excused from meetings and other activities.

Most of the teachers for the elementary courses are recruited from among the workers and employees of the enterprises, factories or mines, and some from among their families. For the most part

this work is **voluntary** and payment is not made. The regular teachers in the secondary and advanced courses, however, are paid approximately the same salary as ordinary school teachers.

The workers receive their political education as a general rule through lectures on current affairs and on subjects of topical interest. Some factories and mines, however, have organised regular courses giving systematic political and theoretical training. Those workers who excel in their studies and wish to continue with more advanced study can be recommended by the competent authorities to enter the People's University or the Institute of Marxism-Leninism.



In the peasants' cultural club

by Niu Wen

To raise the technical level of the workers and meet the requirements for technical workers in the rapidly growing industries of New China, some of the industries, mines and enterprises are themselves providing technical education for the workers. Examinations are given at the end of these courses and those who do well have their technical rank raised accordingly.

Incomplete statistics published in December, 1950, show that a total of 1,064,736 workers have joined worker study courses. It is estimated that in 1951, some 1,500,000 workers will join these classes.

Peasants' Education

In the old liberated areas where land reform has been carried out, educational work among the peasants emphasises the elimination of illiteracy. Every peasant is encouraged to learn to read and write Chinese characters. At the same time the peasants are given lectures on current affairs, talks and discussions on government policies, on agricultural methods and elementary science and hygiene. Educational facilities are extended first of all to village cadres and young activists.

In the more recently liberated areas where the land reform and the sharp anti-feudal struggle is still going on, or where the reform is still being prepared, one of the most important considerations is that educational work should give the peasants a knowledge of current affairs and the policies of the People's Government in close relation with the main objective of the current mass movement. This work is carried on in a variety of ways taking into close consideration the fact that such educational work should develop the class consciousness of the peasants and raise their political level.

In areas inhabited by national minorities, the peasant masses must be given an understanding of the People's Government's national policies. Strict attention is paid to national characteristics and customs.

In the old liberated areas, as experience over many years has shown, "winter study" is the most effective method of peasant education, and is therefore being developed on a wide scale. But to consolidate the results of such study peasants in the old liberated areas, wherever possible, endeavour to set up regular schools for all the year round study. These are called peasant spare-time schools. Besides these there are networks of reading circles of various forms scattered throughout the countryside, each led by a definite person as its teacher and working to a set curriculum.

The "paddy-field reading circle" is another type of study group. Small blackboards can often be seen hanging beneath a tree or on a stand at the end of fields.

*Kang** reading circles are another form used by peasant womenfolk so that they can carry on their household tasks such as knitting, mending or weaving while studying. "Little teachers"—children who volunteer to pass on their knowledge to illiterate grown-ups—often go to peasant households to teach

in the *kang* reading circles. The forms of study, however, are flexibly organised. The peasant spare-time schools disperse into as many small groups as is necessary during the busy days of the sowing or harvest. But as soon as the busy seasons are over, they regroup themselves. While these various reading circles are usually scattered throughout a village or hamlet, they are often gathered for special talks and lectures.

The peasants in these courses generally attend 150-200 lessons a year, each from one to two hours in length. But as the principle is that study should aid and never hinder production, the peasants are excused from classes when work demands it.

Full-time teachers are paid for those advanced classes in the spare-time schools which have a sufficient number of students, but the principle for the rest of the courses is that the "people teach the people." To be a "mass teacher"—to teach characters to the illiterate peasants is considered an honourable task and every literate person feels honour-bound to place himself or herself at the service of the people for such teaching.

Incomplete statistics for the winter of 1949 showed that 12,992,225 peasants in the old liberated areas joined winter study groups. After the conclusion of that winter's study 3,485,036 then went on to more formal courses in regular spare-time schools. The winter study campaign of 1950 is still running its course, but it is estimated that before the season is over, the number of peasants participating in it will have reached more than twenty million, five million of whom are expected to continue their studies in 1951.

Worker and Peasant Schools

Cadres of worker and peasant origin are playing an increasingly important role in building people's China. In order to create intellectuals of a new type from among these cadres to fulfil the immediate requirements of the national construction, Worker and Peasant Middle Schools and Worker and Peasant Schools for Cultural Training are being established on a national scale.

In three years of intensive study, Worker and Peasant Middle Schools provide a regular six-year middle school education. In two years' study, Worker and Peasant Schools for Cultural Training provide a regular six-year primary school education in all major subjects.

Students for both types of schools are chosen from national institutions, factories and enterprises. To qualify as students in these Worker and Peasant Middle Schools, they must either be cadres of worker of peasant origin with a record of more than three years of revolutionary work, or industrial workers of more than three years' working experience. They must be in good health, between 18 and 35 years of age, and must have the cultural level of a primary school graduate. To qualify for Worker and Peasant Schools for Cultural Training, a student must be more than 18 years old and must have had a record of more than three years of revolutionary work.

To encourage exemplary cadres of worker and peasant origin and industrial workers to enrol in such schools, the government grants special privileges to the students. Their years of study count

* A *kang* is a large clay bed, the central object in many peasant homes. It is used for working purposes as well as sleeping. In winter the *kang* is heated by an oven beneath it and serves to warm the whole room.

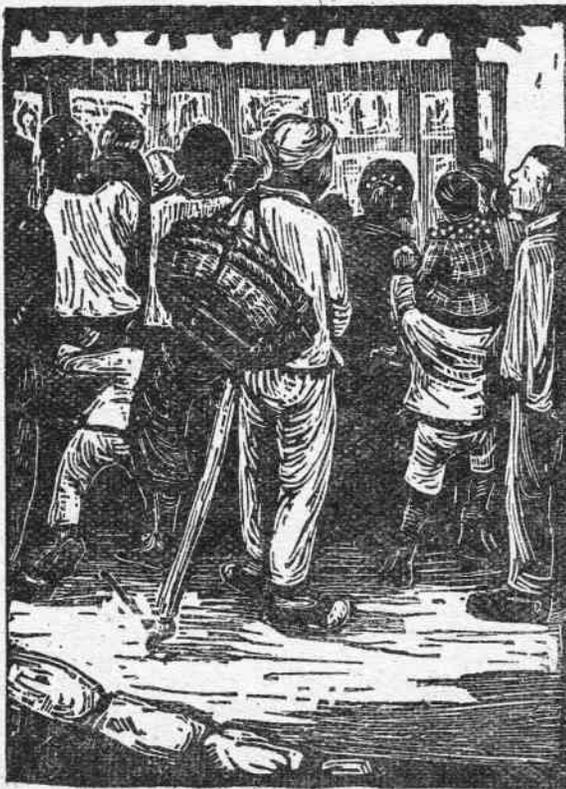
as years of work. Cadres receive the same treatment as their posts entitled them to before they entered the school, while workers go onto the "supply system" which covers all their daily necessities and clothing. Special assistance is given to some students with family obligations.

By the end of 1950, there were 24 middle schools for workers and peasants with a total enrolment of 4,034 students. There were Worker and Peasant Schools for Cultural Training in practically every province and municipality. The number of students in these schools was 1,726 in Shansi Province, about 5,000 in Shantung Province, 3,500 in Hopei Province and 1,300 in Liaohsi Province.

Cadres' Spare-Time Education

A large number of New China's cadres are of worker and peasant origin. Worker and Peasant Middle Schools and Schools for Cultural Training can only provide facilities for those small numbers of cadres who can be spared from their posts. So the Central People's Government and local governments lay particular stress on cultural education for all cadres at the places of their work. In general, all cadres whose cultural level is less than the equivalent of three years of middle school education must concentrate on cultural studies. In many centres, there are now spare-time schools for cadres at their places of work.

According to incomplete figures for 1950 in the nine provinces of Chahar, Liaotung, Shansi, Pingyuan, Shantung, Hupeh, Honan, Chekiang and Fukiang, 107,302 cadres at work have undertaken such cultural studies. In 1951 more than 330,000 cadres are expected to enrol in these part-time schools.



Street-corner exhibition

by Su Wei

Here we must also mention the fact that a great number of Worker and Peasant Middle Schools and Schools for Cultural Training have been established for members of the PLA.

The People's University

A new type of university to train intellectuals of worker and peasant origin for responsible posts in the gigantic programme of national construction, the People's University was created in Peking in February, 1950. To introduce the advanced experiences of the Soviet Union, Soviet professors have been invited to serve on its faculty. The regular university study courses planned for periods of from two to four years, are divided into eight departments—Economics, Planned Economy, Finance and Credit, Trade, Co-operatives, Factory Administration, Law and Foreign Affairs. There are also short-term courses of eight months designed to train cadres needed immediately in construction work. In addition there are two special courses—Russian Language and Cultural Studies.

In these various departments in the People's University, stress is laid on finance and economics for the study of these subjects is directly related to the development of the national economy. Underlying all teaching, of course, is the principle that theory must be closely connected with practice. The experiences of the Soviet Union are studied carefully and interpreted in the light of conditions prevailing in China.

The better to fulfil its function the People's University has established a special Research Department, covering 41 branches of research. With its 3,000 students the People's University has already in its short life opened a new road for higher education in China.

People's Cultural Clubs

People's Cultural Clubs have been set up to help educate the masses of the workers and peasants in a variety of ways. They are one of the means of eradicating illiteracy, and provide political education and cultural recreation for the masses, and at the same time help local governments carry out their work. Their range is wide. They establish libraries and arrange broadcasts, for instance, organise groups to read newspapers and books, set up wall-newspapers and blackboards carrying the day's news in simple language. Their recreational activities cover amateur dramatic and singing groups, dances, movie and lantern lectures and athletic activities.

In 1950 the Northeast alone had 218 major People's Clubs and 455 smaller ones, which between them brought 569,150 people to participate in cultural activities and study.

New Democratic China is only a little over a year old. The mass education of the workers and peasants is only at its beginning. Yet everywhere in China today there is intense educational activity, and this is particularly so among the workers and peasants. For the coming generation of their children, the schools have opened wide their doors. The number of adult schools, too, is rapidly increasing.

New China's education is progressing side by side with economic reconstruction. In the words of Chairman Mao Tse-tung: "The era in which the Chinese were regarded as uncivilised is now over. We will emerge in the world as a nation with a high culture."



Peking school children honour a volunteer's mother during the Spring Festival.



Northeast peasant stretcher-bearers ready to start for the front.

Support to the Volunteers In Korea



A transport team happily returns after delivering supplies for the volunteers.



Huge quantities of gifts pour across the Yalu for the Chinese people's volunteers and the KPA.



The P.O.W.'s are warmly clad in cotton-padded uniforms issued them by the Korean people's authorities and Chinese volunteers.

LIFE IN A P.O.W. CAMP IN

The Korean People's Army and the Chinese people's volunteers have numbers of prisoners of war in their victorious campaigns against in Korea. Mostly American, these P.O.W.'s are given humane treatment. They are considered as only the tools of the Wall Street in the unspeakable crimes they have committed against the K



The P.O.W.'s are provided with adequate meals. . .



newspapers from America. . .



Safe hidden from the indiscriminate U.S. bombing, the regular daily life at the camp starts with leisurely shaving and morning exercise.

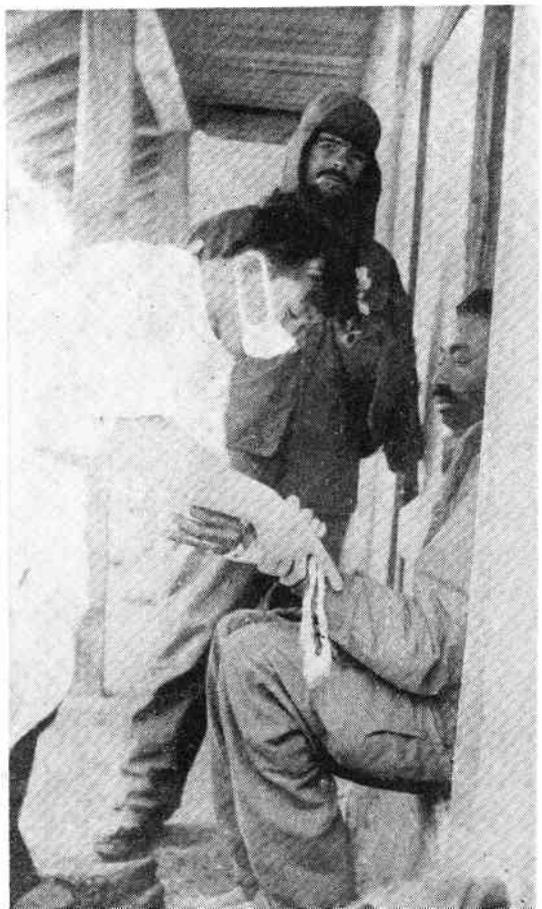
N KOREA

ve taken large
t the invaders
nd considerate
et war-makers
orean people.

and constant medical care.



reading matters in their native language. . .



Labour Hero Tien Yun-hua

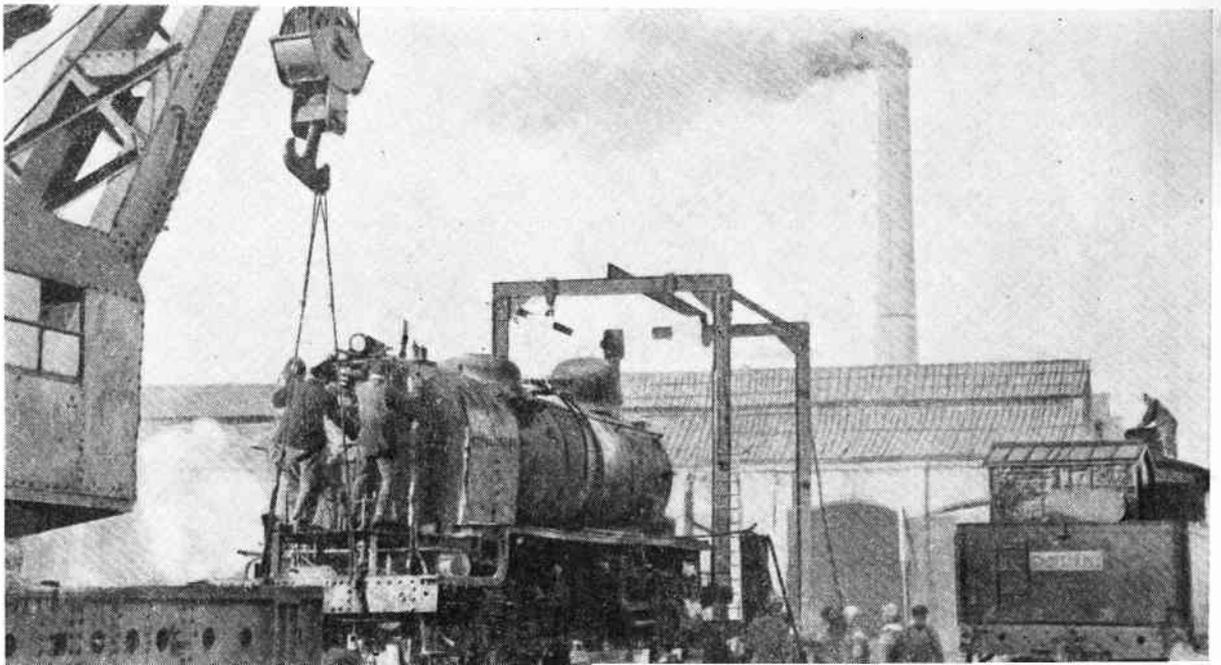
He fought the Japanese as an underground worker. He was taken to Japan as a slave labourer. He led the workers in their struggle against the KMT. And now, after liberation, he has won a host of medals and badges of honour as a railway mechanic and become known as the "No. 1 Trouble-Shooter" in the Shihchiachuang Railway Works.



Tien Yun-hua (left) inspects the work shop.

passes on his experience to his colleagues.

The Shihchiachuang Railway Works in which Tien is now chief of the engineering department.



From the Ranks of Labour

— Tien Yun-hua, a Railway Worker —

When I first met Tien Yun-hua in the storeroom of the Shihchia-chuang Railway Factory, he was in a bad humour. He was frowning, holding in his hand an iron bar and pointing at the grease frozen on it.

"Who's responsible for this? Such a lot of grease too! It must have been here for days!" he yelled at one of the other workers. "Whoever gave out the grease is responsible for wasting material."

"I don't know who left it," said the worker.

"You don't know! Where have you been these past three years? Don't you know just how much grease we need to polish one wagon? They should never give out more than just what's needed. Lubricants aren't to be wasted this way."

Handing the bar to the worker, he said, "Remember the regulations. Don't you be careless about giving out lubricants, or let anyone else be. Each drop of oil, each screw, counts—they're our country's property."

I listened and watched him closely. He was much like the other workers, standing there in oil-stained overalls, of medium height, but perhaps a trifle fatter than most. Still young, in his late thirties, with quick movements, and keen eyes beneath bushy eyebrows that made one feel nothing would escape his notice.

Tien Yun-hua is chief of the engineering department. The workers are used to his brusqueness and temper and like him well. When you ask them what they think of Tien, they answer, "Old Tien? A capable man, yes, very capable." He's popular with them for his expert skill, and he knows the machines like old acquaintances since he's been at the plant for more than twenty-two years. More important, they look up to him and respect him for the hard years of struggle he endured.

* * *

Tien Yun-hua has been working ever since he was a child. Through

Chow Hsueh-sheng

the help of an uncle he became an apprentice in the Shihchia-chuang Railway Works when he was nineteen. This same uncle, a Communist Party member, told him about the great revolutionary movement going on in China, and showed him the way to unite workers to struggle against the capitalists. In 1938 after the Anti-Japanese War had broken out, uncle and nephew joined the Eighth Route Army.

That winter Tien joined the Communist Party. Since then he has devoted his life to furthering the revolution's cause. He learned to be a good leader in fighting the Japanese and puppet troops. Because he was alert and courageous, the Party sent him to the Feng-feng Mines in enemy-occupied territory to mobilise 500 miners and their families. The mission was very successful. They took puppet equipment and moved it to the Liberated Areas, and made the basis of a small arsenal.

In 1939 Tien Yun-hua was sent to Shihchia-chuang as an underground worker. He looked up all his old friends, pretending he had just come from Sian and was badly in need of a job. His friends found a place for him in the Railway Works.

Underground Activities

On the surface Tien looked like any other worker going about his job. Actually he was methodically collecting information about the enemy, and on Saturday nights he used to bicycle to a small village outside the city to report to the Party organisation. Together with another Party member, Li Yi-hua, who was in charge of contacts, he planned and organised the blowing up of many enemy installations, much to the chagrin of the Japanese.

Months passed by and this dangerous and highly valuable sabotage went on. One winter day as Tien was about to go into the factory, he noticed a great commotion inside the factory yard.

People were huddled in small groups whispering that the Japanese police were looking for a Communist in their midst. An old foreman warned Tien to slip away. Tien could have escaped, but remembering the workers who had guaranteed him to the Japanese factory superintendent and that they would suffer if he left, and thinking that perhaps there was a chance that he could get himself out of this fix, he stayed.

Arrest and Torture

The Japanese police arrested him and tried to force him to talk. "I'm an ordinary worker and nothing more," Tien said, not once but hundreds of times in reply to their constant questions. The police chief was furious that they could get nothing out of Tien. "Send the other one in," he ordered one of his subordinates.

Into the room walked Li Yi-hua. Under the strain of questioning, he had turned traitor. He acted surprised at seeing Tien. "Why, are you here too, Old Tien? Well... it's no use. You'd better tell them the truth. No use hiding anything. They know."

Tien turned cold with anger. What kind of a man was this who betrayed the Party as soon as he was arrested? "I don't know you," he said, and turned his head the other way.

The Japanese used every torture and temptation to make Tien talk. They forced water up his nose until he fainted. Several of them walked on his stomach with heavy boots. They put a feast in front of him when he was half-starving. But Tien was made of strong stuff. Not for a minute did he forget his comrades in the guerrilla columns. He reminded himself over and over. "I'm a Communist. My life belongs to the Party. I'd rather die than betray my Party."

Then he would feel strong and each time he would give the same reply. "I'm an ordinary worker. I've nothing to say. Kill me or release me, but still I've nothing to say."

After beating Tien half-unconscious, they set starved dogs at

him, to bite and tear his flesh. Then the Japs tied his body to a high wooden post and left him in the freezing cold. Somehow he didn't die, and the next morning, finding him alive and more a nuisance than he was worth, the Japs, convinced he knew nothing, released him.

Tien made his way to the home of a fellow worker and spent two months recovering. Then he managed to get a job in the Shih-chiachuang Water Works. One day a fire broke out in the Railway Works and the Japanese found that the water supply had been cut. Four storerooms of equipment and materials went up in flames before the fire was out. They tracked Tien down this time. They couldn't prove his involvement, but he went to jail anyhow.

In 1943, Tien Yun-hua, together with a group of political prisoners, was sent to Japan in a forced labour team. Tien never lost heart, nor ceased his work. Even here he led the group in acts of sabotage, and wherever he could he talked of the revolution. He was not freed until 1945 when he was sent back to China.

He lost little time returning to the Railway Works in Shih-chiachuang. Still just a worker in the eyes of the KMT, he was secretly a leader of workers. Under the very noses of the Kuomintang he organised a real union of the workers in place of the phoney KMT union.

"Our Day Has Come!"

On October 17, 1947 the Eighth Route Army marched into Shih-chiachuang. The vital Hopei Province railway and industrial centre was liberated. After eight years of lonely fighting as an underground worker, Tien Yun-hua shouted his welcome over and over again to the marching people's army. As he saw the portraits of the country's beloved leader Comrade Mao Tse-tung raised high among the crowds, he remembered his uncle who died fighting in the PLA ranks. He thought of Li Yihua who betrayed the revolution during difficult days.

As the red flag was carried past, tears came to his eyes. He didn't try to control them. "Our day has come! We're free!" he shouted to all around him. "We must work! Work hard!"

Tien was assigned to unite the Shih-chiachuang workers and restore production as soon as possible. He organised teams of workers to repair bridges, since good communication lines were important for military operations and production. Sometimes the men had to walk long distances from the city and rest at night near their work, and Tien would prepare hot water to make the men in his team more comfortable. And later when the hot weather came and there was no drinking water, he would buy sweet beets for everyone. These were cheap and when you ate them, your thirst was gone. The men's spirits were high. Their work on roads and railway lines was quick and efficient. Their fellow-workers called them "shock-workers", for they were in the front ranks in the fight against the KMT bandits.

As liberation swept southward, the Railway Works in Shih-chiachuang was gradually brought back into operation. Years of mismanagement and neglect by the Japanese and the KMT made this no easy task. The KMT blockade made it more difficult to get the tools and spare parts needed. Tien organised some of the workers to search for small parts and tools. He would look everywhere to hunt up a screw, a bolt, or some steel plate to repair the boilers.

At first some of the workers laughed when they saw Tien in the evening walking around the yard or even on the outskirts of the city shining his torch into dark corners or old air-raid shelters or climbing onto the factory roof to see whether these places harboured scraps of metal. Soon most of the workers joined in the search. A treasure-trove came forth. Tools of all descriptions taken from the factory during KMT days were brought out from hiding places in workers' homes. One brought in a flywheel he had once thrown away to spite a tyrannical foreman, found just where he had thrown it. The equipment and tool shortage was solved. The Railway Works could run efficiently.

In May 1949 when the production emulation movement was launched, Tien was an assistant in the boiler section. Old Li, the foreman, was the chief.

By this time Tien was recognised as a leader of the younger work-

ers, who were enthusiastic about strengthening the labour union, introducing rationalisation plans and improving tools. Efficiency was raised more than 100 per cent throughout the plant. But the older workers, who looked to Li as leader, were not on such good terms with Tien.

Tien was conscious of this. Li explained to Tien, "Everyone is afraid of you. And that goes for me too." Tien was troubled by Li's remark.

Then one day there was an explosion in the power house. Tien had advised Li many times to change one of the boilers, but Li resented Tien's "meddling" and refused to take his advice. There were heavy and unnecessary losses.

Tien felt very bad about the incident, holding himself personally responsible, for if he had had good relations with Li, he thought that there might have been no explosion.

Criticism and Self-Criticism

A mass meeting of all the workers in the plant was called to discuss the whole affair. Tien was the first to speak. "I'm a Communist. It's my job to unite all the workers, young and old, to fulfill our production target. But somehow I've failed to co-operate with Li, our Chief. Too often do I work in my own way, not consulting with Old Li as often as I should. And then there's the matter of my temper. I lose it too often. The older workers are afraid of me for that. If I'd had good relations with them, with Old Li and the others, they would have considered my suggestion about repairing the boiler seriously and this accident could have been avoided."

Tien got very excited and felt more and more that the blame fell on him. "The factory and the Party should punish me. They should discipline me for this. I myself promise to improve my temper and change my over-bearing and over-confident way of working. In technical matters I've a lot to learn from Old Li and I'll learn too."

Everyone was moved by Tien's remarks. Old Li, too. "It's all my fault. I should have looked after the boiler more carefully and taken Old Tien's advice. I've been wrong, jealous of the way he's gone about getting things done.

Well, from now on, we'll work together, all of us."

The result of the boiler incident was that the backward and older workers were activated. One team made up entirely of older workers soon became known as "the bastion of production."

From the boiler section Tien was moved to the wagon section of the Works, then to the locomotive section. Wherever there was a lag in production, Tien would be sent to solve the problem and help raise production. There was no magic in his formula. He understood the principle of division of labour, he knew how to organise workers, and as a worker himself he knew the importance of morale. His own enthusiasm was infectious and he was an adept in the use of criticism and self-criticism. They gave him the name of "No. 1 Trouble-Shooter." "Send Old Tien," the workers would say, hearing that there was some particularly knotty problem to be solved. "He'll be able to help."

No one in the Shihchiachuang Railway Works was surprised and everyone was very pleased when Tien Yun-hua was elected a national labour hero. The whole factory turned out for the send-off party in September 1950 when he left for Peking to attend the National Conference of Labour Models and Combat Heroes.

"Come home and have dinner with me," Tien said after telling me something of the present conditions in the factory.

On our way out of the factory, we passed through the railway yard. Work was still going on. Some workers were fixing lamps and wash-stands in carriages, others changing wagon wheels, and a team was doing repairs to a freight car. Many took time off to wave to Tien.

"Hey, Old Chang," he said to one, "aren't you people tired? Our target's heavy this year. Do you really think you'll be able to surpass the target?" There was no question of fulfilling the goal, came the answer. The question was by how much would they go over the target.

A locomotive clanked to a stop in the middle of a test run. Steam came up from it like a fog. There was engine trouble of some kind. Tien ran into the steam and was back again in a minute, hammer

in hand. "A moment," he called out, "Won't be long." He went down on the tracks and was gone under the giant engine. It can't have been five minutes before he was crawling out again, a smile on his face. "It's all right," he shouted up to the driver. The locomotive pulled slowly out of the yard.

We make our way through the plant to Shihchiachuang's main street. Steam whistles cut across the evening. The city's street lights were on. Boys and girls, swinging satchels on their shoulders, joked as they walked along. Women from the textile mills and railway men were homeward bent. We passed a cinema playing the Soviet film, "Fall of Berlin", queues lining up to buy tickets.

A Comfortable Home

We went down side streets, turned into a residential section, and knocked at the door of an European-style house, once the living quarters of high-ranking Japanese superintendents. Today, three other labour heroes and their families share this house with Tien's.

His wife, reserved and shy like many peasant women, greeted us at the door. His three rooms were comfortable and neat. On the walls were posters of Comrades Stalin and Mao Tse-tung. There was a radio on a window sill and a new bicycle had been propped in a corner. Under Chairman Mao's picture Tien had hung his badge and other souvenirs from the Na-

tional Conference of Labour Models. "I saw him when I was in Peking," he said pointing to Chairman Mao's picture, and he described in every detail how our great leader looked when he had seen him. We were eating dinner when I asked Tien about his wife. "She's a very good woman," he said, "only she doesn't know many characters yet. But she's learning. She goes to the literacy class at the Works each evening. Like to see some of her writing?" His wife protested but he pulled out her notebook and showed me the characters she had been practising. "Not bad, eh?" he said with deliberate pride.

Education is what Tien feels himself to lack most. For his family had been too poor to give him even primary school education. The few characters he picked up before liberation had not been enough for him to read the papers. "But now I can read newspapers, magazines and letters. I can write too. But my cultural level is still too low for the jobs I have to do. I'm trying to improve. Reading a lot."

As I was leaving, Tien Yun-hua gave me a snapshot of his wife and himself, "Come and see us again, whenever you can," he urged.

On the back of the picture in big characters was scrawled, "Please write to me. Help me increase my knowledge so I can do my work better."



Workers go to the spare-time school

by Ku Yuan

Report from the Korean Front

American Crimes in Seoul

Special Correspondent

For some days I have been investigating the record of American-created horror which reduced Seoul in three months from a thriving city of 1,800,000 people to ruin carpeted with corpses in which there were only 35,000 living people.

Also I have had access to the mass of evidence which is still being painfully gathered together by an investigating committee of Seoul's leading citizens.

Preliminary statistics show that 43,590 Seoul citizens were slaughtered in the three months of American occupation. Behind Hsitamen and Mapo Prisons in the hills, over 1,000 ditches were filled with dead bodies. Examination of the corpses shows extreme maltreatment before death. In many cases, ears and noses were cut off, limbs torn out and even more horrible mutilations.

On October 15, the fascist puppets who administered the city under American authority published a "punishment for treason law." Its essence was that anyone who remained in Seoul when the Korean People's Army was there and provided it with food, drink, service and supplies was liable to be shot. And anyone had the right to kill on sight any employee of the democratic government.

On October 27, the puppet city government instituted a system of registration certificates. A tremendous traffic developed in these certificates, with both Rhee and American officers extorting considerable sums of money for furnishing them. Police and the "Great Han League" organised raids on cinemas, cafes and private houses, arresting and beating up any one without a certificate. Regular prisons became so crowded that school and factory buildings and even churches were used as detention centres.

I myself have spoken to some of those who survived until the people's soldiers broke down the prison doors. I have seen corpses in courtyards of police stations, for although thousands have been bur-

ied over the past month the authorities have still not had time to bury all.

Among the hundreds of case histories I have checked, this one is typical of American brutality. A young mother of three children was tortured and beaten to death in the playground of Taming People's School, in sight of her children and about 100 local people. Her ears, nose and breasts were cut off. Soldiers did the beating with a squad of some eight or 10 U.S. soldiers standing by. No one knew what this woman was accused of.

In another case, 30-year-old Chang Sun Chi, five months' pregnant, was taken to army headquarters where she was stripped, her hands tied and, while one soldier sat on her, another forced hot red pepper down her nostrils to make her reveal the whereabouts of her husband who was suspected of membership of the Nodong Dong.

After a night of torture she was thrown into Hsitamen (West Gate Prison) where other prisoners, knowing her to be pregnant, somehow got some scraps of food for her. She was on the point of death when she was released 27 days later. She told me that now she cannot find her four-year-old son.

Historic Relics Looted

Soon after the Americans gave the order for the removal of the people and property from the city, American trucks drove to the cultural centres of Seoul. A watchman of the National Central Museum, Kim Ser Book, told me, "Men started to carry out crates from the museum and Americans in uniform—I don't know what rank—told them how to load them onto trucks."

A careful check shows that all gold crowns and other ornaments of the Korean royal families, dating back 1,000 years and more, were looted, together with many other priceless historic relics.

Palaces and libraries and museums themselves have been badly damaged and, in addition, before leaving the city, U.S. and Rhee

troops deliberately set fire to factories and other buildings which had escaped bombing. This organised looting and destruction was outside the freelance plunder carried on by groups of American soldiers. They held up shops and private homes, and helped themselves. "Free enterprise" created such an enormous black market in American goods that there can be no doubt that high ranking American officers were involved.

Houses in Choungloo Road were turned into brothels to which women were taken by force. Rape was the commonest occurrence. One married woman told me how, with another woman and a young girl, she had been rounded up by three American soldiers, taken to American quarters and raped. The girl was especially badly treated because they discovered she was a member of the Women's League. The two married women were released the next day but the young League member was shot.

It was quite common for American soldiers to break into private houses and rape any woman.

When the Americans were preparing to leave the city, they made it clear that anyone who did not evacuate would be regarded as having sympathies with the Korean People's Army. They spread rumours that Pyongyang had been atom-bombed and Seoul, too, would be atom-bombed after the American troops withdrew.

All skilled labourers were registered and removed to Busan early in December. All other able-bodied men between the ages of 18 and 60 were compulsorily enrolled in the so-called militia organisation and removed south. There were 35,000 people left in the city on January 4 when the people's forces entered.

Seoul citizens who broke through the American net are drifting back. Each adds information that helps to fill out the picture of those 100 days of horror under the U.S. 8th Army and its "upright, God-fearing 100 per cent" American commander Lieutenant General Ridgeway.

(Hsinhua News Agency)

My Family Breaks Its Walls

Pu Chun-sheng

Only two years ago I was like a worm asleep for winter, a warmly covered worm that had wriggled far below the surface of the ground to escape the winter's cold. For me there was no expectancy of spring.

Originally I came from the exploiting class. My youthful college days were spent at Yenching University, a missionary institution. Later I was a teacher in a Christian school. Reality hardly touched me, and of course, I didn't know what it meant to fight. I found myself in a tidy comfortable niche, protected by a gate. Housewife and mother since the beginning of the Anti-Japanese War, for me life meant only my own tight family circle.

My husband, Chen Ching-yun, a good man and a skillful surgeon, thought that of all material values the one that counted most was a highly-developed technique. He provided the income. I looked after our children. There were days, I remember, when I thought that to be a woman was more fortunate than being a man, for a woman could nestle at home and have nothing to do with the wicked society outside our gate.

We were comfortably-off. We had three servants. Our friends always praised me as a "fine help-mate" to my husband. Our children always looked so clean that a friend once said they looked as though they just came back from the laundry. The eldest, a boy of eleven, was never allowed out of the front gate alone. We had no relations with our neighbours and really didn't want any. We never bothered our heads about politics, a "dirty business."

But one day I had a shock. The drums and tymbals of liberation crashed and throbbed around me. It was a winter day. Yet everything seemed to have come to life as if the first traces of spring were in the air.

Ruddy-cheeked young men of the People's Liberation Army moved into one of the houses on our

street. They played with my children, and my children loved them. I began to let the children go outside the gate. I found myself opening conversations with our neighbours. Somehow the outside world had come right into our family and we and the world were merging.

Wen-tai, my son, made me very conscious of this one evening. He called to me as he lay in bed, "Mama! Know what? Our school has a Young Pioneer Corps. Mama, I'm a Young Pioneer!" His eyes sparkled with happiness.

Then in the *People's Daily* I read Ilya Ehrenbourg's moving report to the First World Peace Congress. From morning to night I was haunted by one thought: "I want to help put out the fire!" I decided that first I had better catch up on some reading I had missed. I concentrated on Chairman Mao's works. But it's not easy to pick up the thread of serious concentration after ten years of mental sluggishness. There was much I could not understand.

New World Outlook

One day I met Comrade Cheng Teh-fang on the street. We'd been good friends before the war. She had gone to the Liberated Areas at the outbreak of the Anti-Japanese War. Although our separation had lasted for twelve years, in no time at all we were easy with each other. She helped me a great deal by her clear and simple explanations of the programme of the Government, the Communist Party and the Marxist approach to the world.

At this time in our family life I was looking after our four children, for my husband, Ching-yun, was in London taking special courses in surgery. In January 1950 he returned and took up work with the Peita Hospital (The Peking University Teaching Hospital). I'd been writing to him regularly for I felt sorry that he had missed this important time in our lives. I tried hard when he got back to make up his loss by telling him of my own experiences, big and small.

One Monday morning in February, 1950, I walked out of the door and took up a job teaching mathematics at Bridgeman Girls' Middle School. The school Communist Party branch was constantly encouraging me. Ten years ago, its secretary, Comrade Tao, had been my pupil. Now I was hers. And so began my collective life.

On May 1, I paraded with the school group past the reviewing stand at the Tien An Men Square. A wet drizzly day. Happy and tired. The family was waiting for me. A hot bath was ready. As I relaxed in the bath, I thought of the other comrades and students. I was a little uneasy at the idea of my own comfort.

At school the next morning I learned that those who had stayed behind had prepared hot ginger soup with sugar for the paraders, and that in the evening comrades from government education offices and from the municipal Communist Party committee had visited the school to find out how all the marchers were. Really, you do feel as though you belong to something now. That's what it's like to be a citizen of New China:

I didn't know the situation in Peita Hospital, nor what Ching-yun's personal attitude towards parades was, so I hadn't pressed him or helped him to decide whether to march or not. He stayed home working on a lecture. Yet less than six months later Ching-yun was the most excited of all when he joined the educational workers' trade union group in the National Day parade.

In November, the campaign to resist America and aid Korea got underway. I was then the chairman of the educational committee of the school trade union (I'd been elected chairman of the school trade union in September) which co-operated with the administration and student body in organising current event study groups. On November 26 my husband Ching-yun joined the volunteer surgical group and left soon after for the front.

I envy my husband very much. I can catch from his letters his enthusiasm. "Our family," he writes in his last, "is a revolutionary family. We must put the country's interest before and above everything else."

Book Review

Simonov's *Fighting China*

Hsu Kuo-chang

China striking down the old feudal, semi-colonial rule. China purging herself of the imperialist-nurtured cloaca—and of Washington's proteges. China on the march, militant, triumphant. Here in a little over 100 pages, *The Fighting China* by the distinguished Soviet writer K. Simonov presents not only the magnificent record of a great Field Army which has battled its way from the Northeast to the southern coast, but also a succinct and moving account of China's immediate past, with all the darkness and sufferings under the KMT regime sharply contrasted with the joys of liberation.

On-the-Spot Investigations

Simonov was in China during the autumn of 1949 as a member of the Soviet delegation which came to attend the Inauguration Ceremony of the Chinese People's Republic. When the celebrations were over, he travelled with the PLA forces in the field. *The Fighting China* is the result of Simonov's on-the-spot investigations made in November 1949 during his visits to the fighting front in South China, where the PLA was then engaged in a final mopping-up campaign against the remnant KMT forces on the mainland.

Simonov went to the front as *Pravda* correspondent. However, he was not out there merely "to cover the news." This, of course, he did, and superbly as only a great literary craftsman can do. But far from being an outsider, he was a comrade in the midst of battle. Simonov lived and marched with our commanders and fighting men. Indeed, every interview, every chance meeting, showed that where there is a common ideology, no language barrier can obstruct true friendship.

Hsu Kuo-chang is a member of the faculty of the Institute of Foreign Languages, Peking.

This review is based on the English version of *The Fighting China* which appeared in *Soviet Literature*, October, 1950.

At Hengyang, Hunan Province, the first point in his itinerary, he had an interview with General Lin Piao who outlined for him the offensive then underway.

The enemy forces which the 4th Field Army was then on its way to ring in and annihilate numbered over 300,000 troops, concentrated mainly in Kwangsi Province. Knowing that they could not stand up against the invincible PLA, they were planning various escape routes—west to Yunnan, south to Hainan Island, and southwest to Viet-Nam. The Viet-Nam route was then under negotiation between the KMT and the French.

"That sort of prospect naturally doesn't suit us," said Lin Piao, "and we'll do all we can to get to the border (i.e., the Yunnan-Kwangsi-Viet-Nam border) first, although at this date we're much farther from it than the Kuomintang-ers are: nearly double the distance..."

That was said on November 8. Only a month later, when Simonov had a second interview with General Lin Piao, the plan of one month earlier was already an accomplished fact. During this time the 4th Field Army had advanced so rapidly on the left and right wings of the enemy's rear, bent on converting the horseshoe around the enemy into a ring to close on the Yunnan-Viet-Nam border, that the general could quietly assure Simonov:

"All the actual forces Pai Tsung-hsi has left are hemmed in and will never see either Viet-Nam or Hainan."

How was this plan carried out?

Here Simonov, a keen observer, aided by a passionate interest in the cause for which he was himself fighting, records every significant facet of a big army on the move, from the general setup to such details as theatricals

and feeding arrangements.

First, the scale of the operation.

"We felt it in Changsha, as we came in sight of the road that now runs where the city ramparts used to be: standing on it, high above the rice fields, was column after column of gun-hauling lorries, and it took a whole forest of willow boughs to camouflage them."

And on the Changsha-Hengyang highway:

"...lorries rattled, guns jolted over the uneven road, and pontoon units went tearing past with a clatter and ringing, like fire brigades."

Second, speed. This is of prime importance in a mopping-up campaign. For this, the PLA, advancing on mountainous Kwangsi, had to leave behind all heavy armament, all heavy encumbrances that could lessen the speed of the pursuit. Eager to free their fellow countrymen still under the weight of the KMT machine, many divisions marched for 20 days on end without a real rest, covering 80 and 90 li a day over mountainous terrain.

At a river-crossing a divisional commander was hurrying on his already hurrying soldiers; "Quick-



K. Simonov in China, 1949

er! Quicker! They're waiting for you there!"

Then, the men, the composition of the PLA.

"The rank and file... falls into two main categories. One category is young peasants who joined the army as volunteers, for the most part after the land reform was carried out in their localities. The other consists of former KMT soldiers who were captured by the PLA, or surrendered to it of their own accord, or revolted and crossed over to its side, and are now fighting in its ranks."

Simonov held long talks with a typical representative from each category, a peasant from Northeast China and an ex-KMT soldier, and their life histories are thrilling stories in their own right. Where everything else is different, they have this in common: they both wanted to avenge the death of their parents who died as a direct result of KMT oppression. Both are class-conscious fighters now, and both have won the Order of Mao Tse-tung for outstanding exploits in the field.

With such men, men of the Mao Tse-tung breed, in its ranks, this great Field Army had been able to develop from its small beginnings in the Northeast into a force of over a million strong, and had, in the space of four years, battled its way through the Northeast, through the Shanhaikwan Pass, to Tientsin, Hankow, and on to Kwangsi and the southern coast.

So much for the military side. But *The Fighting China* is considerably more than the record of a military campaign. It also touches on economics and politics.

A Wrecked City Recovers

In a chapter entitled "A Town Mayor," Simonov gives an account of his interview with the mayor of Hengyang. This chapter gives a concrete illustration of how a city wrecked and looted by the KMT before its retreat, was taken over and put on its feet again. Simonov asked the mayor to begin with the first thing he did in Hengyang.

And that, the mayor told him, was to send people to take charge of the power plant. On the very evening the PLA entered the city, the lights were already on in Hengyang.

"Didn't the KMT try to blow up the plant?" Simonov asked.

"Yes, they did. But our underground workers prevented them."

They took over all the other public establishments as well. Workers in these establishments themselves came forward to help in the takeover. They drew up and verified inventories, so that former managers of plants wouldn't dare to hold anything back, even when they were so inclined.

Explanatory work regarding the New Democratic trade policy was speedily carried out. The Military, Revolutionary Committee, the supreme authority in town, received delegates representing people from all walks of life. The masses were mobilised.

By the end of the very first day, shops and booths were open and carrying on business.

But Simonov was to be even more impressed when he visited the city again on his journey back from the front.

"Hengyang is hard to recognise, it has changed so much in this past month... It is now an uncommonly animated town, swarming with people from one end to the other. And that is not surprising. A month ago there were only ninety thousand inhabitants; today there are 180,000."

There was another impressive story, of the Yungshao coal mine. KMT rapacity and mismanagement had left it in an appalling state. Production had ceased long before. Then the PLA came and took over. The workers set about their jobs with a will and the army helped the mine, with rice for the miners. The water was pumped out of the flooded mines and the blocked seams cleared. In less than a fortnight the pit was producing coal.

The PLA had set the people free, and the people in turn had answered its revolutionary call and had come out to help in its work. Hence all this energy and initiative.

While it is clear that the primary objective of the Chinese people's revolution was the overthrow of the KMT regime, there is no mistaking who in the last analysis is our real enemy. Says Simonov:

"Between the plates of this ruthless press (i.e., the Chiang Kai-shek regime) lay the living body of the Chinese people, and on the controlling lever rested an American hand—a hand that gave Chiang Kai-shek six billion dollars

for the purpose, firstly, of annihilating the enemies of the press—the Communists—and, secondly, of mechanising the press itself."

Thanks to the heroic PLA, this ruthless press has been destroyed once and for all. But it is clear that it would have been smashed to smithereens long ago if it had not been maintained and supported by the blood-stained profit-mongers across the Pacific. How can we ever measure our gratitude to our deliverers, to the PLA which has been fighting so long to deliver us from the life-crushing machine of the American imperialists?

As the PLA swept into the South, where death and terror and want used to hold sway, this life-bringing force spread joy and confidence and hope.

In the plains in southern Hunan Simonov sees wreaths of smoke rising over villages, at once giving an inhaunted look to half-wrecked houses. Nearby peasants, their trousers-rolled up to their knees, are mending a large battered bamboo wheel to water the rice fields...

Joyous Confidence

Yet all this in itself would not be sufficient ground for optimism.

"No," Simonov answered, "this joyous confidence in the future welled up in me on the trip from Kweilin to Hengyang not simply because of the smoke wreathing over the house-roofs or the fields being alive again, but because people in the most diverse walks of life... spoke, moved, went about their daily tasks with a feeling of unutterable relief, with the knowledge that the long-awaited deliverance from bondage had come to them at last."

"How glorious it is when everything around fills you with the certainty of a happy future for the people and of their clear and firm faith in that future!"

There is in these words a lot more than what is commonly called a "sympathetic approach." There is love and kinship, the love and kinship of a comrade-in-arms, a fighter for the same cause, the cause of peace and democracy. And one feels this in every line of Simonov's account.

The Fighting China is a strong and stirring revolutionary appeal, an essential book for all interested in the revolution's progress.

Scissor-Cuts and Knife-Cuts



In the houses of the people in North and Northwest China, the white paper covered windows are often gaily decorated with red-paper scissor-cuts, that are bright splashes of colour by day and at night turn the window frames into silhouette screens. These scissor-cut designs depict the most familiar things of the people's life: flowers, birds, insects, vegetables, animals, human figures. Many of them illustrate incidents or personages from well-known stories. Sometimes called "window-designs", they are usually four or five inches square.

The Lu Hsun Art Academy in Yenan was the first to draw nationwide attention to the beauty and skill of this form of art in 1940. The poet Ai Ching, who is also an art critic, was one of the school professors who built up a rich collection of these scissor-cuts during his extensive travels through the Northwest.

"We saw," the poet writes in his preface to the collection of scissor-cuts published by the Academy, "several window-designs in the house of Chang Chih, a pasture owner of Hushanpo, Yuanchih County. They were extremely simple and extremely beautiful. The housewife was delighted to hear us praising these designs and told us that they were the handiwork of her young daughter-in-law, who had just joined the family. Her daughter-in-law happened to be away, but the old lady sought out some more of her work. I got as gifts eight scissor-cuts: the goat, the pig, the fish among the lotus flowers, the cabbage, the weaver

and three others, all wonderful designs."

"... In Yao's family in Ching-pien the big windows have designs in each of the corners and a big one in the middle. Middle-aged Mrs. Yao creates her own designs. She is famous for her skill in this art and all the women in the neighbourhood come to ask for samples of her work. The figures she cuts have very accurate contours and the decorations looked perfect. It seems she has studied sketching and design. She gave me many of her works."

Like embroideries and folk-weaves, the scissor-cuts are made by the women members of the peasant households. After the autumn harvest, when the women-folk have more leisure they cut out these designs. They are used to decorate the house at the lunar New Year and in the old days were supposed to bring it happiness.

Great dexterity is needed to make these cuts as even the smallest lines must be connected up. That is why many cuts looked crude and simple, like some folk songs. But many scissor-cuts have the most intricate designs.

The Chinese peasants love beautiful designs and they produce these delightful works of art with only a pair of scissors and a piece of paper. With these "art materials" the girls and women reflect the rural life nearest and dearest to them.

Reflects Rural Life

These scissor-cuts are the very stuff of the life of China's villages. Of course, like the rest of China's ancient arts, they too have been influenced by superstitious beliefs. But compared with the rest of the folk arts, these scissor-cuts are outstandingly endowed with healthy, robust feeling and great simplicity. The decadence of China's old-style *literati* or of the so-called "modernists" has not touched them. They project the intense impressions that Chinese peasant women have re-

ceived from objects and incidents of life. In simplified forms they preserve the characteristics of these objects—a necessary condition of all realistic, folk arts.

Ku Yuan, one of liberated China's most talented artists, is one of the many members of the Lu Hsun Academy who tried their hands at scissor-cuts. His *Year of Rural Life* in 24 window-designs is now well-known. His *Co-op* is a famous large-scale design. It shows the front of a shop: a salesman holds aloft a scale, a woman holds a width of cotton in her arms while a man carries a towel and a spade on his shoulder. Hsia Feng, Chen Shu-liang and many other artists also created new scissor-cuts which delighted the peasants. Several artists produced patterns from which the peasant women cut designs and the results of this collaboration have been extremely attractive. The people are living a new life and they demand a new content and forms even in their scissor-cut window designs.

Knife-cuts

The close relation of the scissor-cut is the knife-cut. In this case the design is first drawn on the topmost of several layers of thin paper and is then cut-out with a sharp knife. Water colour is then floated on the top sheet and the colour seeps through to tint the whole pile. One can immediately distinguish the knife-cuts from the scissor-cuts by the former's greater variety and flexibility of line. These knife-cuts also appear on the peasants' windows and they are frequently used as designs on women's shoes, children's caps, men's tobacco pouches and on cushions, pillows, table cloths and so on. They too have gained urban popularity since the Chahar Association of Writers and Artists published a collection of them last year. *People's China*, as our readers will have noted, has published many scissor and knife-cuts in the past. We will continue to introduce our readers to other specimens of this attractive art in the future.



Scissor-Cut

Women Salute March Eighth

Ku Ling

"Look! Look! They're coming!"

"Who?"

"The grandmothers doing the yangko dance!"

"You don't say!" The old peasant woman in the faded blue jacket and the trousers tied tight at the ankles, with a black velvet cap on her greying hair and canvas slippers on her feet, gazed open-mouthed at the dancers. In their greens and blues and yellows, red silk sashes round their waists, they filed into the courtyard. Grey-haired like herself, the eldest two brought up the end of the line, beneath their proud banner: "Peking's Housewives Salute International Women's Day." And towering above them the gold-filed roofs of the Palace of Culture smiled down with the warmth of early Spring sunshine.

"Well, that's something we've not seen before," chortled the old woman. "But why not?" she laughed to her neighbours. "Doesn't seem to be anything women can't do these days. Take me, now, I'm over sixty, coming into a show like this, with my daughter here just learning to drive a tractor."

The old woman and her daughter were two of a crowd, a huge crowd of over 200,000 women with 50 representatives of many for-

eign nations. A happy crowd, eddying through the courtyard where emperors once had offered sacrifices to their ancestors, and pouring in and out of the rooms where exhibits of mothercraft and photographs of the lives of Chinese and Soviet women were on view. You could find among them peasant women from outlying districts who had never visited Peking before. Moslem girls in white caps and girls with red neckties of Young Pioneers, housewives, and women in the PLA, students and government-cadres with their picnic lunches.

International Solidarity

A friendly crowd, clustering in conversation, dancing in the gardens, bringing into the round dances Soviet and Korean women, friends from the People's Democracies and Britain and America. And walking under the trees, past booths that advertised "Women's Handicraft Industries" and stalls that sold soap, towels, children's dresses, embroidery, tooth-brushes, candy and a dozen other items at factory prices for this special day, you would catch snatches of song. "The East is Red," sang student voices, and a PLA group echoed, "From the Northeast to Tibet, from Inner Mongolia to Sinkiang, this is our beautiful land."

The morning was for walking and talking and meeting. Till ten at night, as a matter of fact, the crowd came and went through the park. But into the afternoon were packed more than 20 activities—yangko dances, skits, movie shows, news-reels of the Second World Peace Congress, and sports. Wherever the spoken or written word was used in exhibitions and shows, the language was simple so that everyone could understand, and peasant women were at home hearing the cultural workers sing old folk tunes whose new words—about marriage, production and farms, about Korea—had meaning for their new lives.

The day before—the celebrations in Peking lasted three days—Tsai Chang, Chairman of the All-China

Democratic Women's Federation, addressing a rally of women had pointed out why the women of China were rejoicing: "Since the founding of the People's Republic of China, broad paths have been opened up for the emancipation of women." Through the Agrarian Reform Law peasant women have been guaranteed an equal share of land. In Central and East China where land reform is now in progress, 60,000,000 women are in possession of land for the first time. The Marriage Law of last May overthrew the centuries-old marriage system which had caused so much suffering, and gave women marital freedom for the first time. The new Labour Insurance Regulations not only uphold equality between men and women but give special protection, such as paid confinement leave, to women. Welfare projects, moreover, have increased. To instance but one aspect, nurseries and factory creches took care of three times as many children in 1950 as in 1949. Women workers have made splendid contributions to the production and emulation programmes. They are now participating in every field, in political life, industry, agriculture and new professions—as tram, train, bus drivers, and lathe operators, to mention only a few.

"Women of all classes," called the huge red banner that ran the length of an inner courtyard at Peking's Palace of Culture, "of all nationalities, all democratic parties, all religious groups, unite under the flag of great patriotism!"

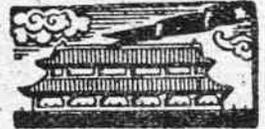
Everywhere the call was taken up. In Shanghai alone, more than 300,000 women demonstrated. Each factory, village, town and city celebrated March Eighth. Millions of women, newly joined members of Peasant Associations, trade unionists, teachers and housewives throughout the country held rallies and entertainments to celebrate their full partnership with men in building the New China, and demonstrated their solidarity with women the world over in the fight for peace.



Knife-Cut

CURRENT CHINA

Feb. 26—Mar. 10, 1951



World Peace Council

The resolutions adopted by the World Peace Council in Berlin met with warm support from the Chinese People's Committee in Defence of World Peace and Against American Aggression, all democratic parties, religious bodies and other people's organisations throughout the country.

Leading papers in various cities frontpaged and praised the resolutions, giving special prominence to the appeal for the conclusion of a peace pact among the five Great Powers (See *Supplement* for the full text).

Kuo Mo-jo, head of the Chinese Delegation to the World Peace Council, returned to Peking on February 7.

U.S. Uses Poison Gas

A gas bomb was dropped on Feb. 23 by a U.S. plane over Lilri village on the south bank of the Han River, 10 km. southeast of Seoul. Some of the Korean fighters and Chinese volunteers were affected with headaches and pains in the nose, throat and chest.

The press and people's organisations have protested strongly against this new U.S. criminal act contravening international law.

Enemy Vessels Sunk

Between June 25, 1950 and Feb. 22, 1951, 69 naval craft of the U.S. and puppet Syngman Rhee forces, including 5 cruisers and 24 destroyers, were sunk or damaged, the KPA GHQ announced. The KPA also brought down 11 enemy aircraft from March 2-4 within the region of Seoul.

From March 1-3, 8 British and U.S. aircraft were brought down or damaged by the anti-aircraft units of the Chinese volunteers.

Shanghai Workers Protest

About 660,000 Shanghai workers demonstrated on March 4 against U.S. re-arming of Japan. Among the paraders were many who had suffered during the Japanese occupation and about 300 veteran workers who had participated in the May 30 Incident of 1925.

Women Mark March 8

Women throughout the country celebrated the International Women's Day. In Peking, about 200,000 women—workers, peasants, students and housewives—spent the day in the Working People's Palace of Culture.

On March 7, more than 5,000 women in Peking representing 13 countries, held a rally to commemorate the day.

The All-China Democratic Women's Federation exchanged greetings with the WIDF, the Anti-Fascist Committee of Soviet Women and the women's organisations of many other countries.

Investigators to Malaya

A team to Malaya to investigate the extent of British persecution of overseas Chinese there is being organised by the Red Cross Society of China and the Chinese People's Relief Administration.

Hsiung Chin-ting, Chairman of the Chinese People's Relief Committee for the Overseas Chinese Refugees of Malaya, has cabled Mr. Attlee informing him that the team is ready to leave and requesting that the necessary entry permits be arranged and that the facilities usually provided for relief and welfare workers be extended to this team.

Thailand's Hostile Acts

Under the pretext that the students discussed the anti-American aggression campaign, the reactionary government of Thailand closed down 3 overseas Chinese schools at the end of last December. These actions have aroused indignation among the Chinese people.

U.S. Spy Captured

The PLA in Northwest China captured Wusman, a notorious Sinkiang Kazakh gangster, who joined the U.S. espionage organisation in 1948 and served under D.S. Mackiernan, former U.S. Vice-Consul and U.S. espionage agent in Tihua, capital of Sinkiang.

Labour Insurance

The Labour Insurance Regulations came into effect on March 1 after 3 months' intensive nationwide discussion of the draft. These regulations cover all enterprises, both state and private, employing more than 100 workers. All payments for medical and funeral expenses, retirement pensions, confinement leave, etc., are to be borne by the management, which pays into the labour insurance fund per month a sum equal to 3 per cent of the total payroll. No contribution is deducted from the workers' wages. Workers all over the country greet these regulations with great satisfaction.

Peasants' Emulation Drive

The National Agricultural Work Conference, recently convened by the Ministry of Agriculture, decided to launch a nation-wide Patriotic Production Campaign for 1951 to increase industrial crops and speed up technical training.

In response to this call, well-known Labour Model Li Shun-ta of Shansi Province has put up a challenge to all mutual-aid groups in the country to ensure a bumper crop in 1951.

The Central Committee of the Communist Party recently called upon all its members in the countryside to guarantee fulfilment of the year's plan for agriculture and afforestation.

Fertiliser Supplies

A plentiful supply of fertilisers is being made available by the state to peasants throughout China. South of the Great Wall alone, co-ops are distributing 1,200,000 tons of artificial fertilisers.

Cotton Price Fixed

To promote cotton-growing, the Government issued a directive on March 7 fixing price ratios between cotton and the main crop raised in different localities. Thus in Shansi Province, for example, each catty of medium ginned cotton is quoted as worth 9 catties of millet.

Peking Mayor Elected

Peng Chen, Secretary of the Peking Committee of the Communist Party, was elected Mayor of Peking by the 3rd All-Circles People's Representative Conference comprising more than 500 representatives from various strata. Two vice-mayors and 26 other members of the Municipal Government Council were also elected, among them a model railway worker, two woman teachers, a peasant leader, a writer and two businessmen. All of them took office on March 8.

Taiwan Uprising Commemorated

More than 1,000 people on Feb. 28 commemorated in Peking the anniversary of the Uprising against the KMT gang in Taiwan. Many patriots were killed by the KMT bandits on this day 4 years ago.

A message was issued by the Taiwan Democratic Self-Government League to urge the Taiwan people to redouble their efforts in fighting hand in hand with the rest of the Chinese people for the liberation of the island.

New Currency Rule

The Government Administration Council on March 6 issued the *Measures Prohibiting Inflow and Outflow of National Currency of the Chinese People's Republic Across the Boundaries* in order to stabilise the value of the People's Currency.

U.S. Offer Rejected

Yenching, Cheeloo, and Huachung Universities and Huanan Girls' College — formerly missionary schools—jointly rejected a financial offer recently made by the United Board of Christian Colleges in New York, an organisation under the influence of the U.S. State Department.

INTERNATIONAL

The Central Committee of the Chinese Communist Party on Feb. 28 cabled a message of greetings to the Central Committee of the Mongolian People's Revolutionary Party in honour of the 30th anniversary of its founding.

The Indian-Chinese Friendship Association has been formed in Calcutta, according to a report from New Delhi.

THE CO-OPS GROW

There are now over 45,000 co-operatives in China, mainly supply and marketing co-operatives and consumers' co-operatives, with over 25 million members. During 1950, the number of co-ops increased by 71 per cent, and their share capital by 224 per cent.

The supply and marketing co-ops develop mainly in rural areas and particularly where agrarian reform has been completed. In many villages in Northeast China, 60 to 80 per cent of the villagers have joined co-ops.

The co-ops operate according to the varying demands of their members in different seasons. In the spring, for instance, there is a big demand for farm tools. The co-ops find out in the winter what kind of implements their members need, and organise the scattered individual smithies and saw mills in the villages or nearby towns, supply them with raw materials at favourable prices, fix the quality of the products and sign purchasing contracts with them. Peasant members thus get better tools at lower prices, while the small producers are ensured profitable business.

The co-ops help the peasants to dispose of their surplus agricultural products at higher prices and supply them with industrial goods at lower prices than those on the market.

Consumers' co-ops have been growing mainly in factories, government institutions, schools and among other organised working people in cities and towns. There are nearly 1,800 consumers' co-ops in the major cities.

Their main function is to cut out middlemen's exploitations and keep workers supplied with adequate commodities at low prices. Co-op members are able to place special orders. Urban co-ops order goods from the rural co-ops, transport and process the goods if needed and distribute them to their members. Peking workers, for instance, get rice, flour, salt and other rural products at prices 10 to 50 per cent below the market rates.

The co-ops have thus become a means of fraternal co-operation between the city and the countryside.

Most of this co-operation is carried out through co-operative service stations in cities and towns. Both co-ops in rural areas and factories and trading concerns in cities sign contracts with these stations, submitting their plans for selling and buying. Thus both industrial and agricultural goods are purchased and sold in a direct and planned way, and their cost greatly reduced.

In these ways the co-ops are making themselves more and more important aids to the people's state.

The co-ops in China became unified and organised on a nation-wide scale last July with the formation of the All-China Federation of Co-operatives. The Chinese Industrial Co-operative movement has also amalgamated with the All-China Federation of Co-operatives and its International Committee, winding up its activities, recently stated: "We are proud to have been associated, even in a small way, with the early development of what has now, under the People's Government, become a great people's movement."

The All-India Students' Federation message on Feb. 21, 1951, International Day of Struggle Against Chinese volunteers in Korea in a Colonialism.

Letters from Our Readers

Hard Times in Japan

Dear Editor:

I've been very interested to read in the pages of your magazine of the growing movement among the Chinese people to oppose the re-arming of Japan. I myself have recently returned from Japan where I was studying at Hokkaido University.

During the several years I was in Japan, I had plenty of opportunities to see what the American occupation of Japan was like. In fact it was hard to avoid seeing the disastrous effects which this infamous occupation was having on the Japanese people.

The workers, for example, are very bitter. Militant workers who have dared stand up for their rights not only find themselves unemployed but they are blacklisted throughout the industry they belong to. Industrial firms, which are under the control of Japanese trusts and their Wall St. masters, take orders from MacArthur as to whom they will hire. The result is unemployment. It is common to find unemployed workers with four or five dependents, workers who have suddenly found themselves penniless and without any opportunity to work.

As for the peasants, they, too, are having a hard time. In actual fact the landlord system is stronger than ever. Taxes are vicious. Peasants, whose diet was already meagre, find themselves giving up their last savings of foodstuff to pay taxes. In northeastern Japan the situation is, indeed, grave. Peasant families there sell their daughters in order to have enough food to eat for a few days.

Despite the cruel oppression of the Japanese reactionaries and the American imperialists, the democratic movement in Japan is growing. The students hate their servile government and Emperor MacArthur. Since June 1948 the democratic student movement has identified itself with opposition to America's re-arming of Japan and to the rapid American colonisation of their country. When the Occupation "Educational Adviser" first made his "University Bill" public, the Japanese students were quick to recognise and fight against the slave education which America was trying to impose.

Posters and handbills demand the withdrawal of American troops from Japan. Since the Korean war there have been many protests against the additional taxes levied on the people. They have had enough of oppression. They demand a democratic Japan free from foreign control.

To replace the Hokkaido American G.I.'s sent to Korea, the Special Police Reserve Corps was formed. Promised \$4,000 (Japanese currency) a month and \$50,000 (Japanese currency), after two years, it did not take the recruits long to see through the fraud. They found themselves receiving the same military training as the American G.I.'s. Many, pauperised peasants and unemployed workers from all over Japan who had been lured into the Corps with false promises, escaped. If one of these "deserters" is found, he is shot summarily without trial.

That's what life is like in Japan these days.

Peking, March 3

Tseng Shao-teh

Voice from the Ganges

Dear Editor:

Today, all the world knows about the heinous crimes of the American aggressors in Korea and despises them for these crimes. The real intent of the U.S. action behind their camouflage of the U.N. is no longer hidden. It is to start war and invade China, to bring China under the U.S. thumb—like the old Chiang Kai-shek regime.

But thanks to the heroic resistance of the Koreans, the vigilant and timely help given by the great Chinese people, the plan has collapsed.

Your country, believe me, is highly esteemed in India even in the remote villages. My little town is situated between the sacred Ganges and Yamuna. The ordinary villagers and country folk I meet nearly all think highly of new China, especially since the defeat of the Americans in Korea. They all say, "What is this New China like? How has it become so strong that it can repulse the rich Americans?" But then the questioner pauses—"After all the Chinese are hard fighters made of good stuff. We've heard of their fighting skill for several years, first in the war against Japan, then against Chiang Kai-shek. And now." "You see," they say, "the Americans have never really fought. They've only played on the shoulders of others. Now they will know the meaning of war."

With best wishes and greetings to the fighting people of Korea and new China who have bravely repulsed the aggressors from their soil. I salute you, people who love freedom, peace and prosperity.

February

New Delhi,

A.G.



THE GREAT UNITY OF THE CHINESE PEOPLE

(Continued from page 8)

that it is so extensive in its scope, that it has such a solid political basis and that it has friends the world over. It is supported in the great struggle against imperialism and for peace by the world camp of peace and democracy headed by the U.S.S.R.

In the past, thanks to this revolutionary unity, domestic and international, the Chinese people have vanquished the powerful enemies which dominated them. Now, this united front assures the people that the fruits of their victories will be consolidated and success will attend their efforts in building the new China.

With the convocation of the Chinese People's PCC and the formation of the Central People's Government, the people's democratic united front entered a new stage. From the stage of struggling for the victory of the people's revolution and establishing the people's democratic dictatorship, China has now passed onto the stage of consolidating the people's democratic dictatorship, eliminating the remnant influences of imperialism, feudalism and the reactionary KMT clique, developing the economy and culture of the New Democracy and preparing the conditions for the transition to Socialism.

Relations Between the Parties

The question of the relations between the parties in the people's democratic united front is essentially the question of the relationship between the Communist Party and the other democratic parties of China. The events of the past year prove how friendly and cordial the relationship is. The ranks of the united front include the Chinese Communist Party, the Revolutionary Committee of the Kuomintang of China, the China Democratic League, the Democratic National Construction Association, the China Association for Promoting Democracy, the China Peasants and Workers' Democratic Party, the China Chih Kung Tang, the Chiu San Society, the China New Democratic Youth League and the Taiwan Democratic Self-Government League which is local in character. The non-Communist democratic parties and groups in varying degrees represent and are connected with definite classes and strata and in particular with the national bourgeoisie and the urban petty bourgeoisie. But, in nature, they are parties representative not of a single class only, but of various social strata. In the past, they have participated in varying degrees in the movement for national liberation and democracy and have collaborated with the Communist Party of China. With the holding of the PPCC, all these parties have adopted the Common Programme as their own basic political programme. Accepting the leadership of the Communist Party, they have sent their party members to participate in the People's Government and the People's Political Consultative Conferences of various levels and they are now sharing with the Communist Party of China the responsibilities of managing the national affairs of the country.

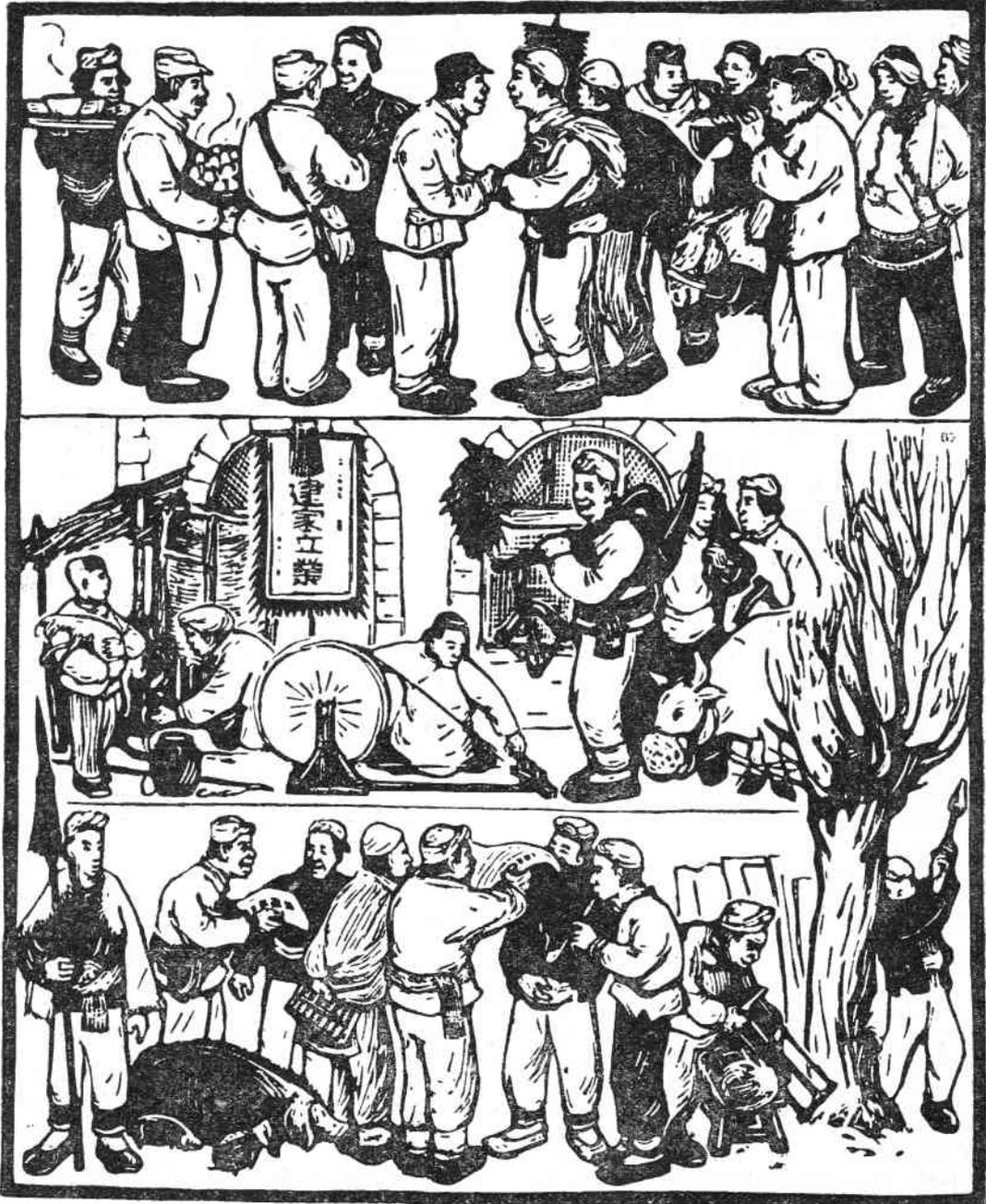
Of the six Vice-Chairmen of the Central People's Government, three are not members of the Communist Party. They are Soong Ching Ling, (Mme. Sun Yat-sen), Li Chi-shen, Chairman of the Revolutionary Committee of the Kuomintang of China, and Chang Lan, Chairman of the China Democratic League. Among the Members of the Central People's Government Council, only 29 are Communist Party members. The other 27 are members of the other democratic parties and non-party democrats. Of the four Vice Premiers of the Government Administration Council, there are two non-Communist democrats—Kuo Mo-jo (non-party democrat) and Huang Yen-pei (Democratic National Construction Association). Of the 16 Council Members of the Government Administration Council, there are nine who are non-party democrats and members of the other democratic parties. In the People's Revolutionary Military Committee, the Supreme People's Court, the People's Procurator General's Office, and in the various Committees, Ministries and Administrations as well as the government organisations of the various levels, the main and responsible cadres all include representatives of the other democratic parties and non-party democrats who share with the Communist Party of China the government responsibilities.

All the important policies of the Central People's Government in the past year were put into effect after having been given the full consideration and unanimous assent of the various democratic parties. The Communist Party and the various other democratic parties have continuously improved their mutual relations and have become more united in the course of carrying out the work of the People's Government of various levels, of the People's Political Consultative Conferences, and in the various tasks of national construction. On March 25, 1950, the Central Committee of the Communist Party of China issued a directive calling on all its members to study especially sections of the two speeches by Stalin* and Mao Tse-tung on strengthening the unity and co-operation with non-party people. In the above-mentioned speech of his, Chairman Mao explicitly states: "Members of the Communist Party have only the duty to implement democratic co-operation with non-party people, and no right to oust the outsiders and put their fingers in everything." In the ideological remoulding movement of the Communist Party of China during the past year, great emphasis was laid on the necessity of tightening the ties between the party and non-party people. As a result of this kind of continuous and vigorous self-education, the unity and co-operation of the parties has been very much improved. The democratic parties, in accordance with the principles of the Common Programme, have kept each other mutually informed and reached agreement on the various important policies and measures of the government, and have united still more closely in their joint struggle against the common enemies within and without the country.

(To be concluded)

* The speech made at the First All Soviet Collective Farm Shock Brigadiers' Conference on Feb. 19, 1933.

People's China



Settlers Founding Their Happy New Homes

Woodcut by Yen Han