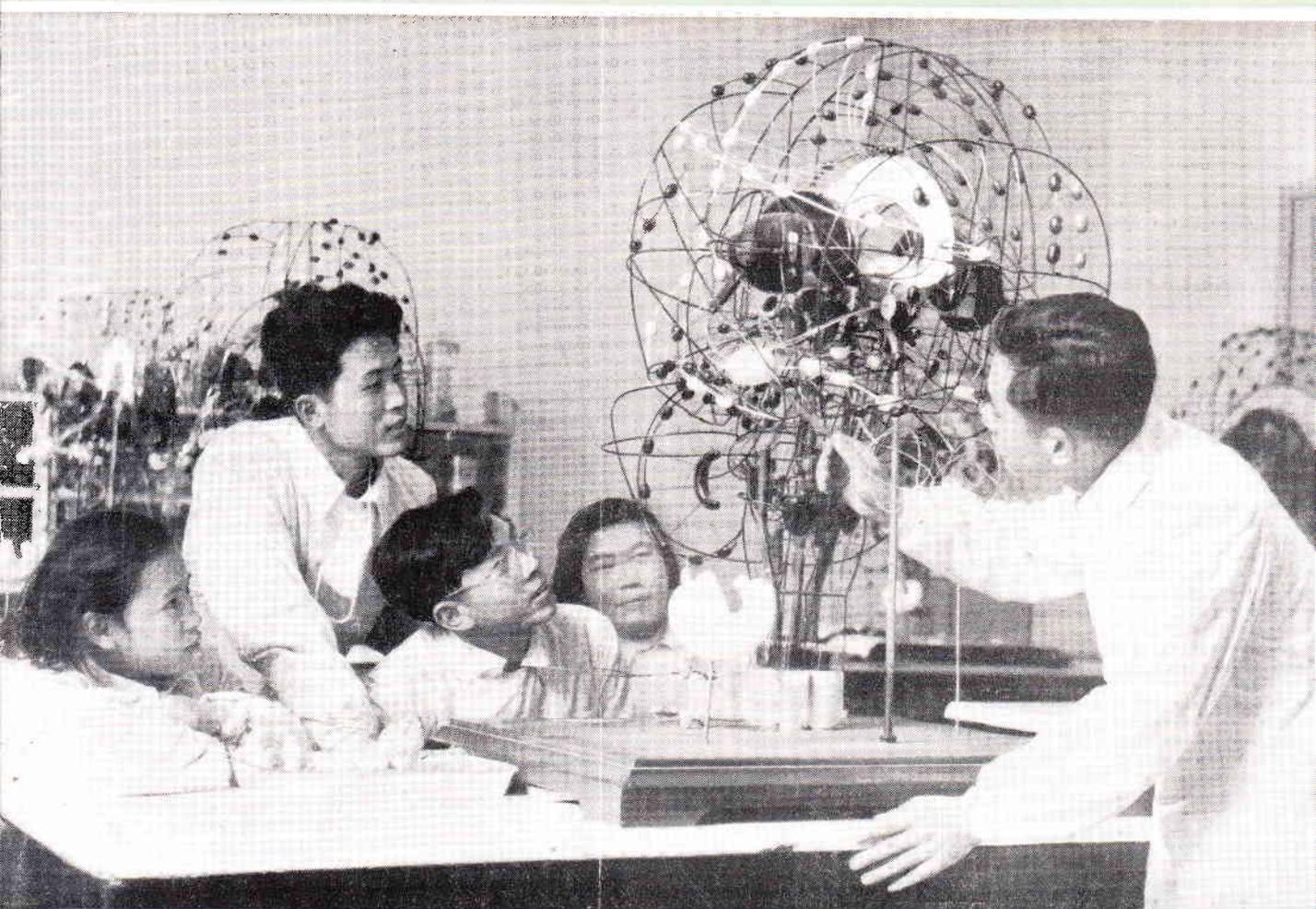


PEOPLE'S CHINA



SUPPLEMENT:

CHINA'S NEW ELECTORAL LAW

7
1953

PEOPLE'S CHINA

A FORTNIGHTLY MAGAZINE

Editor: Liu Tsun-chi

CHRONICLES the life of the Chinese people and reports their progress in building a New Democratic society;

DESCRIBES the new trends in Chinese art, literature, science, education and other aspects of the people's cultural life;

SEEKS to strengthen the friendship between the people of China and those of other lands in the cause of peace.

No. 7, 1953

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An Indestructible Friendship

THE people of China mourn the death of Stalin in full consciousness of how irreparable this loss is to mankind—the loss of the leader of the working class of the world, the standard bearer of world peace, the greatest genius of the present age.

The sense of loss is the greater because of the selfless help rendered by Stalin to the Chinese people and the deep fraternal friendship and unity that exists between the two peoples of China and the Soviet Union. Common sorrow has welded that unity still more firmly.

This friendship built on the vital interests of the peoples, inspired by the spirit of proletarian internationalism, is indestructible. Chairman Mao has pointed out:

“The friendship between the peoples of China and the Soviet Union and the peoples of the various People’s Democracies as well as that between all people who love peace, democracy and justice in every country of the world, is also built upon this great principle of internationalism and is therefore also indestructible.”

This indestructible friendship lies at the heart of the world camp of peace headed by the Soviet Union.

Unlike the “friendly relations” between the capitalist countries, which are based on the subordination of one country by another or the temporary coincidence of self-interest among the ruling groups, Sino-Soviet friendship represents the unity and wholehearted co-operation between two peoples working for a noble, common cause—the cause of justice, peace and the emancipation of mankind—the cause of Stalin. This is the common cause of all progres-

sive mankind. Sino-Soviet friendship serves the interests of all people of goodwill throughout the world.

Sino-Soviet friendship has been tested in the hard school of history. Building up rational, peace-loving societies in which man can live a full and splendid life, these 700 million united people can and will ensure that any adventurist attack on their new life will be smashed as all such attacks have been in the past. Sino-Soviet friendship, in the words of Stalin, is a reliable guarantee against the threat of another aggression and a powerful bulwark of peace.

But there are people who do not seem able to learn from history. In these days of mourning there were not lacking malicious slanders and evil hopes of the enemies of peace seeking by provocations to find any sign of rift in the camp of peace. But these ghoulish adventurers quickly got their rebuff.

The nation-wide mourning of the Chinese people for the death of their greatest friend and teacher, and their firm pledge to unite even more closely with the people of the Soviet Union, demonstrates again that this friendship develops constantly towards ever greater consolidation. The Chinese people stand firmer than ever in their support of the great Soviet Union. They know that the banner of Stalin is in worthy hands—in the hands of the tested Communist Party of the Soviet Union headed by G. M. Malenkov.

The unexampled friendship of the Chinese and Soviet peoples will play an increasingly important role in the defence of peace, democracy and justice all over the world.

Fair Trade and Piracy

DURING the past few weeks, the United States Government has been trying to dragoon the entire capitalist world into establishing a watertight trade embargo against the People’s Republic of China. But almost as soon as the scheme was worked out, its viciousness and

inevitable bankruptcy were exposed by the defiance it encountered from an Asian country—Ceylon.

Ceylon’s stand was based on the economic realities of its own situation. China offered a good price for Ceylon’s rubber, which the U.S.

was attempting to depress by monopolist pressure, and undertook to supply the rice it needs at below the figure demanded by America. The result was a five-year agreement between the two countries which will not only save 300,000 Ceylon rubber workers from unemployment but also relieve all its seven and a half million people of worries about a food shortage.

Yet for this normal action in its own interest, Ceylon is being subjected to the crudest sort of pressure by the U.S. Government, whose rule is: "Thou shalt trade with no one but me, at my price, and if I don't want your goods, you may starve or go on the dole." Not only is Ceylon threatened with U.S. economic reprisals if it refuses to break the agreement with China but an attempt has even been made to cut off its food shipments from a third country—Burma. Moreover, Washington has enlisted London in applying pressure on the Ceylonese. Thus the hypocritical mask of "concern for the interests of other peoples" has once more dropped from the face of the Wash-

ington rulers, revealing the imperialist bully beneath.

But Ceylon has answered this threat. Calling things by their right names, Ceylon's External Affairs Minister has declared that the U.S. pressure is "international thuggery over the movement of free trade."

The piratical bullying of U.S. monopoly capital dominating the shrinking imperialist world market stands in vivid contrast to the fair trade policies of the socialist and people's democratic countries. China's commercial agreements with many lands, of which Pakistan is the latest, bear ample testimony to the fact that this is seen by the peoples, particularly in the countries of Asia which have so long been treated as chattels. The growing democratic world market is open to the commerce of all nations on terms of equality and mutual benefit. It threatens the independence of no country and offers to every people an improvement of its economic life.

The New Electoral Law

STEP by step, the Chinese people move towards the elections based on universal suffrage for the people's congresses of all levels. This will be a new milestone in the nation-wide democratic process which the liberation inaugurated.

On March 1, 1953, Chairman Mao Tse-tung promulgated the Electoral Law adopted by the Central People's Government Council. The tremendous work of discussion, education and the setting up of election machinery for the biggest number of voters in any single country is under way.

China's Electoral Law is an expression of the system of people's democracy. It is fundamentally different from and incomparably more democratic than that of any capitalist country. Under capitalism, elections are a mere disguise for the continued exploitation of the people by the moneyed interests. In the new democracy, they are the way in which the working people, the vast majority of the nation, elect their own government.

In multi-national capitalist countries, elections are so arranged that the dominant nationality oppresses the weaker. Due to such discrimination in the United States, for example, there is not a single Negro among the ninety-

six senators despite the fact that the Negroes are 10 per cent of the population. In China, a special chapter of the Electoral Law ensures that all nationalities will be adequately represented.

Under capitalism, only candidates with large funds or backed by powerful financial groups can afford the expense of election campaigns. The working people are thus greatly discriminated against. In China, election expenses for all candidates are borne by the national treasury, so no inequality in this vital respect can exist.

Thus less than four years after the liberation of their country from century-old imperialist rule and three thousand years of feudal semi-slavery, the Chinese people are preparing for freer, more equal elections than any which bourgeois democracy ever achieved. At a time when the governments and peoples of capitalist countries are separated by an ever-widening chasm and the most elementary democratic rights there are being suppressed, the government and people of China are being welded into ever greater unity. China's new electoral law means the growth and further consolidation of the people's democratic system in the world's most populous country. It is a great advance of democracy for all mankind.

China Steps to Universal Suffrage

Sun Chan-ko

WITH the promulgation of the Electoral Law of the People's Republic on March 1, China is preparing actively for the biggest elections in the whole of human history. A nation of 475 million people will go to the polls this year to elect millions of delegates on a national and local scale.

The magnitude of this operation is difficult to conceive. China is continental in size and population. Provinces are as big and populous as most ordinary states. For instance, Szechuan has over 46 million inhabitants; Hunan, over 27 million. The great number of nationalities, often living in intermingled groups, poses complex problems. Sinkiang Province with an area seven times as big as Britain, has thirteen nationalities in its population of over 3,500,000. No real census has ever been taken in the country before. Previous population estimates varied from 450 to over 500 million. Considerable differences exist in the political development of the people. In old liberated areas the people have long learnt how to express their will effectively through the ballot box. In other areas, only liberation, following the establishment of the Central People's Government, brought them the right to elect and to be elected. The heavy burden of illiteracy inherited from the past is no small difficulty to be overcome.

Such facts as those of population and area, lack of communications, the supposed inexperience of the people in electoral procedures and illiteracy alone were often quoted by the reactionary press as reasons why it was impossible to hold any elections in China based on universal suffrage. Yet in a little over three years after the establishment of the People's Republic, the Central People's Government has promulgated the Electoral Law and will under-

take this great operation in full confidence of success.

The Transitional Period

What are the factors that support this confidence?

First and foremost, there is the record of consistent victory of the people's revolution led by Chairman Mao Tse-tung and the Communist Party of China through seemingly insurmountable difficulties. There are the achievements of such tremendous movements as the land reform, carried out in areas with a rural population of 450 millions, the movement against U.S. aggression and to aid Korea, the successful economic rehabilitation of the country and the various great campaigns for social reform.

Big advances have also been made in solving many other difficult problems. Internal order in the country is now exemplary; the land reform has given a very adequate idea of the population; transport and communications by road, rail, water and air, have been greatly improved. Big inroads have been made against illiteracy. China's women have won emancipation.

In addition to all this is the salient fact that the Chinese people in the past few years have already built up a deep and valuable fund of experience in democratic electoral procedure and the exercise of democratic rights. All this accumulated experience has reached the point where it is possible today to hold successful nation-wide elections on a universal franchise fully representative of the whole nation and able to bring about national and local administrations which will give correct leadership and maximum effect to the will of the people.

A farsighted plan lies at the back of these developments.

From the first days of the People's Republic it was stated in the Organic Law of the Central People's Government that "the Government of the People's Republic of China is a government of the people's congress system based on the principle of democratic centralism." The Common Programme, China's basic law, further provided that "in all places where military operations have completely ended, agrarian reform has been thoroughly carried out and people of all circles have been fully organised, elections based on universal suffrage shall be held immediately for the purpose of convening local people's congresses."

This made it clear that the system of people's congresses elected on the basis of universal suffrage would be the basis of people's democracy in China.

However, conditions immediately following the establishment of the Central People's Government naturally did not permit this system to be implemented in full right away. Some areas still had not been freed on the mainland. A transitional period of preparation was obviously necessary.

Growth of People's Conferences

Immediately an area was liberated from the Kuomintang dictatorship, the Military Control Commission of the People's Liberation Army, which administered the area in the emergency period to re-establish order, took steps to set up a civilian people's government council to whom it gradually turned over the administration. This government, as soon as conditions permitted, brought together the first of the all-circles people's representative conferences —(the A.P.R.C.) composed of invited and elected delegates of the various local demo-

cratic political parties and people's organisations, the trade unions, co-operatives, professional associations, religious communities, federations of women, youth, and peasants' organisations, etc.

These first conferences were already very broadly representative. They were consultative bodies through which the local people's government and higher state organs transmitted their policies and maintained and developed their contacts with the masses of the people. But each successive meeting of the A.P.R.C's would be broader based than the last; the number of elected delegates would be gradually increased. At the appropriate time, they would assume more and more of the functions and powers of people's congresses and therefore elect members to the local people's government council. In the final stage, such A.P.R.C's are almost fully elective and assume all the functions and powers of the people's congress and elect all the members of the local people's

government council. Many A.P.R.C's have today in fact reached this stage. This political development of course is paralleled by the development of democratic organisation and practices throughout the area and in the life of the people.

These developments were provided for in the Common Programme of the Chinese People's Political Consultative Conference which stipulates that the plenary session of the C.P.P.C.C. should

exercise the functions and powers of the All-China People's Congress until that body should be elected, while the local A.P.R.C's should also gradually assume the functions and powers of the people's congresses until these too can be elected on the basis of universal suffrage.



People's representatives of Shanghai voting in the election of the mayor, deputy-mayors and government council members at the first session of the municipality's second All-Circles People's Representative Conference held on October 23, 1950

It is through such democratic processes that the masses of the people have advanced so swiftly in political consciousness, to fuller understanding of their responsibilities as the new masters of their country.

The new stage of democratic development in China, with election by universal suffrage, comes at a time when large-scale economic construction for industrialisation has begun, when the perspectives of socialist construction are measurably near and there is the need of yet closer integration between people and their state to carry out the great tasks that lie ahead. This is why the People's Government has, on the proposal of the Communist Party, taken these active steps to inaugurate universal suffrage. It was a timely step, and the people are ready for it.

Extensive Democratic Experience

It is only necessary to study the record of the people's representative conferences at the various levels of administration to see how extensive has been the development of democratic government in New China.

In the past three years, all provinces, cities, counties, *hsiang* (administrative areas comprising several villages) have convened their All-Circles People's Representative Conferences. A.P.R.C's have been held at county level eight or nine times in general and in some cases as many as sixteen times; at city level they have been held eight or nine times and over twenty times in some cases; they have been held much more frequently at *hsiang* level, and at least once a year at the provincial level.* According to preliminary returns in 1952, over 13,637,000 representatives attended the A.P.R.C's throughout the country. Of these no less than 80 per cent were directly or indirectly elected by the people. In Shansi, Hopei and Shantung Provinces where liberation came earlier, no less than 90 per cent of the representatives were directly or indirectly elected; even in Kiangsi and Szechuan Provinces which were liberated much later, about 80 per cent of the representatives were directly or indirectly elected.

* The newly reconstituted provinces of Kiangsu and Szechuan are a special case, though all administrative units in them from city to village have held their A.P.R.C's.

Highlights of the Electoral Law

- All citizens of 18 and above have the right to elect and to be elected irrespective of nationality or race, sex, occupation, social origin, religion, education, property status or residence.
- Women have equal rights with men.
- Deputies may be recalled by majority vote of electors.
- Candidates incur no election expenses. All expenses will be paid by the state.
- Every government from the smallest *hsiang* (administrative group of villages) to the Central People's Government will be elected.
- National minorities (approx. one-fourteenth of the population of China) will have 150 seats in the All-China People's Congress (one-seventh of the total number of deputies).
- Oversea-Chinese will have 30 seats in the All-China People's Congress.

In 20 out of the 29 provinces of the country, in 102 out of the 159 cities, and in 811 out of the 2,129 counties, the A.P.R.C's have assumed the functions and powers of people's congresses and elected government councils of their respective levels.

The people's representative conferences or peasant representative conferences of more than 280,000 *hsiang* throughout the country have assumed the functions and powers of people's congresses and elected their *hsiang* people's government councils. Even in many of the areas inhabited by national minorities where conditions are more complex, the all-nationalities and all-circles people's representative conferences have elected the councils of people's governments of national autonomous regions or councils of the local national, democratic governments representing the various nationalities.

Schools of Democracy

The all-circles people's representative conferences have been practical schools of democracy.

On June 6, 1950, in his report delivered at the third session of the Seventh Congress of the Communist Party of China, Chairman Mao Tse-tung said:

We must convene people's representative conferences of all circles successfully, as they are a good means for uniting the people of all walks of life, in order to carry on our common work. All important work of the People's Government should be submitted to the people's conferences for discussion and decision. All representatives to these conferences must have full rights to speak; any action which hinders the people's representatives from speaking is wrong.

Acting in the spirit of this directive, the A.P.R.C.'s have aroused the masses of people to political activity.

All measures of the local people's government councils are devised in accordance with the overall policies of the Central People's Government and are submitted to the people's representative conferences of the respective level for discussion and confirmation.

About twenty days prior to the convocation of its A.P.R.C. in January, 1952, for instance, the people's government council of Wannien County, Kiangsi, distributed printed reports of its work and programme to the people of the constituency for discussion and proposals. The great majority of the county's people joined in the discussions and the work plans were finalised at the next A.P.R.C. session.

Since the people's governments are dealing so responsibly with questions that so closely affect their lives, it is no wonder that the people are keen to take part in the elections. Eighty per cent of Peking's adult residents took part in the elections to the fourth session of the A.P.R.C. held in Peking in August, 1952. At the Peking Tramcar Corporation 97 per cent of the staff participated in the elections.

Because of such enthusiasm the plans of the People's Government representing the will of all circles of the population are assured of the energetic support of the people when they are implemented. This is the strength of the system.

The convocation of the people's representative conference at Anshan in Northeast China

in May last year resulted in an immediate upsurge of production; local state enterprises raised their target in the "increase production and practise economy" campaign from the original value equivalent of 42,000 tons of food grains to 68,000 tons.

The great number of proposals advanced at the various A.P.R.C.'s is another indication of the confidence and support they enjoy among the people. At one meeting of the A.P.R.C. of Pengpu in Anhwei Province last year, over 3,000 proposals were made. At the A.P.R.C. in Chekiang Province, over 4,413 proposals were presented covering the most varied points from the settlement of housing problems to the protection of children's rights and requests for the dismissal of certain public servants because of their bad style of work. Special committees were set up by the people's government to study these proposals. Those that could be carried out were adopted immediately; reasoned replies were given regarding the rest.

The people, even those who at first had hardly heard the term "democratic elections," have quickly learnt how to elect proper representatives and take the keenest interest in public administration and its control.

In many rural areas, for instance, the peasants collectively take over the field work of their representatives so that they can devote their whole attention to the work of administration or election preparations. When the head of the county was being elected at the local A.P.R.C., an old woman of Pingyang *hsiang* in Kiangsi Province firmly held the hand of the representative she had voted for and said: "I'm eighty-five years old. I've seen emperors come and go and the fall of a dynasty, but I've never heard that the *laopaihsing* (the people) could elect their own county head. Open up your eyes wide and see that you elect us a good one."

People's Control

People's representatives must, therefore, be prepared for close scrutiny of their qualifications.

The electorate, too, has learnt to give the closest attention to their delegates' actions after election and keep them "on their toes." Incompetent or worst, corrupt representatives and officials, are severely criticised or even removed

China's Sympathy and Help for European Flood Victims

The sympathetic reaction of the Chinese people was immediate on hearing of the recent floods in Britain, Holland and Belgium in which over 1,600 men, women and children lost their lives, more than 3,000 are reported missing and over 1,000,000 persons were rendered homeless. A telegram was immediately sent enquiring what could be done to help. This was followed by the dispatch of £15,185 to the Britain-China Friendship Association for relief for the flood sufferers of Britain, a total of 279,300 Swiss francs—239,400 Swiss francs for the victims in the Netherlands, and 39,900 Swiss francs for those in Belgium, sent through the World Federation of Trade Union.

These funds were sent jointly by the People's Relief Administration of China, the National Red Cross Society of China, the All-China Federation of Labour, the All-China Democratic Women's Federation and the All-China Federation of Democratic Youth, who said in their message of sympathy: "This is something of special concern to us Chinese who have just been freed from such misfortunes."

The Chinese people indeed know in full measure what tragedies and irretrievable losses are sustained by the common people when such floods occur. They were for centuries the victims of the fury of the Yellow, Yangtse and other rivers. Today they have come to know that it is possible, by united efforts in peaceful construction, to prevent such disasters. The area chronically affected by floods in China has been reduced from 15 million to less than 2 million acres. Floods will be completely eliminated in the near future, thanks to their People's Government which in 1950-53 allocated funds for water control amounting to over ninety-nine times more than the U.S. Government spent for such purposes in the last eight years.

They hope that the stricken people in Europe will quickly recover from this tragic disaster which they know could have been prevented by devoting to the task of protecting the people from the elements even a fraction of the vast sums which Western Europe now spends on armaments for aggression.

from their posts. But the electorate is also quick to commend and encourage those who serve the people loyally.

The A.P.R.C. have been strengthened by the addition of large numbers of people who have won distinction in work and public life. For instance, no less than 85 per cent of the A.P.R.C. delegates of Hsiaoshan County, Chekiang Province, are models in various walks of life.

This constant supervision and stimulation given by the people has effectively improved the work of the people's government at all levels and kept it clean, economical and efficient.

* * *

During the last three years the Chinese people, through this nation-wide school of democratic political life—the A.P.R.C.—have thus received the experience essential for the full exercise of democratic rights. Taken together with the practical training in democratic mass organisation and action which they get in the political parties and in running their various

people's organisations such as the trade unions, peasant associations, federations of women, youth, and professional people, etc., there is no doubt whatever of the success that will attend the elections for the national and local people's congresses.

The Electoral Law has been devised by the country's most experienced legislators and organisers on the basis of the rich experience of China itself, and the Soviet Union so as to give maximum expression to the people's will in the actual situation of China today. With this as their guide the people are setting up their electoral commissions and the whole vast and complex machinery of universal suffrage. With these arrangements completed, the people will have a splendid instrument for the full exercise of their democratic power to elect organs of state power which best suit them and will serve them efficiently.

This will be of enormous assistance to the development of national construction, a great step towards the consolidation and enhancement of people's democracy in this vast land.

Messages of Condolence From China to Czechoslovakia On the Death of Klement Gottwald

From Chairman Mao Tse-tung to the Presidium of the Czechoslovak Republic

Presidium of the Czechoslovak Republic:

I learned with utmost grief the sad news of the passing away of Comrade Klement Gottwald. Comrade Klement Gottwald was not only the great leader of the Czechoslovak Republic but also a distinguished fighter in the cause of peace and democracy of the world. His death is an irreparable loss to both the Czechoslovak people and the entire world camp of peace and democracy. On behalf of the Chinese people, the Chinese Government and in my own name, I express to you and, through you, to the Czechoslovak people, my deepest condolences.

I firmly believe that Comrade Klement Gottwald's brilliant contributions will forever inspire the Chinese and Czechoslovak peoples to march forward valiantly and triumphantly in further consolidating and developing the close unity and friendly co-operation between the Chinese and Czechoslovak peoples, and in the cause of further strengthening the world camp of peace and democracy headed by our common ally, the great Soviet Union.

Peking

March 15, 1953

MAO TSE-TUNG

From the Central Committee of the Communist Party of China to the Central Committee of the Czechoslovak Communist Party

Dear Comrades:

Distressed on learning the news of the passing away of Comrade Klement Gottwald, the respected and beloved leader of the Czechoslovak Communist Party and the Czechoslovak people, and a close friend of the Chinese people, we, with profound sorrow, extend to you our deep condolences.

Comrade Gottwald was a faithful disciple of Comrades Lenin and Stalin and an outstanding fighter in the international labour movement. For the independence and freedom of Czechoslovakia, he led the Czechoslovak people in their resolute and courageous struggle against the German nazis. After the liberation of Czechoslovakia, Comrade Gottwald led the Czechoslovak people to smash the reactionaries' conspiracies both at home and abroad, thus enabling Czechoslovakia to march triumphantly on the path of socialist construction and contribute greatly to the cause of world peace and democracy.

The passing away of Comrade Gottwald is not only a great loss to the Czechoslovak people but also to the world camp of peace and democracy headed by the Soviet Union.

The Central Committee of the Communist Party of China is convinced that the Chinese and Czechoslovak people will unite still more closely with the people of the Soviet Union and People's Democracies, heighten their vigilance and fight to the end for the cause of peace and democracy and Communism.

Eternal Glory to Comrade Gottwald!

Central Committee of the Communist Party of China

Peking

March 15, 1953

The Chinese People Mourn

The Death of Klement Gottwald

Our Correspondent

HAVING but lately lamented the death of the great Stalin, the Chinese people mourned with the deepest grief the loss of Klement Gottwald, President of the Czechoslovak Republic and Chairman of the Communist Party of Czechoslovakia, who passed away on March 14. The Chinese people sorrowed for the loss of their close friend, for the loss of the great leader of the people of Czechoslovakia, for the loss of a distinguished leader of the camp of peace, democracy and Socialism.

Immediately on learning the sad news, Chairman Mao Tse-tung, accompanied by Chu Teh, Kao Kang and other leaders of the Chinese Communist Party and the People's Government, went to the Embassy of the Czechoslovak Republic at one o'clock on the morning of March 15 to tender their condolences.

Messages expressing the deepest condolence over the death of Comrade Gottwald were cabled to the Presidium of the Government of the Czechoslovak Republic, and to the Central



Committee of the Communist Party of Czechoslovakia by Chairman Mao Tse-tung and the Central Committee of the Communist Party of China respectively. Messages of condolence were also sent by the National Committee of the Chinese People's Political Consultative Conference, various democratic parties, local governments and people's organisations.

As an expression of the Chinese people's deep grief at the death of President Gottwald, the Central People's Government directed that on March 19, the day of his funeral, national flags should be flown at half mast throughout the country. On March 17, the delegation of the People's Republic of China, headed by Chou En-lai, left Moscow by air for Prague to attend the funeral ceremony.

In Peking from March 15 onwards, hosts of people from all walks of life bearing many wreaths went to the Czechoslovak Embassy to offer their condolences. Day and night, they passed in solemn homage before the portrait of President Gottwald.

Leaders of the Communist Party and of the government in East China, workers, writers, artists, scientists, doctors and people of other professions, students and many others streamed to offer their condolences at the Czechoslovak Consulate in Shanghai.

A close and profound friendship between the Chinese people and the late President of Czechoslovakia has long been treasured by the workers and peasants of Peking and its suburbs, thousands of whom went to the Embassy to tender their condolences. Like the workers of the whole country, the Peking workers know what a valuable contribution the fine machines sent from Czechoslovakia have made to China's construction. Many of the peasants on the outskirts of Peking have already forged personal ties with the people of Czechoslovakia through letters exchanged since early in the winter of 1950. The peasants of Changko Village in Fengtai District, for instance, wrote to tell President Gottwald about their happy lives after liberation. He replied to their letter and sent special messengers to bring many gifts to the village.

The Chinese press throughout the country devoted its front pages to carrying the sad news of his death and the story of his life with many tributes to the great Czechoslovak leader. Peking's *People's Daily* pointed out in an editorial that Klement Gottwald "dedicated his whole life to the cause of the emancipation of his country and people, to the lofty cause of proletarian internationalism. His were outstanding achievements in guiding the working people of all nationalities in Czechoslovakia in



Chairman Mao Tse-tung called at the Czechoslovak Embassy on March 15 to tender his condolence on the death of President Gottwald. Standing beside him are (left to right): Teng Hsiao-ping, Kao Kang, Chu Teh, Peng Chen and Czechoslovak Ambassador F. M. Komzala

building up the people's democratic system and advancing to socialist construction. His achievements have greatly enhanced the strength of the entire camp of peace, democracy and Socialism and the defence of world peace."

The editorial especially stressed the close friendship which has grown up during the past three years' economic and cultural co-operation between China and Czechoslovakia.

"Following their deep grief caused by the death of the great Comrade Stalin," concludes the paper's editorial, "the Communist Party of China and the Chinese people have now lost our close friend and outstanding fighter for Communism—Comrade Gottwald. We are grief-stricken. But we recognise that we must transform this grief into strength and further strengthen the friendship between the people of China and Czechoslovakia, further unite as one with the people of the Soviet Union and the People's Democracies, heighten our vigilance and continue to consolidate and develop the cause of peace, democracy and Socialism."

China's Dramatic Heritage

Chow Yang

Vice-Minister of Cultural Affairs

CHINA has a rich and ancient dramatic heritage that has always maintained its links with the people and been deeply loved by them.

Created in so large a measure by the people and by the people's writers and artists at various periods, this heritage is permeated with a sturdy popular character and the spirit of realism. Despite the fact that feudal rulers unscrupulously attempted to pervert this heritage, Chinese drama has in general developed as an art form surpassing all others in popularity and democratic spirit. This was chiefly due to the support and love of the popular audience, whose likes and dislikes could not be restrained by any reactionary rulers. The people observed the real life of the world around them from their own viewpoint. Drawing on their personal experience of life and on history and legends, out of their rich imagination and judgment they created characters whom they loved and admired.

Expresses People's Character

The people have always made a clear distinction between what they love and what they hate. Defying the will of the feudal rulers, the sympathies of the people have always been with the oppressed, the persecuted, the helpless and the honest. On the other hand, they have shown their indignation and scorn for the ruthless oppressors and exploiters who fixed their heels on the necks of the people. They sing the praises of those heroic and righteous individuals with the courage to resist oppression and brutality and fight for their life and happiness. They love the just and unselfish and those who dare to do what is right. They detest selfish cowards. They are always patriotic. They exalt the national heroes who have defended the Motherland. They despise the traitors. The Chinese theatre, though sullied by the rottenness of feudalism, has always shone

with the unfading lustre of realism and popular sentiment.

The high esteem in which Chinese drama has always been held by the masses is precisely due to the fact that it expresses in true folk style their life, their thoughts, feelings, psychology, will and wishes. We feel in it the powerful force of realism and also the moral strength of the people. Chinese drama reflects the national traits of the Chinese people, but in its turn it has also influenced the development of the character and psychology of the Chinese people. The example of its heroes has for many generations exerted a profound influence on them.

But when we speak of the positive effects of Chinese drama, we must also mention certain influences which are unhealthy and are in no way representative of our national character. Chinese drama has reflected the desires of the people under the feudal system in their quest of freedom; it has demonstrated the courage, industry, wisdom and goodness of the people. But on the other hand, we must not forget that the feudal rulers also tried their utmost to utilise the theatre to engender in the people a cringing, passive and submissive attitude, turning the people's good qualities to the service of safeguarding and consolidating the interests of the feudal system. The people were industrious, but their industry was utilised by the feudal rulers to make the people serve them like beasts of burden. The people were brave, but the feudal rulers utilised their bravery, making them sacrifice their very lives to safeguard the feudal system.

Just as grass growing beneath a stone stubbornly pushes its way out to the light, so popular sentiment often manifests itself in a play. Yet popular sentiment and feudal elements are often interwoven in puzzling confusion. Quite a number of plays expose the

irreconcilable contradictions between the people and the feudal system, but failing to find a correct solution to these contradictions, resort to a compromise. Such is the case with the play *The Butterfly Cup*. This is a highly dramatic play, the first part of which is filled with the spirit of righteous resistance to evil forces and a deep sympathy for the labouring people. But in the second part, through some sudden miraculous transformations in the course of the love story, foes become relatives and struggles end in happy union.*

Liang Shan-po and Chu Ying-tai and *The Tale of the White Snake* are genuine masterpieces of the people and are among the most outstanding plays of the Chinese theatre. They bring out in bold relief the unconquerable desire for freedom and happiness as well as the valiant, self-sacrificing spirit of the Chinese people, and especially of the Chinese women. In fighting against their brutal oppressors who were indeed too powerful for them to prevail against, the heroines of these plays neither vacillated nor compromised. They refused to surrender even in the face of death. We could almost say that their love conquered death. Of course their victory was only won in a flight of fancy. How could a couple after death transform themselves into two butterflies flying

together in the air? How could a woman buried alive under the Leifeng Pagoda be resurrected? These are illusions, but at the same time realities too, for they have given truthful expression to the unquenchable longing of the people for freedom. Have not these ideas inspired succeeding generations to fight stubbornly to shatter the yoke of the feudal marriage system?†

Combines Realism and Romanticism

Here we should note the difference between fairy-tales and folk-tales which are the rich products of the people's imagination, on the one hand and superstitious stories on the other. Both are in themselves reflections of the ancients' primitive understanding of the world and their belief in supernatural powers. But each has its own significance. Not all the tales involving supernatural powers are superstitions which should be discarded. Many folk fairy-tales take a strongly positive attitude towards the world and are highly expressive of popular sentiment. But superstitions are always negative, often mirroring the interests of the ruling class. This difference most strikingly manifests itself in the attitude towards "fate." Folk fairy-tales very often demonstrate the people's unyielding struggle against "fate," which

in their imagination they subdue. On the other hand, superstition spreads fatalism and the idea of retributive justice, imparting to the people the belief that everything is pre-determined by "fate," and that men can do nothing but submit to its dictates.

This difference in attitudes to "fate" leads to different ways of dealing with the "gods of fate." Very many fairy-tales transferred to the theatre take an openly rebellious attitude against the authority of the "Fates," encouraging people to shake off the fetters of slavery and struggle for a life truly worthy of man. Monkey



Sympathising with the secret love of the nun, Chiu Kiang, for a young student, the old boatman rows her over the river to meet him—a scene from "Chiu Kiang," a 1952 National Theatre Festival prize-winning Szechuan opera

*† See accompanying box.

Sun Wu-kung, for instance, revolts against the Gods of Heaven*; the Weaving Girl and the Cowherd in the play of that name oppose the Goddess Hsi Wang-mu†.

Realism in Chinese drama has its own special characteristics. It faithfully mirrors the harsh realities of Chinese feudal society and at the same time passionately affirms the people's ideals, hopes and confidence in their future happy life. Here realism and romanticism harmoniously combine, and in the refined yet simple and highly accentuated form of expression peculiar to the Chinese drama, this synthesis has attained a high level of artistry.

It is no accident that Chinese drama has attained so profound a realism. Dating from its golden age—the Yuan Dynasty (A.D. 1280-1367)—to the present time, Chinese drama has a history of nearly seven hundred years. During this long period it has been constantly developed, reformed and enriched by the new ideas of the people.

Peking Opera

All the forms of Chinese drama which we enjoy at present have developed out of folk drama. Peking Opera (*ching hsi*), though it found its way into the imperial palace, is also based on folk drama and has never severed its ties with the people. As is well known, Peking Opera when taking shape and develop-

**Monkey Sun Wu-kung*: The legendary hero of the famous novel *Journey to the West*, a favourite subject of various local dramas.

†According to this legend, the Weaving Girl, a goddess, fell in love with a cowherd. They were punished by the autocratic goddess Hsi Wang-mu, who allowed them only to meet once a year on a bridge formed by magpies across the Milky Way.



Hsin Feng-hsia (centre), 1952 National Theatre Festival laureate, in the title role of the ancient folk tale, "The Weaving Girl and the Cowherd" produced in "ping chu" opera form. Here the Weaving Girl is being carried away from her lover by the Goddess Hsi Wang-mu

ing in the middle of the Ching Dynasty (A.D. 1644-1911) fused together several kinds of local drama and absorbed the essence of the Kunsan style of drama.* In content, language and music, Peking Opera is nearer to the people than Kunsan Opera, and that is why it replaced the latter as the most popular form of opera. This was an important reform in the history of the modern Chinese theatre.

In music and acting, Peking Opera has attained a higher level than other provincial operas. It is able to deal with historical themes more comprehensively and present characters of different status and nature in more diverse ways. But in the past, feudal society shaped the way in which these achievements of Peking Opera were applied. As a result it gradually tended to be divorced from the ordinary life of the people, thus lapsing, in certain respects, into formalism. On the other hand, the various types of local folk operas were richer in popular sentiment and were nearer to the lives and language of the people and therefore more versatile and vivacious in content, freer and

*Kunsan Opera is a popular style of opera from Kunsan County, Kiangsu Province. Its music is rich in rhythm and it is remarkable for its dancing.

more lively in form. In recent years many new creations worthy of serious attention have emerged among local provincial operas, especially in Shaohsing Opera and *peng peng* opera (*ping chu*).*

In feudal society Chinese dramatic art reached its highest artistic peak with the development of Peking Opera. Then after a phase of rapid progress it stagnated and failed to make further progress. Although many talented artists appeared in Peking Opera after this period, none of them was able to advance their art to a new level. And although the provincial folk operas continued to grow and develop, most of them were in a state of haphazard growth.

This state of stagnation has deep social causes. The feudal ruling class fostered the growth of Peking Opera out of the various provincial operas, but this class did not give much that is positive to Peking Opera. Because the Chinese bourgeoisie was culturally even more backward than it was politically, and because it was tainted by feudal and compradore characteristics, it never exerted any positive independent influence on the development of Chinese dramatic art. What is worse, it tainted certain operatic performances with vicious commercial and compradore traits, so that much of the valuable national tradition was lost.

Reform and Development

The Chinese working class falls heir to the whole cultural heritage of the past, including dramatic art. But because the Chinese people's revolution covered a long period of

*Shaohsing Opera originated in Shaohsing County in Chekiang Province as a type of peasant ballad and folk song. In the early part of this century, it began to develop as a form of opera drama. Since it was introduced to the theatres of Shanghai in 1916, its music has been improved and it has assimilated many elements of the Peking Opera, Kunsan Opera and other local dramatic forms.

Peng peng or *ping chu* is derived from the local folk plays called *Lien Hua Lo* (or Lotus Tales), which emerged in the Sung Dynasty and became popular in many provinces. During the last few decades, combined with the forms and music of the *yangko* dance and later influenced by Peking Opera, it developed into a regular dramatic performance.

war, we were unable to collect and appraise the rich legacy of the past, systematically and on a large scale, and to develop it on a new basis. What we did at the outset was chiefly to search among our national artistic forms for those such as the *yangko* dance, which were comparatively simple and which quickly reflected real life, and put them in the service of the struggle then proceeding. Now that the Chinese people have become the masters of their own country, they must shoulder the responsibility of reforming and developing their dramatic heritage. Only under the guidance of the advanced ideology of the working class can Chinese dramatic art find the path of real reform and development, be rejuvenated and seek new perspectives.

Comrade Mao Tse-tung in his work *On New Democracy* correctly pointed out that:

...To clarify the process of development of this ancient culture, to throw away its feudal dross, and to absorb its democratic essence is a necessary condition for the development of our new national culture and for the increase of our national self-confidence; but we should never absorb anything and everything uncritically. We must separate all the rotten things of the ancient feudal ruling class from the fine ancient popular culture that possesses some democratic and revolutionary character...

Basically, Chinese dramatic art is part of this popular culture; therefore the Chinese people will deal with this heritage of ours with great care and attention.

In assimilating our dramatic heritage, we are on the one hand opposed to any rough and ready treatment such as out of hand rejection or arbitrary changes in its form or content; on the other hand, we are opposed to conservatism; we should not desist from criticism or show reluctance to make changes. Some comrades in carrying out the reform of the drama simply re-did the old plays. With inadequate knowledge, or even on the basis of their own ill-founded impressions, they "revised" historical truth and changed the characters of personages. Such people are not improving our traditions but instead destroying them; they show their ignorance of the fact that our dramatic heritage is the creation of the toiling people over many generations, that it is the

Famous Tales of the Chinese Stage

THE BUTTERFLY CUP—An old fisherman sold fish to a general's son but when he asked for payment, was beaten to death. Tien Yu-chuan, avenging this crime, accidentally killed the general's son and only escaped arrest with the aid of the fisherman's daughter. The two young people fell in love and the girl received the Butterfly Cup as an engagement gift. Later, Tien saved the general's life, who in gratitude betrothed his own daughter to him. All difficulties were eliminated when Tien was pardoned and wedded both girls. This play is based on a Ming Dynasty tale of the sixteenth century.

LIANG SHAN-PO AND CHU YING-TAI—Beautiful Chu Ying-tai disguised herself as a boy and went to school. For three years, she studied together with Liang Shan-po, who never suspected she was a girl. Chu Ying-tai fell in love with him but she was recalled home. When Liang Shan-po finally found out the truth, he hurried to Chu Ying-tai's home to ask her hand in marriage. But it was too late. Her avaricious father had already betrothed her to a local tyrant. Finding that the engagement could not be broken, Liang died heartbroken. As Chu Ying-tai went to her undesired wedding, she passed her lover's grave. A sudden summer storm rose. A flash of lightning split the tomb and Chu Ying-tai leaped into it before it closed again. Later, a pair of butterflies emerged and danced together in the sunshine.

This tale has become a favourite theme of folk songs and local plays. It is known throughout the land as a symbol of deathless love triumphant over the cruel restrictions of the feudal system of marriage.

THE TALE OF THE WHITE SNAKE—A fairy white snake, transformed into a beautiful girl, fell in love with a young man whom she happily married. A wicked recluse, Fa Hai, however, determined to separate the young couple. After many stratagems he finally succeeded and imprisoned the girl under the Leifeng Pagoda, which stood on a hill by the West Lake of Hangchow. The story dates back to the Tang Dynasty (618-907 A.D.).

When the Leifeng Pagoda finally collapsed in 1924 due to lack of repairs, the new legend arose that the White Snake had at last escaped and defeated the machinations of Fa Hai. Later versions of the tale make the White Snake a symbol of true love.

spiritual wealth of the state. Such an attitude is intolerable and completely wrong, and these erroneous tendencies are now being corrected wherever they are exposed.

The Chinese theatre has many forms, quite a large number of which are the result of a long period of historical development. The various styles of drama share a common national character, but on the other hand, with a rich variety of dialects and folk music, they also present well-defined regional characteristics. For their mutual enrichment and development, therefore, the various styles of drama should, according to their special features and needs, assimilate the best of other styles.

The Chinese theatre is pre-eminent as an art of dramatic expression based on a synthesis of song, dance and drama, all of which help to give this art its specific features. Chinese drama, and especially Peking Opera, has produced a number of talented artists from Chen Chang-keng* to Mei Lan-fang, who have created a richly varied gallery of stage characters. Their acting is a most important and valuable part of our dramatic heritage, which we must accept and develop. However, elements still exist in our theatrical art that are backward

* Chen Chang-keng (1811-1884), one of the most famous actors of the Peking Opera during the Ching Dynasty.—Ed.

and a hindrance to fine performances. They have arisen from formalistic and naturalistic tendencies and they need to be gradually reformed. There are also certain characters which as produced on our stage give a warped depiction of life and are detrimental to our art. We should continue to weed these undesirable features out of the theatre.

By thorough and gradual reform of the various styles of Chinese drama from script to performance, we will finally and fully realise our aim of enabling all the finest shoots of our dramatic culture to blossom as in a well-tended garden, and of creating the new arts of the people through the judicious adaptation of the best of the old.

China's New Coal Mine

The Fuhsin Coal Mine Sets a New Standard
of Efficiency for the Whole of the Country

Tai Yen-nien

CHINA'S biggest open cut coal mine is taking shape in Liaohsi Province in the North-east, near the town of Fuhsin on the railway between Shengyang (Mukden) and Chingchow. A glistening 60-metre-thick seam of coal has already been exposed at the eastern end of the great, scar-like cut in the earth.

The Fuhsin mine will be one of the most modern in the world both in its methods of construction and operation. It will be commissioned on July 1 this year. Two years from now its annual capacity will be enough to generate more than 4 million kilowatts of electricity—enough to weave 12,900 million metres of cloth or to fuel 540 locomotives hauling 20,000 million ton-kilometres of freight—a powerful contribution to the industrial might of New China.

The existence of this rich outcrop of coal has been known for many years, but due to various difficulties, neither the Kuomintang regime nor the Japanese invaders ever managed to make a real start at exploiting it. It is well suited for open cut mining, but it is unique in the great amount of earth that has to be removed from above the seam.

Over 560 million cubic metres of earth will be lifted from an area three and a half kilo-

metres long, one and a half kilometres wide. The initial cut will be 20 metres deep. The total work will be equivalent to digging six canals, five of them equal in size to the Suez and one as big as the Panama. The earth will be dumped more than 10 kilometres away where a whole valley will be turned into a flat plain. The 300 kilometres of railways being laid to carry away the earth and rock will later deal with the mined coal.

This herculean task, which in another day would have needed an army of workers, is today being carried out at high speed and with great efficiency with the aid of the most up-to-date mechanised equipment received from the Soviet Union. Only twenty-five months will have elapsed from the start of excavation in May, 1951 to the commissioning date this year.

Highly Mechanised Construction

With the exception of those who are caring for the signals and machines and the repair teams working along the railway lines, few workers are to be seen on this tremendous construction site. Powerful electric excavators take the place of labourers.

One Soviet-made 150-ton excavator alone removes 5,400 cubic metres of earth a



Mei Lan-fang, famous exponent of the classical Peking Opera style, in the title role of *The Drunken Beauty*. This is an interlude showing how the ill-fated beauty, Yang Kuei-fei, discarded favourite of the Tang Dynasty Emperor Shuan Tsung, drinks wine to assuage her grief

Two Plays From the Classical Theatre



Chang Shiang-ju (centre), 1952 National Theatre Festival laureate, as the White Snake in the Honan opera *The Broken Bridge*, which is an episode from the beautiful folk-tale—*The White Snake*

CHINA'S MOS

The Fuhsin Mine Und

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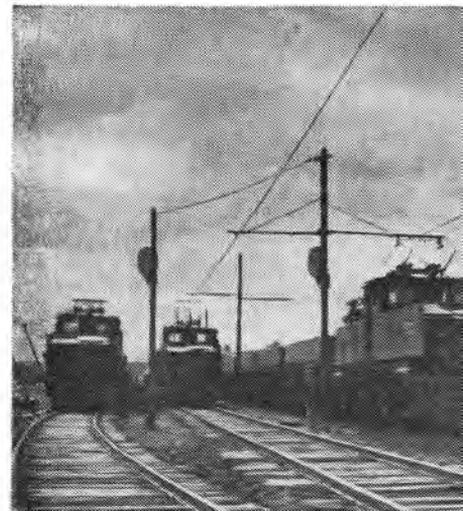
A Fuhsin builder
Ma Wen - chih's
team holds the
record for speed
and safety in
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Such powerful
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Open Cut Coal r Construction

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The primary
school for the
miners' children.
Workers' welfare
is carefully con-
sidered

Steam - powered
excavators at
work

Automatic tip-
wagons dump
their loads in
only 5 seconds



The People's Stadium was specially remodelled for the occasion. Two teams run out for the line-up before the start of play



Below:

An exciting moment in the final between the P.L.A. and Northeast China

Bottom left:

The matches were notable for their good sportsmanship. Victors and the defeated embrace at the end of the Northeast China v. National Railwaymen's match



The 1953 National Football Championships

At Shanghai's Hongkew Stadium thousands saw the People's Liberation Army capture the national football title from East China



The championship matches held for the first time in Shanghai attracted many new fans to the game



day and takes the place of 840 workers. It is run by a crew of five. Each scoop takes up 3 cubic metres of soil and loads this into the waiting wagons in about half a minute. An electric engine then drives the tip-wagons, made in China after Soviet models, to the dumping ground. The eleven-wagon trains, each carrying 220 cubic metres of earth, move away along several tracks at the rate of one every seven minutes. The driver presses a button, the sides of the eleven wagons open, and the earth cascades out, all within five seconds. A single driver and a signalman do the work of 30,000 men.

Immediately the earth is dumped, a group of electrically-driven bulldozers—made in Dairen, Northeast China—take over and push the earth flat with their 10-metre-long blades.

By such modern methods, a rapid tempo of construction is maintained at the Fuhsin mine. More than 30,000 cubic metres of earth are being moved in a single day. The 1952 plan for earthwork was fulfilled eleven days ahead of schedule.

Advantages of Open Cut Method

The open cut method has many advantages over the sinking of shafts. When completed the Fuhsin mine will be, as one engineer put it, "a real beauty." The miners at the coal face will work in the fresh, clean air and sunshine and in sight of the green grass and trees which will cover the sloping sides of the cut.

The mining of the coal will be done by powerful excavators taking up to 3 cubic metres of coal at each scoop—some 3.9 tons. The tip-wagons will carry the coal to the sorting dumps.

Even at the start of operations the productivity of labour of a Fuhsin miner will be four to five times that of an average miner underground.

The high degree of mechanisation, the automatization of signalling and transport will make it possible to maintain the most efficient methods of centralised supervision in operating the mine. There will be a many-storied building near the cut where, by means of automatic instruments in a single room, the administration will check on the progress of work throughout the mine. Section heads and dis-

patchers will also have their headquarters here, maintaining constant contact with and supervising the work of their sectors by means of various automatic electric devices.

This building will also house dressing rooms and baths for the workers. And here too they will gather in the briefing rooms to get instructions for the current shift.

Socialist Design

The plan for the Fuhsin mine and the way in which it is being realised is a triumphant demonstration of the superiority of socialist methods. The designers have approached their task not only from the technical viewpoint of getting coal out with the maximum efficiency and cheapness. They have added to this a mature conception of the place such a mine should play in the lives of the working people and the new society.

The most advanced technical methods are applied. The transport lines, for instance, have been planned according to the Soviet system which gives uninterrupted flow of traffic. Wagons loaded with earth or coal each travel along their own special lines and return empty without having to wait for each other. Automatic signalling and braking rule out collisions.

Installation of the most up-to-date machinery takes into account the safety and comfort of the workers. The electric locomotive, for instance, has a roomy driver's cabin with spring seats and regulated heating. The mine offices and buildings, the club rooms, clinic, dressing rooms etc., are fully in accord with the needs of the workers.

A School for Soviet Technique

The builders of the Fuhsin mine have had the invaluable assistance of Soviet specialists from the very start of the work. The latest electric excavators, engines and other equipment were ordered and bought in the Soviet Union in 1951. Soviet specialists took part in the planning of the mine. They then undertook to instruct the Chinese workers in the use of the Soviet machines as they arrived.

At the start there were only a few Chinese technicians with special knowledge and experience in the construction of such a mine.

The technical personnel was composed almost wholly of people drawn from other branches of production or young apprentices who had only just completed their graduate studies or special secondary schools. The mine administration, supported by the Communist Party organisation, the trade union and the Soviet specialists gave them every aid in mastering the special knowledge and techniques needed for this new construction. In a short time, engine drivers, excavator and bulldozer operators, power plant technicians, electricians, and others had been trained. Two years ago they were simple miners, peasants fresh from the countryside, students. Now they are the main body of specialist builders, themselves teaching their jobs to new cadres. Fuhsin is, in fact, a school where advanced Soviet methods are being adapted with splendid results to Chinese construction methods and industrial practice.

Workers' Ingenuity

Great effort and ingenuity went to overcome many difficulties. As a result of inexperience, for instance, powerful excavators were only being used at less than half capacity. At first they could barely dig 18,000 cubic metres of earth a day. Now they are moving 30,000 cubic metres.

Enthusiasm for the construction of their new country gave new skill to the workers' hands, new inspiration to their brains. The grand conception of this mine, unexampled in China, fired their imaginations. New labour models began to emerge.

A young leader of an excavator operators' brigade, Liu Huai-wen, hearing about the methods of the Soviet engineer Kovalev, decided to apply this experience to his own work. He organised the excavator groups of all three shifts for mutual study of their experience and devised a new process of work, incorporating the strongest points of each. As a result a new production record was established—the loading of a full train of wagons in 35 minutes.

Modern Work Conditions

This new mine provides its workers with modern conditions of life and work. Special transport facilities are available to those who live at a distance from the mine. The eight-hour day applies to all workers. But keen for



Soviet experts are telling the workers at Fuhsin their personal experiences in excavation

study, every day the workers devote from one to two hours to political and general educational courses.

There is a fine dining hall seating one thousand workers and providing good, cheap meals. A spare-time rest home for all workers and employees has been established by the mine administration. Nearly a third of the workers have enjoyed forty-five-day rests in it. They go there every day after work, change into comfortable rest clothes and are well looked after by trained personnel. They receive special diets and get regular physical check-ups. Many have gained more than ten pounds in weight. The workers pay only a quarter of the total charges for these services, the rest being taken care of by the labour insurance fund of the mine.

Such attention to the health and morale of the builders is one of the reasons for the consistently high tempo of work at the Fuhsin mine. The plan for 1952 was considerably overfulfilled. By July 1, 1953, in honour of the thirty-second anniversary of the Communist Party of China, Fuhsin mine will give the country its first wagon loads of coal. By 1955 it will be in full production.

Stalin Continues to Inspire The Chinese People

Our Correspondent

ON the death of Stalin, the Chinese people in their millions pledged to remain steadfastly loyal to his cause—the cause of the emancipation of mankind, and carry it forward to its full realisation.

The Chinese working people are now daily reporting how they are observing their vows. Through great efforts intensified in the last few weeks, many factories have fulfilled their production plans ahead of schedule and raised the quality of products. Daily, from March 6 onwards, workers of the rolling mill of the Anshan Iron and Steel Company have overfulfilled their production target and achieved a new record with a 10 per cent increase of production above the highest level previously attained. Moulding workers of the machine shop of the No. 2 State Cotton Mill in Tientsin doubled their output by improvements in labour organisation. In the No. 3 Mill of the Shanghai Iron and Steel Company, workers, putting on their machines the slogan "Raise Production in Memory of Comrade Stalin," registered a new record output of rolled steel, 23 per cent higher than the peak reached in the past.

Workers in many places have launched special emulation campaigns in memory of J. V. Stalin. They regard new production records as the most significant tribute they can pay to Stalin. Over 400 metal workers at one of the construction sites in Anshan, China's major steel centre, started an emulation campaign on March 9, the day of Stalin's funeral, and pledged to accomplish three and a half times as much work in March as in February.

Workers put new zeal into their study of advanced Soviet experience. At Chungking's No. 101 Steel Factory, the adoption of the Soviet experts' proposals considerably improved the quality of the steel ingots produced. The advice of the Soviet experts at Tientsin's State

Steel Mill has helped to increase steel output twentyfold compared to pre-liberation days. In Chungking's No. 102 State Works the workers added a special clause to their patriotic pact—"Step up the Study of Soviet Technique."

Follow Stalin's Teachings

The representatives of the millions of Chinese peasants who were given their own shares of land after the land reform pledged to advance along the road to collectivisation pointed out by Stalin. Cheng Yi-nan, a peasant in the suburb of Foochow, capital of Fukien Province, said: "It is Comrade Stalin who showed us how to organise agricultural producers' co-operatives and helped us to live the happy life we are now enjoying. We must unite still closer in the future and improve our co-operatives so that step by step we can reach the stage of collective farming."

Chen Shuang-tien, the nationally known model farmer who recently visited the Soviet Union, on returning from the memorial meeting for Stalin held at his home village, immediately got down, together with the members of his co-operative, to making a new plan for the co-operative. He himself promised to continue to tell the peasants of the whole county about the happy life of the peasants of the collective farms he had seen in the Soviet Union. Peasants of Chaoshan Village, Hsiantan County, Hunan Province, the birthplace of Mao Tse-tung, in their letter expressing their grief and sympathy to the people of Gori, the birthplace of Stalin, said: "We shall hand down to posterity the fraternal friendship between the peasants of China and the Soviet Union!"

The youth and students in China are holding many meetings and discussing how to improve their study of the teachings of Stalin, how to serve his cause still better. In

honour of the great Stalin, students of the Senior III class of the Peking Normal College's Middle School have drawn up a collective pledge to raise their class' average mark from its present 87.9 to 90 plus. Following the example of the workers, many students in Shanghai have pledged to prepare themselves to become members of the Communist Party or the New Democratic Youth League.

Officers and men of the Army, Navy and Air Force of the People's Liberation Army are working hard to master Stalin's military theories, improve their technique in military science and practice as they vigilantly guard their Motherland and world peace. Stalin's famous book on military science—*On the Three Special Features of the Red Army*—is being closely studied. The commands at all levels of the Chinese people's volunteers on the Korean front have received many messages pledging to

render exemplary service "to honour the memory of the great Stalin, to safeguard the cause of peace with which Stalin was so deeply concerned."

Millions of government workers, members of the Communist Party and non-members alike, following the leadership of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of China, commenced on March 12 to study the several important documents concerning the death of Stalin. They have gained a further insight into the teachings of the great genius and found new inspiration in their work.

The days which have followed the death of Stalin have shown that the immortal name of Stalin will live forever in the hearts of the Chinese people, encouraging them to overcome all difficulties, inspiring them in their advance to Socialism.

Forward Under the Banner of Stalin

Six Excerpts From Messages to the Chinese Press

Stalin Will Forever Be Our Guide

Kuo Mo-jo

Chairman, China Peace Committee

The death of Chairman Stalin is a world-shaking event which has caused overwhelming grief to all people of goodwill.

But in the world of today, we can see clearly that Comrade Stalin is immortal. His spirit and his teachings are leading people of goodwill forward in the march towards a better and happier life. Like Marx, Engels and Lenin, Stalin will never depart from us!

...We must always be mindful of Stalin's will to fulfil the sacred mission of defending world peace, further strengthening friendly mutual assistance with the Soviet people and reinforcing the world camp of peace headed by the U.S.S.R. to win peace in Asia as well as throughout the world.

All people of goodwill were stricken with profound grief by the death of Comrade Stalin. A handful of our enemies, however,

ghoulishly rejoice at our misfortune. At this moment, therefore, we should heighten our vigilance and stand ready to crush any plot instigated by the warmongers.

Under the leadership of Lenin and Stalin, the Soviet Union has today become the strongest bulwark of world peace. The victory of the Chinese people and the founding of the various People's Democracies have resulted in an unparalleled growth of the strength of the forces of world peace. We must be determined not to let the warmongers snatch the slightest advantage from our misfortune.

From this moment, therefore, let us, everyone of us, turn our grief into strength and honour the memory of Comrade Stalin by learning still more from his teachings. Comrade Stalin will forever be our guide.

March Along the Path of Stalin!

We have faced many difficulties in our economic rehabilitation and national construction since the victory of our people's revolution. But Comrade Stalin sent us many outstanding Soviet experts. They have been as patient and enthusiastic in teaching and helping us as if they were working for their own motherland. I remember well how when we once had serious trouble with the heating of the lathe gears, our Soviet friends not only helped us solve this problem but also explained their technique to many workers in our workshop. Such are "Stalin's people," the best sons and daughters reared and educated by Stalin.

We'll Build a Socialist Hsikoutsun

I went to the Soviet Union last year eager to learn from Soviet experience in agriculture, forestry and animal husbandry. Thanks to Comrade Stalin who has shown a deep concern over the welfare of the Chinese people, our elder brothers in the Soviet Union passed on to us without reserve their precious experience. The way to a rapid progress towards Socialism has been clearly pointed out to us. After I returned to China, I did my best to popularise among my countrymen what I had learnt in the Soviet Union. The first thing I did was to tell the peasants of my own Hsikoutsun in concrete terms how to direct our efforts with complete confidence so that a shallow ditch may be turned into a full one, and how to transform a barren hillside into a mountain of

We Will Defend Peace!

I remember clearly how Comrade Stalin commanded the valiant Soviet armed forces and led them to victory against the German fascists at a time when we ourselves were engaged in the war against Japanese aggression. This was a powerful encouragement to us who were in the heat of battle in the enemy rear.

Chao Kuo-yu
Model Worker

The impressive achievements we have made in the short space of three years are inseparable from the selfless assistance given to us by our dearest friend, Stalin.

We shall never forget Comrade Stalin's devoted concern and valuable guidance. His death is not only an incalculable loss to the Soviet people but also a tremendous loss to the Chinese people and all the peoples throughout the world. Comrade Stalin has departed from us, but his immortal spirit will live in our hearts forever. It will always be an inspiring force. Under his banner we will march victoriously along the path charted by Stalin!

Li Shun-ta
Model Peasant

treasure and how to develop agricultural production, afforestation, and animal husbandry in an overall, co-ordinated way.

New China has already started her first five-year plan. Chairman Mao Tse-tung has called on us to learn from the Soviet Union. Peasants in Hsikoutsun and people throughout China are determined to learn advanced Soviet experience, to take part in the great construction of New China, to speed up the industrialisation of our Motherland. Our village will step up capital construction in agriculture and further improve our agricultural, afforestation and animal husbandry co-operatives. We shall develop towards a collective farm and build a socialist Hsikoutsun in accordance with the teachings of Comrade Stalin.

Chang Ming
Combat Hero of the People's Liberation Army

Following the example of the Soviet armed forces and with the help of the Soviet armed forces, we defeated the Japanese fascists.

Here, I vow to Comrade Stalin: We will march forward resolutely under the guidance of Chairman Mao along the road you have shown us. We will study your great writings.

We will learn from advanced Soviet military science, master the weapons of modern warfare and the art of commanding the operations of combined forces. We will strive to become a regular, modernised army. Together

with the Soviet people and peace-loving people of the whole world, we will smash the U.S. imperialists' plot to enlarge their aggressive war. We will defend peace in Asia and world peace.

In Silent Sorrow, I Pledge . . .

Comrade Stalin, you are our educator and teacher. You dedicated your whole life to us.

You have developed and enriched Marxism-Leninism both in theory and in practice. From your writings, the Chinese people have discovered their road to the future.

The peoples of China and the Soviet Union have closer relations than brothers of the same flesh and blood. Under the teachings of the great Stalin and the leadership of Chairman Mao Tse-tung, we are day by day joyously forging ahead—to the ideal society of Communism!

I am a member of the Communist Party of China, that is, a disciple of Marx, Engels, Lenin, Stalin and of the teachings of Mao Tse-tung. I will steadfastly uphold that glorious name—a Communist; I will strengthen my Party spirit by criticism and self-criticism. Under the leader-

ship of Comrade Mao Tse-tung, I will have profound love for the Party and the government created by Lenin and you; for the people of the Soviet Union. You have departed, therefore I must draw ever closer to the people you have reared. I know the loss that the peace-loving mankind the world over has suffered as a result of your departure, so I will redouble my efforts in the cause of peace.

I am a literary worker. I must go deep into the masses, to know them and to write with the approach of socialist realism and educate the people with the works thus produced. I must be a genuine "engineer of the human soul." I received the great honour of a prize for literature named after you. I must preserve that honour and fight for your sake, work for Stalin, the immortal giant. It is the most glorious thing to dedicate everything that I may have for the realisation of the cause of Stalin!

Ting Ling

Novelist, Stalin Prize Winner

Our Venerated Teacher

This was the heaviest of blows! Stalin—great leader of the working people of the world, our most beloved teacher, had left us forever!

Although our beloved and venerated teacher, Stalin, is dead, his teachings of genius, his brilliant example, his revolutionary proletarian spirit, will stand before us to lead us continuously forward. His teachings educated us in the past. His teaching that writers and artists are "engineers of the human soul" has especially forcefully inspired our artists and writers. This teaching particularly has served as a constant impetus for me to strive to maintain consistent progress. Often I examined myself in the light of this demand to be an "engineer of the human soul" to judge whether I could measure up to that demand. Naturally those examinations often made me feel

Mei Lan-fang

Well-known Artist

ashamed! But I was never discouraged. I believe that it is the task of the artist to strive for the people's ideological remoulding and to raise the ideological level of the people through the medium of art. Those who are entrusted with this serious task must themselves possess a higher socialist ideological level and spiritual quality. And also I believe that from now onwards, under the brilliant leadership of Chairman Mao Tse-tung, we shall adhere faithfully to the legacy of Lenin and Stalin, redouble our efforts in studying Marxist-Leninist theories, intensify the study of the advanced experience of the Soviet Union, strengthen our practical and political training in every way and prove ourselves worthy of the encouragement and hopes cherished for us by Stalin and the working people of the world.

A Letter to American Workers

Louis A. Wheaton

Dear Fellow Workers,

We, in the United States, live in one of the biggest and one of the most industrialised countries in the world—a few of us own our own homes, some of us have cars, some of us eat and dress well and some of us enjoy to some degree a few of the things life has to offer.

But.... The majority of us don't own homes, don't have cars, and most of us don't eat well or dress well. We struggle to get this and sacrifice to buy that, and generally we have a pretty rough time...not to mention lack of proper care of our children and their working mothers. Especially is this true of those of us who are Negroes, Puerto Ricans, Mexican Americans, etc.

Okay, don't take on a fever, you have pride and so do I, but facts are facts! So brother and sister worker, let's face it. From 25 to 40 per cent of your income goes for rent, if not more; 33 1/3 per cent of your pay check goes into direct taxation and another 10 to 20 per cent goes by way of hidden taxes. If you add to that the cost of food and clothing, you will find we have no pay check left. That is, we are living from hand to mouth. We deny ourselves some essentials to buy something else that we want.

What about working conditions?—You know them as well as I do. Speed-up is the theme song. Shops are generally stuffy and

ill-ventilated; lighting is poor in most instances, not to mention the lack of safety devices. Workers have in many instances to provide their work clothes or aprons and caps where such things are needed. Each and every shop has its grievances—masks are needed; goggles are needed; shields are needed; and so on.

In the majority of instances, there is no health insurance, and where there is, the worker has to pay half or more for the insurance. In many instances there are less than five sick days a year. In a great many shops, vacation is a big joke. Where there is a union he may get two or three weeks after ten or twelve years.

Health resorts for workers? What's that?! No, brother, we don't have any such thing. Rest homes in the factory—are you mad? Hospitals for various branches of industry exclusively—why, hell, no! Hot meals free—man, you must be talking about things to come or things in another world.

Another World

Well, brothers and sisters, these things are in another world—a world where every worker and every peasant is working for a peaceful world and where the things that are being made meet the needs of the people—a world where the worker is the respected citizen and where he looks after his welfare and the welfare of the nation. The New Democratic People's Republic of China is a part of this world.

I have visited factories from Shanghai to Shenyang (Mukden). So I'll tell you what I saw with my own two eyes.

In the first place I was impressed by the unity among the workers. There is none of this "rival union" business here. The workers support their union and its leaders. Woe unto

* Louis A. Wheaton is a lathe operator and a member of the United Electrical, Radio and Machine Workers' Union, U.S.A. He was the chairman of the U.S. delegation to the Peace Conference of the Asian and Pacific Regions and is now a deputy secretary general of the Peace Liaison Committee of the Asian and Pacific Regions. /

that leader who gives these workers a bum steer!

Maybe I should tell you here that four years ago China was a mass of rubble and poor organisation. Most of the workers were unorganised. Their living conditions were "zero minus." They were living in horrible huts and shacks and any shelter they could find. The Kuomintang had its heel in the worker's neck and was burying him in the muck and mire. But the workers united and set right this awful mess.

Today, what are the actual conditions? In the first place, I state quite frankly that the living standard of the Chinese people is not up to ours as yet. But that is only a matter of time—and a very short time at that. As for housing, the workers are already living in warm, clean houses. But this is by no means all. In every city there is a building of huge housing projects. The projects are not only government but factory projects also, for which the rents are phenomenally low. These are modern projects with all the necessary facilities. For example: a typical family was the one I visited at the Fushun open cut mine. While walking along the project street, I picked up a little boy of about four-and-a-half or five years of age from among the children who had gathered around us. I told him through our interpreter that I would like to visit his home.

He very proudly got down from my arms, and running before us, led us to his home. There were four in his family. Following his example, we doffed our shoes and entered a foyer that was spotless and the floor shone. There were three rooms and a kitchen. There was gas for cooking, electric lights and radio, and very bright spreads on the beds.

The furniture was heavy, sturdy red maple. There were pictures of the family and of the leaders of China on the walls. There were also beautifully handwoven silk screens showing picturesque scenes of China. We were served tea in the pottery that is very familiar in China. A worker in China today pays between 5 and 7 per cent of his income for rent.

The trade union and its representatives are constantly checking on safety devices and improved working conditions for the workers. This includes ventilation, heat, dust-removers,

lighting and other such factors important to a worker. The factory management respects the trade union, and the proposals made to management are generally implemented immediately or as soon as equipment can be installed. The factory, whether state-owned or privately-owned, carries health insurance on the workers.

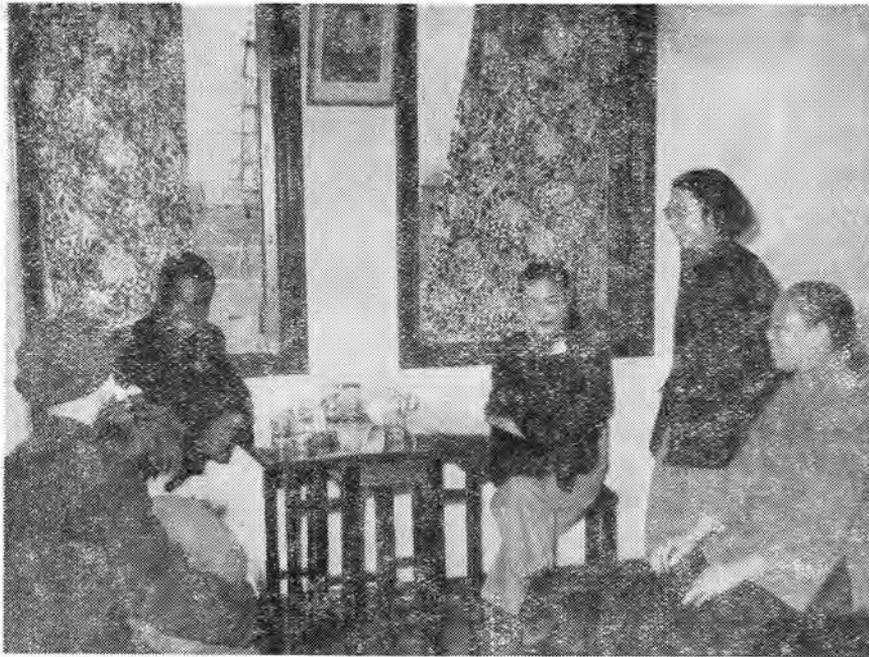
The factory also provides for a clinic and rest home right on the premises for workers who become ill on the job. These clinics are staffed with doctors and nurses who give the best care to the workers.

As if this is already not something, let me add a few other details. First, every branch of industry has, or will have in the immediate future, its own hospital. For example, in Tientsin, the textile workers have a brand-new, well-equipped 400-bed hospital with a full staff of doctors and nurses. The chemical workers in the same city have a 300-bed hospital equipped in the same manner and so do the steel workers. All expenses for hospital care, doctors, surgery and medicine are free to the workers. In addition to this, they are paid for the period they are unable to work.

Workers' Health Resorts

Now let's speak about health resorts. Now you will really hear something. These health resorts are beautiful palaces on lakes, in the hilly countryside or along one of the beautiful rivers of China. The resort of the railroad workers is a dream. It sits like a jewel under the mountains around Hangchow and on the edge of the beautiful West Lake. Here, based on performance and the need of the workers, they are given two to four weeks' rest, completely free in most cases and in others paying only a nominal fee for their meals. This, of course, includes doctors and nurses and personnel for the needs of the workers. The trade union decides upon who shall be given this rest after consultation with the business agent and the workers in the factory. However, if the doctors make such a recommendation, then this is given priority. This is in addition to the regular holiday or vacation periods.

One other thing that impressed me very much was the role that women are playing in industry in China. It is quite an accepted thing to see a woman engineer on a locomotive



Mr. and Mrs. Louis Wheaton visiting a worker's family in Shanghai which has just moved into their new home in the Tsao Yang Workers' Village

moving it out on her regular run. She is a brake operator, switch operator and conductor.

In the factories she is standing side by side with her trade union brother operating a huge lathe, miller, power press or other very intricate testing and technical machinery. It is not unusual at all to see a woman director of a machine shop or a woman engineer. I must add for clarity, women receive equal pay with their brother workers. Mothers are given, with full pay, three half-hour periods for nursing and visiting their babies, exclusive of their lunch periods. These things are true not only in any one branch, but in all branches of industry.

Workers here are proud of their achievements in the past three years, and rightly so. I am proud of my Chinese brothers and sisters.

A Proposal

I would like to propose as an American worker that we, the workers of the United States, suggest some form of peaceful and friendly competition with the workers of China, e.g., better working conditions, better living conditions, or something of this nature in a given period. I feel sure that a discussion of this proposal in our unions and shops will lead

to some very excellent ideas. After a thorough discussion of this proposal and the reaching of an agreement on concrete suggestions for the peaceful and friendly competition, if you will communicate with me I will be very proud to submit your proposals to the Chinese workers.

We love competition—I feel sure that our Chinese brother and sister workers would welcome a friendly peaceful competition with us.

But to do this we have to guarantee that there is peace. Peace is essential to us just

as it is to the workers in China and the world. We have an opportunity to have peace, better working conditions and to make life more pleasant if we don't have war. What does war mean to us workers? It means higher taxes; it means higher costs of food and clothing; further, it means scarcity of the essentials to life. But more important yet it means the loss of life to the whole lot of us young workers and our families, too, if there is another world war. It means death and destruction for others like us in the world. You know I am not giving you the business! War is hell! You are right, fellow workers, it means a lowering of our standard of living—call it austerity, tightening the belt or anything you like. To prevent this then, we need—and all workers and farmers need—Peace. We can guarantee peace by demanding that all present wars be stopped—by demanding that all disputes be settled by negotiations and with no interference in the internal affairs of any country. If we do these things, peace will be ours.

Yours for Peace and Fraternity,

Louis A. Wheaton

Lathe Operator

China's Egg Exports

J. C. Chao

CHINA is one of the world's greatest exporters of eggs and egg products. In the peak year of 1936, she exported a total equivalent to 2,722,080,000 fresh eggs, 47,826 tons of frozen egg products, 9,073 tons of dried egg products and 380 million fresh shell eggs. These eggs and egg products went chiefly to Great Britain, the United States, Germany, France, Belgium, Japan, the Philippines, Indonesia and other centres in the South Pacific.

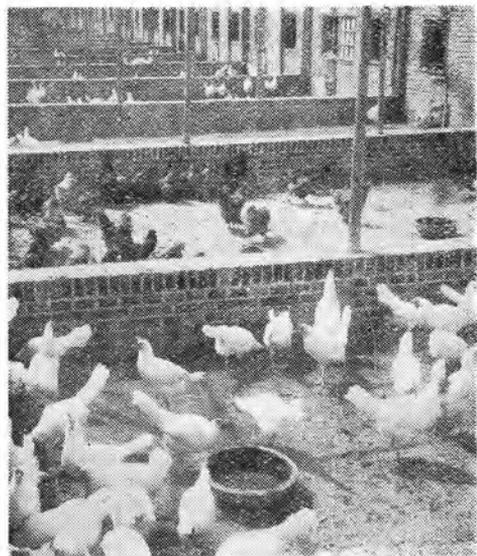
This is a trade that has a considerable history. Fresh eggs, salted eggs and preserved eggs began to be exported from the country at the close of the nineteenth century. Early in the twentieth, with the development of new techniques of powdering and refrigeration, the export of dried and frozen egg products began. But owing to the ruin brought upon the national economy by the Japanese invasion of 1937-45 and the misrule of the Kuomintang reactionaries, most of the egg processing factories in China went bankrupt and closed down. The export of egg products declined to its lowest level. This was a hard blow to the already impoverished peasants of China, one of whose chief side-occupations is poultry farming.

A Spectacular Recovery

In the three years since liberation, however, China's egg production and exports have made a rapid recovery in line with the unprecedented progress made in every sphere of life.

Under the influence of the many incentives to production in New China, the output of fresh eggs in 1952 increased by 43 per cent compared with the normal output of the 1930's.

China today can fulfil orders considerably in excess of pre-war demands and still have increased supplies for a home market that is



also steadily expanding with the improvement of the people's welfare.

China's farmers, among the world's most skilful poultrymen, quickly increased their stock of poultry when they received their own land during the land reform and were thus able to improve their supply of feedstuffs. With the help of the People's Government, the egg-processing factories have nearly all resumed operations. New methods of co-operative collection and marketing of eggs, government aid in the form of loans, tax exemptions, improved communications, etc., have all contributed to the restoration of the export trade which is climbing back steadily to peak levels.

High Quality Products

One reason for the popularity of China's eggs and egg products in the world market is their rich fat content. The flocks raised in millions of separate peasant households are relatively small. They are well-tended, and there are now adequate stocks of domestic feed. One kilogramme of such eggs contain 24.88 grammes of fat compared to the 22 grammes or less in some foreign countries. In addition, China's egg products are all prepared from sterilised fresh eggs, and standards of quality, of fat content, etc., of exported products are rigorously maintained under the supervision of the Commodity Inspection and Testing Bureau.

of the Ministry for Foreign Trade.* This is possible because the industry is now organised under state direction.

The egg processing industry and exports were formerly controlled and run in the interests of the imperialist powers, Japanese, German and British interests and their Chinese compradores. Exports fell sharply after World War I due to the world capitalist crisis and trade restrictions imposed by various countries. Only a fraction of the processing concerns remained in operation. Later the market picked up only to fall to its lowest level in 1946 under Kuomintang rule when only 61 tons of egg products were exported. This was the result of the high grain prices, disruption of transport and urban-rural trade.

Now the once bankrupt industry has been rehabilitated under state direction and assistance, is paying good profits to the processing plants which are mainly privately owned, and good prices to the small producers. New markets are being developed, and supplies are being restored to old customers by the China National Foodstuffs Export Corporation, the state organisation now handling all egg exports.

Cheap Prices

China's high quality eggs and egg products are cheap; generally, they are about 10 per cent cheaper than those produced in the United States. The people of the United States benefited from the buying of several thousand tons of egg products from China in 1949 and the first half of 1950; still more so did the West European countries, especially Great Britain. But as a result of the U.S. interference in the normal avenues of trade and its attempt by blockades and embargoes against the trade of



The poultry-house on the experimental farm of the Shuangchiao Tractor School near Peking. This farm provided local peasants with some 250,000 Leghorn eggs for hatching in 1952 to raise the quality of egg products

other countries with China to usurp for U.S. exports a monopoly position, Britain's imports of egg products from China, for example, declined considerably in the latter part of 1950 and in 1951. This the British housewife can confirm from her own experience of higher prices and lower quality of foodstuffs containing eggs or egg products. By 1952, however, wiser counsels prevailed and Britain was again purchasing from China considerable quantities of egg products. The *Financial Times*, representing British financial circles, stated soberly on August 9, 1951: "In the production of bakery goods it is impossible to find suitable substitutes for the eggs imported from China."

The increasingly favourable conditions for agricultural production and the domestic production of good poultry feed in China will provide even better conditions for poultry farming. Plans are on foot for the development of modernised poultry farms, and in addition, if each of the 100 million peasant households should raise only one more hen, there will be an increased output of over 10,000 million eggs every year. This will add still more eggs to the table of the Chinese people, and will also increase the export of eggs and egg products to the many millions in foreign lands who need them.

* The fat content (CHCL₃ extract) in exported frozen whole hen eggs must be 10-15 per cent and their acidity of fat must not exceed 4 millilitres; the fat content in the dried whole egg (powder) must be 45-50 per cent with a 4 millilitre maximum acidity of fat.



Chih Fu-jen

Special Sports Correspondent

AT its spacious Honkew Stadium, recently rebuilt at a cost of 5,000 million yuan, Shanghai played host at the finals of the second national football championship which was won by the People's Liberation Army team.

This was Shanghai's first national sports meet since liberation. The matches drew record crowds. Supplementary bus and tram services carried football fans to and from the Stadium during the games from February 25 to March 5. Thousands of others who could not get seats on the crowded stands listened to running commentaries on the radio.

The nine-day programme was run in two series: the national championship and the junior cup tournament which was instituted this year. Eight teams competed in the senior class—one each from the six administrative areas,* one from the People's Liberation Army and another from the national railway network. Eleven teams fought for the junior cup—one each from ten major cities including Peking, Shanghai and Mukden and the eleventh from the Korean minority area of Kirin Province, Northeast China.

The junior teams were made up of players aged sixteen to twenty. The majority of players of the national championship teams were students and industrial workers. Besides the

Koreans from Northeast China, there are also other players from the national minorities: Uighurs, Tartars and Uzbeks from the north-western provinces. They represented the cream of Chinese football players selected in a series of local tournaments held throughout the country since last November. They were challenging the tough Northeast team, half of whose players are industrial workers, which won the title last year in Tientsin.

To Popularise Sport

The All-China Athletic Federation, the leading body of the country's sporting associations, organised this national meet as it does all other sports activities in the country today. As one of its primary tasks at present is to popularise sport, football included, among the masses of the people, the Federation made a big and successful effort to draw large attendances. To familiarise new fans with the game, experts kept up a running commentary on the play in the big matches drawing attention to its finer points. The junior tournament particularly helped to give fresh impetus to interest in football, and the Federation also hopes by this means to provide correct, scientific training for the rising generation of football players right from the start.

All this is in line with the People's Government policy of providing more healthy recreational facilities for the people. With rising living standards they are looking for a richer

* The six administrative areas are: the Northeast, North, East, Central-South, Southwest and Northwest China.

cultural life in which football and other sports will play an important part.

The Federation can congratulate itself on considerable successes in popularising football and raising the standard of play in the past three years. Canton, capital of sunny Kwangtung Province, South China, for example, had only 30 football teams in 1951 when the first national championships were held. Today it has 107 teams.

The Korean minority in Kirin Province shows keen interest in football, and the effective aid and encouragement given by the Federation has now made football a "national" sport there. The People's Government has naturally given the Federation its full support. It has spent large sums on the provision of public sports grounds and other sports facilities and given a great deal of other aid for the development of sport.

Well Co-ordinated Play

Thirty-four matches were played off during the Shanghai meet. The final was a keenly contested match with the P.L.A. winning 2-0 after extra time.

Both teams, which seemed about equally matched, opened with all-out attacks with their half-backs and full-backs supporting well co-ordinated offensives. It was a hard fought see-saw battle with occasional but fast breakthroughs. In the first half, the Northeast held the initiative, but it ended in a goalless draw.

In the second half, the P.L.A. team seized the initiative. Their offensive strategy set the tone of play. Neither side, however, scored. Strong and concentrated though the P.L.A. was, the Northeast defence was unruffled.

In the extra time, the P.L.A. men led by their air force captain kept up their attack relentlessly in the best P.L.A. tradition. Ten minutes later they netted a goal from a penalty.

The pace of the game clearly began to tell on the Northeast players and they began to

give in under the weight of P.L.A. pressure. The better wind and general stamina of the army-men gave them the advantage. In an unexpected swoop, their right wing sent a characteristically long shot to the Northeast goalmouth. The keeper punched the ball out as he had frequently done before, but the P.L.A. inside right was in position and headed the ball into the net to seal the fate of the former national champions.

In the junior cup series, the Shanghai team carried off the tournament in a surprise vic-



Chen Yi, Mayor of Shanghai, kicks off at the opening match

tory over the powerful Korean minority team which had earlier appeared to be the strongest contender.

Teams' Mutual Aid

What particularly struck those who had seen the first national meet in 1951 was that the standard of play had so greatly improved. This is undoubtedly the result of better facili-

ties for training, all-round improvement in physique and the heightened keenness of all players under the guidance of the Athletic Federation. But one important and unique new feature in Chinese sport that contributed largely to this improvement has been the constant exchange of experience among both players and trainers.

Ever since the first elimination matches were held on a provincial and city scale in preparation for the national finals, participating teams have held a series of meetings for mutual aid. The finals' meet was no exception and was particularly valuable because the pick of players and trainers had come together from all parts of the country.

At one session, for example, a representative of the P.L.A. team described in detail his

team's strategy, methods of training and weaknesses for all who cared to listen, including its rival, the Northeast team which was pitted against it for the national title on the following day.

Since the ambition to raise the all-round level of play is common to all players and trainers, criticism and self-criticism of and by individual players and trainers is also freely given and well appreciated. The old practice of "hogging" star players or a team's "victory formula" has definitely no place in New China. Good or promising sportsmen in football and in other sports are now freed from the profit-motive system of professionalism and have no need for such methods any longer. The Shanghai football finals were good, clean sport.

Book Review

"China Today"

Chen Han-seng

Vice-Chairman of the China-India
Friendship Association

IN the autumn of 1951, the China Peace Committee and several other Chinese organisations extended an invitation to the All-India Peace Council, the India-China Friendship Association and other organisations in India to send delegates to participate in the celebration of the second anniversary of the People's Republic of China. An Indian Goodwill Mission to China was promptly organised and came to China. *China Today*, written by the leader of this mission, Pandit Sundarlal, is essentially a forty-day diary of the visit.

In addition, the book contains a group of articles by eleven of the thirteen delegates.

China Today by Pandit Sundarlal, Hindustani Culture Society, Allahabad, India, 1952.

Mrs. Hannah Sen writes on "China's National Minorities" and "New China's Exhibitions"; and the well-known writer Dr. Mulk Raj Anand also contributes two pieces. An article by Pandit Sundarlal himself, "New China and Its Lesson," fittingly concludes the book.

China Today is of particular interest because it represents the view of an author who has devoted his entire life to the cause of Indian independence. For his anti-British activities he was dismissed from the Allahabad University as early as 1905. He worked closely first with Aurbindo Ghosh and Bal Gangadhar Tilak and later with Mahatma Gandhi. He refused to enter into councils organised by the British Government in 1925, and published his famous and widely read Hindi book, *Bharat*

Men Angrezi Raj ("British Rule in India") in 1928. His visit to China, so recently freed from imperialist domination and influence, acted on his anti-imperialist mind as a spark on tinder. His sympathy for the new China is deep and his enthusiasm high.

Since his return from China, Pandit Sundarlal has devoted most of his time in speaking before Indian audiences both in villages and in towns. His forceful lectures have created a very strong feeling for the new China. The Hindustani Culture Society, of which he is secretary, is also working for closer understanding between the peoples of India and China. It is the publisher of *China Today*, and one of its research fellows, Bhan Chandra Verma, recently wrote another book entitled *People's China*.

Pandit Sundarlal takes his reader to see the new China. His descriptions cover a very wide range: food, clothing, housing, architecture, educational institutions, films, the theatre, libraries and museums, dance and music, medical and health work, factories and villages, temples, co-operatives, law courts and police, government, the press, literature and art, youth, women and national minorities. He permits his reader to listen to his conversations with Kuo Mo-jo and other prominent Chinese, with Indian Ambassador Panikkar, with an Indian merchant who has been in China for fifty years, an Indian professor in a Chinese university and other Hindus, Muslims, Sikhs and Parsis in various Chinese cities.

In the aeroplane from Canton to Peking, Pandit Sundarlal tells us, he felt the whole atmosphere to be homelike and human, unlike that in British and American planes where the distance between the attendants and those attended is always emphasised. Of railway travel, he says, "Throughout our thousands of miles of railway journey in New China, nowhere did we observe disorder, rush and bustle." While in Tientsin the Indian delegates saw a trade exhibition, which, he says, "was a complete answer to the American blockade and showed that the so-called blockade has given a further stimulus to the people for creative initiative and for speeding up their drive for complete economic inde-

pendence." The author was fascinated with the scenic beauty and the handicrafts of Hangchow, which he calls "the garden of travellers" and also "the Kashi (Banaras) of China." On the railway journey from Hangchow to Canton, what impressed him was the fact that "Chinese villagers appeared extremely hardworking... Wherever they see strangers they show no signs of fear or wonder. On the other hand, they smile and express their joy by the clapping of hands."

The contrast between Hongkong and the mainland of China struck the author and prompted him to write:

No traveller can fail to notice the difference between conditions in a semi-colonial country and those in a free country, the painful contrast and gulf existing between man and man in a foreign-ruled territory as against the comparative equality and homogeneity of people in a free country ruled by a People's Republic.... We felt that while New China was fairly on the road to social justice and economic equality, that is, to a classless society, unjust class distinctions and social inequality were necessary concomitants of capitalist imperialist society. We could also see that while New China had elevated the tastes and raised the ethical standards of her people to such a high degree in so short a time, social squalor and moral degradation of a type are inseparable from capitalist imperialist society.

While the rulers of the U.S. try to smear China by naming her an "aggressor," Pandit Sundarlal's book completely negates this false accusation. In his concluding article he says:

The economic organisation of China as a whole is not focused on war effort but towards production of everyday consumer goods. Even in the city of Mukden which is so near the war zone we found life normal. China has no war-mongers. New China and her leaders want to live in peace with every other nation of the world.

The book contains a few errors in Chinese names which might be corrected in subsequent editions, such as "Mau" for Ma and "Mr. Teng Ying-chao" for Mme. Teng Ying-chao.

China Today is a contribution not only to the growing friendship between India and China, but also to the defence of world peace.

IN THE NEWS

First Automatic Blast Furnace

China's first automatic blast furnace at the Anshan Iron and Steel Company in the Northeast turned out its first heat of pig iron on March 9. This was a major event in China's heavy industry. The furnace is the completely renovated No. 8 Furnace designed by the fascist German Otto Company for the Anshan works, which were then controlled by the Japanese imperialists. Not only was this old furnace inefficient but it was a constant danger to the workers, many of whom were scorched and injured by it. Now, after nine months' efforts of the Chinese workers with the Soviet experts rendering all possible aid, No. 8 Furnace has been recommissioned as an automatic installation.

The whole country has given support to this work. Altogether more than 170 factories and enterprises in 18 cities manufactured special machinery for the furnace. Most of this was delivered ahead of schedule. Soviet works also produced special equipment for this furnace. Workers and technicians from Peking, Shanghai, Nanking, Tientsin, Taiyuan and Shenyang came to Anshan to help

NW Rich in Minerals

Northwest China has rich deposits of petroleum, coal, copper, iron and other mineral wealth. As a result of three years' prospecting and surveying, many rare minerals such as manganese, tungsten, zinc, beryllium and bismuth have also been discovered. A newly discovered coalfield in Shensi Province has estimated reserves sufficient for the development of industry throughout the whole Northwest. In Kansu Province, a major deposit of highest grade copper ore has been discovered.

"The Greatest Friendship"

Chairman Mao Tse-tung's article, *The Greatest Friendship*, written in memory of J. V. Stalin, first published in the Peking *People's Daily* on March 9, has been reprinted throughout the Chinese press and in many leading papers abroad.

According to information available up to the present, the full text of the article was prominently featured in the Soviet papers *Pravda*, *Izvestia*, *Krasnaya Zvezda*, *Trud* and *Komsomolskaya Pravda* on March 10 and 11; in *Rude Pravo*, *l'Humanite*, *Drapeau Rouge* and *Oesterreichische Volksstimme*, organs of the Czechoslovak, French, Belgian and Austrian Communist Parties respectively on March 10 and 11; in newspapers in Bucharest and Warsaw on March 11 and 12; in the 1953, No. 11 issue of *For a Lasting Peace*, *For a People's Democracy* on March 13; in the Korean papers *Mindu Chosen*, *Nodong Sinmun* and *The Korean People's Army* on March 13 and 14; and in the Indian papers *Swadhinata*, a Bengali language daily of Calcutta, on March 15; in the Lucknow English language paper *The National Herald* on March 19, and in *Crossroads* on March 22.

Prospecting and surveying work has been steadily expanding in the Northwest. This year 9 times as many rock drills will be needed and 39 times as much drilling will be done as last year. Several well-equipped laboratories have been set

up and a school of geology for 600 students is under construction.

First Girl Drillers

A group of 9 girl drillers, aged 17-23, are working on the construction site of the Futseling Reservoir on the upper reaches of the Huai River. They are the first group of girl drillers in China. They began their training last May. Though some of them only a few months before had never seen a modern machine, after two months of hard study and practice, they started to do drilling themselves. Last winter they were assigned work in the Tapieh Mountain region. They fulfilled their plan cheerfully working under hard conditions.

Spring Sowing

China's peasants are actively preparing for spring sowing. People's governments of all levels have granted large loans for agricultural production. County governments have bought many farm implements to supply to the peasants. Increased attention is being paid to seed selection and treatment.

In Kwangtung Province, preparations have already been completed and in some places sowing has started. Village co-operatives have distributed supplies of chemical and bean cake fertiliser and are delivering hundreds of thousands of new farm tools to the peasants. The Kwangtung Bureau of Agriculture and Forestry has set up more than 100 agro-technical stations to help the peasants improve their farming technique. More and more peasants are joining mutual-aid teams, and it is estimated that some 40% of the peasants in this province will be organised this year.

Spring sowing preparations are well under way in Northeast China. The experience of Chaoyuan County, Heilungkiang Province, the model "Bumper Crop County" of the nation, is being widely applied. Peasants in Jehol Province have prepared enough fertiliser to enrich 90% of the province's farm land. The Northeast is establishing 1,000 agro-technical stations. Extensive anti-drought measures have already been taken as part of the prepara-

tions to achieve this year's target —23 million tons of grain.

Volunteers for Korea

Fresh groups of volunteer medical workers and transport workers have left for Korea to help the struggle against U.S. aggression. From February 24 to March 13, five new teams of medical workers have been organised by the China Peace Committee and have left for Korea. The members are from all parts of the country. Two teams are made up of volunteers from Hupeh, Hunan and Kwangtung Provinces. One whole team is from Kweiyang, capital of Kweichow Province. Canton has sent a surgical team of 14 members, while Chungking has provided a team of 10 surgeons and nurses. The volunteer transport workers include a group of 30 bus drivers from Chengtu and more than 1,350 railwaymen from Peking, Tientsin, Shanghai, Hangchow, Chengchow and Sian.

Puppet Shows on the Screen

The Peking Film Studio has produced its first puppet movie. A 4,000-metre film entitled *Fukien Puppet Shows*, it is a documentary on two famous puppet plays of the Fukien Province. The first, *New Luanchow*, is a historical account of how a Chinese general of the Sung Dynasty defeated foreign invaders against heavy odds. The puppets in this film are operated by overhead strings. The second production is *Monkey Sun Wu-kung Puts Heaven in Disorder*, the famous and popular legend about how Monkey Sun Wu-kung was cheated by the Emperor of Heaven who gave him high-sounding official titles but actually made him work very hard. In rebellion, Monkey steals the Peaches of Longevity, outwits the heavenly guards and returns to his home at the Mountain of Flowers and Fruits. This action-packed production is played with puppets hand-manipulated from below the stage.

Briefs

Ten machine and tractor stations are to be established at various key points throughout the country this year. Only Northeast China has

had such stations up to now. They will help the peasants in their gradual progress towards collective farming.

* * *

The Yellow River has excellent potentialities for hydroelectric development, state experts who have just completed a survey of its upper and middle reaches. They investigated 19 gorges in its upper reaches and located first-rate sites for several reservoirs and dams.

CHRONICLE OF EVENTS

March 7

Hsinhua News Agency releases the communique issued by the delegation of the Red Cross Society of China and the Japanese delegation on the agreements reached regarding assistance to Japanese nationals in China who wish to return to Japan.

The Korean-Chinese truce talks delegation protests against the killing of 5 and injuring of 13 P.O.W's by U.S. troops between February 28 and March 4.

March 9

Memorial meetings in memory of J. V. Stalin were held in Peking and throughout China.

Mao Tse-tung's article *The Greatest Friendship*, written in memory of Stalin, appears in *People's Daily*.

March 11

The Korean-Chinese truce talks delegation protests against the U.S. killing of 23 and injuring of 42 P.O.W's on Yongcho Island on March 7 and the killing of two others on Pongam and Koje Islands on March 5 and 6.

March 12

The 28th anniversary of the death of Dr. Sun Yat-sen is commemorated.

March 14

The Chinese people commemorate the 70th anniversary of the death of Karl Marx.

Hsinhua reports Korean and Chinese people's forces wiped out 9,578 enemy troops (4,422 American, 5 British and 5,151 Syngman Rhee troops) in February. During the same month, they shot down 111 and damaged 141 enemy planes.

A cotton agreement and a coal contract are signed in Karachi between the governments of China and Pakistan.

March 17

The Korean-Chinese truce talks delegation protests against the U.S. bombing of the Kaisung neutral zone and the wounding of three people by U.S. military aircraft on March 13.

The Chinese Red Cross and four other people's organisations have sent £15,185 to the people of Britain, 239,400 and 39,900 Swiss francs to the people of the Netherlands and Belgium respectively who suffered from inundations along the North Sea coasts in February.

Twenty-three Chinese Christian leaders issue a joint protest against Eisenhower's refusal to free Julius and Ethel Rosenberg.

March 19

China mourns the death of President Klement Gottwald of the Republic of Czechoslovakia. Flags fly at half mast throughout China.

LETTERS

—To the Editor—

Make Nature Serve Mankind

AMERSFOORT, HOLLAND

Your February, 1953 No. 3 issue certainly was a most interesting one. As a civil engineer I was especially impressed by the article about the Huai River project. It is a model for elucidating, in a short sketch with a few maps, very complicated waterworks. Your achievements in this field are extremely remarkable indeed, both for the thoroughness of the solutions and for the tempo of realising them.

Whereas here in Holland we are losing ground in our struggle with nature, you are giving us an example how to turn nature to the service of mankind.

We follow your efforts with the greatest sympathy.

IR. S. J. RUTGERS

Peace on Earth

SYDNEY, AUSTRALIA

I should like to express my deepest sympathy to all your people regarding our great leader's death. We all mourn him deeply.

Stalin, as well as your leader Mao Tse-tung, has shown human beings all over the globe how to make people happy and satisfied, and your nation, too, will create Paradise on earth and abolish starvation and exploitation.

We also strongly hope that our ideal "PEACE ON EARTH" may at last be realised. If all mankind would follow the teachings of the great leaders of Socialism it certainly can come true.

In greatest sympathy and best wishes for PEACE and security.

C. LEVIN

NEW TITLES

To Be Published Soon

Mao Tse-tung on the Chinese Revolution

by Chen Po-ta

Explains Chairman Mao Tse-tung's revolutionary theory and policy with illustrations taken from the actual course of the Chinese revolution.

Stalin and the Chinese Revolution

by Chen Fo-ta

Introduces J. V. Stalin's profound analysis of the various phases of the Chinese revolution.

An Address to the Study Group of Research Members of the Academia Sinica

by Chen Po-ta

Points out the correct relationship that should obtain between Communist Party members and scientists, and between scientists of the new and old schools; the line of development which the Academia Sinica should follow; the attitude of scientists to patriotism; the attitude all scientists should take towards political study; and the working style they should cultivate.

The True Story of Ah Q

by Lu Hsun

This short story reflects the failure of the 1911 Revolution and indicates the lessons to be derived from it; depicts the social relationships in a semi-feudal, semi-colonial village; and the class contradictions between the peasant and his oppressors.

Six A.M. and Other Stories

by Liu Pai-yu

This collection of short stories presents a vivid picture of various aspects of the War of Liberation. It contains: "The Political Commissar," "Three Invincible Fighters," "The Raging Fire of Battle," "Forever Forward" and "Six A.M."

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