

PEKING REVIEW

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February 25, 1977

北
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周
報

Comrade Hua Kuo-feng in Hunan

**Mechanization: Fundamental
Way Out for Agriculture**

France's New Strategic Concept

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Go All Out to Improve Railway Transport

A national conference on railway work was recently convened in Peking. It was attended by leading comrades of the central and local authorities and the railway departments.

This meeting was called in accordance with the Party Central Committee's strategic plan of grasping the key link and managing the affairs of the country well, and was aimed at mobilizing the whole Party to improve railway transport and carry out in a better way the various tasks set by Chairman Hua for 1977.

Hua Kuo-feng, Chairman of the Central Committee of the Chinese Communist Party and Premier of the State Council, and Vice-Chairman of the Party Central Committee Yeh Chien-ying and other leading comrades of the Party and the state Li Hsien-nien, Chen Hsi-lien, Chi Teng-kuei, Wang Tung-hsing, Wu Teh, Chen Yung-kuei, Wu Kuei-hsien, Wang Chen, Yu Chiu-li, Ku Mu and Sun Chien met the representatives to the conference. Chairman Hua and Vice-Chairman Yeh gave important directives and Vice-Premier Chi Teng-kuei spoke at the meeting.

Participants to the conference conscientiously studied Chairman Mao's brilliant work *On the Ten Major Relationships*

which was recently published and Chairman Hua's important speech at the Second National Conference on Learning From Tachai in Agriculture. They exposed and repudiated the criminal scheme of the "gang of four" to usurp Party and state power, studied the question of mobilizing the whole Party to manage the railways well and get them to function more efficiently.

This year is one in which the whole nation is moving towards great order. The conference pointed out that to get the national economy up, the railways must function smoothly, safely and punctually and that they should haul a greater volume of goods at a faster speed.

In the past, the interference of the "gang of four" had brought great damage to railway transport and this adversely affected industrial and agricultural production, the interflow of goods between city and countryside, preparedness against war and the livelihood of the people. At present, the railways have become the salient weak link in the national economy, so the whole Party must with the greatest determination and the greatest effort do everything possible to improve railway transport. The conference issued the call that the railway departments throughout the country must, under the cen-

tralized leadership of the Party committees of the various provinces, municipalities and autonomous regions, take class struggle as the key link and do a thorough job in exposing and criticizing the "gang of four." The conference stressed that to manage the railways well it is necessary to properly handle the relationship between the central authorities and the local authorities and, under the centralized leadership of the central authorities, give full play to the initiative of the central and local authorities. The conference also discussed and set down the goals for bringing about a quick improvement in railway transport. It expressed the firm determination to work hard for three to five years and turn the nation's railways into a Taching-type enterprise.

Get-Together in Celebration Of Spring Festival

The National Committee of the Chinese People's Political Consultative Conference (C.P.P.C.C.) sponsored a get-together on February 18 in celebration of the Spring Festival. Among those present were Party and state leaders Yeh Chien-ying, Li Hsien-nien, Wu Teh, Ulanfu, Teng Ying-chao, Ngapo Ngawang-Jigme, Chou Chien-jen, Hsu Teh-heng and Hu Chueh-wen. Shen Yen-ping, Vice-Chairman of the C.P.P.C.C. National Committee, also attended.

They were greeted by a standing ovation and prolonged applause when they entered the hall. In high spirits, Vice-Chairman Yeh Chien-ying, Vice-Premier Li Hsien-nien and Vice-Chairman Wu Teh of the N.P.C. Standing Committee cordially shook hands with people from various circles and extended festival greetings to all present.

A joyous mood prevailed in the lantern-bedecked banquet hall of Peking Hotel, where the get-together was held. The nearly 300 participants included responsible members of departments concerned, Members of the N.P.C. Standing Committee in Peking, Members of the Standing Committee of the C.P.P.C.C. National Committee, leading members of patriotic democratic parties, people from various circles, counsellors of the State Council and researchers of the Central Research Institute of Culture and History.

Shen Yen-ping, Vice-Chairman of the C.P.P.C.C. National Committee, addressed the get-together.

The central task this year, he stressed, is to grasp the key link and manage the affairs of the country well. We will work together with the people of the whole country to accomplish it. We resolutely support the Party Central Committee headed by Chairman Hua and are determined to rally round the Party Central Committee, obey its orders, march in step, penetratingly expose and criticize the "gang of four" and eliminate its pernicious influence. He expressed the conviction that, under the leadership of the Party, there will surely be greater development in the na-

tion's industrial and agricultural production and other undertakings and that the comprehensive modernization of agriculture, industry, national defence and science and technology, a task put forward by Premier Chou at the Fourth National People's Congress in accordance with Chairman Mao's directive, will surely be accomplished before the end of this century.

The get-together proceeded in a joyous atmosphere of unity and militancy. The participants warmly celebrated the great victory of smashing the "gang of four," praised Chairman Mao, cherished the memory of our esteemed and beloved Premier Chou, eulogized the wise leadership of Chairman Hua, talked to their hearts' content about the excellent situation both at home and abroad and looked forward to the still brighter future of our thriving socialist motherland.

Art workers gave performances which lasted two hours.

Premier Hua Congratulates President Daoud

Premier Hua Kuo-feng sent a message to newly-elected President Mohammad Daoud on February 17.

The message reads: "On behalf of the Government and people of the People's Republic of China and in my own name, I wish to extend to Your Excellency our warm congratulations and good wishes on your election as the first President of the Republic of Afghanistan.

"May the friendly relations and co-operation between the

Diplomatic Relations Between China and Liberia Established

Representative of the Government of the People's Republic of China and its Ambassador to Sierra Leone Tsung Ke-wen and representative of the Government of the Republic of Liberia and Acting Minister of Foreign Affairs T. Siafa Sherman on February 17 signed in Monrovia a joint communique on the decision to establish diplomatic relations at ambassadorial level as of that day and to exchange ambassadors.

The communique said: "The Government of the People's Republic of China firmly supports the Government of the Republic of Liberia in its just efforts to safeguard its national independence and sovereignty, and to develop its national economy.

"The Government of the Republic of Liberia recognizes the Government of the People's Republic of China as the sole legal government representing all the Chinese people.

"The two Governments have agreed to develop friendly relations and co-operation between their two countries on the basis of the principles of mutual respect for sovereignty and territorial integrity, mutual non-aggression, non-interference in each other's internal affairs, equality and mutual benefit, and peaceful coexistence."

peoples of China and Afghanistan grow stronger and develop further."



Comrade Hua Kuo-feng at work on a train.

Hua Kuo-feng devoted all his energy to leading the movement to success.

The Right opportunist Peng Teh-huai launched an attack on the Party in 1959, flinging mud at the Party's general line for building socialism, the big leap forward in national economic construction and the rural people's commune movement. Now a leading member of the Hunan provincial people's council, Comrade Hua Kuo-feng was at the time making investigations in Taohsien County. He wrote an investigation report warmly praising the general line, the big leap forward and the people's communes. He wrote for a newspaper an article entitled "Victory Belongs to Those Holding Aloft the Red Banner of the Big Leap Forward," in which he cited facts from Taohsien to refute those who followed the Right opportunist line. Under his direction, another article was written expounding the complicated struggles involved in the growth of the people's commune and other newborn things and pointed

out that the triumph of the new over the old was an irresistible law. Comrade Hua Kuo-feng staunchly defended Chairman Mao's proletarian revolutionary line.

Peng Teh-huai's attack was repulsed at the Eighth Plenary Session of the Eighth Central Committee of the Communist Party of China held on Lushan Mountain that year. After the meeting, on the proposal of Chairman Mao, the Party Central Committee appointed Comrade Hua Kuo-feng secretary of the Hunan provincial Party committee.

During the three years (1959—61) of temporary difficulties in the national economy resulting from the Soviet revisionists' sabotage and serious natural calamities, Liu Shao-chi spread pessimism and pushed *san zi yi bao** in

* This refers to the extension of plots for private use and of free markets, the increase of small enterprises with sole responsibility for their own profits or losses, and the fixing of farm output quotas for individual households with each on its own.

the rural areas in an attempt to restore capitalism. Comrade Hua Kuo-feng saw through the reactionary nature of this revisionist line and, firmly believing in the strength of the masses, repudiated the pessimistic and despondent views. At the head of a work team, he made four visits to Maotien District in Yuehyang County where the people, defying the difficulties confronting them, reshaped the mountains and rivers by relying on the strength of the people's commune and continued their advance in big strides. To popularize Maotien's experience, he called on the whole province to learn from the district and keep to the socialist orientation. His action was a forceful repudiation of the fallacies spread by the Right opportunists. When Chairman Mao came to Hunan on an inspection tour, he highly commended the work done in Maotien after listening to Comrade Hua Kuo-feng's report on two occasions.

Chinglien was a comparatively backward brigade in Hsiangtan County. In 1962 when its socialist collective economy was in grave danger of disintegration because of the evil influence of Liu Shao-chi's *san zi yi bao*, Comrade Hua Kuo-feng went there with a work team. He visited the commune members in their homes and talked with every brigade cadre, making a careful investigation of the damage brought on by the revisionist line. He tirelessly explained to the peasants the truth that only socialism could save China. He led the poor and lower-middle peasants in studying Chairman Mao's instructions concerning people's communes and finding ways to consolidate and develop the collective economy. He also helped the brigade and its production teams map out production plans and solve housing and other problems like pig raising, fish breeding and planting fruit trees. As a result, the situation in Chinglien quickly improved; the "going it alone" tendency was checked and the socialist road followed again. The "Report on Several Current Questions Concerning How to Run Production Teams Successfully" written by Comrade Hua Kuo-feng was endorsed by the provincial Party committee and distributed all over Hunan.

While in Chinglien, Comrade Hua Kuo-feng lived in the house of an elderly woman who was a poor peasant. Even now she clearly recalls those days: "When Chairman Hua lived in my house, he worked day and night for the Party. He never seemed to get tired. He ate what we ate and was never fastidious about his food and clothes. He took part in labour and often had heart-to-heart talks with the poor and lower-middle peasants as well as chatting with the children. He never put on airs and was like a member of the family."

In the Great Proletarian Cultural Revolution, Comrade Hua Kuo-feng closely followed Chairman Mao's strategic plans and waged tit-for-tat struggles against the two bourgeois headquarters of Liu Shao-chi and Lin Piao.

The Lin Piao anti-Party clique and the "gang of four" advocated "attacking by reasoning and defending by force" and incited the masses with differing opinions to fight each other. They also advocated "suspecting all and overthrowing all" in an attempt to topple a large number of Party and state leaders. Comrade Hua Kuo-feng, however, repeatedly stressed



that Chairman Mao's instruction must be followed, namely, when there is a debate, it should be carried out by reasoning and not by coercion or force. He also took a series of effective measures to prevent coercion or the use of force and promote the great alliance among different revolutionary mass organizations, thus achieving unity among the people of the whole province. When Chairman Mao went to Hunan, he said approvingly to Comrade Hua Kuo-feng and others: You have followed the right course.

In the summer of 1967, Premier Chou En-lai proposed that Comrade Hua Kuo-feng participate in the preparatory work for setting up the Hunan provincial revolutionary committee. When formation of the committee was being studied in 1968, Chiang Ching and Yao Wen-yuan insisted on criticizing one of the responsible members on the provincial Party committee by name and overthrowing him. This was vetoed by Chairman Mao. Once when Comrade Hua Kuo-feng heard slogans demanding the overthrow of this comrade, he unequivocally expressed his disapproval. He was attacked for it. Firmly standing his ground, he said: 'We will never agree to what Chairman Mao doesn't endorse.'

The country's first new provincial Party committee after the start of the Cultural Revolution was formed in Hunan in 1970. After Comrade Hua Kuo-feng was transferred to a leading post in the central authorities, Chairman Mao and the Party Central Committee in 1972 assigned him the task of solving the problem in Hunan relating to the Lin Piao anti-Party clique. As he had a good grasp of Chairman Mao's thinking, he followed Chairman Mao's line to the letter in solving the problem. Chairman Mao praised the document on the resolution of the Hunan problem drafted under Comrade Hua Kuo-feng's direction. This document played a big part in promoting the nationwide movement to criticize Lin Piao and rectify the style of work.

Outstanding Contributions to Socialist Construction

Industry had a very weak foundation in Hunan before liberation. Resolutely implementing the general line of "going all out, aiming high and achieving greater, faster, better and

more economical results in building socialism" formulated by Chairman Mao and the policy of independence and self-reliance, Comrade Hua Kuo-feng led the masses in filling in many gaps in the industrial system.

The development of agricultural production called for more chemical fertilizer. Together with the masses, Comrade Hua Kuo-feng went to the mountains looking for phosphate mines and later organized people to exploit them.

He mobilized the masses to build small chemical fertilizer plants through self-reliance and, after three years' effort, 87 small nitrogenous fertilizer plants were built. This helped the province get good harvests for years running.

Before liberation, no salt was produced in Hunan, coal was in short supply and there was no iron and steel industry at all. Under the leadership of the provincial Party committee headed by Comrade Hua Kuo-feng and under his personal attention, iron and steel works were set up in Hsiangtan and Lien-yuan and the coal industry developed rapidly. Hunan has now become an important coal-producing area south of the Yangtze. And the Hsiangli salt mine that was built according to a decision by Comrade Hua Kuo-feng is turning out large quantities of salt.

New industrial cities and towns sprang up one after another in Hunan, as did many new mining areas. Commune- and brigade-run enterprises developed fairly rapidly in the Tsai-chiakang People's Commune in Changteh County in northern Hunan. Comrade Hua Kuo-feng went there on five occasions to encourage the commune members in their work. With his warm support, such enterprises mushroomed throughout the province and the total number now is more than 126,000, with practically all the communes and brigades having their own enterprises.

Under the guidance of Comrade Hua Kuo-feng, Hunan's learn-from-Tachai movement progressed steadily.

Two counties distinguished themselves in this respect. One was Anhsiang in the northern part of the province where the people took class struggle as the key link and worked hard to reshape the mountains and rivers, thereby steadily pushing grain output up. The other was Hsintien to the south where the people



Comrade Hua Kuo-feng at a construction site of the Shaoshan irrigation project (1965).

adhered to the Party's basic line and improved the soil so that grain yield quickly rose and surpassed the target set by the state. Upon learning of the two counties' achievements, Comrade Hua Kuo-feng went there on separate occasions to help the local people sum up their experiences, and he called on the whole province to learn from Anhsiung and Hsintien. When Chairman Mao heard this, he was very happy, saying: Hunan now has its own advanced models: One is Anhsiung in the north, the other is Hsintien in the south.

With profound proletarian feelings for Chairman Mao, Comrade Hua Kuo-feng paid great attention to socialist construction in Shaoshan, Chairman Mao's native village. The famous large Shaoshan irrigation project was built under Comrade Hua Kuo-feng's guidance. The 240-kilometre-long trunk canal running through mountains and across valleys and rivers involved tunnelling and building aqueducts and lateral branches several thousand kilometres long. Work on the project began in July

1965 and was completed in ten months instead of three years as was originally planned. About 100,000 peasant-workers took part in building the project under the personal guidance of Comrade Hua Kuo-feng who laboured alongside the builders and studied ways and means of speeding up the work together with them. In the course of construction, a serious cave-in occurred in one of the tunnels. Regardless of the risks, Comrade Hua Kuo-feng went down to the several-dozen-metre-deep tunnel with the workers and technicians to study the situation and take appropriate measures to cope with it. Upon completion of the project, he led the masses in planting trees along the irrigation canals and on the nearby barren hills. Today, the canals are lined with tall trees and most of the once desolate hills are green.

Comrade Hua Kuo-feng also led the people in building a railway line to Shaoshan so that people from all over the country could go there by train to visit Chairman Mao's former residence. The Shaoshan nitrogenous fertilizer

plant and TV sets factory were also built under Comrade Hua Kuo-feng's guidance.

Studying Hard and Maintaining Close Ties With the Masses

Comrade Hua Kuo-feng always conscientiously studies works by Marx, Engels, Lenin and Stalin and Chairman Mao's works, and is good at integrating theory with practice.

In August 1949, when the Chinese People's Liberation Army was advancing triumphantly south of the Yangtze River, some comrades began to have an aversion to continual hard living. When he became aware of this, Comrade Hua Kuo-feng organized the comrades to study Chairman Mao's *Report to the Second Plenary Session of the Seventh Central Committee of the Communist Party of China* and urged them to carry on the fine traditions and continue the revolution.

Together with the other leading comrades in Hunan, he went to Shaoshan many times to visit Chairman Mao's former residence and study his revolutionary activities. He also arranged for cadres at the grass-roots level to attend Mao Tsetung Thought classes there.

Hunan had a bumper harvest in 1963 after overcoming serious natural adversities. But Comrade Hua Kuo-feng was never complacent. He and another secretary of the provincial Party committee and leading members of the various prefectural and city Party committees

went to Kwangtung to study its advanced experience. He wrote the "Report on Studying Agricultural Production in Kwangtung" which, using the dialectical method of "one divides into two," affirmed what had been achieved in Hunan and also pointed out the shortcomings. The report called for applying the advanced experience of other areas in the light of conditions in Hunan. Chairman Mao highly appraised the report and at the same time criticized the metaphysical ideas of complacency and conceit on the part of some comrades who refused to learn from others and consequently ceased making progress.

The poor and lower-middle peasants of the Milo Commune in Milo County had gained very useful experience in studying and applying Marxist philosophy. Comrade Hua Kuo-feng went to the commune, attended its political night schools and took part in the peasants' study sessions in the fields or in their homes. He called an on-the-spot meeting which was participated by representatives from various places in the province so that Milo's experience could be propagated all over Hunan.

In his more than 20 years in Hunan, Comrade Hua Kuo-feng always maintained close ties with the masses and displayed the fine style of plain living and hard work. In 1970 Comrade Hua Kuo-feng visited the Lota Commune in Lungshan County in the Hsianghsi Tuchia and Miao Autonomous Prefecture which is tucked away in the high mountains. He travelled on foot for dozens of kilometres across steep mountains. On his way, he inspected the commune's water conservancy works and talked with local cadres and peasants. He spent three days in a hamlet of the Tuchia people, a minority nationality, lived on the Tuchia diet. Disregarding early summer showers, he crossed one mountain after another with the help of a stick and went from village to village to acquaint himself with the local conditions.

People in the irrigated area of Shaoshan often talked about how Comrade Hua Kuo-feng, not long after work on the irrigation project started, went to a village in Hsianghsi County to solicit the opinions of the peasants.

Well-laid-out fields in Hunan's Anhsiang County.



A 70-year-old peasant woman told him: "The project is very good indeed. But it's a pity no steps leading down to the canal have been provided. So it's not convenient for us to fetch water." Following her advice, Comrade Hua Kuo-feng ordered that descending steps be built on the embankments near the villages and water taps installed under the aqueducts. Bridges over the canals also were built. Recalling this today, the local people said: "Chairman Hua has the people at heart and always works for their interests."

Both the cadres and masses in places where Comrade Hua Kuo-feng had worked pointed out: Comrade Hua Kuo-feng has a mastery of Marxism-Leninism, knows the actual conditions in areas under his charge and has insight into the complex struggles. He is resolute in implementing and defending Chairman Mao's proletarian revolutionary line and wholeheartedly works for the people's interests. Comrade Hua Kuo-feng is the reliable successor selected by Chairman Mao and the long-tested worthy leader of our Party.

2nd National Learn-From-Tachai Conference (IV)

Mechanization: Fundamental Way Out For Agriculture

by Our Correspondent Chou Chin

IN his summing-up report at the 1975 First National Conference on Learning From Tachai in Agriculture, Comrade Hua Kuo-feng pointed out that in building Tachai-type counties throughout the country efforts must be made to "ensure that agriculture will be mechanized in the main by 1980." In other words, about 70 per cent of the main work in agriculture, forestry, animal husbandry, side-occupations and fisheries will be done by machines by the beginning of the 80s. This was reaffirmed at last December's Second National Conference on Learning From Tachai in Agriculture.

Can this task be accomplished? After matter-of-fact discussions, representatives attending the conference unanimously declared: "It can be accomplished! It must be accomplished!"

Chairman Mao's Wise Policy Decision

Chairman Mao set this task 21 years ago. The basic concept underlying it was put forward much earlier. In 1937, Chairman Mao said: "The contradiction between the working class and the peasant class in socialist society is

resolved by the method of collectivization and mechanization in agriculture." (*On Contradiction.*)

On the eve of the founding of New China, Chairman Mao pointed out: "The steps to socialize agriculture must be co-ordinated with the development of a powerful industry having state enterprise as its backbone." (*On the People's Democratic Dictatorship*, June 30, 1949.)

When the movement for agricultural co-operation was at its height in 1955, Chairman Mao made his famous report *On the Question of Agricultural Co-operation*. In the light of the experience of the Soviet Union and of China, he systematically explained the dialectical relationship between socialist industrialization and the socialist transformation of agriculture. He said: "We are now carrying out a revolution not only in the social system, the change from private to public ownership, but also in technology, the change from handicraft to large-scale modern machine production, and the two revolutions are interconnected. In agriculture, with conditions as they are in our country

co-operation must precede the use of big machinery (in capitalist countries agriculture develops in a capitalist way)." He also pointed out: "The social and economic physiognomy of China will not undergo a complete change until the socialist transformation of the social and economic system is accomplished and until, in the technical field, machinery is used, wherever possible, in every branch of production and in every place."

In the same report, Chairman Mao made the call: "It is estimated that the basic completion of the nationwide technical transformation of agriculture will take roughly four or five five-year plans, that is, twenty to twenty-five years. The whole Party must fight for the fulfilment of this great task."

After the establishment of people's communes in the countryside, Chairman Mao in 1959 made it more specific, saying that "to equip agriculture with machinery is a decisive factor for achieving a great expansion of farming, forestry, and animal husbandry simultaneously." He issued the programmatic directive: "The fundamental way out for agriculture lies in mechanization."

At the Tenth Plenary Session of the Eighth Central Committee of the Party presided over by Chairman Mao in 1962, he explicitly announced our Party's fundamental line in agriculture following the completion of land reform: The first step is to realize agricultural collectivization, and the second step is to realize agricultural mechanization and electrification on the basis of collectivization.

In a letter in 1966 concerning the question of agricultural mechanization, Chairman Mao reiterated that efforts must be made to "achieve agricultural mechanization in the main in the space of 25 years," beginning from 1955. Plans and arrangements were made accordingly at an on-the-spot meeting on farm mechanization in Hupeh Province in July 1966. At this meeting, Premier Chou made an important speech calling on the nation to fulfil this great task set by Chairman Mao in the spirit of the legendary Foolish Old Man who removed mountains.

At the Fourth National People's Congress in early 1975, Premier Chou, acting on Chairman Mao's instructions, put forward the magnificent goal of accomplishing "the comprehensive

modernization of agriculture, industry, national defence and science and technology before the end of the century, so that our national economy will be advancing in the front ranks of the world."

In issuing the series of instructions concerning agricultural co-operation and mechanization, Chairman Mao upheld and developed the Marxist theory concerning the dialectical relationship between the relations of production and the productive forces, revealed the universal law governing the development of socialist agriculture, and clearly pointed out the line to be followed in mechanizing agriculture in China and the targets to be reached through hard work. All this represented the common aspirations of the people throughout the country.

Carrying out Chairman Mao's behests, the Party Central Committee headed by Chairman Hua restated this wise policy decision at the national learn-from-Tachai conferences in order to turn it into reality.

A Revolution of Far-Reaching Significance

Representatives to the second national learn-from-Tachai conference pointed out that to mechanize farming on the basis of agricultural collectivization is a great revolution which will lead to profound changes in the political, economic, ideological and cultural fields.

The worker-peasant alliance which is the basis of the dictatorship of the proletariat will be further consolidated with the realization of farm mechanization. Lenin said at the Third Congress of the Communist International: "The supreme principle of the dictatorship is the maintenance of the alliance between the proletariat and the peasantry in order that the proletariat may retain its leading role and its political power." Our worker-peasant alliance has gone through two stages of development: The first was based on land reform which wiped out feudal exploitation; the second, on co-operation among the peasants who formerly worked on their own. This alliance will advance to the stage based on mechanization in the days ahead. Only when agriculture is mechanized can expanded reproduction be continuously carried out and the superiority of the collective economy fully demonstrated. Only thus can we continue to do away with

the remnants of the private ownership ideas of the small peasant economy, block the channels giving rise to the spontaneous tendencies towards capitalism, consolidate and develop the socialist positions in the rural areas and enable the working class to exercise leadership over the peasantry in a still better way.

The realization of farm mechanization will greatly raise labour productivity. Lenin pointed out in *A Great Beginning*: **"In the last analysis, productivity of labour is the most important, the principal thing for the victory of the new social system."** With higher labour productivity, agriculture will be able to provide industry with a greater labour force, more raw materials and a bigger market, thereby giving the national economy as a whole a tremendous push. Thus the material conditions are created for the gradual transition from the present system of ownership which takes the production team as the basic accounting unit to that in which the brigade or the commune is the basic accounting unit and finally to the system of ownership by the whole people. Moreover, farm mechanization will bring industry and agriculture closer together, expedite their unity and consequently narrow and ultimately eliminate the differences between worker and peasant and between town and country.

The mechanization of agriculture is an important measure for implementing Chairman Mao's great strategic principle **"Be prepared against war, be prepared against natural disasters, and do everything for the people."** When farm production goes up and ample grain, cotton and cloth are available, and when advanced techniques and equipment are introduced in the rural areas and there is a mighty technical contingent, we will have a surer guarantee to defeat any foreign aggression and overcome natural disasters.

In places where farm mechanization has progressed at a fast pace, its tremendous impact is quite evident.

The Huiquochen Commune in Kunghsien County in western Honan Province, central China, had been a poor and backward commune with a population of 59,000 in 211 production teams belonging to 21 production brigades and a total of 3,200 hectares of cultivated land. Since the start of the Great Cultural Revolution in 1966, it has basically mechanized such major farm work as ploughing, harrowing, sowing, levelling the fields, irrigation, threshing and processing farm and side-line products. It has achieved this by accumulating funds to buy or manufacture 209 tractors, 16 trucks, nearly 2,000 sets of prime movers (totalling 24,000 h.p.) and 2,300 medium and small farm machines. Its 1976 average per-hectare grain yield was 8.3 tons, more than double the quota set in the National Programme for Agricultural Development. This commune and its production brigades have set up 100 factories, in addition to small hydropower stations providing all the production teams with electricity. Their total industrial output value came to 18 million yuan last year. Thanks to the rapid economic build-up at the commune and brigade levels which



Small crawler tractors made in Shansi Province's Hsiyang County, the first Tachai-type county in China.

formerly had virtually nothing at their disposal, the fixed assets of the commune and its brigades in 1975 accounted for 41.6 and 32.6 per cent respectively of the total under the three-level ownership* and, of the total public accumulation funds, the commune and its brigades accounted for 48 and 23 per cent respectively. Over the last few years, the Huikuochen Commune has allocated huge funds to aid the poor brigades. It also has sold or delivered more and more farm produce and industrial products, to the state for the domestic market, with a portion of its products for export.

The advance in farm mechanization has brought in its wake the building up of a technical contingent comprising one-tenth of the commune's total population. They are at once peasants and workers capable of doing farm work and operating machines and they never cease in criticizing the bourgeoisie. Public welfare undertakings with the rudiments of communism such as homes for the old, nurseries and the co-operative medical service have been thriving. While middle school education has become universal, the commune has in addition set up a "May 7" college. Every family is equipped with a loudspeaker hooked up to the commune rediffusion station and most brigades have their own television sets and film projectors. Every brigade and factory has organized an amateur cultural troupe. All this has made for steady improvement in the material and cultural well-being of the commune members who cherish deep love for socialism, the state and the collective.

The growth of this commune testifies to what Chairman Mao predicted in 1959 when the people's communes were in their initial stage of development: **"The advance from incomplete ownership by the commune toward complete, single ownership by the commune is a process in which the level of production of the poorer production teams is raised to that of the better-off production teams as well as a process of expanding the commune public accumulation funds, developing commune-run industries and realizing the mechanization and electrification of agriculture and the industrialization of the commune and the country as a whole. Although the things directly owned by the commune, such as commune-run enterprises and other under-**

takings and public accumulation and welfare funds at the disposal of the commune, are still limited at present, herein lies our great and bright hope."

Turning Bright Hope Into Reality

Twenty-one years have elapsed since Chairman Mao issued the call that agricultural mechanization should in the main be realized in 25 years. However, these years have been full of twists and turns and fierce struggles as well. Pushing a counter-revolutionary revisionist line, Liu Shao-chi, Lin Piao and the "gang of four" did all they could to undermine our efforts to implement Chairman Mao's instructions. When agricultural producers' co-operatives were being established, Liu Shao-chi and his followers trumpeted the theory of the productive forces, calling for "mechanization before co-operation," and he slashed a large number of co-ops. After agricultural co-operation was accomplished, they opposed mechanization and spread such fallacies as: "Farm mechanization is unnecessary because China has a large population but little farmland" and "Meticulous cultivation of land precludes the use of machines."

Taking advantage of the temporary economic difficulties around 1960, they unscrupulously whittled down the farm machinery industry and the local industries. During the Great Cultural Revolution, the "gang of four" worked hand in glove with Lin Piao to instigate "all-out civil war" and "overthrow all." Under the pretext of criticizing the "theory of

* Generally speaking, collective ownership in rural people's communes at the present stage of development is at three levels, namely, the commune, the production brigade and the production team. Cultivated land, forested hills, farm implements and machines, draught animals and other means of production are owned by the commune, the production brigade and the production team. At present, collective ownership at the production team level is basic in the three-level ownership, and this is commonly known as the "three-level ownership with the production team as the basic accounting unit." With the development of farm mechanization and the increase in commune- or brigade-run factories, the commune and the brigade are taking over an ever greater share in this system of ownership.

the productive forces," they opposed the socialist modernization of agriculture, industry, national defence and science and technology as put forward by Chairman Mao and did their utmost to undermine both revolution and production. Yao Wen-yuan went so far as to openly clamour: "Can farm mechanization be realized in the main by 1980? I don't think we can." He even arbitrarily withheld a *Renmin Ribao* editorial on farm mechanization which had been approved by Comrade Hua Kuo-feng for publication in 1971. However,

no interference and sabotage by these anti-Party cliques could check the triumphant advance of the cadres and masses under the guidance of Chairman Mao's revolutionary line. Farm mechanization has developed at a faster tempo since the start of the Great Cultural Revolution.

Output of major farm machinery in 1976 was several and, in some cases, over a dozen times that of 1965, with internal combustion engines for drainage and irrigation purposes and walking tractors up by 13 and 61 times respectively. In the five years beginning in 1970, output of tractors, pumps and other farm machinery equalled or surpassed the total for the previous 20 years. Irrigated acreage increased at the rate of 1.6 million hectares per year. And a large number of advanced counties and prefectures in mechanizing agriculture emerged in many provinces.

An important reason for these achievements in farm mechanization is that, in accordance with Chairman Mao's directives, our Party has not only formulated a Marxist line for the development of socialist agriculture, but also laid down a correct principle for the realization of farm mechanization, that is, the principle of putting the stress on the various localities to make the farm machinery, on medium and small farm machines rather than big ones, and on the collective economy to make the purchases. The basic spirit of this principle lies in mobilizing all positive factors, launching



The Changwei Tractor Plant in Shantung Province.

mass movements, relying on our own efforts and taking measures suited to local conditions.

Chairman Mao said: "Our territory is so vast, our population is so large and the conditions are so complex that it is far better to have the initiative come from both the central and the local authorities than from one source alone." (*On the Ten Major Relationships.*) The emphasis in making farm machinery is thus put on bringing the initiative of the local authorities into play. With the exception of large farm machines whose production is taken care of by the central departments concerned, medium and small ones are made mainly by factories in different provinces, prefectures and counties. Most provinces, municipalities and autonomous regions now have their own tractor or walking tractor plants and prime mover factories, while upwards of 96 per cent of the counties and many communes and production brigades have set up farm machinery repair shops. Under the unified leadership of local Party committees, these plants have co-ordinated their efforts and speedily increased their manufacturing capacity through mass movements. A good example in this respect is Yentai Prefecture on the Shantung Peninsula whose annual production capacity of 20 h.p. crawler tractors rose to 1,000 in 1976, after trial-manufacture of this type had begun the year before.

(Continued on p. 26.)

Foreign Trade: Why the "Gang of Four" Created Confusion

by Kuo Chi

FOR many years, especially since 1976, the Wang-Chang-Chiang-Yao "gang of four" created confusion in the matter of foreign trade and launched attacks on the Party. They slandered China's exports of oil and other materials as "selling out its natural resources" and its imports of complete sets of equipment as "worshipping things foreign and fawning upon foreigners." At the same time, they dressed themselves up as "heroes" opposing "capitulationism and national betrayal." Now their plot has been exposed.

Chairman Mao's Revolutionary Line

China's foreign trade all along was conducted under Chairman Mao's solicitous concern and Premier Chou's direct leadership. Chairman Mao personally formulated the correct line, principles and policies for our foreign trade. Shortly before New China was founded, Chairman Mao pointed out: "The restoration and development of the national economy of the people's republic would be impossible without a policy of controlling foreign trade." (*Report to the Second Plenary Session of the Seventh Central Committee of the Communist Party of China.*) Following this teaching, China placed foreign trade firmly in the hands of the state of the dictatorship of the proletariat.

In 1949, Chairman Mao declared to the world: "The Chinese people wish to have friendly co-operation with the people of all countries and to resume and expand international trade in order to develop production and promote economic prosperity." (*Address to the Preparatory Meeting of the New Political Consultative Conference.*)

When China's Second Five-Year Plan was mapped out, Chairman Mao issued his written instruction: "Rely mainly on our own efforts while making external assistance subsidiary."

Guided by this Marxist line of Chairman Mao's, China's foreign trade has steadily grown

with the development of the national economy since the founding of New China, and particularly since the start of the Great Proletarian Cultural Revolution. Total value of imports and exports in 1975 was 13 times that in 1950 and more than trebled that in 1965, the year before the Great Cultural Revolution. China has now established trade relations with 160 countries and regions the world over. This has played a significant role in enabling the Chinese people to defeat the imperialist blockade, withstand social-imperialist pressure, advance the cause of socialist construction, carry out Chairman Mao's revolutionary line in foreign affairs, support and assist the people of the third world in their struggles against imperialism, colonialism and hegemonism and strengthen the friendship and unity between the people of China and other countries.

While the ratio of agricultural, side-occupation and native products to total exports has been diminishing, there has been a steady increase in the proportion of industrial goods and minerals, which have now accounted for about 65 per cent of the exports as against only 30 per cent in the early post-liberation period. This is an achievement in China's industrial development.

As for petroleum, China's crude oil output has gone up rapidly as a result of the exploitation of Taching and other new oilfields since the early 1960s. Not only has China ensured its own needs but it has a certain amount for export. This also is a major success in socialist construction. The decision to export crude oil had been discussed and proposed by Premier Chou En-lai and other leading comrades in the central authorities and approved by Chairman Mao himself.

With respect to imports, China has, on the premise of independence and self-reliance, introduced some equipment and technology needed.

for our socialist construction. This, too, is in full accord with Chairman Mao's revolutionary line. As a matter of fact, the imports of the complete sets of equipment, which the "gang of four" made so much noise about, had been approved by Chairman Mao. Furthermore, even the "gang of four" themselves signed the relevant reports and selected the factory sites for certain imported items.

Attacks by the "Gang of Four"

This bunch of counter-revolutionary double-dealers, however, launched a surprise attack in the matter of foreign trade.

At a meeting called by her without authorization last March behind the backs of Chairman Mao and the Party Central Committee, Chiang Ching lied that China's petroleum "is all being taken off to other countries." Then at three conferences held by the central leading organs between March and June last year, the gang mounted a series of converging attacks on leading comrades in the central authorities. Wang Hung-wen asserted that "there is a group of national betrayers in the foreign trade departments." Chang Chun-chiao claimed that "in our Party, first of all in the Political Bureau, there is the bourgeoisie, the comprador bourgeoisie," and he slandered China for "going in for a colonial economy." Chiang Ching declared that "by exporting petroleum China is shifting the international energy crisis on to the Chinese people," and it "has saved the first and second worlds." Yao Wen-yuan drivelled that the State Council was "leasing" China's natural resources to foreign countries and "is engaged in national betrayal."

At these conferences, the "gang of four" also lashed out at imports of complete sets of equipment. Chang Chun-chiao blustered: "We are importing too many major items, a whole bunch of things all at once. You (meaning leading comrades in the State Council—Tr.) will satisfy nobody unless you make a self-criticism." Comrade Hua Kuo-feng sternly refuted them there and then, pointing out that the imports of the major items had Chairman Mao's approval. Chang Chun-chiao went so far as to say: "Why do you always try to overawe others by using Chairman Mao's name?" This betrayed him as an opponent of Chairman Mao.

Meanwhile, through the news media under their control and using metaphysical sophistry, the "gang of four" reversed right and wrong. In an article entitled "Criticize Philosophy of Servility to Things Foreign" published in a journal, they charged the Ministry of Foreign Trade with "national betrayal and capitulationism," "begging other countries for a living" and so on and so forth. They made innuendoes against the Ministry of Foreign Trade, saying it had "unrestrainedly imported what China can produce and limitlessly exported what is badly needed at home," that it had even "conceded the sovereignty over the exploitation of mines and resources to others" and "tried to turn China into the imperialist countries' dumping ground, raw material base, repair workshop and outlet for investments."

In co-ordination with their attacks on oil exports, the "gang of four" artificially created tension in the domestic oil supply, disrupting the national economy and undermining foreign trade.

Already worked out through overall consideration, the 1976 plan for the production, consumption and export of China's fuel and raw materials had the approval of the Party Central Committee and was practicable. The "gang of four" had professed agreement with the plan, yet they clandestinely made trouble by directing their trusted followers in Shanghai and Liaoning to wilfully change many enterprises fueled by coal to go over to petroleum. This greatly increased consumption of crude oil and upset the original plan. As a result, factories in some provinces and cities were compelled to stop production, some oil refineries ran out of crude and many drainage and irrigation facilities in the countryside ceased operation. Then, the "gang of four" made a counter-charge by imputing all this to oil exports.

As a consequence of the sabotage by the "gang of four," China's exports of crude were affected and its international prestige was impaired, resulting in a bad influence politically and economically.

Raising a hue and cry, the "gang of four" were merely spreading rumours and viciously distorting facts.

That China has changed over from dependence on imported oil before liberation to ex-

porting petroleum is in itself a victory for the policy of independence and self-reliance. This has played a certain part in combating the two hegemonic powers, the Soviet Union and the United States, supporting and assisting people in the third world and acquiring materials needed for national construction. Chiang Ching, however, babbled that China's exports had extricated Western capitalist countries from their energy crisis. As a matter of fact, China's exports of crude accounted for only 0.067 per cent of the world's total in 1973 and only 0.65 per cent in 1975. How, then, can this be described as having gotten the Western capitalist countries out of their energy crisis? This slander uttered by Chiang Ching in disregard of basic facts only shows to what depth the "gang of four" had sunk.

Immediately after its founding, New China abolished all the prerogatives enjoyed by the imperialists in old China and placed the lifeblood of the national economy firmly in the people's hands. China has never been cowed by the imperialist blockade nor has it submitted to social-imperialist political and economic pressure. We do not allow foreign capital to exploit China's resources nor do we run joint enterprises with foreign countries, still less beg them for loans. It is common knowledge that China now is free from both foreign and domestic debts.

The "gang of four's" wild tale about "conceding the sovereignty over the exploitation of mines and resources to others," "begging from foreign countries" and "turning China into the imperialists' dumping ground" was sheer nonsense.

Through foreign trade, China has acquired needed materials and introduced some necessary equipment and technology. The aim is to enhance its ability to build socialism independently and self-reliantly, and quicken the tempo of socialist construction. This fully conforms with Chairman Mao's teaching "Make foreign things serve China" and with the principle he advanced in his *On the Ten Major Relationships* in 1956: "Learn from the strong points of all nations and all countries, learn all that is genuinely good in the political, economic, scientific and technological fields and in literature and art. But we must learn with an analytical and critical

eye, not blindly, and we mustn't copy everything indiscriminately and transplant mechanically. Naturally, we mustn't pick up their shortcomings and weak points."

The "gang of four," however, vilified such foreign trade as "national betrayal and capitulationism," "worshipping things foreign and fawning upon foreigners." According to their logic, if one wants to adhere to the policy of independence and self-reliance, one has no alternative but to follow a "closed-door" policy and isolate oneself from the world. Obviously, this is preposterous in theory and most harmful in practice. They turned things upside down not because of their ignorance but because of their ulterior motives.

A Serious Step to Usurp Party and State Power

The attack by the "gang of four" was a serious step in their plot to usurp Party and state power.

They fabricated a host of "data" by which they attacked the Ministry of Foreign Trade at a conference on national planning last summer. They tried to mislead the representatives at the conference from various provinces and municipalities and various ministries under the central organs by circulating the "data" among them. Meanwhile, the gang clamoured about taking organizational "measures" to "change the leading bodies" and made preparations organizationally to seize power. Seizing power in foreign trade departments was part of their scheme for an all-round seizure of power.

Flaunting the signboard of criticizing "capitulationism and national betrayal," they actually spearheaded their attack against Chairman Mao, Premier Chou, Comrade Hua Kuo-feng and other leading comrades in the Party Central Committee. Their criminal objective was trumping up charges against the Party Central Committee in order to overthrow it and take its place.

Now the plot of the "gang of four" has been smashed and the confusion they created has been cleared up. Things turned upside down are being reversed. China's foreign trade will continue to advance along Chairman Mao's revolutionary line.



Kwangsi: Revolution in Health Work (II)

Barefoot Doctors and Co-operative Medical System

by Our Correspondents Hua Sheng and Hsiang Jung

TWO socialist new things, the barefoot doctors and the co-operative medical system which emerged in the Great Cultural Revolution, have vastly improved medical and health work in the countryside and are of far-reaching significance. What we saw and heard in Ishan County vividly bears this out.

One of the 82 counties in the Kwangsi Chuang Autonomous Region, Ishan is in the northwestern part, known locally as the "Great Rockies," and has a population of 420,000. How the people there suffered from poverty and diseases before liberation even now brings painful memories to the old peasants we spoke to. In the dusty tomes recording the county's history we found many entries like this: "In the summer of 1901, numerous people in and around the county and in nearby townships died, sometimes whole families perished, within three or four hours from the onset of vomiting and diarrhea." When cholera swept the county in 1946, half the 110 inhabitants of Yuehyang Village lost their lives.

After liberation in 1949, the peasants' political and economic position improved beyond recognition, but in Ishan and the rest of the rural areas, doctors and medicines remained woefully unavailable and inadequate before the Great Cultural Revolution. This was due to the interference and sabotage by Liu Shao-chi's revisionist line in health work.

Since the start of the Cultural Revolution, tremendous changes have taken place in Ishan's rural health work. At the county hospital we visited with the director of the county health bureau, we were told that over the past few years the hospital had gradually expanded to its present size — a staff of 76 and 120 beds. It is fairly well equipped and has departments of medicine, surgery, obstetrics-gynaecology,

pediatrics and eye, ear, nose and throat. Pericardiolysis, hepatectomy and similar major operations have been successfully performed there.

While on a visit to the clinic of Peiya Commune, the biggest of the 12 communes in the county, the clinic director told us that prior to the Cultural Revolution it had been a one-room affair. The four medical workers in attendance had neither the skill nor the facilities to treat even deep abscesses. They were joined in 1966 by 13 urban medical workers from Nanning (the autonomous region's capital), of whom the director was one. Over the years, new buildings with a total floor space of 1,500 square metres have been added and the staff has risen to 27. The clinic can now handle ordinary medical and surgical cases.

All these are impressive developments. However, although the medical workers of the county hospital and commune clinics have done their best, they still cannot fully meet the medical needs of the peasants living in the widely separated mountain villages, as in Ishan.

Socialist New Things

Unknown to the peasants of Ishan and the rest of the countryside in 1965, a solution to their health problems was provided by the Chiangchen People's Commune in Chuansha County on the outskirts of Shanghai. Some commune members there had been trained to treat common ailments and do preventive health care work but, apart from this, they continued to take part in collective productive labour. And because they worked in the paddyfields like any other ordinary commune member, barefooted and with trouser legs rolled up, they were given the name "barefoot doctors." These medical personnel selected from the masses by



Barefoot doctors in Ishan County inoculating commune members.

the masses themselves could give instant on-the-spot aid to their fellow commune members.

In 1966, far to the west of Shanghai, in central China's Hupeh Province, the Leyuan People's Commune of Changyang County was organizing its members to form a co-operative medical system. This was a pioneering effort by peasants themselves to solve the problem of providing inexpensive, effective medical care for themselves. Relying on the strength of the collective, this novel system called for each commune member to pay a small annual premium, generally one yuan (roughly U.S. 50 cents), and the production brigades to allot part of their public welfare funds* to cover the medical fees of commune members. Treatment is free or partially free, depending on the brigades' finances.

When these two new things appeared, Chairman Mao immediately gave them his support. Investigation reports on the barefoot doctors of Chiangchen Commune and the co-operative medical system of Leyuan Commune were published in newspapers in 1968 and attracted immediate interest and support throughout the countryside. Ishan County's enthusiasm for these new things was tremendous.

* A certain amount of the total income to be distributed among commune members is set aside each year by the production brigade to fund social services and collective welfare undertakings.

Beginning in early 1969, the revolutionary committee of Ishan County began introducing on a trial basis barefoot doctors and the co-operative medical system, first in one production brigade and then gradually in others. Today, all 150 brigades (each brigade has about 2,000 people) have their own clinics manned by several barefoot doctors. There were 502 barefoot doctors in Ishan when we were there recently.

To provide even more convenient medical service to all members of the 2,455 production teams in the county (each brigade has several production teams of about a hundred people each), the teams also have established clinics run by a barefoot doctor assisted by a medical orderly and a midwife, all of whom take part in farm work when not doing health service work. Ishan had 4,700 medical orderlies and midwives in 1976.

Visiting many brigade and team clinics, we saw that most of the former built in the last two years were spick-and-span and they had a consulting room, a pharmacy, a sick ward with several beds and a maternity ward. In some we saw one or two simple machines for processing and preparing herbal medicines.

Barefoot doctors are recommended for their posts by the other brigade members and generally are young peasants with a junior middle school education. A few are selected from among practitioners of Chinese medicine who are experienced and knowledgeable in local and home remedies. Many are sent to study in the commune clinic or county hospital and a few go to medical colleges. Instruction is also provided by the mobile medical teams sent from the cities, one of their main tasks being to help train the barefoot doctors. The barefoot doctors' mastery of medical knowledge and skills is constantly improved through these channels and their own studies and practice, enabling them to treat and help prevent common diseases, acquire birth control techniques and practise modern midwifery. Some of them are capable of treating fairly complicated cases.

In production teams the medical orderlies' homes often serve as clinics. The orderlies have a many-compartment cabinet for medicines and some of their tools. They treat minor ailments

or injuries before going to work and after knocking off. Women medical orderlies also serve as midwives.

A Very Viable Force

The barefoot doctors and the co-operative medical system have led to the setting up of a rural medical service network in Ishan. Commune members today are treated for minor ailments in their own teams, common diseases in their brigades and the more serious cases in their own commune.

Shih Hsiu-lan of the Fulu Brigade bled profusely and collapsed when she was having her first child in 1962. The brigade sent her by stretcher with eight sturdy men to the county hospital, 36 gruelling kilometres of mountain paths away. The mother was saved but not the child. It cost the family 200 yuan for medical expenses. With her second baby, the woman had trouble again in 1969. This time, however, there was a barefoot doctor to attend her throughout her pregnancy. When the time came, the mother was sent to the commune clinic and the child was safely and easily delivered. When old peasant Wei Tzu-kun in 1973 was laid up with sciatica, a barefoot doctor visited him daily, giving him herbal and Western medicines and acupuncture treatment. Before long, he was his old self again. All costs were covered by the co-operative medical fund. We heard many similar incidents wherever we went in Ishan.

The rise of the barefoot doctors and the co-operative medical system has sparked a profound revolution on China's medical and health front and made it possible for the complete implementation of Chairman Mao's Marxist-Leninist line in health work. In essence, Chairman Mao's revolutionary line in health work means the work must be orientated to serving the workers, peasants and soldiers who make up the overwhelming majority of the people, the stress in this work must be put on the rural areas, preventive medicine must be given priority over curative medicine, medical workers practising traditional Chinese or Western medicine must work in unity to fully explore and tap China's medical treasure house, and health work must be combined with mass movements.

The barefoot doctors have repudiated what those advocates of the revisionist line did in

“putting the emphasis on curing diseases while slighting prevention” and resolutely kept to the principle “**put prevention first.**” A barefoot doctor of Ishan said to us: “A doctor who has cured a hard case, that is clever. But if there is a method which makes people less subject to illness or not become ill at all, is that not more clever? What do you say? Of course, the latter is. Chairman Mao's principle ‘**put prevention first**’ is most clever.” These simple words express a profound understanding. In Ishan the barefoot doctors organize the masses to frequently clean up the environment, wipe out mosquitoes and flies, construct and improve lavatories and do a good job of night-soil disposal. Together they sink drinking wells to change the old habit of drinking ditch water and river water and move the animal pens out to places far away from human habitation. They also make use of blackboards, wall newspapers and meetings to publicize knowledge about hygiene and foster among the commune members the habit of paying constant attention to hygiene.

Another aspect of the barefoot doctors' work is distribution of prophylactics and mass inoculations or vaccinations. Since 1970, the county has given 3.65 million inoculations or vaccinations against 15 types of infectious diseases. Various seasonal epidemics are combated by early adoption of preventive measures and the administration of medicine is done on a house-to-house basis or in the fields.

Ishan is fortunate in that there is an abundance of wild herbs growing in the valleys and on mountain slopes. The working people here have accumulated a rich body of knowledge about the use of herbs for preventive or curative purposes and there are many home remedies popular among the masses. With the introduction of the co-operative medical system, the skills and herbs have been fully utilized in an organized way. The 52 commune- or brigade-run small pharmaceutical plants in Ishan collect, cultivate and process a large variety of medicinal herbs. Nearly every brigade clinic has more than 100 different herbs in stock.

While learning from the older peasants and practitioners of Chinese medicine, the barefoot doctors collect folk remedies to study, test and verify them. They study hard to master and use

a blending of Chinese and Western medical practice and the ancient Chinese skill of acupuncture. This has enabled them to treat most cases of acute abdominal pain, pneumonia in infants and acute hepatitis by a combination of traditional Chinese and Western medicine.

Synchronization of health work with mass movements has been greatly promoted by the introduction of the barefoot doctors and the co-operative medical system. For example, when the county assigned 340 full-time people to make an investigation of filariasis in 1959, only 40,000 cases were studied in five months. In 1970, another investigation was carried out, this time with barefoot doctors and medical orderlies as the backbone force and participation by the masses. Within 70 days, 280,000 cases had been studied and identified cases were treated at least once. Another example of the integration of health personnel and the masses is in collecting herbs. When the wild herbs are ready for harvesting, nearly all commune members, young and old, men and women, are called upon to collect them, usually during work breaks or school holidays.

Far-Reaching Significance

Apart from remedying the inadequacy and unavailability of doctors, drugs and facilities in the countryside, the barefoot doctors and the co-operative medical system are of far-reaching significance.

Medical knowledge is the crystallization of the experience gained by the working people through long years of struggle against diseases. But for thousands of years it was monopolized

by the exploiting classes and the intellectuals appendant to them. With the working people the masters in China today, the proletariat must build up its own mighty contingent of medical and health workers, while helping those trained before liberation to carry out ideological remoulding and enabling them to serve the working people wholeheartedly. The country today has trained 1.5 million barefoot doctors of poor or lower-middle peasant origin. This has broken for the first time the monopoly of the landlord and capitalist classes in a field which has a vital bearing on the well-being of the people. It is of great help to strengthening the dictatorship of the proletariat over the bourgeoisie.

The emergence of the barefoot doctors has broken down the centuries-old concept that working people cannot be doctors and doctors are not ordinary working people. Refuting this concept, the barefoot doctors take part in collective productive labour and get work points like any other commune member. They are a new type of health care personnel, people doing both manual and mental labour. In China today, all workers and cadres receive medical care free and the peasants are served by the co-operative medical system. It is immediately obvious that all this helps gradually narrow the gap between town and country, between worker and peasant and between manual and mental labour.

The co-operative medical system also helps restrict bourgeois right. The Constitution of the People's Republic of China stipulates: "The state applies the socialist principle: 'He who does not work, neither shall he eat' and 'from each according to his ability, to each according to his work.'" This principle of distribution according to work supersedes the principle operating in capitalist society where those who work little gain much and distribution is carried out according to capital and power. This is a fundamental change. However, "to each according to his work" still represents bourgeois right characterized by the covering up of actual inequality with equality in form and provides the soil for engendering capitalism. This is why Chairman Mao said: "Under the dictatorship of the proletariat such things can only be restricted."

A small pharmaceutical plant run by a commune clinic.



The co-operative medical system is financed in part by the money paid in by the commune members out of their own pocket. This forms a very small part. The major portion comes from the public funds accumulated by the collective economy. This way of financing incorporates both the socialist factor of mutual help practised among the commune members and the communist factor of "to each according to his needs" as represented by the reliance placed on the strength of the collective economy. It restricts the bourgeois right of being able to buy medical care with money and helps prevent

the polarization into the rich and the poor that is often brought on by debt, disability or death due to illness. Ideologically, the co-operative medical system helps the peasants foster the collective spirit and gradually bring about a complete break with the old traditional concept of private ownership.

In short, the barefoot doctors and the co-operative medical system are of great significance in consolidating the dictatorship of the proletariat, building socialism and ultimately realizing the goal of communism. This is why the people call them "socialist new things."

Health Service in a Remote Mountain Village

THE introduction and development of the barefoot doctors and the co-operative medical system in the Tuchow Production Brigade is a miniature representation of what has happened in most mountainous areas in China. Tuchow shows that health care work has been introduced even into the remotest mountain villages by the revolution which took place in health work.

Leaving the county town of Yungfu in northern Kwangsi, we motored 100 kilometres on tortuous roads to Hoping Commune. From there another six kilometres of twisting paths took us to Tuchow Brigade. The brigade is linked to its nine production teams by narrow tracks winding up and down over rough terrain. The production teams are spread out in 20 widely scattered villages with a total of 200 households populated by a thousand people.

Barefoot doctors and the co-operative medical system came to the brigade in April 1969. Its clinic is a two-storeyed building with an outpatient department, a dispensary, a sick ward and a maternity ward. The small dispensary has more than 100 kinds of pills, medicinal herbs and injectants. We found the usual paraphernalia like sphygmomanometers for measuring blood pressure, autoclaves, bundles of scalpels, forceps and other instruments, transfusion bottles and stands and different birth control equipment.

When the co-operative medical system was first introduced, its fund was provided by the brigade members who paid half (0.9 yuan per head) and the production teams which covered the other half from their public welfare funds.

Altogether, it cost 1.8 yuan per person in the first year. As the collective economy prospered, the brigade members paid less and less. By 1976, all costs were paid out of the public welfare funds. A patient today pays five fen, about the cost of two boxes of matches, for registration and nothing more. Whatever cases the brigade clinic cannot handle are referred to the commune clinic and, if necessary, to the county hospital, or prefectural or autonomous regional hospitals.

Under the leadership of the brigade's Party branch, a nine-member poor and lower-middle peasant management committee made up of representatives of cadres, poor and lower-middle peasants and barefoot doctors was set up. All major questions like collecting revenue, allocation of funds, management of the co-operative medical system and the political-ideological education of the barefoot doctors are decided by this committee through discussion. Accounts are open to all brigade members and thus the clinic operates under their supervision.

Three staff members of the brigade clinic are Meng Chia-chien, 27, Pan I-kang, 32, and Wei Wan-yun, an 18-year-old girl who just joined, all being barefoot doctors. They are children of formerly impoverished peasants in the locality. Meng had five and a half years of schooling, Pan went through junior middle school. Meng studied at the county hospital, Pan at the commune clinic. Wei has just completed a year's course in a health care school run by the county. Between them, the three can com-



Commune members of Tuchow Production Brigade sending medicinal herbs to the brigade clinic where barefoot doctors Wei Wanyun (first from left), Meng Chia-chien (second from left) and Pan I-kang (second from right) work.

petently handle common complaints such as pneumonia, hepatitis, asthma and rheumatism. They can suture superficial wounds, lance abscesses, give acupuncture treatment, give injections and transfusions, attend births including rather difficult cases, and do everything required in birth control work.

When brigade members become ill, the barefoot doctors are there to treat them, come wind, come rain. They handled a total of 2,000 cases in 1974, of which only 15 per cent were treated at the clinic. The rest were home calls.

"They are the type of doctors we want," the brigade members say.

Once while Meng Chia-chien was scaling the mountain slopes for a particular herb to treat a mentally deranged woman, he fell off a ledge and was knocked unconscious. When he came to, he saw that, apart from some bad bruises, he had cut his leg. He bandaged himself and continued his search despite the late hour until he had found what he wanted. Another time, Meng got a message calling him home to attend his two-year-old child who was running a high fever. Just as he was about to leave the clinic, there was another call from a family with a sick child. Without the slightest hesita-

tion he went to the second child before going home.

Meng and Pan spent two days and nights together fighting to save Mo Lin-mei, an old woman whose family had already given her up for lost. The elderly peasant had suddenly vomited large quantities of blood and gone into a coma. The two barefoot doctors went to work applying all their skills and stayed with her until she was out of danger.

In every way, the three barefoot doctors have retained the fine qualities of the labouring people. They are not paid a salary, but live by work points earned like the rest of the brigade members. Unless they are attending to medical duties, they work in the fields. If medical calls take them away, they

get the same work points as those who are physically equal to them do in the same period of time, no more, no less.

Every village here in the days before liberation had its own "Devil's Dump," a graveyard reserved solely for burying infants and children because infant mortality was extremely high in the old days when there were neither doctors nor medicine in the rural areas and the peasants could not afford to pay for medical treatment. Not far from the brigade headquarters is a hill known as "Coffin Lid" because all but one of six families residing there perished within a few years. The surviving family moved out when it could. Diseases in those days worked hand in hand with the exploiting classes to make life unbearably hard for the labouring people of Tuchow and elsewhere. When there were epidemics, they took a heavy toll of the poor.

Such tragedies no longer occur after liberation. And radical changes have taken place in rural health work since the Great Cultural Revolution. Today there are health care personnel and medicine readily on hand. The Tuchow people all acclaimed: "The Great Cultural Revolution is really fine!"

France's New Strategic Concept

A PROGRAMME for military spending and equipment of the armed forces for the period 1977-82 and a budgetary programme for increased military expenditures in 1977 worked out by the French Defence Ministry and general staff were approved by the National Assembly and the Senate last year. The programmes embody a new strategic concept and defence policy.

French strategy has been an "all azimuth" one based on the idea of nuclear deterrence. This presupposes France being subject to attack from both the East (the Soviet Union) and the West (the United States), thus requiring the country to devise its defence accordingly. "This doctrine," said Raymond Aron, Vice-Director of the French Institute of Strategical Studies, "logically supposes that we deploy our nuclear submarines in such a way that they can not only bring New York but also Leningrad or Moscow into their range of fire."

Since it degenerated into social-imperialism, the Soviet Union has made Europe a key point of fierce contention, thereby confronting France with a new situation. Especially in the last few years, the Soviet Union has repeatedly tried to bully and intimidate France and engaged in subversive activities against it. Soviet military planes have made reconnaissance flights in French air space and Soviet naval vessels and nuclear submarines have cruised in French territorial waters. Soviet spy ships openly keep French nuclear submarines under close watch. Soviet spies and other agents, dispatched, or hired locally, are active in France. All this is a serious threat to the country.

In these circumstances, a new military strategy gradually has taken shape. Writing in the *National Defence Review* last June, General Guy Mery, Chief of Staff of the Armed Forces of France, unequivocally stressed the need to abandon the "all azimuth" strategy in

favour of the concept of "enlarged sanctuarization." "This concept should allow us," the general said, "while safeguarding our territorial integrity, to intervene with all or part of our forces in all the zones whose territorial security is under the most immediate menace, that is to say, in Europe and its immediate approaches, which comprise in particular the Mediterranean basin."

The new strategy divides France into a first and a second defence periphery, with the emphasis on the first periphery, on parts of Europe and the Mediterranean where the threat from the Soviet Union is more serious. Speaking at the Institute of Higher Defence Studies of France, French Defence Minister Yvon Bourges said: "It cannot be said that those in charge of France's defence can make a plan for it without taking into account Western Europe, Central Europe and the Mediterranean."

General Mery also elucidated on the question of military co-operation with France's Western allies. He said that whenever a region within the NATO alliance framework is invaded, "the possibility that we will join the battle at the front can by no means be excluded. On my part, I even think that it will be extremely dangerous for our country to voluntarily keep aloof from the first battle in which our own security is already at stake."

France has decided to strengthen its Mediterranean defence in line with the new strategic concept. Last July 11, French President Giscard d'Estaing said in Toulon: "From 1974 to 1977, the total tonnage of the French combat fleet in the Mediterranean will have increased from 77,000 tons to 136,000 tons." Earlier, Defence Minister Bourges stressed that France would never allow the sea "to fall into the hands of others, especially the two superpowers which lie outside the Mediterranean."

In accordance with the new strategic concept, France also has emphasized the need to develop conventional forces while strengthening its nuclear power. Quite a few French military and political figures as well as newspapers have anxiously noted that, in an attempt to follow in Hitler's footsteps, the Brezhnev clique, behind the smokescreen of "detente," has desperately developed conventional armaments while energetically strengthening its nuclear arms. Therefore they maintain that while nuclear weapons are necessary for safeguarding the security of Europe, a strong conventional force, as many events since the birth of nuclear weapons show, is vital to preventing aggressors from making trouble everywhere. President Giscard d'Estaing emphatically pointed out that while a nuclear "deterrent must be maintained," "we also need conventional means so as to give the French population and our national entity the sentiment that we have a certain range of means to face diverse menaces by which we will eventually be overtaken."

It is significant that the French reorientation of strategy and strengthening of defence have greatly irritated the new tsars in the Kremlin. After the French Chief of Staff of the Armed Forces explained the new strategic concept in last June's *National Defence Review*, the Kremlin's mouthpieces, TASS, *Pravda* and *Izvestia*, immediately raised a hue and cry, accusing France of advocating a return to the policy of brinkmanship. During his French tour in December, B.N. Ponomarev, a member of the Soviet leading clique, publicly blamed the French defence policy in his speech at the Foreign Affairs Committee of the National Assembly. He charged that France did not want to see any reduction in war threats, but hoped to solve contemporary world issues through war. This ruthless talk naturally was counterattacked by France.

Moscow's vituperative attack reflected dismay at the fact that its "detente" fraud has been seen through by more and more people in Western Europe.

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With a vast territory and great differences in natural conditions and farming methods, China needs a wide range of farm machines, especially easy-to-make medium and small ones for meticulous farming. Thus far 1,500 kinds of farm machines have been designed and made to suit the needs of varying local conditions.

Farm machines are bought mainly with funds from the collective economy while the state provides financial aid only when it is necessary. Relying on the strength of the collective economy, the communes or brigades buy whatever machines they need and look after and use them, thus having the right both to own and use them. This shows that on the question of farm mechanization our Party has full faith in the peasants and relies on them, adheres to the principle of self-reliance and persists in giving scope to the superiority of the socialist system. At present, about 70 per cent of the farm machines are bought by the communes or

brigades with their own funds. As regards those communes and brigades which are not so well-off, the state annually earmarks a certain amount of money as interest-free loans or free subsidies to help them buy the farm machines they need. With the development of industry, prices for farm machines have dropped on several occasions.

Representatives to the second national learn-from-Tachai conference were greatly elated when they exchanged experiences in stepping up farm mechanization and looked forward to the bright prospects following the smashing of the "gang of four." They were convinced that, with the guidance of invincible Marxism-Leninism-Mao Tsetung Thought, the firm leadership of the Party Central Committee headed by Chairman Hua, the united and arduous struggle of hundreds of millions of people and cadres and industry's increasing support to agriculture, they would certainly overcome all difficulties and basically realize agricultural mechanization by 1980.

Munich Lesson Must Not Be Forgotten

NEARLY 39 years have passed since the notorious "Munich agreement" was signed, yet the dark clouds of the Munich trend have appeared again in the skies over Western Europe. Widespread talk about it expresses the worry over a possible recurrence of that historical tragedy. It was at this time of public uneasiness in Western Europe that we went to the city of Munich for a visit.

On the Isar River north of the Alps, Munich is the capital of Bavaria, West Germany's largest state, and the country's second biggest city with a population of 1.3 million. It also is the political, economic, cultural and communication centre of the southern part of the country.

We visited the historical site of the Dachau Concentration Camp. Located in Dachau, a small town some 20 kilometres northwest of Munich, this camp was the first one Hitler set up after taking power. According to incomplete statistics, in the years from 1933 to 1945, this camp gaoled over 200,000 "criminals" and "prisoners of war" from more than 20 European countries. Most of them were tortured to death, tens of thousands killed in gas chambers or became victims of Hitler's bacteriological warfare experiments.

With a young native worker, Werner, who volunteered as our guide, we made the rounds of the site of the camp. It was fortified by wide trenches, high walls and an electric wire fence, and watch towers with machineguns still in position. On display inside are instruments of torture of every description, photos showing atrocities against the victims, and many other exhibits bearing evidence to the crimes of the fascists. Everything here arouses abhorrence of the fascist reign of terror and imperialist war of aggression. With tears in his eyes, Werner told us: "Some of my older relatives were also tortured and murdered here. I have been here many times, but each time I cannot

withhold my tears. The history of the past must not repeat itself, never!"

We also visited the Munich beer house where Hitler often harangued about "peace" and war, the villa where British Prime Minister Neville Chamberlain stayed when he tried to beg Hitler for peace, and the site of the conference at which the agreement bearing the name of Munich was signed.

Hitler's ambition to conquer all Europe and dominate the whole world became known in the early 30s. But Chamberlain and French Prime Minister Edouard Daladier represented the forces of appeasement and sought to bring about a temporary peace in the West by turning the peril of the German fascist aggression eastward. They signed in September 1938 with Hitler and Mussolini the Munich agreement which sold out Czechoslovakia under the guise of "peace" and "detente."

When Chamberlain returned to London, he gleefully told the welcoming crowd: "It is peace for our time" and "now I recommend you to go home and sleep quietly in your beds." Hardly had his voice faded away before Hitler attacked and took over all Czechoslovakia. In 1940 he blitzed Western Europe and started his all-out offensive. This historical lesson showed that the peace and security of Europe could not be brought about by making concessions to satisfy the insatiable desires of aggressors at the expense of other countries. On the contrary, this could only expose the weakness of the West European countries and thereby encourage Hitler to accelerate launching a war of aggression.

Nearly 39 years have elapsed, yet dark clouds are again gathering over Europe. Armed to the teeth, the two superpowers are facing each other with huge forces on the European

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ROUND THE WORLD

"CLASS STRUGGLE" (U.S.A.)

On the Theory of Three Worlds

The latest issue of *Class Struggle*, the theoretical quarterly of the U.S. October League (Marxist-Leninist), carried a signed article on the current international situation and Chairman Mao's theory of the division into three worlds.

The article pointed out: "Like Lenin's viewpoint, Chairman Mao's conception of the three worlds is, in essence, a strategic view of the world revolution." "Each of its components is based thoroughly and deeply on Marxism-Leninism."

It stressed: "Chairman Mao's definition of the first world, then, is a mighty blow against Soviet social-imperialism." "Today, both superpowers are attacking the third world and the second world and are preparing to attack each other."

It continued: "Chairman Mao's definition of the third world and the role it is playing today provides a scientific class understanding of the third world movement." "Each country has its own particularities, but all the third world countries share the characteristic of having been historically subjected to the political and economic domination of world imperialism. Although most of the third world countries have now won formal independence through brave armed struggle and dedication to the cause of

liberation, today they all still face the task of winning their economic independence by combating the continued neocolonial influence and domination of imperialism."

It pointed out that Chairman Mao "observed that the third world had become the main force in fighting imperialism and striking out at superpower hegemonism, thus weakening the main enemy of the international struggle." "Although class and national differences still exist throughout the third world, the main trend is towards unity against the superpowers." "The thrust of the third world struggle is profoundly revolutionary."

Referring to the second world, it said: "The second world is also subjected to superpower domination, interference and control to a lesser or greater degree." It stressed the need to take into account and utilize this important contradiction.

"In summary," the article emphasized, "Chairman Mao's concept of the three worlds answers the question of friends and enemies in the revolutionary struggle, showing how to build the united front against imperialism headed by the superpowers."

QATAR

Oil Nationalized

Taking control of all foreign oil company shares in the coun-

try as of February 9, Qatar now has full sovereignty over its oil resources.

Qatar is rich in oil resources, but prospecting and exploitation in the past had been controlled by the foreign-run Qatar Petroleum Company and the Shell Company of Qatar. The government took over 60 per cent of the shares of both companies in 1974 and all shares of the Qatar Petroleum Company last September. It also has taken possession of all Shell shares.

The struggle to nationalize oil resources in the third world as a whole is surging forward vigorously. Up till now, Iran, Iraq, Kuwait and Venezuela in addition to Qatar have nationalized all their oil resources. This proves that the "concession system" imposed on the oil producing countries by the imperialists over the past century is heading for collapse. Oil producers also have won the right to fix oil prices through united struggle.

Now the imperialists can no longer exploit and plunder the third world's oil resources as they like. But the struggle has not ended. Not reconciled to its defeat as an oil hegemonist, one superpower rebukes the third world oil producing countries and tries to intimidate them into giving up their struggle, so as to maintain the old world economic order. Dreaming of being a new oil hegemonist, the other superpower is plotting and sowing discord to undermine the unity of the third world oil producing countries and hamper their struggle to defend their national rights and interests.

BRAZIL

No Suspension of Nuclear Agreement With Bonn

In an official note issued on February 1, the Brazilian Foreign Ministry announced that there would be no possibility of suspending the nuclear agreement signed between Brazil and the Federal Republic of Germany in 1975.

During an interview with the Brazilian paper *O Estado de Sao Paulo* on January 23, U.S. Under-Secretary of State Joseph Nye said in a menacing tone that the United States would supply Brazil with all her future enriched uranium requirements on condition that Brazil cancels two key aspects of the nuclear supply agreement with West Germany, which cover Brazilian plans to build facilities for recycling nuclear fuel and for enriching uranium. At the end of January, U.S. Secretary of State Cyrus Vance expressed the hope that Brazil and West Germany will suspend the agreement, at least temporarily.

The U.S. attitude aroused strong repercussions in Brazilian political circles. Vice-Chairman of the Parliamentary Commission of Foreign Affairs Joao Cunha said: "This U.S. attitude is detrimental to our state sovereignty as it constitutes interference in our internal affairs and progress."

Though Brazil has rich uranium resources, it suffers from an acute shortage of energy. In recent years, it has made efforts to press ahead with a programme for utilization of nuclear energy. In June 1975, Brazil signed a co-operation agreement with West Germany on the peaceful use of nuclear energy which

provides for West Germany to export to Brazil over 4,000 million U.S. dollars worth of nuclear reactors and installations for reprocessing, enriching and recovering Brazil's uranium. But immediately after its signing, this agreement met with opposition from the two superpowers, the Soviet Union and the United States, which tried their best to maintain their position as hegemonic nuclear powers. In a series of articles, the Soviet press attacked the agreement as a "disruption" of the nuclear non-proliferation treaty.

In the face of this charge and pressure, the Presidential Palace in Brazil issued a document at the time, saying that "we do not agree to the world being divided into two parts: On the one hand, the countries of the 'atomic club' are allowed to continue with their limitless expansion of atomic military force, while the remaining countries, on the other hand, are deprived of the sovereign right to exchange anything; they can only make use of the scraps that any strong power of that group is willing to provide."

U.N. SECURITY COUNCIL

Invasion of Benin Condemned

The United Nations Security Council at its February 7 and 8 meetings discussed the event of an attack by imperialists and their mercenaries on Benin's Cotonou Airport on January 16. In a resolution, the Council affirmed the territorial integrity and independence of the People's Republic of Benin and decided to send a special mission to investigate the event.

In their speeches, representatives of many African countries pointed out that the attack on Benin was an attack on all Africa, and that all the African countries should unite with Benin. Representatives of Pakistan, Romania and Panama all took the floor, condemning the invasion.

Chinese Representative Lai Ya-li said in his speech that the Cotonou incident constituted an encroachment by imperialism on the independence, territorial integrity and sovereignty of Benin. The Chinese Government and people extend their congratulations to the Government and people of Benin who, under the leadership of President Kerekou, victoriously repulsed the invasion and defended their national independence and sovereignty, and express profound sympathy for the losses suffered by the people of Benin. The Chinese Government is convinced that the Government and people of Benin will certainly heighten their vigilance, strengthen their unity and continue to safeguard their national independence and state sovereignty.

AUSTRALIA

Vile Soviet Social-Imperialist Acts

Many vile Soviet social-imperialist acts in Australia have been bared by the Australian press.

Taking advantage of others' difficulties to force down purchasing prices is a consistent Moscow practice in foreign trade. Last August, September and October, the Soviet Union cashed in on Australia's inflated stocks of beef due to the wholesale slaughtering of cattle

because of severe drought to buy 12,000 tons of boned beef at 0.06 Australian dollar per kilogramme below the market price. In November and December, it bought more than 56,000 tons of beef and mutton at reduced prices.

The Moscow Narodny Bank squeezed into Australia by granting loans as investments in various Australian monopoly capitalist groups. The Comfin business group in Queensland is backed by the Moscow Narodny Bank. This Soviet bank has invested 100 million Australian dollars in real estate near Brisbane, capital of Queensland. It is also active in Sydney and Western Australia. Last May, a Perth businessman was forced to sell a piece of land and a farm which had been mortgaged to the bank because he could not pay his debts.

Australian shipping companies are up in arms over the Soviet shipping company competing for business by cutting rates to 15 per cent below the negotiated prices. The manager of one shipping company told an Australian reporter that "the Russian moves (rate-cutting) are not commercial, they're political. It is another step in exerting Russian influence." Big Soviet freighters are now busy sailing between various main Aus-

tralian ports and Japanese as well as Philippine ports. In the first quarter of 1976, a total of 108 Soviet ships visited the Australian coast, three and a half times the number compared with the corresponding period in 1973.

The Australian people's attitude towards the Soviet social-imperialists has been expressed in a leaflet distributed at a demonstration rally last September. It said: "In Australia, while the U.S. multinationals are the main exploiter of the working people, the Soviet bosses are getting in for their chop too!" "Free our country from interference by either the U.S. superpower or the Russian superpower."

C.M.E.A.

Moscow Raises Oil Price Again

The Soviet Union has recently again raised the price of oil sold to East European countries, this time by nearly 25 per cent. As a result, Hungary now has to pay 22.5 per cent more than it did last year.

Taking advantage of its position as the chief supplier of energy sources to countries in Eastern Europe, the Soviet Union in the last few years has repeatedly increased the price

of oil. In 1975, it suddenly declared a 130 per cent price hike and again jacked it up by 8 per cent last year.

In this way, Moscow has made huge profit out of the East European countries. The respective figures in 1975 and 1976 were 2,311 million rubles and 200 million rubles.

East European countries all along strongly resented Moscow's practice of making money at the expense of others. The Bulgarian press said that the Soviet Union's practice was unacceptable because it was in fact shifting the adverse effects of the capitalist countries' markets directly on to the member states of the Council for Mutual Economic Assistance. A Hungarian expert complained that if Moscow makes another oil price increase, "we will go bankrupt."

Brezhnev once declared shamelessly that the Soviet Union raised its fuel prices in order to solve the problems in a "socialist way" and "guarantee" the economy of the East European countries as far as possible "against the harmful impact of the crises in the capitalist world." Robbing one of his money while parading as his helper — this is the practice typical of the social-imperialists.

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continent. The Soviet Union, in particular, taking over the mantle of Hitler, sings of "peace" and "detente" while frenziedly expanding its armaments in preparation for war and intensifying its infiltration and expansion in Western Europe. The Soviet offensive has opened the eyes of many West European people to the stark reality. It has been noted that the Munich trend of thinking, which still haunts

Europe and the United States like a spectre today, is extremely dangerous.

The historical lesson of Munich must not be forgotten. A friend from press circles working in Munich said well: "If there is anything to be learnt from the Munich of the 30s, the most important, in my opinion, is that one must be able to see through aggressors and not be deluded by their fine words, nor frightened by their armed threats."

(Hsinhua Correspondents)

ON THE HOME FRONT

Rich Repertoire During the Spring Festival

PEKING'S stages and cinemas provided a rich assortment of programmes during the traditional Chinese festival—Spring Festival.

Peking operas, dance-dramas, plays, operas, puppet shows as well as a host of musical items, dances, *chuyi* (ballad-singing and story-telling), acrobatics, poetry recitals, etc., were to be seen in the city's theatres.

The main content of the items presented deeply cherished the memory of the great leader and teacher Chairman Mao, cherished the memory of respected and beloved Premier Chou, warmly praised Chairman Hua and indignantly criticized the "gang of four."

The plays, *An Extraordinary Battle* and *A Fighting Chapter*, are paeans to Chairman Mao and Chairman Hua's loving care for the people of the earthquake-stricken areas and to the Tangshan people's heroism in fighting the quake while at the same time criticizing the crimes of the "gang of four" in undermining the anti-quake struggle and relief work. Many of the new songs and dances portray the mental outlook of the people of the whole country, under the leadership of the Party Central Committee headed by Chairman Hua, holding aloft the great banner of Chairman Mao and advancing bravely. They also sang the praises of the mass movements to learn from Taching in industry and from Tachai in agriculture which are developing vigorously. Some theatrical works,

which take their themes from the history of the Chinese Communist Party, warmly acclaim Chairman Mao's revolutionary line and the Party's glorious revolutionary tradition. Many of the *chuyi* items which use satire to penetratingly expose the ugly features of the "gang of four" in their attempt to usurp Party and state power were warmly welcomed by the audiences.

A number of outstanding theatrical works and items which had been banned by the "gang of four" were restaged during the Spring Festival. This is a victory for Chairman Mao's revolutionary line on literature and art and a vivid reflection of the liberation of literature and art since the downfall of the "gang of four."

Teams of literary and art workers went to various factories and the rural areas on the outskirts of Peking during the festival to perform for the workers and poor and lower-middle peasants.

A number of new films were shown during Spring Festival.

The new colour feature film, *The Bright Road*, second in a trilogy, set in the period of agricultural co-operation, describes the successful struggle by poor and lower-middle peasants of north China who, under the leadership of the Party, keep to the socialist road and beat back the joint attacks by capitalist forces both inside and outside the Party and in town and country. *Unity Dam*, another colour feature film, shows how the people of three nationalities join efforts in building a



A scene from *The Bright Road*.

dam. It dramatizes the struggle in the movement to learn from Tachai and acclaims the revolutionary spirit of the three nationalities in waging a united struggle. The colour feature film *The Main Lesson* portrays how a group of educated young people who settled in the countryside were re-educated by the poor and lower-middle peasants and matured in the storms of class struggle.

The colour opera film *Two Blueprints* shows the struggle between progressive and conservative thinking in the movement to learn from Tachai in agriculture and praises the revolutionary spirit of the poor and lower-middle peasants in continuing the revolution. It was filmed in 1973 in accordance with Chairman Hua's instructions but was shelved by the Wang-Chang-Chiang-Yao "gang of four" for three and a half years.

Produced in 1965, the feature film *Sand in the Waves* depicts a group of young people taking different roads in the tumultuous period of the First Revolutionary Civil War (1924-27). United at the start, they part company as the revolution deepens, some swept aside by the current of history and some continuing the revolution along the course charted by Chairman Mao. The theme of the film is that integration with the workers and peasants is the only correct orientation for revolutionary young people.

New films included colour documentaries on the Second National Conference on Learning From Tachai in Agriculture and on how the Tangshan peo-

ple fight the earthquake effects, rehabilitate and rebuild their homes, as well as on science and education showing achievements in scientific research and experiments in various fields.

Back on the screen again during the Spring Festival were five features and an opera, all made before the Great Cultural Revolution, which were appreciated by workers, peasants and soldiers.

January Coal Production Plan Overfulfilled

CHINA'S coal industry topped the state quota for coal by 6.7 per cent in January 1977. The target for tunnelling footage was also exceeded. These achievements were the result of cadres and workers on the coal front conscientiously studying Chairman Mao's *On the Ten Major Relationships* and Chairman Hua's speech at the Second National Conference on Learning From Tachai in Agriculture and thoroughly exposing and criticizing the "gang of four."

At the Tatung Coal Mine in Shansi Province, one of China's important coal bases, the miners and cadres worked with one mind to turn out 150,000 tons more coal in January than was planned.

Coal output in Shantung Province broke all previous records for the same period. The Tzupo Mining Administration, for example, organized coalminers and staff members to recall how Chairman Hua has shown concern for them, check on their own ideas and see if they keep up with the current excellent

situation. These activities helped bring their revolutionary drive into fuller play, and hence the big increase in coal production.

Workers and staff members of the Penki Mining Administration in northeast China's Liaoning Province withstood the "gang of four's" interference and sabotage and overfulfilled last year's state plan. This January they thoroughly criticized this gang and started an upsurge in going all out to build socialism. Headed by leading cadres, three groups in charge of supply, machinery and electrical-engineering and the workers' well-being were formed by office workers from the leading organs. They delivered urgently needed material to the various collieries, helped repair equipment and keep them in perfect condition and made good arrangements for the well-being of the workers and staff members. All this did much to the fulfilment of production quotas.

A Big Phosphosiderite Mine

WORKERS and staff members doing geological prospecting work for a metallurgical department in north China recently discovered a large phosphosiderite mine in Cholu County, Hopei Province.

In the past, Hopei produced phosphate fertilizer at a high cost because powdered phosphosiderite had to be shipped in from south China. The new discovery has provided favourable conditions for boosting north China's phosphate fertilizer production.