

People's China

人民中国

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Wall Street's "Friendship" Towards China

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American Aid, the SACO Way

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Sino-Soviet Economic Agreements

The words "Friendship" and "Mutual Assistance" contained in the title of the recent Sino-Soviet Treaty have been translated into concrete deeds by the decision to establish three Sino-Soviet joint stock companies to help in the industrialization of China. This is an inspiring beginning of fraternal co-operation between the U.S.S.R. and China.

According to the agreements signed in Moscow on March 27, two companies will be set up to prospect, produce and refine oil, coal gas, non-ferrous metals and rare metals in Sinkiang province, which lies in Northwest China. The third company will help develop China's civil aviation by establishing three air routes: Peking-Chita; Peking-Irkutsk; Peking-Alma Ata. China's share in these companies consists of land, factory buildings and construction materials, while that of the Soviet Union includes mechanical equipment, industrial machinery and materials, prospecting apparatus and materials, airplanes and aeronautical equipment. The expenditures, products and profits of these jointly-operated enterprises will be shared equally by the two nations. Chinese and Soviet citizens will assume equal responsibility in the management of these enterprises. The terms of these agreements were reached on the basis of full respect for China's sovereignty, equality and mutual benefit.

The Chinese people have welcomed these three agreements with tremendous enthusiasm, for the agreements were reached at a time when China most needed this type of material and technical assistance. They particularly welcome the Soviet Union's offer to share its rich practical experiences gained during 30 years of socialist reconstruction. Now that the War of Liberation is drawing to an end, the Chinese people are faced with the task of consolidating and safeguarding their victory by industrializing their nation as rapidly as possible. Today, China's industrial output is only some ten per cent of her total production. But she

has huge industrial resources waiting to be tapped, and a vast, industrious population eager to harness this great industrial potential. Northwest China, hitherto one of the nation's most backward and undeveloped areas, has all the material prerequisites for becoming, like Manchuria, another major industrial centre in China.

Similarly the agreement on civil aviation will have an important influence on the improvement of China's communications, a necessary factor in accelerating the industrialization of the country. It will also strengthen economic and cultural relations between China and the Soviet Union, and indirectly with the People's Democracies in Europe.

The fraternal co-operation envisaged in these agreements is a brand new experience to the Chinese people, who had suffered bitterly for more than 100 years from the unequal treaties concluded between China's reactionary governments and various imperialist powers. The terms of the new agreements vividly reveal the great and basic difference between 'co-operation' with an imperialist country whose economic system is founded upon the exploitation of the labouring people of other countries, and co-operation with a socialist country, whose economic system is controlled by the labouring people themselves and does not exploit anyone. The rapid economic recovery of the East European People's Democracies and the steady rise in their living standards provide eloquent testimony to the type of co-operation and assistance offered by the Soviet Union.

The newly-signed Sino-Soviet economic agreements will speed up the process of rehabilitating China's war-torn economy, and thus bring about fundamental improvements in the lives of the Chinese working people. This in itself will constitute an important factor in strengthening the world camp for peace. It is not surprising, under these circumstances, that the spokesmen for American imperialism have fumed with such rage against these agreements.

U. S. Espionage in Asia

After its debacle in China, the U.S. government has been compelled to look elsewhere for outposts from which to carry on its imperialist aggression. The sight of top American diplomatic and military officials darting about the Far East in ever increasing numbers gives a clear indication of where the American imperialists are planning their next move. To prepare the groundwork for the unbridled exploitation of what the American President has described as Asia's "under-developed areas," Washington has raised the battle-cry: stem the tide of Communism in Asia! Cloaking its deeds under this slogan, Washington has launched its program of penetration by strengthening its espionage network in the Far East. But let no one be confused by the anti-Communist rantings. The ulterior and unmistakable aim is the economic and political subjugation of all Asian peoples to Wall Street.

Washington is not sparing men or money to build up efficient spy network as the foundation stone for its future activities in Asia. The *Washington Post* reports that Congress has voted additional appropriations for augmenting American "periphery posts" around China's borders. Walton Butterworth, Assistant Secretary of State, told the Congressional Appropriations Committee, according to a UP despatch, that the 129 State Department officials withdrawn from China will be re-assigned to "periphery posts near China to get information." He noted: "We are going to have to obtain it by research and other roundabout sources." The expression "by roundabout sources" has sinister implications. It brings to mind the visit of the American secret service director, Gen. William Donovan Jr., to Southeast Asia last January. At the time, the American press connected his trip with a widespread shake-up in the American espionage system in Southeast Asia. In addition to strengthening the American spy network in Hongkong, Burma, and Indochina, Donovan paid a flying visit to Siam, one of Washington's major espionage centres in Asia. It was in the Siamese capital, Bangkok, that the American diplomats gathered at a conference presided over by Philip C. Jessup to take stock of their discredited adventures in China and the Far East. General Douglas MacArthur, meanwhile, is drawing upon secret funds at his disposal to finance the establishment of right-wing "Yellow Unions" in Japan, Indochina and Indonesia, according to *Telepress*. By this devious method, he hopes to drive a wedge between the WFTU and the toiling masses of Asia. The same agency revealed, on March 17, that MacArthur is subsidizing reactionary churches

in various Far Eastern countries and turning them into spy centres. The American espionage ring in Hongkong, which maintains close contact with KMT agents and Catholic missionaries in China, is known to be under the direct control of MacArthur's Headquarters in Tokyo.

The hasty buttressing of America's spy network in Asia provides an interesting back drop against which to view Wall Street's frequent protestations of its desire to see the Asian people gain national independence, so constantly pouring from the mouths of its spokesmen, Acheson, Jessup and Co.

The rock-solid existence of the Chinese People's Government has made it impossible for the American imperialists to carry on large-scale espionage work in China. They have learned a bitter lesson from the recent American spy case in Mukden. However, since they can be expected to continue plotting against Asia's great New Democracy from "periphery posts," the Chinese people will not relax their vigilance against U.S. intrigues in this part of the world. In this respect, the Chinese people's struggle against U.S. espionage and that of the other Asian peoples are identical in character.

Although national liberation struggles are in progress throughout Asia, this region still remains fertile soil for imperialist espionage, because political power is retained in the hands of the reactionary ruling class and the imperialists have long been entrenched in their exploiting position. In these circumstances, the U.S. government has thus been able to sprinkle its espionage centres widely throughout Asia — in Japan, South Korea, the Philippines, Indo-China, Siam and other countries. The aim of American espionage activities is 'to contain' the genuine people's liberation movements in these areas. The Americans have also lined up Tito's agents in Southeast Asia and instructed them to infiltrate into the liberation movements and sabotage them from within. Stripped to its essentials, this is Acheson's brand of 'nationalism.'

To the people fighting for true liberation in Asia, this bare picture of American espionage plans serves as a timely warning to sharpen their vigilance against American disruptive activities. Let all our Asian brothers discard any illusions of freeing themselves from colonial slavery through the "aid" of the American imperialists. The Chinese people have, with determination and vigilance, defeated the machinations of Wall Street, so will all the people in other parts of Asia.

Education and Culture in New China

Lu Ting-yi

"We must not merely strive to transform a politically-oppressed and economically-exploited China into a politically free and economically prosperous nation. We must also strive to transform China which has been made backward and ignorant under the domination of the old culture into an enlightened and advanced nation under the domination of a new culture."

— MAO TSE-TUNG: *On New Democracy*

The great victory of the Chinese Revolution is not only of first-rate significance for the struggle to safeguard world peace, it is also a momentous event for the development of the culture of mankind. One should imagine the effect of the fact that one quarter of the world's population will be liberated from the depths of cultural ignorance and backwardness, that their intelligence and creative power will have an opportunity of developing into a higher level and playing their part in the peaceful and democratic construction of the new world. Is this not a matter of tremendous importance for the development of world civilization and cultural progress?

More than two thousand years of feudal rule and one hundred years of imperialist enslavement have combined to reduce a nation with the oldest culture and history into a nation culturally ignorant and backward, where the intelligence and creative power of the people have been tragically strangled and where it is impossible for a brilliant cultural tradition to develop. But the Chinese people have now stood up. Under the leadership of the political party of the working class, the Communist Party of China, the Chinese people have overthrown the prolonged rule of imperialism and feudalism and have put an end to the dark history of over two thousand years. This is a world-shaking historical event. The Chinese people have built their own country and they will also build up their own culture. This is completely possible because once the educational and cultural work is in the hands of the broad toiling masses, there can be no limit to their creative power. This new educational and cultural work of the people not only belongs to China's toiling masses, but is also an important part of the cultural work of the progressive peoples of the world.

In 1940, Comrade Mao Tse-tung published his famous book *On New Democracy*, which is the most outstanding work analysing the history of China's modern culture from the angle of Marxism-Leninism. Comrade Mao Tse-tung in this book predicts the future of Chinese culture, as quoted at the begin-

ning of the present article. He adds: "In the whole course of Chinese history, the progress made during the twenty years after the May 4th Movement (1919) surpassed not only that of the eighty years before that period but even that of the preceding two thousand years. If another twenty years is allowed, the extent of China's progress could well be imagined." Yet, in only another ten years' time, the new China as envisaged by Comrade Mao Tse-tung has come into being. Is it not apparent that through the efforts of our people and with the assistance of the progressive peoples of the world, foremost among them the socialist Soviet Union, China will become one of the most civilized and progressive nations in the world?

The Character of the Cultural Movement

From the class standpoint and from the standpoint of dialectical relationship between international culture and national culture, Comrade Mao Tse-tung, in the above-mentioned book, has explained the character of China's new cultural movement, its contents and its future, and has refuted all the nonsense uttered by bourgeois idealists and the Trotskyist gang about China's culture. He pointed out that since May 4th, 1919, the cultural movement in China has been of a New Democratic character. In other words, it has been led by the proletariat and is an anti-imperialist and anti-feudalist culture belonging to the people; and, as such, it is part of the socialist culture of the international proletariat. He defined China's new culture as being national, scientific, and popular in content. That is to say, "it is opposed to the oppression of the imperialists; it maintains the dignity and independence of the Chinese nation; it is linked with the socialist and New Democratic culture of other nations; establishing with them such relations as mutual absorption and mutual development so that each and all may become part of the culture of the new world. . . . It is opposed to all feudalist thoughts and superstitions; it seeks after nothing but facts in the quest of right and wrong; it accepts nothing but the objective truth; and it stands for uniformity in theory and practice. . . . It should serve the interests of the toiling workers and peasants, who comprise over 90% of the country's population, so that

in time it will become their culture." These guiding principles as laid down by Comrade Mao Tse-tung have been clearly embodied in the Common Program adopted by the People's Political Consultative Conference of 1949 and have been written into the concrete policy for building up China's education and culture (see Articles 41-49 of the Common Program). These principles and policy constitute the general directive and general line for educational and cultural development in New China.

After the inauguration of the Central People's Government which has still to shoulder the great tasks of mopping up the remnants of the enemy and liberating Taiwan and Tibet, the Chinese people are now faced with two important tasks, namely, economic reconstruction and cultural development. When the People's Political Consultative Conference was in session last year, Comrade Mao Tse-tung predicted that a powerful wave of economic construction would inevitably be followed by a powerful wave of cultural advance. It is a certainty that Comrade Mao Tse-tung's prediction will come true. None the less, if we are to crown our efforts with success, we must of necessity exert gigantic efforts to meet this upsurge of cultural advance. Because of the long years of feudal rule, especially of more than two decades of fascist KMT tyranny, the toiling masses have hitherto been deprived of their chance of receiving any education, and the overwhelming majority of the people today are illiterate. Cultural and artistic activities had nothing in common with

the masses. Research work in natural sciences was so seriously held up that it was virtually dying out. Even the negligible amount of scientific equipment available has been either destroyed or removed by the KMT bandits. As a result, it is in such a deplorable situation and under such difficult conditions that we are going to re-lay the foundations for our education and culture of the New Democracy by counting on the strength of the people.

Face to face with these complex and tremendous tasks, we are proceeding towards two main objectives: first, to shift the cultural and educational work hitherto in the hands of a small number of people onto the basis of the broad labouring masses; secondly, to make culture and education effectively serve the restoration and development of the production of the country. That is to say, we must successfully link up the popularization and elevation of education and culture and bring about unity in theory and practice. In order to fulfil our tasks, we have to rely on several cardinal conditions; to wit, the correct ideological leadership on the part of the working class and its political party, the support of the broad labouring masses, the consolidation and expansion of the united front of various strata of revolutionary cultural workers, the assistance and co-operation on the part of international socialist culture. It must be said that we have already these conditions. We believe that even in the difficult objective circumstances we are capable of carrying on our work with confidence.

Mao Tse-tung:

A Change of Feeling

Here I will tell you my own experience in changing my feelings towards the people. When I was in school, I picked up the habits of students. I felt awkward about doing any manual labour. For instance, I was embarrassed when I carried my own luggage on a bamboo pole in the presence of students who could not bear the weight of anything across their shoulders and who could not carry anything in their hands. At the time, I felt that the cleanest people in the world were the intellectuals. Workers, peasants and soldiers—they were always dirty people. So I was willing to borrow the clothes of intellectuals, as I considered them clean. I would not borrow clothes from workers, peasants or soldiers because I thought they would be dirty.

After the revolution, I lived together with workers, peasants and soldiers. Gradually I came to know them, and they also began to know me. At this time, and only at this time, could I fundamentally change the feelings of the bourgeoisie and the petty-bourgeoisie that I had acquired in bourgeois schools. After this, in comparing unreformed intellectuals with workers, peasants and soldiers, I felt that such intellectuals had many unclean places not only in their minds but also on their bodies. The cleanest people in the world were the workers and peasants. Even though their hands might be black and their legs plastered with cow dung, they were still cleaner than the bourgeoisie and petty-bourgeoisie. This is what I mean by a change of feeling—a change from one class to another.

— From "On Literature and Art", an address delivered by Chairman Mao Tse-tung on May 2, 1942, at the opening session of the Discussion Meeting of Workers in Literature and Art.

In the following paragraphs, I would like to give a brief description of the existing cultural and educational conditions in China and our present work.

The Present Situation

According to available data, China has at present about 300,000 primary schools, with more than 20,000,000 pupils; about 5,000 middle schools, with more than 1,500,000 students; and about 200 institutes of higher learning, with more than 140,000 students. The number of schools and students is extremely small in comparison with China's population of 475,000,000. But facts in the past year have shown that in liberated areas where agrarian reform has been completed and (or) where industry has been considerably restored, the development of educational work is very rapid. In Northeast China, for example, there are at present 3,777,151 primary school pupils as against 2,541,322 in Japanese occupation days, an increase of 48.2%. The number of middle school students there has increased from 68,940 in 1941 under Japanese rule to 143,986, an increase of 108.6%. There are at present 2,337,401 primary school pupils in Hopei province as against 1,233,786 in 1936, one year before the Anti-Japanese War, an increase of 89%. The combined number of middle school pupils in the provinces of Hopei, Shantung, Shansi and Chahar is 31.8% larger than that of 1936. As to the number of schools, at present, it exceeds that in the pre-liberation years by 60% in Northeast China and by about 50% in the five provinces in North China. Tremendous changes are also discernible in the class composition of the students. In Northeast, the children of workers, hired peasants, poor peasants, middle peasants and urban poor people represented 81.3% of all school children last year. Statistics also show that in Linhsien, Pingyuan Province, the children of hired, poor and middle peasants constitute as high as 94% of the total number of school children. This is a phenomenon never before seen in the history of China.

In the field of adult education, liquidation of illiteracy is an extremely important work. As mentioned before, the number of illiterates constitutes the overwhelming majority of the nation's population. Hence, the task of completing the liquidation of illiteracy will be an affair of long duration. Nevertheless, remarkable achievements have already been made in many localities. For instance, during the course of last year, the number of illiterates in the area of Port Arthur and Dairen, in Northeast China, was reduced from 30% to merely 4% of the entire population. This, of course, is an exceptional example. It should be especially pointed out that the tremendous success of the liquidation of illiteracy campaign in the area of Port Arthur and Dairen is due to the active guidance and assistance rendered by Soviet educational

experts. The "character-reading" movement is now spreading to every corner of the country. The main methods are reading classes and winter study. The latter consists in teaching the peasants to read in winter time when they have more time to spare. More than one million peasants took part in winter study last year. We intend to greatly increase the number of elementary school and reading classes in the countryside this year, and plan to start in 1951 an extensive liquidation of illiteracy campaign throughout the country, first of all, in areas where agrarian reform has been completed.

Another important work in adult education is spare-time schooling. Because of the progress in economic rehabilitation after liberation, many cadres coming from among the peasants feel acutely the need of acquiring elementary education. In the restoration and development of production, the Chinese workers have displayed enthusiasm of a high level. They have taken part with enthusiasm in the production-emulation drives, in the campaign to encourage model workers, and in the new-record movement. They have voluntarily invented new techniques and raised productive efficiency. This situation has given rise to an increasing desire on their part to acquire education and scientific knowledge.

During the course of last year, spare-time schools for this purpose sprang everywhere like mushrooms. In the five provinces in North China, some 340 schools for worker and peasant cadres to receive education in their spare time were set up. There are 2,110 spare-time schools for the workers (special supplementary classes not included) throughout the country, with a total enrolment of 751,109 students. But the number still lags far behind the actual demand, and more schools of this kind are needed.

Spare-time schools alone are not sufficient. China is in need of many highly-skilled industrial workers, technicians, engineers, administrative personnel and various kinds of highly specialized persons who are necessary to the country. Hence, it is a pressing task to establish regular schools, to recruit personnel from among the peasants and intellectual cadres who have been tested by war and agrarian reform over many years, from among the officers and men of the People's Liberation Army and from among the workers, and to equip them with adequate scientific knowledge.

For Workers and Peasants

In view of the above-mentioned conditions, the Central People's Government regards the development of education for workers and peasants and turning out of new intelligentsia from among the workers and peasants as its foremost cultural and educational task. The significance of this is that it is not only meant to meet the cultural demand

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Wall Street's "Friendship" Towards China

Hu Sheng

A Record of Treachery

When the U. S. Secretary of State Dean Acheson says that China and the United States have a long-standing tradition of friendship between them, he has not invented any very novel approach to the subject. Many American diplomats and "China experts" before him have tried for decades to prove that the activities of the American government in China have been altruistic and "friendly." But their efforts to substantiate this fallacy have been as unsuccessful as Acheson's. For example, an American missionary wrote in 1904 that China's relations with the U. S. had been, as a rule, better than its relations with the European nations. But frankness forced him to admit in a later passage of his book: "By the treaties of July and October, 1844, the U. S. peacefully reaped the advantage which England had obtained at the cost of war."*

The American government got her share in the spoils of the infamous Opium War in a treaty with the Manchu regime in 1844. The U.S. was also a hidden partner in the aggressive war that British and French troops waged in China between 1856 and 1860. As a result, Washington succeeded in concluding treaties with Peking in 1858 and 1860 that were similar to those China signed with Britain and France. Later, the American government joined with the British and French imperialists in helping the degenerate Manchu regime suppress the Taiping Uprising, the largest organized peasant revolt up to that time.

Naturally enough, no aggressor likes to resort to war if he can obtain as much as he wants by other means. And since the American government found such other means at its disposal, it fell into the role of a treacherous but outwardly amiable "friend." The record of American activities in China between 1840 and 1860 reveals that the U. S. was nothing but an accomplice of the other Western aggressors, a hypocrite who dexterously snatched the fruits of aggressive war from others.

Some have pointed out that although the American record from 1840—60 was not very savoury, at least the Burlingame Treaty of 1868 could be re-

garded as one based on equality and mutual benefit. We all know that after the American Civil War, the American capitalists concentrated their efforts on economic development at home, which was then more profitable than foreign adventures. But an acute labour shortage arose that hampered railroad construction and mining. That is why Burlingame, an American who managed to become a special representative of the Manchu court, was able to conclude the 1868 treaty in Washington. This treaty provided for "the mutual advantage of free immigration and emigration of their citizens and subjects respectively from one country to the other for purposes of curiosity, of trade or as permanent residents."**

Following this treaty, Chinese workers migrated to America in large numbers, providing cheap labour for the American capitalists to exploit. However, ten years later, when the American capitalists found themselves with an adequate labour reserve for the time being, Congress began to pass one bill after another restricting the entry of Chinese nationals into the United States. Chinese living in America at that time were subjected to treatment similar in spirit to Hitlerite Germany's treatment of Jews. According to one American writer: "The total number of Chinese victims of American violence during these years will never be known, but it was probably several hundreds."***

As a result of such anti-Chinese discrimination in the United States, Chinese ports boycotted American products in 1905. This marked the first occasion in China's history when the Chinese people resorted to a boycott in fighting foreign aggressors.

Friend of China's Reactionaries

Because the American capitalists were preoccupied with developing and monopolizing the home market in the latter half of the 19th century, they had not openly joined the European powers in fighting for privileges and concessions in China. But by the end of this period, American basic industrial production surpassed the level of domestic consumption, and dependable foreign markets became imperative. Hardly had the need for colonies arisen before the United States had seized some from Spain. After taking over the Philippines in 1898, the American government turned its eyes on China. Senator Beveridge, spokesman for the expansionists, said in 1900: "The Philippines are ours forever. . . . And just beyond the Philippines are China's illimitable markets. We will not retreat from

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—Ed.

* A. J. Brown, *New Forces in Old China*, 1904, p. 145.

** Burlingame Treaty, Article V.

*** A. Smith, *China and America Today*, 1904, p. 165.

either. . . . The power that rules the Pacific is the power that rules the world." It was in this spirit that the U.S. government sent its troops against China's capital in 1900.

The supporters of American imperialism like to maintain that even this armed attack in 1900 was an expression of American "friendship." They reason that without such action, China would have been partitioned by the other powers. We shall not here go into the various reasons why the imperialist powers were not in a position at that time to dismember China as they had carved up Africa. However, this situation certainly did not stem from any "favours" on the part of the U.S. The true content of American policy then was summed up in a report by Rockhill submitted to the American government after he participated in peace talks with China in 1901. He wrote: "Our policy has always been in favour of a strong, independent and responsible Chinese government, which can and will be held accountable for the maintenance of order and the protection of our citizens and their rights under the treaties."*

That the U.S. adopted such a policy is entirely understandable. This was the only logical policy in view of the American imperialists' late arrival on the China battlefield. Furthermore, they were fully confident of placing the *whole* of China under the protection of the Stars and Stripes. Throughout the last 50 years, the American imperialists have persisted in trying to set up a government in China capable of protecting their interests and through which their aggressive aims could be realized.

What was meant by a Chinese government capable of giving protection to the imperialist interests? Undoubtedly, one opposed to the interests of the Chinese people, feudalistic in nature, and represented by reactionary politicians. When the Manchu government, headed by the Empress Dowager, was found to be too weak to protect imperialist interests in China, the American government pinned its hopes on warlord Yuan Shih-kai. After the 1911 Revolution, Dr. Sun Yat-sen was soon forced to transfer the presidency to Yuan Shih-kai and the American Congress promptly passed a resolution congratulating him on the establishment of the Chinese "Republican Government." The U.S. was the first country to recognize Yuan Shih-kai's regime.

After World War I, American imperialists became the protectors of warlords Tsao Kun and Wu Pei-fu, who wrested control of the Peking regime from the Japanese-supported warlords, Tuan Chijui and Chang Tso-lin. It is well known that the many struggles among Chinese warlords were essentially the reflections of conflicts among the imperialist powers. In 1923, American imperialists



Acheson's Easter Egg

by Jack Chen

encouraged Tsao Kun to appoint himself president. In June of the same year, U.S. President Harding announced that an American banking group was willing to help "unify" China. In those days Wu Pei-fu was widely acclaimed in the Anglo-American press as a "patriotic hero."

Thus, the record of American imperialists' "friendship" to China, clearly demonstrates their support for only the most reactionary forces in China. They have definitely been the good friends of the Empress Dowager, "Emperor" Yuan Shih-kai, President Tsao Kun and President Chiang Kai-shek. But on the basis of this, can they claim friendship with the Chinese people?

Open Door

Acheson and his like are fond of mentioning the Open Door policy to illustrate American "friendship" to China.

The Open Door policy is an imperialist policy by which China was relegated to the status of a semi-colony. It was with its own interests in mind and not those of China that the U.S. set forth this policy. Not even Acheson can refute this fact.

Moreover, was the Open Door policy invented by John Hay? No. It was a policy best suited to the common interests of the British and American

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* *China and the Far East*, edited by G. H. Blakeslee, 1910, p. 77.

U. S. Aid — the SACO Way

Lao Duane

SACO stands for a peaceful-sounding name — the Sino-American Co-operation Organization. But to those who know something about SACO operations, these initials give rise to the same feeling of horror and revulsion as the names Buchenwald or Dachau.

Staffed by Americans and American-trained KMT secret agents, SACO specialized in torturing and killing patriotic and progressive Chinese. The latest of SACO's cold-blooded activities was the large-scale massacre in Chungking when, on the eve of the arrival of the People's Liberation Army, the sadistic executioners murdered more than 300 political prisoners in a few hours' time.

In the western suburbs of Chungking lies a stretch of hilly land about seven kilometres long and ten kilometres wide. It is surrounded on all sides by pill-boxes, watch-towers, trenches and barbed-wire barricades. Some 800 buildings are scattered about that area, linked by a complicated network of highways and gravel foot paths that are dotted with sentry boxes.

After this area was fortified and became a prohibited zone, inhabitants in the adjacent areas knew little of what went on there. Everyday they saw large numbers of trucks and jeeps, loaded with Americans and Chinese, racing in and out of the guarded area. At night, they heard an almost constant sound of bells, the means by which one watch tower reported to the next at five-minute intervals. Sometimes, in the dead of night, there was the more fearsome sound of rifle shots.

This mystery land was the headquarters of SACO for seven years. The Chinese and American Himmlers lived in three luxurious mansions, complete with ball-rooms and big gardens. Even the subordinates were housed in well-built barracks.

How many thousands of political prisoners were incarcerated here in the past seven years will probably never be known. There were two large buildings for prisoners, one called Pai's Mansion (Pai Kung Kwan) and the other named Refuse Pit (Cha Tse Tung).

"Co-operation" and "Aid"

The story of SACO serves as a typical example of past "Sino-American co-operation" and U.S. "aid" to China.

SACO was established in May, 1942, upon the personal orders of Chiang Kai-shek. Tai Li, then head of Chiang's personal gestapo network, was named chief of the organization. Deputy chief was

Captain (later Rear Admiral) M. E. Miles, of the U.S. Navy.

SACO was ostensibly created for "joint espionage warfare against Japan and exchange of intelligence between China and America." From the very outset, however, SACO agents collaborated with the Japanese and puppet army in fighting against the Chinese Communist-led forces which were waging a bitter guerrilla struggle to carve out resistance bases in the Japanese-occupied areas.

SACO expanded quickly. At the height of its activities, it maintained 14 regional headquarters and numerous branches all over KMT China. Its agents penetrated even to the most remote rural areas.

The intelligence section of the U.S. Navy and the U.S. Office of Strategic Services jointly participated in the work of SACO. One of their main tasks was to train secret agents in the use of American weapons and to help them master American espionage technique. In the name of "Sino-American friendship," the Americans taught Chiang's trusted henchmen the art of using soft-nose bullets, deadly poisons, underground radio equipment and other "advanced" American techniques. During the war years, the Americans helped turn out 1,800 KMT secret agents at the Chungking headquarters alone.

2,000 Americans Trained

The SACO headquarters was also used to train 2,000 American agents for work in China. The Americans were provided with the most luxurious living conditions that Chungking could offer — and on occasion were even given their choice of "girl-friends" from among the concentration camp prisoners.

The Americans lavishly supplied SACO with all the equipment needed for its nefarious tasks. Even after Japan's surrender, when the American staff began to pull out, U.S. supplies continued to pour into this gestapo headquarters in an apparently unlimited stream. Even though the Americans were less in evidence, SACO continued to serve as an arm of the American intelligence service in China throughout the civil war.

The importance placed on SACO's activities has been demonstrated by the fact that Chiang Kai-shek, American Ambassador Patrick J. Hurley and Admiral Charles M. Cooke Jr. of the U.S. Navy, all on various occasions personally inspected the Chungking headquarters and reviewed the secret service corps in training there.

As SACO expanded its operations, it put up new buildings and enlarged its grounds. Many peasants and home-owners in the vicinity of its headquarters were driven off their property at gun-point. The standard eviction notice read: "Move away in half a day's time. Violation subject to severe punishment." No explanation was given. No compensation was made.

The SACO premises became so extensive in later years that it formed a self-sufficient community in itself. Besides the three splendid mansions for Tai Li, Miles and other top-ranking Himmlers, there were class rooms and dormitories for 2,000 KMT trainees, barracks for 1,800 gendarmes, a number of modern and comfortable buildings to house 1,000 Americans at a time, a power plant, a radio station, a weather station, a printing shop, a hospital, a cemetery, a big farm, two coal pits which produced 100 tons of coal monthly and a high school for the personnel's children. The cordoned area had even a bank that issued script to be used inside the camp grounds.

Throughout the Anti-Japanese War, SACO had its own wireless station and kept in daily contact with the military authorities at Washington. Later, these high-powered transmitters were used to communicate with the KMT ringleaders in Nanking, Canton and Taiwan.

Death of Tai Li

On March 27, 1946, Tai Li was killed in a plane crash. Tai's long and intimate association with Chiang Kai-shek went back more than 20 years to the days when Tai Li was a student at Whampao Military Academy, which Chiang then headed. In time, Tai Li became one of the very few persons whom Chiang thoroughly trusted. Tai Li never appeared at public functions and was never known to issue a public statement. But as head of the KMT's terror organization—the Bureau of Investigation and Statistics, founded in 1932—he became as notorious throughout China as Chiang Kai-shek. Immediately prior to his death, Tai was in Tsingtao conferring with Admiral Cooke to lay plans for further attacks against the Liberated Areas. It was on his return from this meeting that his plane crashed into a mountain in Shantung.

Tai Li's death was followed by frantic back-stage jockeying among his would-be successors. While this was in progress, SACO went into a temporary decline. Mao Jen-feng, brother of Chiang Kai-shek's first wife, eventually succeeded Tai as head of the SACO network. He appointed Hsu Yuen-chu director of SACO's Chungking headquarters, which was turned into the command post for all Chiang's gestapo activities in Southwest China. Hsu was concurrently head of the 2nd Department of Chiang's Southwest Military and Political Headquarters. SACO, under this new leadership, stepped up its activities and again flourished, this time on a more extensive and brutal scale than ever.

Communists, non-Communist progressives and those suspected of being out of sympathy with the old regime were flung into SACO's concentration camp at Chungking. In those days of KMT terror, anyone could be arrested without warrant and held indefinitely without even learning the charges against him. At times there was hardly standing room left in Pai's Mansion and Refuse Pit.

The SACO authorities are known to have employed 130 different methods of physical torture on their victims. Among the more commonly used to extract "confessions" were: forcing water containing pepper down the victims' nose and throat, branding them with red-hot irons, slowly ripping out their finger-nails by the roots, subjecting them to a series of progressively stronger electrical shocks, etc.

But life in the SACO concentration camp, brutal as it was, did not succeed in breaking the spirit of many prisoners. Under the leadership of the Communists in the camp, the prisoners organized a secret life of their own.

Some of the wardens at Pai's Mansion were bribed to smuggle mail, printed material and food into the prison. Every copy of the daily newspaper was smuggled in by this means. A small group of the prisoners undertook to put out a clandestine prison news-sheet, based on their various sources of information. They called their publication "The White House Vanguard" (since the word *pai* in Pai's Mansion literally means 'white'). The *Vanguard* was nothing more than a piece of toilet paper covered with tiny hand-printed characters. The editors removed cotton from their padded clothing, which they burned to ashes and then made into ink. Their pens were sharpened bamboo chopsticks. The *Vanguard* came out every day and was circulated from cell to cell through carefully camouflaged holes which the prisoners carved through the walls.

The prisoners also managed to hold frequent discussions in their cells on current events. The more progressive of them organized secret study groups to learn revolutionary theory.

Thus camp inmates were able to keep well informed on the day-to-day advances of the People's Liberation Army. Their spirits rose as the PLA drove towards Szechuan province.

Kill All, Spare None

But when the PLA crossed the provincial borders, the order came down from Chiang Kai-shek through Mao Jen-feng: If you must evacuate, kill all, spare none.

General Yang Hu-cheng was the first victim of this sweeping order. General Yang had gained Chiang's undying personal enmity for his role in the famous Sian Incident in 1936. At that time, "Young Marshal" Chang Hsueh-liang and General Yang refused to continue fighting against the Com-

munists. When Chiang Kai-shek flew to Sian to investigate their mutiny, they detained him forcibly until he agreed to stop the civil war and resist the Japanese invaders. Chiang promised the two generals clemency if they went through with a perfunctory court-martial designed to save his face. Later Chiang went back on his word and imprisoned the two military leaders.

For over a decade General Yang Hu-cheng and his family were kept under lock and key. Long years of imprisonment finally caused Mrs. Yang to suffer a nervous breakdown, and she died in 1946. Late in the summer of 1949, General Yang and his 20-year-old son were brought to Chungking from a concentration camp in Kweichow province.

Not long afterwards, in September, General Yang was told that he was to move his quarters to a memorial hall for Tai Li on the SACO premises. As the General and his son entered the building, they were seized, bound, gagged and stabbed to death. Their bodies were buried in a nearby garden, underneath a well-trimmed flower bed.

At midnight on the same evening, SACO gunmen also murdered General Yang's secretary Sung Yi-vun as well as the secretary's wife and two children, aged eight and five. The family was buried under a floor that was then cemented over.

As the PLA neared Chungking, the inmates at Pai's Mansion began to sense changes in the atmosphere. The prison guards became a little more courteous. Sometimes the prisoners received a few slices of meat with their meals and even, on several occasions, some wine. Once all of the prisoners were given haircuts. This unusual treatment gave rise to general uneasiness among the prisoners. Everyone knew that according to Chinese prison tradition, those about to be executed received better food and sometimes baths.

November 27 Massacre

On November 27, while the prisoners were eating supper in their cells, footsteps were heard running through the corridors. Looking out through the tiny windows in the cell doors, the prisoners saw armed guards hurrying in all directions. Presently a squad of guards went to Cell No. 4 and called three inmates by name. The prisoners were escorted down the hall and out of the building. A few minutes later, a volley of shots was heard.

"Comrades, this is the end!" someone in Cell No. 4 cried out. The prisoners began shouting last messages to friends in neighbouring cells. The air was filled with such remarks as "Don't be afraid" and "Let's face it bravely."

"Quiet! Quiet in there," hollered a guard. "Nothing to do with you guys."

But even as he spoke, the execution squad returned and called out another group of names. As the prisoners were led away, one of them began to

sing China's new national anthem: "Arise, those who refuse to be bond slaves. . . ." Others took up the refrain until the inspiring song resounded through the prison corridors.

"Long Live the People's Liberation Army!" shouted the prisoners as they awaited their turn to die. "Long Live the People's Republic of China!"

Prisoners Remain Calm

Almost every prisoner, when his name was called out, calmly went up to each of his cell-mates and shook his hand. Many expressed the final wish that New China would be strong and prosperous, a free land for free men.

Liu Kuo-chih, a young college graduate, made a particularly deep impression on his fellow-prisoners. When the executioners read out his name, Liu responded with a contemptuous laugh.

"A long time ago, I knew this day would come," he said. "But I am not afraid of such people as you. It is you who are doomed and dying, not us."

As he was led out to the firing line, the prisoners could still hear him loudly cursing Chiang Kai-shek and calling out revolutionary slogans. Just before the sound of shots rang out, the prisoners heard him shout at the top of his voice: "Dogs! You have today, but tomorrow is ours!"

By midnight only 16 of the prisoners in Pai's Mansion remained alive. The PLA guns were now booming on the southern outskirts of Chungking across the Yangtse River. The SACO authorities gave orders to evacuate the place at once, and the staff fled in confusion, apparently forgetting about the last 16 persons. These survivors later broke out of the jail, but thus far only eight of them have been located.

The prisoners quartered in the Refuse Pit were disposed of even more brutally. At eight o'clock on that terrible night of November 27, a truck drew up to the main door. A group of 12 prisoners were told to bundle up their personal belongings and board the truck. A half-hour later, another group was taken away in the same manner. It was generally assumed that they were being transferred to another prison, possibly to Taiwan. Actually, however, the prisoners had been led to the edge of a huge, newly-excavated pit that was not far from Pai's Mansion. There they were shot.

Mass Slaughter

As the sound of battle grew louder, the executioners decided to speed up the work. At nine o'clock, the wardens told all prisoners to assemble in the rooms on the ground floor "to wait for transfer." When the moving was completed, about a dozen guards appeared, armed with rifles, tommy-guns and pistols. Suddenly they opened fire on the prisoners. When the victims realized what was happening, many of them started shouting revolutionary slogans while others, with their last breath, cursed their KMT butchers.

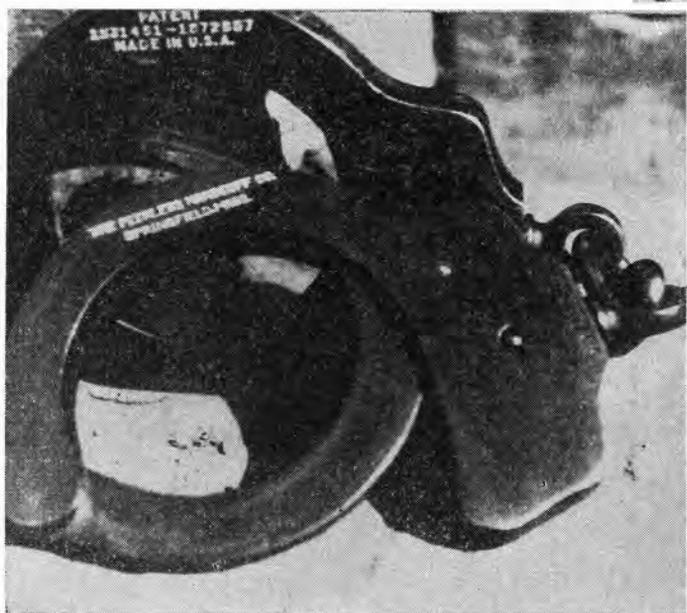
(Continued on page 28)

Acheson's "Friendship"

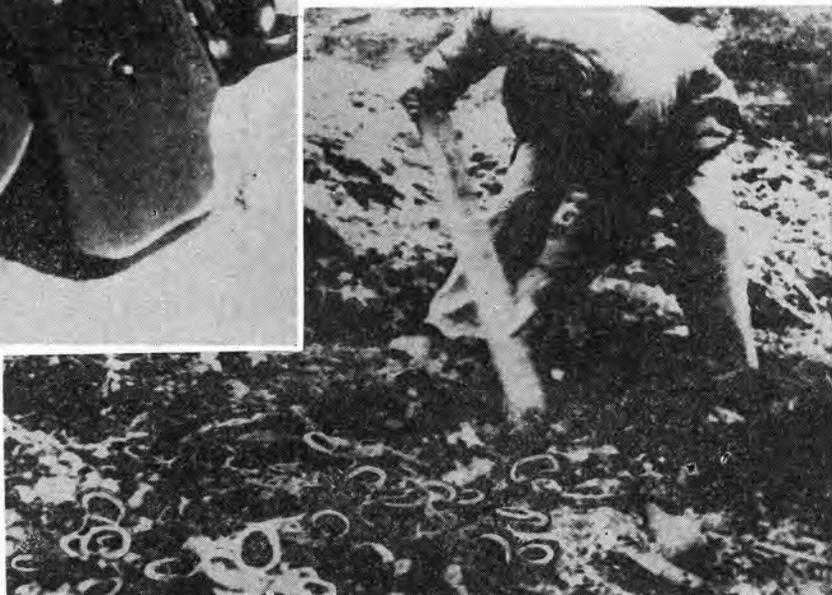
Acheson boasts of American "aid" and American "friendship" for the Chinese people. Here they are in their dread reality—handcuffs and torture chambers, made in U.S.A. and used in China; corpses and misery created by Wall Street and the Kuomintang under the high-sounding title of the "Sino-American Co-operation Organization." The story of the KMT-U.S. concentration camp in Chungking begins on page 10, this issue.

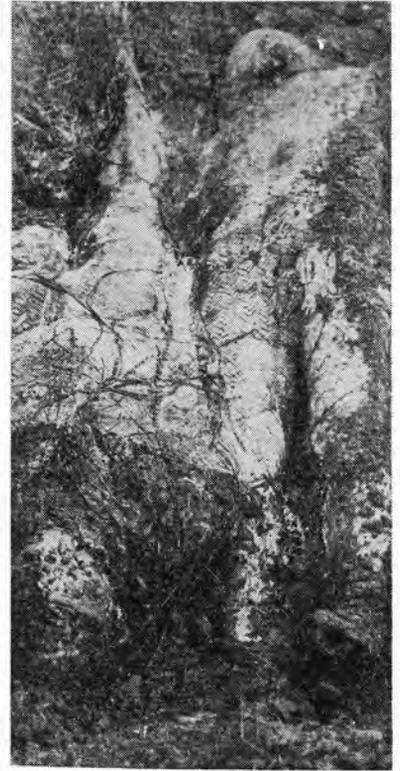


A woman finds her husband at the SACO concentration camp in Chungking after the city was liberated.



A big burial pit for murdered political prisoners, littered with blood-stained handcuffs. All bear the trade-mark "Made in U.S.A."



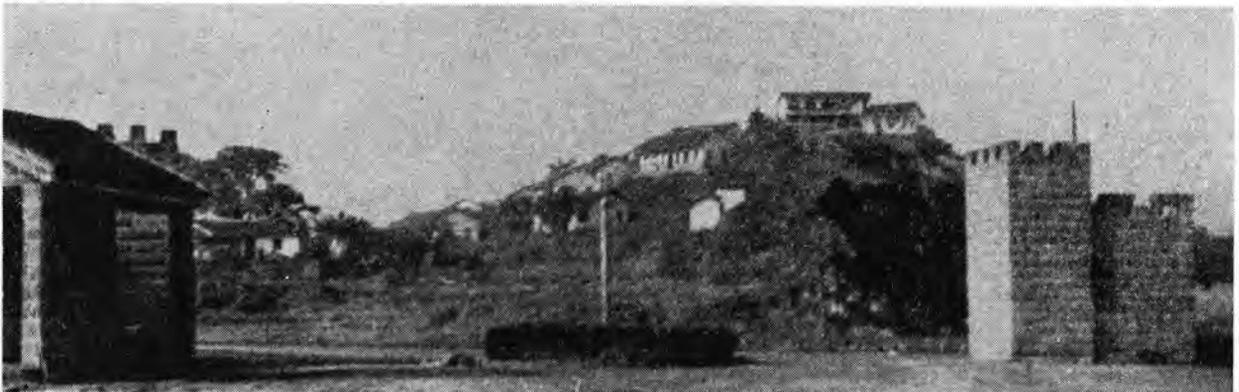


Butchering in Chungking

Before the Sino-American butchers fled Chungking, they killed over 300 political prisoners in a few hours. Bullet-torn bodies, broken arms and legs, skulls and entrails were strewn everywhere. Older burial pits are still being discovered. On right is the exhumed body of General Yang Hu-cheng, stabbed to death in the camp last September.



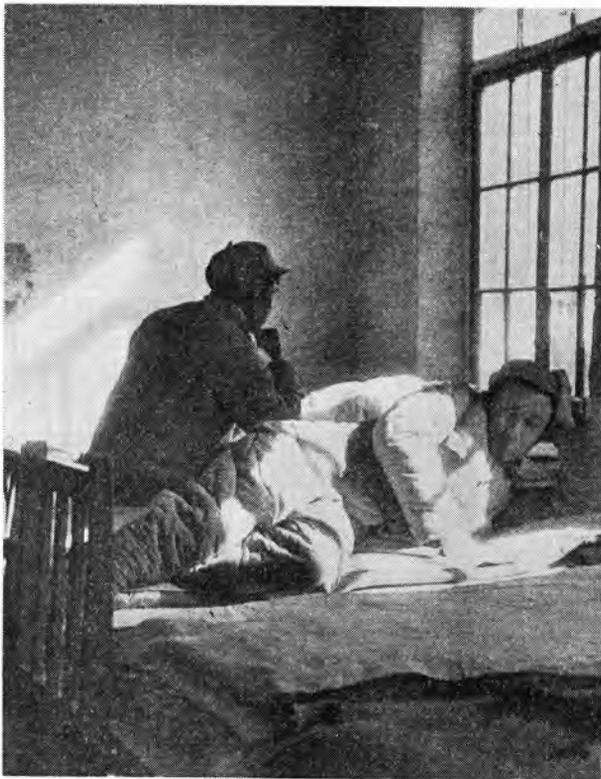
Main entrance of the Sino-American "Buchenwald" in the western suburbs of Chungking.



People's Revolutionary College



The entrance to *Ke Ta*, the North China People's Revolutionary College, in Peking. Some students are doing a *yangko* dance. The story of *Ke Ta* begins on page 17.



Two *Ke Ta* students deep in thought as they analyse their former thoughts and actions.



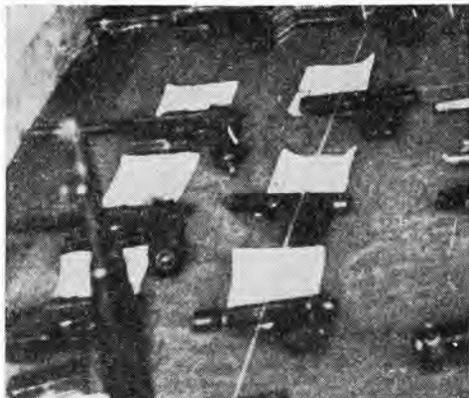
Ke Ta intellectuals prove by ditch-digging that they no longer look down on manual labour.



Mass lecture and small group discussion — the two main forms of study at *Ke Ta*.



A number of KMT agents infiltrated into *Ke Ta*. Here are some of the firearms they later voluntarily surrendered.



Ke Ta—"A Furnace of Revolution"

Yueh Fung

The breath-taking rate at which the People's Liberation Army freed China's mainland led to many new problems. One of the most urgent was the problem of sufficient cadres to introduce the policies of the people's government in the newly liberated regions and to mobilize the population for all-out production.

The government has adopted the principle of making the greatest possible use of students, government personnel and other intellectuals of the old society. But the minds of such people are thickly encrusted with the ideology of the feudal gentry and the bourgeoisie. And as long as these people retain the viewpoint of the former ruling classes, they cannot adequately carry out the program of the new government, which is based on the interests of the labouring classes.

This problem was met by setting up people's revolutionary colleges in all newly liberated sectors of the country. These educational centres specialize exclusively in transforming old-type students and intellectuals into the new-type of cadre willing to place all his talent and energy at the service of the people. Utilizing the experiences of earlier political retraining schools in the Old Liberated Areas, these colleges now carry out their task so efficiently that the great bulk of their students have virtually become new people at the end of a six-month course.

Within the past year, more than 200,000 students have been graduated from such revolutionary colleges and assigned to various fields of work. Reports and letters flowing back to the colleges from all parts of China testify to the enthusiastic and self-sacrificing spirit with which the remoulded intellectuals are tackling their new jobs. This is the only true gauge

for the success of the new-style colleges and it has fully proved their ability to turn out great numbers of suitable cadres in a remarkably short time.

One such college is situated in the outskirts of Peking, not far from the Summer Palace. This is the North China People's Revolutionary College, usually known by its Chinese abbreviation Ke Ta (pronounced Guh-dah). By March, this school had trained 18,000 cadres for jobs in the new society.

Ke Ta is located in grey two-story barracks that formerly housed the troops of KMT warlords or Japanese puppets. It was opened in March, 1949, in accordance with a decision of the North China Bureau of the Chinese Communist Party. In the year since its founding, this school has graduated two groups of students and is now enrolling a third.

It cannot be said that all of these 18,000 graduates applied for entrance in a very co-operative mood. In the second term, pre-graduation self-analysis among the students revealed that only 15.53 per cent of them had come to the school motivated by sincere hopes to re-educate themselves and make a clean break with the past. A large proportion, 32.2 per cent, took the six-month course with the opportunistic motive of finding jobs or advancing their careers. Another 18.92 per cent had no particular purpose in entering the school but only wanted to continue their education in one place or another. Then there was a small group, 10.41 per cent, coming largely from landlord backgrounds, that enrolled in hopes of thus preventing their property from being divided. Still another 9.81 per cent was looking for free board and lodging while they waited for conditions to settle down and become normalized after

liberation. A good number came merely because their friends or lovers were entering the school and because this had become the 'smart' thing to do.

But whatever their motives, all students were welcomed and the specially trained staff undertook the task of reforming their outlook on life. Even KMT army officers and KMT officials were accepted. And, unknown to the school authorities, a small nucleus of KMT agents and saboteurs entered the school to make trouble or to worm their way into government positions. However, before the end of the term, 60 rifles and pistols were voluntarily handed in. Continual self-examination made these KMT agents see their mistakes and they confessed their connections and instructions. In line with the Communist policy of clemency for those who frankly confess their wrongdoings and genuinely try to reform themselves, these former agents were permitted to continue their studies and graduated with the class.

While the KMT agents were naturally the hardest to reform, almost all of the students had been so thoroughly indoctrinated with the concepts of the old society that it required a painful and intensive ideological struggle to change their ideas. The scope of this task becomes readily apparent if one analyses the composition of the student body. Of the 6,000 students in the second term, for instance, 2,100 were fresh from bourgeois schools; 640 were former KMT government employees; over 400 were school teachers and lawyers; 500 had been members of the KMT police and armed forces; 140 were workers; 60 were wealthy capitalists; 50 were landlords; and 40 were merchants. Although the 2,100 former students were potentially revolutionary, roughly 800

came from feudal land-owning families and a similar number from petty-bourgeois backgrounds; 500 came from middle peasant families and another 500 had bourgeois backgrounds; 350 came from families engaged in liberal professions; five were from wealthy compradore families. A great number of those admitted to Ke Ta had either been KMT party members or had joined the KMT San Min Chu Yi Youth Corps.

How is it possible to take such a heterogeneous crowd, assembled by such a wide variety of motives, and within six months turn them into a new type of intellectual, devoted heart and soul to the welfare of the labouring masses? The metamorphosis is not achieved by mirrors or miracles, but by hard unassailable logic and patient intensive study. The school does not even aim at turning out competent Marxist theoreticians, which would of course be impossible within the time limit; it restricts its aims to one achievement — to weeding out non-proletarian or anti-proletarian ideology. This is done by taking dialectical and historical materialism as the main focus of study, supplemented by four courses on internationalism, the basic problems of the Chinese revolution, the history of the Chinese Communist Party, and the Party's major policies. The college is turned into a battleground of

ideas, in which the first casualties are "pure" theory and empiricism. Superstition and idealism wage a losing struggle with the theory of evolution and historical materialism.

The first two weeks of Ke Ta's curriculum are devoted to surveying the present situation in China, understanding the purpose of Ke Ta's training course and learning about its new methods of teaching.

The next fourteen weeks are given over to an introduction to dialectical and historical materialism. The main text-book for this period is a concise, specially-prepared *History of the Development of Society*. This takes up such topics as the evolution of apes to man, with emphasis on the role of labour in creating man's world; the five different modes of production; the class struggle; the difference between socialist revolution and New Democratic revolution; etc.

For the two succeeding weeks, the students study the basic problems of the Chinese revolution. The following two weeks are spent learning about Communist policy regarding land reform, production, organization of the masses, etc. Then comes a two-week period for studying the basic program of the Chinese Communist Party. The final month is set aside for summing up the lessons learned during the preceding five months, analysing the students' own thoughts in the



A Sub-Group Thrashing Out Its Problems
by Y. F.

light of these conclusions, and applying these theoretical findings to the students' individual lives.

The students tackle these studies in a collective manner. During the second term, the student body was divided into three large sections. (There is also a fourth section for Party members who wish to raise their political level, but the training program for this section is quite different and will not be dealt with in this article.) Each of the three sections is divided into ten sub-sections, which in turn are re-divided into ten groups having 20 to 25 students. This is the basic unit in the school, though to facilitate study and discussion, groups are again broken up into sub-groups of seven or eight persons. A group spends most of its waking hours together, thus learning the art of communal life as well as collective study. From the outset, the students learn to think of the progress of the group as a whole, rather than merely of individual achievements in their studies. Not even the most brilliant student can gain commendation unless he demonstrates a desire to help the more backward members of his unit.

Working in brigades like this, the students mutually help each other recognize and uproot the reactionary ideas that they acquired in the old society. Theory and practice are closely interlinked, and each theoretical lecture is followed by a discussion in which the subject under study is viewed in terms of the students' individual experiences.



Practising Songs for the Evening Party

by Y. F.

At the end of each period of study, the students sum up the lessons they have gained in writing. These papers are read to the group, and the writer himself determines what grade he should receive. In grading his own paper, each student evaluates his understanding of Marxist theories and his ability to apply these principles. If in marking his paper, a student over-evaluates his political progress, others in his group will point out his mistake. If, on the contrary, he is too modest about his achievements, he will also be criticized for displaying bourgeois hypocrisy. This new system of grading papers by common consent is known as "democratic grading."

The key weapon throughout this procedure of study is Marxist criticism and self-criticism. It is not easy for old-type intellectuals, particularly those from feudal backgrounds, to learn to use this essential weapon for self-improvement in a correct manner. At first there is often the liberal tendency to spare the feelings of one's fellow-students by softening one's criticisms. Some students take criticism meetings as an occasion for attacking others in a non-constructive and uncomradely manner. Still others tend to rattle off a lot of 'leftist' sounding phrases and thus ward off any real analysis of their own ideological short-comings. However, in a remarkably short time, most students have learned to apply criticism and self-criticism in the correct spirit of seeking the truth, recognizing both merits and defects with equal frankness in order to encourage the one and eradicate the other. It is in this way that the students are gradually able to raise their political level.

An important part of Ke Ta's retraining program consists of extra-curricular activities. The students are encouraged to volunteer for various kinds of jobs around the school. In addition to keeping the campus clean and engaging in various kinds of production, the students have reclaimed 140 *mow* of wasteland near the school and are raising part of the food they eat. Thus, through their

own efforts, they are able to get rid of the old-style intellectuals' contempt for manual labour. In this way, they prepare the ideological groundwork for strengthening their relationships with the labouring classes.

When the end of the term approaches, most students are amazed to see how radically different their present views are from those when they entered school. Here is a typical comment which one student wrote in his diary:

"I used to think that men like Napoleon, Hitler, Chiang Kai-shek and such people made history. I myself wanted to be such a person. Now I realize that actually it is the people who determine the course of history. In the final analysis, it was the people who provided me with my education, and I must place my knowledge at their service. I now have only one ambition—to serve the people well. I will be glad to do any work the people's government assigns me with my whole heart and energy."

Only five of the 6,000 students enrolled in the second term proved completely incorrigible. These five persisted in trying to disrupt the life of the school by stealing from the other students or spreading reactionary rumours. At a mass meeting of the entire student body, they were finally expelled from the school.

But by far the overwhelming number of students were welded into a gigantic force eager to work for society, whereas they might easily have remained a conglomeration of unhappy misfits aimlessly working against society. During the second term alone, 1,578 students acquired a sufficiently strong class standpoint to become eligible for admission into the New Democratic Youth League. Another 155 proved themselves worthy of acceptance as candidate members of the Communist Party. As the term drew to a close, every student publicly pledged "to go where the people send me and to do the work which the people assign me."



Reading His Paper at a "Democratic Grading" Meeting
by Y. F.

A placard above the College Administration Building bears the Chinese inscription *Ke Ming Jung Lu*, meaning "The Furnace of Revolution." It would be difficult to find a more apt description for Ke Ta and the similar colleges in other parts of the country that are turning out China's new cadres.

(Continued from page 23)

the army. I wrote this letter myself. Without the Communist Party, how would I be able to write you with my own hand?"

* * *

The literacy movement has achieved remarkable results in the urban districts. For example, last April, 37 per cent of the 1,600 workers in the Dairen Textile Mill were illiterate. By the end of the year, all of the 310 illiterate men and 280 illiterate women workers had learned from 100 to 300 characters. All of these workers are expected to attain the level of 1,200 characters in 1950. This is enough characters for reading newspapers and popular books and with such a foundation, it becomes relatively easy to make further progress.

The literacy campaign in Port Arthur and Dairen has set an inspiring example for the entire nation to follow. Similar movements, though not yet on such an intensive scale, are being organized in many of the old liberated areas. And as soon as the newly liberated areas have attained the objective conditions for such a campaign against illiteracy, they too will follow the lead of the Port Arthur-Dairen population. Lichiakow's experiences prove that, before too many years, almost every adult "blind man" in China will have opened his eyes.

CURRENT CHINA

March 26—April 10



Grain Estimates Raised

On the basis of a wide series of regional conferences with peasant representatives, it is now believed that this year's grain output will top the 1949 figure by 7,200,000 tons, thus surpassing the original government target by 44.5 per cent. Similar conferences with cotton producers have indicated that the 1950 plan for cotton can be exceeded by 6.43 per cent. It is now estimated that the cotton yield will reach 706,910 tons, whereas the government plan had called for 664,200 tons.

The peasants are tackling spring sowing this year armed with a variety of manufactured implements to replace their century-old village-made tools of wood, or, at best, wood reinforced with iron. These new implements include horse-drawn ploughs, harrows, harvesters, ten-row seed drills and other farm machines based on Soviet models. They have been turned out by the hundreds in state-owned plants. A former KMT arsenal in Peking has recently been converted for this purpose. The government is selling these tools to mutual-aid groups for common use on credit.

Food Supply

The food situation in the deficiency areas of China has been basically changed as a result of the reshuffling of the grain supply throughout the country and the organization by the government of widespread production schemes.

A further 600,000 tons of grain were delivered from Manchuria to areas south of the Great Wall during the first quarter of this year. The January and February targets for grain deliveries from the Northeast have been exceeded by 5.8 per cent already, but the Northeast People's Government is preparing to send a further 100,000 tons more in April to Peking, Tientsin, Hsuechow and other cities.

During the same period, the Central People's Government has allotted more than 500,000 tons of grain which is being used as payment for peasants taking part in water conservancy work and side occupations in North and East China.

Owing to serious floods, drought and KMT wrecking and neglect of irrigation works, harvests suffered damage last year in areas populated by about 40 million people. Of these some seven million people faced a shortage of food at the end of last year and among them only a small percentage needed urgent relief. For this, the government allotted another 84,000 tons of grain as relief food.

With sufficient grain at the disposal of the government and properly reshuffled throughout the country, the food shortage which was developing in those areas has been arrested. All areas have ceased to ask for grain subsidies from the Central Government.

The Government Administration Council decreed on April 2 that mills must produce not less than 92 lbs. of edible rice from every 100 lbs. of unhusked rice, and 81 lbs. of flour from every 100 lbs. of wheat. The adoption of this measure will save at least 400,000 tons of food annually, while also raising the vitamin content of the Chinese people's diet.

March Prices Stable

Food prices remained virtually stable throughout China during the month of March. In fact, market quotations for the period reveal that many cities registered a five to forty per cent drop in the prices of millet, flour, rice and *kaoliang* (sorghum), which are the staple foods of the Chinese people.

March also witnessed a general reduction in the rates of parity units (computed on price indexes of grain, edible oil, coal and cloth). In Shanghai, parity unit rates fell

eight per cent; in Canton, five per cent; in Hankow, six per cent; in Peking, one per cent; in Tientsin, five per cent; and in Tsinan, eight per cent. The most drastic change occurred in Nanking, where parity unit rates went down fifteen per cent.

Price stability during March was further reflected by a sharp decline in interest rates. The Peking branch of the People's Bank of China announced a 50 per cent cut in interest charges on loans and a 44 per cent reduction in interest on deposits, effective April 1. During the month, interest rates dropped 20 per cent in Hankow, 50 per cent in Shanghai and Tsinan and 60 per cent in Tientsin.

* * *

For the first time in Chinese railway history, the national railways have managed to balance their revenue and expenditures. This was achieved during the first two and a half months of 1950, despite the fact that freight rates were only one-sixth of those imposed by the KMT regime.

PLA Production Drive

Whenever their military duties permit, PLA soldiers turn to production and reconstruction work. Army units in north Shantung province have already planted 2,000 acres of spring wheat. PLA troops in Ili, in western Sinkiang province, are cultivating 8,000 acres of land, in addition to raising chickens, sheep, pigs and cows. An army division in Manchuria is now at work repairing the Mukden-Fushun highway. Another in Kwantung province is repairing the Canton-Kowloon railway. An army unit stationed at Kwanhsien, in Szechuan province, has repaired a dam which can irrigate nearly 600,000 acres of land.

On April 2, Commander-in-Chief Chu Teh reviewed a cavalry division in Peking that was being transferred from south of the

Yangtse River to Manchuria, where it will combine garrison duty with running a mechanized state farm, as well as a stud farm for breeding cavalry mounts.

International Activities

Foreign Minister Chou En-lai informed the International Telecommunication Union on March 29 of the appointment of Li Chiang as chief Chinese delegate to that body. On April 1, the Foreign Minister announced that Li Chiang, Chung Chih-fa and Lin Ting-hsueh would represent China at the International Broadcasting Conference.

Liu Ning-yi, Vice-President of the All-China Federation of Labour and member of the W.F.T.U. Executive Committee, will head a seven-member delegation to the W.F.T.U. Executive Bureau and Executive Committee sessions, scheduled to be held from May 15 to 25 in Budapest.

The All-China Federation of Labour has announced that it will send delegates to take part in the May Day celebration in Poland. The Federation will also send representatives to the second annual conference of the Pakistan Federation of Labour, which will open at Lahore on April 21.

Chairman Mao Tse-tung was among the 400 guests at a grand cocktail party given by Mr. Emanuel Safranko, Hungarian Minister to China. The party was held in Peking on April 4 to commemorate the fifth anniversary of the liberation of the Hungarian people. A Chinese delegation is now in Budapest to participate in the Hungarian celebrations.

On April 1, the Chinese government announced the appointment of General Yuan Chung-hsien as Chinese ambassador to India. The Indian government has named Sadar K. M. Panikkar as its ambassador to China.

Soviet Ambassador N. V. Roshchin returned to Peking from Moscow on March 26.

The China Committee of the World Peace Congress issued a statement on April 2 voicing its full support for the resolutions passed at the Stockholm meeting of the Permanent Committee of the

World Peace Congress. The statement said, in part: "The Permanent Committee has passed an important resolution. . . . This resolution solemnly expressed the aspirations of the majority of people throughout the world and utters a serious warning against the adventurers who are preparing atomic war."

Chinese Planes Damaged

Seven airplanes belonging to the Chinese People's Republic were damaged by saboteurs at Kaitak airport in Kowloon on the morning of April 2. The incident

occurred in a restricted military zone guarded by British police. The Hongkong government had prevented the removal of the Chinese planes.

Premier Chou En-lai, in a statement on April 3, declared that "the Hongkong government must be held fully and directly responsible for the present losses incurred by China." He demanded the immediate transfer of CNAC and CATC property in Hongkong to representatives of the Civil Aviation Bureau of the Central People's Government.

WALL STREET'S "FRIENDSHIP" TOWARDS CHINA

(Continued from page 9)

imperialists at that moment. British Admiral Lord Charles Beresford once summed up the situation very clearly following a tour of China. He quoted a memorandum that he had received from a group of British and American businessmen in China, who had written: "In order to help commerce in China, the doors already opened must be kept so, and the whole country, from one end to the other, should be thrown open, so that merchants, manufacturers, miners, etc., can live in any part and transact their business. If this was done, the trade of Europe and America would treble in a very short time."*

At that time, the British controlled 60 per cent of China's trade. But Britain did not have sufficient strength to monopolize China or to prevent Czarist Russia's encroachments in Manchuria. Therefore it endorsed the Open Door policy, which in fact was drafted by an Englishman named Hippisley, and submitted to John Hay for publication.

And since the U.S. was not yet powerful enough to dominate China, it wished to prevent the partition of China. The slogan of "Open Door" and "Equal Opportunity" thus became the weapons by which the American imperialists prevented others from annexing China, while enabling themselves to carry out their financial and economic penetration. John Foord, Secretary of the American Asiatic As-

sociation, said in 1910: "The place which the U.S. occupies in the world, and the place which it should occupy in future ages, are equally challenged by every step made towards the dismemberment of China. Let the fact be evaded or disregarded as we may, every blow aimed at the independence of that ancient empire is a blow at the prestige of this republic—part of a deliberate attempt to make the position of the U.S. in 'the world great hereafter' that of a second-rate power."**

In the spirit of this Open Door policy, American imperialism twice organized international banking groups in 1910 and 1919. It attempted to transfer the privileges of other imperialists to this organization, headed by American capital, and in this manner attain hegemony over China. This was the device, for instance, with which America attempted to invade Manchuria on several occasions, both before and after World War I.

The aims of the Open Door policy would have been completely realized under Chiang Kai-shek's regime, had it not been for the great revolutionary victory of the Chinese people. This victory wrote the finale to all the dreams of the American imperialists for the past fifty years.

* Beresford, *The Break-up of China*, 1899, p. 127.

** *China and the Far East*, p. 111.

The Blind Open Their Eyes

Port Arthur-Dairen Literacy Campaign

by Cheng Lien-tuan

The loan terms seemed satisfactory, so peasant Wang Teh-tsai picked up the brush pen and drew a big cross on the contract. One year later, the landlord creditor came to Wang and demanded that he move away from his house. "The contract provides that you'll give me back the money in one year, or you'll hand over the house to me in repayment," said the usurer. "Wasn't it a two-year term? Didn't you tell me and my wife. . ." the bewildered peasant argued. "It's written on the contract," the landlord cut in sharply. And the Wang family was evicted.

Peasant Wang related his story at a village meeting held to recall the past sufferings due to illiteracy. Then Wang added: "Comrades, you know I am illiterate. Although I had eyes, I was cheated just like a blind man. Now I am going to open my eyes. I am determined to learn to read and write."

* * *

In the Port Arthur-Dairen area where peasant Wang lives, about 370,000 of the 900,000 inhabitants were illiterate at the time of Japan's surrender. Once freed from imperialist and feudal oppression, these "blind" people finally acquired the chance to learn reading and writing.

By the end of 1948, the number of illiterates had been reduced to 283,427. Of these, 50,713 were workers and most of the remainder were peasants. Statistics made at the end of 1949, however, showed that 246,093 of the illiterate masses had learned a vocabulary of 500 to 600 characters. And, according to a plan which is being vigorously carried out in Port Arthur and Dairen, illiteracy will be completely eliminated in this 2,399 square kilometre area by the end of 1950.

For many years illiteracy among the masses has been one of the main handicaps to China's progress. Many people thought that it would take generations before illiteracy was wiped out in China. The Port Arthur-Dairen area, however, has proven now this seemingly distant goal could be attained in a few short years.

The phenomenal achievement of Port Arthur and Dairen was made possible by the efficient administration of the new government, plus the unexcelled enthusiasm and organizational ability of the Communist Party and non-party cadres. Equally, if not more, important is the fact that the root cause of mass illiteracy—feudal and imperialist exploitation which reduced the labouring population to stark poverty—has been removed once and for all. Living conditions of the bulk of peasantry and working-class have already improved in this area so much that labourers can afford the time to learn.

In January, 1949, the Port Arthur - Dairen Administration adopted a Two-Year Plan. The Plan's educational program set the goal of eradicating illiteracy in the region by the end of 1950. Workers are expected to acquire a minimum vocabulary of 1,200 characters while peasants should master 1,000.

A Port Arthur and Dairen Literacy Campaign Committee was formed in March, 1949. Branch committees were organized in every county and town, and sub-branches set up in various sub-districts. The committees immediately set out to mobilize the illiterate masses, to recruit and train teachers and to compile popular reading material.

Since then, 1,536 literacy classes have been organized and 1,176 literacy schools established. The committees have also set up 322

cultural centres, 92 cultural clubs and eight cultural halls, all of which are designed to promote adult education. A total of 246,093 illiterate people had enrolled in spare-time studies. There are 7,782 teachers engaged in giving literacy courses, of whom only 238 are professional teachers. The rest are government and Party cadres or better educated peasants and workers who can help their colleagues.

The literacy campaign is proving tremendously successful everywhere. But in Lichiakow, which has won the title of "model village in learning" for three consecutive seasons, the movement has led to particularly noteworthy achievements.

* * *

Lichiakow is situated not far from Port Arthur. The village contains 77 households and 465 people. Before the 1949 literacy drive, there were 115 illiterates, of whom 34 were men and 81 were women.

At first these peasants were quite reluctant to join the literacy movement. Some had practical difficulties; housewives, for instance, were kept too busy by their children and household duties. Some were just disinterested; since they had managed to get along until then without knowing how to read or write, they did not feel it was worth the effort to change. Still others were convinced that they just did not have the brains to master the intricacies of Chinese characters. Li Teh-mo, a young, hard-working peasant, once remarked: "If they want me to plough and dig, I'll be glad to do it. But now they want me to go to school. No, that's too hard for me."

The cadres of Lichiakow village were inexperienced in handling literacy movement. In their eager-

ness to have the village build a good record during the campaign, they resorted to orders rather than persuasion. The village leader posted a notice ordering the peasants to attend the reading classes. Each absence, according to the regulation, would be punished by a fine of one catty of millet. About 40 peasants began to attend the classes half-heartedly. The rest simply ignored the order, preferring to pay the fines.

Wang Hsien-tang, secretary of the Lichiakow Communist Party branch, grew aware that something was wrong with their work. So he went around asking the villagers' opinions. Meanwhile, he and his comrades carefully studied the directives issued by the Party and the government. The branch discussed that the cause of all their troubles was inadequate preliminary mobilization of the people.

On the following day, the village cadres temporarily suspended the literacy classes. After sufficient preparations, they convened meetings at which the peasants recounted their past sufferings because of illiteracy. As more and more people spoke of their experiences, the peasants began to realize how handicapped they were by illiteracy. "Let's begin to learn and suffer no more"—this was the peasants' attitude after a few such meetings.

Then more village-wide discussions were held to plan a new literacy drive. When the villagers were co-operative, problems became much easier to solve. Several elderly women volunteered to take care of their neighbours' children during class time. Many husbands offered to help their wives with a part of their household chores. Thus it became possible for most illiterate women to attend the classes. There were still 19 women, however, who could not guarantee regular attendance. A special home study group was organized for them. Whenever possible, the teachers would visit their homes to give them special tutoring. Every few days this special study group met to check each other's progress.

The problem of regular attendance was much simpler for the men. Once they became convinced that they had the ability to learn to read and write, all of them enrolled in the literacy classes. Even a cripple decided to attend when his neighbours offered to carry him to and from the school every evening.

Thus Lichiakow plunged into a heated literacy campaign. While out working on the field, the peasants would drill each other in their lessons and anyone who had just learned a new character would teach it to the others near him. Now when the villagers met each other, they no longer exchanged the peasants' traditional greetings: "Have you eaten yet?" The new greeting was: "How are your studies coming along?"

When the Port Arthur and Dairen Literacy Campaign Committee reviewed the progress of the movement at the end of spring, 1949, Lichiakow was named a "model village in learning." This gave new impetus to the villagers' study enthusiasm. Keen competitions developed between various groups and classes, between husbands and wives, neighbours and relatives. That summer Lichiakow earned its record commendation as a "model village."

When the year drew to a close, the 96 peasants enrolled in the regular literacy classes had mastered from 500 to 1,200 characters. Chiang Shu-lan, a peasant woman who had been elected "model student" for three successive seasons, could now read and write 1,700 characters.

Among the 19 women of the special home study group, five had learned 500 characters; eight knew 400; and six knew 300 characters.

* * *

Marked changes occurred in Lichiakow after its inhabitants became literate. When the literacy movement began in the spring, the village only subscribed to six copies of the local newspapers. Today almost every family takes its own newspaper. The peasants learn more and more about what was going on outside their own locality,

their outlook on life became broadened and their lives enriched.

The political level of the villagers has also been raised considerably. When the government called on the peasants to plant trees last autumn, the villagers fulfilled their quota of 3,000 trees in one day's time even before the village cadres started their mobilization work. The peasants showed the same political sense of responsibility when it came time to pay their agricultural taxes. Long before the payment was due, they dried, sorted and packed their grains in preparation for transporting it to the public granary. When the cadres began to explain in a meeting why the taxes had to be paid and how taxes were used for the benefit of all, one peasant spoke up, saying, "Comrade, we know all that. It has been written in the newspapers. You have forgotten that we are no longer 'blind men with eyes.'"

Even family troubles have been reduced, now that the peasants, and especially the women, have broadened their knowledge by reading. Starting last June, Lichiakow began to handle its domestic controversies by holding village mediation meetings. Many families have at last found satisfactory solutions for long-standing quarrels. The wife of peasant Li Teh-chun, for instance, had always been on very bad terms with her mother-in-law. One evening last October, the Li couple's fellow classmates gathered at their home and discussed the problem at length. In the end, they criticized the mother-in-law for being domineering in household affairs and the wife for her impatience. The two women accepted the criticism and promised to avoid quarrelling in the future. A few weeks later, Li's wife had established such friendly relations with her mother-in-law that she was helping the elderly women with her studies.

The peasants are especially encouraged when they have reached the stage of writing letters, keeping diaries and recording their accounts. In a letter to her husband at the front, Wang Kuei-lan wrote: "Do work hard and fight well in

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Scholars and Land Reform



During the winter vacation which began at the end of January, 800 professors and students from Peking universities volunteered to help carry out land reform in the city's suburbs. A number of artists and writers also joined in the work, including the painter Peon Hsu, the woodcut artist Li Hwa, the cartoonist Yeh Chien-yu and the playwright Tsao Yu.

These intellectuals, after a short course in land reform policy, were divided into 65 work teams and were sent out to assist the regular staff of land reform cadres. They worked in more than 100 villages around Peking and helped 600,000 peasants overthrow the old feudal system. They took part in mobilizing the peasants and explaining land reform policies to them; they joined in the work of classifying peasant and landlord families; they went to the fields to measure the land and they helped the peasants work out an equitable and democratic distribution of land, farm tools and equipment; and they also drew up the new title-deeds. On the side, they helped the peasants organize their own cultural activities, put on entertainment performances for the villagers and conducted short winter-study classes.

Notable as their contribution to the land reform was, it was not half as remarkable as the ideological changes which these intellectuals underwent as a result of

their close contact with the peasantry. All returned to their campuses with a heightened understanding of the Chinese revolution, the peasant problem and the class struggle.

Lei Hai-tung, formerly a right-wing professor of history at Tsinghua University, has published a summary of his land reform experiences in which he wrote:

"During the whole of my past, I was completely at sea. But I never realized that I was drifting aimlessly and that my academic research work, carried on only for its own sake, was futile. Had it not been for the liberation, I would have spent all my life in this manner, and, what is worse, I would have remained smug and contented.

"After liberation, I began to accept the new way of life intellectually. But it was as if I were looking at the new society from a long distance away. Emotionally, I was reluctant to plunge into the new life.

"But a sudden change came over me during my close contact with actual life in the course of my recent land reform work. Although I did not realize exactly when it happened, I discovered that I had entered the new society."

Fung Yu-lan, a philosophy professor at Tsinghua University, was assigned to work in a village near Lukouchiao (Marco Polo Bridge), where the first shot of the Anti-Japanese War was fired in 1937. Professor Fung later confessed that when the peasants confiscated the farm implements of a 70-year-old landlord, his unclear class sympathies momentarily tricked him into feeling sorry for the landlord. In the end, however, he realized that it was only just and proper for 622 farm tools possessed by three landlord families to be distributed among the 209 peasant

families whom they had previously exploited.

Writing in the magazine *Study*, Professor Fung said: "The Chinese proletariat, by arming the peasantry, have overthrown the feudal system which has lasted more than 2,000 years. This is the most fundamental part of the Chinese revolution. By joining in the land reform, I also joined in China's revolution."

Youth Cultural Train

On March 25, a gayly decorated train pulled out from the Peking railway depot. This was the Youth Cultural Train, sponsored by the Ministry of Railways. For the next half-year, this special train will bring entertainment to railway workers, railway guards and peasants living near the railway lines.

Most of the 60-odd cadres comprising the cultural troupe are members of the Youth Art Theatre. The remainder are representatives of the Railway Ministry, the Mobile Cultural Supply Station (set up by two public bookstores and two publishing houses to provide reading material for outlying places) and the News Photographic Bureau of the Press Administration. There were also some cameramen from the Peking Film Studio and a mobile projection unit sent by the North China Motion Picture Company.

The Youth Cultural Train will provide entertainment in the form of plays, concerts, modern ballets and motion pictures. During its tour, it is scheduled to travel along the Peking-Hankow Railway, the Lunghai Railway, the Tientsin-Pukow Railway and the Tehchow-Shihchiachuang Railway.



Sino-Soviet Economic Agreements

Widely Acclaimed

The announcement that three Sino-Soviet joint stock companies are being formed to speed up the industrialization of China has evoked loud cheers throughout China. The three new companies were provided for in agreements signed at Moscow on March 27 by Chinese Ambassador Wang Chia-hsiang and Soviet Foreign Minister A. Y. Vyshinsky. Two of the companies will handle the prospecting, production and refining of non-ferrous and rare metals, oil and coal gas in Sinkiang province. The third will develop civil aviation in this country.

In commenting on these agreements, many newspapers and popular leaders stressed the contrast between former economic agreements with imperialist governments, which led only to further penetration of China by foreign monopoly interests, and the present agreements, which help China develop her resources along lines beneficial to her own national interests.

The Peking *People's Daily* said editorially: "This is inspiring news to us in the present difficult period of our economic reconstruction. . . . These agreements form a good beginning in an important matter—the utilization of foreign capital and technique for the development of our economic reconstruction on the principle of absolute equality and mutual benefit." After comparing the character of these recent agreements with the economic pacts which the traitorous KMT regime had made with foreign imperialist powers, the editorial concluded: "While the imperialists are busy bombing, blockading, sabotaging and attempting to undermine us, and while we have not the capacity to develop production on a large scale, the Soviet Union helps us to realize what we cannot realize by ourselves."

The *Kwangming Daily*, organ of the Democratic League, said: "In the past, the Soviet Union has rendered a great deal of economic assistance to the People's Democracies in East Europe. Her foreign policy has been based on respect for the independence and sovereign rights of those nations. The Soviet Union's advanced technique in production and management has played a decisive role in the economic development of those countries. Now that the three agreements have been signed, we are certain that China will benefit in the future from Soviet economic co-operation just as the people of East Europe."

The *Sinkiang Daily*, published in the provincial capital, Tihwa, declared: "The work of industrial construction soon to be commenced in this province will give the political, economic and cultural life of our people a great shove forward."

Kamalidin, a Tartar leader and head of the Mining Department of the Sinkiang People's Government, commented: "The agreements will solve the problem of the vast amount of machinery and money needed to develop the rich mineral resources of Sinkiang."

General Chang Chih-chung, former KMT Governor of Sinkiang who is now Vice-Chairman of the Northwest Military and Political Council, declared that "these three agreements have fulfilled the long-cherished aspirations of the people of the Northwest."

General Tao Chih-yueh, who led the uprising of KMT forces in Sinkiang last September that paved the way for the peaceful liberation of the province, said: "The development of Sinkiang's rich natural resources with the help of Soviet scientists, technicians and machinery in order to accelerate China's industrialization will be beneficial to the Chinese people."

Shao Li-tse, former KMT ambassador to the U.S.S.R. and currently member of the Government Administration Council of the Central People's Government, stated: "We can readily imagine that the imperialists will be filled with envy and indignation at the announcement of these three joint stock companies. They are bound to pursue their futile attempt to spread more rumours. But facts are facts, and none of their slanders can deceive the people of the world. As a member of the democratic wing of the KMT, I am very happy over this event because it conforms to the last will of Dr. Sun Yat-sen, which said that China and the Soviet Union should march abreast to attain victory."

Kao Chung-min, Chairman of the Northeast Bureau of the Democratic League, characterized the three agreements as "further concrete evidence of the solidarity between the Chinese and Soviet people." Challenging American assertions that Soviet assistance is "not as substantial" as U.S. aid, he added: "The Chinese people have learned from painful experience that American aid can only bring untold disasters and death. Only Soviet help is extended with genuine friendship and therefore brings peace and prosperity to the Chinese people."

Hsiao Ming, Vice-Chairman of the Peking Trade Union Council, regarded the agreements as "a concrete expression of the further development of the fraternal friendship between China and the Soviet Union."

Wu Liang-chieh, Chairman of the Preparatory Committee of the Fukien Trade Union Council, said: "The agreements have inspired the working class of Fukien province, and they will intensify their struggle against the blockade and air bombings."

EDUCATION AND CULTURE IN CHINA

(Continued from page 7)

of today's workers and peasants, it is also meant to pave the way for China's socialist reconstruction of the future. We hope that in seven or ten years, there will appear in China tens of thousands of highly educated intelligentsia from the workers and peasants class, playing an indispensable role in China's economic, cultural and national defence construction, together with the intelligentsia from other social classes who are likewise determined to serve the country, the people, the workers, the peasants and the soldiers. The Ministry of Education of the Central People's Government plans to set up a Chinese People's University in 1950, (see *People's China* No. 3, p. 25.—Ed.) the students of which will be enrolled from workers and peasants. The educational system and the courses offered in this institute will all be on new lines based upon the experiences of the Soviet Union and adapted to the needs of China's economic construction. In this work, we are especially grateful for the great assistance given us by our Soviet friends.

Secondly, the government is drawing up a plan which provides that beginning from 1950 all educational institutes, factories and military units throughout the country will help in the popular establishment of three-year short-term middle schools for workers and peasants. Cadres with workers or peasants background, as well as officers and men of the People's Liberation Army, will be offered a chance to finish in three years the basic subjects of middle school by attending such short-term schools. After graduation, they may continue their studies in universities or colleges.

In addition to the above-mentioned measures for opening the school doors to workers, peasants and soldiers, steps must be taken to change the policy of the past which was completely divorced from the tasks of national reconstruction. Educational departments must keep in close touch with industrial, agricultural, communication and financial administrative organs before we can turn out systematically the kind of personnel required by various construction works, to wipe out the phenomenon aptly described as "graduation meaning unemployment," and to assist or guide the various organs to establish senior or junior polytechnical schools to replenish the personnel they need.

Reformation of Intellectuals

To reform the old-time intelligentsia by giving them political education is another part of our work. The people's cultural and educational construction of China requires a common effort on the part of intelligentsia from all revolutionary social strata.

Old-time intelligentsia and technicians must be properly educated so that they may serve the cause of the revolution. The declared policy towards in-

telligentsia, as decided by the Central Committee of the Chinese Communist Party, is to win over, unite, educate and reform them. For this purpose, instructions have been given to inaugurate various short-term political colleges or training classes for helping the intelligentsia to build up a revolutionary outlook on life, and an ideology of dialectical materialism and historical materialism. Over 200,000 persons attended such schools in 1949. After having completed their studies, they were assigned to various work. Politics is now being widely and most enthusiastically studied by our people. The study of politics has been regarded as an indispensable part of their daily life by all working cadres, professors, teachers, artists, scientists and especially the young intelligentsia. Their usual curriculum includes the history of the development of society, political economy, the principal works by Marx, Engels, Lenin and Stalin and the works by Comrade Mao Tse-tung. Meanwhile, with the same enthusiasm they discussed current events.

The breaking up of their past illusions about American imperialism and of their ignorance regarding the Soviet Union demonstrated that their re-education gave tangible results. The majority of the intelligentsia has come to understand the value of labour, and they themselves are brain workers and as such ought to line up together with workers, peasants and soldiers. Yearnings for the highly developed science and culture of the Soviet Union have led the Chinese youth and the learned to study the Russian language with enthusiasm. There are many Russian classes in all big cities. And in Peking and Mukden, Russian is being taught on the air. In Peking alone, there are no fewer than 7,000 listeners to the Russian lessons.

Literature and Art

Literary and artistic creation and activities have long assumed a very important role in the people's revolution of China. The Chinese people have regarded art as an important weapon in ideological education and ideological struggle. The first meeting of representatives of literary and artistic workers of all China opened at Peking in July, 1949. It was attended by 660 writers, playwrights, movie workers, artists, musicians and dancers. They discussed the course the people's literature and art of the new China ought to follow, and helped in the birth of a unified organization representing the literary and artistic field of the whole country. In order to reinforce its leadership in literature and art, the Central People's Government has set up a Ministry of Cultural Affairs, headed by Mao Tun—a well known Chinese novelist.

The speech by Comrade Mao Tse-tung at a literary and artistic discussion group at Yen-an in 1942 is being taken by Chinese literary and artistic workers as the fundamental guide to their literary and artistic policy. That is to say: art must serve politics, the workers, peasants and soldiers. Art must be well integrated with the masses and its

chief task is its popularization among the workers, the peasants and the soldiers. The popularization of art and its elevation to higher levels must be well combined. That is to say, art is to be popularized under the condition that it is to be brought to a higher level; and that it is to be brought to a higher level on the basis of popularization.

It has been on these guiding lines that the Chinese artistic movement, since 1942, has become widespread among the worker and peasant masses in the liberated areas. This not only enabled literature and art to acquire richer contents and more lively forms but also made it a medium reflecting the ideology and feelings of the working people, as well as an effective medium to educate the workers and peasants. Through such artistic movements many talented and creative artists from the workers and peasants were discovered and many found their full development. They worked hard to create and reform various Chinese national artistic forms. The most popular and prevalent forms are the *yangko* dance and the waist drum dance. In the armed forces, soldiers write down their own poems or songs on the butts of their rifles. The soldiers organize their own theatrical groups and present plays about their life. In the factories, there are theatrical groups, singing troupes and clubs organized by the workers themselves. Artistic movements are being developed by the workers. Literary efforts and plays by workers frequently appear in the leading newspapers of the country. On May 1, last year, 48 plays written by workers were staged simultaneously by workers in all Peking factories. Over 3,000 workers either played roles in these factory plays or in street performances. In Tientsin and the Northeast, these plays were staged on a still larger scale. What the artistic movement has accomplished in boosting the morale of the workers has been clearly demonstrated. The prevalent organizational form of artistic activities is the artistic working group, which is a composite organization embodying activities such as acting, dancing, music, art and literature. These artistic circles are to be found in all the leading cities and in the troops. Other traveling groups give performances to the villagers in the rural districts.

Linked with the Masses

The creative activities of our writers are closely linked with the living struggles of the masses, which fact constitutes one of the major conditions which help develop realism brilliantly in the field of Chinese literature. Many outstanding writers have lived together with the peasants and soldiers over a long period of time. They directly participated in the work of land reform and of the army. Therefore, the great majority of the writings reflect the land reform work and the War of Liberation.

The new task of creative writing in the future will serve the interests of restoring and developing industrial production. We have planned to send an

additional group of writers to the factories, farms and army in 1950. Some of the best Chinese literary works have already been introduced to readers in the various revolutionary countries. Meanwhile, foreign revolutionary literary works, especially those by Soviet writers, have won a large audience among the enthusiastic Chinese readers. It is worthwhile to mention that throughout the War of Liberation, Simonov's *Days and Nights*, Korneichuk's *The Front* and Beck's *Fear and Undauntedness* have been the most popular books with the army, and some of which have been placed on the list of "Required Reading" for army cadres; popular editions of these books were printed, and are regarded as the most practical textbooks for military education. That is why the names of these writers and of the heroes in their books are very familiar and respected names to the men of the PLA.

Soviet Cultural Delegation

Last year at the time of the establishment of the Central People's Government, the Soviet Cultural Delegation headed by A. Fadeyev arrived in China. Hundreds of thousands of the Chinese people gave the delegation a warm welcome in Mukden, Tientsin, Nanking and Shanghai.

With fraternal love and sincere friendship, they gave valuable assistance and inspiration to the work of Chinese culture, art and science. Soon afterwards came the party of writers and artists from the Korean People's Republic. In 1949, various groups organized by cultural workers were sent from China to the Soviet Union and East Europe to attend the World Congress of the Defenders of Peace and the ceremony commemorating the Soviet October Revolution.

The exchange of visits by such cultural bodies has proved to be of vital significance for the flow of international culture. The Central People's Government is planning to send more scientists, artists and journalists to study and to make inspection tours in the Soviet Union and East Europe. It is also planned to exchange students with the various countries.

The development of the cinema is an important work for the people's art. As early as 1946, we already had our own cinema enterprise in North-east China. The state-operated studio has improved its place in the country's motion picture production. Under the rule of the KMT, three-fourths of the pictures screened were American movies, a great majority of which were medium for disseminating yellow sensationalism and fascist ideology. After the liberation of the entire country, this situation had been gradually but steadily altered. In 1950 the state-operated studio plans to produce 44 features, 48 newsreels and translate into Chinese sound recording 40 Soviet features.

In order to popularize the cinema among the workers, peasants and the army, another major aim

is to organize a great number of movie-screening units to work in the factories, villages and the army. The Central People's Government plans to organize 700 such screening teams in 1950 so as to let the workers, peasants and soldiers enjoy films at very low prices or even without charge. We are especially thankful for the enormous material and technical aid our Soviet friends have extended us in building up our cinema industry.

On the Science Front

We are at our weakest in research work in natural sciences. The reasons for this are obvious; the imperialists and their lackeys have been unwilling to have, and have done their utmost to prevent, the development of technique and science in China. China has many scientists of world renown, who could not find adequate equipment and opportunity to carry on their research work under KMT rule. Every effort has been made by the Central People's Government to change this. The Academy of Sciences of China was set up last year. Under it there are various research institutes. Kuo Mo-jo, famous scholar and Vice-Premier of the Government Administrative Council, leads the work of the Academy.

Scientific construction in New China is basically directed towards the co-ordination of the research work of natural sciences with industrial, agricultural and national defence construction. Science in the new China will work for the cause of peace and for China's prosperity. We shall reform out-of-date doctrines and methodology. We shall help the scientific workers to accept the views and methods of dialectical materialism in their application to the research work in natural sciences, and by which they will build up science genuinely and closely related to the life of the people. It is therefore necessary to promote smooth co-operation between the Academy of Sciences and the various departments of economic construction, between the scientists and the workers and peasants. It is also necessary to popularize scientific knowledge among the working people and the peasants. The Central People's Government has set up a Bureau for Popularizing Science under the Ministry of Cultural Affairs for this purpose.

The establishment of the Michurin Society should be specially mentioned in regard to the work of introducing new scientific knowledge of natural sciences to China. This Society studies, disseminates and applies to Chinese agriculture the doctrine of Michurin.

China is a country with vast resources. To exploit these resources, advanced science and techniques as well as scientific workers in large number are needed. It is an extremely difficult and gigantic work for which we are in urgent need of the friendly assistance from the Soviet Union and the People's Democracies.

U.S. AID — THE SACO WAY

(Continued from page 12)

A seriously-wounded prisoner said angrily: "Don't fire wildly like this. I'll come out so that you can aim properly." He stood up, stumbled to the door and placed his head against the mouth of a sub-machine gun. A second later he was dead.

An infant's wail rose above the sound of groans and gun-fire. A nine-month-old baby was crying with fear in the arms of its dead mother. A year-old child lying on the floor nearby also began to cry. "Finish them off, for God's sake!" someone said angrily. The firing ceased for a moment while two guards entered the cell and bayoneted the infants.

Before leaving, guards armed with pistols walked through the rooms and fired shots at anyone who still seemed alive. Then the executioners poured gasoline about the cells and set them afire.

Six prisoners, miraculously managed to survive the massacre and to escape from the burning building. Three of these later turned up in Chungking.

Approximately 300 persons were killed at SACO's headquarters on November 27. The victims included General Huang Hsuan-sheng, who had been jailed for 12 years because he led a Manchurian resistance movement against the Japanese; Chou Chun-shih, renowned mathematician and former president of the Tung Chi University in Shanghai; Wang Pai-yu, former publisher of the New Szechuan Daily; and many students and teachers, artists and journalists, workers and peasants. Preliminary reports show that 500 persons were executed at the SACO camp in the two months before Chungking's liberation.

Evidence Left Behind

In their panic-stricken flight from the PLA, the SACO murderers did not take time to destroy all evidence of their inhuman crimes. Half-burned bodies were strewn about the charred ruins of Refuse Pit. The huge burial trenches near Pai's Mansion were covered with only a very thin layer of soil. Many of the bodies removed from the burial pit were still shackled and handcuffed. One comparatively new set of handcuffs bore the inscription: "Patent 1531451 — 1372857 Made in U.S.A. The Peerless Handcuff Co., Springfield, Mass."

The SACO agents had only time to blow up two warehouses. The remaining eight were found to be crammed with American-made equipment ranging from armoured cars to bullets. All of these instruments of torture and death had been sent to China under the guise of "American aid."

In fact, the whole history of the Sino-American Co-operation Organization provides an unforgettable documentary record of the kind of "aid" and "co-operation" which the American imperialists offered to China.

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