

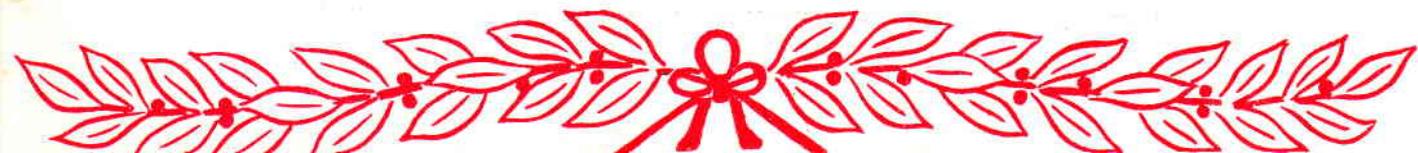
People's 人民中国 China

Greetings
to the
Peace Conference
of the
Asian and Pacific Regions!

18

1952

SEPTEMBER 17





People's China

26 Kuo Hui Chieh, Peking, China

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Editorials

The People's Republic of China—Bulwark of Peace in the Asian and Pacific Regions

The people of China greet with joyous hearts the advent of the third anniversary of the founding of the People's Republic of China. On this National Day their happiness is enhanced for two reasons:

Our country has victoriously fulfilled the tasks of economic rehabilitation and has successfully completed its preparations to undertake industrial and agricultural construction on a large scale; the second cause for their great rejoicing is the fact that hundreds of peace fighters representing hundreds of millions in many countries are coming to Peking, our people's capital, to participate in the Peace Conference of the Asian and Pacific Regions.

In his opening speech at the First Plenary Session of the Chinese People's Political Consultative Conference in September, 1949, at which the Central People's Government was elected, Chairman Mao Tse-tung said: "Our nation will from now on enter the large family of peace-loving and freedom-loving nations of the world. It will work bravely and industriously to create its own civilisation and happiness and will, at the same time, promote world peace and freedom." In that same speech Chairman Mao added: "It is true that there are difficulties ahead of us, and, moreover, a great many of them. But we firmly believe that all the difficulties will be surmounted by the heroic struggle of all the people in the country."

The people of China, following the directives of their great and brilliant leader, Chairman Mao, have in the past three years overcome all the difficulties they have faced within the country and those imposed upon them from without. They have built up a prosperous and happy new society of People's Democracy which has made its influence felt as an impregnable bastion in the defence of peace in Asia and throughout the whole world.

When the People's Republic of China was founded three years ago, the Chinese people took over a country which, in a prolonged period of war lasting more than twelve years, had been ravaged and devastated by the Japanese and American aggressors as well as by the

Kuomintang reactionaries. Not a single railway line was then open to through traffic; not a dyke was intact. Inflation, like a flood, had completely ruined China's already bankrupt national economy. Millions of people were in desperate need of relief. The remnants of the Kuomintang reactionary clique and the imperialists continued to attempt to sabotage the people's work. Such was the picture of China on the eve of liberation.

Furthermore, less than a year after the founding of the People's Republic of China, the American imperialists launched their savage attack on our neighbour, the Korean Democratic People's Republic, brought their aggressive forces right up to China's frontier, forcibly occupied our territory of Taiwan and made repeated aerial attacks on China's Northeast—all in a vain attempt to overwhelm our young republic with difficulties at its birth.

But the people of China, under the leadership of the Chinese Communist Party, have worked "bravely and industriously." They overcame all these difficulties. With the fraternal help of the Soviet Union, in less than three years, they have rehabilitated the country from the destruction of the past twelve years. While the Chinese people's volunteers and the heroic Korean People's Army have been victoriously repulsing the armed forces of the U.S. and its satellites, the working people of China have successfully carried through many great social reforms and tasks of peaceful construction. Agrarian reform has been completed in areas embracing a rural population of more than 400 million. Feudalism has thus been basically eradicated forever from the mainland of China. The peasants, now tilling their own land, have been rapidly organised into mutual-aid teams and agricultural producers' co-operatives.

China's industry has been freed from the oppression of imperialism and comprador, bureaucratic capital. State-owned enterprises of a socialist nature now occupy the leading position in China's industry. The working class of China, who have become the masters and leaders of our country, have not only completed preparations for the large-scale industrialisa-

tion of our country, but, with their big production of manufactured goods, have also met the demands of the peasants whose purchasing power is daily rising and who are also speedily increasing production. Through the machinery of state-owned trading and co-operative organisations and the growing interflow of commodities between the city and countryside, there are profitable markets for all agricultural produce, foodstuffs and raw materials. In addition, the tax burden on the peasants has been greatly reduced. In this way, the alliance of the workers and peasants, under the leadership of the working class, has developed on a well consolidated economic basis.

Not only has domestic trade greatly increased but, as a result of the development of production and the big demands of economic construction, China's foreign trade has quickly recovered and surpassed the highest pre-war annual level. For the first time in seventy-three years, China now has a favourable balance of trade. There is no longer any need for China to import foodstuffs and cotton, and a large amount of foreign exchange is thereby saved. On the other hand, our country now exports large amounts of agricultural produce and local products in exchange for machinery and industrial raw materials. In 1951, the amount of trade between China and the Socialist Soviet Union and the People's Democracies of Europe was double the amount of trade between China and the capitalist countries. Thus our country has forever rid itself of dependence on the capitalist economies.

The movement to eliminate corruption, waste and bureaucratism in all government institutions and state-owned enterprises began at the end of 1951 and, successfully concluded a short time ago, has wiped out the age-old, rotten legacy of the old society, and a new atmosphere of honesty, public spirit and earnestness in work has been initiated. During the same period, a complementary campaign was launched against bribery, tax evasion, theft of state property, cheating on government contracts and stealing economic information for speculative purposes. This campaign, directed against law-breaking capitalists, has enabled private enterprises to function more efficiently and in accordance with the law. Though the proportion of state-owned enterprises in the national economy has increased every year, the enterprises of the national capitalist class have not decreased but, on the contrary, have

also increased. The only difference is that they are now under the leadership of the socialist sector of our economy and are functioning in accordance with the over-all plan of national construction and in the interest of the national welfare and the people's livelihood.

With the high enthusiasm of the labouring people and with the aid of Soviet experts, the People's Government has, within a very short time, completed such great construction projects as the harnessing of the Huai river, the flood detention project along the middle reaches of the Yangtse river, the Chengtu-Chungking and Tienhsui-Lanchow railway lines.

The industrial and agricultural output of New China has not only been rehabilitated but, in many items, the output has surpassed the highest annual production level prior to the War of Resistance to Japanese Aggression. All this shows that our national economy has taken a fundamental turn for the better, and this was reflected in our budget for 1952, the first budget in China's history planned to balance. On the basis of these successes, the material and cultural life of the labouring people of China is constantly improving. The real wages of the Chinese workers for 1952 are 60 to 120 per cent higher than 1949, the year of the liberation of China's mainland and, in addition to this, the workers receive great benefits under the *Labour Insurance Regulations*.

In August this year, the Central People's Government decided on measures to systematically achieve full employment in our country. By the end of this year, illiteracy will be completely eliminated among the industrial workers. In the budget of 1952, appropriations for culture and education exceed those of 1951 by 184.83 per cent.

All these achievements are inseparable from the social reforms implemented throughout the country. These reforms have uprooted the system of feudal exploitation, emancipated our women, and put all our people on the road of freedom. They have transformed China from a dismembered state into a big fraternal and co-operative family composed of all its varied nationalities. They have helped to consolidate the great unity of China's four democratic classes, led by the working class and based on the alliance of workers and peasants.

Chairman Mao has said: "All the facts prove that our system of people's democratic dictatorship is vastly superior to the political systems of the capitalist countries. On the basis

of this system, our people are able to give expression to their inexhaustible and unlimited strength. Such strength cannot be overcome by any enemy."

All these great achievements were accomplished during the period when the people of China were contributing material help and manpower in support of the just war waged by the heroic Koreans against the armed intervention of the U.S. aggressors. This again eloquently proves that, with their destiny firmly in their own hands, the 475 million people of China are able to give expression to their inexhaustible creative power. Nothing in the world can impede their advance or snatch their victory from them. They have the will and power to defend the peace indispensable to their construction work, as well as to the prosperity and happiness of all mankind.

By their successful repulse of American aggression in Korea, the people of China have shown that, no matter how vile its acts, they are able to defeat American imperialism. The hand of the American aggressors must be stayed. This is not only a prerequisite to our early attainment of Socialism with its promise of an even happier life, it is also vital to the independence and freedom of all nations. It is the will of every nation which demands independence, freedom and a peaceful existence.

Irrefutable Proof of U.S. Germ Warfare

Step by step a solid mass of evidence against the American germ-war criminals has been built up, until today, with the publication of the *Report of the International Scientific Commission for the Investigation of the Facts Concerning Bacteriological Warfare in Korea and China*,* there is no single loophole left for them to squeeze through.

In the Conclusion, the commission solemnly states: "The peoples of Korea and China have indeed been the objective of bacteriological weapons. These have been employed by units of the U.S.A. armed forces, using a great variety of different methods for the purpose, some of which seem to be developments of those applied by the Japanese army during the second world war."

The germ-war killers have been isolated like their microbe killers in laboratories. They

This is why the people of China give their active support to every effort that aims at defeating the American conspiracy to extend the war, and particularly to the great conference of the peace-loving peoples of the Asian and Pacific regions meeting in Peking.

The American warmongers have shown no wish whatever to end the war in Korea on a rational and equitable basis. They have instead launched inhuman germ warfare, the massacre of civilian Koreans and wanton destruction of peaceful towns. They are intensifying their activities in Japan and in the islands of the Pacific to expand their bases for aggression. Nor is this all. They are increasingly intervening against the struggles of the peoples in the colonial countries for independence. As a result of all this, the U.S. warlords now find themselves in an even more isolated position than they were before. The 1,600 million people of the Asian and Pacific regions have now joined hands and have taken their stand resolutely in the camp of peace and democracy. They are working together to save themselves from another world war, and for peaceful coexistence and co-operation among nations.

The stalwart young People's Republic of China, together with the peoples of all countries, will continue to exert its invincible strength to defend the common cause of peace!

are revealed before the world in all their utter baseness. They sabotaged the armistice negotiations while they were waging germ warfare against the Koreans and Chinese in an underhand bid to achieve their aim of mass slaughter of the two peoples. No one today will be surprised that the American rulers have, to the last, stubbornly refused to ratify the Geneva Protocol prohibiting the use of bacteriological weapons and other methods of mass extermination.

Fact by fact the case against them has been made irrefutable.

On February 22, 1952, Bak Hun-yung, Foreign Minister of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, and on March 8, Chou En-lai, Foreign Minister of the People's Republic of China, officially protested against and denounced the use of bacterial warfare by the armed forces of the United States. The charges,

* Published as a supplement to this issue.

pressed with all the weight of authority of the governments concerned, were fully substantiated by dates and facts. The world was shocked and reacted with utter revulsion against the criminals who could sink to this crime against humanity.

Further evidence was soon added. In April the Chinese Commission for Investigating the American Crime of Germ Warfare published its report supported by the carefully sifted evidence of some of the world's most eminent Chinese scientists. On April 2, the Commission of the International Association of Democratic Lawyers presented the results of its investigations to the world. The circle around the war criminals narrowed still further.

In April, there came the testimony of the two American flyers, Quinn and Enoch, who themselves had dropped germ bombs on Korea. This was followed by the evidence of Dr. Endicott, the Chairman of the Canadian Peace Congress, and of Dr. Hewlett Johnson, Dean of Canterbury, who brought to London the testimony of church leaders and their congregations in China, and of M. Yves Farge of France. Faced with this irrefutable testimony, the cornered U.S. criminals used their whole propaganda machine to let loose a flood of lies, distortion and vituperation in an effort to upset the evidence against them. They persecuted the lovers of truth who had charged them with the inhuman crime, hoping to frighten others from investigating and confirming the facts, and, at the same time, they cynically demanded "investigations" by "impartial organisations."

Reluctant to believe that anyone could be guilty of such unspeakable crimes, even after the damning evidence had been produced, there were still some who hesitated to come to the irresistible conclusion, confused as they were by the smoke-screen of Washington's lies. The criminals clamoured brazenly for a "scientific investigation." Now they have got it.

The present International Scientific Commission is composed of Dr. Andrea Andreen (Sweden), M. Jean Malterre (France), Dr. Joseph Needham (U.K.), Dr. Oliviero Olivo (Italy), Dr. Samuel Pessoa (Brazil), Dr. N. N. Zhukov-Verezhnikov (U.S.S.R.) It would be difficult to imagine an international investigatory group that carried more authority than this body of scientists. Each holds an eminent position in his country and stands high in world regard.

The criminals have been tried before the bar of humanity and of science, and they have been found guilty!

The International Scientific Commission, after two months of hard and courageous work during which they received the evidence of yet two more U.S. flyers who dropped germ bombs, have "confirmed that many human fatalities have occurred in isolated foci and in epidemics, under highly abnormal circumstances in which the trail always leads back to American air activity... All people should beware of the potentialities of this kind of warfare, with its incalculable dangers." The American imperialists have been found guilty of indiscriminately spreading cholera, plague, encephalitis to infect and kill men, women and children in Korea and China. They have been proved guilty of spreading bacterial agents to infect and destroy the crops of these peoples.

These fiends have dared to perpetrate a crime which even the Hitlerites hesitated to commit. Even the Japanese fascists in the last war never dared to try this crime on so large a scale. Of what avail now those brazen lies uttered by Truman and Acheson with the unctuous suavity of a criminal lawyer, the blusterings of the Ridgways and Clarks?

Faced with this threat to human existence, the peoples of the world will rally more closely around those who have led the fight from the start against this attempt to shatter the moral foundations of civilisation... the peace partisans, the courageous men and women of all lands determined to save the world from another and more frightful holocaust.

The Conclusion of the International Scientific Commission's Report states: "It is now for all peoples to redouble their efforts to preserve the world from war and prevent the discoveries of science being used for the destruction of humanity." That is indeed the only conclusion that can be drawn from this damning indictment of the American imperialists. There can be no neutrality or half heartedness in the face of such a monstrous crime as germ warfare. Let all those who hesitated before or fell unwilling victim to the lies of the germ criminals hesitate no longer, but join with the fighters for peace and do all in their power to halt this horror; to end U.S. germ warfare; outlaw bacteriological warfare and other weapons of mass destruction and bring the germ war criminals to justice.

For Peace in Asia, the Pacific Regions and the World

Soong Ching Ling

Chairman of the Chinese People's Relief Administration

The Peace Conference of the Asian and Pacific Regions to be held in Peking this September is taking place at a most vital time. Peace is far from being an academic question anywhere in the world today. It is most assuredly an urgent, practical problem in this part of the globe. Several wars are actually being waged here. Japan, against the expressed will of its people, is being remilitarised by the United States and prepared once again as a base for aggression; crude, ruthless economic and political pressure is being exerted by the American government on certain Latin American and Asian countries in an effort to force them into the war camp; American generals continue to pour salt into a nasty wound of their own making, further frustrating the Korean truce talks, stepping up their criminal bombing of the aged, the women and children in Korean cities already reduced to rubble, applying their so-called military pressure by bombing peace-time installations. This is in addition to their already mountain-high list of iniquities, topped by the most vicious—germ warfare.

The brutal, aggressive character of these policies in the Far East, plus the recklessness of recent acts of the Western powers in Europe, especially in regard to Germany, have caused a serious deterioration in the international situation. This is a circumstance which gravely disturbs many people all over the world. Each successive blow has increased the alarm and anxiety, the indignation with which they view the spectacle. Each person visualises the



Soong Ching Ling

mounting threat to himself: his home gutted or his loved ones lost. Each patriot visualises the threat to his country: the chance of harnessing nature and building a happy life for the people instantaneously disappearing in a burst of fire. As a result, for an increasing number of people in East and West, a task has arisen: how to meet and stop this threat.

To give life, to build, to enhance—these are the main missions in man's life. For these, peace is the essential condition. But this peace, which we need and so ardently desire, has to be won. This we know.

The small band of the war-minded are hard-headed and irresponsible. They do not easily give up their plots for profit. As we have seen on many occasions, they think nothing of defying the wishes of the people and are ready to fabricate their pretext for war or its extension at any moment. This means that the forces of peace, the ordinary men and women in their hundreds of millions, must be alert, must firmly resist being led along the road to oblivion. We must make our voices heard; our demand to live peacefully side by side with all peoples and all nations must be transformed into loud and strong words. We must be active; as the ideas of peace and co-operation are sounded in the many tongues of the many nations, there must be mobilisation on all sides, in every country. This is to say, that if we are not to be side-tracked, tricked or pushed around by the few who would destroy us, then the majority has to organise itself further to preserve progress and civilisation.

Soong Ching Ling is one of the sponsors of the Peace Conference of the Asian and Pacific Regions.

The importance of the Peace Conference of the Asian and Pacific Regions in this regard

cannot be overstated. The 500 delegates, representing 1,600 million people, have a tremendous task to shoulder, but they also have an opportunity to create what will undoubtedly prove to be a central factor in preserving world peace. Supported by the World Peace Council, which is the greatest movement of its kind in the history of man, as well as by the already established and rapidly growing peace organisations of various countries, the Conference is in a position to make an unparalleled move towards achieving unity for peace over the earth's most populous area.

There is a wide base upon which this unity can be constructed; that is, the great similarity of conditions in this part of the world which has had an important influence on how we view peace.

Peace is a concept with many aspects for the peoples of Asia and the Pacific. It means more than the absence of general war. Our long and bitter experience has been that, even in times when there was no general war, this by no means applied to those countries suffering the oppression of imperialism. There may have been peace elsewhere, but in our countries, imperialism was threatening our very existence. Most of our nations have a glorious past, great potentialities for a rich economy, a high level of cultural attainment. But imperialism attempted to grind our past into dust; it did reduce many of our economies into stifling monocultures or simply to suppliers of raw material and cheap labour; it vitiated our culture and tried to substitute its own. This has been the way of imperialism in a great many places in Asia and the Pacific. It brought us a vast misery and ignorance, a terrible toll in lives and a cruel retardation. It has incurred the wrath of all of us.

To Asian and Pacific peoples, therefore, peace and national independence are so closely linked as to be indistinguishable. Peace must be founded on equality of all peoples and mutually advantageous dealings between all nations. This is possible only when each people runs its country without outside intervention, according to its own wishes and to its greatest benefit. This, in turn, is closely linked with the question of a peace in which all nations co-operate to the greatest benefit of the whole world, no matter how differently they may govern themselves or operate their economies.

This concept of peace is accepted far and wide among the peoples of Asia and the Pacific. You will find important parts of this view or all of it in all ranks—among workers, farmers, intellectuals, officials, commercial and industrial circles. It has become our fundamental understanding of the way things stand in the world today. It can be said that this understanding, stimulated by previous examples, has been further and immeasurably heightened by the victories of the Chinese people.

China, at one time, in her recent history, was referred to as the "sick man of Asia." This was the feeling many had towards us, some in pity, others with jeers. There should be no question in anyone's mind that today such pity is inappropriate, and jeers testify only to fatal underestimation. For in three short years, the Chinese people have elevated their nation to its rightful place, as one of the leaders of the world. We have regained our national dignity. We have forged a new might. These earth-shaking accomplishments are due to our successful struggle for independence, to the fact that we have proclaimed and implemented a people's democracy. By these victories, by our giant strides in the reconstruction of our country, we have set a new standard for the peoples of Asia and the Pacific. We have given them a new outlook on their own problems.

The enhanced prestige that the Chinese people now enjoy has yet another cause—our unwavering stand for peace. Peace is part of our tradition as a nation and as a people. Throughout the thousands of years in which we Chinese have had relations with the peoples of Asia and the Pacific, we have never acted in a warlike manner. In this present period, peace is the basic tenet of the foreign policy of our People's Republic of China. We have demonstrated in every way that with us the seeking of peace is a serious pursuit. In carrying out the policies of our country, in the defence of our land, as organisations and individuals, it is always the quest for peace which guides and dominates our actions.

That the peoples of Asia and the Pacific regions recognise this fact is attested to by their sending representatives to our capital to take a new and historic step for peace. Peking, the blending of the old and the new, is a city born of the unity of the Chinese people. Now it serves as the birthplace of the new unity of the Asian and Pacific peoples in their struggle for harmony among the nations.

Thus, the Peace Conference of the Asian and Pacific Regions is the result of the general upsurge for peace throughout the world. The peoples represented will have a solid base for unity, since peace is what they demand and peace is part of the solution of their own national problems. And finally, the conference is to take place in a country, in a city and among a people dedicated to the preservation and protection of world tranquility and co-operation. The results are bound to be grand and magnificent.

We can be sure that these results will be far different from those of another conference which has just taken place in this part of the world. I refer to the meetings which have been called by the United States government to form the so-called "Pacific Council." In this meeting they also talked peace, but in fact planned further aggression. In this meeting they also talked co-operation, with "backward" nations, but in fact they set in motion more schemes to further enslave certain Asian and Pacific countries. In this meeting they also talked about equality of peoples, but in fact the terms of this "council" will be dictated by one power, the United States government.

It must be pointed out that the politicians of the United States who will lead this council of war do not in any way represent the people of that country. The people of the United States, in fact, could not even get in at the door of that meeting. This is in sharp contrast to the way the Peace Conference of the Asian and Pacific Regions will provide a platform from which can be heard the true voice of the American people.

We sincerely hope that a large delegation can be present to represent the people of the United States. As members of a Pacific nation, Americans will have a definite interest in what we decide, and they will be able to make a definite contribution. The conference will also give them an opportunity to learn what this part of the world is thinking. Many terrible things have been done in their name. They should learn the truth about these acts. They should also learn, and I am sure that we can impress them with the fact, that the peoples of Asia and the Pacific make a clear distinction between them and the real perpetrators of those acts.

We hope that representatives of the American people can come to see us in the flesh,

to gain first-hand knowledge of the new developments which are taking place. We want to assure them that there is no threat to them or their way of life from us or from any of the lands where the people rule. We think we can prove to them that the threat is in their own midst, that their enemy and ours is one and the same. We want the American people to know that there are many reasons why we should co-operate as peoples and as nations, but that there is not one single reason why we should be fighting each other.

Together with the American people, we of Asia and the Pacific want to answer the question: "Who benefits by the fighting in Korea, Viet-Nam and Malaya, by the unilateral treaties which keep other countries as colonies, by rearmament, by restriction of trade and cultural intercourse?" Together with them, we want to work out the real correlation between the fact that U.S. corporations registered a profit of 44.8 billion dollars in 1951, eight times the peace-time figure before World War II, and the fact that 22 per cent of the national income is gobbled up by taxes, spent on the killing, maiming and destruction which their government has let loose in the Far East. We know the direct relationship between all these things, and we think the representatives of the American people will agree with us.

In other words, we, and they, and all peace-loving people face a common enemy, the handful of wilful men who profit from war. In the struggle against this enemy, for our existence and for peace, the peoples of Asia and the Pacific look upon the people of the United States as an ally, as a *crucial* ally. We hope they will join us in all their strength. We hope they will join us in working out the peace, and then in making this world a place of fruitful labour and joy, a safe and sound place for their children and ours. We will grasp their hands in this greatest of crusades, to make this our time one of the finest ages in the world's history.

Working together at the Peace Conference of the Asian and Pacific Regions, the representatives of many nations will forge the unity of all races, colours, creeds and religions for peace! Together we will lay the groundwork for the participation of Asian and Pacific peoples in the extraordinary Congress of the Peoples for Peace next December! Together we will make immense strides towards winning the world for the people!

The Peace Movement in China

Kuo Mo-Jo

Chairman of the China Peace Committee

I

The Chinese people love peace. They have a highly significant saying, born of the experience of several thousand years: "Peace is precious." We can develop our national construction, progress, and have a fully happy cultured life only if there is peace. That is why, while our people want to enjoy a peaceful life, they want to consolidate and safeguard peace. But they will do their utmost to struggle for peace, when they have lost or are about to lose that peace.

We have come to understand that a noble life of peace cannot be a life of slavery, but must be one created by labour. After more than one hundred years of struggle, we Chinese people have now, under the leadership of Comrade Mao Tse-tung, put an end to our past life of slavery. Every Chinese knows that the peaceful life of today has been brought about by the sweat, blood and lives of countless patriots.

We know also that peace is indivisible. Today, we have got peace, but we know we must go a step further to win peace for Asia and the world. There is another old saying in China: "If one wants to stand up, one must help one's friends to stand up; if one wants to succeed, one must help one's friends to succeed." Now that the Chinese people have stood up, we should like to see all the oppressed peoples of the world stand up; the revolution of the Chinese people has succeeded, so we hope the liberation movements of the oppressed peoples of the world will also succeed.

In the Mao Tse-tung era, the Chinese people, on the one hand, are endeavouring to build up their newly-born state and consolidate the precious peace they have won, and, on the other, they have joined the ranks of the struggle of the peoples of the world to safeguard

peace. Before the establishment of the People's Republic of China, the Chinese people sent a delegation to the First World Peace Congress which was held at the end of April, 1949 simultaneously in Paris and Prague, although at that time the revolutionary war in China had reached its climax and capable hands were needed on all fronts. When the news of the liberation of Nanking on April 23, 1949, reached Paris and Prague, all our peace-loving friends of the world hailed our victory. That scene will ever remain fresh in my mind.

II

The Chinese People's Committee for World Peace and Against American Aggression*—our permanent organisation in defence of world peace—was established on October 2, 1949, on the day following the founding of the People's Republic of China. That day was declared a "Day of Struggle in Defence of World Peace." This fact alone is sufficient to show how high the Chinese people regard the cause of peace.

This committee of ours consists of representatives from all democratic parties and people's organisations in China. It has 158 members, thirty-one of them on the standing committee, one chairman, two vice-chairmen, two secretaries-general, and three deputy-secretaries-general. Under the committee, there are several organs for organisation, propaganda, liaison, etc. The committee now has 3,159 branches. In addition to the branches which are directly affiliated to it, the China Peace Committee has close contacts with all democratic parties, government offices, and institutions and mass organisations which may be considered as its branches: this is one special feature of the committee.

We do not adopt the membership system, but all Chinese people, whether they are workers, peasants, students, or intellectuals, are our agitators, propagandists and members. This

Kuo Mo-jo is one of the sponsors of the Peace Conference of the Asian and Pacific Regions.

* Also known as the China Peace Committee.

being the case, whenever a call is made or a movement launched, it is immediately taken up throughout the country.

III

Our work has been continuously extended and developed. Now I should like to mention some of the more important of the tasks we have done since the committee was set up.

First, we have taken part in various conferences, both big and small, of the world peace movement. We participated in the First World Peace Congress held in Paris and Prague in April, 1949 even before the establishment of the committee. We attended the Second World Peace Congress held in Warsaw in November, 1950 and all sessions of the World Peace Council and its Executive Bureau meetings.

We responded enthusiastically to the Stockholm Appeal and conducted the signature campaign for peace and for the prohibition of atomic weapons. From May to November, 1950 when the movement came to a close, 223,739,545 people signed the appeal. From April 20 to August 15, 1951, altogether 344,053,057 signatures were collected during the vigorous signature campaign for the conclusion of a five-power peace pact.

At the same time, in a referendum conducted by us, 339,903,092 people cast their votes against the remilitarisation of Japan.

These figures show that with each year, our work in defence of peace has developed, that the political consciousness of the Chinese people has been heightened and that their enthusiasm for defending peace has been enhanced.

IV

There is another task which is the widest in scope, is the most protracted and which, to this day, remains our central task. It is the movement to aid the Korean people and to resist the aggression of American imperialism.

Although American imperialist aggression against China by way of support for Chiang Kai-shek has met with utter failure, American imperialism has not given up hope and is now preparing Japan as a base for aggression. It has stepped right into the shoes of Japanese imperialism. It instigated the Korean war, which broke out on June 25, 1950, and on June 27, began direct armed intervention in Korea

in an attempt to swallow up that country. At the same time, it invaded China's territory, Taiwan, in the south. This attempt to gobble up Asia by launching attacks from both the north and south is entirely patterned after Japanese imperialism.

Today, peace in Asia is being seriously threatened. That is why the Chinese people cannot but rise up to help the Korean people in a common struggle against American imperialist aggression in order to defend peace in Asia, defend our neighbour, Korea, and defend our Motherland.

The movement to aid Korea began in July, 1950. At the initial stage, our aid to the Korean people was mainly moral and material. But on September 15 and 16, 1950, the American aggressive forces landed at Inchon; on October 9, they crossed the 38th Parallel; on October 21, they seized the provisional capital of the Korean Democratic People's Republic, Pyongyang, and pushed on to the banks of the Yalu river, ignoring the opposition of the Korean people, the Chinese people, the peoples of Asia and the peace-loving people of the whole world. In view of all this, the Chinese people organised their Chinese people's volunteers on a large scale, and these on October 25 crossed the Yalu river and went into the struggle shoulder to shoulder with the Korean people against American imperialist aggression and in defence of peace in Asia. Pyongyang was liberated on December 6, and the people's forces of Korea and China swiftly drove American imperialism back to the 38th Parallel.

As a result of their military repulses and under pressure of world public opinion, the American aggressors on July 10, 1951 were compelled to accept the proposal to hold cease-fire talks in Korea. However, the American government has shown no sincerity in discussing the peaceful settlement of the Korean question. More than one year has passed since the negotiations began, but the U.S. has all along delayed, obstructed and even attempted to undermine the cease-fire talks so that they will yield no positive results. From the end of last year, American forces even dared to disseminate bacteria in Korea and within the boundaries of China. From the latter part of June this year, they have continuously bombed the peaceful power plants on the Yalu river and civilian centres in Korea. These appalling

crimes have aroused vigorous protests from peace-loving people all over the world.

V

What have we done in the rear in the course of the aid-Korea movement?

We have continuously carried on donation campaigns, sending gift parcels and large donations to the Chinese people's volunteers and the Korean People's Army at the front.

We have organised and sent several large people's delegations to Korea.

From June 1, 1951 we launched a movement to increase production and collect funds for the purchase of aeroplanes and heavy equipment for the volunteers. The Chinese people throughout the country answered the call enthusiastically, and, within the space of six months, the sum collected for the purchase of aeroplanes alone equalled the cost of 3,672 fighter planes.

We have organised fifty volunteer medical corps, and more than four thousand doctors and nurses are serving at the front.

We have used every means to extend aid to the families of the Chinese volunteers and straighten out any difficulties they might have. We have done our best to make the wounded and sick comrades comfortable when they came back from the front.

We have carried on education in patriotism which has raised the political consciousness of the wide masses of the people throughout the country, increased the enthusiasm of the labouring people for production, hastened the victorious completion of the land reform movement and wiped out the century-old influence of cultural aggression by American imperialism.

VI

By what methods did we accomplish these tasks? We have utilised the most varied methods for propaganda and educational work among the people, such as the printed word, pictures, music, drama, the cinema, etc.

We have invited representatives of the Korean people and the Chinese people's volunteers to bring reports to the Chinese people about the heroic deeds of the Korean People's Army and the Chinese people's volunteers at the front and the atrocities of the American aggressive forces. Upon returning home, the delegates to Korea also make reports in counties and villages throughout the country.

Particularly worthy of mention here is the signing of patriotic pacts—a practical expression of their love of their Motherland and peace, created by the masses in the course of the aid-Korea movement.

The basic spirit of the patriotic pact is to integrate the daily concrete tasks of a person or a unit with the urgent task of defending peace, resisting American aggression and aiding Korea, and defending our Motherland. We find that the best patriotic pacts are those which are most concrete in content and concentrated in scope. Many city and village families have drawn up patriotic pacts, and, in some cities, as many as 99 per cent of the people have signed them.

The contents of the patriotic pacts are continuously examined and brought up to date. When a task is accomplished, a new one is added.

Thus, every unit or person continuously accomplishes its or his own task in close unity with the task of resisting American aggression and aiding Korea, and defending our Motherland.

VII

On May 4, 1952, we held a meeting in Peking in commemoration of Hugo, Gogol, Leonardo, and Avicenna. Among our friends who came a long way to be present at that meeting were: Messrs. Yves Farge and Claude Roy of France, Antonio Banfi, Ettore Pancini, and Giuseppe de Santi of Italy, and others.

A small exhibition honouring the four giants of culture was held in the Peking Library. Their works were on display, particularly those relating to China, which we did our best to collect. This exhibition showed that the works of Hugo were introduced to the Chinese people fifty years ago, and Avicenna's works five hundred years ago.

We Chinese people respect, closely study and absorb as part of our very own heritage the fine cultural achievements of the fraternal nations. We also know that constant cultural exchange among different nations will increase mutual understanding and strengthen mutual friendship, and, consequently, further promote and safeguard peace.

VIII

At the end of last year, American imperialism began to employ bacteriological wea-

pons at the Korean front, and it gradually carried germ warfare over the frontier into China. As soon as we discovered this crime, we resolutely organised ourselves against it. In the middle of March, we sent a commission to the Northeast and Korea to investigate the American crime. At the end of March, the Executive Bureau of the World Peace Council met in Oslo, and at the meeting, both the Chinese and the Korean representatives accused American imperialism of waging germ warfare. The meeting issued an appeal, entitled "Against Bacteriological Warfare" to the men and women of the world. Thus the appalling crime of American imperialism was exposed to the world.

We have mobilised experts for research on the subject, made films, held exhibitions and invited many foreign guests to make observations and investigations on the spot. Dr. Hewlett Johnson, the Dean of Canterbury, M. Yves Farge of France and Dr. James G. Endicott of Canada and other individuals and organisations, after having visited our exhibitions and making on-the-spot investigations, issued strong calls to the world.

IX

We firmly believe that, as a result of the common effort of the Chinese and Korean peoples and the support of peace-loving people all over the world, it is certain we will defeat germ warfare and bring the germ-war criminals to court to be put on trial.

The Preparatory Conference for the Peace Conference of the Asian and Pacific Regions was held in Peking from June 3 to 6 in which a declaration was passed and signed by fifty-eight representatives from twenty-five countries. It was decided that the peace conference would be held in Peking by the end of September to discuss four important topics:

1. General reduction of armaments and prohibition of weapons of mass destruction.
2. The development of normal cultural exchange and economic relations on a basis of equality and mutual benefit.
3. The support of the struggle of the Japanese people against America's using Japan as a base for aggression.
4. The peaceful settlement of the Korean question and questions of other countries in Southeast Asia on a fair and reasonable basis.

After the meeting, all countries have been enthusiastically engaged in preparatory work and are making a joint effort for the successful convocation of the Peace Conference of the Asian and Pacific Regions. There is no doubt that its successful convocation will greatly strengthen the peace movement in the Asian and Pacific regions and pave the way for the People's Congress for Peace to be held in Vienna in December this year.

China's Peace Conference Delegation

China's delegation to the conference was elected on September 8 at a meeting of the Standing Committee of the China Peace Committee and representatives of fifteen people's organisations, representing workers, youth, women, students, writers, artists, scientists, industrialists, merchants, relief workers and others.

The delegation includes the original sponsors of the peace conference, namely, Soong Ching Ling, Kuo Mo-jo, Peng Chen, Chen Shu-tung, Ma Yin-chu, Chang Hsi-jo, Li Szu-kuang, Liu Ning-I, Mao Tun and Liao Cheng-chih. The other members of the delegation are Li Teh-chuan, president of the Red Cross Society of China; Teng Ying-chao, vice-president of the All-China Democratic Women Federation; Lo Lung-chi, member of Standing Committee of the China Peace Committee; Chu Hsueh-fan, vice-president of the All-China Federation of Labour; Burhan, a Moslem leader of the Uighur nationality; Hsijaochiatso, a member of the Tibetan national minority; Nan Han-chen, head of the Chinese delegation to the International Economic Conference at Moscow; Wu Yao-tsung, a Christian leader; Wu Yun-chu, an industrialist; Achilyehuletu, a member of the Mongolian national minority; Ting Ling, writer; Hsiao San (Emi Siao), poet; Chi Chao-ting, secretary-general of the Chinese Committee for the Promotion of International Trade; the economist Chen Han-sheng; the film director Tsai Chu-sheng; Chen Wen-kuei, bacteriologist; Hu Wen-yao, a Catholic leader; Yuan Ying, a Buddhist; Chien San-chiang, a physicist; Chin Chung-hua, a journalist.

My Hopes for the Asian and Pacific Conference

Dr. James G. Endicott

Chairman of the Canadian Peace Congress

The convening of the Asian and Pacific Peace Conference is the most important event in Asia since the founding of the People's Republic of China. This conference will indeed be a major political landmark in the life of the peoples of Asia. It will be an opportunity for them to proclaim to the world the justice of their claim to complete independence. It will also be an opportunity for them to challenge the conscience of the West on the question of ending the wars in Asia and opening the doors to the spirit of negotiation instead of violence.

Everybody knows that the colonial and former colonial areas of the world have been exploited and held back both economically and culturally. They now constitute a great problem in human welfare. There are great evils to be overcome, such as disease, poverty, illiteracy and general economic backwardness. The first essentials for the curing of these great evils are independence and peace. One of the great contributions which this Asian and Pacific Peace Conference will make to world peace will be to show the fair-minded people in the world that peace in Asia is possible. There are no questions involved in the change from colonialism to independence which cannot be negotiated justly and reasonably. But there must be a will to act justly on both sides. The West must be brought to see that the day is past when they can maintain unjust colonial conditions by military force. The East must continue to demonstrate, as it did at the International Economic Conference held recently in Moscow, that there will be full opportunity for the West to do mutually beneficial trade.

This peace conference will have the opportunity of showing to observers from all over the world that land reform is a basic measure for peace. The Chinese success in the land reform can serve as a model and inspiration to the peasants all over the world, especially in Asia, Africa and South America. In all these regions the peasants are the vast majority, and they are becoming increasingly restless because

war preparations in many countries impoverish the peasants and increase all their hardships. But an orderly and just land reform can be carried out only by a government which wants peace and is planning for peace. War planning prevents land reform and increases the hardships of the peasants. Peace planning makes land reform possible. Therefore, in some ways, the willingness of governments to carry out extensive and thorough land reform at the present time is a test of their peaceful intentions.

I look forward to hearing that the Asian and Pacific Peace Conference has sent a message of hope and inspiration to the Japanese people, calling on them to demand their complete independence and to refuse rearmament and war as offering any solution to their problems. Japan has an excellent industrial foundation and can play an honourable and welcome part in the rebuilding and industrialisation that is now taking place in Asia. All the Japanese food problems can easily be solved by peace and reconstruction. At the present time, the Japanese are in semi-slavery suffering under the terms of the San Francisco "White man's imposed terms." No honourable person can agree to the use of the Japanese people as cannon fodder by the lawless American militarists who are starting dangerous adventures in the Far East. This peace conference will be able to welcome the Japanese people back into the Asiatic brotherhood of equal nations and into the brotherhood of "World Peace," and thus give them heart and courage to resist to the uttermost the slavery of the San Francisco dictat.

There are in the world today many religious organisations with hundreds of millions of believers and followers. Since the East has been the "mother of religions," I hope that from this peace conference in the East will come a stirring call to the conscience of all religious people to co-operate for peace. All religions teach the basic ethics of "human brotherhood," and now is the time to save man

from a vast and disastrous war by bringing together all people, no matter how different their philosophy or economic organization on the simple plan of substituting negotiation for force, of planning economic construction instead of destruction and of furthering every plan to improve the physical, cultural and spiritual lot of all men, everywhere in the world.

While the conference will doubtless give full emphasis on the historic, economic and cultural realities which must be faced, I hope

it will make quite clear to all men the necessity for action, now. There must be definite commitment by those who want peace on the matter of independence for all colonial and semi-colonial countries. There must be no external interference in the affairs of nations. There must be a stop to the Korean war, and all matters violating peace. There must be a willingness to meet and a definite promise of negotiation instead of force.

May all your efforts be rewarded with success!

Forward to the Asian and Pacific Peace Conference!

Our Correspondent

As the date for the opening of the Peace Conference of the Asian and Pacific Regions draws near, the Chinese people are intensifying preparations for the historic meeting. Deeply conscious of the importance of the forthcoming meeting for peace in Asia and the world, the building workers of Peking are hastening the renovation and extension of a beautiful assembly hall built in traditional Chinese style and a special hotel for delegates, the Peace Hotel.

Emulation drives in honour of China's coming National Day on October 1 and the Asian and Pacific Peace Conference are spreading throughout the country. The All-China Federation of Labour has called on all trade union councils to extend the emulation drives now under way on a still wider scale. Everywhere workers are striving for higher quality and greater output with the watchwords: "For the Motherland and Peace!"

Both press and radio are running a series of articles and talks on the conference by leading Chinese personalities from all walks of life.

Li Chi-shen, chairman of the Revolutionary Committee of the Kuomintang; Chang Lan, chairman of the China Democratic League; Ma Yin-chu, president of Peking University; Ho Chien-hsiu, the woman cotton-mill model worker; Li Shun-ta, the agricultural model worker; Chi Chien-hua, the initiator of the quick method of learning Chinese characters;

and many other individuals and groups have written, welcoming the conference.

Hua Lo-keng, the noted mathematician, writes in the *Peking People's Daily*:

The flames of war have already been kindled by warmongers in Asia and the Pacific. All honest people have the responsibility to put out the flames of war which may spread. The fate of peace is in danger. We must come forward quickly and work to save peace.

Liu Hung-sheng, a leading Chinese industrialist, writes in the *Kwangming Daily*:

The conference will certainly show us still more clearly and concretely the direction of the struggle for peace and against the threats of war. The peace-loving peoples of Asia and the Pacific will unite still more closely to ensure the peaceful development of industry and commerce based on mutual aid and benefits and a happy life of the people of these regions.

Ma Chien, a leading member of the Chinese Moslem Association, welcomes the conference in an article in the magazine *World Culture*. Denouncing American intervention in the Moslem national liberation movement in Iran, Egypt, Tunisia and Morocco, Ma Chien notes that the people of Indonesia and Pakistan, for this reason, are fervently supporting the Asian and Pacific Peace Conference. He declares:

None of the peoples in Asia and Pacific want war. Once they are united to defend world peace, fair and reasonable settlement of the Korean, Japanese and other Asian questions can be achieved.

Preparations for the coming peace conference are being vigorously pushed ahead in the Asian and Pacific countries. To date thirty-one have already elected delegates to the peace conference.

KOREA: A Korean delegation to the Asian and Pacific Conference was chosen at the second peace congress held in Pyongyang on September 8. Han Sul Ya, president of the Korean National Peace Committee, made a report on "The Asian and Pacific Peace Conference and the Present Tasks of Korean Peace Supporters." Referring to the present world situation, Han Sul Ya said:

The strength of the peace supporters is greater than that of the warmongers. The just struggle of the Korean people, actively supported by peace-loving people the world over, will certainly achieve final victory.

JAPAN: Support for the conference is widespread. Members of political parties, ranging from the Liberal Party to the Communist Party; trade unions, including those affiliated to the General Council of Japanese Trade Unions (Sohyo) as well as those affiliated to the Congress of Japanese Industrial Unions (Sanbetsu); big industrialists, middle and small industrialists and businessmen; men of letters, both Liberal and Communist; Buddhist and Christian organisations—all have expressed enthusiastic support for the conference. At the National Peace Conference held on August 23 and 24 in Tokyo, the Japanese people nominated 430 candidates for the delegation to the Asian and Pacific Peace Conference. The conference was presided over by Junzo Matsuda, general-manager of the Shinano Chemicals Company. "Without the struggle for national liberation and independence, peace is impossible, and Japan will not revive without establishing friendly relations and free trade with other Asian countries," said Jiichiro Matsumoto, former vice-chairman of the House of Councillors.

A list of 60 Japanese delegates to the coming Asian and Pacific Peace Conference has been published by the Japanese committee for the peace conference. Among the delegates are Professor Ikuo Oyama, the outstanding peace leader and winner of a Stalin Peace Prize; Jiichiro Matsumoto and Hiroshi Suekawa, president of the Ritsumeikan University.

The Japanese people are making big efforts to overcome the obstacles put in the way of the delegates by the Yoshida government.

VIET-NAM: Numerous meetings were held in various parts of the Republic at which resolutions in favour of the peace conference were adopted. At the Viet-Nam Conference for the Protection of Children, at the meetings of intellectuals held in the Third and Fourth Military Zones, and at all other meetings and conferences, representatives present put their names to the declaration of the Preparatory Conference for the Asian and Pacific Peace Conference. People in the French-occupied areas also held rallies to voice their support for

the peace conference. Local people's armymen and guerillas have sent letters to the Viet-Nam Peace Committee hailing the peace conference.

INDIA: Peace conferences are being held throughout India in preparation for the forthcoming conference.

Professor D. D. Kosambi, vice-president of the All-India Peace Council, opened the three-day session of the Bombay Peace Conference on August 29. Three thousand people attended. The aim of the peace movement, Professor Kosambi said, was "peace by peaceful means." Among those who spoke at the meeting were: Seth Govindlal Shrivall, former president of the Indian Merchants' Chamber; Swami Sambuddhanandji of the Ramakrishna Mission (an all-India religious body for service to afflicted people), K. A. Abbas, journalist, film director and playwright.

At a mass rally on August 31 at Kamgar Maidan, Bombay, Dr. Mulk Raj Anand, vice-president of the All-India Peace Council, called for still greater support for the peace movement. S. G. Patkar, secretary of the Bombay Mill Workers' Union, and S. S. Mirajkar, vice-president of the All-India Trade Union Congress, also addressed the rally.

The Madras City Peace Conference on August 31 was chaired by R. K. Karanjia, editor of *Blitz*. A. K. Gopalan, member of the Indian Parliament, and Mrs. Renu Chakravarty, member of Parliament and delegate to the recent Berlin session of the World Peace Council, demanded an end to the Korean war. At another rally, Jeevanandam, well-known peasant leader, appealed to the people to give full support to the peace movement and enable India to contribute to the forthcoming Peking peace conference.

Women peace partisans in Calcutta have recently held a big rally in support of the Peking peace conference.

U.S.S.R.: The declaration and resolutions of the preparatory conference have been widely and deeply discussed throughout the Soviet Union. In an article in the Peking *People's Daily*, Nikolai Tikhonov, chairman of the Soviet Peace Committee, wrote:

The Soviet people welcome this decision because they are Soviet people, devoted to the cause of peace, who daily prove their devotion to the cause of peace by their peaceful work, who share the decision of the Asian and American countries to fight against the threat of war against colonial oppression, against the imperialists' adventures, against everything that prevents cultural co-operation among the peoples, against everything that prevents trade and other relations, against the remilitarisation of Japan.

U.S.A.: Prominent Americans have organised a committee to promote the participation of American people in the conference. Members of the committee include Hugh Bryson, W.E.B. Dubois, Howard Fast, Rev. Kenneth R. Forbes, Peter Hyun, Albert E. Kahn, Rockwell Kent, John A. Kingsbury, Ida Pruitt, Rev. Willard Uphaus, Thomas Richardson, Paul Robeson, Holland Roberts and Maud Russell.

The New York sponsoring committee for participation in the conference will hold the "New York-Peking Peace Meeting" on September 25. The meeting will "give voice to the desire of a vast majority of our people for peace in Korea now."

BURMA: People from all walks of life have attended meetings at which peace partisans reported on the meaning of the peace conference. The Burma Peace Committee has published a special booklet called *Arise to Check U.S. Imperialist Germ Warfare!* It contains important documents, including the appeal of the World Peace Council Bureau "Against Bacteriological Warfare," the report on the use of bacteriological weapons by U.S. armed forces drawn up by the Commission of the International Association of Democratic Lawyers and photographs of the U.S. crime of germ war in Korea and North-east China.

PAKISTAN: Khan Ghulam Mohammad Khan Lundkhor, president, and Syed Muttalabi Faridabadi, general-secretary of the Lahore Peace Committee, are making an extensive drive to organize peace committees in the districts of West Punjab, Pakistan.

INDONESIA: "The Asian and Pacific Peace Conference will make possible the establishment of closer relations between people of all countries on the basis of peace, security and mutual respect," said Tambunan, vice-president of the Indonesian Parliament. Wiwoho, president of Masjumi (the Moslem Party) of Djokja, has written to the National Peace Committee saying that any effort made for the peace conference should not only command the sympathy but should win the full support of all mankind.

AUSTRALIA: On July 29, the Sydney Bunerong Power House workers walked off the job in protest against police action preventing Dr. John Burton, head of the Australian delegation to the Preparatory Conference for the Asian and Pacific Peace Conference in Peking, from speaking on peace. "Australia must be represented at the Pacific Peace Conference in Peking. To boycott it would be a crime," Dr. Burton declared, speaking at a peace rally in Brisbane. The Rev. Van Eerde, Methodist Minister of Redfern, Sydney, told the same meeting: "The majority of people hate war; our task is to unite all peace-loving people, so that war will be made impossible."

CEYLON: Many Buddhist monks are participating in the Ceylon peace movement. Practically all heads of the Buddhist seats of learning have signed the appeal for the prohibition of the atom bomb. One of the secretaries of the Peace Committee is the Rev. Narawila Dhammaratane, a leading Buddhist monk and a scholar of national repute. Explaining the desire of the Ceylon people to establish trade relations with China, Mr. N. Sanmugathasan, member of the All-Ceylon Peace Committee and a former vice-president of the Ceylon Trade Union Federation, said, "The peace movement in Ceylon has adopted as one of its slogans the demand for immediate trade relations with China."

CANADA: "Canadian delegates will attend the Peace Conference of the Asian and Pacific Regions." Mary Jennison, secretary of the Canadian Peace Congress, told a press conference in Toronto. A nation-wide campaign for delegates to the peace conference has already been launched by the Canadian Sponsoring Committee for the conference. Announcement of the campaign was made in a joint statement by Finlay Mackenzie, secretary of the Sponsoring Committee, and Miss Jennison.

THAILAND: The Thailand Peace Committee has formed a preparatory committee for the peace conference. Resolutions were adopted at the inauguration meeting in Bangkok demanding the immediate ending of the Korean war and the withdrawal of Thai troops from Korea, and supporting the campaign against war. Other resolutions opposed the rearming of Japan and advocated a peace settlement in Viet-Nam, Laos, Khmer (Cambodia) and Malaya.

KHMER: On behalf of the people of Khmer, Son Ngoc Minh, president of the Khmer Issarak Front (Free National United Front), has sent a message to the Preparatory Committee in Peking supporting the Asian and Pacific Peace Conference. The message states:

We will carry out all the resolutions adopted by the conference and, with the people of Viet-Nam and Laos, effectively push forward our war of resistance against the French colonialists and American interventionists, and struggle unswervingly for national independence, freedom and peace in Asia and the rest of the world.

NEW ZEALAND: Courtney Archer, a New Zealand delegate to the Preparatory Conference for the Peace Conference of the Asian and Pacific Regions, declared that the peace conference would not only discuss peace but would also open the eyes of the people of New Zealand. At a big mass rally sponsored by the China Friendship Society in Auckland on July 24, Dean Chandler of Kaikato stressed the vital importance of the coming conference. He said that there was now a chance to discuss with fellowmen from other lands problems that were common to all. This conference, he said, would "make a mighty contribution to the well-being and peace of the peoples of the world."

LATIN AMERICA: Among the 11 executive members of the CHILEAN Initiation Commission for the Asian and Pacific Peace Conference are Guillermo del Pedregal, member of the World Peace Council and former Minister of Finance; Mme. Olga Poblete, member of the World Peace Council and authority on Far Eastern questions; Jose Venturelli, noted painter; Dr. Mujica; Rojas, a trade union leader and Durand, a writer. Mme. Poblete has been appointed a member of the preparatory committee for the peace conference.

Antonio Cruz France, president of the GUATEMALAN Peace Committee, Diego Montana of COLOMBIA and Edelberto Torres of NICARAGUA have been elected members of the Preparatory Committee of the Asian and Pacific Peace Conference.

New China's Great Economic Victories

Hsueh Mu-chiao

Director of the State Statistical Bureau

Before liberation, China was a semi-colonial, semi-feudal and backward country. Its economy did not advance but, on the contrary, suffered heavy destruction as a result of the Kuomintang's reactionary rule and bitter wars which were fought continuously for more than ten years. During this period, the country's agricultural production suffered a reduction of approximately 25 per cent; light industrial production decreased by about 30 per cent, while heavy industry, which suffered the most, was reduced by about 70 per cent. In addition to this, the acute currency inflation brought on by the reactionary Kuomintang government made commodity prices soar 6 million times between August, 1937 and August, 1948. The "Gold Yuan" notes, issued in August, 1948, depreciated so rapidly that, in less than a year's time, they were just so much waste paper. Under these conditions, no normal and legitimate industry and commerce could be carried on. Innumerable private enterprises appeared which specialised in speculative trading. Even legitimate industrialists and merchants were compelled to engage in speculation as a main form of activity. China's entire economy deteriorated. The people were reduced to the direst straits.

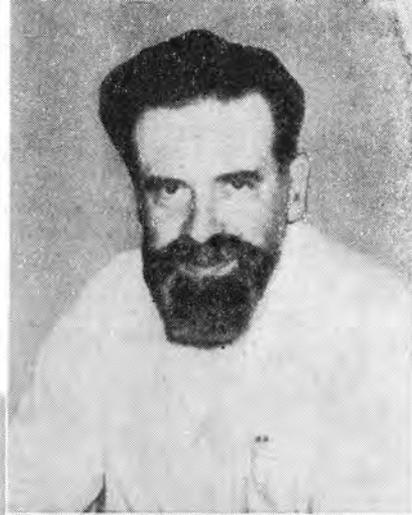
Thus, after liberation, New China was faced with several urgent economic tasks: the currency inflation had to be stopped, commodity prices stabilised and speculative activities ended so as to bring about normal conditions for industrial and commercial development; land reform had to be carried out and agricultural production revived and developed so as to improve the livelihood of the peasants and increase their purchasing power; industrial production had to be restored, state-operated industries developed, and privately-operated industries assisted and readjusted, bringing about improvements in the life of workers and office employees through increased production; communications had to be restored, a new

trading system established, and trade speeded up between the cities and the countryside, and between China and foreign countries so as to assure the smooth development of industrial and agricultural production. The carrying out of these tasks constitutes the main foundation on which forthcoming large-scale economic construction is to be planned in order to achieve the speedy industrialisation of our country.

Rapid Economic Recovery

In the financial and economic sphere, the first big accomplishment of the Central People's Government since its establishment has been the ending since March, 1950 of currency inflation and the achieving of financial and price stability. From 1950 onwards, we strove to achieve a budgetary balance. In 1951, state revenue actually exceeded expenditure. The budget for 1952 shows a complete balance, and more than half of the budget has been earmarked for economic and cultural development. The successful achievement of a balanced budget is unprecedented in the annals of China's public finance.

Besides balancing the budget, we carried through two other important measures in order to stabilise commodity prices. The first was for state-operated trading organs to control and distribute certain important commodities in order to meet the full requirements of the market. Commodities which are particularly closely related to the people's daily life such as grain, coal, charcoal, cotton, cotton yarn and cloth are being supplied to the people in sufficient quantities by state-operated trading organs. Since March, 1950, these commodities have undergone no price fluctuations; there has been no black market in them and no limitation has been imposed as to the amount people may buy. The second was the control of currency by the state bank. All cash accounts of government offices and state-operated enterprises are entrusted to the state bank,



MEMBRES DE LA COMMISSION SCIENTIFIQUE INTERNATIONALE CHARGÉE D'EXAMINER LES FAITS CONCERNANT LA GUERRE BACTÉRIOLOGIQUE EN CORÉE ET EN CHINE:

ANDREEN, Andrea: M.D. Ph. D. (Médecine clinique et de Laboratoire) (Suède)

Andrea Andreen

MALTERRE, Jean: Ing. Agri. (Physiologie animale et Biologie)

Jean Malterre

NEEDHAM, Joseph: Sc. D. F.R.S. (Biochimie, Embryologie, Langue et Littérature Chinoises), (U.K.)

Joseph Needham

OLIVO, Oliviero: M.D. (Médecine, Biologie et Anatomie) (Italie)

Olivio

PESSOA, Samuel, B.: M.D. (Parasitologie et Entomologie Médicales) (Brésil)

Samuel B. Pessoa

ZHUKOV-VEREZHNIKOV, Nicolai Nicolaievitch: M.D. Membre de l'Académie de Médecine (Bactériologie et Epidémiologie) (U.R.S.S.)

Nicolai Zhukov-Verezhnikov

Pékin, le 31 Août 1952.

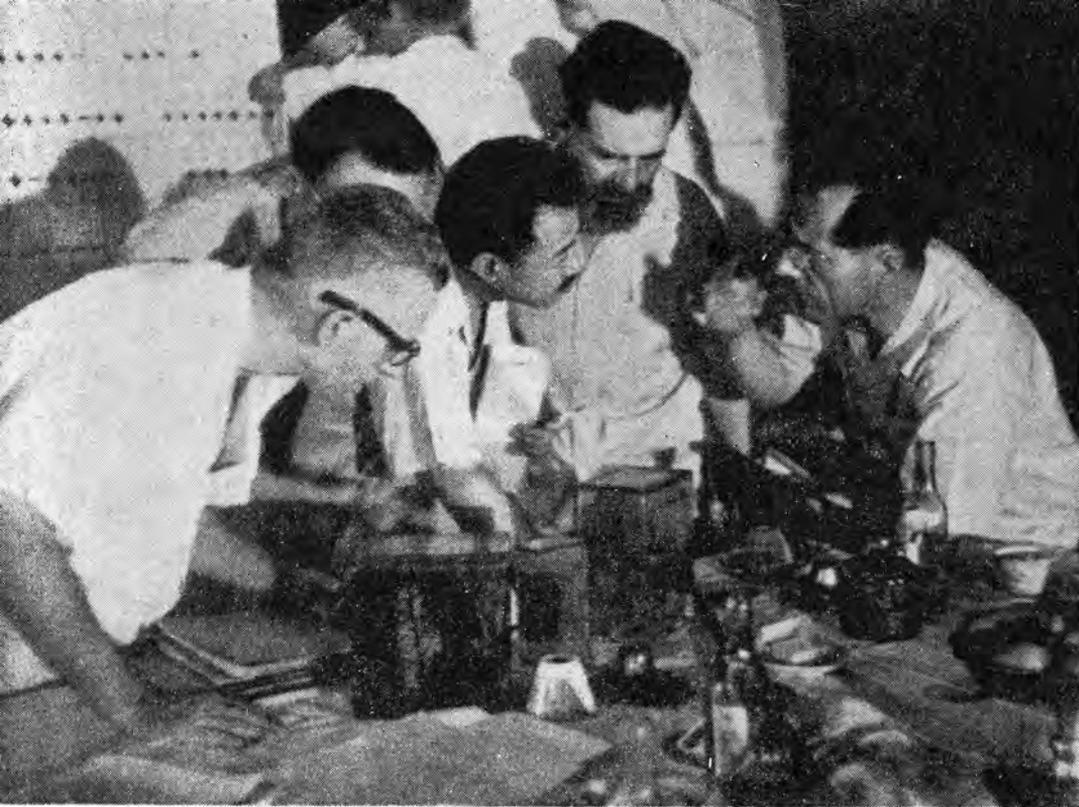
NEW PROOFS OF U.S. GERM WARFARE

The American aggressors have used bacteriological weapons against the peoples of Korea and China—this is the stark and horrible truth confirmed by the report of the authoritative International Scientific Commission for the Investigation of the Facts Concerning Bacteriological Warfare in Korea and China

Left: Facsimile of the signatures on the International Scientific Commission's Report

Left to right (top): Dr. Andrea Andreen, Mons. Jean Malterre, Dr. Joseph Needham; (bottom): Dr. Oliviero Olivo, Dr. Samuel B. Pessoa, Dr. N. N. Zhukov-Verezhnikov





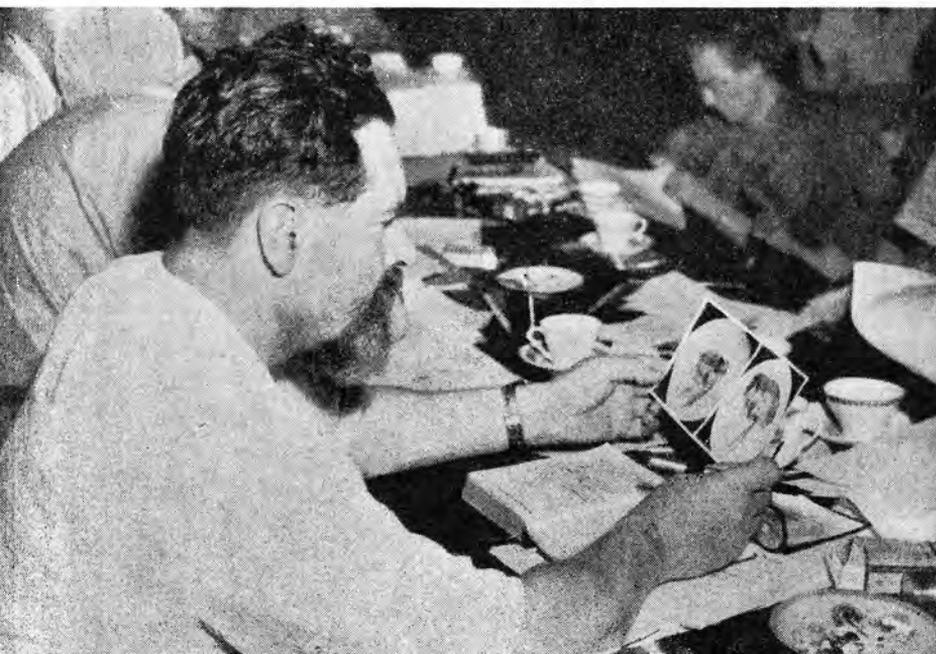
Members of the International Scientific Commission studying the pathological changes in the brains and lungs of victims of anthrax spread by American planes in Northeast China

Dr. N. N. Zhukov
Olivo (left to r
dropped by an



The International Scientific Commission Investigates U.S. Germ Warfare in Korea and

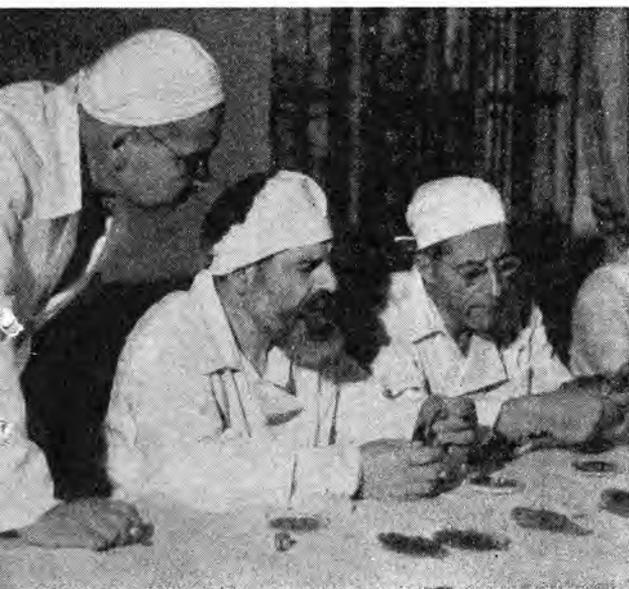
Mons. Jean Malterre, member of the commission, studying enlarged photographs of plague-infected human fleas dropped by an American plane in Hoi-yang, Korea



Members of the commission examining specimens in a Korean laboratory



v-Verezhnikov, Mons. Jean Malterre, and Dr. Oliviero
ght) studying specimens of the plague-infected voles
American plane in Kan-Nan county on April 5, 1952



Dr. Joseph Needham inspecting a container
for germ-infected insects dropped by American
planes in Korea

Investigates Evidence Northeast China

Members of the commission examining three metal containers dropped
by U.S. planes for disseminating germ-infected objects, which were
found on March 27 and 31, 1952 in Ch'ang-Pai county, Liaotung pro-
vince and also a porcelain germ bomb of the same type made by the
Japanese germ war criminal Shiro Ishii

ing U.S. dropped cholera bacteria
laboratory



The International Scientific Commission takes the evidence of U.S. germ-war flyers and eyewitnesses of U.S. germ warfare in Korea and Northeast China



Lieut. F. B. O'Neal (first on right), a captured U.S. airman, who himself dropped germ bombs on Korea, testifies before the commission



The commission on its visit to Kan-Nan county, Heilung-chiang province, hears the testimony of inhabitants of Min-Chun village who found plague-infected voles after a U.S. plane had raided the area. Such rodents had never before been seen in that area

Lieut. Paul Kniss (first on left), another captured U.S. airman who confirmed to the commission that he had dropped germ bombs

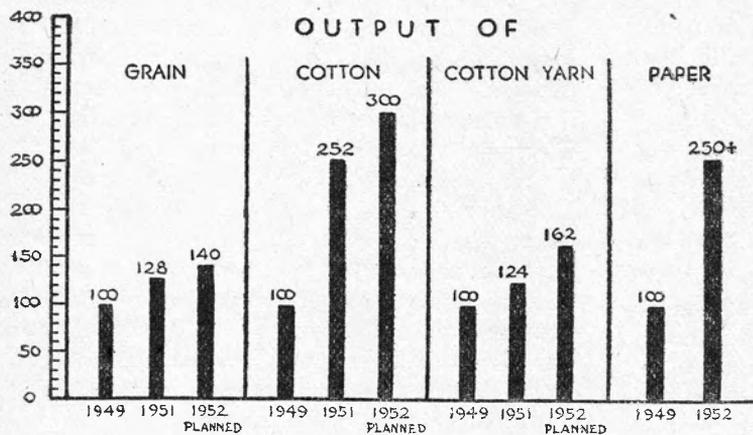


which now handles an overwhelming proportion of all deposits and loans and has become powerful enough to regulate the amount of currency in circulation and to ensure the stability of the financial market.

As a result of the success of the above-mentioned steps, commodity prices have, since March, 1950, gradually approached stability. In 1951, prices rose by only 13.8 per cent. After October, 1951, prices became more stable and in fact dropped slightly. In the first half of 1952, we took the initiative in reducing the prices of over ten thousand kinds of industrial goods for daily consumption and reduced the general price index by about 5 per cent. We are now strong enough to control market prices and to prevent price fluctuations. As a result of price stability, the speculative deals that were prevalent in the past have gradually disappeared. The most favourable conditions have been created for the development of legitimate industry and commerce.

Agricultural Progress

In the past three years, the total value of China's agricultural production increased by 50 per cent, caught up with and in some of its branches, exceeded the levels established prior to the War of Resistance Against Japanese Ag-



gression. If we take the 1949 output as 100, production of grain in 1951 was 128, and the planned production for 1952 is 140, more than the highest pre-war output. The production of cotton in 1951 was 252, and the planned production for 1952 is about three times the 1949 figure, or 50 per cent over the highest pre-war level.

China had to import large amounts of cotton and grain from abroad before liberation,

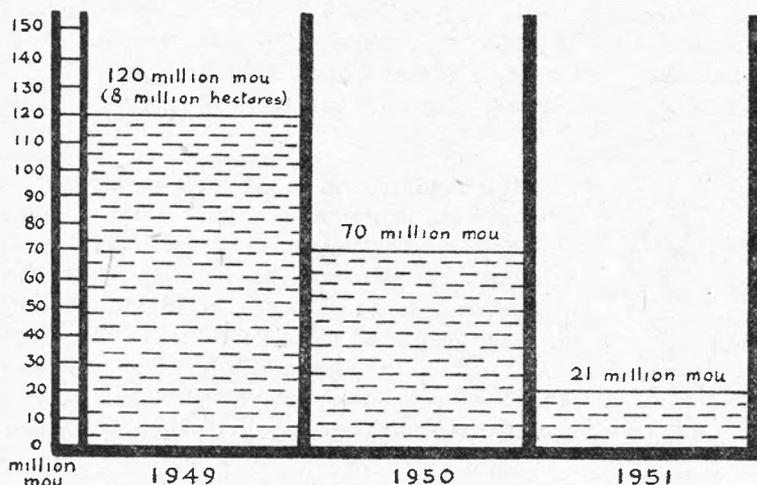
although she is an agricultural country. Now she is self-sufficient in these and no longer depends on foreign supplies. Moreover, she can even export a portion of her grain to help neighbouring countries solve their food difficulties.

The land reform which has given land to the peasants is the most important reason for the speedy recovery of our agricultural production. In the past, the peasants paid rent to landlords to the amount of 30 million tons of grain annually. They now save this enormous grain tribute, and the greater part of it is invested by them to expand production. The peasants' enthusiasm for increasing production has thus been greatly enhanced. Secondly, the government makes available to the peasants loans, fertiliser, improved farm implements, seeds and insecticides. Large-scale irrigation projects and the government purchase of surplus produce and by-products from the peasants at reasonable prices, a step which has protected the peasants from exploitation by speculative merchants, and other similar measures have made an especially important contribution to the development of our agricultural production.

Particularly worthy of mention in this respect are the harnessing of the Huai river which was started in 1950 and the great Chingkiang (Yangtse river) Flood Detention Basin constructed this year. In point of size as well as the speed with which they were completed, these projects are not only unprecedented in the history of China but can also compare favourably with any of their kind in the world. They have freed tens of millions of peasants from the menace of flood and are also a guarantee of bumper crops over a vast area.

In 1949, a total of 120 million *mou* (8 million hectares) of farmland were inundated. This figure was reduced to 70 million *mou* in 1950 and again to 21 million *mou* in 1951. Meanwhile, the peasants are organising mutual-aid teams and producers' co-operatives on a wide scale so that they can make more rational use of their land, draught animals, farm implements and labour power. Over 40 per cent have joined mutual-aid teams, and more than 4,000

REDUCTION OF AREA SUBJECT TO FLOOD



agricultural producers' co-operatives have been formed. They have already raised agricultural efficiency to a marked degree.

The land reform and the speedy recovery of agricultural production have greatly increased the purchasing power of the peasants and made considerable improvements in their lives. The evil times when the Chinese peasants were subjected to feudal exploitation have gone forever.

Industrial Progress

In the past three years, the total value of China's industrial production has more than doubled. With few exceptions, industrial production has surpassed the highest records reached in Chinese history. Heavy industry has greatly increased its output. Since liberation, the production of coal and electricity has nearly doubled. The output of iron, steel and machinery has gone up seven or eight times.

Considerable increases have also been registered in other branches of heavy industry. With the exception of coal, the output of all branches of heavy industry will this year exceed, and in some cases by a wide margin, the peak levels reached in the past.

Similar increases have also been made by the various branches of our light industry. The 1951 output of cotton yarn, which is an important branch, was 24 per cent more than in 1949, and the output planned for 1952 will be 62 per cent more than in 1949: in other words, it will far exceed the annual pre-war (1937) production. In the past three years, the output of the paper industry increased 2.5

times and has more than doubled the pre-war level. Other light industries have made similar progress. Even the planned output of our cigarette industry, which was the most hard hit, will this year represent a nearly 50 per cent rise over the pre-war level. This industrial recovery and development has been accompanied by the gradual achievement of industrial independence and self-sufficiency. In the past, our heavy industry played a role mainly as a supplier of coal and ore to foreign countries and could hardly produce high quality steel or make machinery; our light industry

depended upon foreign countries for supplies of raw materials such as cotton, tobacco leaf, and wheat. This situation has now undergone a fundamental change.

In the past three years, we have also made marked advances in the fields of communications and transport. The speed with which our railways have been repaired and constructed is especially remarkable. Since the victory of our people's Liberation War in 1949, we have repaired all the main railway lines in our country. This was followed by further efforts to overhaul existing lines, to build new ones and to improve transport efficiency in general. The Chengtu-Chungking railway, more than forty years a vain dream of the Szechuan people, was completed and open to traffic within two and a half years of liberation. The Tienshui-Lanchow railway begun in May, 1950 has just been completed ten months ahead of schedule. Work has already started on the Tienshui-Chengtu railway. These railways and others to be built will link up our rich Northwest with the bountiful Southwest, thus laying an important foundation for our future industrial construction.

The speedy development of industrial production and communications is the result of the common effort made by the people's governments of all levels and the broad masses of the working class. Despite the financial difficulties of the past three years, the Central People's Government has invested large sums in state-operated enterprises and railways and given increasing financial assistance to private industries either by placing large

orders with them or by giving them loans. The capital investment of the People's Government in industrial construction is growing year by year. Our investment this year in economic construction is 1.5 times more than last year and takes up more than 36 per cent of the total state expenditure. In the past three years, state-operated industries and a number of private industries have carried out democratic reforms and have raised their standards of business management.

Last year, a drive to increase production and practise economy was launched, and this has greatly speeded up the development of industrial production. Under the leadership of the People's Government, the broad masses of the workers are taking part with great enthusiasm in the patriotic campaign to increase production. They have made many rationalisation proposals and have consistently improved their working efficiency. In the past three years, the coal miners, for example, have nearly doubled their productivity of labour; the cotton-mill workers have raised theirs by about 50 per cent. Such a high level of productive enthusiasm as we see today in our country is inconceivable in any capitalist country.

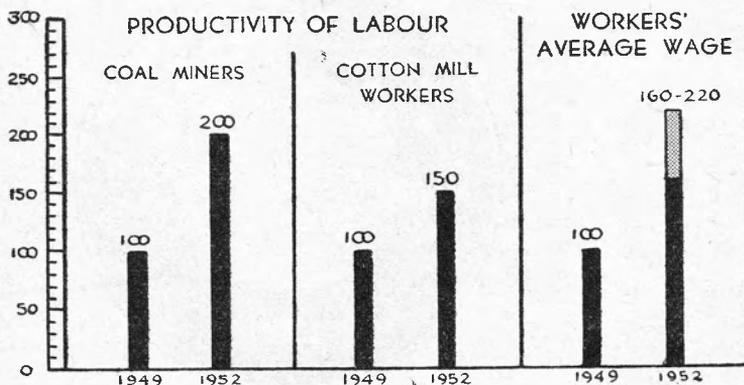
As a result of the speedy recovery of industrial production and communications, the life of our workers has been markedly improved. Unemployment is gradually being eliminated. In the past three years, the People's Government has made an over-all readjustment of wages and has increased the workers' pay. The workers' average wages in 1952 is from 60 to 120 per cent more than in 1949. Following the promulgation of the *Trade Union Law* and the *Labour Insurance Regulations* on May Day, 1951, the labour insurance system has been universally adopted by all

factories employing one hundred or more workers. The recently promulgated *Decisions Concerning Employment of Labour* provides an over-all solution of the question of unemployment in a positive, planned and systematic way. On the basis of increased production, the government is building more workers' living quarters, hospitals, creches, and rest homes and is improving safety precautions in factories and mines. Workers of state-operated factories elect their own representatives to participate in the production administration committees. Workers of private factories, as masters of the country, consult with the capitalist owners on how to restore production and regulate labour-capital relations.

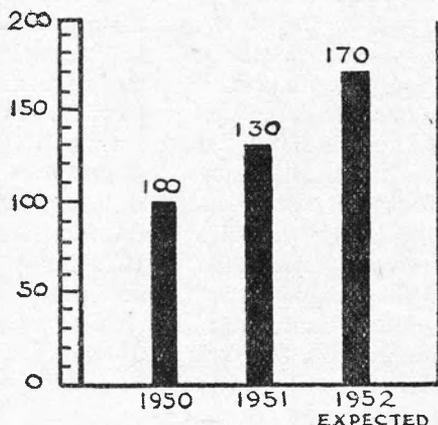
Domestic and Foreign Trade

In the past three years, our domestic trade has been rebuilt on a new foundation. There is now a division of labour between state, co-operative and privately-handled trade. Before liberation, trade relations between our cities and the countryside were almost totally destroyed in the course of war and currency inflation. Since liberation, we have made a great effort to organise trade between cities and the countryside, help the peasants sell their surplus produce and by-products and at the same time sell industrial goods from the cities to the peasants. In this way, not only has the income of the peasantry been greatly increased but a wide domestic market has also been created for industrial goods. Since the second half of 1950, trade between the cities and countryside has been speeded up. The volume of domestic trade in 1951 was 30 per cent more than in 1950. In 1952 it is expected to be 70 per cent more than in 1950. In consequence, not only has state and co-operative trading made great progress, but considerable progress has also been made by privately-handled trade.

Our foreign trade continues to make headway. In spite of the restrictions imposed by the United States' policy of blockade and embargo, the volume of our exports and imports in 1951 greatly exceeded that of 1950. It is expected that the volume of our foreign trade in 1952 will be even greater. If the United States' policy of blockade and embargo has had



VOLUME OF DOMESTIC TRADE



any effect at all, it is demonstrated in the fact that, in the first place, the proportion of our trade with capitalist countries has sharply decreased, while that with the Soviet Union and the People's Democracies has greatly increased (the latter accounts for about 70 per cent of the total value of our imports and exports); and that, in the second place, a foreign trade balance has now been achieved by China where for more than seventy years it was always unfavourable. Needless to say, there is not the slightest reason for us to fear the U.S. blockade and embargo.

The Remoulding of China's Economy

The old China before liberation was ruled and exploited by imperialism, feudalism and bureaucratic capitalism. In the three years after liberation, the economic face of Chinese society has totally changed. Imperialism controlled China's finance and the most important branches of her industrial production. After liberation, we terminated the special privileges of imperialism in China but have allowed firms financed by foreign capital to continue to function here on condition that they observe the laws and regulations of the Chinese government.

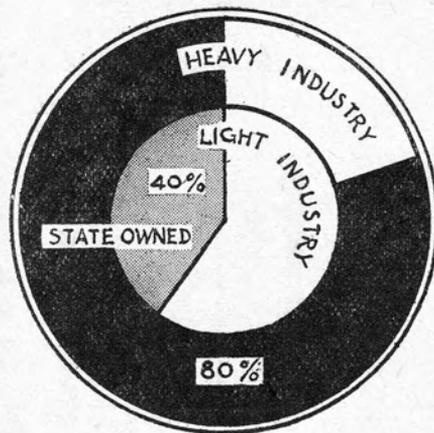
However, now that the special privileges which foreign firms relied upon to expand their businesses have disappeared, a great many of them have found that they are unable to carry on because of their inability to adapt their trade to the new conditions in China. Most of the firms financed with American capital were taken under our control after the United States froze Chinese properties.

Enterprises of other imperialist countries also met with great difficulties owing to the American policy of blockade and embargo. The time when imperialism ruled China has gone forever.

Secondly, we have already completed land reform in areas inhabited by 420 million people. With the exception of areas inhabited by national minorities, land reform will be completed throughout the entire Chinese mainland sometime between this coming winter and spring. The feudal system which ruled China for over two thousand years will be entirely eliminated. With the exception of a very small number of landlords who were at the same time local despots and those who were ordinarily resident in the cities, the rest of the landlords who numbered 20 million have all been given plots of land just like the peasants. They are reforming themselves through labour, and the overwhelming majority of them will be able to change their social status gradually from that of a feudal landlord to one of the labouring people. This is another great change in China's social economy.

Finally, the bureaucratic capitalist economy which was wholly confiscated has, through democratic reforms, been transformed into our state-owned economy which is Socialist in character. As a result of the joint efforts made by the People's Government and the broad masses of workers and office employees, our state-operated enterprises have more than trebled their total value of production in the past three years. Our state-owned sector has already achieved a dominant or prominent position in the more important industries. For example, the state owns about 80 per cent of

STATE OWNED INDUSTRY



heavy industry, about 40 per cent of light industry, and about half of certain important branches of light industry such as the textile industry. In the sphere of modern means of communications, the state operates all the railways and also about 60 per cent of steam navigation transport. In the past three years, the state bank has steadily developed and now controls over 90 per cent of all loans and deposits. The figure rises to 98-99 per cent if we include the operations of banks jointly owned by public and private interests. Although we have not proclaimed the nationalisation of banking, the private banks, due to their inability to cope with the changed financial situation, have in the past three years gradually withdrawn from business.

State trading is also expanding rapidly. About 90 per cent of our imports and exports is handled by the state. From 40 to 100 per cent of the wholesale business in domestic trade in essential commodities such as food grains, coal, cotton, cotton yarn, cloth, salt, sugar, iron, steel, timber and cement which are either important to the people's daily life or to industrial development is now in the hands of state trading concerns. An estimated 30 per cent of the entire retail trade will be handled this year by state trading organs or co-operatives. The state is, therefore, already powerful enough to control market prices and, through the price mechanism, indicate the direction in which private industry, trade and agricultural production should develop.

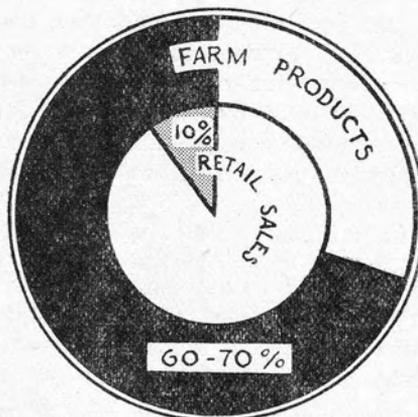
The state-owned economy has developed greatly, but private industry and commerce, under the leadership and with the assistance of the state-owned sector, are also well on the road to recovery and development. According to statistics for eight major cities including Shanghai, Tientsin, Peking, Wuhan, Canton, Chungking, Sian and Shenyang (Mukden), the number of private industrial and commercial enterprises showed a net increase of 92,000, or an increase of 27 per cent in the two-year period from January, 1950 to December, 1951. (The number opened for business exceeded that closed down by 92,000.) Private industries in the past three years have increased the total value of their production by about 70 per cent.

Private factories and shops are not only recovering and developing, they are also undergoing a process of readjustment and reorgani-

sation. Private businesses, beneficial to the national economy and the people's livelihood and urgently needed by the state and the people, are developing rapidly, while those which are not beneficial are gradually dying out. The state economy is able more and more effectively to exert its leadership in regard to private industry and commerce. The large private factories have, in most cases, received orders from the government or from state enterprises. Some private factories have even signed long-term contracts to sell all their products to the state or state enterprises thus taking a big stride towards joint state and private operation.

The individual enterprises of peasants and handicraftsmen are being organised into co-operatives, through which they receive guidance and assistance from the government and state enterprises. By June this year, there were more than 36,000 basic co-operatives with a total membership of 106 million throughout

CO-OPERATIVES



SHARE OF TOTAL RETAIL TRADE AND PURCHASES OF FARM PRODUCTS

the country. All were organised after liberation. Last year, the co-operatives handled 10 per cent of the nation's retail sales (including both public and private), and from 60 to 70 per cent of the total purchases of farm products (not including that part handled by private merchants). It is clear from this how important is the position occupied by co-operatives among the five sectors of our economy.

From the above facts, we can readily see that the people's China is no longer a semi-colonial and semi-feudal country. Nor is it a capitalist country but a New Democratic coun-

try—a people's country. Her national economy includes a state-owned sector that is of a Socialist character and is daily growing in strength. It is extending its control over the important economic lifelines of the country. It has definitely established its leadership over the various other sectors of the national economy.

Taking the industry and commerce of the country as a whole, private capitalist enterprises still outnumber the state-owned enterprises, but the former are becoming daily more and more dependent on the leadership of the latter. This is especially true of the larger-sized private factories. By receiving and fulfilling orders from the government or in other ways, they are gradually joining in planned production under the leadership of our state-owned economy. This is clearly a different situation to the unplanned production of the past. State-owned economy, through the co-operatives, is giving direction to the dispersed and multitudinous farms and small workshops of the individual economy of the peasants and artisans, which can thus be helped to engage in production according to the plans of the state. In this way, it becomes possible for us to carry on planned economic construction as well as guarantee that our country, after a certain period of economic construction, will gradually and steadily progress on the road to Socialism.

Forthcoming Economic Construction

Soon after the establishment of the Central People's Government, Chairman Mao Tse-tung instructed us that we must strive for a fundamental change for the better in our financial and economic situation within a period of about three years or a little longer. Last year, Chairman Mao Tse-tung again instructed us that from 1950 to 1952 we must make full preparations for large-scale economic construction. This glorious mission assigned to us by Chairman Mao Tse-tung has now been successfully completed through the common efforts made by the people's governments of various levels and by the entire people of the country. In three years, we have already successfully completed the mission of restoring and reorganising our national economy. Our industrial and agricultural production this year has already been generally restored to the record levels achieved in China's history, and the more important branches of our production have already exceeded those levels. Large-scale eco-

omic construction started in the Northeast this year and will soon begin in the rest of the country. Under the brilliant leadership of Chairman Mao Tse-tung and the Central People's Government, people all over the country have demonstrated their zeal and determination in the fight for the industrialisation of China.

With our New Democratic political and economic system and with the assistance rendered us by the Soviet Union, the tempo of our economic development is very high. Our economic system is progressive, but we are still technically backward and ours remains an agricultural country. Modern industry constitutes a smaller percentage of the national economy of our country than that in the People's Democracies in Eastern Europe. The efforts of the people of the whole country must, therefore, still be exerted over a somewhat lengthy period in order to transform China from a backward agricultural country into an advanced industrial country. First of all, we must make use of our rich resources to develop our heavy industries including iron, steel, machine-building, coal, electric power, petroleum, etc. on a large scale so as to lay the foundations for industrialisation. In order to exploit the rich resources of the Northwest and the Southwest, we must make a big effort in building railways and improving communications. At the same time, we must also develop light industry and agricultural production so as to meet the rising daily needs of our people and the demand for raw materials by our growing industry. Economic construction requires a great number of technical personnel. Our cultural and educational activities must also show a corresponding development. So we must develop the various kinds of economic and cultural activities around the central task of developing our heavy industry.

The speed of our economic development has been very high, yet the Chinese people are not content with what has been achieved. They will unite under the leadership of Chairman Mao Tse-tung and the Central People's Government and pool their forces to struggle for industrialisation and for the bright perspective of Socialism in accordance with the over-all national construction plan. We will go from victory to victory and fulfil the glorious mission that history has given us.

Three Years of Cultural and Educational Work in the New China

Yu Chi-tung

The culture and education of the People's Republic of China shall be new-democratic—national, scientific and popular.

—The "Common Programme" of the P.P.C.C.

It is three years since the People's Political Consultative Conference proclaimed the People's Republic of China and incorporated into the basic law of the country these historic words defining the character of the culture and education of the new People's Republic. The *Common Programme* further set the main tasks of the People's Government in these fields as the "raising of the cultural level of the people, the training of personnel for national construction work, the eradicating of feudal, comprador and fascist ideology and the developing of the ideology of service to the people."

Under the people's rule, fundamental changes have been made to free China from her status of a semi-colonial and semi-feudal country. Alongside the revival and remoulding of the economy of the country, the People's Government has been rehabilitating, reforming and developing cultural and educational work to serve national construction and the needs of the people, among whom the labouring people, the workers and peasants, occupy first place. Thus a new democratic culture and education is being developed whose guiding ideology is Communism, Marxism-Leninism.

In the course of the last three years, the Chinese people with their glorious cultural tradition and love of peace have, under the leadership of Chairman Mao Tse-tung and the Chinese Communist Party, overcome many difficulties in building up culture and education. Assistance has come from the Soviet Union. Cultural exchange and co-operation has developed between China, the People's Democracies, and the peace-loving people all over the world. The outlay on culture and education has risen year by year, and notable developments have taken place in this sphere of work.

In this short article, we can only attempt a brief outline of successes which have been

achieved in the fields of culture and education—in ideological remoulding, in the schools and institutions of higher learning, in mass education, the press and publication, the theatre, cinema and radio.

Schools and Institutions of Higher Learning

Today, 43,173,540 children are in primary schools, representing a rise of 82.2 per cent over Kuomintang days (1945), thus 60 per cent of the school-age children are getting an elementary education. In the next five or six years, we aim to have 80 per cent of these children at school. In the latter half of 1951, there were 3,998 secondary schools with 1,568,000 students; this is an increase in students of 4.8 per cent over the pre-liberation (1946) figure.

Special attention is paid to the education of workers and peasants and their children. Children of worker and peasant origin constitute 81 per cent of primary school students and 60 per cent of secondary school students. In institutions of higher learning, the figure for the whole country is 20 per cent. Cadres of worker and peasant origin in government and mass organisations have been sent in considerable numbers to study at institutions of higher learning. At the People's University, opened in 1951 near Peking, students of worker and peasant origin number more than 2,500 constituting about 70 per cent of the student body.

Emphasis is placed at present on the reform of higher education. It is being reorganised to serve the needs of national construction by making the fullest use of existing educational facilities to train ever greater numbers of cadres for construction and at the same time increase the proportion of students of worker-peasant origin. With this end in view, teaching systems are now being overhauled, curricula readjusted, textbooks im-

proved and tasks worked out for each institution. There were 210 institutions of higher education in the latter half of 1951 catering for over 155,000 students. Compared to the Kuomintang period (1946), this is a 13.51 per cent increase in the number of institutions and a 20.28 per cent increase in the number of students, a growing number of whom are of working class or peasant origin.

At the same time, a wide network of spare-time and short-term courses and schools has been organised for workers and peasants. There are now 13,000 workers and peasants studying at 41 short-term secondary schools. Students at these schools take special courses which reduce the ordinary six-year period to three years. This year, 2,700,000 workers are studying at spare-time schools, that is, receive education after working hours in which such subjects as Chinese and mathematics are taught.

About 14 million peasants studied in spare-time schools in 1951. It is expected that the figure in 1952 will reach 24 million. Last winter, more than 42 million peasants attended winter schools for literacy.

This year, the widespread adoption of a quick method of learning Chinese characters initiated by Chi Chien-hua, a teacher in the People's Liberation Army, will greatly speed up the campaign against illiteracy. After being tested in the P.L.A., Chi Chien-hua's method has been taken up in factories, villages and among city illiterates. The North China authorities plan to eliminate illiteracy among 800,000 industrial workers by the end of this year and wipe out illiteracy throughout the whole area in four to five years. Northeast China authorities plan to wipe out their area's illiteracy in the next five years. The other administrative areas are likewise making their plans for utilising the quick method. It is expected that illiteracy will be wiped out among more than 10 million cadres of worker and peasant origin, industrial workers and peasants by the end of this year or the spring of 1953.

With rehabilitation in the main completed and on the eve of the campaign for large-scale economic construction to industrialise the country, the demand for cadres for the industrial, economic, cultural and other fields will grow a thousandfold. The training of these cadres is therefore one of the most important tasks facing the government.

Large numbers of short-term schools and classes, special courses, supplementary schools and classes and correspondence schools are meeting these requirements. Not only must specialists be trained to meet the needs of the rising industries, but a suitable level of scientific knowledge must be spread among the communities which so urgently need it. Plans are being made to divide some university courses into two grades, one lasting four years and the other only two years. The shorter course will enable graduates to participate in practical work in certain assigned fields. They will, however, continue their studies after a period of practical work, that is, they will complete a normal university course, as it were, by "instalments." Reshuffling of university departments will enable five times the present number of students to study technology.

During the next five years, tens of thousands of top level technicians will be trained for industry, agriculture, transport, medicine and other branches of national construction.

Reform of the School System

Reform of the school system initiated by the Decision Concerning the Reform of the Educational System of October 1, last year, will enable the educational system to meet the needs of the country more fully. The activities of schools of all types and grades ranging from kindergartens to universities have been co-ordinated into one system. The new types of schools—the short-term primary schools, the spare-time schools and literacy classes for workers and peasants, the workers' and peasants' middle schools and the more advanced spare-time schools—have been given the same status as the regular primary and middle schools. Our political training schools, a new type of school brought into being by the people's revolution, have also been integrated into the system. Thus all schools are open to the workers and peasants, and all graduates from the various grades will have equal opportunities to enter institutions of higher learning. The new system will enable a new intelligentsia of worker and peasant origin to be trained.

While short-term training is emphasised, where the need for qualified cadres is especially urgent, an adequate standard of education is prescribed in view of the needs of the development of the country.

The government's Decision Concerning the Readjustment of Subsidies for the Students of the Whole-Country's Institutions of Higher Learning and Secondary Schools which came into operation in the autumn term of this year will enable 1,155,000 students to attend school free of charge. This number does not include those children of martyrs, soldiers, and government employees who are already exempted from school fees in primary schools. All students at institutions of higher learning will also benefit from the new decision, whereas in 1951, only 65 per cent of them received subsidies. The average amount they will now be paid is an increase of 184 per cent over that of last year. All students in secondary technical schools and teachers' normal training schools are entitled to the subsidies. Only 50 per cent of the secondary technical school students received stipends last year. The average amount of assistance paid is an increase of 171 per cent over that of last year.

The decision has opened wide the school gates to the children of the masses of the labouring people and enabled many thousands more to take up studies to help in the large-scale construction of the country.

Science Research and Popularisation

The People's Government gives powerful support to scientific research. State appropriations for research are twelve times more than under the Kuomintang regime.

Institutes and laboratories working under the direction of the Academia Sinica—which directs thirty-one research organisations—are conducting research in physio-mathematics, biology, earth science, and social science. Besides these organisations, some of the leading universities also maintain research institutions of a specialised nature partly for the training of post-graduate students and partly to undertake research projects either on behalf of productive enterprises or in co-operation with the corresponding institutions of the Academia Sinica. Excavations have continued in the field of archaeology and much new material has been unearthed. New geological surveys are being made.



The new Department of Chemistry building completed this year for the Northeast Agricultural College

The promotion and dissemination of scientific knowledge among the people is regarded as an important function of scientists and scientific institutions. The Bureau for the Popularisation of Science which functions under the Ministry of Culture plays a big role in this work of popularisation with its exhibitions, lectures, pamphlets, periodicals, lantern-slide talks and so on. Altogether 7,500,000 people have attended 11,200 lectures, 4,500 lantern-slide talks, and 400 scientific exhibitions conducted by the bureau, and 120 pamphlets with a total printing of 400,000 copies have been published.

Scientific workers themselves have organised the All-China Association for the Dissemination of Scientific and Technical Knowledge. The association has now 13,000 members. Among them are famous scientists, technologists, teachers, medical workers, engineers, agricultural and forestry experts, etc. In the last six months, it conducted 700 lectures in one field alone, that is, to publicise the new achievements in national construction. The nature of its work can be seen in the subjects covered by the popular lectures—"High Speed Metal Cutting," "Weaving Methods in 1951," "Origin of the World," "New Discoveries of New China's Underground Treasures," "Pests

and Parasites" and "Nodular Cast Iron." In the three months from April to June this year, 6,000 lectures were given on the nation-wide hygiene movement.

Exhibitions arranged in the main cities and in many cases taken on tours to the people have effectively described the scientific achievements of China and the Soviet Union as well as the contributions made in ancient times by great Chinese scholars. In the new China, science has ceased to be the possession of the privileged few, or the exclusive tool of profit making private enterprises. Men of science today not only serve science but they make it their duty to make science serve the people.

Ideological Remoulding

This introduction very properly brings us to consider the work of ideological remoulding that is now proceeding on a nation-wide scale and is essential for the consolidation and advancement of the Chinese people's revolution. Just as the political and economic influence of imperialism and internal feudal reaction is being wiped out in China, so is it necessary in the sphere of culture and education to free the people of China from the ideological influences of imperialism and feudalism. For this, a political study movement of great magnitude has been developed among the Chinese people. As Chairman Mao Tse-tung wrote in *The People's Democratic Dictatorship*:

Once they have a people's state, the people then have the possibility of applying democratic methods on a nation-wide and comprehensive scale to educate and reform themselves.

This is the character of the present study movement which is far-reaching, all-embracing and highly organised. It is designed to wipe away the backward, anti-democratic ideology of imperialism and feudalism. It is an education in internationalism and patriotism; it is a comprehensive education in Marxism-Leninism.

Furthermore, it has been closely linked with the life of the people and the current political tasks confronting the country. In the last three years, we organised the movements to resist American aggression and to aid Korea; for land reform; and for the suppression of counter-revolutionaries. A movement was carried on in government organisations to oppose corruption, waste and bureaucratism and, in

private enterprises, to oppose bribery, tax evasion, stealing of state property, cheating on government contracts, and stealing economic information for speculative purposes. A patriotic health campaign of nation-wide proportions, a campaign of democratic reform, an increase-production-and-practise-economy campaign in the factories, and a campaign for bumper harvests and mutual aid and co-operation in the countryside were all launched at the same time. Political study and ideological remoulding have gone on side by side with these practical movements among the people.

Special emphasis has been placed during political studies on the ideological remoulding of the intellectuals. The progressive intellectuals in China played a useful role during the revolution, and, on the establishment of the Chinese People's Republic, the overwhelming majority supported the People's Government and were willing to work under the leadership of the People's Government. However, they brought with them deep imprints of the old society, and in varying degrees, a number of erroneous ideas. It has, therefore, been vital for them to undertake the remoulding of their ideology in order to make a better contribution to national construction. Chairman Mao Tse-tung said:

Ideological remoulding, first of all of the different types of intellectuals, is one of the important conditions for completing our democratic reforms in various fields and for the gradual industrialisation of our country.

The policy of the People's Government on this question of ideological remoulding is to win over, unite and educate and remould the intellectuals. The purpose is to help the intellectuals establish a revolutionary outlook and the ideology of dialectical and historical materialism, to equip them with the splendid instrument of Marxism-Leninism. Thus they attend lectures and conferences, hear reports, read and study systematically and use the method of criticism and self-criticism in their discussions.

Moreover, by linking their studies with their own thoughts through the mutual help of the study groups, they bring to the surface their old erroneous ideas, which they can then critically analyse.

At the same time, as part of this process of remoulding, the intellectuals are encouraged

to train themselves further and are drawn into the various practical struggles, such as the movements we have mentioned above. They go into the factories and the villages to learn at first hand the actual life of the workers and peasants; some have visited people's volunteers at the Korean war front. Such close contact with the labouring masses and their heroes brings new understanding of the needs and ideals of the people. This has enabled them to develop the viewpoint of service to the labouring masses and the government of the people. They become more active and more efficient.

This ideological remoulding has already shown great success and is still going on. Many professors, writers and artists have written articles in the press for the benefit of others, revealing and criticising their mistaken ideology and expressing determination to correct it.

In this great movement among the intellectuals and artists, a key role has been played by the study of the instructions given by Chairman Mao Tse-tung at the famous Yen-an round-table discussions on literature and art in 1942. It was then that he called on the writers and artists to plunge themselves wholeheartedly into the revolutionary struggle, to master Marxism-Leninism and serve the workers, peasants and people's fighters. These directions serve as the guide to all our creative activities today.

The Press

With liberation, the ownership of the press and newspapers of China passed from the hands of the reactionary Kuomintang and the bureaucratic capitalists into those of the people and their organisations. In every province, there are publicly owned newspapers. Altogether, there are 776 newspapers with a total circulation of 7 million, though naturally the actual readership will be many times the circulation figure, as each single issue is read by very many people. Circulation is increasing steadily as the means of transport and the cultural level in the country rises. In East China statistics show that at the end of 1951, there was one copy of a newspaper for every 101 persons and this year, one copy for every 81 persons. In two or three years from now, it is planned to raise the total circulation of newspapers to at least 10 million.

In addition to newspapers which are published by political parties, such as the national newspaper *Jen Min Jih Pao*, organ of the Central Committee of the Chinese Communist Party, and the *Kwangming Jih Pao*, organ of the China Democratic League, the *Chinese Youth* and the *Chinese Pioneer*, published by the New Democratic Youth League for the young people of the country, there are many papers owned and published by the trade unions. A written language is being created for some of the smaller national minorities, and as literacy develops among them, they, too, will have their daily press.

The daily or weekly newspapers play an inestimable role in uniting the people throughout the country, raising their political consciousness and mobilising them to carry out the great national campaigns for social progress and national construction. The rubbish that the KMT press used to print is rejected by China's press today. As the Decision Regarding the Promotion of Press Work promulgated in April, 1950 puts it, the newspapers now "devote prominent space for reporting on the labour of the people in production, publicising the experiences of success as well as the lessons of error derived in the work of production, and of financial and economic management."

Editors, reporters and commentators are required to "foster an honest and practical working style of investigation and research" and "maintain close links with the masses of the people, organisations and cadres."

The ties between the editor and the masses are very close. For instance, during the campaign for signatures to the Stockholm Peace Appeal, as many as 611,053 persons went to the office of the *People's Daily* to affix their signatures to the appeal. Recently, the paper received an average of sixty letters a day denouncing the use of germ warfare and American delay in the Korean armistice talks. The *People's Daily* receives an average of 428 letters a day from its readers. All are carefully considered and many published which expose unhealthy methods of work in government organs. One of the tasks of the press in New China is to aid in the development of criticism and self-criticism. Following a decision of the press administration in April, 1950, the press has played its part fully in making constructive

criticisms of the work of government departments. This genuinely democratic aspect of press work, which makes well substantiated criticisms in public irrespective of the position of the individual, enables the people to steadily assume greater powers of supervision over public administration.

Books and Periodicals

This year, 6,000 titles were published, totalling 1,000 million copies. Within a few days of publication, one and a quarter million copies of the first volume of the *Selected Works of Mao Tse-Tung* were sold out. Of particular interest is the great number of books translated from the Soviet Union and the European People's Democracies. Books of social science, including the works of Marx, Engels, Lenin and Stalin have sold 58,430,000 copies. These works as well as the translations of the works of modern Soviet writers are necessary for the work of ideological remoulding and the vision of the great future that lies before China. Many translations of the works of progressive writers in the capitalist world have been made and published. The publication of periodicals has also broken all records. In 1951, 175,000,000 copies of periodicals were printed. The bi-weekly *Handbook of Current Affairs* has a circulation of 3 million.

Cinema and Theatre

The development of China's film industry is eloquent testimony to the improvement in the economic life of the people and their political and cultural awakening. In 1951, urban cinema audiences numbered more than 220 million people, while 1,800 mobile projection teams gave film shows to 140 million people in rural areas and in factories far removed from urban theatres. The Hollywood films which once inculcated the audiences of old China with the ideology of slavish subjection to imperialism, mixed with lust, robbery and every kind of backward ideas, have disappeared from the cinemas. Today, democratic, progressive and healthy films stimulate the Chinese people, urging them to build up People's China for peace. The films shown nowadays are mainly written, directed and produced in China by our own progressive intellectuals. The splendid films of the Soviet Union and the People's Democracies are eagerly received. Other foreign films which have an educational value and further the cause of peace are also welcomed

by the people. At the same time, Chinese pictures also enjoy a great popularity abroad. Outstanding Chinese films such as *The White-Haired Girl*, *Daughters of China* and *The Victory of the Chinese People* have won very high honours internationally.

The ancient art of the theatre has been given a new youth by the liberation. Old art forms are seeing a renaissance. Many new forms have been developed. The old operas are now more popular than ever. The best of the old has been retained and developed. Many have been skillfully remoulded to rid them of their backward and feudal ideology. A new content has been infused into them. Modern plays and operas in a modern realistic style more closely related to present day life have been introduced and have proved popular. For instance, the outstanding opera *The White-Haired Girl* is an instance of a new form introduced to the theatre. *The New Things Before Us* is a type of the modern play which pokes fun at bureaucratic styles of work. It has been seen by large audiences and helped to encourage good working styles. There has been a brilliant development of many forms of provincial drama such as *ping chu*, and a rebirth of such popular theatrical arts as juggling, acrobatics and dancing. All of which makes the stage of New China truly lively.

The people of New China have a high esteem for contemporary literature and art. The writers and artists now find themselves always fully occupied and pressed for time. The government and the All-China Federation of Literary and Art Circles are helping the writers in every way by arranging for them to experience life in the army, the villages and the factories in order to produce even better works. Good pieces thus produced are welcomed by the masses.

Radio

As in other countries, the radio is constantly growing in popularity. There are now seventy-five radio stations throughout the country, and broadcasts are made in several dialects, for example, Hokkien and Cantonese. It is characteristic of New China that over 3,573 receiving stations have been organised in areas which have no daily newspaper registered. Special monitors take notes of important news and government decisions and relay them to

workers, students, cadres of government and people's organisations. The Central Radio Station broadcasts a dictation speed service which serves over 1,000 rural newspapers with a circulation of over 5,000 copies in remote areas inaccessible by the telegraph.

Mass Cultural Activities

In addition to the winter schools, literacy classes and other special courses which we have already mentioned, many other forms of education bring knowledge and a higher political consciousness to the masses of the people. The number of wall newspapers, public reading rooms and libraries is growing constantly and so, too, are the numbers and activities of the workers' clubs in industrial and mining centres and the cultural activities undertaken and fostered by the peasant associations and co-operatives in the countryside. Many people's palaces of culture have been established in Peking, Shanghai, Tientsin and other cities. In these excellent clubs, the people go for

reading, study, lectures and entertainment and sports, and develop their musical, dramatic and other amateur artistic activities.

From this outline, we can see what tremendous progress has already been made, and is being made, in the cultural and educational work of our country. We still have a long way to go, however, before the people's needs can be fully satisfied. But one thing is clear: all our efforts have been spent in carrying out the instructions of the *Common Programme* and in helping the people to advance along the new democratic road to Socialism. Today, the advance in every sphere of revolutionary and construction work urgently demands a rising cultural standard among the people. The two are inseparable. We do not doubt that educational and cultural workers will keep pace with the demands of the time. And that our people's achievements in the next few years will be fully consonant with the glorious era in which we live.

The British Delegation in China

A British delegation of thirty-one members, invited to China by the Chinese People's Institute of Foreign Affairs, arrived in Peking on September 4.

Organised by the Britain-China Friendship Association, the delegation is headed by Mr. William J. Ellerby, the association's chairman. The members are (in alphabetical order): Mr. Geoffrey Bing, Q.C., M.P.; Mrs. Irene Buckman; Miss Eileen Cullen, member of the BCFA; Mr. Basil Davidson, writer and journalist; Mr. Desmond Donnelly, M.P., and Mrs. Rosemary Donnelly; Professor Benjamin Farrington, of University College, Swansea; Dr. John Fremlin of Birmingham University; Mrs. Angela Holmberg, secretary of the Education Committee, BCFA; Mr. Emrys Hughes, M.P.; Dr. Alan Jacobs, consultant to the Whittington Hospital; Mr. Miles Malleon, actor-producer; Mr. Alexander McCrindle, actor; Mrs. Edna Penn, Assistant Secretary, BCFA; Mr. Norman Pirie, F.R.S.; Mr. Derek Prestwich, member of the National Committee, BCFA; Mrs. Marie Pritt; Lt.-Col. Nicholas Read-Collins, lecturer in current affairs for adult education organisations; Dr. Donald Ross of the University of London; Mr. Thomas Russell, chairman and managing director, London Philharmonic Orchestra; Mr. Sigmund Seifert, solicitor; Dr. Aaron Signy, physician of St. Mary Abbots Hospital, and editor of the *Journal of Clinical Pathology*; Mr. Sidney Silverman, M.P.; Mrs. Nancy Silverman, chairman of the Hampstead Branch, BCFA; Mr. Russell Skinner, architect; Professor Walter Sprott, Head of the Department of Philosophy, University of Nottingham; Professor Edward

Thompson of Birmingham University; Professor George Thomson of Birmingham University; Mr. John Wood, vice-president, Scottish Area, National Union of Mineworkers.

A dinner party in honour of the visiting delegation was given by the Chinese People's Institute of Foreign Affairs in Peking. Chang Hsi-jo, Chairman of the Institute, welcomed them to China. The British guests in reply said that they would convey to the British people the news of the great accomplishments of the Chinese people in peaceful construction.

Since their arrival in Peking, the delegation has visited Peihai park, the Imperial Palace Museum, the Summer Palace, the Tungan market, the Peking Handicraft Shop, the Hsinhua Bookstore and other places. They have seen the films *The White-Haired Girl*, *The Victory of the Inner Mongolian People* and others. The Chinese Youth Art Ensemble, which has just returned from a tour of the U.S.S.R. and the People's Democracies, gave a special performance for them. The delegation visited the village of Kaopaiti in the east suburb of Peking to see the peasants' life there after land reform. They also visited the People's University and Tsinghua University. The All-China Federation of Writers and Artists and the All-China Federation of Scientists met their British colleagues. The visitors will go to Shanghai, Nanking, Hangchow and other places, and part of the group will be in Peking for the October 1 National Day celebrations.

They Want to Live in Peace

Joseph Starobin

Entering the home of Tsui Ching-teh, the model farmer of Tien Chuen, a village outside of Peking, we turned from the doorway directly to a small room on the right. For in the main room, half a dozen youngsters, members of the People's Liberation Army, were seated at the large table. They seemed to be reading. When I asked my guide, she replied that the P.L.A.'s were studying Chinese characters, that is, writing.

Tsui sat down on the *kang* and began telling us how he had laboured in these same fields without a roof over his head, and how it was different now: he was the champion truck gardener, and this house of his had formerly belonged to a landlord. And as Tsui's wife brought in the tea, I glanced at the young lads in the other room. They were trying hard to concentrate on their studies, but their eyes wandered over to us.

Half an hour later, our group was moving on the dusty path towards the hill where the school house was; already the song of the youngsters could be heard. Suddenly, a young lass from the peasant association caught up with us and handed me a note. It was a message in carefully-written characters. And it said:

"Mr. Delegate: On hearing that you are not an imperialist, but a delegate of the American people, we extend you our warmest welcome. We are defenders of the Chinese people—part of the People's Liberation Army. We want peace with your people. And we will defend peace. If the American imperialists launch aggression, however, we will be ready to smash it."

I have saved that remarkable piece of paper. Imagine—here was I, an American, probably the first ever seen in that village. And not so far away, the government which claims to speak in the name of the American people was ordering its generals, its admirals, its lieu-

tenants, its pilots to devastate neighbouring Korea, to menace the frontiers of China.... Perhaps, the older brothers of these lads in Tien Chuen were over there, on the battle-lines.

And yet, it was these P.L.A.'s who took the initiative to stretch out their hand of friendship, to welcome an American friend. Their words were firm, and proud, but friendly. They were a challenge to any honest American's sense of responsibility for his own people and history. And they epitomise what I have found everywhere in these first six weeks of my first visit to China.

I must admit that even though I am an American progressive, I did not quite expect the objectivity, the genuine interest, the gracious and simple friendship which one feels in China. I have come from a year's living in France, where almost every railway bridge has a big white-washed slogan: "American! Go Home!" I remember saying to friends before I left for New China: "Gosh, it's going to be something. After all, the Chinese are fighting.... I can just imagine the atmosphere there...."

But this has not been true for me at all. Of course, China is not France. No American soldiers swagger in these streets of wondrous Peking; no M.P.'s careen their jeeps on the sidewalks. The Chinese people are masters in their own house. And the Chinese fighting man has taken the measure of the American soldier: nobody here is afraid of the U.S. army, or the navy, or the air force. True also, one finds posters in the bookshops which remind every citizen of why he must aid Korea, and resist American aggression.

And yet, there is an atmosphere here which is so calm, so far-sighted. Only a great nation with a long history, which has seen the petty dictators come and go, only a self-confident people, sure of its future, could behave this way.

The whole world knows by now how fraternally the Chinese people are treating our

Joseph Starobin is a foreign correspondent in China for several American and Canadian papers.

P.O.W.'s in the camps. I have not been there myself. But Australian and British friends have confirmed what had been evident from the press.

The G.I.'s had been poisoned by propaganda; is not my whole people under this same drug, after all?

They had been panicked by fear, driven by hatred and lies. And now they find that the Chinese not only treat them in strict accord with the Geneva conventions, but go out of their way to help them, to clothe them, to feed them, to provide them with books and recreation. In a word, humane treatment by humane people.

And this approach is what one feels on the streets, as you stroll along in the early autumn twilight. Curiosity—yes? The little kids turn to stare at the stranger. But hostility? That I have not felt.

I have wandered alone in the bookstalls of the old Peking market-places, and watched the young folk, chanting "do-re-mi" as they dance on a Saturday night in lovely Peihai park. And I have eaten with an individual Chinese friend in a restaurant, or in a large company of foreign friends. I have interviewed government ministers and given lectures on American affairs to professors, students, experts. Always, there was this genuine friendliness, which was not, I am sure, a personal matter. Nor was it intended, it was clear, only for the progressives of America. It reflected something deeply felt in China for the American people, as distinguished from the small handful, the gang that temporarily misrules my great country. The Chinese make this distinction. Their policy is based on it. They live up to their policy in the small things as well as the big.

Is this my own experience alone? No, I have talked with many American friends who have lived and worked here for years. For example, Bill Hinton, a chip off the old marble of Vermont, was telling me how he hailed a bus one afternoon, on his way in to Peking. It was crowded with young Chinese workers. And as he came through the door, a youngster up front let out a yell: "Hurrah for our Soviet friend! He is helping us build the new China!"

Bill had been mistaken for a Soviet expert, for one sees a few of them on the streets of the city. He was embarrassed, and explained

that he was just an American, teaching on a state farm nearby, showing how tractors could be used. The bus was momentarily silent. Then the youngster up front shouted: "Ah, you must be an American friend if you are helping us on tractors." And the whole bus echoed with cheers once more. "Hurrah for our American friend!"

I like this story. Chinese, Russians, Americans... how well they could live and work together on the shores of this great ocean, whose name describes what it should be: Pacific.

And so my mind comes back to that village. After visiting the school house, taking photos of the kids and the young teachers, we made our way back to the main house to have lunch with the head of the village, the model truck gardener, and the county-agent, as we would call him. They were older men, heads shaven, dressed in their deep blue denims, very solemn. And I said, after asking so many questions, perhaps our hosts would like to question me a few.

What a revelation! Here in this village of 1,522 souls, off the main road, they knew a world about American politics—more than could be said about the knowledge of the New China among the farm folk of Missouri or the Dakotas.

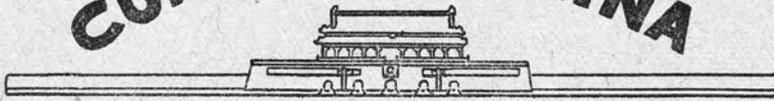
One villager wished to know why Truman had decided not to run. Was it because his policies were discredited? Another wished to know the precise differences between Stevenson and Eisenhower. Whom would the American voters choose, did I think, and why?

And they wished to know why American working people were not doing more to halt this ghastly mess in Korea.

I had the impression that they were tasting my answers carefully. They were turning them over like the hot candied turnips we had just had for lunch....

And then we shook hands to leave. It was the county-agent—who is, by the way, one of the eight Communists in this village and respected by all—who said to me: "Send our greetings to the farmers of America. Tell them what you have seen here. Let your countrymen know how much better the workers and peasants of China live than before. And let them know that we have nothing against them. We wish to live and work in peace...."

CURRENT CHINA



U.S. Bombing Condemned

The Chinese people have unanimously condemned the ruthless bombing of Korean cities and villages by American aircraft seeking, according to the criminal plan announced by the American command, to terrorise the civilians of 78 towns.

The China Peace Committee has cabled the peace committees of various countries appealing to them to call on all peace-loving people to join in protesting against the savage bombing of peaceful cities and in resolutely curbing these latest outrages by the American generals.

"The Chinese people fully support the solemn protest of the Korean people and will respond to their just appeal by deeds," the cable said. The All-China Federation of Labour, the All-China Students' Federation and the China New Democratic Youth League, the China Federation of Scientific Societies, the All-China Federation of Democratic Women and many other people's organisations have denounced the continuing U.S. crimes against the Korean people.

Progress in North China

North China industries including iron, steel, coal, power, machinery, cement and textiles have in the main been restored to full production. In some branches, consistent efforts by the workers in the past three years have enabled the peak production levels of the past to be exceeded. This year's scheduled output of steel ingots and pig iron will outstrip last year's by 70%; machine-tool production will increase by 150%, electric motors by 250%, and coal and power by 18%.

The 1952 production of grain for North China will surpass the average of the five years (1931-1937) before the war by 3%; cotton output will outstrip the highest pre-war level by 70%. Sixty per cent, in some areas over 80%, of the peasants have organised them-

selves into mutual-aid teams. Over 1,600 agricultural producers' co-operatives have been established throughout the area. It is estimated that 80% of the agricultural labour force in North China will be organised on a co-operative basis by the end of this year.

An emulation campaign is developing in the trading and co-operative systems to fulfil purchasing and selling plans, speed up capital turnover, economise in transport costs and reduce production costs. To promote trade between the town and the countryside, a commodity exchange exhibition is to be held in Tientsin this October on an even bigger scale than last year. Similar meetings will be held in other parts of North China.

Railway Brings Prosperity

The Chengtu-Chungking railway which was opened to traffic on July 1, the 31st anniversary of the Communist Party of China, is fulfilling all the expectations of the government and people. It is speeding up the flow of goods between city and countryside in Szechuan, and lowering the cost of living.

The new line is bringing large quantities of foodstuffs, industrial raw materials, fuel and local products from the rural areas to the cities in return for industrial goods. At all the stations peasants are to be seen bringing rice, beans, vegetables and fruits for despatch to markets hitherto inaccessible to them.

Agricultural and industrial production have been stimulated by the 505-km. line which took the liberated Chinese people only two years to build. For instance, large quantities of bean-cake and chemical fertiliser have been despatched at greatly reduced cost to the sugar-producing districts of Neikiang. Peasants expect a 40% increase in sugar cane yield this year to raise production still further in that rich area. Transport to refineries by rail has reduced

freight charges by as much as 80%. Supplies of low-priced coal by rail have reduced the cost of sugar refining by 11%. Because transport costs to the city have been cut, one effect is that sugar is now cheaper in Chungking and Chengtu, to name only two towns.

Other difficulties of the peasants have been solved by the Chengtu-Chungking railway. Formerly, one-third of the surplus grain of the rich rice counties of Yungchuan, Tatsu and Jungchang in east Szechuan could not be transported to other areas, and, in consequence, the price of rice in the locality was as low as 35% below the prevailing market price. Today, thanks to the railway, the peasants of those three counties are getting the normal price for the first time.

A City Revived

Shuyang, a city on the northern Kiangsu plain, was one of a number of places ravaged by the Yi river floods virtually every year.

In 1949, the floods washed away the crops, livestock, houses and almost everything else throughout the Shuyang area.

Shortly after liberation, the People's Government launched the gigantic Shu and Yi river control projects to rid the vast plains in southern Shantung and northern Kiangsu of the centuries-old menace of flood. The main canal nearly equal in size to the Suez canal was finished in 7 months, and it is worthwhile recalling that the Suez took ten years to complete. This year there were no floods. As in all other areas affected by the great project, Shuyang county's agricultural production has rapidly increased. The wheat yield this year has outstripped that of 1950 by more than 70%. It is anticipated that the total yield of farm produce will be four times the 1950 figure.

Shuyang city now bustles with life and trading activity. The market place is filled with stalls doing a brisk business in grain, cloth, livestock and draught animals.

Co-ops sold more goods in the first half of this year than in the whole of 1950. In 1949 Shuyang had only 180 commercial and industrial enterprises; now the number has grown fourfold. The state department store which sold 1,000 million yuan worth of goods in

1950 sold 2,500 million in the first half of this year alone. It is expected that sales will total 10,000 million yuan by the year's end.

Good Harvests

Good rice harvests are reported from Central-South, East and Southwest China, the main rice producing areas. Southwest China registered a 5% increase. Harvests in all other areas showed increases of 10-20% over last year. Hunan province brought in its biggest spring rice crop since liberation, 20% above last year's. Some areas in Kiangsi achieved as much as a 50% increase.

Northeast China harvested a record wheat crop. Average output per hectare of the newly garnered spring wheat was 950 kilogrammes, 20% above the previous record of 1950, and 40% above the puppet "Manchukuo" record made in 1943.

Sinkiang Grapes

In Putaokou, a famous grape producing centre in the Turfan basin, Sinkiang province, all vineyards have topped their production targets of a 5% increase in yields over 1951. Some growers achieved a 50% increase. It is estimated that the output of raisins this year will be 300 tons or more. And the demand for Putaokou raisins is growing at an unprecedented rate. In order to facilitate quick distribution, the People's Government has granted a loan of 200 million yuan to the growers to cover transportation expenses.

News Briefs

A Chinese delegation to study culture and education in the fraternal countries of Eastern Europe left Peking on September 1.

The Corban (Id Al-Adha) Festival, which fell on September 1, was celebrated by all Moslems in China.

In Peking, after a mosque service, Moslems adopted a message to the Preparatory Committee for the Peace Conference of the Asian and Pacific Regions expressing their warm support for the conference.

All freight charges and passenger fares along the Yangtse river were reduced on September 1. The Mingsheng Shipping Company, Ltd. formerly privately owned will now be operated as a joint state

and private enterprise. The addition of the state as partner will enable the 20-year old company which owns ships totalling more than 43,000 tons displacement to expand its operations.

Chronicle of Events

August 21

A new airline between Shanghai, Hankow and Chungking operated by the People's Aviation Corporation of China opens to traffic.

August 23

The rail-laying on the new 360-kilometre Tienshui-Lanchow railway is completed, 10 months ahead of schedule.

August 27

Hsinhua News Agency reports that in the period between July 25 and August 25, 172 groups of American aircraft, in a total of 822 flights, intruded over 15 cities in Northeast China.

September 1

The Central People's Government announces the formation of the First and Second Ministries of Machine Building, the Ministry of Civil Engineering, the Ministry of Geology and the Ministry of Food.

September 2

The seventh anniversary of the founding of the Democratic Republic of Viet-Nam is enthusiastically greeted by the Chinese people. The documentary film *Viet-Nam's War of Resistance*, a joint production of the Peking Film Studio and the Film Studio of Viet-Nam which won the "Fight for Freedom" prize in the 7th International Film Festival, is shown in Peking and other major cities.

A Burmese delegation headed by Thakin Tin, Minister for Land Nationalisation of the Union of Burma, arrives in Canton on a tour to observe land reform in China.

September 3

All newspapers frontpage the greeting exchanged between Chairman Mao Tse-tung and J. V. Stalin, Chairman of the Council of Ministers of the U.S.S.R., on the 7th anniversary of the victory in the War of Resistance Against Japanese Aggression. Mass meetings are held throughout the country in celebration of the day.

The telephone service between Peking and Prague is formally opened.

The Central People's Government announces the formation of the Ministry of Foreign Trade and the Ministry of Commerce and the dissolution of the Ministry of Trade.

CORRECTION: In the last issue, No. 17, 1952, the item for August 20 in the Chronicle of Events should read: "An agreement has been reached on a one-year programme of cultural co-operation between China and Hungary."

LETTERS

For Peace and Freedom

OKAZAKI, JAPAN

Mr. Masaki Hatanaka, the chief secretary of the Preliminary Council of the Asia-Pacific Peace Conference, recently called on Mikassanomiya (younger brother of the emperor). In reply to the visitor's question, Mikassanomiya explicitly declared his support for the conference, saying: "I think it would be better if Japanese representatives attend at the conference." He was positively in agreement with the objects of this conference in as much as it stood for the cause of the peace and the smoothening of international and trade relations.

The coming Asia-Pacific Peace Conference has been winning more and more support of the broad masses including labourers, tillers, a part of the ruling class and, as in this case, even members of royal family. With such nation-wide support, the Japanese people are sure to send their delegation to the conference.

T. SUZAWA.

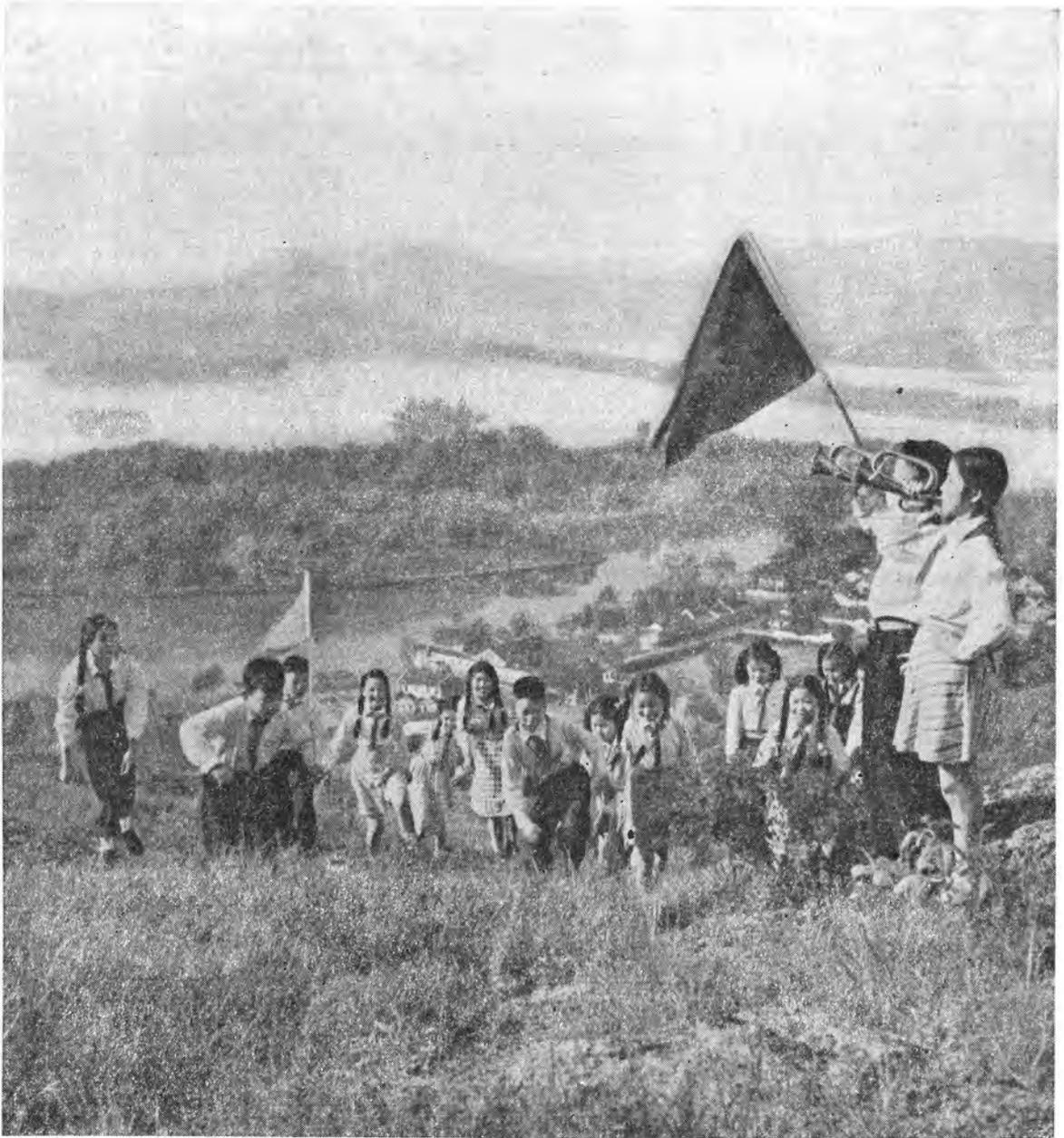
Truth Will Be Victorious

WESTFALEN, WEST GERMANY

In West Germany all items on the question of germ warfare are suppressed, and we can only use discussions, etc. for telling of these mean and devilish acts by the American generals. Also by talking to our neighbours, friends, relatives, or to people in the streets, in shops, at places of work we can bring the facts to people every day. And so truth will be victorious, and finally conquer the world.

The struggle of West German youth is growing. They will fulfil the pledge they made at the 3rd World Youth Festival for Peace in Berlin last August: "At this solemn hour we swear to remain faithful to the cause of peace." For this great pledge a young peace-fighter died, murdered in a mad attack by the Adenauer police-gangs. By such terror actions the American-controlled Bonn regime hopes to intimidate our youth and all peace-loving people into giving up their fight for peace—the only fight worth waging. However, times have changed since fascist Germany was defeated in 1945. Today we are a part of 800 million people who love peace above all, and who fight to secure peace. Knowing this, we can't be intimidated by terror but we shall unite ourselves to become stronger and stronger. Our ideas can't be defeated by murder or torture, nor by imprisonment. Our ideas are the truth, and finally they will conquer the world.

F. J.



YOUNG PIONEERS OF NEW CHINA

In the background is the West lake, Hangchow,
one of China's most famous beauty spots