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CHAIRMAN MAO TSE-TUNG

A Great Victory for Peace

The Chinese people are happy and proud to greet the representatives of the Asian and Pacific peoples gathered in China's capital to support the noblest cause in the world—the cause of peace!

For it is in order to build their own lives in peace and to live in peace with all other nations that the Chinese people have stood with such magnificent heroism and staunchness through decades of epic struggle to gain the victory of the liberation.

Overcoming all obstacles set up by the enemies of peace, the delegates of over thirty countries have gathered for this conference of the Asian and Pacific regions to discuss the vital issue of peace—an issue that stirs the hearts of the 1,600 million people whom they represent. Irrespective of differences in political views, of nationality, religion or profession, they have found common ground for joint efforts in the cause of peace.

The conference is opening in the midst of an unparalleled upsurge of popular support in the countries of this vast area. It has been convened as a result of a great struggle and victory against the forces of war. The peace-loving peoples were determined to discuss their common tasks in the cause of peace. The declaration of the Preparatory Conference last June itemised these questions: the peaceful settlement of the Korean question on a fair and reasonable basis and the reasonable solution of all questions relating to peace in the Asian and Pacific regions including Viet-Nam, Laos, Khmer (Cambodia), Malaya and other countries; the ending of the remilitarisation of Japan so that a democratic, independent Japan may be established; the gaining of national independence for the peoples of these regions who are still oppressed so that they may develop in democracy and freedom; the strengthening of the ties of peaceful co-operation between all peoples, ending the wasteful armaments race through international disarmament and the banning of inhuman atomic, bacteriological, chemical and all other weapons of mass destruction; the ending of embargoes and blockades and the development of mutually beneficial world trade and free cultural intercourse between all peoples; the application of the prin-

ciples and spirit of the United Nations Charter which demands the peaceful settling of differences between nations and the reaching of agreement between the Great Powers.

The fact that the conference, in spite of all obstacles, has been assembled to discuss these questions shows how this appeal answered the general desire of the peoples.

Who can doubt the desire for peace of the peoples of Asia and the Pacific? The peoples of China, the U.S.S.R. and Mongolia engaged in their great works of peaceful construction have one desire—peace. Who can doubt that the people of Korea, battling a vile invader, yearn for a just and reasonable peace? Who can doubt that the peoples of Viet-Nam and of Malaya bravely fighting against napalm-dropping, head-hunting imperialist troops, want peace? The peoples of the Philippines are fighting for their independence against a corrupt, U.S.-dominated tyranny. The peoples of Latin-America and other countries in this area are rising against the adverse effects of the U.S. aggressive plans on the Pacific area, against the provocative U.S. war propaganda and the embargoes and blockades that impoverish them by obstructing their normal avenues of trade. The people of Japan are suffering the humiliations of a foreign occupation. They see their country betrayed by a clique of American puppets and the return to power of the fascist thugs and militarists who brought their country to ruin.

The peoples of Asia and the Pacific see the evidence of the inhuman crime of germ warfare let loose among them by the American troops and the deadly threat it presents to their existence. Who can doubt that these peoples seek peace with all their heart and soul?

In their opposition to this conference the enemies of the people have further unmasked themselves as a small and desperate minority bent on war. They have resorted to slander and persecution of the peace movements and partisans of peace. Some governments, slavishly following Washington's lead have refused to issue passports to the delegates. In Japan, the Yoshida puppet government did not hesitate to use violence in attacking peace delegates demanding their right of obtaining passports. These attacks on the

peace movements alone prove how urgent is the need to save peace.

It is clear how desperate are the enemies of the people and peace. Their utterances are becoming still more wild. General Eisenhower, the Republican candidate for the U.S. presidency, calls for a "crusade" against the peaceful lands where the people rule. His ferocious aggressiveness vies with the ravings of Truman and Acheson. The American-sponsored militarisation of Japan goes on apace; Japanese troops, armaments and bases are being used increasingly to feed the aggressive U.S. war machine in Korea. A U.S.-dominated Pacific war alliance patterned after the aggressive North Atlantic Pact is being hurriedly created.

In face of these increasing threats to peace in Asia and the Pacific, this conference of the peoples will be a clarion call to strengthen the forces of peace still more.

The Mighty Force of the Sino-Soviet Alliance

The unbreakable fraternal alliance between China and the Soviet Union, having a total population of nearly 700 million, has been steadily developing. This truth is once more and forcibly demonstrated by the Sino-Soviet communique on the transfer of the Chinese Changchun railway to the government of the People's Republic of China, and the notes exchanged between the Minister for Foreign Affairs of the People's Republic of China and the Minister for Foreign Affairs of the U.S.S.R., extending the time-limit for the joint use of the Chinese naval base of Port Arthur. The communique and notes demonstrate that in the new international situation, co-operation between China and the Soviet Union is perfectly sincere and selfless, and is based on the fundamental interests of the people of both countries, particularly as regards the actual interests of China.

The highly enthusiastic and selfless aid which the Soviet government and people have given the Chinese government and people during the past three years is long known to the whole world. The Chinese people feel immeasurably inspired and grateful for the noble

The full text of the editorial of the *People's Daily*, September 16, 1952.

It will help to strengthen the peace movement of the people of the United States whose vanguard is already fighting against the war policies of its rulers which threaten the American people no less than all others.

The success of the conference will administer another and still more telling defeat to the small clique which hopes to profit from war and which tries to spread enmity among the peoples.

In mobilising the peoples of this great area—three-fourths of the population of the world—for the cause of world peace, in preparing to bring their united determination for peace to the coming World People's Congress for Peace, the Peace Conference of the Asian and Pacific Regions will carry the struggle to save peace a great deal further along the road to final victory. Human reason and justice and the spirit of friendship among the peoples will undoubtedly triumph over the brute force of aggression and war!

friendship of the Soviet people. A profound feeling of internationalism has made the two peoples spiritually one. At the same time, this friendly co-operation fully conforms with the interests of all peace- and justice-loving people of the East, and the rest of the world.

Now, in accordance with the *Agreement on the Chinese Changchun Railway, Port Arthur and Dairen* signed in Moscow between China and the Soviet Union on February 14, 1950, the Soviet government is transferring to the government of the People's Republic of China, without compensation, all its rights in the joint administration of the Chinese Changchun railway with all the properties belonging to the railway. The two Powers have also agreed to set up a joint Sino-Soviet Commission which will complete the transfer to China of the Chinese Changchun railway before December 31, 1952, in accordance with the time-limit stipulated in the original agreement. Regarding the time-limit for the withdrawal of Soviet troops from the jointly-used Chinese naval base of Port Arthur, the Soviet government has agreed to the proposal of the Chinese government to prolong the time-limit until such time as peace treaties are concluded between China and Japan and between the Soviet Union

and Japan. This further demonstrates the Soviet government's respect for the sovereignty and national honour of China and its unbounded loyalty to the fraternal alliance between China and the Soviet Union.

Why did the Chinese government propose to the Soviet government the extension of the time-limit for the withdrawal of Soviet troops from Port Arthur? The answer is bound up with the present international situation.

Everybody can see that the international situation today shows, generally speaking, an unprecedented strengthening of the forces of peace in the world headed by the Soviet Union on the one hand and, on the other, the desperate efforts made by American imperialism amidst crises, in its attempt to prolong and extend the Korean war and provoke a new war. In the East, the danger of war directly threatens the security of China. There is the danger the United States will continue to prolong and extend its aggressive war against China's neighbour, Korea. The American air force invading Korea is continuing to intrude over Northeast China and is carrying out inhuman bacteriological warfare against the Chinese and Korean people. U.S. forces are still continuing to occupy the Chinese territory of Taiwan, and are blockading China's coast. In particular, the United States is speeding up its revival of Japanese militarism, a revival which creates an increasingly grave war menace.

Manipulated by the United States, the San Francisco conference on September 8, 1951 concluded a unilateral Japanese "peace treaty" without the participation of China, the Soviet Union, India and Burma; and a few hours later, the U.S.-Japanese "security pact" was concluded. On February 28 this year, a U.S.-Japanese "administrative agreement" was also signed. These "treaties" and "agreements" were declared to have "come into effect" as of April 28 this year. At the same time, under the United States' orders, the Yoshida government of Japan went to the extent of signing a so-called "peace treaty between Japan and China" with the remnant Kuomintang group in Taiwan. Facts prove that Japan has refused to conclude an omnilateral peace treaty with the Allied Powers which were at war with Japan in the Second World War, and that, to this moment, Japan has expressed no intention of signing a peace treaty with China and the Soviet Union. On the contrary, Japan's militarists all along have been working hand

in glove with the United States and are relying on the United States in an attempt to unleash new aggressions. Therefore, in his note to A. Y. Vyshinsky, Foreign Minister of the Soviet Union, Chou En-lai, Premier of the Government Administration Council and Foreign Minister of the Central People's Government, says: "In as much as Japan refused to conclude an omnilateral peace treaty and concluded a separate treaty with the United States of America and certain other countries, as a result of which Japan has not, and apparently does not wish to have, any peace treaty with the People's Republic of China and the Soviet Union, conditions dangerous to the cause of peace and conducive to the recurrence of Japanese aggression have arisen."

Obviously, the serious threat presented by Japan's collusion with the United States differs greatly from the situation obtaining when China and the Soviet Union signed the agreements and the treaty of alliance on February 14, 1950. Under the new circumstances, the Chinese government has proposed: "To postpone the withdrawal of Soviet troops from the jointly-used Chinese naval base of Port Arthur, provided for in Article II of the *Sino-Soviet Agreement on Port Arthur* pending the conclusion of a peace treaty between the People's Republic of China and Japan and a peace treaty between the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics and Japan."

The Chinese people's government also suggested that the notes exchanged on September 15 this year between China and the Soviet Union be made a component part of the agreement in regard to the naval base of Port Arthur signed on February 14, 1950. This is entirely necessary. The acceptance and endorsement of the Chinese proposal by the government of the Soviet Union indicates that the Soviet Union is faithfully abiding by the obligations undertaken in the *Sino-Soviet Treaty of Friendship, Alliance and Mutual Assistance*, and that she is prepared to shoulder all responsibilities beneficial to peace in the East and the whole world.

The Chinese proposal not only corresponds to the spirit of the original agreement regarding Port Arthur but is completely in conformity with the main purpose of the *Sino-Soviet Treaty of Friendship, Alliance and Mutual Assistance*. In the original Port Arthur agreement, the prerequisite for the withdrawal of Soviet troops from Port Arthur was the conclusion of a peace treaty with Japan. At the

very beginning, the *Sino-Soviet Treaty of Friendship, Alliance and Mutual Assistance* lays down its main purpose as "jointly to prevent... the rebirth of Japanese imperialism and the resumption of aggression on the part of Japan or any other state that would unite in any form with Japan in acts of aggression," Article I of the treaty again clearly stipulates: "Both contracting parties undertake jointly to take all necessary measures at their disposal for the purpose of preventing the resumption of aggression and violation of peace on the part of Japan or any other state which would unite with Japan directly or in any other form in acts of aggression."

Today, Japan has refused to conclude an omnilateral peace treaty and has signed a unilateral peace treaty with the United States and certain other countries. Japan has no intention of concluding a peace treaty with China and the Soviet Union. It is engaging in armaments expansion and war preparations and is setting up a Japanese army under the name of a "Police Reserve Corps." The "Police Reserve Corps" has already joined the aggressive war in Korea. Japan has become a United States military base and is supplying the United States with large quantities of ammunition, weapons, bacteriological warfare personnel and weapons to slaughter peaceful Chinese and Korean civilians. In league with Japan, the United States has perpetrated acts of aggression, and is launching new aggression, to sabotage peace. Therefore, in accordance with the purpose of the *Sino-Soviet Treaty of Friendship, Alliance and Mutual Assistance*, China and the Soviet Union should adopt the necessary measures. The extension of the time-limit for the withdrawal of Soviet troops from Port Arthur falls precisely within the scope of such measures.

On September 3 of this year, Chairman Mao Tse-tung, in his message of greetings to Generalissimo Stalin on the 7th anniversary of the victory in the War of Resistance Against Japanese Aggression, stated:

"Now that Japanese militarism is being revived again, when the aggressive forces of Japan are again raising their head, inviolable friendship and alliance between China and the Soviet Union are the firm guarantee for averting a repetition of aggression on the part of Japan or any other state which would unite with Japan in acts of aggression, the firm guarantee for preserving peace in the East and throughout the world."

These words of Chairman Mao Tse-tung have great practical significance. Jointly to safeguard peace and security, the two Powers, China and the Soviet Union, cannot but check the aggressive actions of the United States and Japan now working in collusion. The signing of the *Sino-Soviet Treaty of Friendship, Alliance and Mutual Assistance* and the agreement on Port Arthur have, in the past two years and more, played an extremely important role in checking and striking at the imperialist aggressive schemes, and defending peace in the East and the whole world. Now, in the new situation, the notes exchanged between China and the Soviet Union regarding Port Arthur will undoubtedly be of great significance in curbing the aggressive actions of the United States and Japan.

History has shown that the area of Port Arthur has been the bridgehead for imperialist attacks on the North Asian mainland. During the Sino-Japanese War of 1894, the Japanese aggressor army, apart from attacking Northeast China through Korea, landed another main force in the area of Port Arthur. The area of Port Arthur has immense strategic value for the defence of our Motherland, and for checking Japanese aggression. Before the conclusion of an omnilateral peace treaty with Japan, to extend the time-limit for the withdrawal of Soviet troops from Port Arthur is of great importance for the defence of peace in the East and the whole world.

We are convinced that the transfer of the Chinese Changchun railway to China by the Soviet Union and the extension of the time-limit for the withdrawal of Soviet troops from Port Arthur will have the effect of bringing about a further development of friendly co-operation between the two great Powers. The invincible alliance between the two Powers will thereby be strengthened. This will further ensure peace for Asia and the whole world.

This will be another severe blow to the imperialists and their satellites. It will play a major role in the efforts for the conclusion of an omnilateral peace treaty with Japan. All people who love peace and justice will understand that our measures are beneficial to all progressive humanity. The selfless friendship between, and the daily growing strength of, China and the Soviet Union are bound to defeat all the adventurist schemes of the imperialist aggressors.

Documents of the Sino-Soviet Negotiations In Moscow

THE SINO-SOVIET COMMUNIQUE ON THE NEGOTIATIONS BETWEEN THE GOVERNMENT DELEGATION OF THE PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF CHINA AND THE GOVERNMENT OF THE U.S.S.R.

Recently, negotiations were held in Moscow between J. V. Stalin, Chairman of the Council of Ministers of the U.S.S.R.; A. Y. Vyshinsky, Minister for Foreign Affairs of the U.S.S.R., and P. N. Kумыкин, Minister of Foreign Trade of the U.S.S.R. on the one hand, and the government delegation of the People's Republic of China headed by Chou En-lai, Premier of the Government Administration Council and Minister for Foreign Affairs of the Central People's Government of the People's Republic of China, and composed of Chen Yun, Vice-Premier of the Government Administration Council; Li Fu-chun, Vice-Chairman of the Committee of Financial and Economic Affairs of the Government Administration Council; Chang Wen-tien, Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of the People's Republic of China to the U.S.S.R., and Su Yu, Deputy Chief of the General Staff of the People's Revolutionary Military Council, on the other hand.

During these negotiations, important political and economic questions concerning the relations between the People's Republic of China and the Soviet Union were discussed.

The negotiations, which proceeded in an atmosphere of friendly mutual understanding and cordiality, confirmed the determination of both parties to direct their efforts towards the further consolidation and development of friendship and co-operation between them, at the same time, helping in every way to preserve and strengthen peace and international security.

Both parties agreed, in the course of the negotiations, to commence carrying out measures to effect, towards the end of 1952, the transfer by the Soviet government to the government of the People's Republic of China, without compensation, of all its rights to joint administration of the Chinese Changchun railway, together with all properties belonging to the railway.

At the same time, Chou En-lai, Premier of the Government Administration Council and Minister for Foreign Affairs of the People's Republic of China, and A. Y. Vyshinsky, Minister for Foreign Affairs of the U.S.S.R., exchanged notes on the question of extending the term of joint use of the Chinese naval base of Port Arthur.

Moscow, September 16, 1952

THE SINO-SOVIET COMMUNIQUE ON THE TRANSFER OF THE CHINESE CHANGCHUN RAILWAY TO THE GOVERNMENT OF THE PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF CHINA

In accordance with the established relations of friendship and co-operation between the People's Republic of China and the U.S.S.R., an agreement on the Chinese Changchun railway was signed in Moscow on February 14, 1950, under which the Soviet government transfers without compensation to the government of the People's Republic of China all its rights to joint administration of the Chinese Changchun railway together with all properties belonging to the railway. Under this afore-mentioned agreement, the transfer of the Chinese

Changchun railway must be effected not later than by the end of 1952.

At present the government of the People's Republic of China and the Soviet government have begun carrying out measures for implementing this agreement and, with this end in view, agreed to form a joint Sino-Soviet Commission.

The joint Sino-Soviet Commission must complete the transfer of the Chinese Changchun railway to the People's Republic of China not later than by September 15, 1952.

Moscow, September 16, 1952

NOTE FROM CHOU EN-LAI, PREMIER OF THE GOVERNMENT ADMINISTRATION COUNCIL AND MINISTER FOR FOREIGN AFFAIRS OF THE CENTRAL PEOPLE'S GOVERNMENT OF THE PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF CHINA TO A. Y. VYSHINSKY, MINISTER FOR FOREIGN AFFAIRS OF THE U.S.S.R., ON THE QUESTION OF EXTENDING THE TERM OF JOINT USE OF THE CHINESE NAVAL BASE OF PORT ARTHUR

Most Esteemed Comrade Minister,

In as much as Japan refused to conclude an omnilateral peace treaty and concluded a separate treaty with the United States of America and certain other countries, as a result of which Japan has not and apparently does not wish to have any peace treaty with the People's Republic of China and the Soviet Union, conditions dangerous to the cause of peace and conducive to the recurrence of Japanese aggression have arisen.

In view of this and for the purpose of ensuring peace, and also on the basis of the *Treaty of Friendship, Alliance and Mutual Assistance* between the People's Republic of China and the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, the government of the People's Republic of China suggests and asks the Soviet government to agree to postpone the withdrawal of the Soviet troops from the jointly-

used Chinese naval base of Port Arthur, provided for in Article II of the *Sino-Soviet Agreement on Port Arthur*, pending the conclusion of a peace treaty between the People's Republic of China and Japan, and a peace treaty between the Soviet Union and Japan.

If the Soviet government agrees to the afore-stated proposal of the government of the People's Republic of China, the present note and your note of reply will be regarded as a component part of the agreement of February 14, 1950, between the People's Republic of China and the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics concerning the naval base of Port Arthur and will go into force on the day of the exchange of notes.

I beg you, Comrade Minister, to accept assurances of my most profound esteem.

Chou En-lai

September 15, 1952.

NOTE FROM A. Y. VYSHINSKY, MINISTER FOR FOREIGN AFFAIRS OF THE U.S.S.R., TO CHOU EN-LAI, PREMIER OF THE GOVERNMENT ADMINISTRATION COUNCIL AND MINISTER FOR FOREIGN AFFAIRS OF THE CENTRAL PEOPLE'S GOVERNMENT OF THE PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF CHINA

Most Esteemed Comrade Premier and Minister,

I acknowledge the receipt of your note of September 15 of the current year which says: "In as much as Japan refused to conclude an omnilateral peace treaty and concluded a separate treaty with the United States of America and certain other countries, as a result of which Japan has not and apparently does not wish to have any peace treaty with the People's Republic of China and the Soviet Union, conditions dangerous to the cause of peace and conducive to the recurrence of Japanese aggression have arisen.

"In view of this and for the purpose of ensuring peace and also on the basis of the *Treaty of Friendship, Alliance and Mutual Assistance* between the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics and the People's Republic of China, the government of the People's Republic of China suggests and asks the Soviet government to agree to postpone the withdrawal of

Soviet troops from the jointly-used Chinese naval base of Port Arthur, provided for in Article II of the *Sino-Soviet Agreement on Port Arthur*, pending the conclusion of a peace treaty between the People's Republic of China and Japan, and a peace treaty between the Soviet Union and Japan."

The Soviet government expresses its agreement with the afore-stated proposal of the government of the People's Republic of China and also to the proposal that your note and this reply to it become a component part of the afore-mentioned agreement of February 14, 1950, concerning the naval base of Port Arthur since the day of the exchange of these notes.

I beg you, Comrade Premier and Minister, to accept assurances of my most profound esteem.

A. Y. Vyshinsky.

September 15, 1952.

The Peace Conference in China

General Heriberto Jara

Member of the World Peace Council and Stalin Peace Prize Winner

The peace conference to be held soon in Peking is an occasion of the highest importance. It will be attended by selected delegations of the peoples of the Asian and the Pacific regions to discuss questions of common policy which bring together all decent people who do not wish to profit from the annihilation of their fellowmen and with them the foremost exponents of culture.

Considering the sincere general desire for peace, there can be no doubt that the conference will consider a number of interesting problems tending towards the strengthening of peace and the promotion of economic and cultural exchange which are very necessary if all peace-loving peoples whose shores are washed by the same ocean are to have their greatest development and a better mutual understanding.

At this conference will be heard the voice of the real representatives of those peoples who have not yet been able to throw off their colonial shackles, the change in whose form has only served to make them more cruel. The voice of Australia, New Guinea, Borneo, Indo-China, the Philippines, etc., will be heard there.

The delegates from Japan will speak of the peace treaty imposed by the United States, and through them, the world will know better whether or not they enjoy real independence, freedom and self-determination. If not, what is the truth about the military reoccupation by the United States; whether they are there by the freely-expressed wish of the Japanese people, and if not, whether the latter do not have to pay exorbitant sums to the occupation forces, thus placing on the Japanese people themselves an economic sacrifice which leads them inevitably to bankruptcy.

The delegates will learn that it is a fact that Japanese courts have no power to try North American offenders, even though such crimes would be considered serious if committed by Japanese nationals. The Americans are tried by their own tribunals who always acquit them or perhaps impose a light sentence equivalent to simple detention.

The Korean delegates will speak of their present-day inferno such as Dante never envisaged, in the course of which the Korean people are carrying out an heroic struggle against the invaders. The delegates will learn the facts about the total destruction of schools, hospitals, open cities in the rear, of the mass murder of the civil population, of the "civilising" effects of napalm and of the "humanitarian" bacteriological warfare.

The delegates of Asia and the peoples of the Pacific, including those in America, will have the happy opportunity of spending some time with the great Chinese people, that nation of philosophers, artists, craftsmen and thinkers who, without arrogance, have performed epic deeds both in war and peace.

Their fight—almost continuous for thirty years in defence of their dearest national interests—testifies to and is the proof of this.

That hard-working people who, by their conduct, set an example to others of courtesy and kindness; who, in all parts of the world to which they have emigrated, are known for their efficiency and perseverance; but where their work, which has been a solid source of great riches, has been paid only with miserable wages and at times by discrimination and even persecution.

In the magnificent palaces, the museums, in the proud mansions of the no less proud dollar magnates and their lickspittles throughout the world, in these are proudly revealed the marvellous handiwork of Chinese artists in marble, ebony, lacquer, porcelain, silks and so on.

This is a people who have to thank the West for distortion and partial corruption of their pure customs which have given so much to the world in philosophic thought, in poetry, in legislation, in art and handicraft, and who for it have received misunderstanding and ridicule.

They are a people who inspire admiration in all free men without racial prejudice. It

was they who astonishingly threw off the yoke of the corrupt Chiang Kai-shek clique, in spite of the machinations against them to hold up their full development—machinations which have gone as far as internal conspiracy and external intrigue. Their legitimate government which is based on the will of the people is not recognised. In order to silence their voice, China is unjustly and ridiculously kept outside of the U.N.O., while, on the other hand, a seat has been given there to a representative of Chiang Kai-shek. Millions of dollars, representing an economic sacrifice by the North American people, are given by the imperialists to Chiang Kai-shek, in his hideout on Taiwan, in hopes that this will be an easy first part payment on the economic and political freedoms of the Chinese people. In spite of all this, we say that the Chinese people, under their People's Republic, are vigorously rising out of the chaos in which they were plunged for centuries by enemies both within and without.

And there they are, firm and resolute, in their victorious new life, full of reality and well-founded hopes, which they know will carry them forward towards a brilliant future. They have not merely repined over their many wounds; their spirit has not been weakened by the sufferings of yesterday—a yesterday which lasted for centuries—nor by the provocations of today which tomorrow may grow and take the vilest forms; no doubts as to the future cloud their mind. No! Nothing in all this hinders, still less restrains, their creative power and their capacity for organisation.

Philosophers *par excellence*, the Chinese people are confident and patient; but their patience is not just waiting for something to turn up, but takes the form of large-scale activity and careful observation of its results. Consummate artists, they are working out all the details of the work proceeding from their hands. Because of this, they are able to coordinate everything to the realisation of a well-conceived plan of reconstruction and creation, based on new and wise laws such as the *Trade Union Law*, which guarantees the workers a human existence befitting them as producers of wealth; by the *Agrarian Reform Law*, which puts the land in the hands of those who till it, so freeing many millions of citizens who remained under feudal slavery; by the *Marriage Law*, which gives women the same rights as

men, emancipating them from a humiliating submission which lasted for centuries.

This last, advanced law does not lead in any shape or form to the dissolution of family life. On the contrary, it is the safeguard of the family, but in such a form as not to subordinate the mother, the most essential member of it, but rather to remove her from the indignity which she endured for centuries and raise her, dignify her, as merits the one who has played her part from time immemorial in the creation and care of others.

The fact that a woman is childless cannot deprive her of the right which this law guarantees her.

The Chinese people are making wise laws and these laws are being put into practice.

The purpose of legislation is to meet or to provide for the people's needs with great foresight for the future—not in a casual way but taking into account every aspect of the whole life of the people.

Every vital fact is taken into account: health, education, art, the protection of scientific development on the highest scale; industry, agriculture, sports, theatre and so on—all mathematically adjusted within the over-all plan.

Their Government, headed by that magnificent leader, Mao Tse-tung, knows that industry, especially large-scale industry, cannot be developed in China without the full scientific development of agriculture, with the age-long incentive that the "land belongs to the tillers," and for that reason, they have proceeded at once with agrarian reform.

The task is a bold one, considering the old superstitions and corruption, against which these new leaders of the Chinese People's Republic have also had to struggle, and which lends the more merit to their efforts.

All this the delegates who come to this historic conference will learn. In the course of the conference there will certainly be important contributions and valuable opinions expressed in many languages, but all and sundry will converge at the main point, on which the word PEACE will stand out in all its radiance, an unparalleled brilliance radiating from all the generous hearts who long for it, who total many millions.

New China Today

— Impressions of China —

Dr. John Adams Kingsbury

Delegate to the Preparatory Conference of the Asian-Pacific Peace Conference

Leaving Peking at sunrise the 26th of June, a crystal clear morning, I made a memorable flight to Moscow. Rising swiftly from the airport, I can never forget the unique experience of looking down upon the diminishing, enchanting Summer Palace on the outskirts of Peking, its lovely lake and lotus lilies—once the exclusive resort of Chinese emperors; now a matchless museum and palatial playground for the Chinese people. Soaring over the encircling mountains towards the Gobi Desert, what, indeed, could leave a more indelible impression on the memory than the historic Great Wall of China, meandering along mountain ridges as far as the eye can see, crowning the crescent shaped barriers, which for centuries had protected Peking from the “barbarians.” The flight to Moscow was a succession of thrills, even for an aged counsellor: six hundred miles over the Gobi Desert, then thousands of miles across Siberia, its mighty mountains, its beautiful Lake Baikal and lesser lakes; its great meandering rivers; its vast plains and prairies dotted with state and collective farms; its villages and its great industrial centres—Irkutsk, Krasnoyarsk, Novosibirsk, Omsk Sverdlovsk—invariably bustling with activity of truly free men and women building a new civilisation, reminiscent of pioneer life in Oregon and Washington where I grew to manhood at the turn of the century, but with this conspicuous contrast—America had not yet learned that hospitals and health centres, playgrounds and sportsfields, parks of culture and rest, as well as schools and institutions of higher learning, must go hand in hand with industrial and agricultural development in order to build civilisation on a solid foundation—a pattern of social life which one invariably finds in industry and on farms throughout the Soviet Union.

Leaving Peking after a month's visit to New China, one needs hours for meditation. What one has seen in China seems like a dream, or one feels that he must have been visiting a new world. The striking contrast

For reasons of space, this article has been slightly abridged.

in landscape and life is fascinating. Especially is this true of the country one sees on a flight from Peking to Hankow, or while steaming up the Yangtse to Shasi; or flying from Wuhan to Shanghai; or even when travelling comfortably in a railway coach from Shanghai to Hangchow. Enchanted West Lake, lily-mantled, encircled by fabled mountains is like something imagined. Little wonder the rich mandarins selected the shores of West Lake as the site for mansions in which Chinese emperors were entertained.

Great Walls of Peaceful Construction

One meditates upon the Great Wall built in the third century B.C. by slave labour requiring decades for completion of the stupendous structure. Then one muses upon the new Chinese walls being built today by free men and women, volunteering by hundreds of thousands to erect barriers against natural enemies which for centuries have devastated the fertile fields of China and decimated the population. Under the leadership of Mao Tse-tung, these dauntless people are building barriers against flood, drought, hunger and disease. Monumental projects of flood control, dykes and dams and sluice gates, some already completed in less than three years since liberation. These are Great Walls of peaceful construction, holding back and conserving the flood waters of the Huai, the Yangtse and the Yellow rivers, utilising them for hydroelectric power, for irrigation and for improvement and extension of cheap transport. A new “Great Wall of Trees” now being planted by millions (from seedlings grown on state farm lands) at the headwaters of these great rivers, as well as along the banks of the rivers and streams all over the country, a Great Wall of Prevention, a barrier against a great natural enemy of man—erosion and denudation. But New China's tremendous programme of afforestation is not confined to the headwaters of the Huai, the Yangtse and the Yellow rivers, to water conservation and the elimination of floods. The programme includes hundreds of

miles of tree-planting calculated to change the climate and the whole aspect of China. The greatest single project is the Northeast shelter-belt, 680 miles long and 190 across at its widest point. All these afforestation projects do, indeed, constitute a veritable new Great Wall calculated to protect the people of New China against a dangerous natural enemy—a Great Wall not of brick and stone but of trees.

It was natural, flying over Siberia, I should muse upon the new Great Walls of China, especially those the construction of which I had personally witnessed. I spent six days on the Yangtse river, where, in the vicinity of Shasi, I saw a hundred thousand men and women volunteers on the dykes and dams and sluice gates, determined to complete this project in eighty days (ten days less than the ninety days called for by the plan) before the rainy season of late July set in.

There were other Great Walls that, in flight over Asia, I could still see in my mind's eye: the Wall of Liberation which required a quarter of a century to complete as a barrier against enemies from within and from without; land reform built on a firm foundation of equitable distribution of "Land to the Tillers," the ramparts of this wall now rapidly approaching completion—key to freedom and democracy of New China—following repeated struggles against feudalism begun as early as the construction of the Great Wall, and now at long last these regenerated people seem to have suddenly broken out of feudalism as a butterfly breaks out of a cocoon.

From Feudalism to Freedom

But for this key to the secret of the apparently sudden flight of the people of China from a state of feudalism into a dawning era of freedom and democracy, one could not comprehend other Great Walls which are being erected against enemies in human nature: prejudice and intolerance—even the former landlord receives his land allotment and is treated with consideration if his record is not one of extreme cruelty; and *san fan* ("against three") and *wu fan* ("against five") call for a correction of human faults that lie not within people's stars, but deep within themselves, inculcated by the life and customs of imperial China, the century of "foreign concessions," and carried over into, and emphasised by, the Kuomintang regime under Chiang Kai-shek.

The *san fan* programme of regeneration called for elimination throughout the land of three major moral enemies of New China—corruption, waste and bureaucracy. It was an intensive educational campaign which began on January 1 and was completed on June 30, 1952. The method was self-analysis and self-criticism beginning at the top, with the ministers, and going all the way down from level to level of political and social life until it reached the lowest.

Similarly the *wu fan*, aimed primarily at businessmen and business life, was directed against five insidious influences—bribery, stealing or sequestering public property, violation of contract specifications, revealing secret government information for speculation, and tax evasion.

These are some of the modern types of Great Walls that New China has constructed and is building for its protection against human and natural enemies from without and from within which may endanger the success of the *Common Programme* and the *Organic Law* adopted by the First Plenary Session of the Chinese People's Political Consultative Conference on September 29, 1949 in Peking, and ratified by all parties and groups forming the "united front."

It is an indispensable condition to peace that the whole world should know that "The Chinese People's Political Consultative Conference unanimously agrees that New Democracy, or the People's Democracy, shall be the political foundation for the national construction of the People's Republic of China."

People of the older civilisations must be told the truth about what is happening in the new world, for without knowledge and mutual understanding, there is grave danger that both civilisations will be annihilated.

As long ago as 1926, that great scholar, Dr. Herbert H. Gowen, Professor of Oriental Languages and Literature in the University of Washington, wrote:

It requires no erudition to see that if the Pacific is to be kept true to its name, and the coming together of East and West is to result in prosperity and cultural enrichment for both sides, a mutual understanding and sympathy, founded on knowledge, must be created. This is the only practical means to avert conflict, the wiping out of human attainment, material and spiritual, the utter desolation of the earth.

American institutions are being studied in every institution in China. Every Chinese pupil can name the great men of our history. How many of our American pupils, college students or even teachers and Professors, can name the outstanding figures of the "Immortal Nation," or give the briefest account of its beginnings, its characteristics and its trend?

Unhappily, it is evident that this unfortunate situation described by Dr. Gowen in 1926 still prevails in 1952. And what was written of China a quarter of a century ago applies with emphatic and fearful force to New China today. It is more important even, than when Dr. Gowen wrote those warning words that "a mutual understanding and sympathy" (between the U.S.A. and China) "must be created. This is the only practical means to avert conflict"—a conflict of catastrophic consequences.

Towards Better Understanding

Therefore, I propose to tell the true story of what I have seen and heard in the East to my fellow countrymen of the West. I intend to reiterate it and amplify it in faithful detail in the hope that I may contribute something to a clearer understanding of the prevailing peaceful construction both in China and in the Soviet Union, and the evident firmness of the friendship of these two great nations.

To that end I spent some weeks recently travelling quite extensively in the Soviet Union. To that end I accepted the invitation last May to participate in the Preparatory Conference for the Peace Conference of the Asian and Pacific Regions to be held at the end of September. To that end I am helping to encourage representative Americans to make the journey to China to participate in that conference in Peking in September. To that end I am telling my fellow Americans the profound impression the preparatory conference made upon me: because of its democratic organisation; its broadly representative character in terms of nationality, vocation, religious faith and political persuasion; and because of the high intellectual quality and the purpose of the forty-seven delegates from all the twenty nations represented. To that end I propose to keep on telling people of the



Students of the Chinese Medical College in Shenyang (Mukden), Northeast China. This college alone graduates yearly ten times the total number of graduates from all the medical schools of China before liberation.

West, and especially the American people, what I saw and heard and felt during my month in China where I had the privilege of travelling thousands of miles, visiting cities and villages and farms and factories; mingling and talking with thousands of men and women and children under all sorts of circumstances and conditions of life.

What Dr. Gowen said about the lack of knowledge and understanding of Chinese life and culture on the part of the people of the U.S.A. certainly does not apply to the people of the U.S.S.R. To bring my message to Moscow would, I know, be carrying coals to Newcastle. But the people of Berlin were eager to hear about New China. And much of my message was new to people in Paris, and people in London listened eagerly.

While it is not easy in America to scale the Wall of Ignorance described by Dr. Gowen, and it is even more difficult to break down the barriers of prejudice being built up in the minds of immature people in America by malicious men, I find most Americans, their attention gained, eager to hear about New China and about the Soviet Union from a qualified observer who has been there recently.

Soon after my return to New York in July this year, Mrs. Kingsbury and I spoke to a large audience which had gathered to welcome us home, after a year's absence, an audience eager for our impressions of the countries behind the so-called "Iron Curtain" which we never encountered. We have recently returned from the middle West where we

addressed many meetings in Chicago and Milwaukee—labour unions, church groups, medical organisations and peace societies—all of which were responsive, their questions testifying to their eagerness for first-hand information about the people and their way of life in these new civilisations. In Chicago, I enjoyed the unique privilege of appearing on a popular television programme, speaking for twenty minutes to a nation-wide audience said to include millions of lookers and listeners—a unique privilege not only for me. It is, indeed, unique for anybody in America today to have the opportunity to speak on radio or television freely and truly about conditions in China and the Soviet Union, to assure the people of the U.S.A. that the people of those other two great nations want peace for themselves and all the world even as we do. In the Soviet Union people said: “We need peace as we need fresh air.” To be given this free time on a nation-wide television programme to tell the American people that the Chinese and Russian peoples want peace, that was encouraging indeed. It was encouraging because less than a year ago, that venerable scholar Dr. W. E. B. DuBois, was called upon to defend himself in court “against criminal charges for openly advocating the one thing all people want—peace”—to use his own words.

Every lover of peace in America—and who is not?—is anxious to know the attitude of the people and the governments of China and the Soviet Union towards war and peace. Naturally all Americans are relieved to learn that there is no war mentality in Russia or in China. The *Manchester Guardian* of July 7, 1952 reported:

British writers, who returned to London yesterday after a fortnight in the Soviet Union, told a press conference at Friends' House: “We saw no signs of war preparation or war mentality, but, on the contrary, a passionate desire for peace.”

War Mentality in U.S.A.

This testimony confirms my observation in the Soviet Union and in China as well. Let us contrast that testimony with the testimony of Kingsley Martin, editor of the *New Statesman and Nation*, upon his return to London from a recent visit to the United States. In a signed editorial entitled “The American Witch-Hunt” (July 5, 1952) he wrote:

Mr. Roosevelt's famous remark that America had nothing to fear except fear itself is often quoted in the United States today. Nothing more astonishes the European visitor than evidence of fear—the directions to public underground shelters in New York, the periodic air-

raid practices; the awkward hush that may fall over a dinner table if someone ventures a “subversive” remark; the unhappy position of a professor who is suspected of once having been associated with someone who has signed a document that was also signed by a Communist.

No such signs of war mentality are seen in the Soviet Union or China today. On the contrary, the visitor to those countries finds himself in an atmosphere of peace. There is, indeed, a passionate desire for peace. As Alexander Werth wrote in *The Nation* (August 18, 1951):

One of the best Western observers, an important diplomat, recently described the situation to me on his return from Moscow: “The people do not really think of war. They seem oddly confident that no one will dare attack Russia. . . . One sees no bomb-shelters being built in Moscow.” He said, “The people are full of humor, some of it much like the old humor of classic writers, and I heard more gay laughter in the streets of Moscow than in any capital in the West.”

With such observations by people who know the Soviet Union first hand—people who have no axes to grind nor ancient grudges to settle—with such observations contrast President Truman's assertion that the Soviet society “is a jungle, through which the naked power of the government prowls like a beast of prey making all men afraid,” (*N. Y. Times*, Sept. 18, 1951); or contrast Eisenhower's address to the American Legion Convention—especially such sentences as this: “The lands and millions made captive to the Kremlin are fresh evidence that dire peril stalks every free nation today.”

In Buffalo the other day Dulles said that the General's liberation policy for communist “captive” peoples does not mean violent revolution but peaceful revolution using such “quiet” methods as passive resistance, non-co-operation, discontent, slow-downs and industrial sabotage! “Soviet Communism . . . can be stopped from within, but if it is not, it will have to be stopped from without, and that means war.” (*N. Y. Times*, Aug. 27, 1952) It is not difficult to imagine the headlines of the leading papers of the U.S.A. if a prospective Foreign Minister of the Soviet Union made such a statement. One has wondered where President Truman and Dean Acheson got such ideas of the Soviet Union, calculated only to create hatred and enmity, and contempt for a people who would tolerate such a government as they describe.

There is, however, hope for a change in this drift towards war, when one finds in the *New York Journal-American* the following

from an article by so prominent a businessman as Bruce Barton:

I wonder if you are as disturbed as I am about a certain situation which seems to be developing in this country. One of the finest words in the English language—a gentle, beautiful, soul-warming word—is being so twisted and tortured that good people are becoming almost afraid to speak it. The word is peace. Officially, of course, everybody is for peace. The President is for peace; the Secretary of State is for peace; the Pentagon is for peace. From time to time they go through the motions of saying so. But what really monopolizes all their thinking and planning and spending is war.... Instead of figuring out how we can live successfully with Russia, our officials do nothing but bluster and threaten.

In such an atmosphere which I find in my country after an absence of a year—an atmosphere in which the word peace, one of the finest words in the English language, “is being so twisted and tortured that good people are becoming almost afraid to speak it”—in such an atmosphere, it is not going to be easy to persuade Americans to attend the forthcoming peace conference in Peking. However, there are other businessmen—yes, and Wall Street bankers and lawyers—who share the views expressed by Bruce Barton.

With the support of conservative citizens who believe in our Bill of Rights; who believe Americans have the right to criticise the policy of their government; who believe in the right to a passport, in the right to travel abroad; with the support of such citizens, especially in an election year, it is possible that we may be able to secure a delegation of representative Americans to attend the Peking Peace Conference of the Asian and Pacific Regions.

The Great Wall of Prejudice

It is not going to be easy to raze the Great Wall of Prejudice and Intolerance so successfully built up by the amazing propaganda campaign which had its inception in Winston Churchill's Fulton Speech soon after the death of President Franklin D. Roosevelt. The greatest Wall of all is yet to be built—the Wall of International Good Will—a wall against War; a wall to protect the world peace against the onslaught of warmongers wherever they are. To raze that Wall of Prejudice, and to erect in its stead the Wall of International Good Will, it is necessary to create mutual understanding and friendship founded on knowledge. We must study the Chinese and Soviet institutions as seriously and as carefully as they are studying our institutions.

Let America begin to create mutual understanding with China by a popular demand that our government promptly recognise the People's Republic of China. Every American should realise that the Chinese people revere the name of Dr. Sun Yat-sen, the great pioneer of China's revolution of 1911, as the American people revere the name of George Washington; that they revere Mao Tse-tung, as their liberator from Chiang Kai-shek and his accomplices, as the founder of their New Democracy, as we revere the name of Thomas Jefferson as the founder of our democracy.

Delivering the Chinese “Declaration of Independence” at the first plenary session of the Chinese People's Political Consultative Conference in 1949, Mao Tse-tung said:

Fellow delegates: We have a common feeling that our work will be written down in the history of mankind, and that it will clearly demonstrate that the Chinese people, who comprise one-quarter of humanity, have from now on stood up. . . . Our nation will never again be an insulted nation. We have stood up. Our revolution has gained the sympathy and acclamation of the broad masses throughout the world. We have friends everywhere throughout the world.

This, indeed, is reminiscent of “the Spirit of '76.” It represents the wave of the future, just as did Jefferson's:

“We hold these truths to be self-evident.”

The people of the United States should understand the spirit of New China, as the Chinese understand the “Spirit of '76.” They should be familiar with the *Common Programme*, and the *Organic Law* of New China—the political foundation for the national construction of the People's Republic of China, adopted by representatives of the people of the whole country, adopted not only by representatives of the Communist Party of China; it was adopted by “all democratic parties and groups and people's organisations, of all religions, of the People's Liberation Army, of all national minorities, overseas Chinese and other democratic elements.” This is the “New Democracy, or the People's Democracy.” It is the “organisational form of the Chinese people's democratic united front.”

These are some of the fundamentals that the American people must understand if we are to have World Peace instead of World War.

It is my purpose to do everything in my power to help to create American-Soviet and American-Chinese understanding, based on accurate knowledge. Without such understanding, I see no future.

Achievements in Agriculture

Li Shu-cheng

Minister of Agriculture

This year agricultural production in New China will surpass the pre-war (1937) level. This is an enormous achievement, made possible only by the efforts of the Chinese peasantry under the leadership of Chairman Mao Tse-tung, the Communist Party and the Central People's Government.

With this achievement, the material and cultural life of the broad masses of the Chinese peasants has markedly improved, and a firm foundation has been laid for the over-all development of the national economy.

The time of the nation-wide liberation in 1949 found the Chinese peasants with their means of production drastically reduced, a result of the ravages caused by the Japanese invaders and the Chiang Kai-shek gang. The number of draught animals had decreased by 16 per cent; and 30 per cent of the major farm implements had been destroyed.

Such losses, combined with the ruthless political oppression and economic exploitation of the reactionaries, had almost robbed the broad masses of the peasants of all enthusiasm and the facilities to produce. As a result, the level of agricultural production in pre-liberation years had continually declined. Grain output in 1949 was only 74.6 per cent; and cotton 52 per cent, of the pre-war level.

Rapid Recovery and Development

Conditions changed completely after liberation. Production has steadily climbed up, as the following table shows:

	Grain	Cotton
1949	100	100
1950	117	159
1951	128	252
1952 (estimated)	140	300

Reports coming in from all over the country show that this year's targets will be fulfilled and even overfulfilled.

Grain output this year will exceed the pre-war level by 9 per cent; cotton, by more than 50 per cent. As compared to 1950 figures, tea and raw silk will be increased by 250 and 50 per cent respectively. The fruit crop will be

a bumper one this year, with the output of oranges and tangerines reaching as much as double that of 1950.

Noticeable progress has also been made in animal husbandry and fisheries which in China come under the jurisdiction of the Ministry of Agriculture. During the past three years, there has been a 26 per cent increase in the number of cattle, horses, mules and donkeys; and a 42 per cent increase in sheep. The output of marine products in 1949 sank to as low as 30 per cent of the pre-war level. But recovery has been so rapid that output increased threefold between 1949 and 1952.

Factors for Success

The rapid rehabilitation and development of agriculture, fisheries and animal husbandry is attributable, first of all, to the correct leadership of the Chinese Communist Party and the Central People's Government, which has implemented its policies by a series of concrete measures to raise production. The following are the major ones:

First, land reform carried out step by step on a nation-wide scale has resulted in the release of immense productive forces in agriculture. Hundreds of millions of peasants have become masters of the land they till. Their labour enthusiasm has been raised to an unprecedented height; production has soared, and their living conditions have rapidly improved.

Take, as an example, Shanya village in Fukien province, which was liberated in the second half of 1949. Before land reform, the peasants there could hardly keep body and soul together. The sweet potato was their staple and, sometimes, only food. But now after land reform which distributed land to the land-poor and landless peasants, they can afford to eat rice every day. Their early rice output this year was 30 per cent higher than the average annual yield during the Kuomintang regime.

Incidentally, almost one-half of the peasantry in Shanya village are members of overseas Chinese families. With the new prosper-

ity brought about by the land reform, more of them are becoming less and less dependent upon remittances from their relatives abroad, and the majority are entirely now able to live independently of such income.

These material improvements have brought about an upsurge of cultural activity. In the first half of 1951, there were 150,000 peasants' spare-time schools and 250,000 winter schools throughout the country. Many mutual-aid teams and agricultural producers' co-operatives now subscribe to newspapers and magazines—a phenomenon unknown before.

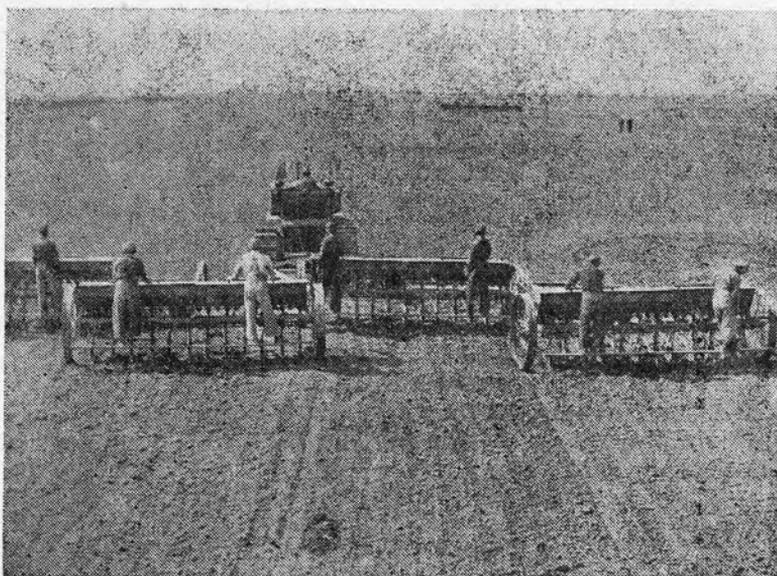
Secondly, the Chinese peasants have followed Chairman Mao Tse-tung's directive to organise themselves for farm work. At the present time, about 40 per cent of the country's peasant families have joined various forms of mutual-aid teams. Over 4,000 agricultural producers' co-operatives and more than 10 collective farms have been set up.

Organised Labour Superior

Experience has proved that the higher forms of mutual aid and co-operation are more productive than, and therefore superior to, the lower ones. However, the development from lower to higher forms of co-operation must be a gradual and voluntary process, determined only by the peasants' needs in production and by the level of their political consciousness.

Co-operatively organised labour enables the broad masses to develop production in common. It differs fundamentally from the capitalist mode of production in which the living conditions of a minority rise while those of the majority sharply decline. It helps millions of peasants to increase production collectively, and it is the best guarantee for the overwhelming majority to obtain the maximum benefits.

To educate the peasants in collective farming, fifty-two relatively large mechanised state farms have been established in various localities during the past three years. Although they are still in an experimental stage, they have



New China's state farms are centres of model farming. They are well equipped with modern farm machinery. Tractor-drawn sowers at work in the fields of the No. 3 State Horse Farm

already served to show the peasants the richer life that lies before them in the development of their production.

Thirdly, the government has followed a policy of encouraging production. Big agricultural loans have been made to needy peasants since 1949 to help them solve their difficulties in regard to draught animals, seeds, fertilisers and farm implements. The policy of maintaining a reasonable price level and of government purchases ensures the peasants adequate returns from the sale of their agricultural produce and the products of their subsidiary occupations. Numerous supply and marketing co-operatives provide them with an adequate supply of industrial goods, thus facilitating mutual aid between the cities and villages.

In addition to this, the introduction of an equitable agricultural tax policy has steadily lessened the burden of the peasants. The tax this year takes only 12 per cent of the peasants' gross income as against 17 per cent last year.* This, together with the encouragements given to those who have succeeded in harvesting bumper crops, has greatly inspired the peasants to raise production to ever higher levels. The title of "model worker" and material awards are conferred on those who have gathered good harvests. Many of these heroes of agriculture

*It was not unusual for rents and taxes to take 70 or even 90 per cent of a peasant's income in the days of the reactionary Kuomintang regime.—Ed. P. C.

sit on important local and central organs of government, a fact which reflects the rise in prestige and status of the peasantry.

Fourthly, under the guidance of the government, the peasants have successfully overcome many natural calamities. The wanton destruction of forests and deliberate neglect of river dykes in the past brought great disasters to agricultural production. Large-scale water conservancy projects have today either been completed or are underway, while the masses themselves have undertaken the building of small-sized works on a very extensive scale. As a result, not only has the flood menace been basically dealt with along the Yangtse and Huai rivers, but irrigation has been extended or improved in an area totalling more than 220 million *mou*.*

More than 120 million people have been mobilised during the past three years to undertake the arduous task of preventing and combatting insect pests. The results have been most gratifying: an estimated loss in agricultural production due to these causes equal in value to 15 million tons of grain has been prevented.

Improved Technique

Fifthly, farming technique, which in China's old society remained stagnant for the past several thousand years, has now got the conditions for rapid development. For the first time in this country, scientific agro-technology is now joined to the practical experiences of the peasant millions.

A mass movement has been formed to collect and use manure, select and soak seeds, prevent and exterminate insect pests. The peasants have also been benefited by the findings of the many new agricultural research institutes and laboratories.

Since liberation, the acreage of fertilised cropland has increased by 15 per cent; and the amount of fertiliser employed, by 30 per cent. More than 200 million *mou* have now been sown with seed grain of improved quality. Over half of the total area planted to cotton has been sown with high quality seeds.

Many farms and progressive peasants have improved their farming technique and adopted the advanced experience of the Soviet Union. They now use the method of close planting and

deep ploughing. They have summed up their experiences in various phases of farming work and applied and popularised them for the benefit of others.

Thousands upon thousands of advanced peasants have emerged. Chu Yao-li of Shansi province gathered a record cotton harvest of 912 catties* per *mou* in 1951. Yang Chen-yu of Hopei province was able to obtain from his rice field a crop of 1,620 catties per *mou*.

Particularly noteworthy is the achievement of an unit of the People's Liberation Army stationed on the north bank of the Kaitu river in Sinkiang province. It scored the highest wheat yield in China's history—1,377.7 catties per *mou*. Such are some of the achievements resulting from the application of science to agriculture in the new China.

Lastly, special importance attaches to the patriotic emulation drive for increased production now sweeping the vast countryside. This campaign has been launched under the inspiration of the victories of the three mass movements: namely, the movement to resist American aggression and to aid Korea, the land reform, and the campaign to suppress counter-revolutionaries. It is a concrete expression of the unprecedented upsurge of the peasants' political and productive enthusiasm. It is a movement participated in by hundreds of millions of the peasants who are striving for still higher and better yields.

The current patriotic drive for increased production has already revealed the immensity of the productive force being developed by China's agriculture as well as the unlimited possibilities of developing the still latent potentialities among the peasant masses for agricultural production, thereby bringing about further improvement of rural economy.

The achievements of New China's agricultural production during the past three years are indeed great. Yet the Chinese people do not rest content with these initial successes. They know that what has been surpassed is only the production level attained in a backward semi-feudal and semi-colonial country that was old China. Much has still to be done to facilitate the gradual industrialisation of the country to promote the might and prosperity of this great land, and to make the living conditions of the Chinese people richer and happier.

*Fifteen *mou* = one hectare.

*Two catties = one kilogramme.

Successes in China's Water Conservancy Work

Fu Tso-yi

Minister of Water Conservancy

The Chinese people have made tremendous achievements in water conservancy work during the past three years. Thanks to the efforts of the entire people, great improvements have been made to all river courses grossly neglected by the reactionary Kuomintang regime. The danger of disastrous floods which was a scourge to the Chinese people for thousands of years has been basically removed, and normal agricultural production and the security of the people's livelihood are now assured in a major part of China.

The following figures tell the story of the changes which have been brought about. In 1949, more than 100 million *mou** of land were flooded; this figure was reduced to about 60 million *mou* in 1950; to about 21 million *mou* in 1951, while up to September 20, this year, it had been reduced to some 16 million *mou*. Great progress has also been made in water utilisation. By June, 1952, the irrigated acreage in North China had doubled as compared with 1949. In the Northwest, where rainfall is scarce, each peasant now owns an average of one *mou* of irrigated land where in 1949 there were only two *mou* of irrigated land on an average to be divided among three peasants. The irrigated area of the country has increased by about 49.5 million *mou*, while more than 184 million *mou* of land have been freed from drought as a result of an increased and better regulated water supply.

China's water conservancy work during these past three years has been planned to assist the rehabilitation and development of agriculture. At the same time, since 1951, we have passed from the projects dealing with the local control of rivers to the regulation of their entire courses; from the merely negative action of eliminating disasters to the active utilisation of water resources for the promotion of the people's welfare; from flood prevention to the

harnessing and utilisation of flood waters. The construction of a large number of reservoirs has enabled us to employ water for multiple purposes. In addition to the irrigation of farm lands, we have also been working on the construction of hydroelectric plants and on the improvement of inland navigation. Still greater progress will be made in these directions in order to meet the needs of China's industrialisation.

It is not an easy thing to have brought about such changes in a vast country like China which has so many rivers and where the distribution of rainfall is so uneven. The projects undertaken during the past three years have been on a gigantic scale. About 20 million people took part in water conservancy work alone. According to incomplete data, they moved in this period 1,700 million cubic metres of earthwork, equal to the digging of ten Panama Canals or 23 Suez Canals.

The Harnessing of Rivers

Between 1949 and 1952, we have repaired or strengthened most of China's 42,000 kilometres of dykes. Work is already under way to bring under complete control the entire courses of the more wayward rivers such as the Huai, the Yi and Shu in East China, the Yungting, Taching, and Chaopai in North China. Temporary but effective measures have been carried out to avert disastrous inundations in the valleys of the Yangtse and Yellow rivers, since the fundamental harnessing of these two great rivers will take quite a long time.

HUAI RIVER: Chairman Mao Tse-tung himself initiated New China's first great water conservancy project—the harnessing of the Huai river. This project embraces the entire Huai valley, and its purposes are manifold. It aims to rid the Huai valley—an area of some 220,000 square kilometres with a population of approximately 60 million—of the menace of flood once and for all. At the same time,

* Fifteen *mou* = one hectare; six *mou* = one acre.

advantage will be taken of the waterflow of the Huai river to irrigate about 50 million *mou* of farm land, improve 2,000 kilometres of navigable waterways and establish a number of hydroelectric stations to meet the power demands of industry and agriculture.

In order to reach these goals, three types of construction work are being undertaken. The first is the building of reservoirs. This calls for the building of thirteen reservoirs on the upper reaches of the Huai tributaries and water detention projects at seventeen lakes and swamps along the Huai channel. These projects capable of holding 20,000 million cubic metres of water will control and regulate the volume of flow of the Huai river. They will also prevent inundations during the flood season and supply a sufficient volume of water to meet the demands of irrigation, navigation and power plants in the dry season.

The second type of work is the improving of river courses including the dredging of old channels, the excavation of new ones, the strengthening of dykes and their reconstruction further back from the river banks to allow the river more room in times of flood. This will enable both the main stream and its tributaries to carry off the flood waters after part of them have been diverted into the reservoirs and detention basins. The projects will also restore ruined drainage systems over vast stretches of land, put an end to floods and the inundation of millions of *mou* of farm lands.

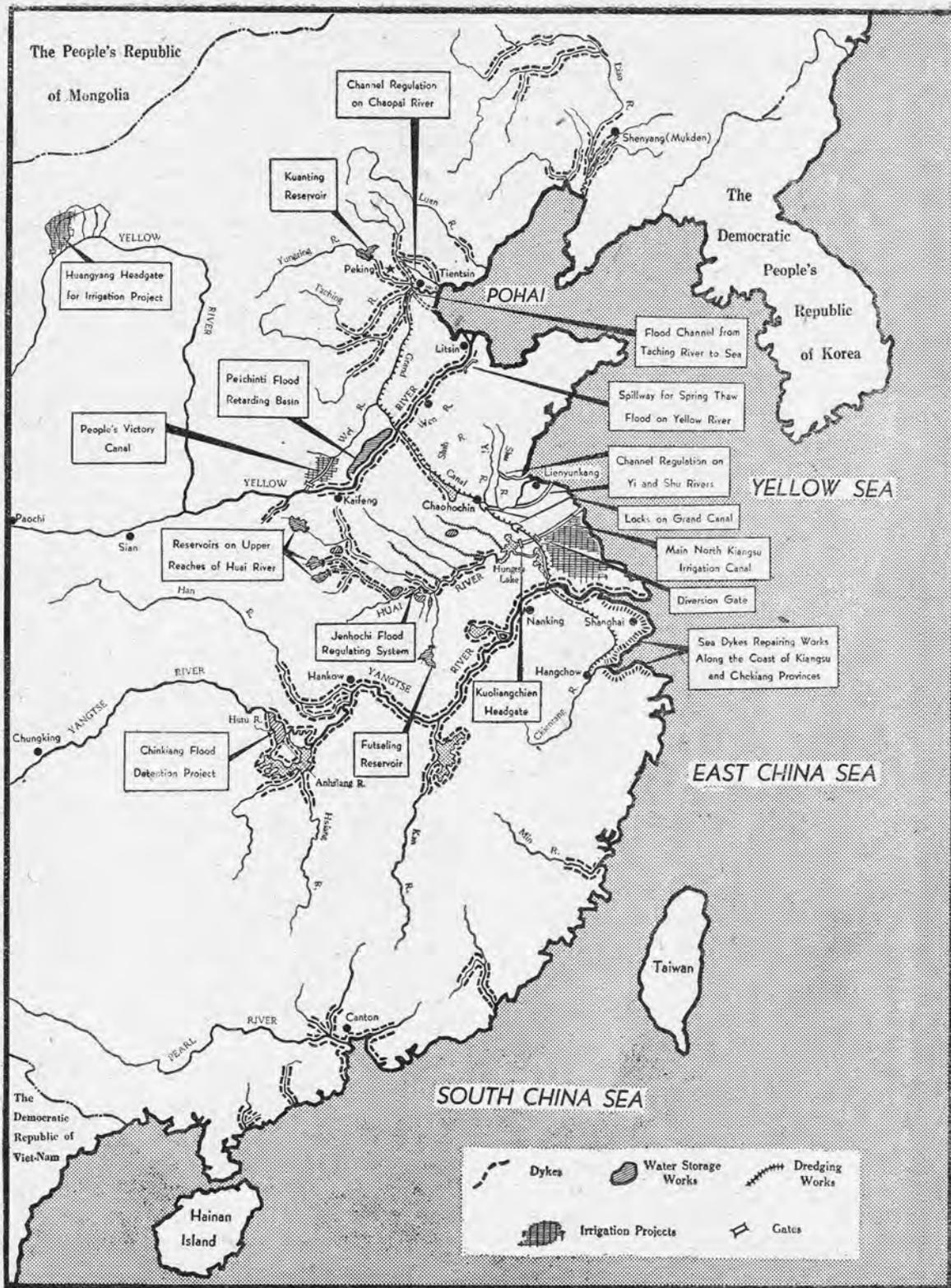
The third type of work is the development of water conservancy projects. By utilising the water detained in the reservoirs and lakes, irrigation as well as hydroelectric projects can be supplied with water. Twenty-five million *mou* will be assured an unfailing water supply by the main North Kiangsu irrigation canal which flows out of Lake Hungtse. The navigational system of the Huai river can be made more efficient by constructing locks and by dredging. At present, inland steamers on the main North Kiangsu irrigation canal and the Grand canal are able to reach Shanghai and also the Lunghai railway to the north, but soon they will sail farther afield to the Yellow Sea in the east and to the Peking-Hankow railway in Honan in the west.

The Huai river project was started in the winter of 1950 and is now approaching its third year. Three reservoirs and fifteen flood detention projects have been constructed to contain

10,000 million cubic metres of water. Over 2,190 kilometres of dykes along the river and its tributaries have been repaired; the dredging of 2,880 kilometres of river channels has ended with more than twenty tributaries either thoroughly or partly dredged. The construction of the 170-kilometre main North Kiangsu irrigation canal and the main sluice gates have also been completed.

One hundred and thirty-eight culverts have been constructed as part of the work of flood detention, irrigation, dyke-repairing and dredging. The Jenhochi sluice gate on the Huai river, the head-gate at Kaoliangchien, distribution gates at the Grand canal as well as the gates on the East and West Fei rivers are all projects with sizable sluice gates. These constructions have freed the people of the Huai valley from recurring floods. Even though the flow of water should reach the highest yet recorded, the main areas would not be affected. These constructions have laid the foundation for full exploitation of the water resources of the Huai valley. The entire project will be completed in 1955.

YELLOW RIVER: The treachery of the Yellow river is a by-word all over the world. Records of the past 2,500 years show that breaching of dykes occurred, on the average, four times every ten years. Since the liberation of large areas in the lower reaches of the river in 1947, several big floods have been successfully averted by the combined efforts of the people. Their efforts have involved a total of more than 82 million cubic metres of earthwork and more than 1,700,000 cubic metres of masonry work. As a result, in the three provinces of Honan, Pingyuan and Shantung which lie across the lower reaches of the Yellow river, the main dykes totalling 1,300 kilometres in length are now 1.5 to 2.5 metres higher than the highest water level ever recorded. Except for the Litsin section in Shantung, all temporary bank protection works have now been replaced by permanent masonry works. The method of drilling steel wires into the dykes to test whether there are hollow spaces in them, invented by a peasant named Chin Chao in Pingyuan province, has been widely applied on the dykes of the Yellow river. The more than 30,000 holes of rats and badgers discovered have been filled up and repaired, making the embankments stronger than they have ever been before.



Location of the Main Water Conservancy Projects (1950-1952)

In order to control big flood waters and to avoid damage caused by ice blocks on the lower reaches at times of thawing, we built a flood retarding basin between the Peichinti and Yellow river dykes and a spillway in Litsin county, Shantung province, in 1951.

The greatest recorded floods of the Yellow river occurred in 1933 and 1942, the former being the biggest as far as the volume of water is concerned. With the completion of the Peichinti flood retarding project, it is quite certain that no serious catastrophe will occur even if flood waters like those of 1933 recur. The dykes on the section of the Yellow river from Tsinan to Haikou were liable to be breached because in the spring when the thaw sets in the water flowing down from the upper reaches was blocked by the ice which still clogged the lower reaches. The spillway project at Litsin county in Shantung province has initially solved this problem. However, preparatory work for the complete control of the Yellow river is now under way.

YANGTSE RIVER: The Yangtse river is less treacherous than the Yellow river. But history shows that, on an average, a relatively big flood occurred once every ten years. However, it is hard to harness because of the large volume of water that it carries, particularly along the section known as the Chinkiang in Hupeh province which is its most treacherous part.

Dyke-repairing work along the middle and lower reaches of the Yangtse river during the past three years involved over 217 million cubic metres of earthwork. The dykes along the Yangtse river itself are now able to prevent any inundation even if the water level reaches the river's highest level (registered in some sections in 1931 and in others in 1949). In order to prevent breachings along the Chinkiang section, the Chinkiang flood diversion project was begun and completed this year. This involved the strengthening of the 114-kilometre-long Chinkiang dyke along the northern bank of the Yangtse river and the construction of a flood detention basin on 921 square kilometres of lowlands south of the Yangtse, east of the Hutu river, north of the Anhsiang river and west of the Chinkiang dyke. Two sluice gates, one 1,054 metres in length to let the Yangtse river waters into the detention basin and another 337 metres in length to act as a regulator, were built. Should a flood as big as that of 1931 occur, the flood detention basin

will store part of the waters of the Yangtse river and thus lower its water level to manageable proportions, ensuring the safety of the people living on both banks.

YI AND SHU RIVERS: The valleys of the Yi and Shu rivers in East China are traditional flood areas. Formerly, these rivers as well as the Wen and Shih rivers used to join the Huai river and empty their waters together into the sea. But owing to the fact that the Yellow river repeatedly flooded into the Huai river area and silted up its waterways, these rivers no longer had adequate outlets to the sea. They flooded into one another on their lower reaches so that if the water level of one river rose, the others would do likewise. The areas constantly ravaged by flood amounted to more than 16 million *mou*.

Between 1949 and 1952, the people in Northern Kiangsu and Shantung successfully cut a new 180-kilometre long river-bed for the Yi river and a new 69-kilometre long river-bed for the Shu river, thus providing them their own outlets to the sea. General dredging and renovating has been carried out along the tributaries of these two rivers so as to avoid flooding. To improve the navigational facilities of the Grand canal, the Huaiyin navigation lock has been repaired, and a new one built at Chao-hochen. As a result, not only were bumper harvests gathered in these areas in the past two years, but the middle reaches of the Grand canal were improved for navigation.

NORTH CHINA RIVERS: The five rivers of the Pai river system all emptied into the sea via the Hai river at Tientsin. The waters of the upper reaches of these five rivers run very swiftly, and the volume of flow is greater at its peak than the Hai river can deal with.

As a result, the scourge of flood has been a common disaster in Hopei province. Thorough improvements of the Chaopai, Yungting and Taching river systems have been undertaken.

Preliminary measures to prevent the overflowing of the floodwaters of the Chaopai river were accomplished with the completion of a new channel in the lower reaches of that river in 1950. The construction of a reservoir at its upper reaches is now being planned.

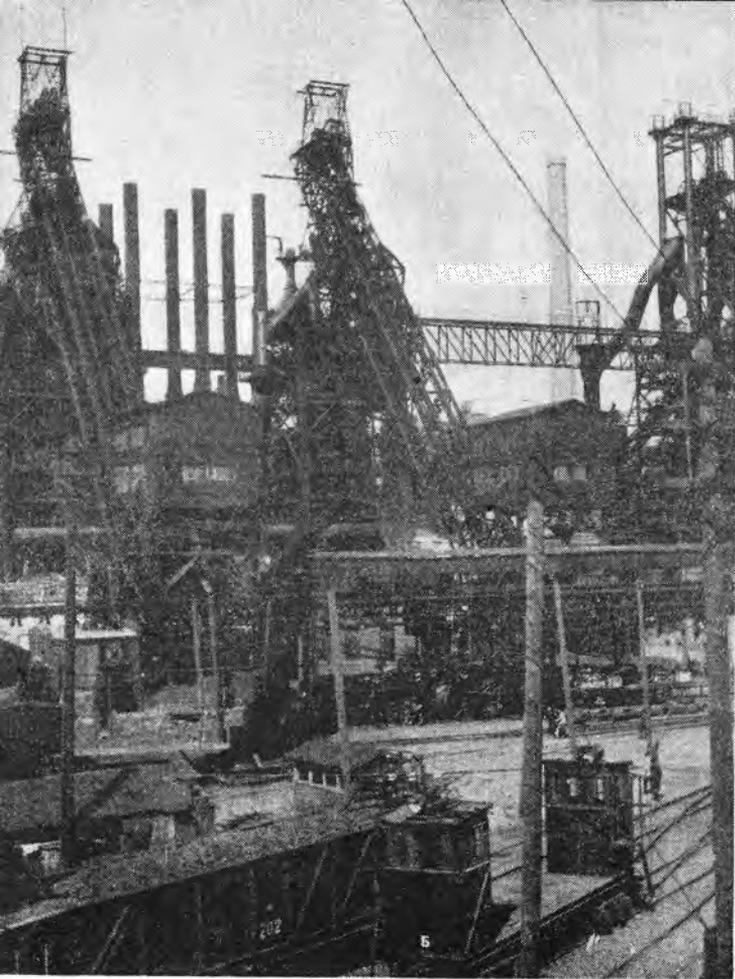
Dykes have been repaired and strengthened on the lower reaches of the Yungting river, while the work of soil conservation has been started in its upper reaches. In addition, it is planned to build three reservoirs, the construc-



慶祝亞洲及太平洋區域和平會議勝利！

All Success to the Peace Conference of the Asian and Pacific Regions!

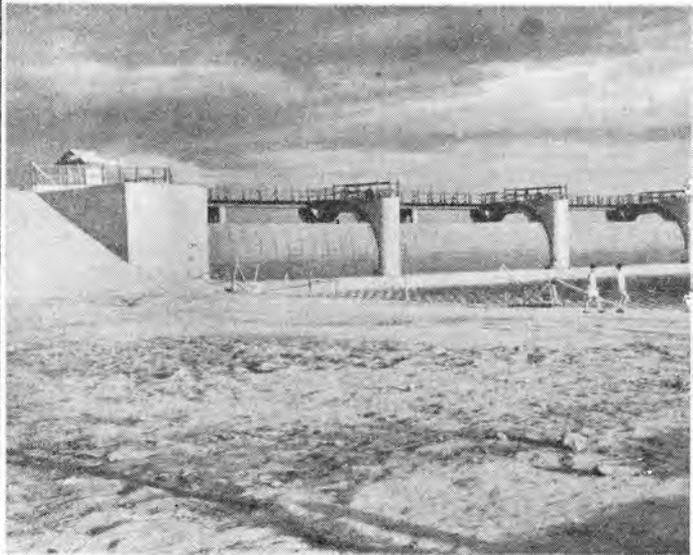
A poster by Sha Keng-sze



The blast furnaces of a restored iron works. The steadily growing output of iron has already surpassed the highest level in China's history

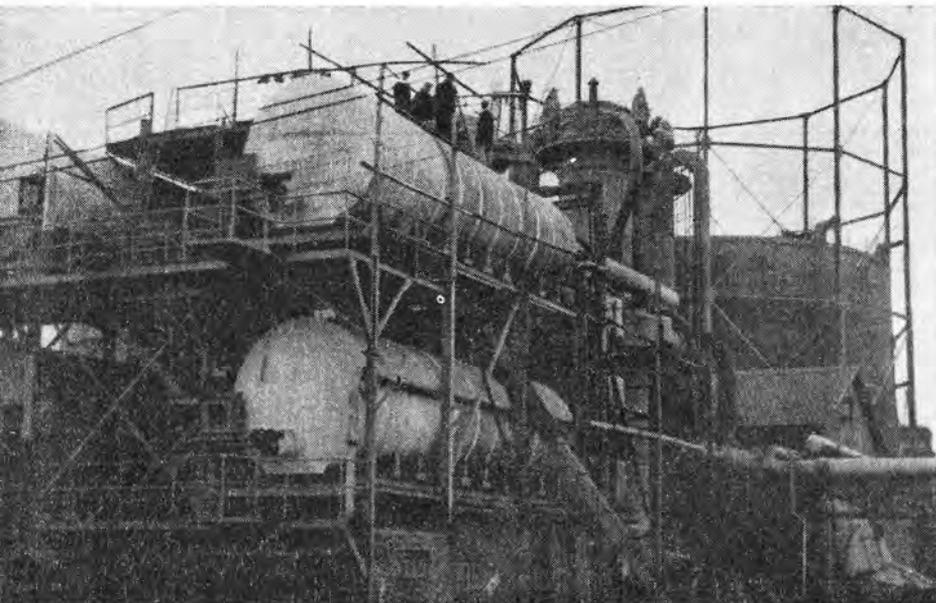
Great Achievements of

In three years the emancipated Chinese people have achieved the rehabilitation and development of the nation, a fundamental change for the better in their lives. These achievements show part of the great scale

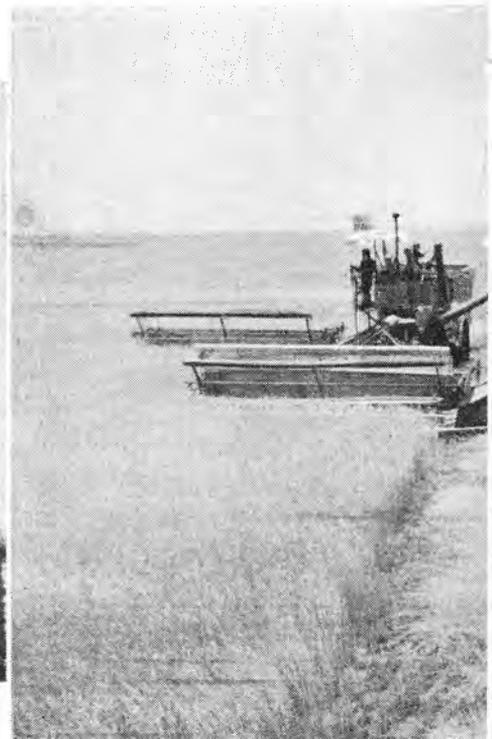


The 1,054-metre-long movable dam for the Chinkiang of the Yangtse river, one of the great feats of Chinese engineering. The dam and other works along the Chinkiang

China has a growing chemical industry. These works produce ammonium sulphate. The rapid expansion of agriculture since the land reform has greatly increased the demand for chemical fertiliser



A Stalin-6 combine harvesting wheat on state farms use the land

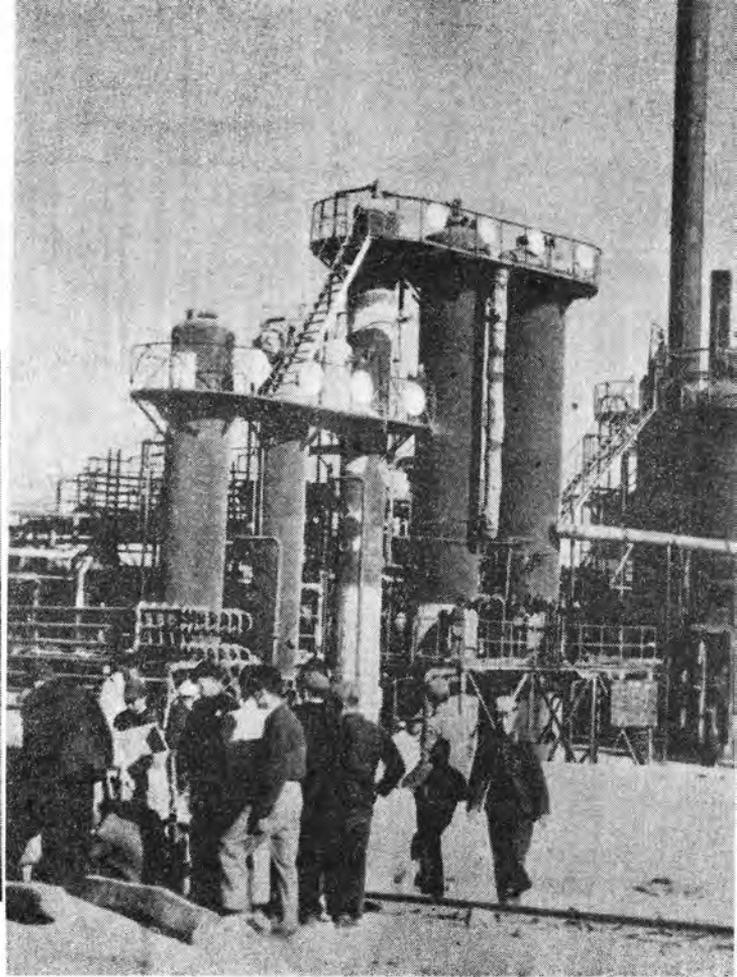


f Peaceful Construction

le have achieved outstanding successes in the
ional economy. They have brought about a
ancial and economic situation. These pictures
e of their constructive work

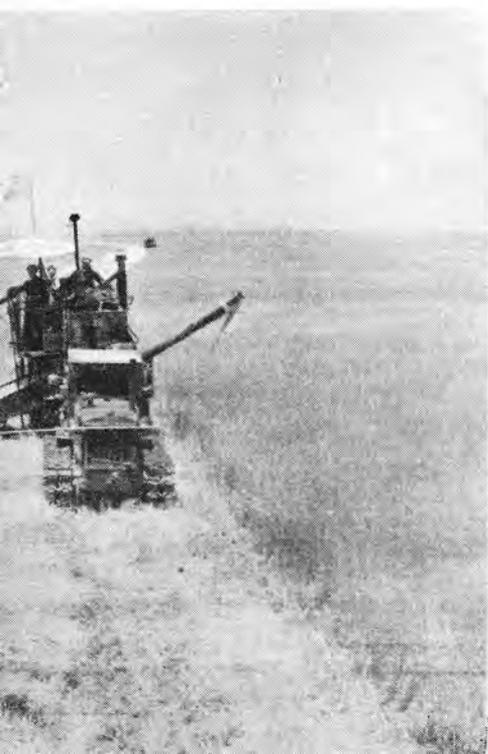


ang Flood Detention Basin on the middle reaches
modern Chinese water conservancy engineering.
section were completed in only seventy-five days

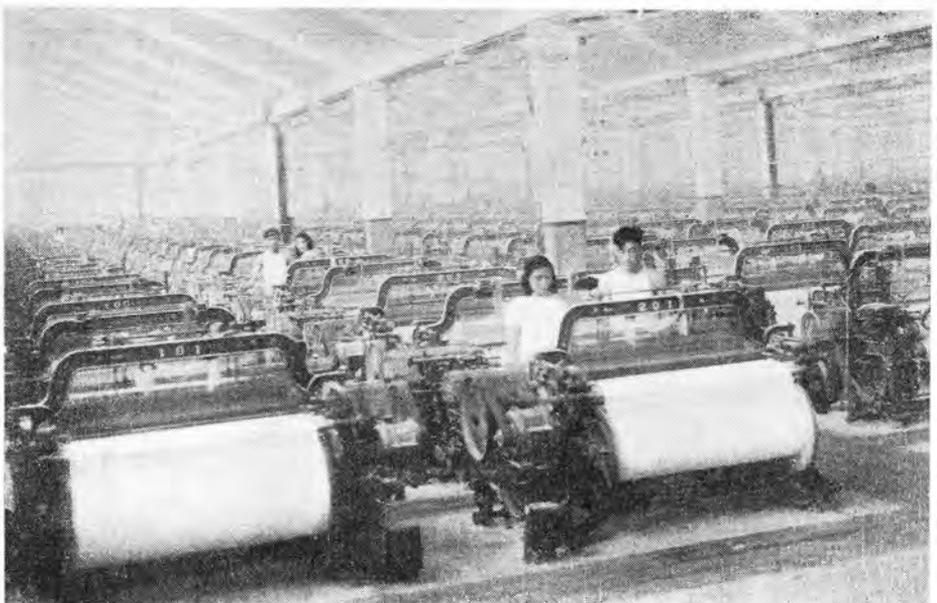


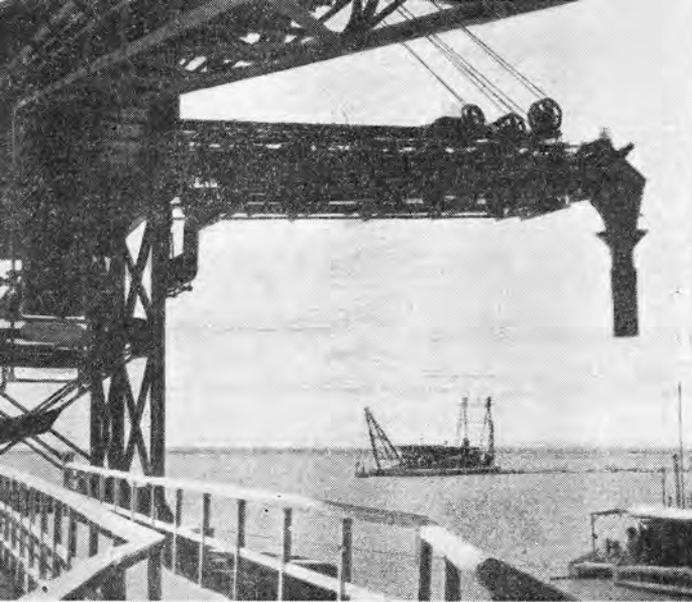
A modern oil refinery. China has rich oil deposits.
The output of crude oil in 1951 was 70 per cent greater
than in 1949. In the same period, gasoline production
increased by 50 per cent and kerosene production by
40 per cent

on a state farm. China's first fifty-two
best farming techniques



The Northwest No. 1 State Cotton Weaving Mill. With the rising
living standards of the masses, all consumer goods, and particularly
textiles made in modern mills like this factory, have a ready sale





The new port of Hsinkang near Tientsin is one of the world's largest sheltered ports and will be the main ocean gateway to North China. Our picture shows a mechanical coal transporter for fuelling ships in the port



Bringing new prosperity to China's Northwest, the 360-kilometre-long Tienshui-Lanchow railway was completed on August 23, ten months ahead of schedule. This latest extension to the Lunghai railway running east to Haichow on the Yellow Sea will be formally opened to traffic on October 1

The 505-kilometre-long Chengtu-Chungking railway begun on June 15, 1950, and completed on July 1, 1952, is the first railway to be completely built of Chinese materials. Its builders conquered a most difficult route to open up the rich lands of Szechuan



Improvements in Transport



One of the fleet of planes of the People's Aviation Corporation of China which now links up the main centres of vast China by air

tion of the largest of which, the Kuanting reservoir, has already begun, and will be basically completed before the start of the flood season of 1953. When this reservoir is finished, the menace of floods along the Yungting river will be in the main eliminated. The reservoir will generate electric power, supply industry in the cities with water and increase the irrigated acreage.

A diversion channel has been built on the lower reaches of the Taching river and a part of the project for the building of sluice-gates and dams was completed in 1951; by 1953, the whole project will be completed. A reservoir will be built on the upper reaches. Sub-surface drilling and other preparatory work are now being carried on.

OTHER WORKS: Dykes and embankments along the Pearl river in Kwangtung province and the Han river in Hupeh province have also been repaired or strengthened. Along the sea coast of Chekiang province, Kiangsu province, and the city of Shanghai in East China, there are sea-dykes totalling 576 kilometres in length, protecting more than 14 million *mou* of cultivated land along the coast. During the rule of the Kuomintang reactionaries, these sea-dykes were neglected and became dilapidated. In the past two years, however, they have been repaired and strengthened by the People's Government. They withstood the heavy typhoon of July this year, and it is certain that there will be no breachings even if the force of the typhoon reaches eight or even ten numbers (Beaufort wind force scale) i.e., 62-74 kilometres per hour to 89-102 kilometres per hour, and even if the water rises to the high flood mark recorded in 1949.

Reduction of Flood Areas

As a result of these gigantic water conservancy projects and the efforts made by flood-prevention organisations, the area subject to flood is diminishing yearly.

Apart from the repair and strengthening of dykes and other works along the rivers, another important factor in our victories over the flood menace is that the people of the entire country have joined in energetic and concerted efforts for the prevention of flood. This important role played by the people is characteristic of the construction projects in New China.

The main cause of floods in China along many rivers is the accumulation of silt. Silt

brought down by flowing waters makes the rivers shallower and shallower in the lower reaches and, as a consequence, the river channels become treacherous. Under the assault of the floodwaters, the dykes become weaker and weaker. To prevent soil erosion by rain, it is necessary to undertake afforestation, the planting of grass, improvement in the methods of cultivation, the repair and building of check-dams and terracing of land. Such methods were well-known to conservancy experts in the past, but they could never be realised in old China, as they can only be accomplished under government leadership and with the active and prolonged participation of large numbers of people.

Since the founding of the People's Government, tens of thousands of check-dams have been repaired and built by the organised peasants under the leadership of the local people's governments along the upper reaches of the Yi and Shu rivers in Shantung province, the Taching river in Hopei province, the Liao river in the Northeast, the Yellow river in the Northwest, the Yungting river in Chahar province, and the Huai river in Honan province. The work of reafforesting mountain areas has also been undertaken in co-ordination with the various departments of forestry. The development of this work has proved to be helpful in the struggle against flood, and it will play a still greater role in the future.

Another immense task undertaken by the masses is the work of preventing floods in the flood season. In the past three years, flood prevention headquarters under the personal guidance of the responsible government leaders have been set up in most parts of the country where floods are likely to occur. The people have been mobilised to participate in the work of checking the dykes and in other flood-prevention tasks. In addition, a network of organisations which give timely flood warning to the people has been set up throughout the country in co-ordination with the posts and telegraph departments. The people are thus organised to keep vigilant guard during the flood seasons, so as to prevent any breaching of the dykes.

Effective flood-prevention projects and a ramified network of flood-control organisations combine to make possible the gradual diminution of the flood areas in China, and they have been an important factor in the rapid restoration and development of China's agricultural production.

The liberated Chinese people have done a great deal in their work of developing irrigation, increasing production and preventing drought.

Development of Irrigation Projects

During the past three years, 358 modernised irrigation projects have been built throughout the country; they give added insurance against drought. The project (known as the People's Victory Canal), to divert water from the Yellow river into the Wei river for example, is now supplying water to 480,000 *mou* of land and is expected in the near future to irrigate more than one million *mou*. With the deficient waterflow of the Wei river improved, the entire waterway from Hsinhsiang to Tientsin, a length of 900 kilometres, has been made navigable the whole year round.

Meanwhile, many local people's governments have encouraged the masses to repair and build small-scale irrigation projects including ditches, reservoirs and embankments for storing water. Preliminary figures show that such projects number more than 3,360,000. They have, in some cases, increased the irrigated area, while in others, they have enabled the land originally irrigated to get the proper amount of water for a longer period of time, thus reducing the menace of drought.

Irrigation wells totalling 668,000 have been either restored or newly sunk, while 293,000 waterwheels have been loaned to China's peasants enabling them to make fuller use of underground water. Mechanical devices of a total horse power of 117,500 have either been repaired or newly installed, and they have proved to be extremely helpful in increasing irrigation and draining flood water caused by the collection of heavy rain-waters in low-lying land without outlets.

Another factor to note is that under the old reactionary rule, the ditches, ponds, embankments and similar irrigation devices were controlled by the landlords who frequently quarrelled among themselves. Because the more influential landlords had a monopoly of the use of water, there was a great deal of waste in the utilisation of the then existing irrigation facilities.



New forest-belts are a "Great Wall" of trees against natural calamities. Young trees in the Chinyotan Experimental Forest Reserve near Changchun, Northeast China

Since the inauguration of the People's Government, organs in charge of irrigation facilities have universally undergone democratic reform. The adoption of advanced Soviet experience and economy in the use of water have already had most beneficial effects on the enlargement of irrigation areas, and still greater results can be expected.

* * *

The allocations of the People's Government for water conservancy works were 18 times in 1950, forty-two times in 1951 and 52 times in 1952 greater than the largest annual amount ever spent by the KMT reactionaries.

Water conservancy works are constructions for peace. The colossal sums spent by our government on them plainly show to the world what the desire of our people is. We want to build our own happy life in peace. We have never committed aggression against others, and we will resolutely oppose any aggression against ourselves. We stand for peace. We will stand together with our peace-loving friends all over the world in resolutely defeating the onslaught of the warmongers and war-makers against peace.

Rising Living Standards of the Chinese People

Fu Chia-chin

Visitors from abroad who knew the old China at first hand have testified that the rapid and steady rise in the living standards of the Chinese people is the most striking of the impressions they have gathered in this country.

After centuries of untold suffering, the Chinese people are today tasting for the first time what it is like, not only to be able to lead a happy and contented life, but to have the added assurance of a future of growing prosperity.

Food is cheap and plentiful. Workers' and peasants' families are wearing better clothes than ever before; their housing situation is constantly improving, and their range of cultural, educational and entertainment facilities is beyond all comparison with the past. Industrialists and merchants are also enjoying greater prosperity than formerly as a result of the constantly improving economic and financial situation, the restoration of production, stable commodity prices and an increasing trade turnover.

Life Was Hell in Old China

The people's life was a veritable hell upon earth in the old semi-feudal and semi-colonial China. This was especially true of the more than twenty years of Chiang Kai-shek's rule in the service of foreign imperialism, feudalism and bureaucratic capitalism. Cruelly exploited and brutally treated, the people were forced to endure recurring famines and wars. Economic crises, the closing of industrial and commercial enterprises and soaring inflation led to mass unemployment in the cities and towns. Millions were condemned to a life of semi-starvation. Worse still was the fate of countless millions of peasants subjected to the unspeakable tyranny and exploitation of the feudal landlords who held the power of life and death in China's countryside.

The victory of the Chinese revolution thrust all this into the past. Today, but three

years after the establishment of the People's Republic, the people are enjoying the fruits of the immense improvements which have followed in the wake of the swift rehabilitation and development of industrial and agricultural production.

Workers Earn More

The real wages of the Chinese workers have greatly increased over the past three years. The workers' average wages in 1952 are from 60 to 120 per cent more than in 1949. In 1951, wages in Northeast China were, on the average, 160 per cent higher than in March, 1948. This does not include bonuses awarded for overfulfilment of planned production quotas and for non-absenteeism, nor does it include additional wages in the form of free medical services and allowances under the *Labour Insurance Regulations*. In some factories the piece-work system enables workers to earn up to 30 per cent more than the basic wage.

Unlike the situation in old China and in many other countries where workers' wages are not protected against the depreciation of currency and rising prices of daily necessities, wages in industry, commerce and government service in the new China are calculated on the basis of "parity units," each representing a certain amount of rice, cloth, fuel, cooking oil and salt. If the market price of any or all of these commodities rises, the money-value of the "parity unit" goes up also, and a worker earning a given number of parity units gets a correspondingly higher money wage. In actual fact, of course, prices have varied hardly at all since March, 1950.

Ma Lu-hai, the well-known labour hero, and other members of his work-team in the Tatung colliery in Chahar province, North China, provide a good example of how life has

brightened for China's workers. In the spring of 1951, the members of this group earned on an average between 300,000 yuan and 400,000 yuan a month. In May, 1951, the average wage rose to 600,000 yuan and in September to one million yuan, exclusive of bonuses for increased production. Such bonuses are substantial: in July, 1951 alone, the team received 10 million yuan in bonuses. Today, each of its ten members has a wrist-watch, four have bought bicycles, and Ma himself has a good clock and a radio. All the men live in new, well-built quarters with new furniture and bedding. Their children are all at school.

Here is another example: of the 340 workers in one of the spinning departments of the state-owned No. 2 Textile Mill in Tientsin, 110 have bought wrist-watches, 140 have bought fountain pens and 15 have bought bicycles during the past two years. In the winter of 1950, three hundred of them purchased fur-lined leather boots. Thirty per cent of these workers have bank-accounts and 95 per cent go to the cinema at least once a week.

Peasants' Income Up

The actual income of China's peasants has also grown considerably. Working with great enthusiasm after they received land under the land reform, they have raised agricultural production from year to year. The total output of grain in 1950 was 17 per cent above that of 1949, and in 1951, there was an increase of 7 per cent over 1950. A further 8 per cent rise is indicated for this year, which will make the 1952 crop the biggest in recorded Chinese history. The completion of the land reform has delivered the peasants from the burden of paying rent to the landlords. This payment amounted to 30 million tons of grain annually, the equivalent of the yearly consumption of the populations of Germany and France taken together.

The promotion of a constantly growing trade between town and countryside has also proved an important factor in developing new markets for local specialised products. Thus the income of the peasants from their traditional side-occupations has also greatly increased. Between the autumn of 1950 and the summer of 1951, public and private trading concerns sold local and handicraft products equivalent in value to 20 million tons of grain.

All these factors have contributed to the greatly increased purchasing power of the rural population. In the older liberated areas, between 70 and 80 per cent of them already enjoy the well-fed, well-clad life of middle peasants. It is estimated that the purchasing power of the peasants in Northeast China increased by 53.5 per cent in 1951 compared to 1950. In Shantung and Chekiang provinces, both in East China, the rise was 50 and 63 per cent respectively. Such a growth of purchasing power among more than 400 million peasants in China has naturally led to increased purchases of farm implements and draught animals, as well as of cloth, bicycles, electric torches, books and similar items which were luxuries to them in the old days. In Northeast China alone, the sale of various types of cloth increased from 800,000 bolts in 1947 to 11 million bolts in 1951, a fourteenfold increase in four years.

The life of peasant Wang Ting-fu, who lives near Kaifeng, Honan province, provides a typical example. He and his family of eight were once refugees, eking out a bare existence by working for the landlords. In 1950, they received 33 *mou* (2.2 hectares) of land, several rooms to live in and a number of implements. During the past two years, they have become well-to-do, and in 1951 they harvested more than 5,500 kilogrammes of wheat. With the proceeds, they were able not only to meet all current expenses but also to buy manufactured goods and farm equipment. Wang Ting-fu now owns two strong draught oxen and a cart. His children wear attractive cotton prints and attend school. Recently, he bought new mattresses and quilts for the whole family and provided his house with new screens.

New Life for National Minorities

The people of China's national minorities, comprising 10 per cent of the whole population, have also begun an entirely new life. In the economic sphere, the People's Government has, by its intensive efforts, helped them to develop agriculture and animal husbandry, increase the output of local products and find expanding markets at fair prices. Modern medical, sanitary and veterinary services have also been provided for these peoples for the first time in their history, with the result that their populations are increasing and their flocks and herds are multiplying.

The Mongolian people of the Wengniuteh banner in Jehol province, who owned 45,000 head of cattle in their best pre-liberation year, had 66,000 head by 1951. Most of them now have surplus cash, and many dress in gay satins of their favourite colours.

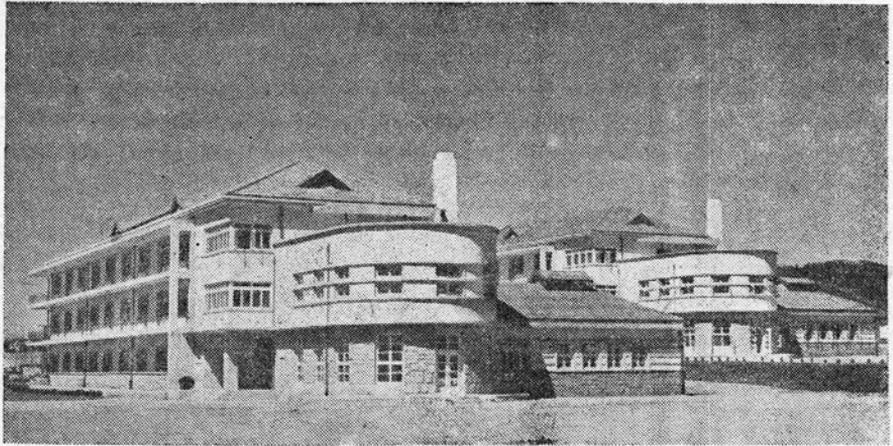
The people of the Tibetan Autonomous Region of Sikang province doubled their output of local products between 1950 and 1951. Their purchasing power rose rapidly, and the region's imports of consumer goods from other parts of China rose by 141.8 per cent in a single year.

These are only two out of innumerable examples.

Many Free Services

As a result of actual increases in money income, the purchasing power of the Chinese people in 1951 was, on the average, 22 per cent higher than in 1950. In 1952, although complete figures for the year are not yet available, the rise has been even more rapid. But this computation, in itself a striking proof of the rising living standards of the Chinese people, does not by any means tell the whole story. To see the rise in the people's real income in its full proportions, it is necessary to take into account other improvements born of the New Democracy.

Beginning May, 1951, the *Labour Insurance Regulations* came into force in all big factories, mines and enterprises throughout the country. Benefits covering sickness, old age, death, injury, disablement and maternity have been a great boon to the workers. Under these regulations, factory managements are not only made responsible for ensuring the provision of medical care to those who are ill, injured or disabled while at work, but also for the payment of allowances, pensions and other expenses. In case of childbirth, old age or death, various subsidies, pensions or funeral expenses are paid. All such benefits are borne entirely by the managements, the workers not being



A sanatorium for textile workers at Tsingtao. Equipped with central heating, a club, library, dance-hall and mechanised laundry, it can accommodate 300 inmates who are given expert medical attention

called upon to make even the smallest contribution. At present, over 3 million workers are entitled to benefits under the regulations. The families of workers are also covered, so that the total number of those who have benefited is more than 10 million.

Up to March, 1952 state and private enterprises have paid 164,800 million yuan into the Labour Insurance Funds.

Although the *Labour Insurance Regulations* are for the present restricted to industrial workers, China's peasants are also receiving free or almost free medical treatment on an ever wider scale. By the end of 1952, every *hsien* (county) will have one health centre. More than 10,000 child welfare and maternity clinics have been established in the countryside. In addition, the government plans to set up lying-in centres for expectant mothers, the initial target being one centre for every five villages.

From July 1, 1952, a system of free medical care for all persons employed in government service was also introduced, with the government covering the cost of medical and surgical fees, medicines and hospital expenses.

Another important factor in the improvement of living standards is the provision of educational facilities. The decision on the readjustment of subsidies for students in middle schools and universities, promulgated on July 8, 1952, has made it possible for the children of the labouring people to receive

education without any expense to their families. More than 1,700,000 students are already getting free tuition, board and lodging as well as monthly allowances of pocket money from the government. Great numbers of adult workers and peasants are attending training classes and polytechnical schools where they not only study free of charge but continue to receive wages from the organisations which sent them. Many government offices have the item of "school fees" figuring prominently among their disbursements.

Rents Are Lowered

Rent is another item of the wage-earner's budget that has been drastically lowered. In fact, a plan of providing housing for every worker in three to five years has been made, and vast housing projects are already going up all over the country. In Peking, housing totalling 15,000 rooms is near completion. In Tientsin, the plan is for 50,000 rooms of new housing to be built this year. Shanghai has already put up homes for 1,200 workers' families and began work on housing for 20,000 more families (100,000 persons) this August. Other large-scale projects, many of which are near completion, are under way in Tangshan, Tsingtao, Chengchow, Wusih, Hangchow, Canton, Chungking and other industrial cities.

Such government housing is rent-free or available at very low cost. On the average, the workers occupying it will pay 5 per cent of their earnings for rent, water and electricity. The days when Chinese workers had to live in small, dirty, dilapidated rooms and pay high rents for them are receding into the past, never to return.

Prices Down; Employment Up

Because of the steady rise in production, prices have not only been stabilised but are going down. In March and April, 1952, the latest of a series of price reductions came into effect in all state-owned department stores and co-operative trading enterprises. In Peking, the retail prices of nearly 4,000 categories of manufactured goods were cut an average of 7.5 per cent. In Shanghai, more than 10,000 categories went down an average of 11 per cent in price. On a nation-wide scale, the reductions averaged 8 per cent. At the same time, food prices remained firm. These measures in the price field were equivalent to an increase

of 5 per cent in the real income of China's wage-earners.

Another blessing brought by the liberation has been the gradual disappearance of unemployment, the nightmare that once haunted all the labouring people of the country. Chronic unemployment, the result of imperialist aggression and reactionary Kuomintang misrule, no longer exists in New China. In the past three years, because of the efforts of the people's governments of all levels, the expansion of national construction and the infusion of new life into all branches of economic activity, more than 2 million unemployed workers and intellectuals have found work. The level of employment in China today is the highest in history. In the Northeast, unemployment has been eradicated completely and a shortage of labour power is being felt. The People's Government has already organised measures to meet any temporary surplus or dislocation of labour power that has arisen and may continue to arise in the process of industrialisation, readjustment of production, increase of efficiency and reorganisation of the entire social economy in the future. A special Labour Employment Committee is charged to solve this problem in a systematic way so as to realise full employment on a nation-wide scale.

Peace and Good Life

The happy life that the Chinese people are now enjoying was not easily won. It is, first of all, the fruit of the victory of the new-democratic revolution which smashed the rule of imperialism, feudalism and bureaucratic capitalism and set up in its place a new people's state under the leadership of the working class. It is the result of a series of great tasks performed by a government that belongs to the people and works for the people.

In China's new-democratic society, the productive forces have been released for unlimited development, and, as a result, the country's industrial and agricultural production has been greatly restored and expanded, accompanied by the striking rise in living standards described above.

Now that the financial and economic situation has already taken a fundamental turn for the better, and the country is on the eve of large-scale construction, there is every reason to expect a steady and continued improvement

in the living conditions of the 475 million Chinese people.

The working people of New China are tasting a good and happy life for the first time in their history. They struggled long and

hard to obtain it, and they know that it is only in a peaceful world that it can be ensured and consolidated. The Chinese people will protect this new life that they love, allowing no one to encroach on it or to obstruct the bright future that lies ahead.

The Public Health and Hygiene Movement in China

From an Appendix to the Report of the International Scientific Commission*

Immediately upon its arrival in Peking, the commission was able to make two observations:

1. The great cleanliness and order in the streets, and in parks, yards and shops.
2. The complete absence of mosquitoes and the almost complete absence of flies.

Peking is still to a large extent an old-fashioned city with a great number of small, old houses, and yards. All courtyards seen were found to be well swept every day, and there was never any garbage lying about. Even in the junk-yards, all timber or pieces of scrap-iron were seen to be collected in tidy heaps. Those members of the commission who had previous experience of life in China as recently as six or seven years ago were unable to conceal their amazement at the change effected. One of them recalled how during the Second World War he would find a dozen or more fleas round the rim of his thermos of hot water when he opened it on dressing in the morning at Kunming, and how he used to be awakened by the nocturnal dances of rats at Chungking.

The commission found that foodstuffs for sale are now always covered. Tea is served in the streets in cups with lids from covered containers. In the parks there are covered flasks for hot water. All spittoons are surmounted by wooden discs which fit over them and carry wooden sticks convenient for handling without bending down. A corresponding device is used to cover latrines. Moreover, the habit of spit-

ting, formerly so widespread, has greatly decreased. Fly-swatters are at hand for use if a fly should appear, and may be seen wielded with great vigour and effect by small boys in every country village. Everyone without exception has become "fly-conscious."

II

Members of the commission met with Professor Yen Ching-ch'ing, director of the Health Department of the City of Peking, and Professor of Public Health at the China Union Medical College, who made the following statements. Before 1949, the hygienic standard in the country was very low. The liberation, however, brought about a complete change in the attitude of the people towards hygiene as an important factor in promoting good work. The cadres * have emphasised this point everywhere very strongly. This is the background of what follows.

1. *Garbage.* Peking was formerly a city full of garbage. The streets were dirty. There was one district, called "Two-Dragon Road," which was popularly named in summer "Two-Dragon River," and in winter "Two-Dragon Mountain," because there was so much garbage. Already in 1949 the old garbage dumps (dating back some forty years) were removed. Now there is equilibrium between production and removal of garbage. In 1950, 500,000 cubic metres were removed; in 1951, 700,000 cubic metres; the increase being due to increase in living standards (perhaps also population?). All garbage cans are now covered.

* Investigating bacterial warfare in North Korea and China.

* A technical term used in modern China for trained government executives.

2. *Latrines.* Before the liberation, latrines were, as a rule, uncovered, now all are covered (see above). They are emptied every day in covered containers. Some houses still have no latrines, and people from them go to the public ones which are kept scrupulously clean. Many new public ones have been built in every city. Both private and public latrines are kept lined with lime. Even now only about 1 per cent of the population has access to water closets. The night soil is spread out on fields some distance outside the city and is so turned over that no flies can be developed in it. Composted manure is made from it.

3. *Drains.* Peking has had rain-water drains since the Ming period (16th century), but they had not been repaired for a long time and did not function properly. After liberation, they were restored and new ones were laid down, for instance, in "Two-Dragon Road," which is now a road all the year round. At one point in Peking an open drain-well, where people could and did fall in, was closed; this was the famous "Dragon's Beard Drain" about which a play has been written. At certain points outside the city, there are septic tanks where the sewage sediment is separated out and disposed of.

4. *Water supply.* Formerly only one-third of the population had running water, and the remainder had to get their water from pumps or wells. Now, after liberation, running water is available for the entire population.

5. *Flies and Mosquitoes.* Already in 1949, the necessity of a campaign against mosquitoes was felt, and this campaign has been going on ever since. The closing of all open drains has been an important measure in this. Another equally important item has been the closing of all holes in trees: these are sealed with a mixture of clay and lime, thus preventing them from becoming breeding places for mosquitoes after rain. One can see these sealed places on trees everywhere.

The most important measure taken against the flies seems to be the covering up and the daily emptying of the latrines. Dr. Yen said: "If you take good care of the latrines, close the drains and remove the garbage, there will be no flies."

6. *Dogs.* From the spring of 1952, dogs were forbidden in Peking. The commission saw not a single dog during the first month of its

stay in China. The reasons for forbidding dogs were: (a) dogs may carry infection; (b) dogs' excrement lies about and may attract flies; (c) dogs are a possible reservoir-host for the virus of encephalitis; (d) dogs create traffic difficulties.

7. *The Health Campaign.* This measure is probably the most important of all in the fight against flies and mosquitoes. The remarkable results reached in China in this respect, and concerning public health in general, can be explained only by the wholehearted cooperation of all and everybody. It seems that, in this way, unbelievable results are reached with very simple means. The slogan of the health campaign is: "Everybody Needs Health" and "To Protect the Health of the People Is the People's Duty."

The health campaign against flies and mosquitoes goes on every year from March to autumn. Meetings are held, sometimes big ones with the governor as a speaker, then smaller meetings for different groups of people in different parts of the city. Contests are arranged. The health authorities make regular inspections. Organisations (women, youth) guarantee that all decisions shall be carried out 100 per cent. Usually there is one person responsible for ten houses or families. There has been a great change on the psychological level; formerly mutual criticism of neighbours would have been contrary to age-old custom, but now criticism, if constructive, and self-criticism, is greatly encouraged. Interest has grown every year. And this year the results are better than ever.

The health campaign is carried on not only through meetings but in many different ways. There are a number of attractive, coloured posters showing how to clean your house or your clothes, how to handle children, etc. There is a flow of radio instruction. Newspapers carry articles all the time on health and on the importance of health measures. Entertaining illustrated booklets are sold at a very low price. In shows and concerts it often happens that a celebrated young star, or two together, a man and a woman, sing about how good it is to keep healthy, and what one ought to do; these performances are evidently very popular to judge from the applause.

8. *Health Statistics.* As a result of the above-mentioned measures, infectious diseases

are already much less prevalent than before. Thus, if the number of deaths from typhoid in Peking April-June, 1949 and 1950 is expressed as 100, the corresponding figure for the same period in 1951 is 40. For dysentery, there was an unexplained rise in 1951 (100 to 114), but the figure for 1952 is 51. For other intestinal infections, the corresponding figures are for 1951, 74 and for 1952, 35.

In this connection, it must also be mentioned that while only 8 million people were vaccinated against smallpox during the Kuo-mintang period, now about one-half of the population (some 250 million) are vaccinated. Already smallpox epidemics have almost disappeared. Since 1949 there has been no case of cholera in China. The re-education of midwives has already led to a diminished death rate for the newly born (Tetanus neonatorum). This death rate is now only one-third of what it was before liberation (North China). In order to diminish the possibilities for plague epidemics, there has been a regular war against rats in Northeast China; during 1951—thirty-five million rats were killed.

9. *Vaccine Production.* The commission visited the National Serum and Vaccine Institute, directed by Dr. Tang Fei-fen.

The institution, responsible to the Ministry of Health, was built in 1946-47, but has now been very much enlarged. It has seven branches in different cities of China, but this is the headquarters. The total personnel is 700-800, of whom about 500 are technical. The institute has its own farm outside Peking and its own glass factory. Scientific standards are of the highest order. The main work of the institute is the production and standardisation of vaccines. Production of smallpox vaccine is of course enormous; according to information, nearly 300 million people have already been vaccinated. They produce a dry vaccine in sealed capillary tubes holding five to six doses each.

Other vaccines made on a large scale are those for typhoid, paratyphoid, cholera, plague, pertussis and typhus, (egg method).



A member of an anti-epidemic team in Korea placing specimens of U.S. germ-carrying insects into a bottle with his "chopstick" forceps. The insects were disseminated by American artillery by means of the special shell on the left

The BCG-vacciné is made in a special separate building, as also are those for tetanus and gas-gangrene.

Encephalitis vaccine (against Chinese aestive-autumnal encephalitis) is made using the brains of white mice.

All vaccines pass finally through a special standardisation department which is under the National Standards Institute (independent of the Ministry of Health) so that control is thus very severe.

The institute has also a large production of sera, and makes penicillin and streptomycin so far only on a small scale.

10. *Insecticide Production.* Although the insect eradication campaigns do not rely primarily on chemical methods, the production of DDT and other insecticides has soared in the new China, and this has proved helpful and important both for the defence against bacteriological warfare and for the needs of the Chinese volunteer forces.

The commission subsequently had the opportunity of seeing how some of the health work and the struggle against the bacterial warfare danger is carried out in Northeast China.

This was encountered already at the railway station in Peking. If one had a ticket for

any place north of Shanhaikuan, one had to show one's vaccination card (with photo) before entering the train. This is the place where the train passes through the Great Wall.

The trains themselves are very clean. Posters (coloured and attractive) telling about how to promote health and fight against the bacterial warfare danger are much in evidence on the trains.

Tea—free for all passengers—is served on the train in covered glass containers. At some of the stations, there are rows of women selling foodstuffs. They are dressed in white, wear a face mask, sell the food from covered containers and serve it with tongs (steamed bread, broiled chicken, sausages, etc). They are private sellers under the control of the railway authorities.

When returning to Peking from Shenyang (Mukden), the commission had to leave the train for some time at the border station of Shanhaikuan while the train was disinfected. Since bacterial warfare started, a new method of disinfecting trains has been invented and put into operation. It consists of a short tunnel in the walls of which are a number of tubes, through which cars can be sprayed either with steam at 200° C or—if this would hurt the cargo—with a disinfectant. Passenger coaches are disinfected in the ordinary way by spraying from containers worked by hand.

IV

In Shenyang (Mukden), the commission noted the same things as in Peking: cleanliness, no garbage, no mosquitoes, almost no flies.

Dr. Pai Hsi-ch'ing, Vice-Minister of Health for the Northeast Region, gave information to the commission concerning measures taken against the dangers of bacterial warfare. He said that they had been convinced that bacteriological war was being waged against the Northeast of China since February, 1952. A great educational work has been done. The whole population has been organised and knows how to act. They have also been taught personal hygiene and how to keep their homes clean. They know that everything dropped from planes or from the sky should at once be destroyed, and that one must not touch it with one's hands. They know that all rat-holes must be stopped up. When it is certain or likely that an attack has been made, disinfection

takes place. Ever since the beginning of the surmised bacteriological warfare, the population has been told to try to kill all insects (flies, mosquitoes, fleas etc.) Searches for insects take place regularly, more or less often depending on the intensity of the warfare. School children and young people have been especially active.

In Shenyang, the commission saw a soya bean-curd mill with a modern hygienic cover. This mill is of a kind that has been in use in China for at least a thousand years. It consists of two millstones with bores in them so as to let in the soya-bean material at the top and let out the curd at the bottom. Water is added slowly to ease the grinding. There is an appliance so that the mill can be worked by a donkey. Formerly dust, dirt and hairs from the donkey and consequently bacteria would contaminate the curd to such an extent that it could not be prepared during the hot season. A very adequate wooden cover for the old mill has now been invented and is in use everywhere. There is even a mirror so arranged that one can see when the vessel with the curd is beginning to fill up.

In Shenyang, some members of the commission visited the houses of ordinary workers. The general sweeping is done at 5 o'clock in the morning. After the sweeping is finished, vegetables and fruit for the day are brought home. In a corner of the yard of one of the houses visited, there was a high and narrow earthenware jug, probably very old, covered by a wooden disk. We heard that this was the vessel for disinfection of vegetables and fruit. They were treated for five minutes with a solution of calcium-hypochlorite.* Thereafter, fruit was washed in boiled water and vegetables cooked, the latter are rarely eaten raw in China but they often cooked for a very short time.

It is on the whole very characteristic of China and very impressive that all health measures are achieved without altering the old and often quite primitive living conditions.

There was no time to wait for the day when new houses could be built, houses with modern facilities. So they just went ahead and taught people to live hygienically under their old conditions. Experience has shown that this

* Chlorinated lime.

problem can be solved perfectly, at any rate in China today.

V

When the commission travelled by truck some 150 km. between Laha and Kannan in the far north of Heilungkiang province on the border of Inner Mongolia, there was again reason to marvel at the cleanliness and order everywhere. White-washed covered wooden garbage boxes were standing outside every house in the villages. There were very clean, primitive earth closets, well covered. Ditches were well maintained, and rat-holes were not seen. In many places, one could see the very popular black-boards put up at village cross-roads where rules and warnings and news were written in chalk, often with talented drawings of dangerous insects and bacteria. This kind of poster is cheap, has local colour and can be changed with great ease.

The commission saw many examples of the fact that the population of Northeast China knows how to act when confronted with bacteriological warfare. There is no hope of causing a panic amongst them. The commission was convinced of this both from its own experience in the remote *hsien* of Kannan and from the behaviour and the words of all the eyewitnesses who gave evidence before it. Its members talked with people from Liaotung province near the Korean border and with many more, both men, women and children, from the neighbourhood of Shenyang (Mukden). As one listened to all these people, one began to see something previously unknown

—a terrible, strange and touching epic—unfolding itself in front of one's eyes. One could see hundreds, indeed thousands, of people with improvised masks, hand-protections, and chopstick tweezers made of cornstalks in their hands, move slowly day after day over their own countryside stooping to collect small insects and feathers one by one. And being aware, while thus patiently working, that death was close at hand. It is known that some of them felt fear—they said so—but nobody complained.

They could forget fear in their eagerness to do their duty, to follow the rational instructions given by the government, to destroy everything thrown down upon them, to collect insects, feathers and rodents, to seek containers—in other words, they were, and are, both willing and determined to serve the people.

VI

The International Scientific Commission, having observed the health measures and health education of Peking and Northeast China subscribed unreservedly to the following statements:

1. There is in China today a vast movement towards personal and social hygiene which is supported wholeheartedly by 500 million people. A health movement on this scale is hitherto unknown in the history of man.
2. This movement has already helped to bring about a greatly diminished mortality and morbidity from infectious diseases.
3. It seems to us that it would be not only criminal but also futile to try to exterminate such a people by bacteriological warfare.

The International Scientific Commission

Replies to Some Questions

On August 31, the International Scientific Commission which investigated bacterial warfare in Korea and China^{*} held a press conference in Peking at which members answered questions posed by representatives of the press. The scientists present were Dr. Andrea Andreen (Sweden), director of the Central Clinical Laboratory of the Hospitals Board of the City of Stockholm; M. Jean Malterre (France), Ingenieur-Agricole, director of the Laboratory of Animal Physiology, National College of Agriculture, Grignon; Dr. Joseph Needham (U.K.) F.R.S., Sir William Dunn Reader in Biochemistry, University of Cambridge; Dr. Oliviero Olivo (Italy), professor of Human Anatomy in the Faculty of Medicine of the University of Bologna; Dr. Samuel B. Pessoa (Brazil), professor of Parasitology at the University of Sao Paulo; and Dr. Franco Graziosi (Italy), assistant in the Institute of Microbiology, University of Rome, who was only able to be present during the last three weeks of the commission's work and was consequently established in the status of Observer-Consultant to the commission. Dr. N. N. Zhukov-Verezhnikov (U.S.S.R.), professor of Bacteriology at and vice-president of the Soviet Academy of Medicine, was indisposed at the time of the press conference and was unable to be present.

Questions, and the answers to them made by members of the commission, as reported by Hsinhua News Agency are given below:

What are the chief grounds on which the Commission confirmed the fact that the U.S.A. has been waging germ warfare in Korea and Northeast China?

DOCTOR JOSEPH NEEDHAM: "We did not have the good fortune, if I might so express it, to see anything falling from the air ourselves. But we collected enough evidence, making on-the-spot investigations, interrogating witnesses, carrying out scientific tests of material evidence, checking specimens in laboratories and doing statistical research. We met quite a number of scientists and talked to many witnesses who themselves had seen the American planes dropping germ bombs. We conceived the greatest respect for the scientific probity and professional competence of these scientists. Then there were the masses of countryfolk who came to us and told us what they had seen and found, and here we stood on equally certain ground. They never pretended to know what they do not know. If they did not know the answers to a question put to them they did not invent something which afterwards would not check with facts verified from other sources. We also investigated the earlier facts which had been the basis for the documents issued by the World Peace Council from Prague. We succeeded in clarifying the scientific material which laid the basis for these documents. Furthermore, the commission made thorough detailed investigations and

confirmed the facts of germ warfare waged by the U.S.A. This material you will find in our report."

PROFESSOR OLIVIERO OLIVO: "We have observed many facts. All of these facts were not only explained by witnesses, but tested theoretically and found to be true."

MONSIEUR JEAN MALTERRE: "The anomalies noted in many of the insects and other phenomena showed that these were not natural but deliberately induced. In the course of work we adopted an attitude of detached doubt. This is to say, we painstakingly examined every fact. The conclusions we thus arrived at in our investigations, analysis and examination were all the more realistic."

Some Western scientists believe that the insects found in Korea and Northeast China cannot be infected with germs and are not suitable for disseminating germs in winter. What is your opinion?

DR. SAMUEL B. PESSOA: "It is simple to answer this question. The Japanese dropped fleas from aeroplanes to spread bacillus. They also delivered fleas by containers. So far as I know, under favourable conditions insects like midges and mosquitoes can be artificially infected with virulent germs, with malaria and yellow fever. Under favourable conditions these insects are very active. Fleas can exist even in weather 14° C. below zero. They are rather strong in resisting cold. Besides, there

* The report of the commission was printed as a supplement to our issue of September 16, 1952.

are also other kinds of insects, such as ticks, which can be used for disseminating diseases such as relapsing fever, typhus and encephalitis."

Why did not epidemics break out in Korea and Northeast China after the U.S.A. used bacteriological weapons there on a large scale?

DR. ANDREA ANDREEN: "This question can be explained by two points. First, the efforts made by the Korean and Chinese scientists and the remarkable results achieved in the prevention of epidemics. This fact cannot be denied. Secondly, the commission was very much impressed by the way the health education work in Korea and China has become an enthusiastic mass movement. The movement has brought into being a great force for curbing bacteriological warfare. We, all the members of the commission, went to a distant part of Kannan county in Heilungkiang province, Northeast China. In this simple village we found the people very strictly and thoroughly following out every direction given to them by the People's Government and a strong health movement was in existence. There was a significant case. One evening American aircraft flew over Kannan district and on the following morning rodents were found in many places. Altogether 717 rodents were found and some of them were dragged into the houses by cats. However, no one touched them, as the people had been taught to take precautions. The rodents were quickly caught and burnt. To wipe out all possible media of infection they removed their household goods, threw on the earthen floors and *kangs* a layer of dry hay on straw to which they set fire, thus destroying all the fleas. Then all the dogs and cats were got rid of. After these anti-epidemic measures not a single case of plague broke out in this village. This is a remarkable example of the health precautions practised."

What similarity is there, if any, between the germ warfare waged by Japan and that waged by the U.S.A.?

DOCTOR J. NEEDHAM: "In 1943, I was in Chungking as head of the Sino-British Scientific Office and in this capacity I took part in the investigations into germ warfare waged by Japan against China during the Second World War. I started with scepticism but came to the conclusion, after investigation, that the Japanese had waged germ warfare in China.

Seven hundred deaths were caused in Chang-teh, Hunan province, and 20 other places, where *Pasteurella pestis* were spread. Now, some Western countries especially the U.S.A. have been spending a lot of money for research in germ warfare. They have studied the spreading of germs in the form of clouds or aerosols. There are many documents to prove this point. Apart from spraying, the methods employed by the U.S.A. in waging germ warfare are very similar to those used by the Japanese in spreading plague during the Second World War. Our Soviet colleague, Dr. Zhukov-Verezhnikov in the light of the evidence given by Japanese germ warfare prisoners at the Khabarovsk trial, also concurred that the methods employed by the U.S.A. are similar to the Japanese methods. The U.S.A. took over some of the Japanese prisoners who had been engaged in germ warfare."

Some Western people do not believe that the statements of the captured American airmen are authentic. They think the airmen may have been forced to make these statements. What is the commission's opinion on this?

MONSIEUR J. MALTERRE: "From the scientific point of view it is natural that one should approach such statements by war prisoners with some reserve. But we were fortunate not only to interview the two prisoners, Enoch and Quinn, whose names have been widely published, but also another two prisoners, F. B. O'Neal and Paul Kniss. We were in a position to consider human, scientific and psychological factors in dealing with these airmen. Four out of the six members of the commission are doctors of medicine. We posed the questions from various angles and received the answers critically. During their interrogations, they were normal and calm. They were free from any sense of pressure. I believe that their answers are most reliable. After the interrogations we reached three conclusions: First, we assured ourselves that what they said is true. They were physically, mentally and spiritually normal. Secondly, we agreed that they were free from any physical or moral pressure. Thirdly, that they were genuinely sorry they had taken part in what they considered a crime. They very much wanted to have the chance of making up for their crimes.

"How was it that the airmen who had taken part in spreading disease could change in this way?"

"From my impressions I find the answer to be this. First their political consciousness was rather poor. They had never felt any keen moral obligations of an international kind. They had never heard about the Geneva Protocol and had known nothing about international law on the way to treat prisoners of war or other people. They were never given any such education in the American army. Secondly, they blindly executed the orders of their government. They believed that their government would not deceive them and they did what they were told.

"To say that their political consciousness was weak is not to say that they were entirely unconscious politically. They were trained in germ warfare, and listened to lectures on germ warfare in the U.S. When they came to Korea the training went on more intensively. Even at that time they felt deeply distressed. They told us that all they hoped for then was to complete their 50 or 100 missions and to hurry back home. Whenever they dropped germ bombs they were most distressed on their return. Some regularly got drunk to forget. In other words, they had a guilty feeling.

"Moreover, they thought they would be killed after they were captured. But on the contrary, they were treated in a friendly manner. They were given books to read. One of the prisoners, for example, got very upset when he read the Geneva Protocol for the first time. All this gives some idea of the psychological process they went through before they reached the point when they were ready to speak out on what they had done. This can also be described as a kind of religious repentance. They had a serious moral struggle with themselves. They are prisoners of war and at the same time Americans. Should they be true to their government or to mankind? Which was more important and pressing? They spoke out only after such a struggle. The commission considers that this is a realistic approach to the question."

What are the impressions of the members of the commission of the Chinese and Korean scientists?

DR. O. OLIVO: "We came with an attitude of reserve towards the work of the Chinese and Korean scientists. But from their scientific attitude, the reports they made to us and the way they co-operated with us, we form-

ed this impression: both the Chinese and Korean specialists have excellent scientific attainments. Some Western scientists take the attitude that the standing of Chinese scientists is not high enough, forgetting that many of the Chinese scientists were their own students. Many of these specialists are returned students from universities in England, France and the United States. The reports given by them are highly scientific. We can say that they are very competent scientific workers.

"At first we thought that, influenced by the war situation, they would exaggerate the facts. But we found no such thing in their reports after we carefully analysed them. Where we raised points of disagreement they would patiently supplement the facts. If a conclusion could not be drawn instantly, they did not try to draw conclusions prematurely. I take away with me one major conclusion about them—admiration for the Chinese and Korean scientific attitude. It has been a great honour for me that I have had the opportunity of working together with the Chinese and Korean scientists."

DOCTOR J. NEEDHAM: "I am glad that my colleagues found what I found long ago, namely, the Chinese scientists are second to none in the world. The standard in Korea and China is very high. Science is a unity. It does not matter whether you are in Shanghai, Peking or Moscow, Paris, London, Oxford or Cambridge or the United States or anywhere else on the American continent."

A written statement by DR. N. N. ZHUKOV-VEREZHNIKOV who was unwell and therefore absent from the conference, was read out: "Now I am going to say something of my impressions in my participation in the work of the International Scientific Commission. First, I want to point out that the commission has indeed made a great achievement. During the Second World War, Japanese imperialism used germ war weapons, and today the United States of America has continued the use of this kind of weapons. This is the sombre fact before us that directly threatens the life and security of the people all over the world.

"It is well known that innumerable lives were carried off by the plague, which prevailed in the Middle Ages. This infection was checked after taking toll of millions of lives.

"However, following on plague, cholera broke out in the 19th century destroying entire villages, cities and even nations.

"The great achievements of science created new ways of preventing these infectious diseases that threaten thousands of people's lives.

"How can it be tolerated that Japanese imperialism in the past, and the United States of America today, go on using germ war weapons to debase all that science has given mankind and to drag the human race back to the miserable days of the Middle Ages and the 19th century!

"It is my view that after the work of the International Scientific Commission, no one can any longer doubt that the United States has used germ warfare. Scientists of the world must unite to add their great strength to the battle against the germ warfare. Scientists can and must declare to the peoples of the world: Unite, oppose germ war!

"We, the International Scientific Commission, are the best proof that scientists of the

world can unite. Here we have a gathering of scientists from six different countries. In the pursuit of truth they have come together and formed a big united family.

"The unity in this International Scientific Commission is a symbol of the unity among scientists all over the world. It is a great bulwark in defence of the human race against the scourge of germs."

DR. FRANCO GRAZIOSI: "I took part in the work of the commission for nearly one month. I have studied the documents concerning bacteriological warfare in China and Korea. I have had discussions with Chinese bacteriologists. After my investigations, I have come to the definite conclusion that Northeast China and Korea have been objectives of bacteriological weapons used by the U.S. forces and that the conclusions of the commission are entirely correct. As a bacteriologist, I want to point out particularly that there is no room for questioning the work of the Chinese scientists."

Statement by Dr. Franco Graziosi, Observer-Consultant To the International Scientific Commission

Having participated between August 10 and 31, 1952, in Peking, in all the meetings of the International Scientific Commission for the investigation of the facts concerning bacteriological warfare in Korea and China, I wish to make the following statement:

I was warmly welcomed by the commission as observer-consultant, and I have had access to all documents prepared by the commission or submitted to it by the Chinese and Korean authorities. From its members, I have had further information and clarification both during the sessions and privately. I was able, also, by the kindness of the Chinese authorities, to make use of the rich library of the China Union Medical College.

During this period, I have had the opportunity of making the personal acquaintance of many Chinese scientists and of discussing with them many of the technical aspects of the questions involved. The relations which I have had the honour to entertain with them have given me the highest regard for their scientific culture, their humanism and their moral integrity.

On the ground of these experiences, and fully aware of the grave responsibility with which the work of the International Scientific Commission is invested, I wish to express my concurrence with the conclusions of its report in stating that the people of Korea and China have been the objective of bacteriological weapons and that these weapons have been employed by units of U.S.A. armed forces. I feel myself all the more able to make this declaration because, in my capacity as bacteriologist, I have been able to convince myself that the work of my Chinese colleagues is irreproachable.

I believe that I am interpreting correctly the thoughts of all microbiologists throughout the world when I express the hope that a science with such noble traditions will not be applied to warlike ends. Offence should not be given to the memory of those who dedicated, and sometimes sacrificed, their lives in the struggle against disease and human suffering.

(Signed)

Franco Graziosi

An Appeal to the Microbiologists of the United States

Fang Shih-shan

General-Secretary of the Medical Association of China

"If you don't want people to know about it, don't do it," says a Chinese proverb. Ever since January this year, the United States government has been waging bacterial warfare in North Korea and Northeast China. The Chinese People's Committee for World Peace and Against American Aggression and the International Association of Democratic Lawyers separately organised commissions for making investigations on the spot. Their investigation provided proof of the U.S. government's guilt. The captured American airmen Enoch and Quinn have admitted that they themselves dropped germ bombs. The fact that the United States has used the germ weapon in Korea and Northeast China has been proved by a mass of irrefutable evidence. The U.S. government, however, repeatedly denies the crime. But of what avail is this denial in face of the condemnation of the people of the whole world? In July this year I participated in the Extraordinary Session of the World Peace Council in Berlin, and there I met an old friend of mine, the world-famous Polish microbiologist Professor Hirszfeld. He showed me the manuscript of a letter he had written to the Society of American Bacteriologists. The complete text of the letter is as follows:

June 3rd, 1952

Chairman of the
Society of American Bacteriologists
c/o Prof. Barnett Cohen
former Chairman
The Johns Hopkins Medical School
Baltimore, Md.
Dear Sir,

After receiving the first news concerning the germ warfare waged by American forces in Korea, the Society of Polish Microbiologists, a member of which council I am, had launched an appeal to all the bacteriologists of the world, i.e. also to American

bacteriologists, with these words: "Investigate and condemn." It seemed improbable to us, that bacteriologists of the United States should break the pledge voted and accepted at the International Congress of Microbiologists in Copenhagen in the year 1947 and accepted also by the most prominent bacteriologists of the United States. The statement had the following text:

"The IV International Congress of Microbiology considers such barbaric methods (as bacteriological warfare) as absolutely unworthy of any civilized community and trusts that all microbiologists throughout the world will do everything in their power to prevent their exploitation."

Chinese and Korean bacteriologists submitted protocols of investigations, from which evolves, that bacteriological weapons were really used. Their proofs are so convincing that a thorough examination of this question by an authoritative international Committee seems necessary. The use of bacteriological weapons must be considered as a breach of the basis of our science, of our common resolutions, and requires an immediate intervention, especially by the American bacteriologists.

I am writing this letter not only as a member of the Society of American Bacteriologists, but as a colleague and friend of many among you. It seems necessary to give proof on thinking of bacteriological war in the same way as all honest scientists do, as did your delegates at the Copenhagen Congress.

And therefore in the name of the respect every one of us wants to win for his country, I beg you, Mister Chairman, to answer the following questions:

1. Why has the Government of the United States not accepted the Convention of the Interdiction of bacteriological warfare?
2. Did the bacteriologists of the United States inform their Government of the Resolution of the International Congress of Microbiologists in Copenhagen, which resolution condemns the bacteriological warfare in the sharpest terms?
3. What have you done or what do you intend to do for finishing the existing bacteriological warfare?

My letter intends to call your attention to the international efforts to save humanity from the threats of the bacteriological weapons and to invite American bacteriologists, who perhaps do not know how grave the situation is, for co-operation in the battle against bacteriological war.

Yours sincerely,
Prof. Dr. Ludwik Hirszfeld

The Society of American Bacteriologists made a brief reply to Professor Hirszfeld, in which they only stated that they wished to receive the proofs.

Recently, Dr. Andrea Andreen of Sweden, M. Jean Malterre of France, Dr. Joseph Needham of Britain, Dr. Oliviero Olivo of Italy, Dr. Samuel B. Pessoa of Brazil, Dr. N. N. Zhukov-Verezhnikov of the U.S.S.R. organised a commission which came to China and Korea. Their task was to confirm or to refute the charges of germ warfare raised by the Korean and Chinese peoples. The commission adopted the

objective attitude of science and, observing the strictest scientific principles, analysed the evidence relative to bacterial warfare. They worked with great patience often under dangerous conditions for more than two months, and finally reached the conclusion: "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. . . ." This report is most objective, just, and scientific and is also a most forceful and scientific proof that the allegations that the U.S. government is waging bacterial warfare in Korea and China are absolutely true and leave no room for doubt.

American Microbiologists! The time has come for you to stand together with the people of the world to curb the bacterial warfare the U.S. government is waging. In order to save science and humanity, I earnestly hope you will not surrender even under the strongest pressure.

They Build for Peace

— Peking's Peace Hotel —

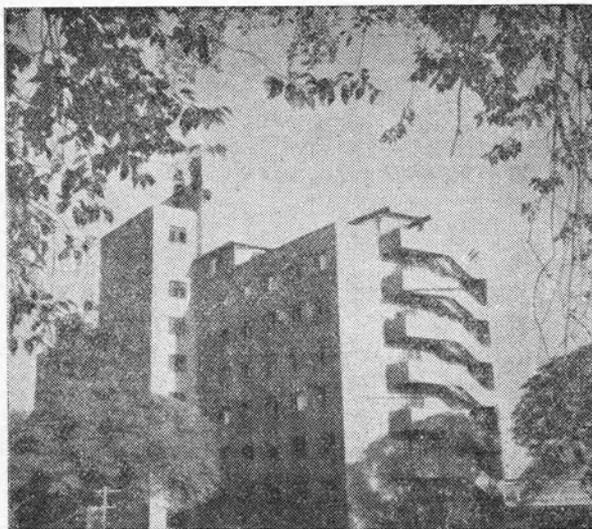
On September 14 the highest building in Peking was completed, on Goldfish Lane, just off busy Wang Fu Tsing shopping centre. It is a modern eight-storey steel and concrete structure over whose en-

trance hangs the sign: *Ho Ping Ping Kuan*—The Peace Hotel. The letters are in gold, written by one of China's most famous calligraphists—Kuo Mo-jo, Chairman of the China Peace Committee.

The first guests have already arrived, delegates to the Peace Conference of the Asian and Pacific Regions for whom this great building was completed in record time.

Peking watched the raising of this structure with intense interest. It dwarfs the traditional one-storey courtyard houses below it. Set higher than the Peking Hotel which was formerly the highest building in the city, its roof garden gives an unrivalled view of Peking. Automatic lifts, a ballroom, and an open-air dance floor on the roof for use in summer, spacious dining and reception halls, up-to-date sanitary arrangements and two hundred rooms furnished in excellent taste, make it one of the capital's show places.

Originally begun by the Peking Hsing Yueh Company, a joint public and private enterprise, as a hotel for industrial and business people visiting Peking, the structural steel skeleton had only been built up to the fifth floor when on July 25 the proposal was accepted to speed completion in order to be ready to receive the peace delegates in mid-September. The call went out that this was a specially urgent task for peace. The tempo of con-



Peking's new Peace Hotel, specially completed to accommodate delegates to the Peace Conference of the Asian and Pacific Regions



A sitting-room in one of the apartments of the Peace Hotel

struction shifted into high gear. Work was done in less than two months that had been originally planned for eleven.

All organisations concerned with the supply of materials to the construction site made extra efforts to speed deliveries and maintain the highest quality. Municipal organisations did all they could to facilitate the work, but this success has been a special triumph for the workers on the job. Except for the concrete mixers, this was a creation of worker-artisans: brick-layers, carpenters, moulders, and fitters.

"This is a real miracle," said Professor Yang Ting-pao, the designer of the building. "I have been an architect for twenty years, but I have never seen work done in such a brief period by manual labour."

This is a miracle explained by one word: Peace. The builders felt themselves to be working for the most urgent cause that mankind faces today: the

struggle to save peace. This lent them added strength and skill. Workers here came from Shanghai, from North China, from Szechuan, but they all had the common experience of suffering under Japanese invasion and through the civil wars waged by the American-backed Kuomintang and the militarist puppets of the various other imperialist powers.

During the Japanese invasion, carpenter Hung Sung-lin had been out of a job for four years and near starvation. Brick-layer Ni Lien-chi had been thrashed by the Japanese gendarmes. His mate Kuo Kuei-lan had been beaten under the Japanese and starved under the Kuomintang. In laying bricks or planing wood for this building, they knew that they were in a special way building a defence for peace against war and exploitation. That was why they gave of their best with such enormous enthusiasm. They made patriotic pacts, challenged each other to make new records, and selflessly worked day and night.

Fu Wen-sheng was unemployed before the liberation. Now he is a well-paid carpenter. "We pledged to do our best for the peace delegates by making a good job of this building so that they could do a still better job for peace!" he said. His mate experimented for two days to find a better way of putting locks on the doors and finally succeeded in fixing thirty a day in place of the usual seven.

Pan Wen-chin is seventy years old with forty years' experience of lift installation. He and five helpers completed their work in a month instead of the usual four. "I have five grand-daughters and four grand-sons and our family is now quite well off," he said at the celebration marking the completion of work on the Peace Hotel. "I don't have to work so hard at my age, but it's for peace, and I'll do anything for it! I feel twenty years younger." He blessed Chairman Mao for the good life he now enjoys.

Kuo Kuei-lan summed things up: "This was my chance to do a bit of extra work for peace!"

—F. C. C.

Book Review

NEW CHINA IN PICTURES

It is no easy task to write a short introduction to a country like China with her immense territory, her ancient civilisation and enormous population. It is especially difficult to write that introduction at this moment following the victory of the people's liberation when she is developing so rapidly and changing her appearance so swiftly. Good photo-

graphs, however, have the power of eloquently saying a great deal in a small compass. The 146 excellent photographs in this first album of *New China* give a panorama of a reborn country, catching it in the very process of its revolutionary transformation.

An intimate and hitherto unpublished photograph of Chairman Mao Tse-tung is the frontispiece.

The middle pages are divided into four sections showing the magnificent scenery of the rivers and mountains of China and places of historic interest; the construction of the people's state power; the development of production; and the new everyday life and recreations of the people. All together they form the intertwining motives of a central theme—the construction of New China and the stand of the Chinese people for peace.

The picture of Chairman Mao Tse-tung outstandingly portrays the great humanity and simplicity of the people's leader. His smile expresses the calm optimism of victory in China's revolution today. The last sentence of the passage from his essay *On New Democracy*: "We want to build up a new China" strikes the keynote of the following pages.

Then follows the capital's Tien An Men Square, the great geographic features, the rivers, mountains, and plains; the deserts of the Northwest, the misty beauty of the West Lake at Hangchow, the storied Potala of Tibet... This is the ancient, beautiful land on which the working people have created priceless masterpieces of art and culture. China has a new pride in the painted grottos of Tun-huang, the Great Wall, the graceful pagodas that are all part of the nation's heritage. The victory of the liberation opens another brilliant chapter in the story of creation.

In the section on domestic construction, two pictures stand out with historic meaning: the session of the People's Political Consultative Conference voting on the establishment of the People's Republic of China and a peasant delegate casting her vote in the P.P.C.C., the supreme political organ of the nation. Two pictures, one of a Moslem service and another of a Roman Catholic congregation outside their cathedral after Mass, typify the freedom of religion protected by the *Common Programme* of the P.P.C.C.

The succeeding pages are devoted to the brilliant achievements of the Chinese people in the rehabilitation and development of their industry and agriculture. Here are pictures of their great construction works—the Chengtu-Chungking railway of Szechuan, the Chinkiang Flood Detention Basin on the middle reaches of the Yangtse, the restored Fushun mine, etc.—first fruits of the basic large-scale construction that is soon to be launched on a nation-wide plan.

The new status of the working people as the masters of the country is depicted in the final section of this album. The great increases of production attained by the emancipated workers and the peasants have been invested in further useful construction and in essential improvements in their livelihood.

Politically and economically freed, the workers and peasants demand a richer cultural life. Here are pictures of their new kindergartens, schools and universities, their libraries, theatres, films, dance



The mountain cliffs of Huang Shan, a famous summer resort in North China. One of the beautiful illustrations from "New China"

ensembles, clubs, their new houses, hospitals, sanatoria, rest homes and sports. These pictures make plainer than words why the Chinese people today so ardently love their own government, their work and life . . . and peace. It is this theme that the *New China* album ends on—the peace movement and the great gathering of the peoples of Asia and the Pacific for the peace conference of their region which is being held in Peking.

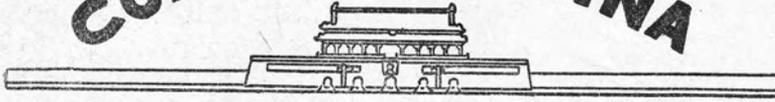
* * *

New China is attractively produced. Its cover is of thick silk-covered boards in deep maroon with well designed silver lettering. It is a splendid job of bookbinding that is undoubtedly one of the most handsome publications to appear in New China and a gift to treasure, for its looks as well as its contents. The captions are useful, supplementing as they should without intruding on the pictures. Its publication date is well chosen—the eve of the Peace Conference of the Asian and Pacific Regions and New China's third anniversary. It will give the many guests from abroad that will come to Peking, a deeper understanding of the Chinese people's love for peace and the great potential of energy and resources they are prepared to devote to the defence of that cause. It will be a reminder of all the great achievements which they have made in the three years of the peace they have enjoyed since the liberation. These things will strengthen the readers' confidence in the successful results of the people's great campaign for peace in the Asian and Pacific area.

--H. W.

New China, edited by the *China Pictorial*, and published by the Foreign Languages Press, Peking, 1952. 165 pages, 15 colour plates.

CURRENT CHINA



Sino-Soviet Friendship

Throughout the country, the Chinese people are enthusiastically greeting the success of the recent Moscow negotiations as a further consolidation of Sino-Soviet friendship.

Students of Tsitsihar have written letters of thanks to Generalissimo Stalin. Railway workers held celebration rallies in Antung, Harbin and other cities.

In East China, workers pledged to develop special emulation campaigns as an expression of gratitude for the Soviet people's aid. Workers of a Kaifeng, Honan, railway repair shop, greeted the news with a pledge to complete their September production target three days ahead of schedule.

Northwest China national minority delegates en route to Peking to attend the National Day celebrations hailed the communique. One delegate from Sinkiang said: "The Soviet agreement to extend the joint use of Port Arthur is a heavy blow to American aggressive plans."

Model peasant Li Shun-ta, who recently returned to Taiyuan, Shansi, from a visit to the U.S.S.R. said: "During my stay in the Soviet Union, I everywhere experienced the Soviet people's sincere friendship for the Chinese people."

Youth League's Tasks

The recent 3rd Plenary Session of the Central Committee of the New Democratic Youth League of China defining the present tasks of the membership called on them to encourage the youth to study well, to guide Youth League members in combining work and study and to help the Chinese Communist Party educate the young generation.

The Youth League should serve as the helper of the Chinese Communist Party among young people, taking the Party's tasks and responsibilities as its own, states a resolution. The major current tasks for the New Democratic Youth

League are to strengthen the emulation campaign for increased production in factories and mines and for bumper crops in the countryside; to encourage workers and peasants to study advanced technique and experiences; to enhance the love of youth for the Chinese People's Liberation Army and the Chinese people's volunteers; to inspire young people to heighten their resolution to defend their Motherland and peace and to take an active part in sports and physical training.

"On Contradiction" In Korean

A full Korean translation of Mao Tse-tung's essay "On Contradiction" is carried in the latest issue of the magazine "People" published in Pyongyang. "On Practice," another important work by Mao Tse-tung, was carried in Korean by this magazine in its January, 1952 issue.

Other resolutions call on Youth League members to help the Chinese Communist Party and the People's Government extend the literacy campaign with the aid of the quick method of learning Chinese characters, take an active part in the nation-wide health campaign and raise the spirit of patriotism and internationalism among young people; to help the Party expand its work among the youth of the minority peoples, strengthen unity among China's nationalities and fraternal relations with the world's democratic youth. The Youth League has now over six million members.

Northwest Shelter-Belt

A 1,500-kilometre long shelter-belt, a green "Great Wall," to protect vast areas of farm land from shifting sand is growing in Northwest China along the Great Wall between Yulin, northern Shensi province, and Chiuchuan, Kansu province. 8,600 hectares have already been afforested.

In Northwest China, in the vast area stretching from Tengkou, Ninghsia, westward to Chiuchuan, Kansu, sandstorms are prevalent for seven months in every year; the annual rainfall is only 50 millimetres. The county town of Yulin was thrice forced by the invading sands to move southward. The bed of the Yellow river south of Tengkou was silted up along a distance of some 150 kilometres by the shifting sand, and a large number of villages and farms were buried.

Soon after liberation, the people's government in Northwest China set up an organisation to survey and lay out this gigantic shelter-belt. In the spring of last year 500,000 peasants under the leadership of the people's government launched the first organised, large-scale battle against the desert and planted 2,700 hectares with saplings by the end of the year. This year, the afforestation campaign has expanded still more. In Mintsin county, Kansu, for example, more than half of the population of 210,000 participated in it.

Central-South Irrigation

Central-South China has adopted a five-year irrigation plan. As much as 800,000 hectares of dry land will be transformed into rice fields, and the annual rice output will be increased by 1 million tons, according to this plan.

By the end of 1957, pumping stations with a capacity of 200,000 horse power will be set up in the six provinces (Hupeh, Hunan, Honan, Kiangsi, Kwangtung, and Kwangsi) of the area whose population totals 150 million. In 1953 the first pumping stations with a total capacity of 15,000 horse power will be set up in a number of key places.

The completion of the plan will mean complete elimination of flood and drought in vast areas of this part of the country. With 11 million hectares of rice fields, Central-South China is one of the country's main rice-producing areas. Last year, its output of grain (of which 65% was rice) amounted to one-quarter of China's total.

This five-year plan is the first large-scale scheme ever adopted in China for pumping water to irrigate land. It is an important step to-

wards the mechanisation of agriculture in the southern half of China where the main problem is irrigation.

Manufactured Goods Sales Up

With purchasing power constantly rising, a wide and attractive range of manufactured goods has found ready markets in villages throughout China.

Gay cotton prints, good twills, knitted wear, soap, thread, buttons and other consumer goods are in heavy demand. Tooth-paste, thermos flasks, fountain pens and cosmetics are also in great demand.

Since July this year when the state-trading companies started a sales drive, they have exceeded their monthly sales targets.

In the Tientsin area, one company sold 69% more than originally planned to the co-operatives and private dealers in July, and in August, it again exceeded its sales plan by 120%. The company in west Szechuan stepped up its sales for July by 41% over May. In July, the general goods company in Sikang province doubled its June sales.

The state-trading companies have mainly functioned as a wholesaler, leaving the retail trade to the co-operative societies and private traders. They are now preparing to meet the even heavier buying demands expected after the autumn harvest.

More Aluminum Products

Shanghai, China's main aluminum goods producer, will sharply increase its output of aluminum pots and pans and other household utensils in the second half of this year.

Privately-owned aluminum plants have scheduled a 47% increase in output of aluminum cooking utensils and an 83% higher output of other consumer items in the second half of this year. Sixty local aluminum factories are co-operating to fulfil this target and simultaneously improve quality and cut operating costs.

This increase in production is the industry's response to the brisk market in Shanghai and the heavy demand from North, Northwest and Central-South China, mainly due to large-scale purchasing by state con-

cerns. March purchases by the city's state department store accounted for 85% of the industry's output. June purchases made by the store registered a 22% increase on the total purchases by the store in April and May. In June, the industry turned out 20% more than in the same period last year. In spite of greater production, however, supply still fell far short of the growing demand, and this led to the present plans for expanded output.

Chronicle of Events

September 7

The Chinese exhibition at the Leipzig International Industrial Fair opens.

September 9

A 19-member Chinese delegation to the 2nd Congress of the Trade Union International of the Textile and Clothing Workers to be held in Berlin on October 1 leaves Peking for Berlin.

Li Hsien, deputy-head of the Labour Insurance Department of the All-China Federation of Labour, and Wu Hung-yi, chairman of the Harbin Trade Union Council, leave for Vienna to attend the International Social Insurance Conference of Trade Unions to be held on September 15.

The 8th anniversary of the founding of the People's Republic of Bulgaria is enthusiastically celebrated by the Chinese people. Greetings are sent by Chairman Mao Tse-tung and Premier Chou En-lai, respectively, to G. Damianov, Chairman of the Presidium of the National Assembly, and V. Chervenkov, Chairman of the Council of Ministers.

September 10

China's first radiophoto service between Peking and Shanghai officially opens.

September 13

Hsinhua News Agency reports that during the period from August 26 to September 11, American aircraft flew a total of 740 sorties in 130 waves over 16 places in Northeast China.

September 15

Publication of the joint communique on the recent Sino-Soviet negotiations in Moscow; the communique on the transfer of the Chinese Changchun railway to China, the note of Chou En-lai to A. Y. Vyshinsky requesting the postponement of the withdrawal of Soviet troops from Port Arthur; and A. Y. Vyshinsky's note in reply, expressing the agreement of the Soviet government to China's proposal.

An exhibition on the U.S. government's crime of bacteriological warfare opens in Peking.

September 16

China's national swimming meet this year—also the first such contest since liberation—opens in Canton.

LETTERS

Students for Peace

SYDNEY, AUSTRALIA

At the moment, students from Sydney University, Technical and Teachers' Colleges are waging a campaign to send a delegate to the Peking peace conference. Never since the war has there been such widespread, broad support for such a radical idea; never has there been such enthusiasm for any peace conference.

The important thing is that there are so many people of such widely different political and religious views, many of them supporters of a government that is no friend of yours, who are working enthusiastically to have a fellow student go to China. Once consolidated, this rising unity will pay wonderful dividends to the work for friendly relations with New China, for it is the first, but not the only sign, of a changed outlook on the part of a new generation not yet, but soon to be, adults.

The delegate will go with the endorsement of the Australian Student Labour Federation, though it is unlikely that he will be a member of our organisation. However, all the candidates have proven themselves to be honest people, and for the purposes of the conference, they have our confidence.

Perhaps it would be possible for Chinese students to receive our fellow student as a guest and give him every opportunity to become acquainted with student life and conditions in your country during his stay in your land. Such experience, we feel, would be truly invaluable.

J. STAPLES.

Unwavering and Strong

TOKYO, JAPAN

Our cultural club is working in the closest unity to protect democracy and peace as well as to develop the democratic forces here in Japan, collaborating with other cultural groups, especially with those among the youth, to meet the present world crisis.

We firmly believe that our resolution to contribute to peace and freedom will be unwavering and strong however violent the pressure on us may become.

S. KONDO.

北京市軍事管制委員會報紙雜誌通訊社臨時登記證新字第七七號
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"We love peace!"

Reprinted from New China, a picture album of the People's Republic of China just published by the Foreign Languages Press, Peking