

# PEOPLE'S CHINA



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FORTNIGHTLY

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Chairman Mao Tse-tung announcing the opening of the 30th meeting of the Central People's Government Council which unanimously adopted the Draft Constitution of the People's Republic of China on June 14, 1954. On the presidium (right to left): Vice-Chairmen Chang Lan, Li Chi-shen, Liu Shao-chi, Chu Teh and Soong Ching Ling and Secretary-General Lin Po-chu

# China's Draft Constitution

Editorial of the Peking "People's Daily," June 16, 1954

**T**HE publication of the Draft Constitution of the People's Republic of China is an important event in the political life of the Chinese people.

The Central People's Government Council at its 20th meeting of January 13, 1953 adopted a "Resolution for the Convening of the National People's Congress and Local People's Congresses at Every Level." This provided for setting up a Committee for Drafting the Constitution of the People's Republic of China, with Comrade Mao Tse-tung as Chairman. Comrade Mao Tse-tung, on behalf of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of China, submitted the "Draft Constitution of the People's Republic of China (first draft)" to the Committee for Drafting the Constitution on March 23, 1954. The Committee conducted a detailed and careful study and discussion of the Draft Constitution and drew more than 8,000 persons from all walks of life into taking part in its discussions. The work of drafting the Constitution was successfully completed on June 11, 1954. On June 14, 1954, the Central People's Government Council at its 30th meeting decided to publish this Draft Constitution and have it discussed by the people of the whole country for the purpose of collecting still broader opinions for revision. This will be in preparation for submission of the Draft Constitution to the first meeting of the First National People's Congress for examination.

**T**HE Draft Constitution reflects the actual conditions of the great social changes that have taken place since our people's revolution and the founding of the People's Republic of China. It sums up in legal form the main experience in struggle and organization of the Chinese people. It confirms the fruits of the Chinese people's revolution—the interests which the people have won—and affirms the common aspiration of the Chinese people to build a socialist society step by step.

The Common Programme of the Chinese People's Political Consultative Conference has served as a provisional constitution since the founding of the People's Republic of China. Real life has proved the correctness of this Programme. The Draft Constitution is based on the Common Programme. The Preamble of the Draft Constitution of the People's Republic of China states:

This Constitution is based on, and is a development of, the Common Programme of the Chinese People's Political Consultative Conference of 1949.

Certain basic principles laid down in the Common Programme are reaffirmed in the Draft Constitution. At the same time, because real life has already moved forward, the Draft Constitution includes many new provisions in connection with the state and the social system. These are certain new, concrete provisions mainly concerned with building a socialist society

step by step and with strengthening the people's democratic system.

The Preamble of the Draft Constitution of the People's Republic of China begins:

The Chinese people, after more than a century of heroic struggle, finally achieved in 1949, under the leadership of the Communist Party of China, their great victory in the people's revolution against imperialism, feudalism and bureaucratic capitalism, thereby ending the long history of oppression and enslavement and setting up the People's Republic of China, a people's democratic dictatorship. The system of people's democracy—new democracy—of the People's Republic of China ensures that China can in a peaceful way eliminate exploitation and poverty and build a prosperous and happy socialist society.

Article 4 of the General Principles of the Draft Constitution provides:

The People's Republic of China shall ensure the step-by-step abolition of systems of exploitation and the building of a socialist society by relying on the organs of state and the social forces and through socialist industrialization and socialist transformation.

In the Draft Constitution, the construction of a socialist society becomes the objective of our state prescribed by law. The great idea of socialism, in pursuance of which many revolutionary martyrs of the Chinese people laid down their lives, is steadily becoming a glorious reality. The Draft Constitution affirms the reality of the increasing, daily growth of socialist construction. After the Draft Constitution is formally adopted, it will play the role of positively guaranteeing and promoting the robust development of this glorious reality. This reality and the prospects it opens up will be a source of great happiness and inspiration to all patriotic people.

The correctness of the Draft Constitution lies in the fact that its provisions dealing with the building of a socialist society in our country are not based on wishful thinking, but on facts, and follow a practical and reliable path.

**W**HAT is the basis for realizing socialism in our country?

Our country is a people's democratic state led by the working class and based on the alliance of the workers and the peasants. This is the political basis for realizing socialism. Our

state-owned economy is an economy owned by the whole people. This is the economic basis for realizing socialism. According to statistics for 1952, the proportion of industrial production in the national economy increased from the 10 per cent it was before liberation to 28 per cent; the sector of state-owned industry that is of a socialist character already amounted to 50.7 per cent of modern industry; state and cooperative trade already accounted for more than 50 per cent of the total value of sales within the country. Cooperative economy in agriculture and handicrafts also holds an important position in the national economy. By the end of 1953 there were 14,000 agricultural producers' cooperatives in the country. Now they have increased to 95,000. Capitalist industry and commerce is gradually taking the path of state capitalism. The political, economic and cultural levels of the mass of the people is rising day by day, and they ardently desire the happy life of socialism. These facts are the starting points set down in the Draft Constitution for the struggle to build a socialist society.

But a transition must be undertaken if we are to build a socialist society, step by step. This gradual transition is dependent on the daily development and growth of the material basis of socialism and at the same time, on the daily rising of the socialist consciousness of the mass of the people.

The Preamble of the Draft Constitution of the People's Republic of China states:

\* The period from the founding of the People's Republic of China to the attainment of a socialist society is one of transition. The central task of the state during this transition period is to bring about, step by step, the socialist industrialization of the country and to accomplish, step by step, the socialist transformation of agriculture, handicrafts and capitalist industry and commerce.

Many articles in the General Principles of the Draft Constitution contain sound and reasonable provisions on all aspects of this subject.

In our country, there exist, on the one hand, state ownership, i.e., ownership by the whole people, and cooperative ownership of the means of production. On the other hand, there exist ownership by individual working people and capitalist ownership. This means that at pre-

sent the socialist and non-socialist sectors of the economy exist side by side. This is a basic characteristic of the transition period in our country. On the basis of these actual conditions and the direction of the development of our country, the Draft Constitution stipulates that the socialist sector of the economy, of ownership by the whole people, "is the leading force in the national economy and the material basis on which the state carries out the socialist transformation." It also stipulates that the state will protect private ownership of the means of production and other property according to law. At the same time, it provides that the state shall encourage individual economy to change step by step, on a voluntary basis and through a concrete form of transition, into the economy of cooperative ownership. It further stipulates that the state shall encourage and guide "the transformation of capitalist industry and commerce into various forms of state-capitalist economy, step by step replacing capitalist ownership with ownership by the whole people."

The Draft Constitution also provides: "The state prohibits any person to use his private property to undermine public interests." All these provisions will guarantee the successful accomplishment of socialist construction and socialist transformation in our country. They will guarantee the advance of our people towards a happy socialist society free of exploitation.

**T**O guarantee the gradual transition into a socialist society, it is necessary to further develop the democratic system of our country in order to strengthen relations between the organs of state and the mass of the people, and to raise the political and labouring initiative of the mass of the people.

Article 2 of the General Principles of the Draft Constitution states:

All power in the People's Republic of China belongs to the people. The organs through which the people exercise power are the National People's Congress and the local people's congresses at every level.

This means that the power of the people in our country is exercised by the National People's Congress and local people's congresses at

every level. Article 2 of the General Principles of the Draft Constitution also provides:

The National People's Congress, the local people's congresses at every level and other organs of the state, without exception, practise democratic centralism.

By democratic centralism is meant:

Firstly, the organs of state power in our country are created by popular elections and are supervised by the voters and the electoral units, which, in accordance with law, have the right to replace their own deputies.

Secondly, the state administrative organs, the courts and the procurator's offices are all created by the organs of state power. They are responsible to the organs of state power, report to them and are supervised by them. The central and local administrative organs at every level are the executive organs of the National People's Congress and the local people's congresses at every level. The organs of state power have the right to remove personnel in all state organs created by them.

Thirdly, democratic centralism combines the initiative and creativeness of central and local organs with the principle of the subordination of the lower level to the higher level, of the local to the central organ. These and other provisions in the Draft Constitution guarantee that all the people of the country act as true masters of the country in national life, and guarantee that the organs of state and their personnel serve the people faithfully.

**T**O ensure the gradual transition into a socialist society, it is necessary to further consolidate the unity among the country's various nationalities.

Since the establishment of the People's Republic of China, the country's nationalities have been united, free and equal, in a big family of nations. Facts prove that only in a country that is led by the working class and its vanguard, the Communist Party, is it possible to really solve the question of relations among nationalities within a country.

Article 3 of the General Principles of the Draft Constitution provides: "The People's

Republic of China is a unified, multi-national state," "all the nationalities are equal," "regional autonomy applies in areas where people of the national minorities live in numbers," etc.

Section 5 of Chapter II of the Draft Constitution has special provisions dealing with the local autonomous organs of the areas of national autonomy. By advancing in the direction indicated in these provisions of the Draft Constitution, greater unity among the nationalities in our country and the prosperity and progress of all nationalities are assured.

**T**HE Draft Constitution provides that all Chinese citizens enjoy equal rights and have definite obligations. Citizens who have reached the age of eighteen have the right to elect and be elected. All citizens have freedom of speech, the press, assembly, association, procession and demonstration, the right to education and freedom of religious belief. Citizens have the right to make charges to any organ of the state at any level against any government worker for transgression of law or neglect of duty.

The state assures citizens the right to work. The working people have the right to rest and to material assistance in old age, or in case of illness or disablement.

Women enjoy equal rights with men in all spheres of political, economic, cultural, social and domestic life. The state protects marriage, the family, the mother and child.

The past five years under the people's democratic system show that the people have enjoyed these rights to an ever increasing extent, and will be able to enjoy them still more fully with the constant development of the country's economic construction.

Of course, in our country, the rights of citizens must not be isolated from their obligations. That is why the Draft Constitution stipulates that citizens also have the duty to abide by the law, to respect and safeguard public property, to pay taxes and perform military service.

These obligations are all in accord with the immediate interests of the Chinese people and are closely related to the rights enjoyed by citizens. These rights and obligations are necessary to consolidate and defend our country, to ensure the mass of the people a happy life and to accomplish the task of socialist construction and socialist transformation.

**T**HE Draft Constitution of the People's Republic of China has now been published for the people of the whole country. It represents a new upsurge in the democratic and socialist construction of the people of our country. No constitution of a capitalist country which is used to oppress and exploit the people can compare with this Constitution of the people of our country, which is a truly democratic constitution, belonging to the socialist category. The people throughout the country should take a most active part in the discussion, and raise opinions on this fundamental law of the land which has a direct bearing on their own interests. The wisdom of the people of the whole country will thus be gathered together in order to perfect the Draft of this first Constitution of the Chinese people. With this Constitution as our instrument, we can ensure constant success in our country's great task of building socialism.

We are fully confident that the central task of the transition period of our country can be successfully achieved, as is pointed out in the Preamble of the Draft Constitution, by relying on the people's democratic united front led by the Communist Party of China, on the fraternal love, mutual assistance and unity of the various nationalities within the country, and on the friendship and solidarity between our country and the great Soviet Union, the People's Democracies and peace-loving people throughout the world. Any plots to undermine our construction on the part of any reactionary forces either within or outside the country will be crushed by the invincible might of our arm.

In this spirit of complete confidence, let all the people discuss the Draft Constitution and joyfully prepare to welcome the birth of the first Constitution of the Chinese people!

# The Birth of the Chinese Communist Party

Hu Hua

**T**HIRTY years ago, on July 1, 1921 the Communist Party of China—vanguard of the Chinese proletariat—was born. Up to that time the struggle of the Chinese people against imperialism and feudalism since the Opium War of 1840 had failed to find the correct revolutionary path. Under the leadership of the Communist Party, however, it advanced to victory. The founding of the People's Republic of China in 1949 brought the first phase of the revolutionary struggle in China to an end. It marked the successful conclusion of the new-democratic revolution.

Today, the Communist Party of China is leading the Chinese people to bring about the socialist industrialization and transformation of their country. New and greater successes are being recorded everyday. The birth of the Communist Party of China therefore stands as an event of the greatest significance in modern Chinese history.

## Growth of China's Proletariat

The First World War of 1914-1918 saw the relatively rapid advance of native capitalism in China. The imperialist powers in Europe were preoccupied by their war, and therefore temporarily slackened their aggression in China. With the development of China's industry, the industrial proletariat grew rapidly. It increased from some 650,000 in 1913 to nearly two million in 1919. It emerged as an important force in the semi-colonial, semi-feudal Chinese society of that time.

The most oppressed class in Chinese society was this industrial proletariat. Occupying the lowest economic position, it was subjected to

the triple oppression of imperialism, feudalism and native capitalism. It grew resolutely and consistently revolutionary. Though it constituted only a small proportion of the whole population, it was highly concentrated. Most industrial workers were employed in enterprises of more than 500 workers. Furthermore, in urban China, in addition to the industrial proletariat, there were some 12 million shop-assistants and hired labourers employed in petty industry and handicraft production. There was an even greater number of rural proletarians—the farm labourers. The total number of the proletariat and semi-proletariat in town and country, including the poor peasants, was well over half of the country's population. Living under the most poverty-stricken conditions, they were brutally oppressed and exploited. Since most of China's industrial proletariat traced its origin to bankrupt peasants, it had a natural affinity with the broad masses of the peasants and thus readily allied itself with them.

The Chinese people had been engaged in a constant struggle against imperialism and feudalism ever since the Opium War. But all these revolutionary struggles, including the great Taiping peasant revolution and the bourgeois revolution of 1911, had ended in failure. This proved that the Chinese peasantry and the weak native bourgeoisie, jointly oppressed by the forces of imperialism and feudalism, were unable to lead the democratic revolution in China to victory. On the other hand, the industrial proletariat in China, like the proletariat in every country, is connected with the most advanced form of economic organization. Therefore it is historically the most progressive class representing the new forces of production in Chinese society. It is identified with the inevitable development of society demanding that China's semi-colonial, semi-feudal relations

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Hu Hua, a historian, is the author of *The History of the New-Democratic Revolution in China*.

of production be replaced by new relations of production—new-democratic, and eventually socialist and communist—that will conform with the development of the productive forces in Chinese society. The Chinese industrial proletariat represents China's future. It became, as determined by historical necessity, the leader of the Chinese revolution.

With the rapid growth in strength of the Chinese industrial proletariat, its activity as expressed in the number of strikes also increased swiftly. According to incomplete data 25 strikes took place in the industrial cities in 1918. The workers organized these spontaneous, economic strikes because they could no longer tolerate the brutal maltreatment to which they were subjected and conditions that were worse than those given to animals.

### The May Fourth Movement

In 1919, the May Fourth Movement against imperialism and feudalism erupted, and the Chinese industrial proletariat, powerful and militant, appeared on the political stage. Industrial workers in Shanghai and other cities organized many political strikes and played an important role in expanding the movements and carrying it to victory.

The development of native capitalism in China following the outbreak of the First World War strengthened the demand of the people to break the shackles of feudalism; at the same time, the progressive intellectuals also demanded progress and reform. Based on these demands, the new cultural movement made steady progress. It was opposed to feudalism; it promoted democracy and science. It signified the new awakening of the Chinese people.

In the year previous to the May Fourth Movement, the Chinese

people, under the influence of the upsurge of the world revolutionary movement and the victory of the Russian October Socialist Revolution, began to get acquainted with Marxism-Leninism. The first disseminators of Marxism-Leninism in China were Li Ta-chao, Mao Tse-tung and others. Thus the new cultural movement was a revolutionary one carried forward by a united front composed of the intellectuals who possessed a rudimentary idea of communism, revolutionary petty-bourgeois intellectuals and bourgeois intellectuals (the last formed the Right wing of the movement). It was under Marxist-Leninist leadership.

The group of revolutionary intellectuals who had a rudimentary idea of communism, represented by Li Ta-chao and Mao Tse-tung, had already advanced the idea that the only way for the Chinese people to emancipate themselves was to "follow the path of the Russians" and form a "great union of the people." They led the revolutionary struggle of the masses in the May Fourth Movement. They further called upon the youth to take up the revolutionary cause and to work among the masses.

Marxism - Leninism spread through China in the midst of a fierce ideological struggle against the enemies of Marxism-Leninism.

As the militant Chinese working class made its appearance on the political stage and Marxism - Leninism gained ever new adherents in China, guiding the masses onto the correct revolutionary path, the question of China's future—to socialism or capitalism—became ever more urgent. On the other hand bourgeois intellectuals, with Hu Shih as their spokesman, defending the interests of their



The Communist Party of China held its First Party Congress in this house in Shanghai on July 1, 1921

class, opposed Marxism-Leninism. They sought to check the spread of Marxism-Leninism in China and destroy the revolutionary influence it already had among the masses. In July 1919, a debate on "Problems and Isms"\* began among the Chinese intellectuals. The Communists dealt a crushing defeat to the bourgeois reformists. This debate also marked the splitting up of the cultural united front. In 1920, the Communists again defeated the attack of anti-Marxist elements, this time, the pseudo-socialists† headed by Liang Chi-chao, who represented the interests of the landlords and comprador bourgeoisie. These victories on the ideological front further expanded the influence of Marxism-Leninism in China.

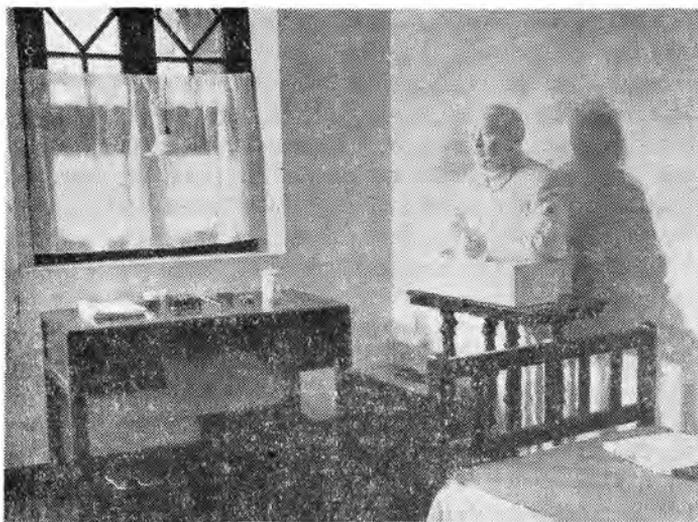
### First Communist Groups

Communist groups and a Communist Youth League came into existence in China in 1920. The first Communist group was formed by Chen Tu-hsiu and others in Shanghai in May 1920.

Mao Tse-tung contacted the Communist group in Shanghai, and upon his return to Changsha, provincial capital of Hunan, organized a group to study Marxism in July of the same year. In October, he formed the Socialist Youth League. He also led quite a number of fine intellectuals and young workers in Hunan to join these organizations. Mao Tse-tung thus organizationally prepared the way for the founding of the Party. During the same period, Communist groups were formed by Li Ta-chao and others in Peking, by Tung Pi-wu, Chen Tanchiu and others in Hupeh Province, and by

\* Hu Shih called on intellectuals to "study more problems, talk less about isms." Here he used the word "ism" in reference to Marxism-Leninism.

† These pseudo-socialists argued that since there was no industrial proletariat in China as yet, there could be no socialist movement. They claimed that the "expansion of industry" by foreign capitalists and Chinese comprador capitalists must come first, and the socialist revolution later. Such a viewpoint fully exposed them as the lackeys of the imperialists, landlords and compradors.



The room where Mao Tse-tung lived during the First Party Congress

Wang Chin-mei and others in Tsinan, Shantung Province. Many similar groups were formed successively in Tientsin, Hangchow and Canton. Chinese students studying in Japan also formed a group. The Chinese Young Communist League was formed by Chou En-lai, Chao Shih-yen, Wang Jo-fei, Li Fu-chun, Hsiang Ching-yu and other Chinese students in Paris.

The struggle of the Chinese working class, which had gained strength and tempered itself in the May Fourth Movement, was then forging ahead. In 1919, there were 66 strikes (including the political strikes of the May Fourth Movement). Over 91,000 people took part in 26 of these strikes (the numbers of participants in the other strikes were not recorded). In 1920, there were 46 strikes with over 46,000 participants in 19 of them. As the struggle intensified, the Chinese working class felt an urgent need for correct theoretical and organizational guidance. It received such guidance from the Communist groups which were being formed one after another in various parts of the country.

### Mao Tse-tung and Hunan Workers

Comrade Mao Tse-tung was already taking an active part in the day-to-day activities of the labour movement early in the summer of 1920. He personally went into the workers' districts in Changsha and made extensive con-

facts with railway workers, printers, textile workers, carpenters, masons and transport workers. He gave his services to the workers, ran a workers' evening school and instructed the workers in Marxism; he trained up activists and through them maintained close links with the broad masses of workers. It was Mao Tse-tung who won the leaders and many active workers of the Union of Hunan Labourers in Changsha to an understanding of Marxism. This Union had formerly concentrated only on economic demands and lacked a clear-cut political direction. Thanks to Mao Tse-tung's patience and persuasive eloquence, the Union finally accepted the Marxist-Leninist standpoint in November 1920. By the first half of 1921, under the guidance of Mao Tse-tung, both industrial workers and handicraftsmen in Changsha were organized.

In the same period, the Communist group in Shanghai founded a workers' continuation school, organized the Union of Engineering Workers and the Union of Printers; Teng Chunhsia and others of the Communist group in Peking founded the workers' extension school at Changhsintien near Peking and organized the railway workers into the Workers' Club and the League for Mutual Aid in Work and Study; the Communist group in Hupeh Province called a strike of ricksha pullers in 1921. Other groups in Tsinan and Canton were also active in the labour movement. The Chinese Young Communist League in France spread a knowledge of Marxism among overseas Chinese workers.

Workers' periodicals were published in many cities: *The Labourer* in Shanghai, *The Echo of Labour* in Peking and *The Voice of Labour* in Canton. All these publications expounded Marxism to the workers in a popular way and guided their revolutionary struggles.

Thus began the integration of Marxism-Leninism with the labour movement in China.

### Founding the Party

July 1, 1921 is a historic date for the Chinese people. On this day the great Communist Party of China was founded.

Twelve delegates representing some 50 Communists in seven Communist groups in Hunan, Hupeh, Shanghai, Peking, Tsinan, Canton and Tokyo (Japan) held the First Party

Congress in Shanghai, then the industrial centre of China.

The First Party Congress adopted the first constitution of the Communist Party of China, elected the central organs of the Party and founded the Communist Party of China. Delegates to the Congress included Mao Tse-tung, Ho Shu-heng, Tung Pi-wu, Chen Tan-chiu, China's oldest and most outstanding Party members.

The Congress lasted five days. On the fifth day, the meeting place was raided by the police of the French Concession in Shanghai, so the Congress had to hold its last session at Nan Hu (South Lake), a scenic spot in Kashing, Chekiang Province, midway down the Shanghai-Hangchow Railway.

The agenda included discussions on the political situation at the time, on the fundamental tasks of the Party, and on the organizational principles and structure of the Party. The question of the organizational principles of the Party was the centre of discussion.

The Congress adopted correct resolutions on these questions. The fundamental task of the Party, as laid down in the resolution, was to struggle for the dictatorship of the proletariat. However, it was pointed out, the Party must in the meantime call on the proletariat to take an active part in the bourgeois-democratic revolution and not to stand aside from it. As to the organizational principles, the Congress decided that it should be a militant, well-disciplined revolutionary party of the proletariat. Thus the Party laid down the foundations for a correct political line and organizational principle.

The Congress also held that the immediate, central task of the Party was the development of the trade union movement. It resolved that the Party should lead the movement by establishing the Chinese Trade Union Secretariat on a legal basis. The Congress held that the Party should carry on its work by every open and legitimate means advantageous to the proletariat. It was decided that support should be given to the progressive movement led by Sun Yat-sen.

Regarding the structure of the Party, the Congress resolved to set up a Central Working Department in Shanghai and local Party or-

ganizations elsewhere and that the Socialist Youth League should also be expanded throughout the country.

The birth of the Communist Party of China is the greatest event in modern Chinese history. The working class and people of China, condemned for so long to bitter suffering, stood

in urgent need of a steadfast and powerful revolutionary party that could lead them in the struggle for the victory of the people's revolutionary cause against imperialism, and feudalism and bureaucratic capitalism, and for a socialist future in China. The Communist Party of China emerged to fulfil this historic mission.

## Report from Geneva

# How the U.S. Wrecked the Korean Discussions

Li Chuang and Tu Po

**I**N spite of exhaustive efforts made up to the very last minute by the Soviet Union, the People's Republic of China and the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, the Geneva Conference discussions on the Korean question were wrecked by the Western powers on June 15 as a result of the machinations of the United States.

The U.S. rulers will never be able to exonerate themselves from the responsibility for sabotaging the Geneva Conference.

### At the Last Session

At the June 15 session, the last as well as the longest session on the Korean question, delegates of the Korean Democratic People's Republic, the Chinese People's Republic and the Soviet Union successively put forward four proposals. All, however, were turned down off-hand by the U.S. and its underlings.

The session opened with Foreign Minister Nam Il's six-point proposal on the safeguarding of peace in Korea, which received the full support of Foreign Ministers V. M. Molotov and Chou En-lai. Foreign Minister Chou En-lai followed up by proposing that restricted sessions be held with the participation of the seven states—China, the Soviet Union, the United Kingdom,

the United States, France, the Democratic People's Republic of Korea and the Republic of Korea, to discuss, on the basis of Foreign Minister Nam Il's proposal, concrete measures concerning the consolidation of peace in Korea.

The Delegations of the Korean Democratic People's Republic, China and the Soviet Union were of the opinion that an agreement on the consolidation of peace in Korea should at least be reached even though the Conference could not agree, for the time being, on the question of the peaceful unification of Korea. They held that although a truce has been achieved in the Korean war, it must be understood that a state of armistice is a different matter to a firmly established peace. Furthermore, the U.S. backed Syngman Rhee is constantly clamouring about "marching to the north," is feverishly increasing his armed forces and making extensive preparations for war—all this seriously menaces the Korean armistice. An agreement on the consolidation of peace in Korea would, therefore, be entirely in keeping with the wishes of the peace-loving people of the world.

When this proposal for ensuring peace in Korea was again unreasonably rejected, Foreign Minister Molotov then proposed that a declara-

tion concerning Korea be passed to the following effect: the states participating in the Geneva Conference agree that, "pending a final settlement of the Korean problem on the basis of the establishment of a united, independent and democratic state, no action shall be taken which might constitute a threat to the maintenance of peace in Korea." But the delegations of the Western powers, with the U.S. delegate calling the signal, turned a deaf ear to this proposal, which could indeed be considered as only the minimum expectation of the world's peace-loving people with regard to the Geneva Conference. Instead they produced the "16 nations declaration" which the U.S. schemers had long been preparing, and announced that the conference on the Korean question was at an end.

In a final effort to revive the Conference for the peaceful settlement of the Korean problem, Foreign Minister Chou En-lai made a final proposal as follows:

The states participating in the Geneva Conference agree that they will continue their efforts towards achieving an agreement on the peaceful settlement of the Korean question on the basis of establishing a united, independent and democratic Korea. As regards the question of the time and the place for resuming appropriate negotiations, it shall be decided separately by the states concerned through negotiations.

This proposal made possible further talks on the peaceful settlement of the Korean question, and was seconded by P. H. Spaak, the Belgian delegate. The moral force of this proposal was such that none in the Western camp dared to give it an open rebuttal. But when Anthony Eden, delegate of the United Kingdom and chairman of the session, was about to announce its approval by the Conference and asked if there were any objections, Bedell Smith, the U.S. delegate, hastily demanded the floor and expressed his objection. Although the delegates of some Western countries expressed their willingness to accept the proposal, Smith's opposition slammed the door on further discussion of the peaceful settlement of the Korean question.

### **Sustained Effort for Peace**

The Delegations of the Korean Democratic People's Republic, China and the Soviet Union did their utmost throughout the talks to settle the Korean question peacefully and to

relax tension in the Far East and throughout the world.

On April 27, the second day of the Geneva Conference, Foreign Minister Nam Il proposed a constructive plan for the re-establishment of Korean national unity and the holding of free all-Korean elections. He proposed that an all-Korean commission made up of representatives of North and South Korea be formed; that all foreign armed forces be withdrawn within a period of six months and that under conditions of complete freedom from all foreign interference, genuinely democratic elections should be held to realize Korean unification; and that all states concerned should recognize the need of ensuring the peaceful development of Korea.

This proposal had the full support of Foreign Ministers Molotov and Chou En-lai. On May 3, Foreign Minister Nam Il expressed the opinion that the time limit for the withdrawal of foreign armed forces from Korea might be subject to further discussion and consideration.

On May 22 Foreign Minister Chou En-lai proposed, after the delegates of many countries had stressed the necessity of international supervision of the elections, that an international supervisory commission made up of neutral, non-participant nations in the Korean war be formed to help the all-Korean commission in holding the elections and carry out supervision of the elections.

On June 5, in order to facilitate the progress of the Conference, Foreign Minister Molotov, after reviewing the points already or nearly agreed upon by the delegates of the nations participating in the Conference, made a five-point proposal advocating the conclusion of an agreement on those points which had already been agreed upon and continued discussion for settling points still in dispute. On the same day Foreign Minister Nam Il proposed the withdrawal of foreign armed forces from Korea on a proportional basis and suggested that the date of the withdrawal might be set by concrete negotiations.

Although Bedell Smith, the U.S. delegate, blustered in his speech of June 5 about appealing to the "public opinion of the whole world" for the settlement of the Korean ques-

tion, the delegates of the Korean Democratic People's Republic, China and the Soviet Union continued to make strenuous efforts for peace and put forward further concrete plans even at the fifteenth and last session of the Conference. All this fully bears out the fact that the delegations of these three nations were striving sincerely for the peaceful settlement of the Korean question.

### U.S. Sabotage

On the other hand, throughout the discussions on the Korean question which lasted more than 30 days, the U.S. and its satellites successively blocked such constructive proposals of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, China and the Soviet Union, while refusing on their part to produce a single concrete proposal. Reuter dispatches of May 17 and 20 admitted that the North Korean plan was the only well-defined one ever put before the Conference. It reported that many delegates from the West were much worried and that "there is general concern . . . that the next Korean session should see the presentation of a new plan for Korea (from the Western side—Ed.) that would appear 'reasonable to world opinion.'"

It was towards this end, and only when the discussion of the Korean question was nearly one month old, that the South Korean delegate put forward a so-called proposal on May 22. But so nonsensical was the "proposal" that many delegations from among the 16 countries which took part in the invasion of Korea stated that it could not represent their views.

The United States, which signed the Korean Armistice Agreement on behalf of the 16 nations, directed all its efforts in the Conference to one end—to oppose the reaching of any agreement.

At the third plenary session held on April 28, Dulles produced the illegal resolution of the United Nations General Assembly of October 7, 1950 and demanded that the unification of Korea be entrusted to the dictatorial Syngman Rhee regime with the help of the United States. But this was exactly what the U.S. troops failed to achieve in the three years' war of aggression against Korea. The fact that Dulles brought this illegal resolution to the Geneva Conference

shows that his intention from the very beginning of the Korean session was to block the way to a peaceful settlement of the Korean question. Now the "declaration" of the 16 nations has wrecked the Korean session of the Geneva Conference. By putting forward the same demand that the Korean question should be left to the United Nations, the "declaration" is exposed as nothing but a duplication of Dulles' April 28th speech.

The United Nations has been used by the United States throughout the Korean sessions as an instrument to wreck the Conference. What qualifications can the United Nations have as an impartial body in dealing with the Korean question when it is itself involved in the Korean war as one of the belligerents?

The fact that the U.S. has persisted in demanding the settlement of the Korean question by the U.N. only proves its intention to keep the Korean question unsettled indefinitely, the Korean armistice unstable and to create tension.

It is notorious that the United States, throughout the course of the sessions of the Geneva Conference, persistently attempted to strangle the discussions on the Korean question. The *New York Times* reported on May 9:

The United States Delegation wishes to break off negotiations with the Communists here on the question of Korea unless the Communists accept United Nations supervision of elections in North Korea, American sources said today.

But the report added:

Some of the smaller countries were doubtful whether this was the best issue on which to rupture the Korean negotiations.

An AP dispatch of May 21 reported that the Western diplomats had given up the Korean question as hopeless. They would, said the dispatch, continue the talks mainly for propaganda purposes in the hope of putting themselves in a more favourable position, for the United States intended to try and shift the responsibility for ending the talks onto the Communists. However, a *New York Times* report of May 28 stated that:

. . . The United States has been outmanoeuvred on the Korean issue. The Communists have on the record a proposal that seems to neutral Asians a reasonable and fair plan for the reunification of Korea.

Both Reuter and the *New York Times* disclosed that the United States originally planned to adopt the measures for breaking off the negotiations on May 26 by firmly sticking to the South Korean plan of May 22. But since the South Korean plan was opposed by a number of delegates of the Western countries, the American scheme failed to materialize. Thereafter, reported the London *Daily Telegraph* on June 7, the American and South Korean delegations endeavoured to work out a way by which they could break off the Korean negotiations under a better-justified pretext. The United States again decided to break off the talks on the Korean issue on June 5, but on that day Molotov brought forward another new proposal, which, according to the *New York Times*, immensely worsened the position of the United Nations side in its attempts to terminate the negotiations. Reuter reported that on June 11 there still remained "minor differences among the 16 U.N. partners about the joint policy on which the break will probably be made." Thus the United States was unable to break off the negotiations at the 14th plenary session on June 11.

Careful arrangements were made beforehand when the United States made up its mind to wreck the discussion on the Korean question at the 15th plenary meeting on June 15. Meetings of the 16 nations invading Korea were held on June 14 and on the morning of the following day; a "joint declaration" arbitrarily declaring the discussion of the Korean question a "failure" was prepared. That is why Smith cared very little about what was said even when he was put on the spot at the plenary meeting held on the 15th.

### Two Different Attitudes

From the facts mentioned above, the people of the world can clearly see the two different attitudes and two different stands taken on the Korean question at the Geneva Conference. The Korean Democratic People's Republic, the People's Republic of China and the Soviet Union want a peaceful settlement of the Korean question; they are working for the relaxation of international tension and therefore they put forward various kinds of proposals that would help solve the question. On the other hand, the countries invading Korea, headed by the United States, refused to negotiate, refused to carry on

the discussion; they were disinclined to put forward any reasonable proposal and finally wrecked the discussion of the Korean question.

From the moment that the resolution of the Berlin Conference on the convocation of the Geneva Conference was made known, the peace-loving peoples of the Soviet Union, China, the Korean Democratic People's Republic and of the whole world time and again expressed their earnest hope that a peaceful settlement of the Korean question could be brought about so that international tension could be further lessened. But those in power in the United States took an entirely different view. They planned something very different.

On April 7, President Eisenhower openly declared at a press conference that he did not believe that there was any good chance for reaching an agreement through negotiations at Geneva. Speaking off the record before the American Society of Newspaper Editors on April 16, U.S. Vice-President R. Nixon predicted that the Korean session at the Geneva Conference would end in a deadlock. In a statement made on March 29, Dulles, U.S. Secretary of State, declared that the unification of Korea could be achieved only through the withdrawal of the Chinese People's Volunteers. This, he thought, would bring the whole of Korea under the occupation of Syngman Rhee with the support of the U.S. aggressive armed forces.

According to the Paris *Tribune de Nation* of March 5, W. S. Robertson, U.S. Assistant Secretary for Far Eastern Affairs, indicated at a private dinner party where he entertained his favourite reporters, that peace in Korea would bring serious consequences to the U.S. It would give rise to pressures, Robertson further elaborated, to admit China into the U.N.; to disintegrate the Tripartite Security Treaty between the United States, Australia, and New Zealand (ANZUS); and lead to more pressures demanding that the U.S. abandon its military bases in Japan. It is precisely against this background that the British *New Statesman and Nation* of April 24 made the following pointed remarks:

In any event, Mr. Dulles goes to Geneva on Monday with his mind made up. He did not want the conference in the first place; now that he has been forced to attend it, he will make a farcical pretence at negotiation—just enough to convince America's allies, in Mr. Nixon's phrase,

of its "futility," and to permit him to claim that a final attempt to talk business with the Communists has been made before the new Asian alliance begins its "united action."

In spite of the continuous efforts of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, China and the Soviet Union in sincerely seeking for an agreement, the United States insisted on breaking up discussions on the Korean question on the basis of the absurd declaration of the 16 nations. There is, of course, nothing unexpected in this if we know the background of the U.S. imperialists. They already long ago made up their minds to block the peaceful settlement of the Korean question.

Because of U.S. sabotage, talks on the peaceful settlement of the Korean question at the Geneva Conference have failed to fulfil the

wishes of the peace-loving peoples of the world. But history will list this crime together with the other crimes of the United States in violating the will of the world. Meanwhile, the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, China and the Soviet Union, as their delegations stated at the last session on Korea, will continue, together with the peace-loving peoples of the world, to stand by the Korean people and struggle for the realization of national independence, freedom, democracy and unification in Korea.

Those who have watched the Geneva Conference here point out that, though the talks on the Korean question of the past month and more have failed, they still have their significance, for, in the face of world opinion, the U.S. imperialists have further exposed their real nature—as men who fear and oppose peace.

# *Tibet Forges Ahead*

Phuntsogwanggyei

**T**HE Tibetans, now an equal member of the prospering multi-national family of the peoples of New China, are proud of their ancient history and contributions to culture.

More than 13 centuries ago, during the reign of King Songtsen Gam-po, the Tibetan scholar Thonmi invented the Tibetan phonetic alphabet of thirty letters. Throughout the ages, the Tibetan people have been eager to assimilate the advanced cultures of the Han and other neighbouring peoples. They have composed much fine poetry, translated the Buddhist scriptures into Tibetan, written histories and left a rich cultural legacy to posterity.

The magnificent 13-storey Potala Palace at Lhasa, built several centuries ago, is known the world over as a notable example of oriental architecture. It exemplifies the skill and artistry of the working people of Tibet.

But the bitter national and feudal oppression which the Tibetan people had to endure for

centuries led to the stagnation and decline of their political, economic and cultural life.

The sufferings of the Tibetan people were made even more unbearable by the intrusion of imperialist forces in the past century.

The Tibetan people never resigned themselves to life under a foreign yoke. They fought heroically for their independence, but the reactionary rulers of China—the Manchu Dynasty, the warlords, and later, the Chiang Kai-shek gangsters—not only callously refused them any help but seized the opportunity to intensify their own policy of oppression and exploitation of the Tibetan people. They sowed dissension among the various Tibetan clans, social groups, religious sects and monasteries so as to split the unity of the people and strengthen their own reactionary rule in Tibet.

The imperialists quickly sensed the deep hatred of the Tibetan people for the warlords and the Chiang Kai-shek gangsters. They

fostered a small minority consisting of pro-imperialist elements, which they used as a tool in extending their aggression. This was the reason why, for a certain period before liberation, the Tibetans were to some extent alienated from the other nationalities of the motherland.

The increasing impoverishment which resulted from this state of national and imperialist oppression was leading to the gradual extinction of the Tibetans. For example, thirty years ago, in the Chamdo Region more than 10,000 families lived in Chaya Dsung; now, only about 2,800 are left. The population of many villages in once thickly-populated regions along the Tsangpo River was reduced by 80 per cent in the same period while some villages were totally deserted.

### **Liberation Brought New Life**

The peaceful liberation of Tibet in May 1951 marked a turning point in the life of its people. It ended the state of estrangement that had existed between Tibet and the motherland as a result of the misrule of the reactionary governments and the intrigues of the imperialists. It also helped the people to take the path that leads them out of the dark abyss of poverty and backwardness to a new, progressive and happy society. During the last three years, under the leadership of the Chinese Communist Party, the Central People's Government and Chairman Mao Tse-tung, the Tibetan people have begun to build a new life.

The men of the People's Liberation Army and the personnel of the Central People's Government sent to aid the Tibetan people have scrupulously observed the agreement on the peaceful liberation of Tibet. They have given whole-hearted service to the Tibetan people. From Kangting to Chamdo, from Lhasa to Shigatse, the whole Tibetan people, peasants or herdsmen, clerics, laymen or officials call the P.L.A. men and the government personnel their "new Han brothers." This simple expression exemplifies the fundamental change which has taken place in the relations between the nationalities, the utter disappearance of the distrust and enmity which marked their relations in the past.

### **Tibetan People Now United**

Under the leadership of the Chinese Communist Party, the Tibetan people themselves

have become united. This is a potent factor ensuring their own swift progress. Personal experience is convincing all sections of the people how important is unity among the people for the building of the new Tibet, and of the motherland as a whole.

In his message of greetings to Chairman Mao Tse-tung on the occasion of the third anniversary of the peaceful liberation of Tibet, the Dalai Lama said: "Unity between the Tibetan and other fraternal nationalities, and first and foremost between the Tibetan and Han peoples, is being strengthened. Unity among the Tibetan people, too, is growing." In a similar message the Panchen Ngoerh-tehni declared: "Great achievements have been and are continuously being made in the political, economic, cultural and educational spheres in the Tibet Region, with the upsurge of economic construction in our great motherland. The unity of the Tibetan people has also become closer."

During the last three years there has been an upsurge in the patriotic activity of the Tibetan people. Early in 1953, the young people of Lhasa organized the "Cultural Association for Patriotic Youth," which is to unite the youth of all Tibet in their patriotic activities. Recently it became affiliated with the All-China Federation of Democratic Youth. The Women's Patriotic Association of Lhasa Municipality was formally inaugurated on International Women's Day (March 8) this year.

In the summer of 1952, the Local Government of Tibet dispatched a special delegation headed by Leosha Thubtentarpa to Peking. It made a close study of the economic construction that is transforming China, and brought to Chairman Mao Tse-tung expressions of the warmest gratitude and greetings from the Tibetan people and the leaders of the Tibetan Local Government, the Dalai Lama and Panchen Ngoerh-tehni, and clerical and lay officials. Later five other delegations arrived in Peking, including groups of industrial and commercial representatives, representatives of the Buddhist faith and of the youth. Members of these groups visited many parts of China, where they got acquainted with the great work of economic and cultural construction which is in progress. Some also joined the Chinese People's Delegation to Korea, and attended the

Fourth World Festival of Youth and Students for Peace and Friendship. Through these visits and conferences the delegates received a profound education in patriotism and internationalism. They brought back to Tibet many vivid experiences of their trips, and these have been an inspiration to the Tibetan people in their own work of construction.

### **New Things in Tibet**

During the last three years, the Central People's Government has given great attention to the training of Tibetan personnel. More than one hundred Tibetan youths are now studying in the Central Institute for National Minorities in Peking. On their return to Tibet, they will be able to take an active part in the political, economic and cultural development of Tibet.

The Central People's Government has established branches of the People's Bank in Lhasa, Shigatse, Gyantse and other places. This has solved many difficult and long-standing financial problems arising in the internal and external trade of the region. The People's Bank makes interest-free loans to peasants, herdsmen and handicraftsmen. State-trading companies have been set up in Lhasa, Shigatse and other places to purchase or market various kinds of local products at fair prices. They have bought large quantities of wool which its producers had not been able to sell for two years. This has not only brought good business to hundreds of wool merchants and improved the living conditions of the broad masses of Tibetan herdsmen and peasants, but also smashed the malicious imperialist plan of economic blockade.

To protect the health of herds and flocks, a blood serum factory and a training class for veterinary personnel have been set up in Lhasa, and more than 60 Tibetan veterinary workers have already been trained there. In addition, about a dozen veterinary hospitals have been established in the area of Lhasa and at other key points. In 1953 alone, more than 90,000 draught animals were cured or inoculated against diseases.

Free hospitals and clinics have been set up at various points including Lhasa, Shigatse and Gyantse. Many new post and telegraph offices have been established. A long-distance telephone line between Lhasa and Peking has been in operation since last December.

The Committee for Translation and Editing, formed shortly after the liberation, is compiling school textbooks in the Tibetan language, collecting materials for research into Tibetan history, editing a Tibetan-Chinese dictionary and publishing a news bulletin in Tibetan. Tsadru Rinbuchi, Jonglojen, and Sonong-Jelbo, well-known Tibetan poets and scholars, are members of this committee.

The establishment of the first primary school in Lhasa was another event of far-reaching significance. All classes are conducted in Tibetan. Its principal is Trijong Rinpochi, teacher of Buddhist scriptures to the Dalai Lama. Other primary schools have been opened in Shigatse and Gyantse and other places. The total enrolment in these schools is about two thousand. A training class in social education with about one hundred students was also opened in Lhasa last year.

The men of the People's Liberation Army stationed in Tibet are doing a great deal of productive work to aid the people. Overcoming great natural obstacles during the last three years, they have reclaimed more than 2,600 hectares of wasteland and also helped on several water conservancy projects. They have planted more than 300 agricultural crops experimentally with exceedingly satisfactory results, and passed on their experience in raising them to the local people as well as other new possibilities of production. A class opened in Lhasa last year has trained a number of junior agricultural technicians for work in Tibet. Built jointly by men of the People's Liberation Army and Tibetan civilians, the Sikang-Tibet Highway will soon be open to traffic for all its length. When completed, it will play an important part in Tibet's economic and cultural development.

On April 29, 1954, China and India signed the Agreement on Trade and Intercourse Between the Tibet Region of China and India. This Agreement was concluded on the basis of the principles of mutual respect for territorial integrity and sovereignty, mutual non-aggression, mutual non-interference in each other's internal affairs, equality, mutual benefit and peaceful coexistence. In circumstances of profound friendship and sincere cooperation between the Chinese and Indian peoples, the last traces of British imperialist aggression against

China hitherto present in Tibet are being wiped out. The Local Government of Tibet, the Dalai Lama and Panchen Ngerhtehni, have declared their warm support for the Agreement and their determination to implement it.

Thanks to the policy of equality, unity and cooperation among all nationalities in the Peo-

ple's Republic of China, the Tibetan people are freeing themselves from poverty and backwardness and developing their economy and culture. Together with the Han and other peoples of China, they are working with reborn energy for the prosperity and happiness of their motherland.

# A Voyage to Remember

Li Yen-sheng

**I**T was February 19, 1953—the fourth day after the Spring Festival—when our ship cast anchor in the Yangtze at Hankow's Wharf No. 4.

Day was just breaking as we began sweeping away the snow of the previous night and getting everything shipshape. By the time we had put on our winter dress uniforms, the ship was bathed in bright sunshine. We took our stations on deck feeling greatly excited and very happy.

Just as the clock in the high tower of the Custom House struck eleven, a wave of cheering thundered out from the crowded bank:

"Long live Chairman Mao!"

"Long live the Communist Party of China!"

Somebody behind me whispered excitedly: "Chairman Mao!"

## Chairman Mao

The people surged forward to the wharf. There were bronzed young men, as well as old men with silvery-white beards and children held high on the shoulders of their parents. They clapped their hands, waved their hats and kerchiefs in the air and cheered with unrestrained enthusiasm. People on the boats in the river left their oars, sweeps or helms and joined the cheering and waving.

My heart thumped violently. I could see Chairman Mao in his khaki coat and cap get

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The author is a seaman of a warship of the Chinese People's Navy.

out of a car. He waved gaily to the crowds as he walked down the wharf to our ship. It was a lively and joyous scene!

At the boatswain's mate's pipe, we all stood at attention. I had never seen him before, but I have always thought of him as though he were my own dear father. Now, I really saw him! Many feelings raced through my heart and tears gathered in my eyes. What an idiot I was! I cursed myself: "It's a great joy to see Chairman Mao, and here I am shedding tears!"

As he boarded the ship, Chairman Mao saluted the national flag at the colour staff, as is required by the custom of our navy. Then he stepped towards us, smilingly gazed into our faces and returned our salute.

As the ship got under way, he stood on the quarter deck. He waved his cap in greeting to a white-haired old man rowing a boat on the river. The old chap threw down his oars, jumped to his feet and waving both arms, shouted:

"Long live Chairman Mao! Long live Chairman Mao!"

## From Galley to Engine Room

At lunch time, on my way to fetch rice from the galley, I heard footsteps behind me just as I got to the hatch. I turned my head. Chairman Mao had left the bridge and was just coming down the starboard gangway. He was suntanned, and walked erect with a firm stride. A glance could tell you that he was in the best of health.



Peking's Young Pioneers celebrating International Children's Day with their little foreign friends

Sketching outside the Children's Palace in Peking's Peihai Park



Inspecting a model of the seamless steel tubing mill at the Exhibition of Anshan Workers' Inventions and Innovations



Making crystal radio sets in the science room of Canton's Children's Palace

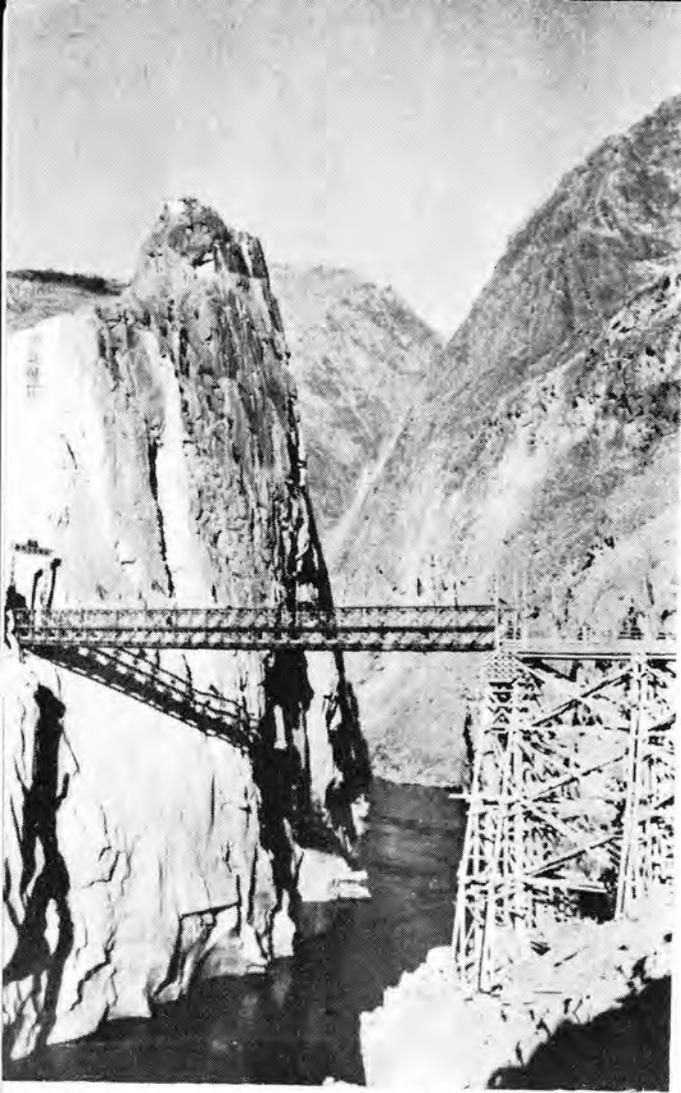
A chat backstage with young actors of the Peking Children's Theatre's production of *The Little White Rabbit*

# Busy Young Pioneers

Over eight million Young Pioneers in New China learn and teach others the "Five Loves" of their organization: love for the motherland, the people, labour, science and public property. The Pioneer organization is a centre of many lively activities

# The Peaceful, Happy Life

Freed from national oppression and  
people living in Tibet and other  
making notable advances in the



The Sikang-Tibet Highway, main artery linking Tibet with the rest of the country, will soon be completed. The new Nukiang Bridge on the Highway

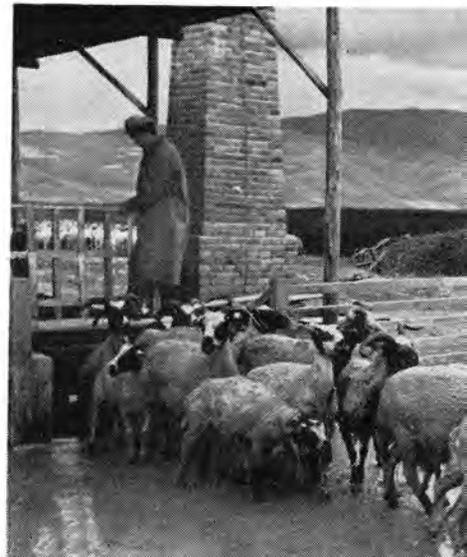
Celebrating National Day in 1953. A women's volleyball game in progress during the sports meeting held on the public square fronting the Potala at Lhasa



Jenching Nomu (*right*), a model worker, helps a friend with her lessons in a school for national minorities in Sikang



Sheep passing through a medicated vincial People's Government for the



# of the Tibetan People

d internal strife, the Tibetan  
r parts of the country are  
economic and cultural life



Tibetan women in holiday dress. Tibetans outside of Tibet enjoy complete local self-government in ten autonomous regions at county level or above

A People's Liberation Armyman teaching a Tibetan peasant how to use a new-type plough

A Tibetan people's delegation from Changtu, Sikang Province, watches a tractor demonstration by the famous Northeast woman tractor-driver Liang Chun



This Sikang Province Health Work Team treats Tibetan patients and also trains local medical personnel. Wang Hsi (right), a student, takes a blood pressure test

path established by the Kansu Pro-  
vienchu Tibetan Autonomous Region



At the new state - owned Chinhua Pig Farm in Chekiang Province



Checking the growth of a breeding pig at the Chinhua Farm



Disinfecting pig styes at the Chinhua Pig Farm



## Raising Fine Pigs

Pig-raising, an important side-occupation of the Chinese peasants, is being greatly assisted by state-owned pig farms which are popularizing scientific methods of breeding and care

In the cold storage of the Wuhan State-owned No. 2 Frozen Meat Processing Factory. The factory deals with over 1,400 pigs a day



I stood aside to let him pass and stopped at the door of the galley. Chairman Mao came up to the big tub of soup. "One dish?" he asked Comrade Liu Ping. "Two dishes and one soup," replied our second in command smartly. Then Chairman Mao turned to my comrade, Mao Yueh-chen, who stood by: "And is it tasty?" He ladled out a spoonful of the soup and looked at it closely. Comrade Mao Yueh-chen answered, "Yes, very tasty." Chairman Mao looked at him, nodded and smiled.

\* \* \*

Chairman Mao later went to see the engine room. As he reached the door, he met Comrade Ting Yung-tsai, our chief engineer. There amid the clatter of the machines, they talked together for about fifteen minutes. Chairman Mao cupped his right ear with his hand and listened attentively. Both of them smiled. He extended his hand to Comrade Ting, whose hands were dirtied with oil. Excitedly, he wiped them off on his overalls and shook Chairman Mao's hand with both of his.

### Talk on the Forecastle

At noon one day, Wang Huai-chi, Tsang Chien, several other comrades and I were crowded at the hatchway, listening to Chairman Mao's talk with gunner Wang En-chuan. We all stood around him. Soon we were all having a friendly chat.

"Have you ever been to Peking to be reviewed?" Chairman Mao asked us.

"Yes, we have," Mei Ming-liang, Chen Shu-hsiang and several other comrades answered in one voice.

"Then we're old acquaintances!"

"But the Tien An Men was too high for us to see you clearly, Chairman Mao," exclaimed Chen Shu-hsiang.

At this, Chairman Mao smiled broadly.

"Well, now you can," he countered.

I'll always remember that fatherly smile.

A sudden gust of cold February wind swept across the deck and made our collars flutter. He stretched his hand to feel the quality of the clothes of gunner Hang Chang-fu and ask him:

"Aren't you cold?"

"No, not a bit! We've woollen cloth outside and knitted underwear inside," we chorused.

Chairman Mao patted his own overcoat and smiled, "Well, you're young and tough! So the cold can't scare you!"

Comrade Wang En-chuan is a bit thin by nature. He didn't have his overcoat on and his thinness appeared even more striking than usual.

"You look so thin, don't you have enough to eat?" Chairman Mao asked him, at once full of concern and with a touch of humour. We all looked at Wang En-chuan, to see how he would answer the question.

"Oh, I eat enough. But it seems I was born thin: no matter how much I eat, I still don't get fat. . . ." he spoke with such a sorrowful face that we all burst out laughing.

Talking to Chairman Mao, each one of us tried to get a word in with him. It wasn't as I'd thought before. I had imagined he would talk like the editorials in the newspapers, but he spoke to us in plain everyday language, touching on many interesting things.

At this point, our ship was in sight of Hsiao-ku Shan. He threw a glance at that small lonely hill overlooking the river, and then, indicating the broad expanse of Kiangsi Province with a sweep of his arm, remarked:

"Twenty years ago, I fought guerilla war around here. At that time, I wore straw sandals and straw hat and the reactionaries were attacking us from all sides. But here we are today, sailing by in a people's warship!"

The conversation went on from the internal reactionaries to the cruelties of the imperialists and then to the growth of the forces of our national defence. Chairman Mao said the imperialists always tried to bully us. We must brace ourselves and stand up for our rights. The coastline of our motherland is so long, he said, we must have a powerful navy to defend it, otherwise we cannot proceed with our construction in safety.

Then he turned to ask us: "Do you know how our First Five-Year Plan is going?"

"We read about it in the papers," we answered.

Then he asked us our ages and he went on,

"You're still quite young. You'll be only a bit over thirty when our country enters into a socialist society . . . . You'll not be old, either, when we build a communist society."



**Chairman Mao Tse-tung chats with young navymen on the voyage down the Yangtze**

Comrade Hsu Pu, an engineer, delighted, said to Chairman Mao in an enthusiastic voice:

“Chairman! We all hope that communism will be built as soon as possible!”

Chairman Mao smiled, and we smiled with him.

“Fine!” he said, “let’s all work hard for it!”

### **Night**

When night closed in, our ship dropped anchor and the engines stopped. All was quiet. Only the cold wind blew in gusts, whistling through the rigging. The river glimmered white in the darkness. Several sentries paced silently to and fro to starboard and port.

It was nearly twelve o’clock when I finished my watch. I left the engine room and cast a glance at the quarter-deck. A light was shining in Chairman Mao’s cabin. So he worked so late in the night!

I made my way to the galley, where several comrades were talking with the cook. I edged into the crowd.

“. . . I was cooking, when I lifted my head and saw Chairman Mao standing at the galley door,” Sheng Chin-jung, our ship’s cook, was saying. “He said how do you do to me and began asking about my work. I put down my ladle, wiped away the oil on my hand, stood at

attention and saluted him.” And he re-acted the scene. “He asked me how many cooks served on the ship and how many pots there were for us to use. I told him. Then Chairman Mao said: ‘We must have made a lot of trouble for you people.’ And I said: ‘Not at all, not at all. . . .’”

We all laughed, but quietly, so as not to make a noise.

### **Taking Group Pictures**

February 21 was a fine day.

At eleven o’clock, our boatswain’s mate piped and shouted to us, “In uniform, and get ready to take a picture with Chairman Mao on the fore-castle.” At that, we scrambled into our clothes and rushed out through the hatchways. Comrades Shih Wen-chung and Huang Hou-sheng were so excited that they tripped up and fell over on the deck. This raised a general laugh.

“It would be fine if I could stand by the side of Chairman Mao!” I said to myself. But I could not do just what I liked, I had to obey the arrangement of the superior officers.

We stood in a V formation. Soon Chairman Mao came. First he looked over our formation carefully, and then, tidying his coat, stood amidst us.

There were too many of us to be photographed at one time, and besides, the watch couldn’t leave their stations. So we were divided into three groups.

Each time a picture was taken, we clapped our hands heartily and Chairman Mao also clapped with us.

On February 22, at 03:11 hours, our ship moored to the Hsiakuan Wharf at Nanking. At 03:30 hours, Chairman Mao went ashore. It was still dark and we were asleep. We only knew he had gone when we got up. Political Commissar Liu told us that the last thing Chairman Mao said on his departure was: “The comrades have worked hard. Please thank them for me.”

# *New Farm Implements For China's Farms*

## *A Visit to the North China Agricultural Machinery Works*

**Chao Chien**

**T**HIS plant on the near outskirts of Peking once produced light machine-guns for the Kuomintang armies. Its products sowed death among the people of North China. Now it is producing good farm implements. Large characters at its gate proclaim: "Produce cheaper and better new-type farm implements for our peasant brothers!"

On the eve of liberation, the Kuomintang, in a last act of vengeance, destroyed it, leaving only three old workshops and some wrecked machines. Today, it is "The North China Agricultural Machinery Works," a well-appointed modern factory.

The main workshops are newly built. With the exception of a few old Japanese-made machines which have been renovated, most of their equipment is new, from the machine-building plants of Shenyang (Mukden), Shanghai, Tsinan and other cities.

Near the workshops is an exhibition hall, with sample products both from the plant itself and from other countries. They range from small farm tools and horse-drawn ploughs to large, modern farm machinery such as tractors, reapers and combine harvesters, and are available for the reference of the designers, technicians and workers. New models are made in the experimental workshop and tried out on the plant's experimental farm.

To the west of the workshops is the ad-

ministration department and the offices of the branch committee of the Chinese Communist Party, the trade union, the New Democratic Youth League and other mass organizations. Here, too, are the newly-built auditorium, library, club house, recreation ground, spare-time school, and living quarters, dining hall and bath house for the workers and employees. Such facilities could only have been dreamed about in the old society.

Output has soared since liberation. By 1953, the gross assets of the plant were over seven times what they were in 1949. The number of workers rose from 67 persons to over 1,500. The total value of production increased over sixteenfold. The plant made some 400,000 new-type farm implements, including various types of horse-drawn ploughs, cultivators and self-delivering reapers as well as rice threshers, corn shellers, silage cutters, water-wheels and water-pumps, for a steadily expanding market.

### **Home Designed**

Most of the new-type farm implements being produced by the North China Agricultural Machinery Works were designed in its own draughting rooms. This is no small achievement. Before liberation, China had no modern farm implement works of its own and therefore no designers. The designing staff of this North China plant had to learn their work on the job from the very beginning. They first studied

the advanced Soviet theories of designing and then went out to get practical experience of conditions on North China's farms. Gradually they systematized effective methods for designing modern farm implements that suit local conditions.

In designing work, they maintain close contacts with the peasants.

When, back in the autumn of 1950, they began to design the self-delivering reaper, they first visited many villages to study how the peasants reaped their wheat with their old-style farm tools. Then they studied the construction of the Soviet reaper of the type they considered most suitable to their purpose. By April of the following year, they had completed their designs, made a pilot model and taken it out for field trials. Further improvements were made as a result of the peasants' suggestions during these trials, and then five experimental models were made. After more trials and adjustments, 100 more reapers were made. The designing staff then took these out to selected areas and taught the peasants how to use them. It was only after a final exchange of opinions with the peasants, who had tried the new reaper in actual everyday work, that the design was finally approved and mass production begun.

### Workers' Initiative

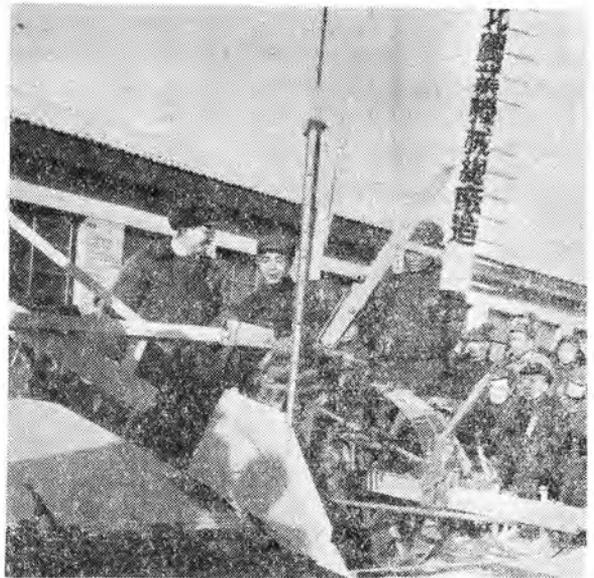
The workers of the plant are profoundly conscious of the important role their products play in the country's advance to socialism, and they display a lively initiative. When the peasants reported that the blade of the 8-inch plough couldn't stand up to the wear and tear of work in sandy soil, Wang Chan-lu, a foundry worker, devised a method of double-sided chilled casting which raised the durability of the blade to the level of special steel ones which cost two-thirds more.

It has almost become routine now for the workers at the bench to improve equipment or techniques and overfulfil their production quotas. Only recently, on a single day the blackboard newspaper of the forging shop carried two items: "Chu Sung-ling, a screw thread cutter, set a new record yesterday. He surpassed his original quota of 2,300 a day by cutting 3,347."

The second story read: "Wei Yun-chi, a plough screw thread cutter, has set a new record. He overfulfilled his quota by 57.7 per cent."

Chiao Hsing-lin, a foundry worker, used to make only 30 ploughs a day. By improving his technique, he now produces over 200 a day. Such creative initiative on the part of the workers has helped to increase the productivity of the plant threefold between 1950 and 1953.

In the second half of 1953, an intensive study of the general line of policy of China's transition to socialism gave the workers and employees of the plant a heightened realization of the significance of their work. They could see it all the more clearly in the context of the general advance of the country. They could see their relations with the peasants, built up around the new farm implements, as an important new aspect of the alliance between the workers and peasants and of the leadership of the working class in the advance to socialism. This gave a new spurt to the campaign to improve techniques.



**This horse-drawn self-delivering reaper made by the North China Agricultural Machinery Works is a gift presented by Peking's workers to the Red Star Collective Farm in the suburbs**

After Wang Chang-pei, an old foundry worker, automatized thread cutting by improving the screw cutting lathe, a movement developed in the plant to automatize other production processes by improving machine tools. This brought about advances which enabled the plant to fulfil the production target for 1953 a month ahead of schedule.

Rising labour productivity has steadily lowered costs. Prices of various products have been reduced. The plant has made five price cuts in the last few years. The 7-inch horse-drawn plough, for instance, priced at 410,000 yuan in 1950, was being sold for 228,000 yuan in 1953.

### Peasants Want New Tools

For over 2,000 years the Chinese peasants used the same type of wooden plough. Only when the victory of the revolution and the land reform uprooted the rule of the feudal landlords, was it possible to set agricultural production on the road of rapid development. Now the peasants, working on their own land, are eager to raise production, to improve their livelihood and produce bigger crops to help national construction. As soon as they realized that cooperative work and better implements are the key factors in these advances, their demand for improved or new-type farm implements grew steadily.

The peasants have been quick to recognize the merits of the improved implements which they are getting from this North China plant. The new plough, for instance, is not only lighter and more convenient to handle than the old type, but it ploughs deeper, turns and breaks up the soil better. Compared with the old plough, it usually increases yields by some 16 per cent and at times by as much as 44 per cent. The three-bladed cultivator can weed four times as fast as the old type of hoe, while the self-delivering reaper is twenty times more efficient than a good reaper with a sickle.

The peasants are a practical people. They usually want to see a pretty thorough demonstration before they will switch from time-halved methods to even the brightest of new

gadgets. But they are quick to react to a successful demonstration.

To try out the efficiency of the new plough produced by the plant, Wang San-mao, a peasant of Holin County in the Inner Mongolian Autonomous Region, bought one through the local supply and marketing cooperative with a government loan and cultivated similar plots of land with both improved and old ploughs. In the upshot, despite a slight drought, the *kaoliang* raised with the new plough grew spikes six inches long with full, plump grains. That grown on the land cultivated with the old plough had only four-inch spikes and the grains were thin and shrivelled.

The overwhelming majority of peasants who used the new-type farm implements have raised their crop yields, and they have expressed their gratitude in many moving letters addressed to the workers and employees of the plant. During the Spring Festival of 1954, scores of peasants living in Peking's suburbs visited the plant to tell the workers about their rich harvests and to see how their favourite plough was manufactured. They joined the workers in their holiday entertainments and in return invited them to visit their villages.

### Makes What the Peasants Need

The North China Agricultural Machinery Works keeps a close eye on the needs of the advancing mutual-aid and cooperative movement and adjusts its production to satisfy those needs.

In the early days of liberation, since most of the newly emancipated peasants were still farming individually, the plant manufactured a new type of light plough with a 5 to 7 inch bottom suitable for haulage by a single horse or ox. Between 1951 and 1952, however, the number of mutual-aid teams and agricultural producers' cooperatives increased rapidly. There was also an upsurge in the campaign to "increase production and practise economy." The plant therefore began to supply the organized peasants with larger numbers of 8-inch ploughs for two-horse and 10-inch ploughs for three-horse teams. Both of these give a deeper furrow and result in higher yields.

Later, as the mutual-aid teams and co-operatives became economically stronger, the plant began to produce implements with an even higher efficiency, such as self-delivering reapers and two-bottom, double-wheel ploughs. Such implements can be more effectively used by the mutual-aid teams and agricultural producers' cooperatives which have fairly large fields, better organization of labour and greater financial means.

The new types of farm implements produced by the plant in their turn stimulate the development of mutual-aid teams and agricultural producers' cooperatives. When the peasants see the increased yields that result from using the

new implements, they are encouraged to organize themselves for cooperative efforts, and pool their small scattered holdings under more efficient unified management so that they can also afford the new tools and use them more rationally, especially the larger and more efficient ones.

The North China Agricultural Machinery Works is keeping pace with the development of cooperation in China's agricultural production. This year it is designing and preparing for production a 12-row sower, hauled either by a tractor or team of draught animals, a tractor-hauled five-bottom plough and other large farm implements.

# The People Sing

Yeh Lin

**M**ANY of China's oldest collections of verses, such as the *Shih Ching* (*Book of Odes*) and *Yueh Fu* (folk rhymes) are records of popular folk songs of two thousand years ago. It is through songs that the people sing their joy and voice their resentment. Today in New China, the people have become the masters of their country. Their economic and cultural life is flourishing as never before. A new era has opened in the creation and singing of songs.

In the days of the War of Liberation, the men of the People's Liberation Army took the songs of the revolution with them wherever they went. Those songs played a notable role in mobilizing and rousing the revolutionary ardour of the people and steeling their will to victory.

In keeping with the economic restoration and development of the nation after the victory of the revolution, singing has become a well-organized nation-wide movement embracing scores of millions of keen amateurs, folk singers

and a growing group of increasingly competent professionals.

## Nation-wide Movement

Today, nearly every industrial enterprise, educational institution, government or mass organization and army unit throughout the country has its group of singers. In the cities, almost every factory has its song group. The best of these are selected to form the choruses and ensembles which take part in performances and competitions regularly held in the various working people's clubs and palaces of culture. Sometimes, contests on a larger scale are organized, as in Shanghai in May 1951 when 28,000 people, including 417 workers' choruses, participated in a city-wide singing contest.

Singing is now a well-integrated part of the cultural life of the urban population. Adults are as keen as the youth and children and the general standard of choruses and soloists is fairly high. The Nanshih Dis-



**The Port Arthur-Dairen Chinchou Textile Mill women workers' choir at a rehearsal**

trict of Shenyang (Mukden) even has an Old Ladies Chorus composed of 22 women singers, some of whom are over sixty years of age. The leader and conductor is Tien Chun-yu, who is fifty-four years old. She is a dependant of a Chinese People's Volunteer and an active social worker. During the recent general elections in Shenyang, this chorus donned their holiday garb to attend the farewell meeting for the new local deputies who were leaving for the district people's congress, and sang this song which they themselves composed:

*We go with our deputies to Wulichiao,  
Where willow and peach trees grow.  
Carrying them presents of flowers,  
We tell them: "Always remember the  
people's behests!"*

*We say good-bye to our deputies at Shihliting,  
Where the long verdant grass grows.  
"At the district meeting which you will attend,"  
We tell them, "You must be leaders  
acting in the interest of the people  
To give a new life to us all!"*

### **Songs in the Countryside**

China's vast countryside has its own ancient and splendid tradition of folk songs which the liberation has infused with new vigour and content. This was brilliantly illustrated at the All-China Folk Music and Dance Festival last

year in which accomplished singers from all parts of the country took part.

To prepare for this festival, musicians went deep into the countryside to select the best folk songs and performers. Their aim was not only to popularize the folk songs which the people love best to sing, but also to restore to popularity fine songs which were in danger of being forgotten. They have achieved good results. A striking example of their success comes from Kiangsi.

When the Chinese Workers' and Peasants' Red Army left the Kiangsi soviet areas on its Long March to the Northwest in 1934, the Kuomintang reactionaries occupied the former revolutionary bases and subjected their inhabitants to a merciless reign of terror. The Kiangsi peasants could no longer sing the well-loved revolutionary ballads, so they wrote out copies of them and hid them in double walls or under cottage eaves. In some cases it was nearly fifteen years before these songs could be unearthed and sung aloud again. Many such songs were sung at the All-China Folk Music and Dance Festival.

### **New Songs and Ballads**

Liberation brought a renaissance of ballad singing to these Kiangsi rural areas. Singers have new themes and created new forms. In ballad contests sponsored by the People's Government, competitors have introduced ballad duets and ensembles which are sometimes accompanied by acting. These innovations have created an interesting new type of ballad opera which is becoming increasingly popular.

Musical activities in the countryside now centre around the peasants' clubs and the village schools. They flourish best during the lulls in field work between the seasons and particularly around the Spring Festival.

Rural amateur dramatic troupes and song and dance ensembles are important links in the cultural activities in the countryside. Through them many new songs have been able to reach the masses. In the Central-South Administrative Area alone, there are 18,000 such dramatic troupes and song and dance ensembles.

The growing popularity of singing has naturally increased the demand for songs and ballads. Surveys made by the Union of Chi-

nese Musicians show that, during the first four years after the liberation, some 10,000 songs and ballads had been composed. Professional music circles pay special attention to the needs of the people; but to promote even greater interest on the part of the composers, the Ministry of Cultural Affairs and the All-China Federation of Literary and Art Circles recently organized a committee to review the most popular songs and ballads of the last three years, selecting the best for awards. A total of 114 songs received prizes. These were led by such songs as "The Hearts of the World's People Beat as One," "In Praise of Our Motherland," "Mother Wang Wants Peace," "Battle Song of the Chinese People's Volunteers" and the famous children's song "Little Dove."

The peoples of the national minorities have a rich heritage of song and they too have produced some lovely ballads in praise of the new society and the new life they are building. The "Song of Mao Tse-tung" and "The Sun Never Sets on the Steppes," both of which won first prizes in the recent review, are typical of these works. Here are the words from the latter, composed by Meilichiko, a young musician of Inner Mongolia:

*White clouds drift in the azure sky,  
Swift run the horses below.*

*I crack my whip; its sound is heard afar;  
Countless birds fly overhead.*

*Should anyone ask me:  
"What is this place?"*

*I would proudly reply:  
"This is my native land!"*

*We dearly love peace.  
We love our native land.*

*Sing, sing of our new life!  
Sing of the Communist Party.*

*Ah! Chairman Mao and the Communist Party!  
They shine over us and watch us grow.*

*Now the sun never sets on the steppes.  
Now the sun never sets on the steppes!*

Thus popular songs reflect the new life and patriotism of the people of New China. They ably express the people's firm determination to defend world peace, they sing of the people's love for their motherland and leader, sing in praise of the defenders of the people's happy life

—the People's Liberation Army and the Chinese People's Volunteers. These new popular songs reflect the great changes that have taken place in the life of China in the past four years in the era of Mao Tse-tung.

### Amateur Composers

The outstanding songs are by no means all the work of professional composers and musicians. The widening range of musical activities among the masses has brought forth many fine amateur song and ballad writers. Yo Hung-hsun, an electric welder, is one of them. As he was interested in music, he joined a workers' music class after the liberation. A former coal carrier he wrote "Song of the Coal Carriers" to sing his pride in his work. One winter's night he was making the rounds of the factory on patrol. A snowstorm was raging. In such a setting the factory presented itself in a particularly dramatic light. He felt how great an honour it was to stand in its defence. That very night he wrote his song called "Defence of the Factory," which has become a great favourite of the workers.

Although many of the songs written by amateurs may lack artistic refinement and finish, they pulsate with life and a vivid sense of reality. The professionals, seeing in folk art and the people's life a prime source of inspiration, are always eager to collaborate with the amateurs in the further development of these popular songs. This joint work has been extremely fruitful.

The People's Government has taken many steps to assist and guide this great expansion of musical activities among the masses. Broadcasting stations in Peking and other cities give regular programmes of Chinese music, music of the Soviet Union and the People's Democracies and the classical music of Western Europe. The production of phonograph records has also been increased. In 1953, more than three million records were made by the Shanghai People's Records Factory alone. In addition, records featuring the best orchestras, choruses and singers of the U.S.S.R., the People's Democracies and other lands are readily available. Phonographs and radio record players are manufactured in Shanghai and Tientsin.

More than twenty periodicals including the monthly *People's Music* are published to aid this movement. They have a total circulation of some four million copies. They carry the latest popular songs and ballads, furnish material for performances and organize an exchange of creative experience among the various mass musical organizations.

The People's Government has also organized music departments in the nine schools for amateur artists which it has established. These provide long-term, systematic training for amateur enthusiasts in the music and singing movement in factories, schools and rural areas. One of these, the Peking Spare-Time Amateur Art School, has trained a total of 1,158 young musicians, conductors and composers in the last

three years. Famous composers and song writers such as Ma Ke, Chu Hsi-hsien, Liu Chih and others frequently give lectures at the school.

In 1953, the People's Government organized 38 teams of musicians and singers to study and collect folk songs and music, to organize and train folk artists so that they in turn could better organize the masses in their localities for the composing and singing of songs and ballads, and other musical activities.

The people of New China have a boundless confidence in their future which they are building with joy and enthusiasm. It is this that finds expression in the great development of the mass singing movement that is spreading throughout the country, and in the rousing songs the people sing.

## My Life as a Teacher

Yang Chung-lan

*Several of our readers have written to us asking about the life of school teachers in New China. Some especially wished to know how the older teachers are progressing with their work after the great reform and development in Chinese education that has taken place since the liberation. At our request, Yang Chung-lan, vice-principal of the No. 25 Middle School of Peking who has taught for more than forty years, replies to some of these questions in the following article.*

WITH my sixty-three years of age and forty-three years of service as a teacher, I could, if I wished, retire under the Labour Insurance Regulations, receive an ample monthly pension and spend my last years in comfort. But the new life of the motherland, the roaring tide of construction and the younger generation's enthusiasm to study for the building of socialism, all urge me to carry on. Although I am old, I feel as young as my students of the No. 25 Middle School of Peking, and I love life with no less avidity. I hope for a long time yet to utilize my teaching experience, which has been accumulated

over many years, to help my students master mathematics, the basis of all sciences, and to assist my junior colleagues to gain still greater proficiency in the art of teaching so that they may discharge their duties with the utmost competence.

I well remember the time, forty-three years ago, when I first became a middle school teacher. I had the ideas typical of the young men of those days. It cut me to the quick to see my country divided and dominated by imperialism. It filled me with the deepest hatred to see the flags of the colonialists arrogantly

flying over the Peking Legation Quarter. How I wished to impart all my scientific knowledge to our youth, for I firmly believed then that by mastering science China could quickly drive away those colonialists.

In the early years of my teaching life most of my students were young upstarts from rich and aristocratic families. Their aim in entering school was not to get a real education but to muddle through somehow and grab a diploma by fair means or foul. During examinations they would crib from textbooks, and if caught by their teachers would try to blackmail and threaten them. Of course, the school was not without some good students, students who were far-sighted and hard-working. These usually came from poor families. Unfortunately, because of poverty most of them either dropped out before graduation or had to be content with only a middle school education.

All this went to prove that my dream of national salvation through the spread of scientific knowledge alone could never be realized.

### Dark Days in the Past

Life under the Kuomintang regime was dark and bitter. Reading Gorky or any other progressive Soviet writer was enough to land one in a concentration camp. Many a teacher disappeared and was never heard of again after voicing a just complaint about this state of affairs. The Yu Ying Academy, an American missionary school (now the No. 25 Middle School), was even more oppressive to the students. At the time students throughout the country were protesting against the intrusion of American troops in China, and were waging a struggle against the starvation conditions brought on the people by the Kuomintang reactionaries' reckless prosecution of the civil war in total disregard of the interests of the people; the students of Yu Ying Academy, however, were forbidden by the school authorities to participate in this movement. Many Yu Ying graduates, nevertheless, were among the students who participated in this struggle. They broke through police cordons, braved streams of ice-cold water from fire-hoses and risked beatings from the spiked clubs of secret agents. Their ranks grew stronger and stronger. "American soldiers, go home!" "Down with starvation rations!" Such were



Yang Chung-lan and two of his students studying flowers in the school greenhouse after school hours

the slogans they shouted. I had the deepest sympathy for the hard fate of my students, and a great admiration for their dauntless spirit in pursuit of truth. I said to myself: "I must continue to educate these youths, to enable them to become staunch defenders of truth and justice."

I have three daughters and one son. Frequently my income was not even enough to cover household expenses. To make ends meet, I had to give extra lessons in the evening until after 10 p.m. though I was already exhausted by the day's normal work. Even then I could hardly afford to give a proper education to my three elder children.

Then came the liberation of Peking. The reactionary propaganda of the Kuomintang had blinded me to the real nature of the Chinese Communist Party; this, coupled with my Christian background, made me seriously doubt whether I would be allowed to carry on with my teaching.

One day, Tsang Hsiao-ho, a colleague loved and respected by everyone in the school (we did not know that he was a Communist until after liberation!) came to see me. When we talked about the future of the school, I frankly expressed my doubts as to whether a school like the Yu Ying Academy

could continue to exist. This of course brought us to the question of what the old teachers of the school were going to do.

"New China," he said, "is going to carry out socialist industrialization. . . . It will need a great number of trained men and women for the work of construction. The school will not only continue to exist but it will be expanded." He paused, smiled and then continued: "The question is: How are we going to change Yu Ying into a people's school and make it really serve the people?"

### The School Today

The Yu Ying Academy is now an entirely different school. The former principal, who had embezzled public funds, has run away. The life of the teachers has been greatly improved. Teaching hours have been reduced from 24 a week to about 15. My salary is now sufficient to defray all the family expenses. The People's Government's system of public medical care has relieved us of the burden of medical expenses. With the help of the people's subsidy for students instituted by the People's Government, my youngest child has succeeded in getting a college education and is now doing post-graduate work. Freed from all worries I am now able to devote all my energies to teaching.

After the founding of the Chinese People's Republic, from 1949 to 1952, and while still a private institution, the Yu Ying Academy received large subsidies from the Bureau of Education of the Peking Municipal Government for the purchase of books and the expansion of educational facilities. In the past it was nothing unusual to see 12 students using a single set of old apparatus in the chemical laboratory. Now, there is a complete set of apparatus for every two students. The number of specimens in the biological laboratory has increased by almost 50 per cent compared with pre-liberation days. A well-heated bird house has been built so that the science teachers are well supplied with living specimens all the year round.

In 1953 the Bureau of Education of the Peking Municipal Government took over the Yu Ying Academy and it was transformed into the No. 25 Middle School. It is now one of

the best middle schools in Peking. Apart from regular school work the student can participate, under the guidance of teachers, in any of 24 groups of activities which include artistic handicrafts, singing, music, dancing, literature, drama, etc. Graduates of the school either go to college or join some branch of construction work.

The patriotic fervour of the students was roused to a high pitch with the launching of the movement to resist U.S. aggression and aid Korea. Third-year students of the senior middle school led the way in calling on their schoolmates to start a savings campaign in support of the Chinese People's Volunteers. From a school which was traditionally detached from the fate of the motherland, Yu Ying Academy has become a school which is the flesh and blood of the people of the whole nation.

In the past, boys and girls from workers' and peasants' families were unable to enrol at the Yu Ying Academy because of its prohibitive tuition fees. This situation was gradually changed after the victory of the people's revolution. In 1951, the number of students from workers' and peasants' families was still only 10 per cent of the total. But in 1952, the junior middle school enrolled 229 such new students, which is 40 per cent of those admitted that year. These students brought with them their habits of thrift, diligence and perseverance. The students of the whole school draw up mutual pacts exhorting each other to be punctual in academic work and to be keen in physical culture so that each one will become a strong and well-equipped builder of socialism.

### New Invigorating Energy

Our country is becoming increasingly strong and prosperous. This I have seen with my own eyes and my heart is filled with inexpressible joy. I feel a new invigorating energy within me. In teaching I use all available means to help the students master their subjects. I improvise simple geometrical figures out of cardboard and steel wire to illustrate my lectures. I also help the students solve their problems in their individual study hours. Following the example of the Soviet Union, teachers of allied subjects have organized teachers' study groups for mutual help

in improving teaching methods. At these groups I pass on my experience to the younger teachers. As a result of the joint efforts made by students and teachers, the school can now boast of an increasing number of students with outstanding records. In 1951, the number of students who received prizes for outstanding school work and exemplary conduct was 17. By the latter part of 1952, it had risen to 383. The total number of students has also risen from 1,800 to 2,250, with a larger proportion of students from working-class families.

For my efforts I was elected a model teacher. In 1952, I was also elected to the People's Representative Conference of Peking. In 1953, I was appointed vice-principal of the No. 25 Middle School.

My students often come to see me on Sundays. One day my small parlour was suddenly honoured by two strapping young men, one a Chinese People's Volunteer and the

other from the air force. I scrutinized them for some time but could not recognize them. "Teacher Yang, you've forgotten us," they laughed. Then they told me that they were my former students who had graduated a few years back. They were eager to tell me about their disciplined but happy military life.

Graduates of the school now working at Anshan, on the Huai River, on the construction sites of the Yumen oil fields and other areas also write to me frequently. They tell me of their achievements and their keen interest in their work. When I read their letters I can sense the dynamic rhythm of the motherland's construction. Then my mind is filled with an irrepressible desire for work and a longing to use all my knowledge and energy to educate the younger generation for the motherland, to train the builders of this new life, and to serve the cause of building a great and socialist China.

### Book Review

## *Truth About Indo-China*

Chen Ti-chiang

THE imperialist powers have done all they could to becloud the truth of events in Indo-China and to minimize the significance of the heroic struggles of the peoples of Indo-China for freedom and independence. They launched their colonial war at a time when the world was preoccupied with urgent questions of the post-war settlement elsewhere. They hoped to

finish it off in short order. But the war has gone increasingly against them. The French, like the American aggressors in Korea, have been given a lesson on the power of a people fighting unitedly for its independence. They have come closer and closer to complete disaster in Indo-China.

Despite the fact that the U.S. ruling clique and those die-hard French colonialists want to continue and even extend the war, the French Government has been forced to come to the

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The reviewer is a research associate of the Chinese People's Institute of Foreign Affairs.

peace conference table at Geneva by the pressure of events, by the overwhelming demand of the people of France and all other countries for peace by negotiation. But in this situation many people have been caught uninformed about the full facts of the Indo-China question. The peoples in the western countries have found it particularly difficult to penetrate the curtain of lies and falsifications raised by reactionary propaganda. The Peking fortnightly *Shih Chieh Chih Shih* (*World Culture*) has therefore done an invaluable service to the reading public by publishing in English *A Chronicle of Principal Events Relating to the Indo-China Question, 1940-1954*.\*

### Valuable Record of Facts

This 73-page booklet is not a history, nor does it claim to be one. But it does contain the essence of history—the record of the salient facts. The *Chronicle* throws a shaft of light through the blackout on news imposed by the Western reactionaries on the true nature of the war and the parts played in it by France and the United States. Armed with this factual data, though it naturally cannot cover every detail of the background of so complicated and far-reaching a question, readers will find the Indo-China question less puzzling, and will be enabled to draw their own conclusions. Facts speak for themselves. In this case, they speak with particular eloquence.

The *Chronicle* begins with the march of Japanese troops into Indo-China on September 23, 1940, and ends with the closing of the Berlin Conference on February 18, 1954.

The period 1940-1945, as the record demonstrates, was one of shameful surrender by the once arrogant French colonial authorities to the Japanese aggressors, culminating in the undisguised Japanese occupation of Indo-China on March 9, 1945 and the liquidation, final and definitive, of what remained of French authority there. The only force in Indo-China which continued to fight against the Japanese aggressors was the Viet-Nam Independence

League (Viet Minh), which was organized on May 19, 1941 under the leadership of Ho Chi Minh.

Immediately after the Japanese surrender on August 15, 1945, a provisional government of the Democratic Republic of Viet-Nam (the National Liberation Committee of Viet-Nam) was founded with Ho Chi Minh at its head. The abdication message of Bao Dai, the puppet emperor under the Japanese occupation, is well worth recalling: "We cannot help feeling a certain regret while thinking about the twenty years of our rule, during which we were unable to render any appreciable service to our country. Now we are happy to be a free citizen in an independent country. We shall not allow anybody to abuse our name or the name of the royal family to sow dissension among our countrymen." Bao Dai declared allegiance to the provisional government. On March 3, 1946, a legal Government of the Democratic Republic of Viet-Nam was elected by the National Assembly of the Viet-Nam Democratic Republic which met in Hanoi, and Ho Chi Minh was elected president of the Republic.

When the French colonialists made their way back into Indo-China with American aid, they found that a new, independent state had arisen in place of the former French colony. Not having adequate forces for a large-scale invasion, the French colonialists pretended to negotiate. On March 6, 1946, a Preliminary Agreement was signed between the French and the Democratic Republic of Viet-Nam in which the latter was recognized as "a free state having its own government, parliament, army and finance."

### French Perfidy

Scarcely had the Preliminary Agreement been signed, than the French colonialists began to attack the Democratic Republic—in disregard of the Preliminary Agreement and other agreements which they had signed merely to gain time. Repeated urgent appeals by President Ho Chi Minh to the President and the Government of France, calling on them to stop these acts of provocation, fell upon deaf ears. The French troops, having completed their preparations, started their general offensive on December 19, 1946 and thus unleashed

\* *A Chronicle of Principal Events Relating to the Indo-China Question, 1940-1954*. 73 pages, published by *Shih Chieh Chih Shih*, Peking, 1954.

a war of reconquest which has continued for more than seven years.

This *Chronicle* is a record of the magnificent and unswerving struggle which the peoples of the three Indo-Chinese states have been waging for their freedom since they threw off the yoke of Japanese domination and determined not to submit to a reimposition of the French yoke. In the course of this struggle the people of Viet-Nam have freed over two-thirds of their country. Fighting a no less brutal attack, the people of Khmer and Pathet Lao have, under the leadership of their respective governments of resistance, liberated large areas of their countries.

But despite these proofs and lessons, the French imperialists simply cannot reconcile themselves to the change that has taken place among the peoples of Asia. They are still thinking in terms of the 19th century.

### U.S. Plays Big Role in War

In their adventurist policy in Indo-China, the French colonialists have been consistently supported by the American imperialists who, as the *Chronicle* shows, took part in the very first moves of the French campaign of reconquest by flying a French agent, Cedille, to Hanoi in a U.S. plane. They have steadily increased their activity in directing and controlling the war against the Indo-Chinese people ever since.

The American hand was clearly visible in the intrigue of installing the Bao Dai regime in Hanoi. The U.S. Government was quick to see what use they could make of this move. By June 1950, the U.S. had gained such a foothold in Indo-China that it deemed the time ripe for open intervention in the aggressive war. President Truman in his statement of June 27, in which he ordered armed aggression against Korea and Taiwan, went out of his way to announce American intervention in Indo-China. In an appeal to the people on the anniversary of the August Revolution and Viet-Nam Independence Day on August 19, President Ho Chi Minh denounced the American intervention, and declared that "besides our arch enemy—the French colonialists—we have now another enemy—the American interventionists."

Following the cessation of hostilities in Korea, the U.S. began to multiply its interventionist activities in Indo-China. According to a recent statement by Harold E. Stassen, Chief of U.S. Foreign Operations Administration, U.S. military aid to France for the fiscal year 1953-1954 was to be between 1,060 million and 1,160 million U.S. dollars. The U.S. Embassy at Saigon announced on January 27, 1954 that, from 1950 to December 1953, the U.S. supplied more than 400,000 tons of war materials to the French in Indo-China. *U.S. News and World Report*, a mouthpiece of U.S. monopoly capital, declared on January 8 this year that "it was to forestall a French pull-out from Indo-China that the U.S. had agreed to step up its aid." It added: "The U.S. is taking a more and more direct interest in this war, now that the fighting in Korea is halted. American arms have been pouring into the battle area. . . ." The article significantly mentioned that much of the U.S. aid was "for training and equipping the native armies." This arming of the puppet troops, it should be noted, is part of the U.S. policy of ousting the French in order itself to take over this rich territory, for which it has shown unconcealed greed.

### "The Dirty War"

Apart from the French colonial monopolies, such as the Bank of Indo-China, which made a fabulous profit of 502 million francs in 1951 as compared with 49 million francs in 1946, this aggression has benefited no one in France. It is hated by the French people, who call it "the dirty war." France has lost tens of thousands of her young men, including the elite of her young officer corps, in Viet-Nam. The French people have little thanks for the U.S. "generosity" to which they have been subjected. It is true rather to say that they regard U.S. "aid" as a kiss of death.

It is interesting to follow the question of U.S. "aid" to France as recorded by this *Chronicle*. While the U.S. monopolist press was boasting of U.S. magnanimity to France and of how large a share of the burden it was bearing in Indo-China and how much larger therefore should be its right to have a say in Indo-Chinese affairs, the French colonialists were lamenting the stinginess of their U.S. patrons.

On December 17, 1952, the French Vice-Minister of War, Pierre de Chevigne, stated that the material losses of France in Indo-China had been more than three times the amount of U.S. aid, not to mention the painful loss of manpower. But despite this bitter realization, the rulers of France chose to continue their "dirty war" at the behest of the American expansionists and in the vain hope that somehow the palmy days of unrestricted colonial exploitation could be restored.

The war in Indo-China became increasingly unpopular in France. Then in November 1953, in reply to questions asked by the Swedish paper *Expressen*, President Ho Chi Minh declared that if, having learned the lesson of these years of war, the French Government wishes to have an armistice and settle the question by negotiations, the people and Government of the Democratic Republic of Viet-Nam will be willing to meet the French proposal. "The basis of such an armistice," he added, must be that "the French Government really respects the independence of Viet-Nam."

Ho Chi Minh's statement gave rise to the widespread demand in France and other countries for an early restoration of peace in Indo-China through negotiations. The French Government was forced to declare that it was prepared to negotiate for peace, and though its first announced conditions for peace in March this year were clearly unacceptable to the people of Viet-Nam, it was regarded in Washington as nothing short of a calamity. An all-out campaign was launched to compel France to reverse its decision. Scarcely a day passed on which some responsible leaders of the American ruling clique did not come out to remind the French that they had acted beyond their power. U.S. Vice-President Richard Nixon told French and puppet army officers at Hanoi on November 13 last that "under no circumstances should there be negotiations." Admiral Arthur Radford, chairman of the U.S. Joint Chiefs of Staff, declared on March 23 this year that the U.S. policy was fixed, and that the Navarre Plan for the reconquest of Indo-China must be carried out. The U.S. ambassador in Paris unceremoniously reminded the French Government that according to agreement, the U.S. had paid 75 per cent of the cost of the war and that

it could not approve of a peace which was inconsistent with the spirit of that agreement.

At the same time as pressure was exerted upon France to continue the war, the U.S. was doing its best to extend the conflict. American air force personnel and planes were rushed to the Indo-China front. Speech after speech by leading figures in Washington threatened to start an atomic war and to carry it into Chinese territory.

### U.S. Greed for Indo-China

That the continuation of the Indo-China war fits in well with the interests of the American monopolies is obvious. There seems to be a division of labour between the U.S. and France: the Americans supply the arms (paid for by the American taxpayers), while the French do the dying. The fact that France is bled white and bankrupt and her frontiers are depleted of troops suits the U.S., for it makes it easier to control France in Europe and for the U.S. to make off with the supreme prize—Indo-China.

The strategic position and natural resources of Indo-China have long been coveted by the U.S.

President Eisenhower, for example, said on August 4 last year, that if the U.S. lost Indo-China, "the tin and tungsten that we so greatly value from that area would cease coming." Similarly, U.S. Secretary of State Dulles gloated over the fatness of the prize when he said on March 29 that: "It (i.e., Indo-China) is rich in many raw materials such as tin, oil, rubber and iron ore. . . . The area has great strategic value. . . . It has major naval and air bases."

By strategic value is meant the facilities Indo-China provides for subjecting adjacent countries to U.S. pressure and domination.

The *Chronicle*, by giving us the simple facts of history, enables us to see more clearly the crux of the Indo-China question and the forces at work there—of peace, of independence, national unity and democracy on the one hand, and of aggression and imperialist domination on the other. Today, at Geneva, these forces confront one another. It is clear on which side truth and justice lie.

# CHINA TODAY

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## Draft Constitution Published

The Draft Constitution of the People's Republic of China adopted by the Central People's Government Council at a meeting on June 14 has been published and is being widely and eagerly discussed among the people throughout the country.

Opinions and comments are being gathered with a view to its revision and presentation to the coming session of the First National People's Congress which will finally approve and adopt the Constitution.

## Good Winter Wheat Crop

The total output of winter wheat throughout the country this year will top the combined crops of winter and spring wheat of last year by over 500,000 tons, according to preliminary estimates.

The expansion of the acreage under winter wheat and the raising of the per hectare yield has resulted this year in notable increases in winter wheat crops. Honan, Hopei, and seven other provinces providing 90% of China's total area under winter wheat will, it is estimated, produce over 2,500,000 tons more than last year. Kwangtung and Kwangsi Provinces will also increase their output of winter wheat by 10-20% compared with last year.

## Mineral Wealth Survey

Forty-three survey teams organized by the Ministry of Geology of the Central People's Government set out in June this year to make intensive surveys of mineral resources in over 80 areas in various parts of the country.

The central task of survey work this year is to locate new deposits

of iron ore in Central-South, Southwest and Northwest China; to begin systematic surveys of the large coal fields; to continue surveys of coal deposits suitable for power generation in Central-South, North China and other areas; and to carry out extensive investigations of copper, lead, zinc, manganese, chromium, nickel and other mineral deposits.

The people throughout the country are actively assisting these surveys. In 1953 alone, over 4,000 letters were received by the Ministry of Geology and its bureaux of geology in the various Greater Administrative Areas. They reported nearly 6,000 places where ores could be found, and over 50 of these, according to preliminary surveys, may give important yields. In the first quarter of this year, over 500 more letters have been received directly by the Ministry of Geology giving information about more than 600 deposits of mineral wealth. In the first quarter of this year, the Central-South's geological bureau received four times as many such letters as in the fourth quarter of last year.

## New Steel Plant

A new, up-to-date steel-smelting plant in the No. 101 Iron and Steel Works in Southwest China has gone into production. This ends the imbalance which formerly existed in this plant between the large capacity of the rolling mill and the small capacity of its smelting unit. In the past, the No. 101 Iron and Steel Works could only supply in 12 months enough steel to keep its rolling mill going for three months. Large amounts of steel had to be brought

from Anshan and other places thousands of miles away to make up the deficit. Now the new steel-smelting plant will enable the rolling mill to develop its full potential and provide adequate supplies of steel products for construction in the Southwest.

## More Credit Coops

China now has more than 26,000 credit cooperatives, 1.8 times more than at the end of last year. The number of mutual-aid credit teams and credit departments of rural supply and marketing cooperatives also shows a steady increase.

Peasants call such mutual-aid and cooperative credit organizations their "little banks." They deposit whatever sums they do not have any immediate use for, so as to keep them from lying idle and enable them to be used systematically for production. In case of need these organizations provide them with low-interest loans. In this way the peasants are themselves making an end of all the old usurious practices that plagued the villages and are helping themselves to solve difficulties in financing increased production.

## Urban Bank Savings Grow

Bank savings in cities throughout the country have been gradually increasing in the past few years as a result of the steadily improving economic conditions of the people. By early May this year, total savings deposits in cities throughout the country were nearly 10 times those at the end of 1950. By the end of last year, those in Southwest cities had increased by seven and a half times as compared with 1950.

## More Workers, Peasants Enter School

Ten thousand industrial workers and government personnel of worker and peasant origin in East China will go to short-term workers' and peasants' middle schools this autumn. Nine new short-

term workers' and peasants' middle schools are being added to the existing 16 in the area.

In Northeast China, 34 Anshan workers, including the famous model worker Chang Ming-shan, and over 450 of the leading personnel who are of worker and peasant origin of the Anshan Iron and Steel Company, have begun to study in the newly established Anshan Cadres' Cultural School. They will acquire an education equal to that of a third grade junior middle school student or second grade senior middle school student within two to three years.

### 3rd Anniversary of Tibet's Liberation

On the occasion of the 3rd anniversary of the signing of the Agreement on Measures for the Peaceful Liberation of Tibet, on May 23, the Peking *People's Daily* published special articles by the leaders of the Tibetan Local Government, the Dalai Lama and Panchen Ngoerhtehni.

They describe the steady growth of patriotism among the Tibetan people in the past three years which has strengthened unity between themselves as well as between the Tibetan people and the other fraternal nationalities, and first and foremost, between the Han and Tibetan peoples. After recounting the notable developments in Tibet's political, economic, cultural and public health work, they express the confidence of the people of Tibet in creating their own happy future and their determination, together with all other fraternal nationalities, to play their full part in building up the big family of nations of the great motherland.

This happy occasion was also celebrated in messages to Chairman Mao sent by the two Tibetan leaders and the *Kahsia* of the Local Government of Tibet, expressing whole-hearted support for the recently signed "Agreement Between the People's Republic of China and the Republic of India on Trade and Intercourse Between the Tibet Region of China and India." In his message, the Dalai Lama states that the conclusion of the Agreement and the exchange of notes between the two governments are "not only in line with the common interests and the traditional friendship of the Chinese and Indian peoples, but also fully correspond to the interests of China's Tibetan nationality and the people of Tibet."

Meetings celebrating the third anniversary of the peaceful liberation of Tibet were held in Peking, Lhasa, Shigatse and other cities.

### New Editions of Classics

New China's publishing houses are publishing a great number of new editions of China's classical literary works. Recent editions include selected works of the famous poets Chu Yuan, Li Po, Tu Fu, Pai Chu-I and others, and anthologies of various writers. Among editions of plays of the Yuan, Ming and Ching (Manchu) Dynasties is a photostatic reprint of *The Palace of Eternal Youth*, the famous love story of the Emperor Tang Ming Huang of the Tang Dynasty and Yang Kuei-fei. This is issued to commemorate the 250th anniversary of the death of the author Hung Sheng. New editions of the famous novels *Water Margin*, *The Dream of the Red*

*Chamber*, and *The Tale of Three Kingdoms* are also on sale, and *The Lives of the Scholars* will soon be published. The latter is the well-known satirical novel by Wu Ching-tzu, the 200th anniversary of whose death also falls on this year. The collection of short stories *Strange Tales from a Chinese Studio* and many other shorter pieces are also being published.

Chinese translations of Dante's *Divine Comedy* and the *Complete Works of Shakespeare* (in 12 volumes), translated by Wang Wei-keh and Chu Sheng-hao respectively, have been recently revised and are being published by the Writers' Publishing House of Peking.

### Antonin Dvorak Commemorated

The 50th anniversary of the death of the great Czechoslovak composer and patriot Antonin Dvorak was commemorated at a meeting in Peking on May 24. Ting Hsi-lin, Vice-Chairman of the Chinese People's Society for Cultural Relations with Foreign Countries, presided. An account of the life and works of Dvorak was given by Ma Ssu-tung (Sitson Ma), Vice-Chairman of the Union of Chinese Musicians. Rudolf Smic, Charge d'Affaires *ad interim* of the Czechoslovak Embassy to China, also read an address. In their appreciations of the composer's work, they pointed out that Dvorak's brilliant achievements in music had not only enriched the musical culture of Czechoslovakia, but become part of the precious musical heritage of the people of the whole world.

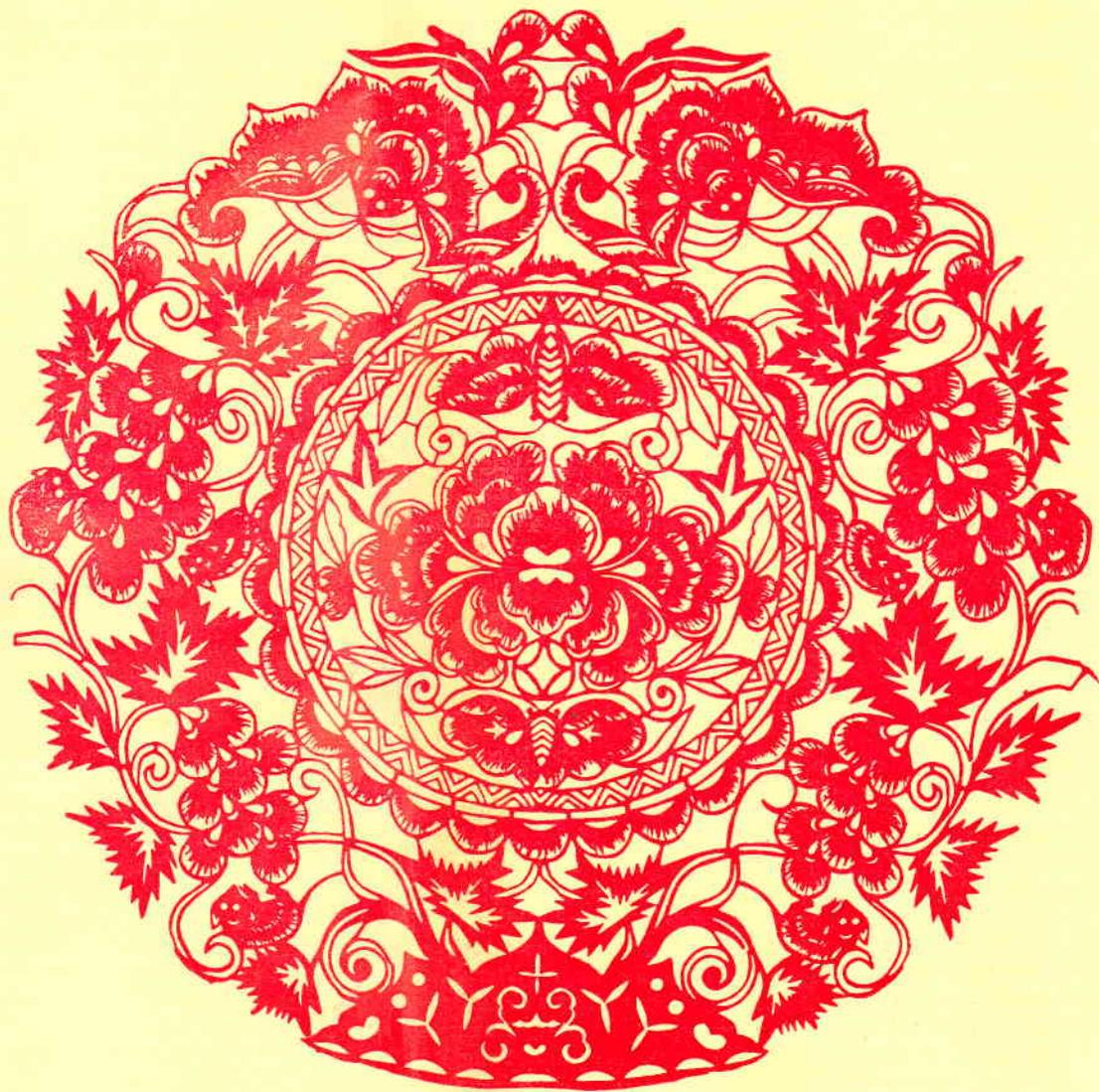
A concert, devoted to the works of Dvorak, followed the meeting.

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Peony, Butterflies, Grapes and Bats  
— Signifying Prosperity  
(A peasant scissor-cut)