

PEKING

July 1, 1958

18

REVIEW

The More They Try to Hide, The More They Are Exposed

Renmin Ribao commentator on Tito's Labin speech of
June 15 (p. 6).

China's Population: Fact and Fancy

A discussion on China's population in relation to
production, consumption, employment and capital
accumulation (p. 9).

Withdrawal from Korea

Commander of the Chinese People's Volunteers
describes the withdrawal of the C.P.V. (p. 11).

Ministers with Pick and Shovel

How the ministers and other leading functionaries of
the government and Communist Party do manual labour
(p. 12).

HANDS OFF LEBANON!

A WEEKLY MAGAZINE OF CHINESE NEWS AND VIEWS

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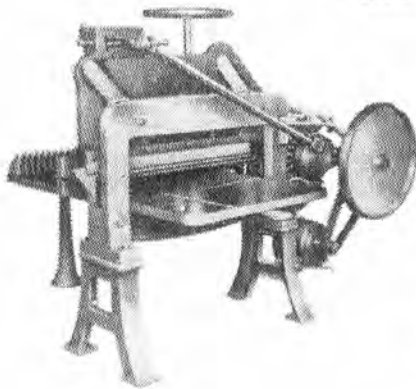
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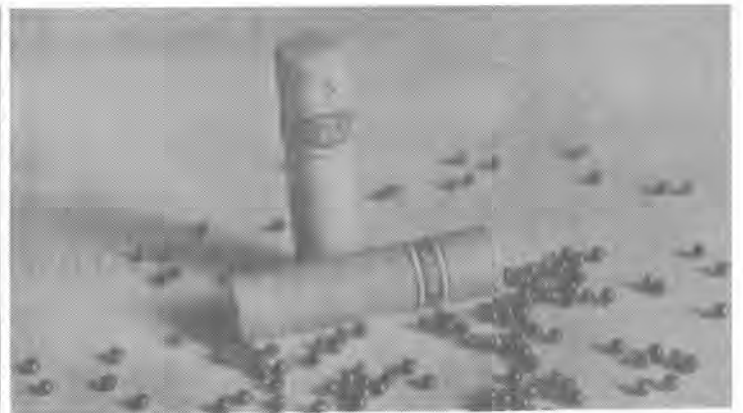
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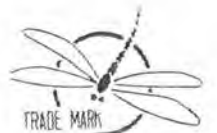
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PEKING REVIEW

北京周报

(BEIJING ZHOUBAO)

A WEEKLY MAGAZINE OF CHINESE
NEWS AND VIEWS

July 1, 1958 Vol. 1 No. 18

CONTENTS

ROUND THE WEEK	4
Speed Is the Keynote; Twice as Much Food; Air Rates Reduced 40 Per Cent; Ocean Liner Built in 83 Days; Peking — Car and Tractor Centre; Two-Way Street; Industrialization of Sinkiang; Writing from Experience	
ARTICLES	
The More They Try to Hide, The More They Are Exposed—On Tito's Speech of June 15 —Renmin Ribao Commentator	6
Facts About China's Population —Su Chung	9
Withdrawal from Korea —Yang Yung	11
Ministers with Pick and Shovel —Our Correspondent	12
Reviving the Grand Canal —Yang Min	14
EDUCATION	16
Every Child Will Go to School	
CHINESE PRESS OPINION	17
New C.P.V. Withdrawal; Obstructing the Summit Talks; Kishi—Bar to Cultural Contacts; The Passing Show; British Fraud in Cyprus	
CHINA AND THE WORLD	19
U.S.S.R. Helps the Leap Forward; Chinese Brick Works for Mongolia; Sino-Soviet Scientific Co-operation; Arab-Chinese Society; In Brief	
SIDELIGHTS	20
BOOKS	21
Classical Drama; An Epic of the War of Liberation	
WHAT'S ON IN PEKING	22

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Hands Off Lebanon!

BAREFACED U.S. interference in Lebanon's internal affairs has heightened tension in the Middle East. The threat of direct military intervention hatched by the Pentagon and its junior partners in Whitehall is a still greater menace to world peace. The Soviet Union has made it quite clear through *Tass* that it cannot possibly remain indifferent to foreign armed intervention in Lebanon.

Nearly two months have passed since the people of Lebanon rose up against the despotic Chamoun regime and its imperialist masters. The people's armed forces are now in control of a considerable portion of the country's territory. Street fighting has been in progress in the capital for some time.

Many high-ranking officials of the Lebanese Government have resigned in protest against Chamoun's pro-imperialist policy. Defections among government troops and gendarmes are nothing new. As the London *New Statesman* sees it, "President Chamoun's corrupt and tottering administration, which has already lost the confidence of the people, loses the last vestiges of control over the situation."

The present trouble in Lebanon originated from a controversy between the government and the opposition political parties over Chamoun's attempt to seek a second term in flagrant violation of the constitution. The opposition called a general strike in protest. Chamoun cracked down with force. Fighting ensued.

Clearly what has happened in Lebanon is purely the domestic affair of that country. There is no justification whatsoever for interference from the outside.

But from the very outset, the U.S. stepped in to shore up the Chamoun regime. A steady stream of U.S. arms pours into Lebanon and U.S. military personnel are fighting on Chamoun's side.

All this meddling, however, does not help much. Driven to desperation, the Chamoun government and its U.S. wire-pullers are now busily scheming direct military intervention by the imperialists to "save the situation." The U.S. Sixth Fleet in the Mediterranean and British paratroops in Cyprus are reported to be "in readiness for emergency."

Any form of foreign intervention in Lebanon, whether carried out under the cloak of the U.N. or the Bagdad Pact or under the pretext of responding to an appeal for help from the Chamoun government, would be a naked act of aggression. The U.N. Charter specifically states that nothing contained in the Charter shall authorize the U.N. to intervene in matters which are essentially within the jurisdiction of any state.

Dulles claimed that it is a vital interest of the United States to preserve Lebanon's independence. This brazen lie has drawn a sharp rejoinder from Lebanon's opposition leaders who declared: "Foreign troops and military occupation in Lebanon can only result in the slavery of the Lebanese people, loss of Lebanon's independence and the return of Lebanon to the status of a protectorate. The independence of Lebanon cannot be maintained by the Sixth Fleet and British paratroops."

The lessons taught by the Suez crisis are all too clear. If the imperialist interventionists, headed by the U.S., insist on playing with fire and embarking on a new military adventure in Lebanon, they will have no one but themselves to blame if they burn their hands.

ROUND THE WEEK

Speed is the Keynote

多, 快, 好, 省 (to, kuai, hao, sheng)

—the four Chinese characters that stand for "more, faster, better, more economically" in the general line of socialist construction—command the centre of attention in the country. To get rid of China's legacy of poverty and backwardness as quickly as possible, the accent today is on tempo and the stress on industrializing the country and modernizing her agriculture at maximum speed. As a recent *Renmin Ribao* editorial on this question put it, speed is the soul of the general line. And this isn't abstract theory. It is borne out by the steady flow of news about records set up and records broken on the production front.

Agriculture, according to the latest figures, has registered an estimated 15 million ton increase in wheat and other summer crops. That's an increase of 50 per cent over last year. Industrial output value in May, as we have already reported, was 46 per cent higher than the same period last year.

The arguments of the sceptics and the pessimists who questioned and doubted China's ability to develop her industry and agriculture at a high speed have been shattered by the facts. China is moving into high gear. Faster results in many fields will become a reality as the technical revolution unfolds.

The power industry has decided to double the pace of electrification. Their slogan is "Sweat for five years and complete the first stage of China's electrification." It is estimated that the total capacity of the electric power stations to be built during the next twelve months will reach 2 million kilowatts, approximately the equivalent of the total power generating equipment put into operation during the entire First Five-Year Plan.

Steel production in China will be counted in tens of millions of tons in the not distant future. The mechanization of agriculture is expected to be achieved within five to seven years.

The achievements and the plans for the future show that China has both the will and the way to place her entire national economy on a modern technological basis at top speed.

Commenting on the tempo of the country's construction, *Renmin Ribao* editorially noted the advantages China enjoys as a big country, rich in resources, with more than 600 million liberated peo-

ple, correct leadership by the Chinese Communist Party, and assistance from the Soviet Union and the other socialist countries. The conditions exist, the paper emphasized, for high speed advance.

"Accelerating the rate of China's socialist construction is both beneficial to the Chinese people and of international significance," the *Renmin Ribao* editorial pointed out. "If we were a small country, whether we advanced a little faster or slower would have no important bearing on the international situation. But ours is a big country with the largest population in the world. If we do not accelerate the rate of construction, we would not be able to fulfil our responsibility towards the socialist camp, the international working class and the forces of world peace."

Twice as Much Food

The law of speed also holds for food production. As this year's summer harvest results keep pouring in the grain increase is impressive.

Anhui, Kiangsu, Chekiang, Fukien and the rural districts of Shanghai harvested 7,350 million catties more wheat than last year, an increase of 57 per cent, and 3.17 million piculs more rapeseed, an increase of 76.2 per cent. In 1957, these areas gathered in 71,500 million catties of grain, but this year the total food harvest is expected to jump to the all-time high of 120,000 million catties. The summer harvest already accounts for 20,300 million catties.

This rate of increase has no parallel in Chinese history or in the history of any other country in the world, said Tan Chen-lin, member of the Secretariat of the Chinese Communist Party's Central Committee, who presided over the recent East China Agricultural Co-ordination Conference. At this rate of increase, Tan Chen-lin said, the annual grain output will reach 1,000 catties per head in 1958, and will jump to 2,000 catties in three to five years' time.

Air Rates Reduced 40 Per Cent

Air travel and air freight in China will be 40 per cent cheaper on the average, starting July 1. Fares for points not accessible by rail in southwest and northwest China will get higher reductions than those more conveniently located. The fares for air travel between the three major cities—Peking, Shanghai and Canton—have also been greatly cut. For

example, the fare for the Peking-Shanghai flight has been reduced from 128 yuan to 96 yuan. The Peking-Canton flight is down from 235 yuan to 158, Peking-Kunming from 480 yuan to 260 and Peking-Urumchi from 654 to 364.

A 10 per cent discount for round-trip tickets has also been announced, and tourists from abroad will enjoy a 25 per cent discount for round-trip flights within China.

Air freight has also been cut on an average of 40 per cent. Both industry and agriculture are making increased use of deliveries by air in these days of concentration on speed. In the first six months of this year the volume of air transport increased 12.9 per cent as compared with the same period last year. The Civil Aviation Administration of China now expects a 60 to 70 per cent annual increase in the volume of air transport, in terms of ton-kilometres, during the Second Five-Year Plan.

Ocean Liner Built in 83 Days

Peace-28, launched at Shanghai on June 19, is also a product of the high speed in construction achieved under the guidance of the general line. This 5,000-ton ocean-going liner is 115.50 metres from stern to stern and has a 16-metre beam and a displacement of 8,730 tons. It was designed by Chinese shipwrights and built entirely by Chinese hands. It saved 158 tons of rolled steel and reduced the cost of production by 15.5 per cent through the rationalization proposals put forward by the builders. The remarkable thing about this new vessel is that it was built in 83 days, which is not only a record for Chinese shipbuilding but beats the record held by Japan, which is well known for her speed in building similar vessels. The Japanese *S. S. Mineshima Maru*, also a 5,000-ton liner, took 138 days to build.

Peking—Car and Tractor Centre

A year ago China turned out only a single type of lorry, the "Liberation" model manufactured by the First Motor Works in Changchun, northeast China. Today, with the exception of Tibet, all the provinces and autonomous regions in mainland China are manufacturing tractors to accelerate the tempo of mechanizing agriculture. Many provinces and municipalities have also turned to producing motor cars. At present more than 150 types of tractors and nearly 40 types of motor vehicles are being manufactured.

Peking exemplifies the way things are going. On June 21 and 24 *Beijing Ribao* (Peking Daily) gave over its entire front-page to news and stories about the expansion of the motor industry in the

capital. It introduced a new sedan car named "Chingkangshan," after the famous revolutionary base in Kiangsi Province; a new tractor called the "Giant Dragon"; and the "Red Flag" universal chassis tractor, the first of its kind ever made in China. They are the forerunners of new types of tractors and motor cars as Peking sets out to become a major motor car and tractor manufacturing centre in north China.

The city is now reorganizing its resources to put these models into mass production in a few months' time. The motor car assembly and repair plants and motor car accessories factories in Peking are being reorganized to form the core of the Peking Automobile Works. The Peking Agricultural Machinery Plant will be transformed into a tractor and combine harvester plant. Both the automobile works and the tractor plant will turn out passenger cars and tractors by the tens of thousands in the next two or three years.

Two-Way Street

Faculty members of Peking's universities and colleges working on the farms as part of the *hsiafang* programme (cadres who have gone to work in the countryside for a certain period of time) met recently to swap experiences. It was generally agreed that the best contribution they could make in the countryside was to pass on their learning and technical knowledge to the peasants while training themselves in actual physical work. This will accelerate socialist construction in the rural areas and at the same time bring quicker results in ideological remoulding.

Peking University's 345 teachers and cadres who went to Mentoukou, a short distance from Peking, helped the peasants improve 41 farm tools and taught them to make use of waste materials, such as walnut shell, tree bark, and reeds to make dyes, synthetic cotton, paper, insecticide, etc. They put their knowledge at the disposal of the peasants and helped them build iron foundries, cement factories, asbestos factories, various workshops and electric power stations.

As intellectuals with experience in teaching, every one of the 345 cadres took part in the campaign to wipe out illiteracy in these villages. With their help the peasants set up 11 secondary and primary schools in no time.

The Peking Normal University's cadres in Changping, a rural district of Peking, have already succeeded in teaching 30 per cent of the 2,300 illiterates there how to read and write 1,500 characters. And they plan to teach the rest to do the same before October 1, China's National Day.

The cadres of other universities and colleges are meeting with similar success in helping the peasants and themselves in their new life on the farms. It is expected that the million or so cadres in various parts of the countryside, by sharing their knowledge with the peasants, will do much to promote the technical and cultural revolutions now sweeping rural China.

Industrialization of Sinkiang

Sinkiang, the autonomous region of the Uighurs and twelve other nationalities in China's far west, will become an industrial centre of iron and steel, petroleum, coal, non-ferrous metals and cotton textiles in a matter of 10 years. Cotton growing and sugar refining will also be expanded. This was announced by the First Secretary of the Autonomous Region Committee of the Chinese Communist Party when he reported to the people of Sinkiang on the second session of the Party's 8th National Congress. Sinkiang had little industry to speak of before, but since the development of the oilfields at Karamai and the opening up of its other natural riches, the autonomous region has been taking big strides forward. It plans to have its industrial output value exceed the value of agricultural output during the current Five-Year Plan, ending in 1962.

In agriculture, Sinkiang is concentrating on reclaiming wasteland and growing more cotton. The plan is to turn the autonomous region into a high-yielding cotton base, leading the entire country. Efforts are now being made to reclaim 8 million *mou* of land during the year. In livestock breeding it is emulating the Inner Mongolian Autonomous Region. Much of Sinkiang's animal husbandry is now on a co-operative basis, with 72 out of every 100 herdsmen in livestock co-operatives in the chief pastoral area inhabited by 600,000 Kazakhs, Tajiks, Khalkhas and Mongolians. The nomadic herdsmen have broken centuries-old traditions to settle down on livestock farms. New houses have been built and trees planted in the new settlements. Night schools and literacy classes are

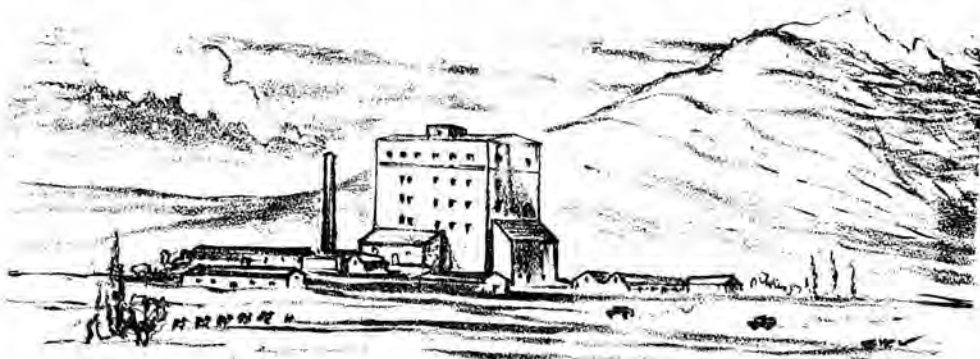
being formed and clubs opened, as a fuller and more active life comes to the people on the grasslands.

Apart from the railway under construction to link Sinkiang with Lanchow, in Kansu Province, giving the autonomous region its first railway, ground and aerial survey work is proceeding to chart four additional new railway lines to provide Sinkiang with a railway network linking all parts of the autonomous region. One of these railways will extend 1,500 kilometres from Turfan on the Lanchow-Sinkiang line to Kashgar in west Sinkiang.

Writing from Experience

Various methods are employed in the provinces to learn from the experience of the breath-taking advances now being made in industry and agriculture. In Yunnan, the multi-national province in southwest China, the provincial committee of the Communist Party is asking Party secretaries and members of Party committees from the county level and up to summarize their work in the "big leap" and record their experience in essays or articles for publication. The purpose is to share experiences gained, raise the level of leadership, and guide work in the future. The Yunnan Provincial Party Committee expects to receive about one thousand articles of this type in the third quarter of the year and is encouraging Party workers to cultivate the practice of summing up work, and putting it into writing to enhance the art of leadership.

The Shantung Provincial Committee of the Communist Party is planning to bring out a book on leadership in industrial and agricultural expansion. It has asked Party secretaries in the localities to publicize the feats and wonders of recent progress on the farms and in the factories. The book will be a primary source of information and inspiration for all cadres, and particularly rural workers, and will help chart the course of action for a still greater effort in production in the days ahead. The Party secretaries of these provinces, apart from their normal duties, are taking to their pens with gusto.



In the foothills of the Tianshan, Sinkiang

The More They Try to Hide, The More They Are Exposed

— On Tito's Speech of June 15 —

by "RENMIN RIBAO" COMMENTATOR

The following commentary appeared in "Renmin Ribao" (People's Daily) on June 26, 1958. In addition to the commentary, the same issue of "Renmin Ribao" published the full text of Tito's Labin speech of June 15. —Ed.

TITO delivered a speech on June 15 at Labin. Aside from new slanders against the Communist Parties of various countries, this speech provided no answer whatever to the serious criticisms and repudiations of Yugoslav revisionism they have made. Tito was completely silent on such basic questions as: On what grounds did the League of Communists of Yugoslavia betray the Peace Manifesto it signed, and put forward entirely contrary viewpoints about the international situation in its programme? What made it necessary for the League of Communists of Yugoslavia to defame in its programme and at its Congress the socialist system and glorify the capitalist system, to attack the Soviet Union, the socialist countries and the Communist Parties of various countries, to attack the Teheran, Yalta and Potsdam Agreements while defending and lauding U.S. imperialism, the common enemy of all the peoples of the world? When the socialist countries were exerting every effort to improve their relations with Yugoslavia (in fact such efforts continued right up to the eve of the Seventh Congress of the Yugoslav Communist League and the Hungarian-Yugoslav talks, for instance, were held in March 1958), why was the Yugoslav Communist League so keen on repaying good with evil?

No doubt there are reasons for this. But it is difficult to state them. So the only explanation Tito could offer to the Yugoslav people was that the Communist Parties of other countries oppose the programme of the Yugoslav Communist League not because it is an out-and-out revisionist and anti-Marxist-Leninist programme, but because of certain schemes organized long ago, because the Yugoslav Communist League refused to participate in the meeting of the Communist Parties of twelve countries and in the socialist camp, and because, getting to the root of the problem, it is "against division of the world into camps." In this way, it seemed as if all arguments of principle concerning their revisionist programme could be written off at one stroke.

This is precisely the characteristic tactic of all opportunists.

But this method of Tito's, to evade the point at issue, has not been successful. The principle at issue still cannot

be avoided and to cover the matter up by "stuffing the ears while stealing a bell" only makes it more obvious. The Yugoslav Communist League refused to participate in the meeting of Communist Parties of twelve nations, but dressing this up as an explanation doesn't help Tito in any way. Why should Tito tear up the agreement he endorsed at the Bucharest talks? Why doesn't Tito say a word about this question which was put to him by Comrade Khrushchov in Sofia? Of course it is sheer nonsense for Tito to allege that Yugoslav refusal to participate in the socialist camp is the main reason why the Communist Parties of various countries are struggling against revisionism. Non-participation in the socialist camp does not make it necessary to give revisionism wide publicity and to launch an all-out attack against the socialist countries. In any case it is curious that a country calling itself a socialist state should refuse to line up with the socialist countries, to stand explicitly on the anti-imperialist side, should place the imperialist countries and the socialist countries on the same footing and keep the same distance from each and maintain the same "co-operation" with them. What pretext on earth can they find to justify themselves?

"We are against division of the world into camps."

"In the present tense international situation it is more useful to pursue a constructive peaceful policy, together with other peace-loving countries which also do not belong to any bloc, rather than to enter the camp and thereby aggravate even more the already tense situation in the world."

"We consider that relations of co-operation must be established with all countries, and not limit ourselves to two camps, which will clash and because of which war might one day break out."

What a typical voice of a traitor! How similar the statement "against division of the world into camps. . ." sounds to the statement "against division of society into classes" repentantly made by deserters from the Communist Party who have surrendered to the enemy! Since a number of imperialist countries and a number of socialist countries exist in the world at the same time, the existence of camps is inevitable. Even the nations striving for independence, such as those in North Africa and the Near East, have formed ties of association in one way or another on certain basis. This historic inevitability does not change

in accordance with the subjective desire of Tito or any other person. It is true that the imperialist countries cannot possibly unite as one, but this does not mean that all the socialist countries, which are struggling for the common interests and ideals of the international proletariat, should fail to rally together closely. The socialist camp and the imperialist camp are diametrically opposed in nature and cannot be mentioned in the same breath. The comradely solidarity that exists among the socialist countries is not possible between capitalist countries, and this is precisely one of the important factors that make the victory of socialism inevitable. The countries in the socialist camp have insisted throughout on the dissolution of all military blocs and on peaceful co-existence with all capitalist countries. But why is it necessary to break our own unity in order to disband the military blocs and bring about co-existence? Isn't the truth exactly contrary to this? According to Tito's logic, participation of the socialist countries in the socialist camp will aggravate world tension while non-participation of the socialist countries in the socialist camp will ease the world situation. According to that logic, the more countries in which socialism is victorious, the more inevitable war becomes. And in order to bring about a thorough easing of the world situation and to avert war, it is of course necessary for all socialist countries to refrain from participating in the socialist camp and to disband that camp. Before World War II, however, there was certainly no socialist camp. Why then did Hitler Germany launch an aggressive war against the Soviet Union? Was this "owing to Stalin's inflexible and uncalled for threatening foreign policy" which made the Hitlerites "unable to accomplish their aims by diplomatic means"? Wasn't Yugoslavia invaded by Hitler in April 1941 when it had not even put up the signboard of socialism? Tito has completely ignored these basic facts and alleges that in order to obtain peace, we must keep away from any association opposed by the imperialists. In this, Tito not only lacks the slightest semblance of a communist but also lacks the slightest semblance of a nationalist revolutionary opposed to imperialism.

THE argument Tito spreads that if the socialist countries rally together this will create tension and war danger, translated into simple language, actually means this: Working people, oppressed people, revolutionaries, socialists, you must never split the world into camps, never "limit" yourselves to camps! You should establish "relations of co-operation" with all political forces (never mind what forces)! This will be to your great benefit. This, according to the programme of the Yugoslav League of Communists, is the Yugoslav-type "policy of active co-existence." It is "an expression of the powerful development of the productive forces which has brought about the actual inter-connection of the whole world, the close inter-dependence of the economies of different countries. This policy expresses the objective needs of the contemporary world for the broadest economic co-operation as well as for comprehensive cultural, scientific and other co-operation. The policy of active co-existence, accordingly, also creates the necessary pre-conditions for the integration of the world economy. And one of the goals of socialism must be the economic unity of the world." This is all very nice. But if you are ignorant of the present state of affairs and don't break up your unity, the situation will

become tense. And, what is supremely important is that once conflict breaks out (which is unavoidable if the camps are retained!) you cannot hope to keep out of the trouble!

We do not intend to discuss here the stand of various types of neutralists. Many peaceful, neutral countries, far from having engaged in sabotage against the socialist countries, have, on the contrary, formed good relations with them. They can, therefore, have full confidence in the friendship of the socialist countries in their struggle to safeguard peace, resist aggression and develop their own national economies. In contrast to the neutralists in general, the Tito elements, having put out the signboard of Marxism-Leninism and a socialist country, mix in the ranks of the international proletariat to corrode, disintegrate and subvert. This has forced us to show them up firmly in their true colours. Some people say: "Why is it necessary to drive Tito to the side of the imperialists?" But the present facts show that Tito persists in his revisionist, pro-imperialist stand not because he has been driven to do so. Moreover, it appears that in any event he will not give up his neutralist or socialist signboard and go directly over to the side of imperialism without pretences, because he "knows" how to hold on to his bargaining position. Therefore, no good to the cause of socialism will come from worrying about his going over to the West and relaxing the efforts to expose him. Similarly, to be afraid to "embitter" imperialism and thus not to rally the forces of peace and not to expose the machinations of the warmongers will do no good to the cause of peace.

NOW, to return to the question of peace: We have at all times taken the view that peace must be defended resolutely and that it can be defended. But this can be achieved only if all the forces of peace unite and wage a staunch struggle against the machinations of the war-plotters. Here the question is not only that war must be firmly opposed. It should also be made clear that the people really have the strength to overcome the threat of war. The people should be called on to prepare, should the war maniacs force war on them, to use their united strength to wipe out all aggressors, and eradicate imperialism, which breeds war. Without this determination, it would be impossible to prevent war and the people would be thrown into panic and dismay should the aggressors venture to unleash war. But what is the road that Tito and his followers have indicated to the peoples of various countries? To try to make people "clear the snow away only from their own doorsteps," as the Chinese saying goes, they threaten them with the danger of war; they call for the dissolution of the unity of all the forces of socialism, of all the anti-imperialist and anti-war forces; they call on the peoples to co-operate with the U.S. and all other imperialists, in order to bring about "the integration of the world" and build up "socialism"! Any objective observer can readily see that the stand of the Tito elements cannot safeguard world peace, nor offer any support to the struggle of Korea and Viet-nam, or of Egypt, Syria, Indonesia, Algeria and the Lebanon, against aggression.

In his efforts to confuse right and wrong still further, Tito has gone so far as to mix up arbitrarily his own surrender policy with the peace policy of the Soviet Union. He even compares U.S. aid to Yugoslavia with the relief

given by the U.S. to the famine in the Soviet Union in 1921. What was the situation in 1921? Even under the extremely difficult conditions at that time, the Soviet Government waged a firm struggle against the U.S. relief administration, headed by Hoover, which had obvious political designs, and prevented U.S. relief activities from getting out of the control of the Soviet Government. At that time, Lenin described the extreme ferocity of the imperialists who took advantage of the famine in the Soviet Union to carry out anti-Soviet activities, in these words: "I don't know whether the devil is more terrible than modern imperialism." Precisely because the Soviet Union, adopting a revolutionary proletarian attitude towards the imperialist states, never entertained any illusion of relying on the imperialist states, the imperialists have all along regarded the Soviet Union as a thorn in their side. The imperialists have done everything possible to oppose and disrupt the Soviet Union and have stubbornly rejected the various proposals put forward by the Soviet Union to relax international tension. But what is the attitude of Tito and his ilk to U.S. aid? Tito openly eulogizes U.S. wheat and dollars, and takes pride in the fact that he "knows" how to depend for ever on U.S. aid to "safeguard independence" and "build socialism." Similarly, the U.S. imperialists also take pride in the fact that they "know" how to disrupt the cause of socialism with their aid to Yugoslavia. Tito said: "The Americans do not give us assistance so that socialism might triumph in Yugoslavia." But the question is not so simple. Eisenhower made it very clear on the 18th of this month that he would "give any kind of aid to Soviet bloc countries which would con-

tribute to the weakening of the bloc's solidarity." Have the Americans fulfilled their aims then? Evidently, whether it was during the uprising of the counter-revolutionary Nagy group in Hungary in 1956, or in the Seventh Congress of the Yugoslav League of Communists and the programme it adopted, or in the so-called protest made by Yugoslavia following the recent verdict on the counter-revolutionary Nagy group in Hungary, the Tito elements acted as the anti-Soviet and anti-communist vanguard for the imperialist reactionaries. Nonetheless, Tito still persists in stating that he has never set himself against the Soviet Union, that he has never supported imperialism, and, what is more, that his policy is the same as the policy of the Soviet Union. To use Tito's own words, this is "the height of cynicism"!

IN his speech Tito frantically attacked the Chinese Communist Party. For us, this is merely a cause for pride. The ancient Chinese poet Chu Yuan expressed it well: "How can the square exactly fit the circle? With views opposed, who can live in harmony?" The struggle of Marxist-Leninists against the revisionists is unavoidable and it is the praise of revisionists or imperialists that is to be dreaded. The criticism that the Chinese Communists made of the Yugoslav revisionists has obviously hit them where it hurts. Since they could find no way to stir up nationalist hatred among the people on pretexts deriving from past Sino-Yugoslav relations, they were compelled to cook up some particularly preposterous — and therefore particularly clumsy — lies in their fight. Tito said that we criticized them because we were bothered by their "peaceable policy, policy of peace, policy of co-existence," because we were opposed to the relaxation of world tension and thus occupied "the same platform as the most reactionary warmongering elements in the West." But one may ask: If we, rather than Tito, are standing on the side of the warmongers, how is it that the most reactionary warmongers in the West, such as Dulles, are in no way "bothered" about Tito's "peaceable policy, policy of peace, policy of co-existence" and have even rewarded it handsomely? Tito said further that we oppose revisionism because we have encountered internal difficulties and are in need of some sort of loan. This is really a good example of "talking about one's own trade at the outset of a conversation," as the Chinese saying goes! A dwarf kneeling in a muddy pond can try as desperately as possible to spit at a giant on a high mountain, but he will find his saliva falling back on his own face. Those few utterances of Tito's provide a superb sketch of the very features of the Tito elements.

Tito's painstakingly prepared speech consists of so many lies that they are too numerous to be refuted. He said that we had not made public any of their materials. This is perhaps the most stupid of these lies. We do not consider it necessary for the socialist press to publish long-winded tirades by revisionists, but still facts are facts. In 1956, we published the full texts of Tito's notorious Pula speech and Kardelj's speech before parliament. Not long ago we published the full texts of the two draft programmes of the League of Communists of Yugoslavia, and now we have printed the full text of Tito's speech delivered at Labin, while the Yugoslav press has rarely published full texts of our articles. But Tito still brags that "it is obvious that we are morally much superior to them."

Second Session of the Eighth National Congress of the Communist Party of China

Containing the important documents of the session held in Peking from May 5 to 23, 1958. Full texts of the Central Committee's work report and the resolution on it endorsing the Party's general line for socialist construction, the resolution on the Moscow Meetings of Representatives of Communist and Workers' Parties expressing full support to the Moscow Declarations and repudiating the Programme of the League of Communists of Yugoslavia as a concentrated expression of modern revisionism, explanations on the second revised draft of the National Programme for Agricultural Development (1956-67) and the resolution on it. 96 pp.

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Tito boasted that the Yugoslav people were one with him and issued slanders from many angles to sow dissension between the Yugoslav people and the peoples of the socialist countries. But he cannot explain why the Yugoslav state organs of force, which are supposed to have been "withering away" for a long time, suddenly arrested a large number of true Communists recently. Of course while the

imperialists can still keep a group of labour aristocrats at home and abroad, these aristocrats can still carry out their activities to a considerable extent and there are still people who pin their hopes on them. But the sun is setting in the West. Do the Tito elements and all other revisionists who look to the West have any bright future?

Liability or Asset?

Facts About China's Population

by SU CHUNG

BBETTER living and great advances in public health have accelerated China's population growth since liberation. The 1953 census reported a population of 601,938,035. The annual birth rate was 3.7 per cent and the annual death rate 1.7 per cent, making a 2 per cent net rate of increase. Later, the 1954 statistics for five provinces and one autonomous region showed that the net rise that year was 2.3 per cent. Based on this data, the population is expected to exceed 700 million towards the end of the Second Five-Year Plan (1958-1962).

China was poor and backward as a result of the long-continued rule by imperialists and domestic reactionaries. It is therefore only natural that the population problem should have attracted attention both at home and abroad.

In the letter of transmittal to the "White Paper" (published under the title *United States Relations with China*), Dean Acheson, then U.S. Secretary of State, wrote to former President Truman on July 30, 1949: "The population of China during the eighteenth and nineteenth centuries doubled, thereby creating an unbearable pressure upon the land. The first problem which every Chinese Government has had to face is that of feeding this population. So far none has succeeded."

It is nothing strange that Acheson, an imperialist, should see China's population problem as a fatal one. Moreover, he was talking about the past. But even today, some people still regard China's huge numbers as a heavy burden and liability. They are parroting the old ideas of Malthusianism.

Malthusians Refuted

Construction and life in New China have, in fact, given the lie to all the Malthusians, old and new. Both, for example, allege that the huge population and undeveloped economy of China make it impossible for her to industrialize. The evident truth is, however, that industry in the country is being built at a speed unknown in history. During the First Five-Year Plan, the annual average rate of industrial growth was 19.2 per cent. The rate of industrial growth this year will be much greater. Industrial production last May showed an increase of 46 per cent as compared with May last year.

These Malthusians, old and new, also declare that China's huge population precludes the progress of her

agriculture. The fact is: between 1953 and 1957, with major or minor natural calamities occurring every year, China's agricultural production increased by 25 per cent, or by an average of 4.5 per cent a year. As to prospects, the revised draft National Programme for Agricultural Development provides that by 1967 China will double her crops of grain and cotton. And that it will not take that long is clear from the fact that by 1957, there were already 65 administrative units of county or municipal level which had reached the grain output goal set by the draft programme; while 56 had reached it for cotton. In other words, they reached the 1967 target ten years ahead of time. Not a few counties, districts, townships and co-operatives in north China have raised their yields to the level of those in the warm, moist south — 1,000 or more cattles of grain and 100 of cotton per *mou*.

With the tremendous effort put into irrigation, manuring and various technical advances, agricultural production will be greatly accelerated this year. This year's summer grain output is expected to be 15 million tons more than that of last summer or an increase of about 50 per cent. It is very probable that the total grain output this year will show an increase of over 20 per cent as compared with last year — this is quite near to the rate of increase of agricultural production for the whole period of the First Five-Year Plan.

Accumulation and Consumption

Both the old and new Malthusians argue that China's huge population makes it difficult to accumulate funds, and that the rate of accumulation can only be very low at best. Facts show the opposite. In 1952, 18.2 per cent of China's national income went into accumulation; it rose to 22.5 per cent in 1956. Between 1953 and 1957, China put 49,270 million yuan into capital construction; the 1957 investment was 94.4 per cent more than in 1953. Nearly 10,000 industrial units, large and small, were built during the First Five-Year Plan, an average of five or six starts a day. This rate of capital construction is unprecedented.

Accumulation by peasants and co-ops is also rising. In the First Five-Year Plan, the sum increased by 47 per cent. In 1953 it was 5.6 per cent of the national income derived from agriculture; by 1956 it was 11 per cent.

Both the old and new Malthusians think that, in China, the people's living standards cannot be improved. In fact, they are improving steadily. In the First Five-Year Plan the total payroll for workers and employees increased 131.4 per cent, the average wage by 42.7 per cent. In the years 1929-1930, according to a survey at that time, the average Shanghai worker consumed only 272.6 catties of grain and 6.4 metres of cotton cloth per year—and Shanghai was better off in this respect than other cities. Let us compare it with the living standard of the workers in 27 big and medium cities in 1956, when their per capita consumption was 331.89 catties of grain and 11.9 metres of cotton cloth.

In the First Five-Year Plan, funds available to the peasants for consumption increased 31.5 per cent; and their actual per capita consumption, with the population rising and other factors, by 22 per cent. Statistics covering over 340,000 agricultural co-operatives in 16 provinces and municipalities show that a fourth of their members already have a level of per capita production and incomes better than that of well-to-do middle peasants in the past. In 1949, the average peasant consumed 396.3 catties of grain and 3.3 metres of cotton cloth; in 1956, the figure was 487.5 catties of grain and 6.1 metres of cloth.

The consumption by China's workers and peasants rose in this way at a time when the annual average increase of population was 2 per cent or more and when the nation was, as shown above, steadily increasing its investments. This refutes all ideas, old and new, that a huge population necessarily means an insoluble contradiction between accumulation and consumption. The root of error is that the Malthusians see men only as consumers and fail to see that they are, first of all, producers. The truth is that men produce things, and that a large population therefore favours greater production and accumulation.

Population and Employment

Both old and new Malthusians say that unemployment is inevitable with China's large population. They think that there is no way out of this. In actual fact, between 1949 and 1957, the number of wage-earners grew by more than 10 million. Practically all the jobless found work, so did a large number of young people who had just reached working age.

Since last winter, China has been in a new era of big, all-round development. Judging from present trends, the tempo of construction and production in the Second Five-Year Plan will be faster than that in the first. It is very probable that the National Programme for Agricultural Development will be realized well ahead of time, and also that China will catch up with and overtake Britain in the output of major industrial products in less than the 15 years as first projected.

Since China, even at the start of her planned socialist construction, managed to provide her huge army of young workers with jobs and absorb practically all the unemployed left over by the old society, there is no reason to suppose that she will be unable to solve her population and employment questions more successfully now that her economy is going forward much more quickly.

Under the principle of the simultaneous development of big, medium and small industries, and of nationally and

locally operated ones, there is now a high tide of industrial building in which the whole people and every place in the country is involved. With this approach, it is likely that the amount of industry in China may double every three years or so, instead of every four to five years as was the case during recent years.

At the end of 1957 there were 7,470,000 workers and employees in the nation's industries. If China's total industrial output doubles every three years, even supposing that 70 per cent of the increase is through higher productivity of labour, another 2.3 million workers and employees will be needed. In other words, industry may take 800,000 new workers and employees each year.

Agriculture needs even more manpower now and in the coming years. Over five-sixths of China's population is rural. Their aim to double China's present grain and cotton output means that if half of the increased output is due to higher productivity of labour, and the other half to increase of labour power, at least 50 million more people will be needed. In fact, with agriculture actively moving forward, a shortage of labour is already apparent everywhere.

Between October 1957 and the end of March this year, there was a great surge in water conservancy construction. A rough estimate shows that the amount of work involved would normally keep 30 million people busy for a year. And there is a lot yet to be done to raise yields per unit area: improving farming methods, increasing the area of double-cropping, accumulating more manure, etc. A lot of manpower is needed for all this and for the surge of activity in every sphere in China.

It is quite clear that, with such rapid economic development, there is plenty for everyone to do.

The Chinese Communist Party has always considered China's huge population a great advantage. In his report *On the Correct Handling of Contradictions Among the People*, Comrade Mao Tse-tung wrote: "I hope these people will . . . really recognize the fact that we have a population of six hundred million, that this is an objective fact, and that this is our asset. We have this large population. It is a good thing, but of course it also has its difficulties." It is thanks to her vast population that China has been able to create "miracles" and can undertake hitherto unheard of tasks. To wail pessimistically about China's huge population and its high rate of increase is absurd and groundless.

It is the people who create the social wealth. Rapid development of socialist production is the essential way to solve the population and employment questions. But this does not mean that China intends to let her population grow in a blind, uncontrolled way. On the contrary, the socialist system, which has changed the context and nature of the population question, also makes it possible gradually to plan population increase. But the planned birth we advocate is different in principle from the views of the old and new Malthusians. China's aim is to adjust her population growth in such a way as to benefit the whole socialist planned economy and the welfare of the people. With culture and scientific knowledge spreading on a mass scale, the prospect is that planned birth will be progressively understood and accepted by the people.

WITHDRAWAL FROM KOREA

by YANG YUNG

Commander, Chinese People's Volunteers

More Chinese People's Volunteers will leave Korea. The second stage of their withdrawal begins on July 11 (the first stage was concluded on April 25). The C.P.V. will pull out of Korea completely by the end of 1958. This is a powerful contribution to help ease world tension. It contrasts sharply with U.S. attempts to thwart the peaceful solution of the Korean question. The following account of the withdrawal, by General Yang Yung, was published in the Chinese press under the title "We Return Bringing Sino-Korean Friendship in Our Packs." We present an abridged translation.

—Ed.

ALL of us Chinese People's Volunteers who fought in Korea are deeply aware of how much our two peoples depend on each other, how essential it is that they stand together against a common peril. Should the U.S. imperialists be so reckless as to start a new war, we will cross the Yalu River again the minute the Korean people call on us to do so, and give the aggressors a beating.

The friendship between our two peoples is becoming even stronger as we bid farewell. This will have a far-reaching effect on the long-term mutual assistance and co-operation between our two countries.

While preparing to depart, officers and men of the C.P.V. competed with each other in helping the Korean people in their work. Their slogan was: "Let's shed more sweat before we go, and strengthen the bonds of friendship."

Wherever they were stationed, they helped the local folk dig ditches, build dykes, sink wells, plant trees and construct roads, bridges, houses, schools and public buildings. Originally, they had planned to put in 300,000 workdays on such jobs in 1958. Actually, this figure was more than doubled in the first four months of the year. On the irrigation project, the daily quota per man was 1.8 cubic metres of earthwork. But everyone exceeded it. In some units the work went on round the clock, by lantern and torch light at night. Many units just before their withdrawal worked eleven to twelve hours daily.

Party and government officials in Korea's towns and villages, as well as the people, tried to persuade the Volunteers to rest before starting out. In one hamlet, a Korean mother remonstrated: "You must take a rest and let us wash the clothes you soiled working for us. When you go back home, Chinese mothers will say we haven't looked after you properly." But our men stuck to the job to the very last day.

When transferring defence positions to the Korean People's Army, we handed over our barracks as a gift together with their complete furnishings, materials and fully equipped hospitals. Before the transfer, all tunnels,

trenches and shelters in forward positions were cleaned, repaired and strengthened. The barrack walls and ceilings were whitewashed. Everything was left spick and span; even the inkstands were refilled and new nibs put in the penholders.

Greetings written in Chinese and Korean, and large painted scrolls depicting Sino-Korean friendship were pasted on club walls. The canteens made a gift to the Korean forces of the hogs, sheep and poultry they had raised, the grains and vegetables they grew and the farm implements they had used.

When the Korean People's Army arrived, the C.P.V. units led by their commanding officers lined up along the roadsides to greet them with gongs and drums. Many Volunteers presented their Korean comrades with souvenirs. One division alone made 10,000 such gifts.

Warm Send-offs

The Korean people helped and supported the withdrawing Volunteers in every way. The Government of the Korean Democratic People's Republic made special decisions in this regard. Premier Kim Il Sung and other leaders saw the first echelon off personally.

The people, dressed in their best clothes, lined the roads, waving the Chinese and Korean flags, scattering confetti, singing and dancing. Girls fastened a big red flower to the uniform of each man who was leaving. Every Korean tried to shake hands with every Chinese. Many had tears in their eyes. They held the Volunteers' hands tight and would not let go. In one place, a thousand Volunteers took more than three hours to pass 500 Koreans who had come to say good-bye.

All the way through Korea from the forward positions to the Korean-Chinese border, reception stations were organized. Whenever a unit of Volunteers arrived, Koreans brought them water to wash with, and refreshing drinks. In many places, they were given eggs, honey, apples and chestnuts to eat on the journey. Presents given to them along the journey included ancient swords handed down by the donors' ancestors, cloth bags containing earth from the Korean battlefield, exercise books given by school children, embroidered handkerchiefs presented by young girls. Touched to the heart, many a man said: "If the United States dares to start another war against Korea, I'll be the first to volunteer to come back!"

It is hard to find words to describe the warm feelings and friendship shown towards us. Here I will write of only a few examples.

After the Korean armistice some Volunteers were billeted in the house of Yun Myon Kun, an old woman in Tze Ha Dong. She was 66 years old and had had three sons, all of whom were killed in the war. The Volunteers helped her to farm. Later their unit was transferred elsewhere. Recently, hearing of the forthcoming C.P.V. withdrawal, she walked three days to where it was now stationed, bringing with her four chickens, 18 catties of chestnuts and five catties of sugar. When she finally met the Volunteers who had lodged with her, she was shaken with violent sobbing and they too wept.

One of our regiments had a Korean boy under its care. He had lost his parents in an American air raid and himself became deaf and dumb. He used to help the Chinese fighters, who were very fond of him, to feed their horses. The news that they would leave depressed him terribly, even though he knew that the Korean unit taking their place would be just as kind. Each night, he would get up three or four times to see whether the Chinese Volunteers had left. When the day of withdrawal came, he cried bitterly, and walked on for miles with the Volunteers before they finally persuaded him to say good-bye.

After the Volunteers had left Kachon-ri, a C.P.V. army headquarters officer went there to see whether everything had been done properly. As soon as he appeared, the local people rushed up, shouting: "The Volunteers are coming back." An old man invited him to his house where he put on a real feast. Another old man, who is the voluntary caretaker of the C.P.V. martyrs' cemetery, said: "Please tell your people that they don't have to worry about the tombs of their loved ones. I'll do my best to look after the tombs so long as I am alive. After I die my sons, grandsons and great grandsons will do it." Still another Korean said that he had been treated in a C.P.V. hospital during the war and some Volunteers had donated their blood for the transfusions he needed. "I'll always remember you," he said, "the blood of the Volunteers is still running in my veins."

Stories like these are too numerous to be told. They show the deep patriotism and internationalism of the people of Korea led by their Workers' Party. In this spirit, they gave us the greatest possible aid and support during the war and after the armistice. We Chinese People's Volunteers will always cherish our Korean memories.

Ministers with Pick and Shovel

by OUR CORRESPONDENT

ONE day last week, a new batch of voluntary workers arrived at the Ming Tombs Reservoir construction site to join the thousands who are working hard to complete the reservoir on the outskirts of Peking before the high water season sets in. Carrying a big red flag at the head of the column marching towards the dam was Premier Chou En-lai.

This detachment of more than 300 voluntary workers consisted of ministers, vice-ministers, heads of departments and bureaux of the Central People's Government and leading personnel of the various departments of the Central Committee of the Chinese Communist Party. They worked at the construction site for a week from June 15 to 21. Another contingent of more than 200 began working on June 22, bringing the total to over 540 people.

Earlier, Chairman Mao Tse-tung, members of the Central Committee of the Chinese Communist Party, high-ranking officers of the People's Liberation Army and many other leaders of various departments had worked at the reservoir. (See *Peking Review*, No. 14, June 3, 1958.)

In accordance with the directive on physical labour issued by the Central Committee of the Chinese Communist Party, periodic manual labour by the leading personnel of the Central Government and Party Centre will be made a permanent feature. From now on the leading cadres will go out to engage in manual labour at least two or three times a year.

"All of Us Are Ordinary Workers"

After their arrival at the site Pai Shou-kang, who is in charge of the Shasi section of the construction site, came

to assign the newcomers to their work. He said, "We welcome you leading comrades. . . ." Before he could finish, Premier Chou En-lai cut in, "No, we are no leading comrades here. Here we have no premier, no ministers or bureau heads. . . . Here all of us are ordinary workers." And Wang Chen, Minister of State Farms and Land



Chou En-lai hauling a cart on the night shift at the Ming Tombs Reservoir construction site

Photo by Liu Tung-ao

Reclamation, chimed in, "You, Comrade Pai, are our leading comrade here. We're your subordinates."

Speaking to both contingents before they started work, Chou En-lai said that the idea that the leading cadres should take part in physical labour was to create a social atmosphere of complete equality and co-operation between the leaders and the rank and file, with no division between them.

"While working hard to build a socialist society," he said, "we must at the same time create conditions for the great future of communism. One of the prerequisites of communist construction is that all members of society ardently love labour and combine manual and mental labour. We must set an example for others by our own work and endeavour to create such social habits."

They were organized into the Fourth Detachment of government cadre volunteer workers. They worked and lived like all the volunteer workers on the project. They ate together in the mess hall and slept on pallets on the ground in temporary hostels.

Every day at three in the afternoon, at the sound of the whistle, they left their camp and marched in close ranks eight *li* (roughly four kilometres) to the construction site. They worked on the dam till eleven at night. In the mood of all the workers on the project they chatted and joked on the way. It is customary for workers to greet each other on the roads leading to the construction sites. A column of workers coming back from work greets another on its way to work, with "*Lai-i-ko!*" meaning "C'mon sing a song for us." Contingents of young workers passing this detachment, which had an average age of 45, would teasingly shout "*Lai-i-ko, old generals!*" And the old ones would laughingly respond "*Lai-i-ko, yourselves, young fellows!*"

"Water-melons" and "Cantaloups"

On the first day, they transported rocks. Working in the blazing heat, they passed sun-scorched rocks up to the dam. They called out "Oop, a big water-melon for you!" as they passed a big, heavy one, and for a smaller one they cried "Here's a cantaloup!"

Premier Chou worked there for three days. Despite an injury to his right arm sustained when he fell from a horse in the early war years, he first worked at passing rocks, then helped transport materials and pulled handcarts. He insisted that he wanted to learn a little about every kind of work on the site. Vice-Premier Chen Yun distinguished himself as an expert handcart puller.

Wang Hsing-jang, Vice-Minister of the Second Ministry of Commerce, who had lost one of his arms in the early years of the revolution worked just as hard as anyone else. He carried stones with a shoulder pole and two baskets; he pulled the cart and used his single hand to load and unload the cart. Drenched in perspiration, he cracked jokes or hummed songs while working. People at the construction site called him their "one-armed hero." Another comrade who walked with a stick and insisted on going to the construction site on foot was Chang Yi-pai, Director of the Personnel Bureau under the State Council. Comrade Chang was badly wounded when he fought in the Northern Expeditionary War in Kiangsi in 1926. Having spent many years in Kuomintang prisons, he is



Leading cadres from the ministries and Communist Party moving rocks down the line at the reservoir

Photo by Chi Lien-po

now a disabled man who can hardly bend his knees. But here he was seen working as energetically as other able-bodied men.

Work at the Ming Tombs Reservoir is no child's play. Originally slated to be built in the Third Five-Year Plan (1963-67) the project was started early this year in the "big leap forward." Normally it would have taken several years to build the reservoir, one of the biggest in the country. But it is expected to be completed by the end of June. Tens of thousands of people are now working on it and the new detachment did more than hold its own on the job.

Targets Overfulfilled

The headquarters of the construction site at first assigned the contingent to collect and transport 260 cubic metres of stone in seven days. The assignment was fulfilled in two days. They were then assigned to collect another 320 cubic metres of stones and they overfulfilled the target by 48 per cent.

Hsi Chung-hsun, Secretary-General of the State Council who had worked on farms in the northwest when he was a boy, showed his skill in handling a wheel barrow. Lo Jui-ching, Minister of Public Security, always asked others to take it easy and heed the safety regulations but he himself ignored his own advice and worked like mad. Li Teh-chuan, Minister of Health, Chien Ying, Minister of Supervision, and Shih Liang, Minister of Justice, showed the others what women could contribute to the work.

Many of the volunteer builders were oldsters, like 72-year-old Chen Chi-yuan, Vice-Minister of Internal Affairs. Pan Chen-ya, Vice-Minister of Supervision and Chuang Hsi-chuan, Vice-Chairman of the Overseas Chinese Affairs Commission, both over 70, took offence when they were advised to take a little rest.

The following verses were posted by someone at the construction site in praise of the oldsters:

*The construction site buzzes with talk about the new Huang Chung**

*Carting the stubborn stones daily, lion-hearted,
Ruddy complexioned, silver haired, still strong in limb.
There are heroes a-plenty wherever you turn.*

Cultural Activities

Jung Kao-tang, Vice-Chairman of the Physical Culture and Sports Commission, who sponsored cultural activities at the construction site, entertained his fellow workers by reciting poems and singing folk songs. Shih Liang, Minister of Justice, mimicked cock-crowing and the mewling of cats before an audience of 300. Wang Chen, Minister of State Farms and Land Reclamation, who led the production campaign in Nanniwan in northern Shensi during the War of Resistance to Japanese Aggression, told stories which had the workers rocking with laughter.

* Huang Chung: a warrior of the Period of Three Kingdoms (A.D. 220-280), noted for his prowess even in old age.

Navigation

REVIVING THE GRAND CANAL

by YANG MIN

WORK has begun on reviving and modernizing China's world-famous Grand Canal. This unparalleled man-made waterway, running 1,700 kilometres from Peking to Hangchow south of the Yangtse, is a wonder of ancient Chinese engineering, matched only by the Great Wall. In disuse for a century, it will soon be made to serve the people.

The original plan called for expanding the canal's southern stretch during the Second Five-Year Plan (1958-62), but the peasants, having seen the excellent results from other water conservancy projects, pressed for the acceleration of the reconstruction of the whole Grand Canal. With the enthusiasm and help of the people the entire rebuilding work may be completed by 1962.

Dredging in Four Provinces

Under centralized planning, the dredging work is entrusted to the four provinces through which the canal runs. Each city or county along the waterway will be mainly responsible for repairing the sections in their localities.

Half of the Grand Canal flows through Kiangsu. Engineering work in this province alone will involve some 200 million cubic metres of earthwork, 9 big locks, 5 regulating locks, 2 big ports and many dock facilities. The first draft plan specifies that the channel will be at least 45 metres wide and 3.2 metres deep in most of the Kiangsu section.

In the morning, some got together to hold a meeting while others did some washing. Still others wrote poems and songs to record their experiences. Lien Kuan, Deputy Secretary General of the Standing Committee of the National People's Congress, wrote a poem of 104 lines!

Other builders of the reservoir in turn came to entertain the government and Party leaders with songs, dances and many other programmes.

Although they spent only seven days at the Ming Tombs construction site, many comrades felt they had learnt a great deal from their "course" at the "Ming Tombs University," and that they had a good report card in three subjects: labour, mind and health. Many of the leading comrades, of course, rose from the ranks of the labouring people and many had devoted most of their lives to the revolutionary struggles of the working people. But still as one of them aptly put it they "should go back to the furnace to be tempered again once in a while," so that they "will not get rusty." Leaders, in their opinion, must be ordinary workers and must share the feelings of the working people.

In addition to widening and deepening the canal, the project calls for the digging of a new canal between Peking and Tientsin and the linking of the canal with the Chientang River near Hangchow. By straightening some meandering sections, the Grand Canal will be shortened to 1,580 kilometres and thus made more efficient.

Completion of the project will enable through navigation on the whole canal. Now only part of the northern stretch is navigable by junks and the southern section by small steamships. Peking is completely cut off from the canal which actually starts from Tientsin today.

Five-River Linkup

The new canal will be linked with five important rivers—the Haiho, Yellow River, Huai, Yangtse and Chientang. Once joined, they will form a water-transport network covering more than half of China. Then, Peking will once again become an inland port and the capital will be connected with big cities like Shanghai, Hangchow, Wuhan, Chungking and Chengtu through both rail and water transport. 2,000-ton motor barges will be able to ply the entire route of the Grand Canal, and thus lessen the freight burden on the parallel Peking-Pukow Railway. Freight loads from many other trunk lines will be shared by the canal and its connecting rivers. Grain from Szechuan, one of China's biggest grain-producing provinces, will move to north China entirely by water. When the first phase of the Yellow River harnessing project is finished, by 1967, steamboats will link many port cities

along the river with ports on the canal.

In China, where most of the rivers run from west to east, a water route running from north to south acquires special political and economic significance. Herein lies the importance of the canal and the reason it was built and expanded during so many dynasties.

Historical Background

Though the present Grand Canal was built in 1292, its earliest section, the Han Kou, linking the Huai and the Yangtse, dates back 2,400 years. At the beginning of the Sui dynasty (581-618), the emperors faced two problems in consolidating their rule. First, the capital, then in central China, must retain tight control over the economically and culturally more advanced regions south of the Huai and the Yangtse. Taxes collected in kind had to be moved to Loyang, the then capital. Secondly, convenient transport was needed to move supplies to the key military post of Chochun (Peking) in the north. It was primarily because of these needs that the extensive canal system was built by the Sui rulers.

The Han Kou was first extended west to Changan (Sian) by using the Yellow River and other waterways. Emperor Yang-ti (605-616) further extended it to Hangchow, in the south, and ordered the digging of another branch from Loyang to Chochun. Millions of men and women were pressganged for the work, for months and even years, and tens of thousands died from hard labour. As for the monarch himself, he made repeated cruises along the canal with a retinue of thousands of barges and boats, requiring 80,000 to 90,000 pullers toiling along the banks.

From the seventh to twelfth centuries this canal played an important role in China's economic development and political unification. In the latter part of the Tang dynasty (618-907) the amount of grain transported by the canal to the capital, then Changan, ranged from 100,000 to 150,000 tons a year. When the capital moved to Kaifeng, in the earlier part of the Sung dynasty (960-1279), the load increased to 350,000 tons. Later the canal came under the control of the Sung government in the south and the Chin regime in the north, and silt began to fill its channel.

When the Yuan dynasty (1279-1368) was founded, there was an urgent need to build a canal linking the capital, Peking, with the wealthy regions south of the Yangtse. With the exception of a stretch in Shantung and a short section in the north, the canal used most of the Sui waterway. This is the route which is called the



Map by Yu Chun-min

Grand Canal today. But at that time the lack of water in a 200-kilometre stretch in Shantung prevented heavy boats from plying the canal and the Yuan government was forced to send the grain revenues by the longer sea route. The problem was solved in 1414 in the succeeding Ming dynasty.

Big Waterway Thoroughfare

For the next 400 years the canal became a big waterway thoroughfare and many of the wharves along its banks grew into flourishing towns. Tribute grain amounting to hundreds of thousands of tons was annually transported on this water route. Many emperors of the Ming and Ching (Manchu) dynasties made southern tours on the canal and each trip brought untold burdens to the people. In addition to the extra labour and money they were forced to donate for making the trips pleasant, their crops near the canal would be ruined by "human grasshoppers" — imperial guards who trampled the fields.

Navigation on the troublesome section in Shantung became difficult again in 1855 when the Yellow River changed its course and seriously damaged the locks and dykes there.

Gradually part of the tribute grain began to be paid in cash and the balance was moved by the sea in steamboats. At the turn of this century the Manchu dynasty discontinued transport of official grain by the canal and the waterway was completely neglected. The stretch north of the Yellow River in Shantung became silted up to the plain level and the canal was blocked.

In the past century neither the emperors, nor the warlords, nor the reactionary Kuomintang government did anything to revive it. Now the people are masters of their country and are tackling the job at top speed.

EDUCATION

Every Child Will Go to School

It now seems more than likely that the goal of universal primary school education will be reached in China much sooner than in the ten years originally envisaged. At the end of 1957, China had 63 per cent of its primary school age children in school, 64,590,000 in round numbers. But the wastelands of ignorance are being reclaimed at an increasingly rapid rate in China's villages; it is here that the bulk of those children live who are still not encompassed by the regular public school system. The Ministry of Education has just reported that an additional 16 million children in eighteen provinces entered primary school for the first time in the past three months and most of them joined new schools set up by the farm co-ops.

As a result of the initiative shown by the people in setting up schools wherever they can themselves, over 1,200 counties and municipalities (over half of the total number in the country) can now give primary school education to 90 to 98 per cent of their primary school age children. Schools are growing up, as the Chinese saying goes, like bamboo shoots after a shower. The latest figures show that between February and early June this year nine provinces — Kiangsu, Honan, Fukien, Hunan, Kiangsi, Heilungkiang, Chekiang, Kansu and Shansi — in that order reported reaching the goal of universal primary school education.

In 1949 when the country was liberated, only a quarter of the nation's primary school age children were getting an education. Within eight years no less than 240,000 new primary schools had been opened, making a grand total of 530,000. The 1957-1958 school year enrolment was 173 per cent more than the highest figure reached in pre-liberation days. It was still thought, however, that it would take ten years to introduce universal primary school education.

The events of the past half year have upset all previous calculations. The go-ahead spirit of the general line with its slogan of "more, faster, better and more economically" — has given a boost to education too. The need for education was never more sharply felt than now as China enters a new technical era. A popular saying among the peasants shows how they feel about it. "Co-operation is good," they say, "but we need education to make it work well. Tractors are as strong as iron bulls but they can't be driven without a knowledge of technique." Studying hard themselves now, they are keen to give their children the educational opportunities they themselves lacked in their youth. They have the wherewithal to provide it too. Most co-op farms today can muster the necessary funds to set up schools. There is no need to stress the increased awareness among the workers of the need for education, and, in industrial centres the trade unions have large funds available for cultural needs. This is the genesis of the many new schools set up in the last few months to supplement the state school system. Many, of course, are rather makeshift affairs. They are housed in the rooms attached to ancestral shrines, other

unoccupied public buildings, and spare rooms in private houses. Some have been built with materials contributed by the people. Co-op members volunteer labour and pitch in to contribute or help make desks, benches and other equipment. The previous expansion of education has provided a pool of teachers or potential teachers to draw on; this has been reinforced in many places by men demobbed from the army and intellectuals and government workers who have gone to work in the countryside.

Overhead expenses and teachers' salaries are mostly paid out of the modest tuition fees and subsidies from the co-ops' welfare funds.

These new rural schools link tuition with the needs of the farm and agricultural life in general. Senior classes get lessons in accounting and farm techniques.

In seven days in March this year Paipo Township of Yeucheng County, Honan, set up enough schools to give primary school education to every school-age child in the township. Following its example within the next two months no less than 37,400 new primary schools appeared in the province. This brought the number of primary school pupils to 7,230,000 children, or 95 per cent of those eligible for school in the province. This is only one example of the speed with which the people responded to the call to set up schools.

The West Hunan Autonomous Chou of the Tuchia and Miao Peoples before liberation had no educational system at all. Now more than 90 per cent of their primary school age children are in school.

The national and local educational authorities are also reviewing previous plans to speed up the expansion of primary school facilities and at the same time are doing all they can to help solve the problems that have cropped up with the growth of this vast number of new schools. To help provide more teachers they have set up additional spare time and correspondence schools for adults as prospective teachers; they are running short-term training classes and send out teams of consultants from the regular public school system to help the new schools and teachers organize classes and curriculums. Mutual help is arranged so that older schools help the new ones and the better equipped schools the less well equipped.

Much still remains to be done to put all these new schools properly on their feet — but the main part of the work has been done — the schools exist. On this basis the latest estimate is that the goal of universal primary school education can be reached in two or three years.



Classroom in the forest

Woodcut by Huang Yung-ju

CHINESE PRESS OPINION

New C.P.V. Withdrawal

Peking papers on June 25 frontpaged the announcement from the headquarters of the Chinese People's Volunteers that another 100,000 Volunteers will leave Korea by August 20. News of the new withdrawal came on the eighth anniversary of the U.S. war against Korea.

"The Korean War was the greatest military debacle in the history of American imperialism," declares a *Renmin Ribao* leader. "It exposed American imperialism before the world as a paper tiger. It made people see that it is not to be feared, that it can be defeated and that a nation fighting for its independence, freedom and national sovereignty is unconquerable. It also showed the world that when dealing with imperialist aggression, you must not show either weakness or fear but must hit back resolutely and courageously."

The editorial points out that while the Volunteers are leaving Korea, the United States still stubbornly refuses to withdraw its troops from south Korea. This shows who is working for peace and who is continuing to create tension.

Predicting that the U.S. will not for long be able to maintain its rule in south Korea at the point of the bayonet, *Renmin Ribao* declares: "The desire for peaceful national unification is just as strong in south Korea as it is in the north. American rule will meet with increasing opposition and resistance among the people of south Korea. In our world today, there is no cosy corner for colonialists. Washington's insistence on maintaining its colonial rule in south Korea and refusal to withdraw its forces will only expose it as the world's most reactionary and aggressive power."

Obstructing the Summit Talks

The three Western countries, and the United States in particular, are attempting to bury the summit conference even before it is held, declares *Renmin Ribao's* June 22 leader commenting on Prime Minister Khrushchov's latest letters to the United States and other Western countries.

While the Soviet Union has spared no efforts to get the conference convened, the three Western powers have tried desperately to prevent its convocation, the editorial says. This is reflected in the different approaches of the two sides in

dealing with procedural matters in preparation for the conference.

On January 8, the Soviet Union proposed convening a summit conference within two to three months, to be followed by a foreign ministers' conference. The Western powers, on the pretext of wanting "adequate preparations" proposed holding a foreign ministers' conference first, an obvious delaying tactic. But when the Soviet Union agreed to the holding of a foreign ministers' conference and proposed that it should meet in April to discuss the agenda, composition, date and place of the summit talks, the Western powers cooked up further pretexts. They insisted that matters of substance be discussed through diplomatic channels and at the foreign ministers' conference. Their proposal to hold talks on the diplomatic level before the foreign ministers' conference added one more obstacle. To remove Western excuses the Soviet Union finally agreed to their proposal for talks at the diplomatic level.

On the question of the agenda, the editorial says, the Western powers have also resorted to obstructive tactics. In accordance with the principle that summit talks should discuss those issues which can be settled, the Soviet Union accepted certain Western proposals and on May 5 put forward a twelve-point agenda. The list of questions on this agenda is designed to end the "cold war" and the nuclear armaments race and to expand economic and cultural exchanges between countries with different social systems.

The Western countries, however, evinced little interest in the Soviet proposals. They insisted on burdening the agenda with issues which are intended to intensify the "cold war." These include the so-called Eastern European situation which is nothing but a blatant slander and provocation against the socialist states of Eastern Europe. As to the question of German unification, this is clearly an issue for the German people themselves to decide.

The Soviet Union, the editorial stresses, has not limited its efforts to diplomatic talks for the convocation of a summit conference. It has also taken a series of measures to strengthen peace and ease international tension in order to create conditions favourable for its convocation. It and other Warsaw treaty powers are reducing their armed forces by 419,000 men in 1958, including 300,000 men of the Soviet armed forces. On March 31

the Soviet Union unilaterally discontinued nuclear weapons tests.

The imperialist countries, on the other hand, have not let up their arms drive. The United States has decided to set up nuclear warhead rocket launching ramps and atomic weapons depots on the territories of Britain, France, Italy and Turkey. The aggressive NATO bloc has decided to arm the West German army with atomic and rocket weapons. The United States and Britain are still carrying out large-scale nuclear weapons tests in the Pacific. Lately, Britain and the United States have been concentrating troops in the Mediterranean in readiness for armed intervention in Lebanon. These things show they are still determined to carry on their "positions of strength" policy in an attempt to extricate themselves from the economic crisis.



Reluctant climbers from the West
By Jack Chen

suppress national independence movements in Asia and Africa, and maintain their domination of the old world. They are doing everything they can to prevent the convocation of a summit conference because they fear the relaxation of international tension, the editorial concludes.

Kishi—Bar to Cultural Contacts

A *Renmin Ribao* leader on June 25 discusses why Kishi's hostility towards China cannot but affect cultural exchanges between China and Japan.

Kishi's policy has already come up against opposition among the Japanese people, the editorial says. To confuse Japanese public opinion and extricate himself from an embarrassing situation, Kishi is now trying to make out that it is the Chinese people who "entertain misunderstandings" about the Nagasaki flag incident, while his own government is all for cultural exchanges to promote mutual understanding between the peoples of the two countries.

Renmin Ribao warns that this is a smokescreen put up by Kishi to hide a new plot. Kishi calculates that if cultural contacts between the two peoples continue as usual while his policy of hostility towards China remains unchanged, he can claim that this is a sign of China's weakness and so find justification for being even more obdurate in his reactionary policy towards China. On the other hand, if cultural contacts between the two peoples are actually affected by his policy, he can then shift the blame to China, and stir up Japanese resentment against China.

The editorial is confident that this new Kishi manoeuvre will fool no one. The Japanese people, it says, can see from the facts of the past years that the Chinese people have always made and still make a distinction between militarists like Nobusuke Kishi and the Japanese people who wish to be on friendly terms with China. Even today, China has welcomed as sincere friends the visiting

THE PASSING SHOW

Cold War Hits the Zoo



U.S. zoos are eager to obtain specimens of the giant panda which can only be got from People's China, says *U.S. News and World Report*. Washington however has vetoed all such deals and denied entrance to this denizen of "Red China."



It'll Be Nicely Packaged Too

General William E. Creasy, head of the Chemical Corps of the U.S. Army, speaking before the Senate Armed Services Committee on chemical and biological warfare said that "there are several things that we'd like to work on and that have possibilities."

Dr. Leroy D. Fothergill, scientific adviser to this microbe army, was evidently referring to such "things" when he revealed on June 21 that germ warfare could be used effectively by planting germs in women's face powder, soft drinks, milk, drugs and biological products.

Germ laden face powder would be very dangerous, he said, because the germs would not only enter women's bodies through the pores but women would breathe toxic vapours.

Japanese Delegation of Calligraphers and the Tokubee Hanayagi Dance Troupe, both of which have expressed their opposition to Kishi's hostility to China and his "two Chinas" conspiracy.

However, the editorial points out, "the Kishi government's activities in the past few months have seriously undermined what was achieved in friendly contacts during the past few years through the joint efforts of the two peoples. Under these circumstances, it is impossible for the Chinese people to continue the methods of contact used in the past."

Renmin Ribao maintains that a determined struggle must be waged against Kishi's hostile policy towards China if the Chinese and Japanese peoples wish to realize their desire to promote friendly cultural exchanges. "It is our conviction," it says, "that our Japanese friends will understand that this struggle is being waged precisely to safeguard the vital interests of the Japanese people themselves, since to allow the Kishi government to realize its hidden imperialist ambitions will, in the first place, spell new disaster for the Japanese people."

British Fraud in Cyprus

"There'll be no sale for this colonialist fraud," says *Renmin Ribao's* commentary (June 21) on Whitehall's new plan for Cyprus.

By retaining all powers of defence and internal security in the hands of the British Governor, the new plan is in fact a rehash of the discredited "autonomy" proposals, the paper points out. It is unacceptable to Cypriots because it seeks to bypass the key question of self-determination. For this reason, Archbishop Makarios, the Cypriot national leader, and the Greek Government have already expressed their opposition to it.

The Turkish Government's demand for partition of the island into Greek and Turkish parts is completely impractical, the commentary says, because this would mean the uprooting of thousands upon thousands of families, and plunging the island into chaos. It would also sow the seeds of a protracted feud between the two nationalities.

"It is worth noting," the commentary points out, "that this idea was originally put about by the British and picked up by the Turkish Government. Now the British Government is using the unjustifiable Turkish stand to postpone a settlement of the Cyprus issue so that it can retain the island as a military base for suppression of national liberation movements in the Mediterranean area and so preserve its colonial interests there." As proof of this, the commentary points to the huge British military build-up in Cyprus now poised for armed intervention in Lebanon.

The United States, it warns, is also taking advantage of the current Cyprus situation. It is attempting to hold the island within the framework of NATO and so get it under U.S. control to expand its own colonial influence in the Mediterranean area.



Over to you, Mac!

Wang Le-tien in "Guangming Ribao"

CHINA AND THE WORLD

U.S.S.R. Helps the Leap Forward

Thousands of industrial enterprises throughout the Soviet Union are making special efforts to support China's "great leap forward" in production. Orders from China are being fulfilled ahead of time.

Workers in many Soviet factories are working round the clock to speed up production of equipment for such major construction projects as the integrated iron and steel works in Wuhan and Pao-tow, the Sanmen Gorge multiple-purpose water conservancy project, the Fengman Hydro-electric Power Plant and the Peking Heat and Power Plant. Many special measures have been introduced in these factories to ensure earlier delivery and special check-ups of machinery destined for China.

Workers of the Ural Electrical Equipment Plant undertook to complete a triblock chain hoist for the Wuhan Iron and Steel Works in June, instead of in the last quarter of the year as originally scheduled. The Ural Machine Plant will complete a 14-metre hanger for Wuhan's No. 1 blast furnace in August, although it got this order only in May. This plant is also making rolling and milling machines for the Wuhan works.

To help the Sanmen Gorge Power Station generate electricity in 1961, the first two turbines ordered for the project, each with a capacity of 137,500 kilowatts, will be ready and sent to China two years ahead of the original schedule.

Soviet designing offices helping to draw up designs for some of China's construction projects are also speeding up work. Soviet railway workers are doing their best to ensure quick deliveries to China. Equipment urgently needed in China is often shipped in special freight wagons coupled to express trains.

Chinese Brick Works for Mongolia

An automatic brick factory, designed and built by Chinese technicians and workers in the suburbs of Ulan Bator, was handed over to the Mongolian Government on June 23. It can produce 25 million bricks a year.

This factory is one of the major construction projects which China is building

for the Mongolian People's Republic under the economic and technical aid agreement signed between the two countries in 1956. This aid is being extended to Mongolia without charge. The plant with living quarters, a club, a school, crèches and other amenities for its workers took a year to build.

Together with the Soviet Union and other socialist countries, China is also helping Mongolia modernize Ulan Bator. A road network in and around the capital is under construction with Chinese assistance.

Sino-Soviet Scientific Co-operation

- Kuo Mo-jo, President of the Chinese Academy of Sciences, and Lee Ssu-kwang (J. S. Lee), the famous geologist, have been elected to membership of the U.S.S.R. Academy of Sciences' Departments of History and of Geology and Geography respectively.

- The Chinese Academy of Sciences recently received a gift of eighty telescopes from the U.S.S.R. Academy of Sciences. They will be used by observatories in various parts of China to keep track on the Soviet sputnik and for cosmic research.

- Over six hundred Chinese students will complete their studies in Soviet universities and return home this summer. Most of them have been specializing in technology.

- Fudan University in Shanghai has just received a welcome gift of scientific books from President Voroshilov of the U.S.S.R. The 2,500-odd volumes dealing with the natural and social sciences were presented by the Soviet Consul-General in Shanghai at a ceremony held in the university's newly-built library. President Voroshilov was a guest of the university during his visit to Shanghai last year.

- Radioactive isotope Cobalt-60, sent from the Soviet Union, is now being used for the first time by a Shanghai hospital for treatment of cancer patients.

- A joint Sino-Soviet team has begun a geological survey of an area of forty thousand square kilometres between the Great Khingan Mountains and the Argun River, which forms part of the Sino-Soviet border.

- Soviet researchers are making experiments in the use of an electronic "brain" to translate technical materials from Chinese into Russian.

Arab-Chinese Society

The Arab-Chinese Friendship Society was officially inaugurated in Cairo on June 23 at a ceremony presided over by its president, Minister of Religious

Foundations Ahmad Hassan El Bakouri. Leading members of the government and the Chinese Ambassador Chen Chia-kang attended the ceremony.

Speaking at the ceremony on behalf of President Nasser, Mohamed Abou Nosseir, Minister of Rural and Municipal Affairs for the Egyptian Region, wished the new society every success in strengthening the ties between the two peoples for their common welfare and happiness. The friendship between China and the United Arab Republic, he said, was firm and sincere; it emanated from the hearts of two peoples who had the most ancient civilizations in the world and shared common experiences in the struggle against imperialism.

The present society replaces the former Egypt-China Friendship Society. Branches of the society will be set up in the Syrian Region of the U.A.R. and the Yemen. It has an executive board of 23 members including six from the Syrian Region. Its four sections — economics, arts, education and youth — will carry on regular activities to promote Arab-Chinese friendship.

IN BRIEF

Chen Chia-kang, China's Ambassador to Cairo called on Premier Nkrumah of Ghana during the latter's recent state visit to the United Arab Republic. They discussed questions relating to the promotion of friendly relations and trade between the two countries.

* * *

A Cambodian Parliamentary Delegation headed by Sam Nhean, President of the Royal Council of Cambodia, arrived in Peking on June 27. It is en route to the Soviet Union and Czechoslovakia.

* * *

A Rumanian delegation led by Deputy Minister of Foreign Trade Ana Toma is in Peking to discuss Sino-Rumanian long-term trade arrangements.

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Wu Han, leader of the Chinese Theatrical and Dance Troupe participating in the Brussels International Drama Festival, was guest of honour at a dinner given by the Queen Mother Elizabeth of Belgium on June 23. In the course of the reception, the Queen asked many questions about construction work in China and expressed admiration for the leadership of Chairman Mao Tse-tung.

The troupe wound up its series of performances in the Belgian capital on June 19 and is now touring nearby cities.

* * *

The Chinese Red Cross has remitted ten thousand Swiss francs to the International Committee of the Red Cross as its donation for this year. This is the third consecutive year it has remitted this amount to the international organization.

SIDELIGHTS

101 Flowers. On June 27 the 100th of the "one hundred flowers" poems Kuo Mo-jo pledged to write was published on the cultural page of *Renmin Ribao*. In fact, he overfulfilled his pledge and wrote 101 poems, each of the first 100 dedicated to a flower and the last one dedicated to all the flowers not included in the first hundred. It all began in 1956 when the Chinese Communist Party's policy — let a hundred flowers bloom and a hundred schools of thought contend — was announced. Kuo Mo-jo said he would write a hundred flower poems. Three were completed on the spur of the moment. The job was left unfinished until the spring of this year when China made its "big leap." Kuo Mo-jo then made his own "big leap" and composed the rest of the "hundred-flower" poems in a matter of ten days, visiting the parks and well-known gardens in Peking to gather information for his flowers.

Record Wheat Yield. Vanguard Co-operative in Kucheng County, Hupeh Province, today holds the national record for per mou wheat production, with its 4,689 catties. Last week as we went to press Nantienchuang Co-operative in Hui County, in the north China province of Honan, was in the lead with 4,535 catties.

Forms of Address. Peasants used to address the cadres who had come to work on their farms by their official titles in town, such as "Minister Chang" or "Section Chief Li," etc. in the first days of their arrival. Then, as they got to know the newcomers better, they would change to the less formal "Comrade Chang" or "Comrade Li." A little later, as friendship developed, they would begin using the affectionate way of greeting people in China, in town and country alike — "Lao Chang" or "Lao Li" (Lao, in China, is a term expressing respect and affection). But the height of the peasants' feelings would be shown when they called the cadres "Brother Chang" or "Brother Li," an indication that they took them to be one of the family. These different greetings are a yardstick of the cadres' success in mixing with the peasants.

Copper Smelting Furnaces. Two thousand small copper smelting furnaces with an aggregate capacity of 150,000 tons yearly will be built in the next 12 months. The annual productive capacity of these small furnaces ranges from 50 to 100 tons of crude copper. Hopei Province alone

plans to produce 60,000 tons by traditional smelting methods. Other provinces which have achieved great success with traditional smelting methods are Szechuan, Yunnan, and Kweichow.

Blind Faith. "Toppling over old idols," or "getting rid of blind faith" can be heard everywhere in China these days. It is a reflection of the desire and determination of a liberated people to stand on its own feet again after decades of shackled initiative and frustration. "Blind faith" in old and outmoded ways of doing things, "blind faith" in all things foreign, notions that foreign countries have a



An engineer learns a lesson By Miao Ti

monopoly of the world's best things, are losing ground rapidly. At the Ministry of Chemical Industry a research institute asked for an emery-wheel. A top quality emery-wheel made in China was brought to the institute. The engineer there shook his head — home-made ones just wouldn't do, he said. He demanded one imported from abroad. Several days later he had one sent him. After testing it, he praised the thing to the sky. "Ah, I always say you can't beat an imported one." But it was the same made-in-China one that he had first rejected.

A New Angle in Home Decoration. Hsinhui, in Kwangtung Province, is known far and wide for its luscious sweet oranges. It has recently gained

an added reputation for its "beautify the home" services, at no cost to the housewives. In the county town there are two such "beautify the home" service groups — made up of architects, house painters, carpenters, metal repairmen, and junk collectors — who call at the homes to offer their services. They will redecorate your home, spruce up your furniture, and even make new chairs or bookcases for you with odd pieces of wood. The cost? It is covered by the junk you want them to take away. This new idea of giving services on an exchange basis has been so popular that a total of 47 such service groups have appeared in various parts of the county.

Iron Deposits in Kiangsi. Kiangsi, in south China, famed the world over for its tungsten, is also rich in iron ore reserves, according to a recent survey. In the central part of the province iron deposits estimated at 7,000 million tons have been discovered — enough to operate a giant iron and steel works with an annual capacity of 30 million tons for 50 to 60 years.

Publication News. If you want to keep informed about the publishing world in China you can do so with the new trade paper *Chupan Xiaoxi* (Publication Bulletin) which made its debut on June 15. Appearing regularly on the 5th, 10th and 25th of every month, it carries all the essential information on books published in China.

Professor Li Shih-mei. Li Shih-mei, the termite-killing expert from Canton (see *Peking Review*, No. 16), has received an offer from Chungshan University to become a professor in its biology department. Li recently won national fame with his highly effective way of exterminating white ants. His lectures and demonstrations drew crowds in all the major cities he visited — Peking, Shanghai, Hangchow, Nanking, etc. Li Shih-mei was never a university student, but his penetrating study of the life and habits of the termites and the methods he evolved to deal effectively with this specially harmful insect made him a top-notch expert.

Self-sufficiency in Textile Machinery. By the end of 1959 China will be able to produce all of the seven hundred or so kinds of textile machines and devices used in the countries with the most developed textile industries. At a recent national conference on textile machinery it was also decided to make China self-sufficient in textile machinery needed for the woollen, linen, silk and viscose fibre industries within three years.

BOOKS

Classical Drama

SELECTED PLAYS OF KUAN HAN-CHING

Foreign Languages Press. 238 pp.

This is a book that all lovers of Chinese literature will want to own. It sheds light on the development of the Chinese theatre, and the plays are small masterpieces. The English translation contains a foreword supplying facts which help the reader to understand why the late 13th and 14th centuries were the golden age of Chinese drama. During the Yuan dynasty, when China was ruled by the Mongols, the civil service examination system was abolished, and for almost the first time in Chinese history scholars ceased to be a privileged élite. Kuan Han-ching's experience as a dramatist was not unlike Shakespeare's. (See *Peking Review*, No. 13, May 27, 1958.) He wrote, directed and acted himself, and knew low life as well as high. His plays, consequently, are not the supremely poetic dramas later composed by scholars for the entertainment of scholars. They were written for ordinary townfolk. The plots are compact, the action fast, and the blend of pomp, bloodshed, pathos, human interest and clowning gives us a vivid picture of life in those stirring times.

The eight plays in this volume fall into three groups. *Snow in Midsummer*, *The Wife-Snatcher* and *The Butterfly Dream* have social conflict as their main theme. *Rescued by a Coquette*, *The Riverside Pavilion* and *The Jade Mirror-Stand* deal with love and marriage. *Lord Kuan Goes to the Feast* and *Death of the Winged-Tiger General* are historical plays.

Prefect Pao, who metes out justice in *The Wife-Snatcher* and *The Butterfly Dream*, is well known to all familiar with Peking opera. To generations of Chinese he has personified official probity. If not

for his intervention, these two plays might well have ended in tragedy like *Snow in Midsummer*, where the heroine was executed by an irresponsible prefect.

Tou Ngo in this tragedy is one of Kuan Han-ching's unforgettable heroines. A young widow who abides strictly by the feudal ethics subordinating women, she remains a filial daughter-in-law even when her foolish old mother-in-law insists on marrying again. To save her, she sacrifices herself; but she fights to the end against injustice, and will not rest quiet in her grave till she is avenged.

An equally lovable character, but a strong contrast to Tou Ngo, is shrewd, warm-hearted Chao Pan-erh, the singsong girl, in *Rescued by a Coquette*. She has a great fund of hard won worldly wisdom, and knows from bitter experience how difficult it is for singsong girls to marry "respectable men":

*We girls are roadside willows,
And good families will not take in
courtesans.*

She has learnt to be very suspicious of all men:

*All of them swear they will die before
they stop loving;
All of them break their word. . . .
All of them swear great oaths,
But like wind that brushes your ear
their vows are lost.*

These are complex, three-dimensional characters, alive to their finger-tips. Kuan Han-ching's brilliant characterization, combined with his realism, mastery of language and stagecraft, have made these plays live through the ages.

The historical dramas lose more in translation than the other plays, for they contain long passages of verse and many allusions to historical figures and events. They lose their emotional impact and entail a number of footnotes. The magnificent poetry of the original, and the music and pomp of great names, inevitably pale when rendered in another language. However, we approve the editors' inclusion of these plays. They are not only typical of one aspect of Kuan Han-ching's genius, but reveal a

facet of the Chinese character hitherto not sufficiently well known abroad.

The publication of these plays this year to celebrate the 700th anniversary of Kuan Han-ching's activity, is another important contribution the Foreign Languages Press has made towards introducing Chinese literature to foreign readers.

TU PIEN-PU

An Epic of the War of Liberation

DEFEND YENAN! By Tu Peng-cheng.
Foreign Languages Press. 406 pp.

Soon after its publication, *Defend Yen-an!* became one of the most widely-read novels. Now available in English, it is a good illustration of how the revolutionary civil war finds expression in contemporary Chinese writing.

In March 1947, massing troops ten times the number of the defending People's Liberation Army, Kuomintang troops advanced on Yen-an, headquarters of the Chinese Communist Party and symbol of the people's revolution.

Defend Yen-an! opens with a P.L.A. column rushing to relieve the besieged city. Before it gets there it is informed that Yen-an is to be evacuated. The men are stunned. They weep with rage. They want to fight. A battalion political instructor, shouting to make himself heard above their angry cries, explains to the First Company, through whose eyes we see most of the action of the novel:

It's not our strategy to cling to any one city or piece of ground. . . . Once we wipe out the enemy's armed forces, we'll be able to take Yen-an back—and we'll liberate Sian too. . . . Comrades, don't take it to heart, don't cry. Sharpen your bayonets instead, comrades, sharpen your bayonets. . . .

The P.L.A. men have an opportunity to fight soon enough. Within six days after withdrawing from Yen-an they put 4,000 enemy troops out of action at Chinghua Gorge, and capture large quantities of American equipment. They sing sarcastically:

*Chiang Kai-shek, our chief of supply,
Has sent us more guns from his U.S.
ally. . . .*

From then on it's one engagement after another, with the P.L.A. forces always outnumbered, always outclassed in weapons, but always winning, strengthening themselves with arms wrested from the enemy.

Tu Peng-cheng's P.L.A. fighters think and feel. He shows them as products of the old society which exploited them and of their new environment—a people's liberation army, with its camaraderie and ideals. The author draws flesh and blood characters, individ-



A series of stamps specially issued to mark the 700th anniversary of Kuan Han-ching's creative writings: his portrait and two wood-block prints from illustrations of a 1616 A.D. Ming edition of his plays

uals, differing from one another in temperament and personality. But they have a common denominator—their determination to destroy the vicious antiquated social system which has brought so much misery to them and their loved ones.

Most, like Ta-yung, Commander of First Company, whose peasant mother was tortured and killed by the landlord white guards, are tough and absolutely clear about what they are fighting for.

The author paints a striking picture of the remarkable combination of the democracy and discipline which made the P.L.A. famous. Everything is discussed and debated, from world affairs to personal behaviour. Previous engagements are analysed; pending ones are worked out in meticulous detail. "Communist leadership" is more than political under-

standing—it is exercised in the literal sense as well—with Communists leading the foremost ranks into battle.

Another highlight of the novel is its exposition of the intimate relationship between the P.L.A. and the people. The army helps the people with their farm work, protects them from enemy marauders, shares with them in time of need. The people, in turn, billet "their own soldiers" in their homes, fight by their side as guerrillas, and see to it that food supplies reach them even under the most trying conditions.

Tu Peng-cheng depicts his positive characters well. As a correspondent for Hsinhua News Agency in 1947, he went with the P.L.A. through north Shensi in all the campaigns he describes. In *Defend Yenani*, his first novel, he has caught the exuberant spirit of the P.L.A.

men and the earthy solidity of the local peasants. However, his portrayal of General Peng Teh-huai, then Commander-in-Chief of the Northwest Field Army of the P.L.A., seems a bit contrived in places.

The author is less successful with Kuomintang soldiers and officers, particularly the latter. He tends to caricature them, over-stressing their superficial idiosyncrasies and physical characteristics.

This is a big novel, splashed boldly upon the vast canvas of the loess highlands of north Shensi. In spite of its size, it moves quickly, impelled by the powerful emotions and irrepressible drive of the men to whom "Defend Yenani" becomes a rallying cry for winning the revolution, not just in northwest China, but throughout the land.

PO LI

WHAT'S ON IN PEKING

— Highlights of Current Entertainment, Exhibitions, etc. —

Programmes are subject to change. Where times are not listed consult theatre or daily press.

PEKING OPERA

▲ **KUAN HAN-CHING** Adapted from Tien Han's play (see "Theatre" column). Produced by the Fourth Troupe of the Peking Opera Company of Peking, and starring Chiang Tieh-lin and Wu Su-chiu.

July 2 Yuan En Szu Theatre

▲ **THE FEAST OF THE FIVE HEROES** A play by famous Yuan dynasty playwright Kuan Han-ching. It tells how a mother, living a wretched life as a landlord's servant, is reunited with her long-lost son who has become a famous general. Produced by the China Peking Opera Company.

July 4 Peking Theatre

PINGCHU OPERA

▲ **TING HSIANG** An exposure of the evils of the feudal marriage system. A lovely and good-hearted girl, maltreated and finally deserted by her ne'er-do-well husband, seeks relief in suicide. She is saved by a wood-cutter with whom she finds happiness. Produced by the Peking Pingchu Opera Company.

July 5 Minchu Theatre

WUSHIH OPERA

▲ **RED SEEDS** The story of the Kiangsu peasants' fight against their Kuomintang oppressors during the War of Liberation. Produced by the Kiangsu Wushih Opera Company now visiting Peking.

July 3 & 4 Changan Theatre

BALLET

▲ **SWAN LAKE** China's first full production of Tchaikovsky's ballet, performed by students of the Peking Ballet School.

July 1, 3, 7, 9, 10 Tienchiao Theatre

▲ **VAIN PRECAUTIONS** The ballet by P. Hertz produced with the help of V. I. Tsaplin, Merited Artist of the R.S.F.S.R., and performed by students of the Peking Ballet School.

July 6 & 8 Tienchiao Theatre

FOLK DANCES

▲ **CHINESE FOLK DANCES AND OTHER EASTERN DANCES** Presented by the Peking Ballet School.

July 2 & 4 Tienchiao Theatre

THEATRE

▲ **KUAN HAN-CHING** A play by Tien Han in commemoration of the 700th anniversary of the great 13th century playwright. This play shows the indomitable spirit of Kuan Han-ching as he struggles to overcome the difficulties that beset him while writing and staging his famous tragedy *Snow in Midsummer*. Produced by the Peking People's Art Theatre, and directed by Chiao Chu-yin and Ouyang Shan Tsun.

July 1-4 Capital Theatre

▲ **BALLAD OF THE MING TOMBS** Tien Han's latest, a play on the past, present and future of the great Ming Tombs Reservoir. Produced by the China Youth Art Theatre and directed by Chin Shan.

July 5-20 at Lao Tung Theatre inside Working People's Palace of Culture

▲ **THE "FEBRUARY 7" STORM** The China Railway Workers' Cultural Troupe's presentation of a play on the great "February 7" railway workers' strike in 1923.

July 1-7 People's Theatre

FILMS

▲ **HEROES OF THE UNDERGROUND** Feature film produced by the Changchun Film Studio about the revolutionary underground movement in Peking on the eve of its liberation.

July 4-8 Soviet Exhibition Centre Cinema, Hsin Chieh Kou, Chung Yano, Kwangan Men, Peking Workers' Club, Ta Hua, Chiao Tao Kou

▲ **FIFTEEN STRINGS OF CASH** Coloured screen version of the famous Kunchu opera. Produced by the Shanghai Film Studio.

July 1-3 Capital Theatre, Children's Cinema, Sheng Li

In the first week of July two documentaries, *On the Route of the Long March* and *A Single Spark Can Start a Prairie Fire*, will also be shown in celebration of July 1, the birthday of the Chinese Communist Party. Watch for times and dates in the daily papers.

EXHIBITIONS

▲ **NATIONAL SOCIAL WELFARE EXHIBITION** Shows how the aged, the disabled and dependents of revolutionary martyrs, are cared for and enabled to do useful work. Sponsored by the Ministry of Internal Affairs. Open till July 20, daily 8 a.m. - 6 p.m. at the Peihai Park.

▲ **INDUSTRIAL ART EXHIBITION** Sponsored by the Central Industrial Art School in Peking. Open daily 9 a.m. - 7 p.m. from

July 6-15 at the Art Gallery of the Artists' Union.

SPORTS

▲ **FOOTBALL MATCH** Peking Team vs. Peking Trade Union Council Team.

July 6, 5 p.m. at Peking Stadium

ACROBATICS

▲ **THE SHENYANG ACROBATIC TROUPE** Now in Peking.

Breath-taking feats on the flying trapeze, and other daring aerial performances.

Daily showings: 10 a.m., 1:30 & 7:30 p.m.

At Working People's Palace of Culture

CHESS

▲ **1958 PEKING WORKERS' HSIANG CHI CHAMPIONSHIPS** Every Sat. night 7:30, Sun. 2 p.m. and 7:30 p.m. at the chess room of the Working People's Palace of Culture. Spectators welcomed.

DANCING

At the open-air dance floors of the *Tao Jan Ting Park* and the *Chungshan Park*, every Sat. and Sun. night starting at 8 p.m. Band music. Tickets available at the door.

SUMMER RESORTS

— Inside the Summer Palace —

▲ **WAN SHOU SHAN HOTEL**—on the Dragon King Temple Island (Lung Wang Miao) in the middle of the Kunming Lake. Good Chinese and Western food. Chinese-style rooms with prices ranging from 3 to 7 yuan daily. Phone 29 extension 96 for reservations and further information.

RADIO CONCERTS

▲ **BROADCAST RECITAL** of the prize-winning performances at the 1958 Tchaikovsky International Piano and Violin Contest.

July 1, 9:20-10:20 p.m.

Peking People's Broadcasting Station

▲ **CHINESE MUSICAL INSTRUMENTS CONCERT**

July 2, 2:00-3:00 p.m.

Central People's Broadcasting Station

▲ **YELLOW RIVER CANTATA** by well-known Chinese composer Hsien Hsing-hai.

July 3, 3:50-4:30 p.m.

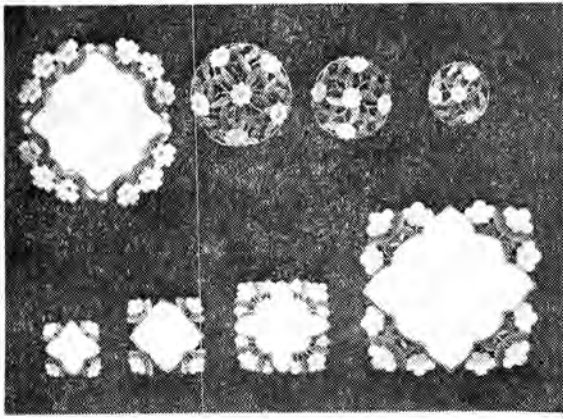
Peking People's Broadcasting Station

▲ **SUNDAY CONCERT**—State Symphony Orchestra of U.S.S.R. in Peking.

July 6, 8:30-9:30 a.m.

Central People's Broadcasting Station

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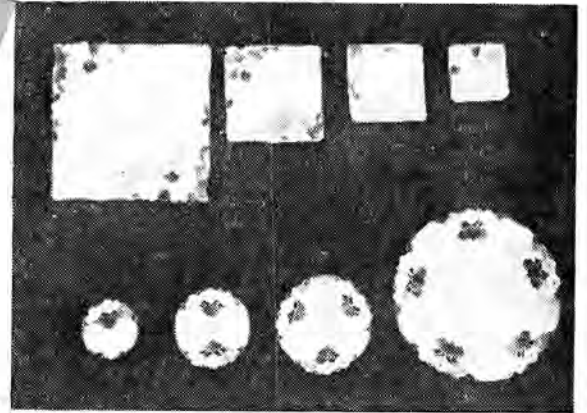
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