

May 19, 1959

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PEKING

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Relations Between Industry and Agriculture

A theoretical exposition of some aspects of the policy of "walking on two legs" in China's high-speed economic development (p. 6).

Spot News from Rural Communes

Interviews with leaders of three people's communes in Shantung, Szechuan and Sinkiang (p. 9).

Tibet: A Chronology

Major events from July 8, 1949 to May 6, 1959. Another feature in the *Peking Review* series of background articles on Tibet (p. 15).

Workers Write Factory Histories

The story of a mass cultural movement in Tientsin — how workers write histories of their factories (p. 13).

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Quelling the Rebellion in Tibet

A WEEKLY MAGAZINE OF CHINESE NEWS AND VIEWS



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PEKING REVIEW

北京周报

(BEIJING ZHOUBAO)

A WEEKLY MAGAZINE OF CHINESE
NEWS AND VIEWS

May 19, 1959 Vol. II No. 20

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The Big Push

THE nationwide campaign to increase production and practise economy, as we have reported in earlier issues, is going full steam ahead. Everywhere the push is on. It is a big push to boost up China's industrial and agricultural production.

In the countryside the communes are alive with activity to assure another good harvest. In the major wheat-growing provinces the winter wheat will be harvested in about a month and the peasants aren't leaving anything to chance. The slogan of the day is: "A little extra work for a little more harvest." They are working hard to make "every ear fuller, every grain fatter."

In Shantung, on the east coast, as well as its neighbouring provinces, the commune members are stepping up the manufacture of harvesters, reapers and other farm implements required for the summer harvest. In many places the sowing of summer crops closely follow the harvest of the winter wheat.

Peasants in Szechuan say they are out "to clean up a plot as soon as it turns yellow, to sow it to the full as soon as it is cleaned up." In the southern provinces where rice predominates, the peasants are competing in measures to make the early rice grow strong.

In the factories and mines, "red flag" emulation campaigns for higher production and better quality are in full swing. During the first ten days of this month, steel mills in Anshan, China's steel city in the northeast, and in Chungking on the Yangtse, chalked up new records in their average daily output, representing a substantial gain over the corresponding period of last month.

The campaign to increase production and practise economy is intended to tap the potentials to the full so as to turn out more and better goods at less costs. The emphasis of the campaign is on the technical revolution and technical innovation. Labour productivity is to be raised by improving the equipment and implements, reforming the working methods, the organization of labour and management, etc. Two weeks ago, the work team headed by Hao Fu in the Shansi Machine Tool Works, by reforming its techniques fulfilled its work quota far ahead of schedule. Improved tools and better working methods and organization have resulted in a remarkable rise in output in a great many factories and mines. Practical experience suggests that every progress made in technical revolution or technical innovation marks a step forward in developing China's industry and agriculture.

The 1959 state plan is a continuation of the big leap forward. The working people of China realize that the fulfilment of the plan will further increase the nation's material wealth and raise the living standards of the people. That is why they have thrown themselves into the campaign with vim and vigour. They are confident that their work in 1959 will do much to help make China a great socialist country with modern industry, modern agriculture and modern science and culture.

ROUND THE WEEK

GPPCC National Committee Meets

At its first plenary session held last Tuesday, the Standing Committee of the Third National Committee of the Chinese People's Political Consultative Conference discussed the structure of various offices of the National Committee and designated the officers of the leading posts. Chou En-lai, Chairman of the National Committee, presided over the meeting.

Kang Sheng, an alternate member of the Political Bureau of the Chinese Communist Party's Central Committee; Li Wei-han and Chen Shu-tung, both of whom are Vice-Chairmen of the Standing Committee of the National People's Congress; and Burhan Shahidi, President of the Chinese Islamic Association, who led a cultural delegation to Iraq which has just returned to China, were elected Vice-Chairmen of the National Committee. The following bodies have been set up under the National Committee: Study Committee, Local Work Committee, Editorial Committee for C.P.P.C.C. Publications, Secretariat, Liaison Committee, Records and Research Committee, and nine departments: international affairs, industry and commerce, culture and education, science and technology, medicine and public health, nationalities, overseas Chinese affairs, religious affairs, and women's activities.

Transforming the Tarim Basin

The vast tracts of land along the Tarim in Sinkiang, the longest inland river in west China, would still be untouched by civilization but for the undaunted spirit and sustained effort of the People's Liberation Army. For hundreds of years the Tarim Basin had been wild country, striking fear into those who dared come near it. The Tarim itself had always been a turbulent waterway, nicknamed "reinless horse" by the local Uighur people. In old China, when misrule was coupled with incompetence, it was a "reinless horse" which had to wait for its "rider."

The rider came—in the person of the reclamation and production detachments of the People's Liberation Army. In the summer of 1956 the first groups of officers and men of the Sinkiang garrison set out to conquer this wilderness. The following year the P.L.A. came in force, gun in one hand and pick and shovel in the other, proving themselves every inch the soldier and builder in one expected of them by the Communist Party. Conditions at first seemed beyond human endurance: short of water in the scalding

summer heat and without adequate shelter in the winter, not to mention the many difficulties of getting food supplies. But the army men stuck it out, determined to turn the wastelands into oases. By 1958 the Tarim River Basin had begun to fall in line with man's dictates.

The P.L.A. reclaimed 470,000 *mu* of land on the upper reaches of the Tarim River in 1958 alone, bringing the total reclaimed land to over 1.2 million *mu*, an impressive figure itself, considering the odds the army men had to face. Canals and reservoirs were built. On this wide expanse of land 17 mechanized farms and a jute plantation have been set up; the Tarim Basin is fast becoming a grain- and cotton-growing centre. The first crops harvested on the land reclaimed during the big leap forward last year gave the men some of their best yields, for example, record cabbages which weighed several kilogrammes each, and one as much as 14 kilogrammes.

Spring sowing is now in full swing in the Tarim Basin. This year the P.L.A. is concentrating on grain, cotton and edible oils. Livestock farming has also begun, although the new venture meant bringing the cattle a long way, from north of the Tianshan Mountains.

With so much of the land reclaimed, a motor road extending 135 kilometres and the first bridge across the Tarim have been built, a new town has arisen in yesterday's wilderness—Alar. In Alar today there are government offices, factories, shops, a hospital and clinic, schools, clubs, restaurants, etc. The P.L.A. farms here run their own newspapers and agro-technical schools and there is an agricultural college on the northern bank of the Tarim River to train technicians for all the farms.

Underground Water for Farming

Although China is rich in water resources for her agriculture, there are still some 200 million *mu* of cultivated land and about 1,000 million *mu* of pastureland which lack adequate surface watering, according to the Ministry of Agriculture. In these places the tapping of underground water is an essential solution. But even in places where there is an abundance of surface irrigation, the tapping of subterranean springs is important, if only to ensure regular irrigation in all weather conditions.

With this in view, the Ministry of Agriculture recently held a conference in

Shantung Province to review the work done in this field and to devise measures for further tapping underground water for irrigation. The conference disclosed that in 1958 a total of three million wells were sunk in the country and that total farmlands irrigated by water drawn from underground sources was increased to 18 times the area before liberation. This means that about one-third of the irrigated land in the country depends on subterranean water for irrigation.

The conference was attended by representatives from all over China who took the opportunity to exchange experiences. The deft use of water was one of the keys to increasing production last year. Take Shantung Province, the host to the conference, for example. Although rainfall last year here was nearly 50 per cent less than in previous years, it managed to double the output of grain, cotton and groundnuts over 1957, thanks to the utilization of underground water.

To enable all people's communes to make full use of underground water for farming, the conference laid emphasis on developing smaller projects. For one thing they are more economical to run and for another, easier to handle.

Meanwhile, factories in all parts of the country have been producing more irrigation equipment for the people's communes. Pumps and various kinds of engines for irrigation purposes running to some two-thirds of a million horsepower came off the assembly lines last month. Much of this will replace water-wheels and other non-mechanized means of lifting water, as part of the effort to accelerate the technical revolution in agriculture.

Tibetan Women Leaders

Gyaum Sonong Droma, the mother of Panchen Erdeni and a member of the Patriotic Women's Association in Shigatse, and Ngapo Tsierten Choga, Vice-Chairman of the Preparatory Committee of the Association of Patriotic Women of Tibet, and the wife of Ngapo Ngawang-Jigme, Vice-Chairman and Secretary-General of the Preparatory Committee for the Autonomous Region of Tibet, were received in Peking by President Tsai Chang and Vice-Presidents Teng Ying-chao and Kang Ke-ching of the National Women's Federation last Tuesday. Ngapo Tsierten Choga reported on the work of the women's organization in Lhasa. She said that with Communist Party leadership and the guidance of the National Women's Federation the Preparatory Committee for the Association of Patriotic Women of Tibet would actively develop all fields of work to help realize democratic reforms in Tibet.

Tsai Chang spoke on the principles which should guide women's work in Tibet and asked Ngapo Tsering Choga to act for Yashi Tsering Droma, the Chairman of the Women's Preparatory Committee, pending her return to China. Yashi Tsering Droma accompanied the Dalai Lama to India when he was abducted out of the country.

Builders of the New Tibet

At the Central Institute for Nationalities on the western outskirts of Peking more than a hundred Tibetan students are graduating this summer. They have become, and rightly so, the cynosure of the whole school, for these young men and women will soon be returning home to help build the democratic and socialist, new Tibet which today represents the ideal of the overwhelming majority of the Tibetan people.

When they left their homes a few years ago to come to Peking to study, Tibet was a region of social and economic stagnation dominated by reactionary serf-owners. Now they are going back to a Tibet in the throes of rebirth and reform which will eventually lead the Tibetans to enjoy a life of political and economic freedom like the rest of China. To wish them success, the teachers and fellow students splashed the walls of the classrooms and the dormitories with auspicious scarlet paper *dazibao*, written in all the languages of the two scores of nationalities represented at the institute, encouraging them to put their talents and training to the best use for the cause of the motherland. *Hata* were exchanged and the institute organized a grand valedictory party for the graduates.

Most of the graduates came from families of working people. Not a few of them were formerly serfs. Liberation delivered them from slavery and now with their education they are going back to the region of their birth to help others also attain their emancipation. A month or so ago when the armed rebellion, launched by some of the oppressors of these students, broke out they at once asked the school authorities to be allowed to take part in the effort to rebuild Tibet. Now their chance has come.

Since its founding in 1951, a total of 1,300 students of Tibetan nationality have been enrolled at the institute. About 400 of them have since graduated. Some have returned to Tibet to work while others have continued their studies in other institutes of higher learning in Peking, at the Peking Agricultural University and Peking Medical College, for example.

Meanwhile, in Lhasa, a new primary school, Lhasa No. 3, was opened a fortnight ago with more than 400 new pupils, mostly from families of workers,



Tibetan women sifting *qingke* barley

Woodcut in colour by Li Huang-min

shopkeepers, and other ordinary people. Quite a few of them are orphans. In days gone by reactionary members of the upper classes in Tibet could, and did, make it quite unpleasant for the ordinary people to try to send their children to school. With the quelling of the rebellion in Lhasa a great number of parents want to send their children to school. Lhasa No. 3 Primary School was set up to meet this demand. It is reported that another new school, Lhasa Primary School No. 4, will soon be opened to make education more easily available to the Lhasans.

Tiching Points the Way

Tiching is the name of one of the nine autonomous *chou* set up for compact Tibetan communities outside Tibet. Of these nine autonomous *chou*, two are in Szechuan Province, which lies to the east of Tibet; five are in Chinghai Province, to its north; and another one lies still further east, in Kansu Province. Tiching is in Yunnan Province, occupying the northern part that borders Szechuan Province and the Chamdo Area of Tibet.

An autonomous *chou* is an administrative sub-division inhabited by a compact national minority or several national minorities, larger than a county and smaller than a province. All of these Tibetan autonomous *chou* have prospered since the introduction of democratic reforms which did much to set free the productive forces of large numbers of former serfs. With the great energy born of the new freedom, the working people of these Tibetan autonomous *chou*, like people in other parts of the country, took giant strides forward in the big leap forward of 1958 too. Tiching is a case in point.

The Tiching Tibetan Autonomous *Chou* began its democratic reforms early last

year, in response to the demand of the peasants and herdsmen who form the great majority of the population. Tibetan toilers were given land to own, work on and support themselves. As free men, they worked with a purpose and will, giving their all to produce the biggest crops now that they could enjoy the fruits of their own labour. In their first harvest, output for the whole *chou* went up by 35 per cent in 1958, with an average income of some 760 *jin* of grain per person. This meant that for the first time every Tibetan had enough grain to last him the whole year.

When they learnt how their Han brothers in other parts of the province and various parts of the country raised production by forming mutual-aid teams first and co-operatives after receiving land, they followed suit. They have organized farm co-ops of the advanced type and even people's communes in some places.

Spring sowing began early this year and cotton is growing for the first time on 7,000 *mu* of land. The peasants are busy working on the fields planted to *qingke* barley and rice. In previous years more than half of the land was never fertilized; this year the peasants took great care to feed their land with enough water and manure. Instead of wooden ploughs they are using double-share ploughs, and like their Han brothers they have also adopted some of the key measures to raise production, such as deep ploughing and building water conservancy projects to irrigate their land.

New prosperity in agriculture has also brought industry to the Tibetans. Modest, small factories and mines have come into existence. And for the first time in their history Tibetans are producing iron, copper, lead, electricity, woollen and cotton fabrics, etc. and raising their standards of living.

The Relations Between Industry and Agriculture, and Heavy and Light Industry

by HSU LI-CHUN

COMRADE Mao Tse-tung says in *On Contradiction*: "All opposite elements are like this: because of certain conditions, they are on the one hand opposed to each other and on the other hand they are interconnected, interpenetrating, interpermeating and interdependent; this character is called identity. All contradictory aspects, because of certain conditions, are characterized by non-identity, hence they are spoken of as contradictory. But they are also characterized by identity, hence they are interconnected. When Lenin says that dialectics studies 'how the opposites can be and how they become identical,' he is referring to such a state of affairs." A study of the above passage is essential to an understanding of the "principle of walking on two legs."

Industry and agriculture are the two most important branches of the national economy. They are interdependent; social production is just impossible without either of them.

On the other hand, industry and agriculture are also contradictory to each other. In capitalist society this contradiction has manifested itself most acutely. Capital, Lenin said, has freed agriculture from the feudal system but "capitalism has not only failed to remove the contradiction between industry and agriculture; on the contrary, it has still further extended and sharpened it. Agriculture is being more and more borne down by the yoke of capital, which is formed primarily in the sphere of trade and industry." He also pointed out that "the development of agriculture lags behind that of industry. This is characteristic of all capitalist countries and is one of the most important causes of the disproportion in the development of the different branches of national economy, of crises, and of the high cost of living." And such a phenomenon is reflected in bourgeois economics. As Lenin noted: "The most common idea to be formed in bourgeois political economy . . . is that of *contrasting* industry with agriculture."

Under capitalism, the contrast between industry and agriculture, city and countryside, is a logical and inevitable phenomenon. Its economic basis, i.e. the private ownership of the means of production, is eliminated as soon as the socialist system is founded. However, it would be wrong to think that under socialism contradiction between industry and agriculture ceases to exist. Under socialism, this contradiction still exists although its nature is fundamentally different from that under capitalism. Under capitalism, where the city exploits the countryside and industry exploits agriculture, the contradictions between them are antagonistic in nature; whereas under

socialism, the city and countryside, industry and agriculture, are interdependent, giving impetus to each other, and their contradictions are not antagonistic in nature. That is because capitalist private ownership divides the producers of commodities, creates antagonism and competition between them and causes a state of anarchy, while socialist public ownership combines the production units in industry and agriculture into the integrated whole of a planned national economy so that they all serve a unified purpose.

HOW is it that under socialism industry and agriculture are interdependent and also stand in contradiction to each other?

Under socialism, generally speaking, the dependence of industry on agriculture is mainly manifest in the fact that industrial development calls for a supply of food from agriculture to the industrial population which is rapidly increasing and for a supply of raw materials from agriculture for industry which grows daily. The dependence of agriculture on industry is mainly manifest in the fact that industry is required to supply agriculture with technical equipment for the latter's mechanization and electrification, with chemical fertilizers, insecticides, etc. This is how industry, under socialism, makes agricultural development a condition for its own development and vice versa.

Contradictions between industry and agriculture can be manifest in many aspects. For instance, within a certain period of time, they come under public ownership and collective ownership respectively; the labour productivity of industry is high while that of agriculture is low, etc. Here we shall put the stress of our discussion on the contradiction between the tempo of industrial development and that of agricultural development, for it is only when this contradiction is correctly handled that we will be able to develop the social productive forces rapidly, and thus help bring about the solution of other contradictions most effectively.

From the metaphysical viewpoint or in the eyes of those who "prefer to walk on one leg alone," the tempo of industrial development and that of agricultural development, which are two opposites, are mutually exclusive or are opposed to each other. Since we are to develop industry rapidly, they maintain, we must devote as much manpower, material and financial resources as possible to industry, heavy industry in particular, and must even use funds indispensable to agricultural development to in-

crease accumulation for financing industrial advance. The result of doing this is that although there will be a fairly rapid development of industry within a short period of time, the supply of food and raw materials from agriculture will inevitably lag behind. In their opinion, the solution of the problems of a backward agriculture is possible only when industry is able to supply agriculture with large quantities of equipment for its mechanization. Hence the conclusion that the only way out is to develop industry still more rapidly. Those holding such a view, although they admit, in the abstract, the importance of agricultural development, actually think that for a considerable length of time agriculture will just have to remain backward, that is, it is possible to "walk on one leg alone." If things were done in their way, the development of agriculture and light industry would be very slow. This would not only affect the source of accumulation but also the raising of the people's living standards; in this connection, although heavy industry makes progress, actually it is not really rapid.

THE principle of "walking on two legs" is based on revolutionary dialectics. According to this principle, the tempo of industrial development and that of agricultural development are opposed to each other or are mutually exclusive but are also interpermeating. Since industry is the principal aspect of the contradiction, more manpower, material and financial resources should be devoted to it so as to facilitate its development as rapidly as possible. But we must not think that agricultural development is of no importance to industrial development, nor must we think that only industry stimulates agricultural progress and not vice versa. Industry and agriculture must be developed in proper proportion. Agricultural development not only ensures the supply of raw materials and food needed in industrial development but also accumulates more funds, and provides industry with a larger market, thereby pushing forward industrial development at a still quicker pace.

Especially noteworthy is the fact that in a country like ours, where the agricultural population numbers more than 500 million, the importance of agricultural development to industrial development is all the more obvious. In our country, the 500 million-odd peasants are the closest ally of the working class and are a very great force. This is so in the revolutionary struggles in the country and also in our struggles for economic construction. In order to successfully fulfil all the major political and economic tasks in our country, it is necessary to mobilize the initiative of this great ally fully. So long as agriculture in the country makes great progress, China's heavy industrial production (especially the production of agricultural machinery, chemical fertilizers, fuels, means of transport, building materials, etc.) and light industrial production, with the world's biggest domestic market at their disposal and powerfully backed by the world's biggest army of labour (including the supply of food, raw materials and funds accumulation), will also make very great progress. Events of the last few years, step by step, have borne out this truth. In 1953 and 1956, industry in our country registered remarkable increases. In 1953, total industrial output value, including that of the handicrafts, increased by 31.7 per cent; in 1956 by 31 per cent. In both cases

this growth was closely related to the bumper agricultural harvests in the year preceding each. The great leap forward in industry, agriculture and other fields of construction in our country was initiated by the big leap forward in agriculture in the winter of 1957 and the spring of 1958. The big leap forward in agriculture and the high tide of the founding of people's communes pushed forward the progress of industry at a still higher speed, and led to the great victory of doubling steel output in 1958, thus laying the foundation for a further big leap forward in industry and agriculture in the days to come. The principle of simultaneous development of industry and agriculture, i.e. the principle of "walking on two legs," is, therefore, intended to make full use of the impetus that industry and agriculture give to each other, to mobilize fully the initiative of the more than 500 million peasants in our country so as to ensure the progress of economic construction in the country at top speed.

This principle of the simultaneous development of industry and agriculture is applicable to the rural people's communes as well. If the importance of the industrialization of the communes is ignored, it will retard the tempo of the industrialization of the country; but if an excessive amount of manpower, material and financial resources is devoted to commune-run industry, it will impair agricultural development and, as a result, will in turn impair the very industrialization of the communes. Facts have borne out that only when there is a leap forward in agriculture will it be possible for the communes to transfer more manpower and funds from agriculture to industry.

The principle of the simultaneous development of industry and agriculture is based on giving priority to the development of heavy industry. Closely connected with this principle is the principle of the simultaneous development of heavy and light industries on the basis of giving priority to the development of heavy industry. These two principles have the following implications: First, in handling the relations between industry and agriculture, while ensuring their simultaneous development, it is necessary to see to it that industry will play the leading role; second, as far as industry is concerned, while ensuring the simultaneous development of heavy and light industries, it is necessary to see to it that heavy industry will play the leading role.

THESE two principles are closely connected with each other because, first of all, there is something common to the contradictions these two principles are to resolve—both are aimed at solving the question of how to fulfil the task of socialist economic construction in our country at a high speed, and also at solving the contradiction between speedy construction and the constant raising of the people's living standards. Secondly, because the development of light industry is inseparable from agricultural development, and in our country 80 per cent of the raw materials for light industry is derived from agriculture.

To give priority to the development of heavy industry is to ensure the priority increase of the production of capital goods so that the branch producing means of production (Department I) will grow faster than the branch producing consumer goods (Department II). The priority growth of Department I is the foundation for expanded

reproduction — this is an objective economic law. Only when more and better tools and raw materials are available is it possible for all productive branches to employ more up-to-date techniques, raise labour productivity and turn out more and better products. Without a great development of heavy industry, mechanization and electrification of agriculture is out of the question; similarly, full development of light industry will also be impossible since it is in no position to improve and increase its machinery.

But at the same time, we must not ignore the proportion that ought to be maintained between the development of production in Department I and Department II and develop the production of capital goods on an excessive scale and at too fast a speed. For this will make the production of consumer goods fail to increase correspondingly due to lack of manpower, material and financial resources or even cause it to drop and reduce the consumption level of the masses. This would result in people being unable to buy more consumer goods from the market with the amount of wages increased by the growth of production in Department I. In this case, the aim of socialist expanded reproduction, which is to raise the welfare of the entire working people, will be impaired and it will also be impossible to expand the production of capital goods further. Therefore, it is a mistake of one-sidedness to overstress the significance of heavy industry and ignore the significance of a proper development of light industry in the acceleration of the tempo of construction. In actual fact, the development of light industrial production can not only accumulate funds quickly, but, because of the increase in the output of consumer goods and the raising of the people's living standards, is also conducive to enhancing the enthusiasm of the masses in socialist construction. This is, of course, a very favourable factor in accelerating the tempo of construction.

Of course, if too much manpower, material and financial resources are devoted to the production of consumer goods, the magnitude of expanded reproduction will also be reduced, the tempo of industrial development retarded, and the development of the national economy as a whole will also be slowed down. This is incompatible with the desire of the whole population for a speedy fulfilment of socialist construction. In the last analysis, the aim of raising the welfare of the entire working people will also be impaired.

Production in Department I and Department II are, therefore, determined by each other; one-sided, excessive and too rapid a development of either of the two departments will lead to dislocation and destroy the proper proportion and finally lead in the opposite direction: instead of producing more, it will produce less and instead of a rapid development there will be a slow one.

THE problem is, therefore, to work out the proper proportion between the development of production in the two departments so as to ensure not only an expanded reproduction at high speed but also the constant raising of the people's living standards. That is the task that the principle of simultaneous development of heavy and light industries is to resolve. Here it is necessary to make correct use of the law of planned and proportionate development.

Naturally, the law of planned and proportionate development is by no means a fixed mathematical formula, for quite a few proportions allow a certain amount of flexibility and these relations of proportion *per se* also change with changes in the conditions of production. Besides, the level of political consciousness of the people is another important condition. When the political consciousness of the people is high and their labour drive is high, the target for increased production can also be made higher. Even when certain imbalances temporarily come to the fore in the course of implementing the advanced targets, as long as the masses summon up their drive to the utmost, a new balance can be easily and readily achieved. However, we must not thus underestimate the decisive significance of the law of planned and proportionate development. For if one thinks that man can do all the things he wishes and completely deny the objective nature of the law, one is prone to become a captive of idealism. In short, we must make correct use of this law if we are to really make rapid advance.

In capitalist countries, the contradiction between accumulation and consumption is antagonistic; capitalist expanded reproduction is carried out on the basis of ruthless exploitation of the working masses. Under capitalism, the proportion of development between industry and agriculture, heavy and light industries, is adjusted by a spontaneous process in the market; there, planned development is impossible. That is why all sorts of imbalances, upsets and crises are recurrent under capitalism. Planned and proportionate development is only possible under socialism. Therefore, the socialist system is the foundation on which it is possible for us to adopt the principle of "walking on two legs."

BY adopting the principle of "walking on two legs" in dealing with the relations between industry and agriculture, heavy and light industries, we are able to organize the great forces of 500 million-odd peasants in our country in socialist construction and, with the development of construction, constantly raise the people's living standards. In this way, we are able really to achieve our aim of getting greater, quicker, better and more economical results in building socialism. Contrariwise, by "walking on one leg alone," we will never fulfil this aim.

In short, in order to develop industry, it is necessary to develop agriculture simultaneously on the basis of giving priority to heavy industry. Developing agriculture thus means developing industry. In order to develop heavy industry, it is necessary to develop light industry properly and simultaneously. Developing light industry thus means developing heavy industry. In dealing with China's path to industrialization, Comrade Mao Tse-tung has mentioned these dialectical relations of development. "With the development of agriculture and light industry," he said, "heavy industry will be assured of its market and funds, and thus grow faster. Hence what may seem to be a slower pace of industrialization is actually not so, and indeed the tempo may even be quickened."

(Abridged translation of the second part of the article "On the Principle of Walking on Two Legs" published in "Hongqi," No. 6, 1959.)

Spot News from Rural Communes

by OUR CORRESPONDENT

MANY changes have taken place in the work and life of the people's communes since they were established last year. Deeper probing of the potentialities of this new form of social organization has further proved its vast capacity to increase production, with consequent improvements in members' lives. Many commune leaders were present as deputies to the National People's Congress at its recent session. I took the opportunity of asking three of them about recent developments. They gave enthusiastic answers.

Lu Hung-pin, a national model peasant and a deputy to the N.P.C. for a second term, spoke mainly about the advantages which the people's commune has over the agricultural co-op in increasing farm production. Lu first led a 6-household mutual-aid team in Chuhsien, Shantung Province, 11 years ago. The team later developed into a farm co-op, a collective farm, and then last July merged with other co-ops to form the Aiguo (Patriotic) People's Commune. Lu, now 48 years old, heads the commune. It has 10,500 households with 47,000 people and lies in the semi-mountainous area of southern Shantung Province. Before liberation yields on the present commune's farmland were so poor that they could not support the farmers trying to scrape a living on them. Many were leaving in despair for other areas.

Lu put down the start of the people's commune to the fact that "just like the switch over from the mutual-aid team to the farm co-op, the new organization was a direct development of the expanding productive forces on the farms. We needed more 'elbow room,' greater possibilities in harnessing together labour power, land and other natural resources. Without the people's commune I don't see how we could solve the problems of using the land more rationally, of diversifying our economy to include the sort of industrial production we have now and prepare for mechanization." I asked him to give some specific examples to illustrate his meaning.

New Production Possibilities

The Aiguo Commune was formed by merging 30 farm co-ops; it has 100,000 *mu* of land suitable for wheat, maize, *kaoliang* (sorghum), groundnuts and cotton. According to soil conditions it would have been better for one co-op to plant more cotton and another more groundnuts. But though the co-ops in general could roughly use most of their soil for the crops best suited to it, adherence to the principle of making the best use of every plot of land was not possible for them. Now, with unified commune management, this can be done.

For the same reason the commune has also been able to make big strides in afforestation. Two former co-ops,

which are now parts of the commune, had two-thirds of their land in terraced fields on mountain slopes. As co-ops, on their own, they planted grain crops on this land; the harvests were meagre. Their members knew quite well that the terraced fields could be better used to grow fruit trees, which can bring in a much higher income per *mu*, but it takes at least five years for orchards to start giving a return after saplings are planted. They couldn't afford to make the change. They didn't have the capital or reserves needed. Now, the commune has planted large numbers of apple, peach, pear and persimmon saplings as well as medicinal herbs on this land. With its bigger reserves, it can afford to wait for bigger returns on its investment.

The commune, with its pooled resources, has worked out an overall plan for the use of land suited for afforestation; tree nurseries have been created and the commune now has 250,000 fruit trees and over 300,000 timber trees.

The co-ops would also have liked to go in for pig-breeding in a big way but they found they didn't have enough people with the skill and veterinary knowledge to run large-scale piggeries. The commune, however, has been able to help its production brigades and teams to build a large number of pigsties. It has also trained over 60 persons in disease-prevention and artificial insemination to staff 9 veterinary stations. It has trebled the number of its pigs, from 4,000 to 12,000.

The people's commune has been able to push ahead water conservancy work on an even bigger scale than before. A long ditch has been dug. This flows through several former co-ops and carries water power to a dozen new water mills and three hydro-electric stations with a combined capacity of 100 kw. The electricity produced is used mainly to operate mills, pumps and machines. Hundreds of draught animals which were used to turn mills have been relieved for other jobs. The ditch also irrigates another 30,000 *mu*. This multiple-purpose project which stores water, irrigates, generates power and runs machines is a pioneer of similar future projects.

Before they fused into the commune, only one of the 30 co-ops had any industry to speak of. That co-op made only a few things like small farm tools, bricks and tiles, lime, etc. Now the Aiguo Commune has a machine

CHINESE WEIGHTS and MEASURES at a GLANCE

1 *mu* = 0.06 hectare or 0.1647 acre
1 *dan* (picul) = 0.05 ton or 0.984 hundredweight
1 *jin* = 0.5 kilogramme or 1.1023 pounds

repair plant and produces small machines. Among other industrial activities, it smelts iron, mines coal and makes its own cement.

After giving this glimpse of the production side of commune life, Lu Hung-pin touched on what it had given its members in the way of benefits.

Commune members get free meals in the community dining-rooms, while nurseries and kindergartens take care of the children. This freed a great number of women from most household chores and enabled them to take part in industrial and agricultural work. Commune members get a monthly wage and have two or three rest days each month. There are many kinds of recreations and club activities.

The Aiguo Commune made a big leap forward in 1958. Its average per-*mu* yield of food crops more than doubled that of the year before. Lu Hung-pin, however, was positive that this was only the start of the leap forward. Aiguo members, he said, are working for even bigger increases this year.

Welfare Amenities

Xinmin People's Commune is on the fertile Chengtu plain in Hsinfan County, in the southwestern province of Szechuan and it enjoys rather exceptional conditions, I was told by its young chairman, Lo Shih-fa. All its 22,500 *mu* of land are irrigated land. It could reap three crops a year but, for purposes of rotation, its chief crop, rice, is planted only twice a year. Its other crops are

rapeseed, wheat and sugar cane. It ploughs with its own six tractors.

Lo Shih-fa spoke with enthusiasm about the natural advantages the Xinmin Commune enjoyed, but he was at pains to impress on me that soil, climate and irrigation conditions were the same before liberation. It was only after liberation that as a result of the land reform, the co-op movement, and now the commune, the peasants really began to enjoy and enhance these benefits.

The commune vegetable gardens and rice-fields ensure adequate supplies for the community dining-rooms where members get their free meals. Nurseries and kindergartens are open to all children. As a result of these services and dining-rooms, two-fifths of the able-bodied women who could not take full-time work before are now working regularly at suitable jobs. Women members have four rest days each month, while their men colleagues get two. At childbirth a mother gets 50 days' paid maternity leave and specially nutritious food.

Eighteen doctors and medical workers of both the Western and traditional schools staff the communal hospital and the seven local clinics. The commune pays all medical expenses of members injured at work. In other cases, it defrays one-fifth of the members' expenses for medicines.

Doubling the average per-*mu* output of its paddyfields last year was one reason that enabled the Xinmin Commune to go ahead with its new housing project. It built 120 rooms, some flats and some two-storied buildings of brick and wood. The commune's hydro-electric power station gives them electric lighting.

A National Minority Commune

Mammat Hawul is a strongly built young Uighur, just turned thirty-one. He is a brigade leader in the Jiefang (Liberation) People's Commune in the westernmost part of China, Shufu County near Kashgar in the Sinkiang Uighur Autonomous Region. Both his grandfather and father toiled all their lives for the local landlords and they died without even a roof over their heads or an inch of soil of their own. He was orphaned at seven and there was nothing to do but to follow in his father's steps. For many years as he himself expressed it, he "worked like a serf." He was a shepherd looking after the landlord's sheep and goats. Liberation changed his whole life. He got land and a room. In 1952 he joined a mutual-aid team. Two years later, the team became a co-op and he was elected chairman. The co-op, which had expanded to embrace a thousand people and was of the advanced type—a collective farm, became one brigade of the Jiefang Commune when this was formed last year.

The commune has fertile soil; it grows wheat, rice, maize, cotton, sesame and many kinds of fruits such as the famous Hami melons, peaches, apricots, pears, apples and grapes. Mammat's brigade increased its grain output 70 per cent last year and its total income went up 85 per cent.

With such results Mammat was understandably excited about the possibilities of the commune system. "During the harvest and sowing last autumn," he said, "everyone who could do anything took part in the work. We gathered

Just off the press

The Rise of Chinese People's Communes

by Anna Louise Strong

The growth of people's communes in China has attracted worldwide attention. What are the facts? In this booklet Anna Louise Strong, the well-known American writer, gives an eye-witness account of various communes she visited in different parts of China. She relates how the people's communes first came into being, how they appear to her today and where they are going. The facts she cites can leave no reader in doubt about the vitality and the great meaning of this new form of social organization that has appeared in socialist China.

130 pages

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in the crops a whole month ahead of schedule. Wheat sowing called for much more work because of close planting and doubling the amount of fertilizer, but we got the whole job done by early October instead of November as was usual in the past. When we were a co-op, we ploughed only two-fifths of the land to a depth of 10 centimetres. Last year we ploughed all the land that needed to be ploughed to a depth of from 20 to 30 centimetres."

In addition to its farm work, the commune has set up many small industrial units including a lime kiln, a farm tool repair workshop and several workshops making chemical fertilizers by indigenous methods. Construction of three small hydro-electric stations will soon be completed. Most of the side-occupations done by women members are now on a permanent basis. They raise more poultry, breed silkworms, make flower hats for sale and so on.

The high-speed growth of production last year is already making itself felt in the cultural and technical



In a commune nursery

Woodcut by Tien Kun-ngo

fields. Mammat's commune has seven amateur song and dance groups, and several clubs and reading-rooms. It is preparing to establish agricultural and technical schools. It has regular primary schools and spare-time literacy classes.

"When I left for Peking to attend the National People's Congress," Mammat recalled, "my brigade members told me to tell the delegates about the happy life they are leading, to thank the Communist Party and Chairman Mao and give a pledge that they would work even harder to build socialism." He did just that in his speech to Congress.

Record Tree-Planting

More Forests, More Timber

by LI FANG

*Through cloud and fog to the mountain top,
Planting ash-trees in the new-dug earth,
Our trees will grow non-stop,
Three years — and the barren mountains will be clad
in mirth.*

— A new folk song of Shensi Province

A tremendous amount of afforestation has been done in China in the past nine years or so. This year the scale will be bigger than ever. By mid-April more than 230 million *mu* of land had been afforested and 26,500 million trees planted near houses, around villages and along roads and riverbanks. Many large tracts of barren mountains and wasteland were quickly planted with trees.

Big Leap in 1958

All this exceeded the pace of the work last year, which was already very high. In 1958, 400 million *mu* were afforested, twice as much as in the eight previous years, and apart from this 30,000 million additional trees were planted. The forward spurt was the result of the enthusiastic response of the whole people to the call of

the Communist Party last year to double China's forest area within a decade. In the Autonomous Chou for the Miao and Tung Peoples in Southeast Kweichow, surrounded by serried ranges of mountains, a million people turned out to afforest the barren slopes. Altogether 11 million *mu* of new forest were created, an average of 49 *mu* per household.

In the national effort to "turn the country green" the boundaries of people's communes and of counties and towns have been disregarded. In Hopei Province, more than 1.5 million people in the plains and semi-mountain areas went to help afforest the mountains.

The people, infused with a strong will to conquer nature, did many things that were once thought impossible. In Chitung County, Hunan Province, more than 20,000 *mu* of rocky mountains were afforested by using explosives to open holes in the rocks and filling them with good soil that had been hauled up.

China has 1,600 million *mu* of desert, mostly in the north and northwest, where the people had suffered for generations. The work of afforesting the desert too has

progressed greatly in recent years. Shelter belts planted in the western part of the northeast, Inner Mongolia, Shensi and Kansu have grown well, begun to hold back the shifting sands and reduced the damage from wind and sandstorms. Last year aircraft was successfully used to sow some desert areas in Kansu and north Shensi with plants which grow quickly in the desert and check the advance of the sands. A shelter belt of more than 1,600 kilometres is being planted in north Kansu, which adjoins the Tengri Desert. It passes sixteen cities, starting from Tunhuang and stretching eastward along the line of the Great Wall to Kulang County. The "Green Great Wall" which is taking shape will protect farms, villages, water-courses and roads from sandstorms.

The big leap in afforestation in 1958 was marked by a new development — the campaign for faster growth and higher yields. It used to be thought that Chinese firs would take 30 years to mature for felling. But in Kweichow, Fukien and Hunan it was found that they matured in ten or fifteen years if properly cultivated. Through careful cultivation, tea-oil trees (*Thea Oleosa*) too could produce increased amounts of oil per *mu*. This served to increase the people's confidence. A campaign for faster growth and higher yields was launched last year in various provinces in the south, in the cultivation of Chinese firs, *Phyllostachys Edulis* and tea-oil trees on a large scale. This was followed by successful cultivation, in the north, of fast-growing and high-yielding poplars, *Paulownia Fortunei*, larches and walnut trees.

In some places, for instance, a single walnut tree could yield 1,000 *jin*.

The experience of 1958 led to the summing up of six basic measures for afforestation: 1. planting the right species in the right places; 2. preparing the soil with great care; 3. sowing better seeds and fostering sturdy saplings; 4. planting at appropriately close distances; 5. nurturing and protecting the young stands; 6. reform of tools. Irrigation and fertilizer are also needed for fast growth and high yields. These measures, so important to speeding and bettering China's afforestation, are being widely practised this spring.

Lumbering Industry

Along with the big leap in afforestation, the lumbering industry also made a big stride forward last year. National timber production in 1958 increased 25.5 per cent over 1957. This big increase was due to the implementation of the policy of "walking on two legs." This means integrating all-round development of forests with exploitation of major forest areas; giving equal importance to state- and commune-run tree plantations; integration of manual labour with mechanization and of year-round with seasonal production in the lumbering industry.

To make full use of timber resources, energetic efforts have been made to utilize felling and processing waste to make fibre-board. Every ton of fibre-board saves 5.7 cubic metres of timber.

Forest by-products have also been fully used. For this purpose a mass movement to develop forest chemical industry has been launched in the mountain areas. Factories set up by people's communes in the mountain areas of Chekiang Province are producing aromatic oils, glucose, artificial silk and cotton.

With the area sown to farm crops gradually reduced as per-*mu* yields increase, more land will be available for afforestation. But as trees take years to mature, the job of afforestation, with the final goal of "making the land a garden," must be accelerated. This year's work of afforestation centres on the campaign for faster growth and higher yields. At the same time, afforestation of barren mountains, wasteland and deserts will be expedited. Felled areas will be replanted in time. All timber-deficient provinces, counties and people's communes will plant timber-yielding trees to rapidly achieve self-sufficiency and even a surplus of timber. They will also make energetic efforts to plant oil-bearing and other industrial-crop trees. More trees will be planted in residential areas, and along roads and rivers.

This year, in order to fill the growing needs of timber in economic construction, new forest areas will be exploited, in addition to those in the northeast, Inner Mongolia, the southwest and northwest, where lumbering is already going on. In central-south and east China, and some parts of the southwest, distant forests in many places will be pressed into service to meet local timber needs. Mechanization and semi-mechanization will be promoted in the state-run logging bases in major forest areas to speed the technical re-equipment of China's lumbering industry.



New sounds in the forest

Woodcut in colour by Huang Yung-yu

Workers Write Factory Histories

by CHUNG HO

Chinese workers in many factories and mines are beginning to write the histories of their enterprises. The idea is catching on throughout the country. Communes and army units too are recording their stories. The following describes how this movement got started in the port city of Tientsin and some of its initial results. — Ed.

TIENTSIN began the writing of its factory histories in the spring of last year. There was then a movement on to educate the workers in communist ideas. Many veteran workers described how they had been exploited and oppressed in the old society and how they had fought against their oppressors. The new workers who entered the factories only after the liberation and knew little about working-class life in the old days found these stories a useful education. This led the Communist Party Committee in Tientsin's textile industry to the idea of retelling these stories in the form of series of pictures which could be put up for exhibition.

The No. 3 Cotton Mill was the first to hold such an exhibition. It produced astonishing results. There was a greater feeling of unity between new and old workers. Absenteeism was reduced. The number of sub-standard products decreased. Seeing these results, other mills followed suit with like results.

The general response to these exhibitions was enthusiastic. The first day its exhibition went up in the No. 3 Mill, its organizers got scores of suggestions from workers to have the picture stories turned into written histories, plays and films. One letter said: "It helps to clean away the cobwebs in your head when you think of the past and compare it with the present." The old workers were even keener on the idea. One suggested: "Make it a rule for apprentices to study the mill's history the moment they come to the mill. Then they will know how workers suffered in the past."

Writing by the Masses

This was also the time when the movement for "writing by the masses" was being launched. When the Tientsin Branch of the Union of Chinese Writers heard of these exhibitions, it sent four editors of *New Harbour*, a literary monthly it published, to the No. 3 Cotton Mill to see if there was any possibility of organizing the workers to do some writing. This initiative immediately won the support of the Communist Party Committee of Tientsin and of the Union of Chinese Writers, and many factories got interested.

But who were to write these industrial histories? The conservative-minded immediately demanded: "Get us some writers quick!" This seemed the natural thing to do but on second thoughts it was obviously impractical. There just weren't enough professional writers to go around and even if there were, little acquainted as they are with the life and the past of the workers, the question of how they would do the job was still unanswered. Life itself solved this problem.

While the question of how to write the factory histories was still being discussed, a number of old workers visited the exhibitions and there on the spot recounted story after story to groups of interested listeners. One old worker, it was reported, had given a four-hour non-stop talk about the old days — and missed his supper. He said afterwards: "Three days and three nights wouldn't be enough for me to finish my memories of those days."

History Told by Its Makers

Here was history out of the mouths of its makers! The *New Harbour* magazine editors seized the opportunity with both hands. Later in an article they described their new method of work: "We tried to get the workers themselves to do as much of the writing as possible. Sometimes the more literate workers would put down on paper the stories told by the old workers. We ourselves naturally did all we could to study this material, help to arrange and select it, work out how to recount the stories in the most effective way and suggest what needed supplementing or checking. Finally we got together the narrators and those who did the writing for a general discussion of the work produced."

After further experiments, it became clear that to get a true and vivid record of the life and struggles of the workers it was essential to rely mainly on the workers themselves. The picture exhibitions have proved to be a most effective way of mobilizing the workers for this task. Starting with such exhibitions, many plants organized symposia of old workers, interviewed them and got them where possible to write down their reminiscences. A great deal of material and data was thus collected. On one occasion students in the night school of the No. 3 Cotton Mill were assigned in the composition class to write a story about the history of the mill. More than a thousand pieces were turned in within a short time. Not a few were vividly written. In other factories, workshops or work teams organized collective discussions and writing of reminiscences.

This of course did not mean that the assistance of qualified writers, editors, university students or others specially assigned to this work, was not needed. Experience has proved that those works which have both a high ideological and artistic level, are the products of the combined efforts of the workers and those with greater experience in writing and editing.

Since last summer, the practice of writing factory histories has spread throughout Tientsin. Today around a hundred industrial and mining enterprises are compiling their histories. Tens of thousands of people are taking part in this work — some doing the actual writing, with the great majority supplying the material. Some histories have already been published. These include the story of the bitter struggles of the longshoremen in the Tangku Harbour. Three more histories will be off the press very soon, including the history of the No. 3 Cotton Mill



"The Arrest of Revolutionary Workers," a page from the pictorial history of the Tientsin Locomotive Spare Parts Plant
A collective work by several workers

entitled *The Storm of 1925*, and that of the No. 5 Cotton Mill called *The Unconquered*. The former is in two parts. The first part tells of the plight of the workers, their struggles against the imperialists and the domestic reactionaries. The second part describes events after the liberation, especially the improvements in the conditions of the workers and the new spirit that inspired them after the rectification campaign in 1958. In similar vein *The Unconquered* has three sections: "Recalling the Days of Blood and Tears," "Struggles Under the Leadership of the Party," and "After the Liberation."

The form of compilation of these histories is not uniform. The history of the No. 3 Cotton Mill is written in a literary style, a compilation of essays, prose, feature writing and memoirs. In Peking, the already published *Draft History of the Mentoukou Coal Mine*, compiled by students of the Peking Teachers' University, and *Fifty Years of the Chingho Woollen Mill*, edited by the history students of Peking University, are both comprehensive accounts of the enterprises treated in a systematic, factual and theoretical way. Compared with the book of the No. 3 Mill in Tientsin, they present a fuller picture of the course of development of the enterprises, but they don't make such moving reading and lack its lively fund of anecdotes and language.

The writing of factory histories has yielded gratifying initial results. In the first place, it has helped to educate and unite the workers as well as to promote production. In this respect there can be no better example than the story of the longshoremen of the Tangku new harbour. These men were originally poor peasants, bankrupt urban petty bourgeoisie, tramps and paupers duped by the foreign firms and their agents to toil in the docks which the workers called "water prisons." They were kept under constant surveillance like slaves and were always on the verge of starvation. Their first spontaneous struggles were for the most elementary freedoms and bare existence. It was in the course of those struggles that they gradually matured into a united working class with a political consciousness. Later on, led by the underground organiza-

tions of the Communist Party, they organized large-scale strikes. They battled the armed agents of the British imperialists, defied the Japanese invaders and finally dealt with the feudal gang leaders who were the last of their oppressors. But in the past, even the workers who took part in those struggles weren't entirely clear about their significance. It was only after they began to write down the full story of their experiences that in discussions and informal talks they began to understand the past—and the present with a clearer insight, see better the course of their own growth and the meaning of working-class solidarity.

A rich pattern of human interest is unfolded in these histories. In the No. 3 Cotton Mill, during talks on its history, someone recalled an event of more than twenty years ago. At that time a leader in a strike, he was arrested and locked up by the management. One day the door to his cell was suddenly unlocked and he made his escape. He had never found out who was his rescuer. At this an old worker stood up and said: "It was me. I stole the key and opened the door for you!"

Two Different Destinies

Incident after incident presses home the contrast between the old and the new societies, between the different destinies of workers under capitalism and socialism. Wang Pei-yu, a woman worker of the No. 3 Cotton Mill, was fired three times during the Japanese occupation between 1937 and 1945 because of pregnancy. The third time she tied her stomach tightly so that it would not be observed and she could continue with her work. But finally the Japanese foreman noticed it and gave her a terrible beating. It was during the beating that the birth pangs began. Her third daughter was born, Li Hui-yun, who is now an outstanding worker of the same mill. Two generations, two destinies.

The writing of these factory histories is opening up a rich store of literary material. Although at the present stage they are still not polished enough to claim to be finished works of literature, they bring to socialist literature a deeper and more vivid knowledge of the men and women of the working class and of their lives in greater volume and range of experience than ever in the past. Since last winter more and more professional and amateur artists have begun to make use of this material for their creative writing and work, notably in art, drama and *qu yi* balladry. Tientsin has now published several picture-story books based on the factory histories, the modern drama *Red Trade Union*, the Pingju opera *Roaring Tide on the Pohai Sea* and the novel written in the traditional style *Riot at the Western Station*. All get their inspiration and facts from the same source. Other similarly based works are in process of production.

The writing of the factory histories has also produced a considerable number of worker-writers. Some of them are directly associated with the Tientsin Branch of the Union of Chinese Writers. Not a few of them show that they can write well right from the start. Politically and in production, they are also in the van. There are several women among them. Soviet experience has shown that the writing of factory histories is a good way to cultivate writers from among the ranks of the workers. It is quite possible that in the ranks of the worker-writers now engaged in compiling the factory histories of their enterprises, there are some outstanding talents that will come to maturity in the future.

TIBET: A Chronology of Events

July 8, 1949 — May 6, 1959

In previous issues, we have published much background material on Tibet. For the convenience of readers, we print below a chronology of events about Tibet between July 8, 1949, just before the founding of the People's Republic of China, and May 6, 1959. — Ed.

July 8, 1949 The Tibetan authorities in Lhasa, instigated by the imperialists, demand that the Kuomintang government office in Lhasa quit Tibet.

September 2, 1949 Hsinhua News Agency points out in a commentary that this action of the Lhasa authorities is designed to prevent the Tibetan people from attaining liberation at a time when the People's Liberation Army is about to liberate all China.

January 20, 1950 A Foreign Ministry spokesman points out that Tibet is the territory of the People's Republic of China and that the Central People's Government will not tolerate the Lhasa authorities' dispatch of a "good-will mission" to foreign countries and declaration of "independence."

May 9, 1950 Shirob Jaltso, Vice-Chairman of the Chinghai Provincial People's Government, makes a broadcast from Sian to the Dalai Lama in Tibet asking for the early dispatch of representatives to Peking for negotiations for the peaceful liberation of Tibet.

July 10, 1950 The Living Buddha Geda, Vice-Chairman of the Sikang Provincial People's Government, leaves Kantse for Tibet to work for the peaceful liberation of Tibet.

August 22, 1950 The Living Buddha Geda is poisoned to death by Robert Ford, secret agent of British imperialism, and his accomplices in Chamdo.

October 7, 1950 The People's Liberation Army crossing the Kinsha, Lantsang and Nu Rivers, begins its march into Tibet.

October 19, 1950 Chamdo liberated by the People's Liberation Army.

October 21, 1950 The Government of India sends a memorandum to the Government of China, claiming that the entrance of the P.L.A. into Tibet "will give those countries in the world which are unfriendly to China a handle for anti-Chinese propaganda at a crucial and delicate juncture in international affairs."

October 28, 1950 The Government of India sends a note to the Government of China, alleging that "... the invasion by Chinese troops of Tibet cannot but be regarded as deplorable. . . ."

October 30, 1950 The Chinese Government replies to the memorandum and note of the Indian Government of October 21 and 28, stating that "Tibet is an integral part

of Chinese territory, the problem of Tibet is entirely a domestic problem of China. The Chinese People's Liberation Army must enter Tibet, liberate the Tibetan people, and defend the frontiers of China."

November 1, 1950 The Indian Government sends a note to the Chinese Government in which it once more objects to the entry of the Chinese People's Liberation Army into Tibet.

Winter 1950 The pro-imperialist elements headed by the regent Tagcha abduct the Dalai Lama to Yatung in an attempt to carry him abroad.

November 16, 1950 The Central People's Government replies to the note of the Indian Government of November 1, 1950, reaffirming that Tibet is an integral part of China, that the problem of Tibet is entirely an internal problem of China and that no foreign intervention will be permitted.

February 1951 The regent Tagcha steps down. The Dalai Lama personally takes over power and sends a delegation, headed by Ngapo Ngawang-Jigme, to Peking for talks.

April 22, 1951 The delegation of the local government of Tibet headed by Ngapo Ngawang-Jigme arrives in Peking via Chungking and Sian.

April 26, 1951 Other members of the delegation of the local government of Tibet arrive in Peking via Hongkong after a lengthy stay in India.

April 27, 1951 Panchen Erdeni and officials of the Panchen Kanpo Conference Committee arrive in Peking.

April 29, 1951 Talks for the peaceful liberation of Tibet between the delegations of the Central People's Government and the local government of Tibet begin in Peking.

May 23, 1951 The Agreement of the Central People's Government and the Local Government of Tibet on Measures for the Peaceful Liberation of Tibet signed in Peking.

August 8, 1951 Chang Ching-wu, representative of the Central People's Government, arrives in Lhasa.

October 24, 1951 The Dalai Lama cables Chairman Mao Tse-tung expressing support for the Agreement on Measures for the Peaceful Liberation of Tibet.

October 26, 1951 People's Liberation Army units under Generals Chang Kuo-hua and Tan Kuan-san arrive in Lhasa.

February 10, 1952 The Tibet Military Area Command of the People's Liberation Army formally established, with Chang Kuo-hua as Commander; Ngapo Ngawang-Jigme, First Deputy-Commander; Phuntsog Rabgyae, Second



Tibetans listening to a Peking broadcast Woodcut by Liu Kuang

Deputy-Commander; Chang Ping-kuei, Third Deputy-Commander; and Tan Kuan-san, Political Commissar.

February 22, 1952 Lhasa office of the People's Bank of China formally opens for business.

April 1, 1952 Sitzub Lokongwa Tsewong-routen, Lozong Tsashi and others get together the so-called "people's conference" to demand the withdrawal of the People's Liberation Army from Tibet. They instigate armed riots in which the Tibetan local troops surround the residence of the Central People's Government's representative in Tibet.

April 27, 1952 The local government of Tibet, in compliance with the resolute demand of representative Chang Ching-wu, removes Lokongwa Tsewong-routen and Lozong Tsashi from their posts.

April 28, 1952 Panchen Erdeni and all members of the Panchen Kanpo Conference Committee arrive in Lhasa. Panchen Erdeni meets the Dalai Lama in the Potala Palace.

May 1, 1952 The Dalai Lama issues a proclamation dissolving the so-called "people's conference," which thereafter goes underground until March 1959.

May 22, 1952 On behalf of the People's Bank of China, the political department of the advance detachment of the People's Liberation Army in Tibet issues interest-free loans for the first time in the Tibet region.

August 1, 1952 Tibet's first experimental farm—the "August First" Farm—established in the Lhasa River valley.

August 15, 1952 The Lhasa Primary School and a preparatory class for the middle school formally opened.

September 8, 1952 The Lhasa People's Hospital established.

January 5, 1953 The Training Class for Agricultural Technical Cadres run by the Tibet Military Area Command of the People's Liberation Army opened.

May 1, 1953 Ceremony marking the beginning of construction of the Chinghai-Tibet Highway held at Huanghoyen in Chinghai Province.

August 25, 1953 The Medical Corps sent by the Ministry of Public Health arrives in Lhasa.

April 29, 1954 The Agreement on Trade and Intercourse Between the Tibet Region of China and India signed. In this agreement, the five principles for peaceful coexistence are formally put forward for the first time.

September 4, 1954 The Dalai Lama and Panchen Erdeni arrive in Peking to attend the First Session of the First National People's Congress.

September 27, 1954 The Dalai Lama elected a vice-chairman of the Standing Committee of the First National People's Congress; Panchen Erdeni elected a member of the Standing Committee.

December 25, 1954 The Sikang-Tibet and Chinghai-Tibet Highways formally opened to traffic.

March 9, 1955 The State Council adopts the Decision on the Establishment of the Preparatory Committee for the Autonomous Region of Tibet and decides to appoint the Dalai Lama as Chairman; Panchen Erdeni, First Vice-Chairman; Chang Kuo-hua, Second Vice-Chairman; and Ngapo Ngawang-Jigme, Secretary-General of the Preparatory Committee. It also adopts the Decision on Assistance to the Tibet Region for the Building of Construction Projects and other decisions.

Summer 1955 The reactionary clique of the upper social strata in Tibet instigates the Khamba people to start a rebellion when the Dalai Lama is on his way back to Lhasa. The rebellion is put down rapidly.

June 29, 1955 The Dalai Lama returns to Lhasa.

September 20, 1955 The Preparatory Office of the Preparatory Committee for the Autonomous Region of Tibet established in Lhasa with Ngapo Ngawang-Jigme as director.

November 23, 1955 The Tibet Bureau of Communications of the Ministry of Communications formally established in Lhasa.

December 25, 1955 Panchen Erdeni elected a vice-chairman of the Second National Committee of the Chinese People's Political Consultative Conference.

April 22, 1956 The Preparatory Committee for the Autonomous Region of Tibet formally declared established in Lhasa. Chen Yi, Vice-Premier of the State Council and leader of the Delegation of the Central People's Government, reads the order of the State Council and gives the seal to the Dalai Lama on behalf of the State Council.

June 29, 1956 The first thermal power plant in Shigatse begins operation.

July 14, 1956 The Tibet Bureau of Geology starts work.

July 25, 1956 Tea prices lowered throughout Tibet.

September 20, 1956 The Agreement to Maintain the Friendly Relations Between the People's Republic of China and the Kingdom of Nepal and on Trade and Intercourse Between the Tibet Region of China and Nepal signed in Katmandu.

September 21, 1956 The Lhasa Middle School—the first in Tibet—opens.

October 13, 1956 Construction of a geophysical observatory starts in the suburbs of Lhasa.

December 1, 1956 The Lhasa Hydro-electric Power Station starts to supply electricity.

January 22-28, 1957 The Preparatory Committee for the Autonomous Region of Tibet calls the first regional conference on agriculture, forestry and animal husbandry.

February 7, 1957 Chairman Mao Tse-tung, in his speech "On the Correct Handling of Contradictions Among the People," delivered at the Eleventh Session (Enlarged) of the Supreme State Conference, points out that "because conditions in Tibet are not ripe, democratic reforms have not yet been carried out there. . . . It has now been decided not to proceed with democratic reform in Tibet during the period of the Second Five-Year Plan, and we can only decide whether it will be done in the period of the Third Five-Year Plan in the light of the situation obtaining at that time."

April 15, 1957 The Lhasa Automobile Repair Plant goes into operation.

October 6, 1957 The 1,179-kilometre Sinkiang-Tibet Highway, the highest in the world, completed.

May and June 1958 On the instructions of the local government of Tibet and the reactionary clique of the upper social strata, the rebel bandits attack the Chamdo, Dinching, Nagchuka and Loka areas; they openly establish "bases" in the Loka area, prepare air-drop grounds in the vicinity of Cheku Dzong for the parachuting in of supplies by the imperialists and the Chiang Kai-shek clique.

February 25, 1959 Tea prices lowered for the second time throughout Tibet.

March 10, 1959 The local government of Tibet and the reactionary clique of the upper social strata, in collusion with imperialism, start armed rebellion in Lhasa.

March 17, 1959 The Dalai Lama carried off by force from Lhasa by the reactionary elements.

March 20, 1959 The Tibetan rebel clique launches a general attack against the People's Liberation Army garrison in Lhasa.

Units of the Tibet Military Area Command of the People's Liberation Army ordered to put down the rebellion.

The Tibet Military Area Command of the Chinese People's Liberation Army issues a proclamation calling on all the people in Tibet, ecclesiastical and secular, to help the P.L.A. put down the rebellion.

March 22, 1959 Units of the Tibet Military Area Command of the People's Liberation Army utterly rout the rebel bandits in the city of Lhasa.

March 23, 1959 The Military Control Commission in Lhasa formally established.

March 28, 1959 The State Council issues an order enjoining the Tibet Military Area Command of the People's Liberation Army to put down the rebellion thoroughly; dissolving the local government of Tibet and handing over its functions and powers to the Preparatory Committee for the Autonomous Region of Tibet; directing that during the time when the Dalai Lama is held under duress,

Panchen Erdeni shall act as Chairman of the Preparatory Committee; appointing Pebala Choliehamje Vice-Chairman and Ngapo Ngawang-Jigme Vice-Chairman and Secretary-General of the Preparatory Committee; dismissing 18 traitors from their posts as members of the Preparatory Committee and from all their other posts and directing that they be duly punished according to law.

Hsinhua News Agency issues the "Communique on Rebellion in Tibet." (*Peking Review*, No. 13, 1959.)

March 30, 1959 *Renmin Ribao* (People's Daily) publishes three letters from the Dalai Lama to General Tan Kuan-san, acting representative of the Central People's Government in Tibet and political commissar of the Tibet Military Area Command, written between March 11 and 16. (*Peking Review*, No. 15, 1959.)

Panchen Erdeni addresses a mass rally in Shigatse calling on all Tibetans to assist the People's Government to put down the rebellion thoroughly.

March 31, 1959 The Dalai Lama is carried under duress into India by the rebels.

April 5, 1959 Panchen Erdeni arrives in Lhasa to perform his duties as Acting Chairman of the Preparatory Committee for the Autonomous Region of Tibet.

April 8, 1959 The Preparatory Committee for the Autonomous Region of Tibet holds its first plenary meeting since it took over the functions and powers of the local government of Tibet.

April 18, 1959 At the First Session of the Second National People's Congress held in Peking, Premier Chou En-lai discusses the rebellion in Tibet in his "Report on the Work of the Government" and explains the policy of the Central People's Government in regard to the Tibet region. (*Peking Review*, No. 16, 1959.)

April 20, 1959 Hsinhua News Agency releases a commentary by its political reporter "On the So-called 'Statement of the Dalai Lama.'" (Supplement to *Peking Review*, No. 16, 1959.)

April 27, 1959 The Dalai Lama and Panchen Erdeni elected Vice-Chairmen of the Standing Committee of the Second National People's Congress.

April 28, 1959 The First Session of the Second National People's Congress adopts the Resolution on the Question of Tibet. (*Peking Review*, No. 17, 1959.)

April 22-29, 1959 People's deputies speaking at the First Session of the Second National People's Congress and members of the Third National Committee of the Chinese People's Political Consultative Conference at its first session denounce the crimes of the Tibetan rebel clique, fully support the policy of the Central People's Government in dealing with the rebellion in Tibet and protest against interference in China's internal affairs by the imperialists and Indian expansionists. They declare that all schemes to separate Tibet from China will be defeated.

They were voicing the sentiments expressed by people of all nationalities of the country at meetings and in letters to the press.

May 6, 1959 *Renmin Ribao* publishes a commentary by its editorial department entitled "The Revolution in Tibet and Nehru's Philosophy." (*Peking Review*, No. 19, 1959.)

Camera Eye in Tibet

Quelling the Rebellion in Tibet, a documentary produced by the Central News-reel and Documentary Film Studio, has been drawing packed houses in over twenty of Peking's cinemas since its premiere on May 10. The first three days alone showed a record attendance of over 320,000 people.

Filmed by cameramen who went into the thick of the fray, it gives a first-hand picture of the course and end of the traitorous rebellion started by a handful of serf-owning reactionaries. Plunging straight into events it runs a little over thirty minutes. The rebel leaders worked hand in glove with certain foreign imperialist and reactionary circles and emigre traitors. Several stills of these are shown. One of them is Lokongwa Tsewong-ruten, the former acting *situb* of Tibet, who was engaging in rebel activities at Kalimpong in India. The film screens documentary evidence of these links between the rebels and their foreign backers. An order captured by the P.L.A. during the Khamba rebellion in 1955 makes no bones about the fact that the rebel troops were receiving food, equipment and military supplies from foreign countries as well as the Chiang Kai-shek clique in Taiwan. We also see screened copies of the *Sin Tao Jih Pao*, a reactionary Chinese language daily in Hongkong, which four days before the rebellion started in Lhasa carried a report from Calcutta to the effect that the Tibetan army would soon launch an all-out attack on the "Communist troops."

Then we see rebel notices posted up and the conscription order issued by the

so-called "Independent State of Tibet" ordering all Tibetans from the age of sixteen to sixty to enlist in the rebel army. We see straggling lines of women on a road. A well-dressed militant shouts raucously with raised fist. This was the "demonstration" of women — much touted in the reactionary press abroad — who had mostly been deceived or forced by the rebels to parade against the central authorities. This was followed by another rebel show of strength — a march of rebel troops fully armed. All this was before the rebels started their general attack. It clearly shows the restraint exercised by the Central People's Government, a restraint that contrasts with the vindictiveness of the rebels. Once they got going they ran amok. We see the smoke-blackened ruins of the new houses of Central Government cadres, the newspaper office and transport office which were their first targets, the telephone lines they pulled down and the roads they ripped up. We see Tibetans mutilated by having their eyes gouged out for helping the P.L.A. A cameraman was able to take pictures of the rebels actually building their fortifications around the Norbu Lingka where the Dalai Lama was held. The recited words of the Dalai Lama in his three messages written at the time to the representative of the Central People's Government make a dramatic commentary to these grim scenes.

As events move to a climax, we see many Tibetans coming to seek shelter in the buildings of the Preparatory Committee for the Autonomous Region of Tibet.

It was seven hours after the rebels launched their general attack that the people's forces counter-attacked on March 20. The camera takes us with a P.L.A.

unit in the storming of a rebel position. The captured rebels make an incongruous picture: they bear foreign arms; some even wear old British uniforms. Their leaders are identified as some of the biggest serf-owners.

The lie that the rebels were "protecting religion" is eloquently disposed off by shots of the wilfully gutted remains of the mosque in Lhasa, the arms stored by rebel ecclesiastics beneath the altars of the Daipung and other monasteries, the artillery concealed on a temple roof, and the lamas conscripted and captured with their arms.

The latter part of the film shows Lhasa's quick change after the two days it took to crush the rebellion. Rebuilding of what had been damaged is under way. There is no mistaking the joy of the common people: the smiles of serfs discussing the coming reforms that will free them. There is the brightness of the future in the keen faces of the children who have gone back to school with many more who were formerly prevented from getting a modern education. We see a group of serfs irrepressibly happy, their yaks gaily decorated, tilling land whose crops will be theirs for the first time in centuries. The film closes on the mass victory rally of over twenty thousand Tibetans on the square in front of the glorious Potala. Their banners demonstrate their support for the Central People's Government and their determination to press ahead in building their new life. Seen in stark contrast with that previous "demonstration" of driven serfs, this is the real Tibet of the people and those among the upper classes who stand by them and by the future.

One of these closing shots shows Panchen Erdeni and General Chang Kuo-hua



Muslims in Lhasa clearing the ruins of their mosque burnt by the rebels



At the victory rally in Lhasa

Stills from "Quelling the Rebellion in Tibet"

of the P.L.A. in Tibet, raising their hands in a unanimous vote at a meeting of the Preparatory Committee for the Tibetan Autonomous Region. This symbolizes that unity in which Tibet now advances.

BOOKS

Selected Works of Lu Hsun, Vol. III
Foreign Languages Press, 344 pp.

The third volume of the *Selected Works of Lu Hsun* has appeared in English translation. This is an important publishing event. Important not only because Lu Hsun (1881-1936) is the outstanding figure in the history of modern Chinese literature, but also because it sheds further light on Lu Hsun as a great revolutionary thinker for the English-language reading public which has so far had little access to his later works.

The English-language edition of the *Selected Works of Lu Hsun* consists of four volumes. Volume I contains stories and prose poems, Volumes II, III and IV the essays for which Lu Hsun is most famous in China. His *Brief History of Chinese Novels*, not included in the selected works, will also be published by Foreign Languages Press in English this year.

The essays in Volume III were written between 1928 and 1933, after Chiang Kai-shek betrayed the revolution, surrendered to the imperialists and imposed a reign of terror throughout China. In 1931 the Japanese occupied a large area in north-east China. Early in 1932 they attacked Shanghai. The Chinese people demanded an end to the civil war, so as to unite to resist the aggressors. But the Kuomintang, which represented the interests of the comprador bourgeoisie and feudal landlords, did their utmost to exterminate the Communists, while giving in to all of Japan's demands. They tried to stifle all criticism and curtail civil rights. Freedom of speech and freedom of the press were suppressed, bookshops were smashed, patriots and progressives were imprisoned or killed.

This was a period of great confusion and shifting allegiance among the Chinese intellectuals. Lu Hsun was attacked by doctrinaire "leftists" as well as the literati of the right. He hit back vigorously. He tilted swords with the imperialists, die-hards and reformists. He debunked the Kuomintang men of letters, "Westernized gentlemen" and "scholars" like Liang Shih-chiu and Hu Shih, who denied the

class character of literature and attempted to divert attention from the real issues of the day. He also exposed the fallacy of various Kuomintang "theories" concocted to disguise the betrayal of national interests and to deceive the people.

Lu Hsun showed that in the conditions of his time a man must be either for the revolution or against it. There could be no third way. "No writer living in a class society can transcend class, no one living in a time of wars can leave the battlefield and stand alone, and no one living today can write for the future—this is sheer fantasy. There are no such men in real life. To try to be such a man is like trying to raise yourself from the ground by tugging at your own hair—it can't be done."

These essays are the voice of a passionate, angry, completely honest man, who loves the common people profoundly and has confidence that their cause must ultimately triumph. Whatever subject he chooses, he brings to it a brilliant and strongly original mind. These are fighting essays, polemics. The writer is in deadly earnest. But his deadliest weapon is satire, and brilliant flashes of humour light up his caustic invective. He pillories his opponents by rendering them utterly ridiculous, making them writhe in impotent fury. It was for this that the reactionaries hated him and banned his books.

The style is that of the earlier essays: strong, concise, vivid, highly individual. As usual, Lu Hsun wears his great erudition lightly. He makes no parade of learning, but slips in an apt classical allusion, historical anecdote or popular maxim with devastating effect when dealing with current events.

Many of the essays in this volume make difficult reading because they deal with figures or issues of that day, and the Kuomintang censorship made it impossible to speak too openly. Some shed light on Lu Hsun's methods as a writer. In several he expresses his support for the Soviet Union, and writes of China's debt to Russian literature. Some give us unforgettable pictures of young revolutionaries, pictures neither sentimentalized nor exaggerated, but showing deep affection and bitterness over their loss. Lu Hsun's comments on Bernard Shaw's visit to Shanghai in 1932 are illuminating. In short, these essays well repay careful reading, for apart from their merits as literature they shed light on a critical and formative period in Chinese history.

Volume III is of particular interest in connection with Lu Hsun's development as a thinker. Some foreign readers who know only his short stories or earliest

essays, have complained that we in China attempt to make Lu Hsun out as a Marxist thinker without sufficient grounds. From Volume III, and even more from Volume IV, however, the advance in Lu Hsun's ideas can be clearly seen as Lu Hsun expressed them.

—NAI TI

Books in Honour of "May Fourth"

In honour of the 40th anniversary of the May Fourth Movement, the People's Literature Publishing House announces the forthcoming publication of a *Forty Years of New Literature Series*, a library of books written since 1919. It will be in five sections corresponding to the stages in the history of development of modern Chinese literature, namely, 1) literature of the period of the literary revolution; 2) literature of the period of the League of Left-Wing Writers (1927-1936); 3) literature during the War of Resistance to Japanese Aggression (1937-1945); 4) literature of the liberated areas; and 5) literature since the founding of New China in 1949. The second and fourth sections, totalling 3 million words in 11 volumes, will be on sale this year.

Reference Material on Modern Literary Debates Series, in approximately a dozen volumes, is a collection of the documents, articles, essays and other key material essential to an understanding of the struggles between socialist and bourgeois literature during the past forty years. Several volumes of this series are announced for publication this year.

During the past few years, the same house has brought out the complete works and translations, each in 10 volumes, of Lu Hsun. His diaries and *Collection of Ancient Books Compiled by Lu Hsun* will be published shortly. The rest of the collected works of Kuo Mo-jo (in 18 volumes of which eight have already been published), of Mao Tun (in 16 volumes of which six have been published), and of Pa Chin (in 10 volumes of which six have been published) will all be published this year.

In addition to these works, more than 100 titles of selected works of writers of the new literature have been published. These include the selected works of Chu Chiu-pai, one of the forerunners of modern Chinese literature, and, among outstanding contemporary writers, those of Lao Sheh, Chao Shu-li, Chou Li-po and Tsao Yu. A new title in this series, *The Poems and Essays of Li Ta-chao*, the revolutionary martyr and the first person to introduce Marxism to China, will soon be off the press.

SIDELIGHTS

A Tibetan Folk Tale. In ancient China, a mighty emperor had a daughter not only beautiful but well versed in the classics and in the finer handicrafts. Suitors sought her hand from far and near, but the emperor would give her to none but the wisest and most talented. Now in a nearby kingdom there was a young and handsome king reputed to be a just and able ruler as well. When fame of the princess' beauty and talents reached him, he was filled with admiration and sent Gar, his young and capable minister, to present his suit. Four other emissaries from other lands were at the court at the same time seeking the princess' hand. So the emperor called all five together and told them that they had to pass five tests of wit, and the wisest would bring the bride to his master. A battle of wits ensued. First each had to draw a silk thread through a pearl as large as a bowl. Now all would have been well but for the hole in the pearl, which, instead of being straight, twisted and turned in nine different directions. Try as they could, the other four emissaries failed, but Gar tied the thread around the middle of a large ant, and it crawled through the hole in no time. The second test was even harder. They were led to a large stable with a hundred colts and a hundred mares mixed together. They were asked to pair the colts with their mothers. The others likewise failed. Gar had all the horses driven into the stable and fed dry fodder with no water. When he released them the next morning, each thirsty colt rushed to its own mother for milk. So Gar won the second round and the third and fourth, although each one was more difficult than the last. When the fifth round came, even Gar was stumped, though not for long. They were led into a great hall where 2,500 ladies of dazzling beauty were seated, each wearing the same garments and ornaments. One of them was the princess—but which one? Gar racked his brains and suddenly remembered that the proprietress of the inn where he was staying had told him she once attended the princess. Impressed by the young man's sincerity and modesty the proprietress told him some of the princess' personal features which enabled Gar to pick her out from the crowd with no difficulty. The emperor was greatly delighted with Gar's wisdom. What better proof could there be that his master was even wiser? He gave his royal consent to the match. And thus the beautiful princess was

taken to Gar's master to be married. The king was Sron-tsan Gampo of Tibet, and the princess was the Princess Wen Cheng of the Tang dynasty (618-907 A.D.) whose union 1,300 years ago was one of a long chain of events linking two of the many peoples that inhabit China.

Peking's New Beauty Spot. The area of the Ming Tombs Reservoir, north of Peking proper, is the latest popular haunt of tourists. During the last few weeks thousands of Peking residents, among them large numbers of students on holiday, have been visiting this new pleasure ground which is fast becoming one of the biggest wooded areas on the outskirts of Peking. There is an artificial lake with pine, cedar, maple, willow and peach trees planted all round its sides, and there will be swimming and boating facilities.

Tibetan Proverbs

He who is not taught a lesson
when stealing a cock, will end
up stealing a horse.

* * *
Even hundreds of good friends
are too few; one bad friend is
one too many.

* * *
Promise nothing to a foe with
knife in hand.

* * *
A donkey in tiger's skin frightens
no one.

* * *
It is not a pony if it will not carry
you up the hill, and you are
not a man if you will not walk
down the other side.

When the Violin Sounds Husky. Unexpected turns of weather had played havoc with the crops of the Mengtzu People's Commune in Yunnan. Weather forecasts from the regional meteorological stations helped, but they didn't include weather developments in the immediate vicinity. The commune entrusted nine of its members with the job of setting up a weather post right in the commune to make weather predictions for their own locality. They had no apparatus of any sort to start with; this merely stimulated their ingenuity. A visit to an old peasant brought them invaluable knowledge of weather signs in the sky. A turn around the homes of neighbours, and they discovered that: when the Chinese violin sounds husky, when the salt turns moist, when the ants crawl out of their holes, when the fishes swarm to shallow waters—better watch out for rain! That was

just a start; they made their own barometers and other simple but effective apparatus. Within a short time, the weather forecasts they made to supplement regional forecasts were serving farming well. During the autumn harvest last year, 200,000 jin of maize and peanuts were saved from a thorough drenching.

The Flower That Breaks the Rice Bowl. Instead of breaking anyone's rice bowl, the "Flower That Breaks the Rice Bowl" has been found so useful that it will serve to fill more rice bowls. It is a poisonous weed of Szechuan to which the peasants have given this name to frighten away the children. Laboratory tests since last spring have proved it to be of great value as a fertilizer and natural insecticide. Recent experiments by a people's commune in Szechuan found that it can also be made into an effective and inexpensive drug to prevent and cure plant diseases, and pig mange, scalp ringworm and scabies. It received national publicity when Chairman Mao Tse-tung visited a Szechuan farm co-op early last year, found out about its local use to kill mosquitoes and flies, and suggested experiments and research into its possible uses.

Meishan Power Station. The hydroelectric power station at the Meishan Reservoir in Anhwei Province, the second largest of the eight major reservoirs to harness the Huai River, went into full operation on May Day. It has four generating units with a total capacity of 40,000 kilowatts. The initiative and inventiveness of the workers shortened the period of construction. The time for assembling each of the four generating units, for example, was cut by at least three months—the sooner to supply the needs of the expanding steel, iron and coal industries in the central part of the province. When power stations at other reservoirs nearby are completed, it will link up with them to form a complete power supply network.

Speech for the Mute. A draft scheme for a new sign language for the deaf-mute is being tried out by deaf-mute schools all over the country. Under the scheme, deaf-mutes will use a different finger sign for each of the 26 Latin letters of the new Chinese phonetic alphabet, and words will be spelt out according to the standard spoken Chinese. This will enable them to express complicated ideas to a far greater extent than the sign languages of the past permitted. The scheme was drawn up jointly by linguists, philologists, psychologists and others experienced in the education of deaf-mutes.

CHINESE PRESS OPINION

Stockholm and Geneva

In its May 16 leader hailing the important contributions to peace made by the recent Stockholm meeting of the World Peace Council, *Renmin Ribao* discusses some of the urgent issues facing the world today in the struggle for peace.

The editorial notes that the peace movement has made tremendous forward strides throughout the world during the decade following the First World Conference in Defence of Peace in 1949. It has played a very important role in the struggle to stop U.S. aggression in Korea, to oppose atomic weapons and imperialist arms expansion, and for peaceful coexistence between nations of different social systems and solution of international disputes by negotiation. It has given vigorous support to the national independence and anti-colonialist struggles in Asia, Africa and Latin America. As it has developed, more and more people representing diverse political trends and religious beliefs have found a common language and rallied together under the banner of peace into a powerful force to prevent imperialist aggressive wars.

The editorial notes that there is no doubt that the German question, particularly the signing of a German peace treaty and the ending of the West Berlin occupation system, heads the list of urgent tasks in the international situation today. World public opinion is following closely the Geneva Foreign Ministers' Conference and expects it to live up to the hopes of the world in settling these two questions. It also demands that a summit conference be held to discuss and solve the major issues between East and West and end the "cold war" as speedily as possible to produce a peaceful international environment.

Renmin Ribao draws attention to the fact that developments in the first few days of the Geneva Conference have not been encouraging. The Soviet Union made many efforts, both before and during the conference, to promote a fair and reasonable solution to the question of a German peace treaty and the ending of the West Berlin occupation system; yet, the moment the conference started, the foreign ministers of the Western countries resorted to obstruction on the questions of the status of the German delegations and the rights of Poland and Czechoslovakia to participate in the conference. They have also lined up many obstacles to an

effective discussion of substantive questions in an attempt to divert the conference from its central task and hold up a solution of the crucial question of the signing of a German peace treaty. At the same time, those in leading positions in the West, particularly some U.S. brasshats, have been engaged in off-stage sabre-rattling in an attempt to poison the international atmosphere during the Geneva Conference. In the West, the impression is being created purposely that the summit conference will be still-born.

All this serves to remind us, *Renmin Ribao* comments, that the peoples of the world must continue to make great efforts for relaxation of international tension and the settlement of existing international issues. It is for this purpose that the World Peace Council has decided to call for a worldwide movement demanding the holding of a summit conference and observance of September 1—the 20th anniversary of the outbreak of World War II—as a day of struggle against the threat of another world war.

The editorial supports the Stockholm conference's resolutions demanding permanent cessation of nuclear weapons tests and the abolition of nuclear weapons, the establishment of atom-free zones in Central Europe and Asia, and an end to the French colonial war in Algeria; and condemning the colonialist domination of the Western imperialist countries, their policy of racial discrimination and persecution of the fighters for peace and freedom, and the U.S. interventions in the internal affairs of the Middle East countries.

The editorial pledges that the Chinese people will back up the call and resolutions of the Stockholm meeting.

New U.S. Military Plots in South Viet-nam and Laos

Discussing the facts contained in the ninth *ad interim* report of the International Commission in Viet-nam, *Renmin Ribao's* Commentator exposes the latest U.S. military plots in south Viet-nam and Laos. He writes that "after instigating the Kingdom of Laos to repudiate the Geneva agreements, the U.S. is now actively pressing forward with its intrigue to seize the whole of Indo-China." The facts in this report are, inevitably, not complete but they can still show the seriousness of the situation, he adds.

Recalling how the Ngo Dinh Diem clique, instigated by the U.S. imperialists, have violated the Geneva agreements and persecuted the people of south Viet-nam, Commentator points out that since February this year, this gang of U.S. puppets has sent a force of 15,000 well-equipped men, infantry, artillery and paratroopers, to the Bien-hoa area on a so-called "mopping-up" campaign which is resulting in a brutal slaughter of unarmed people.

"The Chinese people have the deepest sympathy for the people of south Viet-nam subjected to persecution by the U.S. imperialists and Ngo Dinh Diem clique, and support their struggle against these violations of the Geneva agreements and the activities turning south Viet-nam into a U.S. military base and colony," Commentator declares. "As participant to the 1954 Geneva Conference, we cannot but condemn these atrocities of the U.S. and the Ngo Dinh Diem clique."

Commentator cites facts to show that this so-called "mopping-up" operation of the U.S.-Ngo Dinh Diem clique is also aimed at threatening the security of the Kingdom of Cambodia.

Commentator calls attention to yet another intrigue of the U.S. imperialists—its activities in southern Laos aimed at threatening the Democratic Republic of Viet-nam and the Kingdom of Cambodia. There are certain responsible personnel of south Viet-nam, Thailand and Laos and the Cambodian traitor Sam Sary, who are making frequent contacts and engaging in various activities there to help the U.S. set up a big military base in that area. In connection with this base, a strategic highway is now being built across the Indo-China peninsula. This plot is clearly an attempt to threaten the Democratic Republic of Viet-nam, encircle the Kingdom of Cambodia on three sides and turn the Kingdom of Laos into a *de facto* member of the Manila military bloc. All those who love peace, in Indo-China and in other southeast Asian countries, must therefore be on their guard.

The Chinese people are closely following these developments, Commentator concludes. The difficulties met with by the International Commission in Viet-nam in the course of supervising and controlling the implementation of the Geneva agreements as mentioned in its report must be accounted for and ended. All countries which participated in the Geneva Conference of 1954 must take effective measures to stop these new military plots of the U.S. imperialists, safeguard the agreements of the Geneva Conference on the restoration of peace in Indo-China, and preserve peace in that area.

CHINA AND THE WORLD

G.D.R. Mission Leaves

At a time when the attention of the whole world is centred on the Geneva Foreign Ministers' Conference to discuss the German question, the visit to China of the parliamentary delegation of the German Democratic Republic underlines the solidarity of the two countries in the common effort of socialist construction and to defend peace in Asia as well as in Europe. As co-leader of the G.D.R. mission, Vice-Chairman Hermann Matern of the G.D.R. People's Chamber, declared when the delegation left China on May 12, the German Democratic Republic has a faithful and reliable ally—the Chinese people—standing like a brother by her side.

Chinese government leaders on several recent occasions have pledged the unequivocal support of China for the cause of the German people. Welcoming the G.D.R. guests at an enlarged session of the Standing Committee of the National People's Congress on May 11, Chairman Chu Teh declared, "The Chinese people firmly back the just struggle of the German people for peaceful unification of their fatherland, and the rational proposals of the Soviet Union and the G.D.R. on concluding a peace treaty with Germany and terminating the occupation system in West Berlin. . . . The Geneva Conference should contribute to the peaceful solution of the German question. The efforts of the Western countries and the West German authorities to obstruct the conclusion of a German peace treaty and the ending of the West Berlin occupation system and their attempts to block the lessening of international tension are bound to meet with the determined opposition of all peace-loving countries and peoples of the world."

During its visit, the G.D.R. delegation toured north and northeast China. In Peking, it was received by Chairman Mao Tse-tung. Johannes Dieckmann, Chairman of the G.D.R. People's Chamber and co-leader of the delegation, addressed an enlarged session of the Standing Committee of the National People's Congress, where he spoke of the determination of the people of the German Democratic Republic to strive for the peaceful unification of their fatherland. The delegation was also invited out to the Sino-German

Friendship People's Commune on the outskirts of Peking where over a thousand commune members gave them a rousing reception.

Sino-Czechoslovak Friendship

The 14th anniversary of the Czechoslovak Republic on May 9 was widely celebrated in China. In Peking, at a reception given by the Czechoslovak Ambassador Jan Busniak to mark the occasion, Vice-Premier Chen Yi declared: "Because our socialist camp is an integral whole and the achievements of each member are the common achievements of all and contribute to the consolidation and strengthening of the whole camp, the Chinese people are overjoyed at the achievements of the fraternal Czechoslovak people and their bold spirit in pressing ahead so steadfastly."

"The Republic of Czechoslovakia," Chen Yi continued, "is a powerful member of the big family of the socialist camp headed by the Soviet Union. It has always been loyal to the principles of proletarian internationalism and persistently pursued a peaceful foreign policy. It has worked unremittingly for the noble cause of upholding the purity of Marxism-Leninism and opposing modern revisionism, of defending European security and world peace, and of supporting the liberation movements of the oppressed nations."

Vice-Premier Chen Yi lauded Sino-Czechoslovak friendly co-operation which he predicted "will grow even greater with the growth of socialist construction in the two countries." He thanked Czechoslovakia for her generous aid to Chinese construction and support to China's struggle against the U.S. occupation of Taiwan and schemes to create "two Chinas."

The fraternal relations of which the Vice-Premier spoke were vividly demonstrated by the warm reception given to the Chinese Military Delegation headed by Marshal Peng Teh-huai during its goodwill mission to Czechoslovakia from May 6 to May 13.

The delegation was cheered again and again by paraders celebrating national day in Prague. On May 8, a rally was held in its honour by 3,000 Prague garrison troops and army units which took part in the parade. The delegation visited many units of the Czechoslovak armed forces, and attended a ceremony in the western part of the country at which a regiment was named the "Czechoslovak-Chinese Friendship Regiment."

China at Casablanca Fair

China was well represented at this year's Casablanca Fair which ended on

May 10. With a pavilion of 4,000 exhibits and a kiosk selling Chinese goods, it was a great attraction to the half a million people who visited this great north African trading centre.

This was the third time China had taken part in the fair, but the first since China and Morocco established diplomatic relations and concluded a trade agreement. The Moroccan press gave wide coverage to the achievements of the Chinese people as demonstrated in the Chinese pavilion and discussed the possibilities of extending Sino-Moroccan trade.

King Mohammed V went twice to the Chinese pavilion. Moroccan Crown Prince Moulay Hassan, Premier Ibrahim, other government and political leaders and representatives of Algeria also visited it. Many warm words of goodwill and friendship were written in the visitors' book by citizens of Casablanca as well as by Berber and Riff peasants from the surrounding countryside.

BRIEFS

A programme of work to strengthen Indian-Chinese friendship was recently drawn up by the National Council of the India-China Friendship Association in New Delhi. In a circular issued on May 13, the Association called on its sections throughout India to observe the fifth anniversary in June of the Sino-Indian declaration of Panch Shila—the five principles of peaceful coexistence. To celebrate the 10th anniversary of the founding of the People's Republic of China on October 1, September is designated as an India-China friendship month during which public meetings, film shows, cultural festivals, exhibitions introducing various aspects of life in China and a big membership drive will be organized. Delegations will be exchanged with China.

* * *

Construction of the Hodeidah-Sanaa Highway in Yemen is progressing rapidly. The highway runs for 235 kilometres along the Red Sea coast. Chinese engineers are helping to build it.

Twenty-seven kilometres of the roadbed have been completed on the Hodeidah-Bajil section crossing the Tihama Plains, a desert area flanking the Red Sea. Many Chinese drills are being used in the mountainous area of Haraz, the middle section of the highway and considered the most difficult part of the project. Yemeni workers and technicians are being trained to operate all types of road-building equipment.

The project is part of the Chinese aid programme agreed on in the 1958 Sino-Yemeni Agreement.

CULTURAL NEWS

A full-length documentary colour film of the Yangtse River by Chinese and Soviet cameramen is ready for release. It shows the life and work of the millions who inhabit the valley of China's longest river, with scenes of the river cities of Wuhan, Nanking and Shanghai and historical flashbacks of their revolutionary struggles. It has some spectacular shots of the famous Yangtse Gorges where a gigantic hydro-electric power station will be built on completion of the surveys now being done by Chinese and Soviet experts; and views of the Wuhan Bridge built with Soviet help, the Wuhan Integrated Iron and Steel Works now under construction, glimpses of the battle for steel

in towns and countryside during 1958 and the new people's communes.

As a companion piece, a documentary about the Volga in the Soviet Union is being made by Soviet and Chinese cameramen.

To commemorate the 98th anniversary of the birth of Rabindranath Tagore, on May 8, *Renmin Ribao* carried two articles, one by the Indian poet Hemango Bisvas. The great Indian poet is revered by the Chinese people for his humanism, patriotism and love for China. His visit to China in 1924 was a memorable event in the annals of Sino-Indian friendship.

Tagore's writings were introduced to the Chinese literary world thirty-eight years ago. But it was only after liberation that his works began to be translated on a big scale. *The Crescent Moon*, *Gitanjali*, *My Boyhood Days* and other

works have been translated by leading Chinese writers and published. The long novels *The Wreck* and *Gora* will appear this year. The first two volumes of the 10-volume *Selected Works of Tagore* came out last year, with the last volume scheduled for 1961, the centenary of the the writer's birth.

A Colombia-China Friendship Association is being organized in Bogota, Colombia. At a recent gathering in that city, the statutes of the association signed by 150 Colombian professors, scientists, workers' and peasants' leaders were introduced; Senor Alfonso Romero Buj, a lawyer who recently visited China, described his impressions on the trip and socialist construction in China. The Chinese film *Little Heroes*, which already had a very successful public showing in Bogota, was played again.

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

▲ **ORPHAN OF THE CHAO FAMILY** Prime Minister Chao Tun of the ancient State of Tsin is killed by the ambitious minister Tu An-ku who orders the wholesale execution of his family. Chao's friends, Cheng Ying and Kungsun Shu-chiu, save Chao's infant grandson, sole heir of the family, by a desperate plot in which Kungsun gives his own life and Cheng Ying lets his own son die in place of Chao's grandson. Produced by the Peking Opera Company of Peking.

May 19 & 20, 7:30 p.m. *Peking Workers' Club*

▲ **THE COWHERD AND THE WEAVING MAID** Adapted from the famous Chinese folk tale about the romance between a cowherd and a heavenly weaving maid. Newly produced by the students of the Chinese Opera School.

Tianqiao Theatre (Watch for date)

PINGJU OPERA

▲ **BY THE KINSHA RIVER** A new play produced by the China Pingju Opera Theatre. An episode from the famous Long March. It tells how the Red Army exposes a Kuomintang plot and unites in friendship with the Tibetans as it crosses the Tibetan region by the Kinsha River.

May 19 & 20, 23-25, 7:30 p.m. *Da Zhong Theatre*

▲ **BITTER FLOWERS** A play about the Shantung peasants who rose against oppressive traitors and landlords at the start of the War of Resistance to Japanese Aggression. Produced by the China Pingju Opera Theatre.

May 21 & 22, 7:30 p.m., *Da Zhong Theatre*

MODERN OPERA

▲ **SONG OF THE GRASSLANDS** Two young Tibetans are very much in love but

they belong to two hostile clans. Liberation puts an end to the evil feud that thwarts their love and the two live happily ever after. Produced by the Central Experimental Opera Theatre.

May 22 & 23, 7:30 p.m. *Tianqiao Theatre*

CONCERT

A programme of vocal solo and choral singing. Produced by the Central Philharmonic Chorus.

May 24, 10 a.m. *Shoudu Theatre*

THEATRE

▲ **THE THUNDER OF TIBET** The story of the heroic resistance of the Tibetan people to the British imperialist invasion of 1904, the so-called Younghusband "expedition" to Lhasa. Produced by the China Railway Workers' Cultural Troupe.

May 19-25, 7:30 p.m. *Yuan En Si Theatre*

▲ **NAMELESS ISLAND** Adventure on the Fukien front: how the People's Liberation Army fells the enemy. Produced by the China Youth Art Theatre.

May 19-22, 7:30 p.m. *China Youth Art Theatre*

▲ **THE LAST SCENE** A new play produced by the China Youth Art Theatre about the life, work and struggles of a group of progressive theatre workers and how they face the Kuomintang's white terror on the eve of liberation.

May 23-31, 7:30 p.m. *China Youth Art Theatre*

FILMS

▲ **QUELLING THE REBELLION IN TIBET** A documentary produced by the Central Newsreel and Documentary Film Studio. Showing from May 19-25 at all Peking cinemas. For times see daily press.

▲ **PEOPLE OF THE SEA** A full-length documentary produced by the Changchun Film Studio about the new fishermen of Tallen (Dairen).

May 21-24, *Guang An Men, Peking Workers' Club, Zhongyang*

▲ **BORN OF THE STORM** Adapted from N. A. Ostrovsky's famous novel of the same title. A story of the heroic struggle waged by Ukrainian youth against the foreign invaders during the Civil War and Intervention. A Soviet colour film dubbed in Chinese.

May 20-22, *Xin Zhong Guo, Guang He Theatre*

▲ **LA P... RESPECTUEUSE** A French feature film about a girl of the streets who stands up with the Negroes against the wealthy forces of "law and order" in the fight against racial discrimination in a southern state of the U.S.A.

May 23-26, *Xin Zhong Guo, Guang He Theatre*

▲ **KOCHUBEI** This story of Ivan Kochubei, a Red Army commander, tells how the Kuban Cossacks fought the white guards to protect the young Soviet state in 1918. A Soviet widescreen film with Chinese subtitles.

May 19-24, *Shoudu Cinema*

EXHIBITIONS

▲ **EXHIBITION OF REPRODUCTIONS OF THE YUNG LO MURALS** Open daily 9:00 a.m.-5:30 p.m.

At the *Central Institute of Fine Arts*

▲ **REPRODUCTIONS OF THE LICHANG MURALS** Open daily 9:00 a.m.-6:00 p.m.

At the *Gallery of the Artists' Union*

SPORTS

▲ **NATIONAL ARCHERY TOURNAMENT** May 24-27 daily at *Kuan Yuan Stadium*

▲ **NATIONAL JUNIOR GYMNASTICS TOURNAMENT** May 20-24 daily at *Shi Cha Hai Gymnasium*

▲ **GYMNASTICS**—a friendly competition between the visiting Georgian S. S. R. Gymnastic Team and Chinese Teams. May 24, *Peking Gymnasium*

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