

PEKING REVIEW

25

June 23, 1961

Basic Points of Difference on Laotian Question

A survey of opposing views at Geneva and
Zurich (p. 6).

Chinese and Japanese Peoples' Growing Friendship

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the U.S. (p. 9).

Transport Makes the Grade

A survey of great achievements (p. 13).

Literature and Other Features

A WEEKLY MAGAZINE OF CHINESE NEWS AND VIEWS

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報

Dean Hewlett Johnson's Latest

The Upsurge of China

The Upsurge of China is Dean Hewlett Johnson's latest book on New China. A stirring account of what he saw during his travels in China in 1956 and 1959, it tells how China is forging ahead in socialist construction. It gives a vivid description of the rapid industrialization of China's hinterland, the building of the gigantic Yangtse and Yellow River bridges, the Sanmen Gorge and the Chingkiang water conservancy systems. In addition to huge construction projects, the author also visited industrial plants, oilfields, people's communes, state farms, schools, hospitals, etc. He met and talked to people from all walks of life, and was an eyewitness of the tremendous enthusiasm and energy of the ordinary Chinese as they build up their country at an unheard-of speed.

This first-hand material, enlivened with many accounts of meetings with various distinguished personalities, including religious leaders, and enriched with a background knowledge of historical lore, covers a wide field of interest.

It is a mine of information and will be of great value to all those who are interested in the progress now being made by a quarter of the human race.

The book is beautifully bound and profusely illustrated.

When Serfs Stood Up in Tibet

Report by Anna Louise Strong

Anna Louise Strong follows up her recently published *Tibetan Interviews* with a second book on Tibet, an account of her travels there in 1959. She sketches in the historical background of Tibet, gives the facts on the rebellion launched by the reactionary clique of the upper social strata which was determined to preserve the serf system, and describes the democratic reforms which have been going ahead vigorously there since the revolt was put down.

The author visited cities and monasteries and toured the rural areas; interviewed emancipated serfs, lamas and patriotic patricians. These interviews expose the true character of Tibetan feudal serfdom in all its inhuman cruelty. Together with the author's own observations they also show how the Tibetan people, led by the Chinese Communist Party and Chairman Mao, have cast off the shackles of serfdom and have started with all other nationalities of China to build a new, happy prosperous socialist life.

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NEWS AND VIEWS

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ROUND THE WEEK

Women Climbers' World Record

A Chinese women's mountaineering expedition set up a new world record last week by scaling Mt. Kongur Tiubie Tagh, 7,595 metres above sea level, in the Pamirs in the south-western part of Sinkiang.

Two Tibetan members of the expedition, Masters of Sports Sheirab, 28, and Phundob, 23, planted a five-star Chinese national flag on the top of the peak at 22:30 hours (Peking time) on June 17, rewriting the women's world mountaineering record. The previous record of 7,546 metres was set up by the Chinese women alpinists who conquered Mt. Muztagh Ata, the third tallest peak of the Pamirs, in July 1959.

Mt. Kongur Tiubie Tagh is the second tallest Pamir peak. Mt. Kongur, the highest peak, towers up to 7,719 metres. Kongur Tiubie Tagh, like its sisters, is snow- and ice-clad all the year round. The peak, viewed from a distance, looks like a huge white tower rising straight into the sky. Local Khalkhas and Tadjik herdsmen call it Kongur Tiubie Tagh, meaning "the white hat." Though only 49 metres taller than neighbouring Muztagh Ata — "The Father of Ice Mountains," Mt. Kongur Tiubie Tagh is much steeper. Its wide glaciers and many ice cornices present greater difficulties to the climber.

The expedition is led by Master of Sports Yuan Yang, 26, an instructor at the Peking Institute of Geology. She climbed to a height of 7,300 metres before her strength failed her and discontinued the climb. Wang Yi-chin, deputy leader and physician of the expedition, and another member Rabjor, a Tibetan student from Lhasa, reached 7,560 metres. Physical conditions forced them to discontinue their climb when the summit was already in sight.

The expedition began its attack on the peak on May 26. The climbers made two acclimatization marches before they started the final ascent which began on June 11. On June 16, after 6 days of steady advance, they established their final assault camp at the 7,300-metre level. The following day

the assault party led by Dr. Wang Yi-chin started the final climb to the peak at 13:20 (Peking time). When Sheirab and Phundob reached the summit, it was already dark. The four climbers returned safely to the final assault camp on the morning of the 18th.

Both Sheirab and Phundob are workers on a Lhasa experimental farm. All five members are veterans of the expedition that scaled Mt. Muztagh Ata in 1959 and holders of the title of Master of Sports.

When the party reach their base camp they will find congratulatory messages from all parts of the country waiting for them.

Mountaineering is a young sport in China. It began only six years ago and women have been climbing the high ranges for only three years. Yet the men climbers successfully scaled the summit of Jolmo Lungma, the highest peak in the world, last year, and women climbers have already twice set up world altitude records.

Get Out the Water

In the current national campaign to develop agriculture in a big way, the rural people's communes are getting a steady stream of reinforcement in manpower, tractors, and other machinery and supplies. Last week the machine-building industry reported that more than 3,000 big water pumps for agricultural use, and over 640 pumps especially made to pump water from deep wells in dry regions have been produced since the beginning of the year by engineering plants in various parts of the country. The biggest is able to suck up seven tons of water per second.

Most of these pumps have already been shipped to the farms and are now being used to extend irrigation, especially in those areas threatened by drought.

One result of the increasing quantities of pumps and drainage equipment coming off the assembly lines is the appearance of networks of electrically powered irrigation and drainage stations in many rural areas. The construction of such networks is reported from 15 provinces and urban

areas. Slated to go into operation within the year, they will have a total capacity of 700,000 kilowatts, much greater than the capacity of such stations put into operation in 1960. When completed, these stations will be able to irrigate a total area of 30 million *mu* of farmland. One such network is being built in the Pearl River delta in Kwangtung, one of the biggest rice-producing provinces in the country (see *Peking Review*, No. 25, 1961), another is going up in the Yangtse River delta, another important "granary." Chekiang, Shantung, Peking and other regions are also stepping up construction of similar irrigation networks.

The building of the great network on the fertile Pearl River delta to protect the area from chronic water-logging is already in its second stage. The first stage involving the building of 274 pumping stations was started in 1959 and completed last month; in the present stage 226 stations will be built. The big water pumps used in this project are being made in the farm machinery plants of Kwangtung and Shanghai.

Prior to liberation, not a single factory in China specialized in the manufacture of water pumps. Few pumps were made in the country then, not to mention outsize ones. Today, 14 provinces and municipalities are turning out their own big water pumps. Big plants to make them have been built in such cities as Shanghai, Shenyang and Changsha. Thanks to the phenomenal growth of China's steel and engineering industry in recent years, nearly every province now has its own machine-building plants turning out water pumps for the rural areas.

Rejuvenating Old Mines

In many parts of the country old collieries are being rejuvenated, reconstructed and expanded to produce more coal.

Expansion is going on at full speed ahead at Kailan in north China and Fushun in the northeast, two of the country's leading coal centres, and many other big mines which have been in operation for scores of years.

In these mines shafts are being driven to deeper seams and new coal faces opened up. Main haulage roads and ventilation tunnels are being extended. Drainage, hoisting and ventilation facilities in general are being

improved. Steps are being taken to increase the efficiency of underground transport. This reconstruction and extension work will sharply raise production capacity and prolong the life of the pits.

The Kailan Colliery in Hopei Province is pressing forward 84 projects to open up deeper seams. Kailan is one of the oldest modern collieries in this country. Some of its oldest mines, such as Tangshan and Linhsi, have been producing coal for more than 80 years. Even the relatively new mines, such as Tangchiachuang and Machiakou, began to produce coal at the turn of the century. During the long years of imperialist and Kuomintang rule, the mines were badly exploited and badly managed. Coal reserves in the upper seams were practically played out by the time of liberation. Since then, Kailan's coalminers have gradually been extending their diggings deeper. Production has leapt in recent years, and during the last three years especially. Output in 1960 was more than double that in 1957. The present extension projects will put new life into these old mines.

The Kailan miners are seeing to it that the work of reconstruction and extension in no way affects regular production at the mines and the upward trend in output has not let up. Last week the mine administration reported that the daily output in April had been upped 11.52 per cent while daily tunnelling was up 9.22 per cent compared with the first quarter. And in the second ten days of May average daily output topped the first ten days of the month.

Spring Silkworms

In many parts of the countryside spring silkworm breeding is swiftly approaching the climax of the season's work. Peasants in all major sericulture areas are carefully tending and feeding the new brood of voracious young silkworms, meticulously cultivating and culling the mulberry groves for their food or happily gathering in the first harvest of cocoons of the year. In a normal year the spring crop of cocoons makes up 70 per cent of the year's output.

Nature endows subtropical Kwangtung Province with eight broods of silkworms a year. Peasants here are already collecting their third crop. While tending the young worms, veteran breeders in people's communes

in Kiangsu and Szechuan Provinces are also training a great number of newcomers to sericulture. Even further afield, peasants are now breeding silkworms in 30 counties in the Sinkiang Uighur Autonomous Region and the occupation is spreading steadily. In the Khotan area in southern Sinkiang where the ancient "Silk Road" ran, special classes have been organized by the local people's communes to train a bigger new generation of expert silkworm breeders.

But probably none are more silk-conscious than the silkworm breeders of the eastern seaboard province of Chekiang, the leading silk producing area in the country. Members of rural people's communes there are already reaping their first crop of spring cocoons. The quality of the current crop is good; 85 per cent of it has been graded A, first class.

Sericulture farmers in Chekiang, and especially those in the Hangchiah plain, have high hopes of this year's harvest of cocoons. The plain, which stretches from Hangchow north to the southern bank of Lake Taihu and from there east to the East China Sea, is the province's famed "fish and rice region" but it is noted too for its fine silk. It boasts a sericulture history of more than two thousand years. Over 80 per cent of the total silk output of the province and the same percentage of mulberry trees are raised in this region.

But in the years following the Japanese invasion sericulture in the region took a bad beating as a result of Kuomintang misrule and the dumping of imported rayon. The peasants lived a bitter life. Those were the days when "a tear drop was shed for every leaf of the mulberry tree." Prosperity returned to the mulberry gardens in the Hangchiah plain only after years of energetic efforts by the People's Government and the liberated peasants. Today Hangchiah's commune members are making bigger plans for the days to come.

Nationalities Institute Birthday

On June 11 gay activities on its lovely campus marked the tenth anniversary of the founding of the Central Institute for Nationalities in Peking's western suburbs. The C.I.N. is the oldest and biggest institution of higher learning for China's many nationalities.

Among the many guests and alumni who attended the jubilee celebrations were Ulanfu, Chairman of the Inner Mongolian Autonomous Region, who is also an alternate member of the Political Bureau of the Central Committee of the Chinese Communist Party and Vice-Premier, and Saifudin, Chairman of the Sinkiang Uighur Autonomous Region and Vice-Chairman of the Standing Committee of the National People's Congress. In speeches congratulating the four thousand members of the faculty and students, both stressed the significance of training more cadres from among the national minorities to meet the growing needs of the nation and the national minority areas. Ulanfu said that the Party and People's Government had always taken the training of national minority cadres as an important task. A nationalities' institute was set up in Yen-an as far back as 1941, and since 1950 eight such institutes had been founded in various parts of the country.

Saifudin paid tribute to the big role the college and its graduates are playing in the socialist revolution and socialist construction in the minority regions. Those students who had returned to Sinkiang, he said, were working hard to build the region and were doing a fine job in promoting unity among members of the fraternal nationalities.

The institute has lived up well to its task. Some 4,000 students, Mongolians, Tibetans, Uighurs, Huis, Chuangs, Koreans and members of 42 other nationalities have graduated from the C.I.N. in the past decade. They are doing fine work in their native places and working conscientiously for the political, economic and cultural development of their peoples and the nation. The college has also sent about 400 students to other colleges and universities and specialized technical schools for advanced training in technology, and in the agricultural and medical sciences.

With ten times the 1951 enrolment, when it was set up, the institute today has 2,700 students from 50 nationalities studying in the college's four departments of political science, languages, history and literature and arts, and in its preparatory classes. In addition to their studies in Marxism-Leninism, students can study a range of more than 30 specializations which



Breeding Silkworms

Woodcut in colour by Chao Tsung-tsao

include philosophy, various minority languages, the Han language, histories of the nationalities, music and fine arts.

In the past few years, as part of their study programme, the college has sent students and teachers to various minority areas to make social and historical surveys. Since 1952 such surveys have been conducted in some 20 minority regions, including Tibet, Sinkiang and Yunnan. They have also taken part in the writing and compilation of short histories of the various national minorities.

Dragon Boat Festival

On June 17, peasants crowded the banks of the Milo River in Hunan. Flags fluttered in the wind. Firecrackers exploded. And amidst the beating of gongs and drums and the cheers of their partisans brightly painted dragon boats raced down the river. Thus began the traditional Dragon Boat Festival which was celebrated too in many other parts of the country, commemorating the death of the great patriot and poet Chu Yuan (3rd century B.C.) who drowned himself in the Milo in angry protest

against the corrupt and treacherous court of his day. The people mourned his death. Over the centuries the day has gradually become a traditional holiday enriched by many beautiful legends.

On the day of anniversary people, as they did last week, eat a special delicacy, *zhongzi*, boiled sticky rice wrapped up in leaves. These are said to have originated in the dumplings which people dropped into the river for the hungry water monsters to eat so that they would not devour Chu Yuan.

The biggest holiday attraction is of course the dragon boat races held in many provinces where there are suitable rivers. The races symbolize the efforts made by the people on the Milo to rescue the beloved poet, but over the years they have developed into a gay activity.

Last week dragon boat races were held in Fukien, Kwangsi, Szechuan and other provinces. More than 40 dragon boats joined the race in Foochow on the Min. The people there had something extra to celebrate: they had just repulsed the worst flood menace in the city's history.

Basic Differences on the Laotian Question

by OUR CORRESPONDENT

THE Geneva Conference has begun the discussions of substantive issues. Since the French delegate tabled his draft protocol defining the terms of reference of the International Control Commission at the 13th session on June 6, most delegates, including the British delegate, have made speeches dealing with substantive questions. The U.S. delegate alone continued to natter about the cease-fire, raising the so-called question of cease-fire violations at Padong. But the only result of this tactic was to isolate the United States itself.

Complete Defeat for U.S.

On June 7, when news reached Geneva of the Royal Laotian troops and the Pathet Lao fighters routing the rebels and American military personnel airdropped by the United States in the Padong area, the U.S. delegate kicked up a row about an "effective cease-fire" and caused another five-day recess of the conference after it had resumed sessions for only two days.

In an attempt to use the Padong incident, the United States insisted that new directives be issued to the International Commission, giving it extensive powers of arbitrary action in Laos. It declared that until this is done, its delegation would stay away from the conference. But the United States did not achieve its aim. In the letter from the Co-Chairmen of the Geneva Conference to the International Commission read on June 12 when sessions were resumed, no new directives were issued as demanded by the United States. The letter merely repeated the appeal made on April 24 to the parties concerned in Laos to co-operate with the International Commission so as to facilitate supervision and control over the cease-fire.

The U.S. plan to expand rebel harassing activities in the rear of the Laotian liberated areas was thus upset and its plot to obstruct and disrupt the Geneva Conference by a deliberately created incident was completely balked.

Fundamental Differences

Many delegates have now stated their views on questions of substance. Even the U.S. Delegation, which had all along stubbornly refused to enter into substantive discussions, has also indicated that it is now prepared to take part in them. It thus seems that the U.S. Delegation can no longer refrain from considering and answering the charges made by the various delegates in the past month against U.S. intervention in Laos and Rusk's plan for an international condominium.

Two concrete plans and several opinions of principle have now been tabled for discussion at the enlarged Geneva Conference. The two concrete plans are the Soviet proposal, which includes the drafts of two documents, and the French proposal, which includes the drafts of three documents. The socialist countries and two Laotian delegations to the conference all hold that the Soviet proposal should serve as the basis for discussion.

The French plan is supported by the U.S. and British delegates. In addition, China's Foreign Minister Chen Yi put forward five principles for settling the international aspect of the Laotian question; U.S. Secretary of State Rusk presented an "outline" for an international condominium over Laos. The five principles advanced by China are entirely at one with the Soviet proposal. Most of the principles contained in Rusk's "outline" find expression in the French plan.

The plans put forward and opinions expressed at the conference show obvious differences among the various delegations on how to settle the international aspect of the Laotian question. These differences show themselves in the approaches to the following four questions:

1. **The neutrality of Laos.** The Soviet Union, China and other socialist countries hold that Laotian neutrality should be the result of the exercise by Laos of its sovereign rights according to its own will and must not be imposed on it by foreign countries. The Soviet draft documents call for the recognition and guarantee of the independence and neutrality of Laos by the participating nations of the conference and their non-interference in its internal affairs. In this respect, India shares the view of the socialist countries.

The United States and France, though professing that the neutrality of Laos should be recognized and respect for it be guaranteed, call for supervision and control of the "neutrality" of Laos, which actually infringes on the sovereignty of Laos and interferes in its internal affairs. It should be pointed out that the United States even went so far as not to mention the principle of non-interference in Laos' internal affairs at all.

2. **What is the basis of the 1954 Geneva agreements?** The socialist countries hold that the basis of these agreements are the Final Declaration of the Geneva Conference and the declarations issued by the countries concerned, in which they pledged to respect the sovereignty, independence, unity and territorial integrity of Laos and observe the principle of non-interference in its internal affairs, while the Government of Laos proclaimed that it would pursue a policy of neutrality.

China's Foreign Minister Chen Yi pointed out that the other portion of the 1954 Geneva agreements, namely, the Agreement on the Cessation of Hostilities in Laos, dealt with the international war then being waged in that country and does not apply to the domestic war now in progress there.

Although the United States cannot deny that the 1954 Geneva agreements should be taken as the basis for a settlement of the Laotian question, the "definition" of the neutrality of Laos given by Rusk runs counter to the principles of these agreements.

The French formula, which reflects the U.S. viewpoint, while on the one hand claims that it is based on the 1954 agreements, on the other calls for supervision of the neutrality of Laos and interferes in its internal affairs, thereby encroaching upon its independence and sovereignty and running counter to the principles laid down in the 1954 Final Declaration.

What is more, the French formula makes the International Commission an instrument of intervention in Laos by broadening its terms of reference as defined by the 1954 Agreement on the Cessation of Hostilities in Laos.

India, while holding that the basis of the 1954 agreements lies in the spirit and principles of the Final Declaration of the Geneva Conference, proposes that a number of provisions of the 1954 Agreement on the Cessation of Hostilities be retained and modified.

3. The International Commission. The socialist countries hold that the International Commission should not interfere in the internal affairs of Laos in any form whatsoever. Its functions should include: (a) supervision and control of the cease-fire in Laos at the request of all Laotian authorities concerned; (b) supervision and control of the withdrawal from Laos of foreign troops and military personnel; and (c) investigation, in accordance with the instructions of the Co-Chairmen of the conference, of the introduction of foreign troops and military personnel into Laos. It is clear that operating along these lines, the International Commission will help ensure and maintain the peace and neutral status of Laos without encroaching on its independence and sovereignty.

The international machinery devised by U.S. Secretary of State Dean Rusk is to be empowered to operate freely in Laos without having to obtain the approval of the Laotian authorities. It will also have the right to exercise control over Laotian neutrality, troop reduction, foreign economic aid and nearly all other affairs in the political, military and economic life of Laos. In this respect, the French formula is just a rehash of Rusk's "outline" for the international machinery.

Both Rusk's international machinery and the international commission envisaged in the French formula have been rightly described as an international super-government. To impose on Laos an international commission with such supreme powers would wipe out all its sovereign rights.

4. The internal and international aspects of the Laotian question. The socialist countries are of the opinion that the internal affairs of Laos should be settled by the Laotians themselves and that the enlarged Geneva Conference should limit itself to the discussion of the international aspect of the Laotian question, namely, ensuring respect for the independence and neutrality of Laos. What the United States and France want is, in the name of so-called ensuring its neutrality, to intervene in the reduction and unification of Laotian troops, control Laos' neutrality and foreign economic aid to that country, and conduct all kinds of investigations there, so as to obscure the distinction between the internal and international aspects of the Laotian question.

It can be seen that running through all the differences on the four questions is a single red thread: whether

Laos will be a truly independent and neutral country, or be placed under trusteeship under the signboard of neutrality. These differences again boil down to the question whether or not in dealing with the international aspect of the Laotian question the independence and sovereignty of Laos should be respected and the fundamental principle of non-interference in its internal affairs be adhered to.

Speaking at the session on June 16, the French delegate said that the international conference must intervene in the Laotian civil war. On the 19th, the head of the Canadian Delegation Green went so far as to claim that the International Commission has the right to interfere in the internal affairs of Laos. A few days earlier, the British delegate also declared that whatever rights the International Commission on Laos has constitute an infringement on Laotian sovereignty so that Laos must perforce limit its sovereignty. Still others have peddled the idea that to preserve the "balance" of political forces in Laos, it is necessary to interfere. Yet there are many countries in the world which pursue a policy of peace and neutrality and which also have various internal political forces. None of these countries, however, have found it necessary to submit to "international control." Even in regard to those countries which have a joint international guarantee for their lasting neutrality, no precedent can be found for subjecting a country's internal affairs to foreign interference or infringing upon its sovereignty from outside. In a word, those who seek to interfere in the internal affairs of Laos under the pretext of ensuring its neutrality haven't a leg to stand on.

Meeting of Three Princes

It is noteworthy that these fundamental differences at the enlarged Geneva Conference (which discusses the international aspect of the Laotian question) have also shown themselves at the meeting of the three Laotian princes. It is reported that, following a meeting with the Cambodian Head of State Prince Sihanouk, Prince Boun Oum of the Savannakhet clique published an *aide memoire* in which he openly called for the establishment of a committee composed of representatives of neutral nations to carry out so-called "effective control" over the neutrality of Laos. This proposal of Boun Oum is in effect a reflection within Laos of the U.S. formula for an international condominium over that country.

On June 19, the meeting of the three Laotian princes finally started in Zurich. Its first session discussed the question of the internal policies of the future Laotian coalition government. Reports from Zurich indicate that the United States is trying by every means to get there what it failed to get on the Laotian battlefields and at the Geneva Conference table. It is hoping to impose on the Laotian people a so-called coalition government with the pro-American forces dominant that will pursue a so-called "neutral" but in effect pro-American policy and ensure the implementation of the U.S. plan for an international condominium over Laos.

So, there is today a confrontation of views both on the internal and international aspects of the peaceful settlement of the Laotian question. A serious struggle has still to be waged before any progress can be registered.

Delegation of Japanese C.P. Diet Members Visits China

COMING at the very moment that the Japanese Prime Minister Ikeda is on his pilgrimage to Washington, the current visit to China of a distinguished Delegation of Japanese Communist Party Diet Members led by Yoshio Shiga, Member of the Political Bureau of the Central Committee of the Japanese Communist Party, is a notable event in the growing relations between the two countries. It shows that the militant friendship between the Chinese and Japanese peoples established in the struggle against their common enemy, U.S. imperialism, is growing closer with each passing day. The delegation has been warmly welcomed by the Chinese people. Its activities have been a focus of attention.

It was with flags and flowers and the traditional beating of drums and gongs that Peking citizens greeted the arrival of the delegation on June 15. On June 20 and 21, Chairman Mao Tse-tung, Vice-Chairmen Liu Shao-chi and Chu Teh of the Central Committee of the Chinese Communist Party welcomed them at banquets. Premier Chou En-lai also had a cordial talk with them.

Peking Rally

These expressions of esteem reached a climax at a mass rally on June 19 in the Great Hall of the People. Here over ten thousand people from all walks of life in the capital gathered to give them an enthusiastic welcome. Liao Cheng-chih, Chairman of the Chinese Committee for Afro-Asian Solidarity and Yoshio Shiga, the head of the delegation, spoke at the rally.

In his opening speech, Liao Cheng-chih expressed hearty thanks to the Japanese people and the Japanese Communist Party for their consistent support to China's revolution and construction.

Paying tribute to the role of the Japanese Communist Party in defending the interests of the Japanese people and nation, Liao Cheng-chih pointed out that while holding high the banner of opposition to U.S. imperialism and its agent, Japanese monopoly capital, the Japanese Communist Party was fighting untiringly for the independence, democracy, peace and neutrality of Japan and improvement of the living standards of its people. He said that the Japanese people and Communist Party, with their long-term experience of fighting against U.S. imperialism, are keenly vigilant against the double-dealing of the Kennedy Administration and the Ikeda government. In conclusion, Liao Cheng-chih said that he was convinced that the aggressive plots of the United States against Japan and China and the world could be utterly smashed and world peace could be achieved provided the people of the various countries continue to maintain keen vigilance, form a united front against U.S. imperialism and its running dogs and persist in the struggle.

Greeted by a big ovation, Yoshio Shiga in his speech sharply criticized Ikeda's visit to the United States. Its

twofold aim, he pointed out, is, firstly, to serve the interests of U.S. imperialism by carrying out the "two Chinas" plot and helping the puppet military dictatorship in south Korea, and secondly to revive Japanese militarism, and for this purpose to request U.S. aid for Japanese economic expansion abroad. "All this demonstrates," he said, "that Japanese monopoly capital and government are hostile to the Soviet Union and China and fired with the ambition of reviving Japanese militarism and imperialism. The Japanese people are against all these reactionary policies; they are determined to smash the 'two Chinas' scheme which will create serious dangers for Japanese-Chinese relations; they are pushing ahead the struggle for the immediate abrogation of the 'Japan-Chiang Kai-shek treaty,' for the withdrawal of U.S. imperialism from Taiwan and the restoration of diplomatic relations between Japan and China."

"Renmin Ribao" Comment

The Chinese people have demonstrated their welcome for the delegation in many ways. *Renmin Ribao* in its editorial of June 16 paid high tribute to the Japanese Communist Party as a model of the combination of patriotism and internationalism in the international communist movement. It says: "To bring about the liberation of the Japanese people and launch Japan onto the road of genuine freedom, prosperity and happiness, the Japanese Communist Party, throughout the dark years from its founding in 1922 to the unconditional surrender of Japanese imperialism in 1945, heroically hit back at the forces of Japanese militarism at the time and fought unflinchingly against Japanese imperialism's policies of aggression and war, and especially against its policy of aggression against China. The struggle of the Japanese people and Communist Party gives strong support and encouragement to the Chinese people in their struggle against the occupation of our territory Taiwan by U.S. imperialism and to defend peace in Asia and the world."

The present abnormal relations between the two countries, the editorial points out, are entirely brought about by U.S. imperialism and its agents in Japan. The U.S. and Japanese reactionaries have, of late, intensified their "two Chinas" scheme in an attempt to create more obstacles to the improvement of Sino-Japanese relations and to disrupt friendly contacts between the two peoples. But the U.S. and Japanese reactionaries are merely wasting their energy. The Chinese people are convinced that their friendship with the Japanese people will shatter all artificial barriers and develop. The present visit to China of the Delegation of the Japanese Communist Party Diet Members, the envoys of the militant Japanese people, is another effort of the Japanese people to promote the comradeship-in-arms between the Chinese and Japanese peoples and to advance their common cause of peace.

West German Monopoly Capital Reaches Out

by YEN HSI

Following is an abridged translation of an article published in the June 16, 1961 issue of "Hongqi," fortnightly of the Central Committee of the Chinese Communist Party. Subheads are ours.—Ed.

GERMAN imperialism suffered an even more disastrous defeat in the Second than in the First World War. It lost all its foreign markets and investments. The eastern part of Germany has freed itself from the capitalist system and the German Democratic Republic has been founded. The territory under the control of the West German regime makes up only 53.3 per cent of the area of prewar Germany (1937).

West German imperialism, however, recovered and developed its economic power very rapidly after World War II. In 1946, industrial production in West Germany was only 34 per cent of what it was in 1936 (this and following figures refer to the West German area only). By 1950, it topped the 1936 level, and by 1960, it stood at 276 per cent of the 1936 figure. In the ten years 1950-60, the average annual rate of growth of industrial production in West Germany was over 9.5 per cent. The rate of West Germany's industrial growth after the war was the highest among all the major capitalist countries with the exception of Japan. Today, although West Germany has not yet caught up with Britain in industrial production as a whole, it is already far ahead in several branches of heavy industrial production. In 1960, West Germany produced 34,100,000 tons of steel and 2,054,000 automobiles; the figures for Britain were 24,700,000 tons and 1,888,000 respectively.

With the rehabilitation and development of industrial production, concentration of West German capital also reached unprecedented proportions. Before the war, in 1938, the total value of German share capital was 18,744.8 million marks, half of which was concentrated in the hands of 19 big monopoly groups. By May 1960, the total value of West German share capital had risen to 28,825.1 million marks, 80 per cent of which was held by 17 big monopoly groups. Today, 60 per cent of all sales are products of big enterprises constituting only 0.4 per cent of all enterprises in West Germany.

The total volume of West Germany's foreign trade rose from 19,800 million marks in 1950 to 90,600 million marks in 1960—a 4.5-fold increase. The increase in exports was especially rapid—5.7-fold. West Germany's share in the export trade of the capitalist world surpassed that of Britain in 1959 and took second place.

West Germany has had a favourable balance of foreign trade ever since 1952 and it has accumulated large gold and foreign exchange reserves. By the end of 1960, these reserves amounted to 32,000 million marks (about 7,600 million U.S. dollars), second only to those of the United States in the capitalist world. These huge reserves provided favourable conditions for the export of capital from West Germany. Since 1952, when West Germany began to export capital on a large scale, capital exports by the state have amounted to more than 9,000 million marks and private capital exports to over 19,000 million marks.

Fostered by the U.S.

This rapid recovery and development of West German imperialism's economic power was inseparable from U.S. imperialism's energetic nursing. This fostering of West Germany is an important component part of U.S. imperialism's policies of aggression and war. In the eyes of U.S. imperialism, West Germany is not only of special strategic importance, it is also an important tool for expanding the economic influence of U.S. monopoly capital. By fostering West German monopoly capital, the United States has been able to grab huge profits in West Germany and has found a more convenient way to penetrate, via West Germany, Western Europe and certain underdeveloped countries.

In the early postwar period, the United States exported state capital to West Germany on a large scale. This was a "blood transfusion" to revive West German monopoly capital. According to figures released by the U.S. Department of Commerce, between July 1, 1945, and June 30, 1955, the United States granted West Germany government grants and credits amounting to 3,868 million U.S. dollars of which 3,400 million dollars was granted between the end of the war and 1951. Of these grants and credits, the loans under the "Marshall Plan" played the biggest role in rehabilitating the West German economy.

With the big influx of U.S. state capital into West Germany, U.S. private monopoly capital also came in in large amounts. Direct U.S. private investments in West Germany rose from 204 million dollars in 1950 to 795 million dollars in 1959, a nearly fourfold increase. U.S. private capital is spread through nearly 500 West German enterprises, embracing all branches of industry with particular concentrations in oil, automobile and electrical equipment.

The U.S. economic and political fostering of West Germany and the U.S. military occupation which is still in force today determine the political dependence of West Germany on the United States. West German revanchist clamours and war preparations are all supported and promoted by the United States. The United States is doing its best to use West Germany as a tool to further its policies of aggression and war. West Germany, however, does not simply occupy a passive position. It follows the lead of the United States because it is also trying to realize its own imperialist ambitions through the U.S. schemes. West German imperialism is not resigned to being a perpetual appendage of the United States. West Germany is still not free from U.S. control politically and economically, but in recent years, it has no longer been so absolutely obedient to the United States as in the past. For example, West Germany has demanded that the United States "consult" the allies on important questions and not just "issue orders." West Germany is not only asking for joint decision over the use of U.S. nuclear weapons in Western Europe, it is also demanding that it possess nuclear weapons itself. When asked to assist the United States in tiding over its dollar crisis, West Germany did not fully satisfy the U.S. request. The struggle between the United States and West Germany on this issue of control and anti-control is becoming more and more intense.

The West German economy recovered and developed rapidly as a result of U.S. "blood transfusions." In the current struggles in the arena of imperialist economic expansion, West Germany is not only a potent rival of Britain and France, but in certain areas has already become the main competitor of the United States. The entry of West German imperialism into the scramble for capitalist markets has greatly intensified the conflict among the imperialist countries.

Expansion in Western European Market

The first position seized by West Germany is the Western European market. The policy of "integrating" Western Europe with West Germany as the nucleus pursued by the United States after the war opened the door for West German expansion in Western Europe. In 1949 West Germany joined the Organization for European Economic Co-operation and stepped into the capitalist world market. After U.S. imperialism launched the war of aggression against Korea in 1950, other major imperialist countries directed their efforts energetically to the production of munitions. West Germany, which had not yet started arms production on a large scale at that time, seized this opportunity to launch an export drive in products for civilian use and strengthened its position in Western Europe. West Germany's exports to the latter area exceeded those of Britain in 1952 and those of the United States in 1958, thereby becoming the biggest exporter to this region. In its trade with Western Europe, West Germany has accumulated large favourable balances. By February 1960 the Western European countries owed West Germany 2,996 million marks in their trade balances. Of this amount, Britain and France owed 1,911 million marks. West Germany has also rapidly increased its

capital exports to Western European countries. Its long-term new investments in countries of the European Monetary Agreement amounted to 357 million marks in 1956, 452 million marks in 1957 and 1,450 million marks in 1958; they reached a record high of 2,478 million marks in 1959.

In 1958 West Germany together with France, Italy, the Netherlands, Belgium and Luxemburg formed the West European "Common Market" which marked a new stage in West German expansion in Western Europe. West Germany is economically the most powerful country among the Six (its steel output in 1960 accounted for 46.8 per cent of the combined steel output of the six countries, its passenger cars 49.4 per cent). Taking advantage of its daily growing economic superiority and through the arrangements under the "Common Market," it is attempting step by step to seize the economic hegemony of the West European continent. The stipulations of the "Common Market" Treaty concerning the gradual abolition of internal duties among the contracting countries and the establishment of common external tariffs, and concerning the gradual abolition of the import quotas among themselves and the realization of the free flow of capital and labour power within the six countries provide favourable conditions for West German economic penetration into the other five countries. In the first half of 1960, West German exports to the "Common Market" countries accounted for 32.3 per cent of the total internal import trade between the six countries (in terms of the average monthly value); West Germany supplied 60 per cent of the capital goods in the West European continent. It also exported huge amounts of capital to the "Common Market" countries. West Germany subscribed 300 million of the 1,000 million dollars of capital of the "European Investment Bank." Its long-term new investments in the countries of the "Common Market" were 553 million marks in 1958 and 1,243 million marks in 1959; of this, the amount used by West German monopoly capital to buy shares of enterprises in the other five countries was 126 million marks in 1958 and 951 million marks in 1959—a 7.5-fold increase in one year.

France is the main target of West German monopoly capital's economic penetration within the "Common Market." In addition to penetrating France itself, West German monopoly capital is also attempting to drive its way further into Africa through collusion with French monopoly capital.

French monopoly capital on its part is stepping up its collusion with West German monopoly capital; it calculates on using West German economic power to strengthen its own position, and particularly to realize its dream of the so-called "European-African Community" through the "Common Market." On the other hand, however, French monopoly capital is warily on guard against West Germany, a powerful competitor. The "Common Market" Treaty contains many reservations in its articles favouring France, and in the process of its implementation France has further adopted certain measures to protect its trade. At the same time, since both France and West Germany are each doing its best to make the "Common Market" a political tool under its own control, the struggle

between them for political hegemony has also grown steadily sharper.

Competing with Britain

Britain is an old rival of Germany. The outbreak of two world wars was closely associated with the sharpened contradictions between Britain and Germany. The post-war years have seen a very bitter struggle between West Germany and Britain on the West European market, and West German expansion in Western Europe has succeeded in greatly reducing British influence. Of the total value of imports of the West European countries, West Germany's share rose from 11.3 per cent in 1949 to 24.4 per cent in 1960 (the first three quarters); during the same period the British share dropped from 20 per cent to 11.7 per cent. The existence and development of the "Common Market" has become increasingly unfavourable to Britain. The "Common Market" embraces a vast market with a population of 160 million and is of vital interest to Britain. From 1951 to 1960, the increase in British exports to the "Common Market" was much faster than those to the British Commonwealth, and the West German market has become increasingly important to Britain. However, as a result of the accelerated lowering of internal duties within the six countries of the "Common Market" and their adjustments in external tariffs, it has become more and more difficult for British commodities to get into that market. Political "co-operation" among the countries joining the "Common Market" and especially the formation of the West German-French axis also constitute a severe blow to the traditional British policy of manipulating the European "balance of power" by utilizing the contradictions between Germany and France to maintain British leadership in Western Europe.

Britain seeks to keep its position in Western Europe through the "Little Free Trade Area" and at the same time uses it to compel the "Common Market" and particularly West Germany to make certain concessions favourable to Britain. Thus, the competition between West Germany and Britain has developed into a struggle between the two economic blocs in Western Europe.

Penetrating Asia, Africa and Latin America

While competing with Britain and France for the economic and political hegemony of Western Europe, West Germany has worked ever more energetically to expand economically in the underdeveloped countries of Asia, Africa and Latin America. Between 1950 and 1960, West Germany's trade with the underdeveloped countries more than quadrupled; of this amount, its exports to these countries increased 6.5-fold. Its capital exports, which mainly take the form of export credits, amounted to more than 11,200 million marks between 1956 and 1959 alone.

Latin America is one of the regions where West Germany has first directed its expansion in the postwar period, not only because it was a traditional market of German imperialism but also because it is the "backyard" of U.S. imperialism where, according to West German monopoly capital, less "risks" are involved. As early as 1953, West Germany overtook Britain in this market and moved up to second place. West German exports to Latin America

were only 3.9 million dollars in 1948; they increased to 739.5 million dollars in 1959 and reached 437.2 million dollars in the first seven months of 1960. West Germany has concluded trade agreements with 20 Latin American countries. In 1958 capital exports from West Germany to Latin America accounted for some 17 per cent of all foreign capital in Latin America. Brazil is the main area in Latin America where West Germany directs its expansion. In 1959 West German exports to Brazil amounted to 140 million dollars or more than 10 per cent of all Brazilian imports. By September 1960 West Germany's direct private investments in Brazil amounted to 531.4 million marks and Brazil became the largest receiver of direct private investments from West Germany. Many West German *konzerne* have established subsidiaries in Brazil. These now number 27. The Middle East is another major area in which West Germany is expanding. West German exports to this region stood at only 2.6 million dollars in 1948, they jumped to 428.9 million dollars in 1959. In 1958 West Germany accounted for 13.7 per cent of the total imports of the non-sterling countries in the Middle East, this percentage surpassed that of Britain and France and was next only to the United States (15.8 per cent). West Germany has already occupied first place in the imports of the United Arab Republic and Iran. It accelerated expansion into the Southeast Asian region only in recent years. Its major area of expansion there is India. Between 1950 and 1959, West German exports to India increased 15-fold. The West German share of Indian imports rose from 1.4 per cent in 1950 to 11.2 per cent in 1960, while the British share marked time during this period. By the end of 1960, loans and "aid" extended to India by West Germany amounted to 1,346 million marks, which was very close to that extended by Britain—1,439 million marks. Africa is a region on which West German imperialism has long set its eye, but West German monopoly capital today is still in the initial stages of extending its economic influence to Africa.

The energetic efforts made by West German imperialism to expand in the underdeveloped countries and penetrate the spheres of influence of the other imperialists cannot but aggravate its contradictions with British and French imperialism; at the same time this has brought to the surface and sharpened its contradictions with U.S. imperialism. This is clearly shown by the fact that West Germany in recent years has tried hard to rid itself of control by international monopoly organizations in respect of the export of capital and go its own way. Gerstenmaier, President of the West German Bundestag, has openly declared that "aid" to the underdeveloped countries "has the function of foreign policy," and therefore, "in any case bilateral aid must take precedence over multilateral aid." Up to 1959, the World Bank, the International Finance Corporation and the International Monetary Fund, under U.S. control, were the main channels through which West German capital was exported. In the second half of 1960, the West German government and its monopoly groups raised 5,000 million marks as funds for "aiding" the underdeveloped countries this year and next year. The United States asked for a share in the administration of this fund "on a common basis" in an attempt to check West German expansion and utilize West German capital to serve its own purposes. But West

Germany decided that only 750 million marks should be placed at the disposal of the international organizations and reserved the remaining 4,250 million marks entirely for its own use. The Foreign Ministry, Economics Ministry and other ministries of the Bonn government have formed a joint committee to handle this business.

West Germany's Neo-Colonialist Tactics

In the scramble with other imperialist countries for markets and places for investment, West Germany has made use of certain cunning methods of expansion in the underdeveloped countries.

First of all, it publicizes its so-called "partnership" with the underdeveloped countries. German imperialism lost all its colonies during the two world wars. In the postwar years, West German imperialism has tried hard to spread the idea that it is a "non-colonial country" itself, claiming that its relationship with the underdeveloped countries is one of so-called "partnership." It even declares itself in favour of the elimination of the colonial rule of the British, French and Belgian imperialists, so as to squeeze out its competitors and deceive the peoples of the underdeveloped countries. Under the cloak of "partnership," West German monopoly capital has exported capital to the underdeveloped countries and dumped its commodities there under various fancy names, plundering the wealth of these countries and exploiting their peoples. It is for this purpose that West Germany has concluded "investment guarantee agreements" and "double taxes exemption agreements" with certain underdeveloped countries. Up to May of this year, West Germany had successively concluded such "investment guarantee agreements" with Pakistan, Malaya, Iran, Greece and Togo. These agreements stipulate that the enterprises established by West Germany in these countries enjoy equal rights with local enterprises; that the shares held by West German investors in local enterprises are not subject to restrictions and that West German properties in the countries concerned can be expropriated only when they are given compensation and that this must be subject to legal procedures. West Germany has also concluded "double taxes exemption agreements" with India and 15 other countries. By virtue of these agreements, West German enterprises and capital in these countries enjoy preferential treatment in taxation.

Next, "technical co-operation" and "cultural co-operation" are used as a means of expanding West German influence. West Germany has set up technical schools in Iran, Iraq, Spain, Greece and other countries, and "model" factories and farms in 16 countries including Greece, Turkey, Jordan, Thailand and Liberia. It has set up various types of "technical advisory offices" in many countries such as "Hydraulic Services" in Afghanistan, and "Plant Protection Offices" in the Sudan. The West German "Bundesanstalt für Bodenforschung" ("Federal Bureau of Geological Survey") has its "service stations," "surveying teams" and specialists in some 70 underdeveloped countries, whose duty it is to collect information about the resources of the countries concerned for West German monopoly capital. West German assistance to India in prospecting for oil has a string to it, that is,

"if oil reserves are discovered the Federal Republic itself will participate in mining them." Moreover, West Germany is prepared to imitate the United States in sending "peace corps" to the underdeveloped countries to carry on activities there.

Furthermore, West Germany offers easy terms for its investments and loans to crowd out its competitors. In granting credits to the underdeveloped countries, West Germany, relying on the large amounts of gold and foreign exchange reserves it holds and disregarding the "Berne Agreement" concluded by the imperialist countries in 1934—an agreement which stipulates that the terms of credit for the export of capital goods should not exceed five years and the terms of credit for consumer goods should not exceed six months—has, by way of "moratoriums" and other devices, granted to the underdeveloped countries long-term credits in excess of five years. At the same time, the Bonn government makes its export credits guarantee applicable to all fields of exports. Imperialism, as a rule, takes an obstructionist attitude towards the industrialization of the underdeveloped countries; it is particularly unwilling to see the development of the iron and steel industries in these countries. West Germany too makes every effort to advocate that the underdeveloped countries should give priority to the development of consumer goods industries and small enterprises, but, under certain conditions, it has provided "aid" to the underdeveloped countries in developing their heavy industries so as to drive an entering wedge into the spheres of influence of the other imperialist countries. The United States more often than not makes its investments in the underdeveloped countries conditional on these countries refraining from resorting to nationalization, but West Germany does not insist on this condition; it merely demands a guarantee of so-called reasonable compensation.

West German imperialism not only struggles for economic hegemony in Western Europe and engages in economic expansion in the underdeveloped countries, it also struggles with the British and French imperialists for the political hegemony of Western Europe. What calls for particular attention is that West Germany has also increasingly stepped up its military expansionist activities. West Germany today has become the country with the greatest military strength on the Western European continent. In the past 11 years, the Adenauer government has persistently followed the United States in fomenting the "cold war," refused to recognize the Oder-Neisse frontier laid down by the Potsdam Agreement and even clamoured madly for "the recovery of the lost territories in the East." West German imperialism on the one hand is intensifying its preparations for aggression against the socialist countries, and at the same time, on the pretext of preparing for war against the socialist countries, is stepping up its military expansion in Western Europe. Fostered by U.S. imperialism, West German imperialism has become a grave threat to peace in Europe and the world. However, the international situation today is radically different from what it was before World War II. Every scheme of U.S. imperialism to foster and collude with West Germany in carrying out policies of aggression and war is doomed to failure; the result will be "to lift a stone only to have it crash on one's own feet."

Communications and Transport Make the Grade

by YU CHING-YUAN

CHINA'S economy advanced at high speed in the three years 1958-60 and the growth of communications and transport—that vital link between the various branches of the national economy—was phenomenal. In terms of gross tonnage, the nation's steamers and barges, lorries and planes in 1960 carried more than three times as much freight as in 1957. In terms of ton-kilometres the increase was more than twofold. The average annual rates of growth were thus even higher than those reached during the First Five-Year Plan (1953-57) and these were already remarkable—22.8 and 23.7 per cent respectively.

All forms of transport received more equipment and better facilities. During the last three years the country got more than twice as much new steamship and barge tonnage and more than twice as many new lorries as during the entire First Five-Year Plan; it commissioned more than three times as many new civil aircraft; it more than doubled the mileage of paved motor roads built; and the new waterways made navigable for steamers in these three years totalled about twice the length of the additions made in the First Five-Year Plan.

Tremendous changes have been brought about in land, water and air transport. The extension of navigable waterways went ahead swiftly in conjunction with the large-scale development of irrigation projects. Motor highways and feeder roads now link the nation's major cities to the vast countryside and to the mountain and border regions that once could only be reached over difficult trails. Ten years ago it seemed to many that it would take many decades indeed to build modern highways on the "roof of the world," that great plateau including Tibet, Chinghai, southern Sinkiang and western Szechuan, because of the altitudes—3,000 metres and more above sea level—the difficult terrain and bad weather. By the end of 1960, 31,000 kilometres of motor roads had been built. They have greatly facilitated the economic development of these regions.

Air transport has also made big advances. In 1960 its services spread to more than twice as many cities as in 1957. Many medium-sized cities are now on its regular routes. The transport services have also greatly increased their efficiency. The average volume of freight carried by a lorry in 1960 compared with 1952 showed a 4.6-fold rise. Transport costs are noticeably reduced. Many new transport cadres have been trained.

Unstinted Aid to Agriculture

This rapid development of communications and transport, and particularly timely and efficient transport

of iron, steel, coal and grain, facilitated the high-speed growth of the economy as a whole.

Aid given by communications and transport services to agriculture has been especially noteworthy. In the past three years, communications and transport departments have helped the rural people's communes set up their own organs to manage communications and transport, organize various types of transport units to handle short hauls, improve roads, waterways and other facilities, and carry forward technical reforms. With this help, the rural communes have steadily improved their transport services and increased their income from this source. All this has greatly helped farm production and stimulated trade between town and countryside.

These efforts to aid agriculture were increased last year in answer to the Communist Party's call to the whole Party and people to go in for agriculture and grain production in a big way. Communications and transport departments gave top priority to the shipment of goods and equipment needed by agriculture and the rural people's communes for the farming season. In a recent effort, transport workers in Hofei, Anhwei Province, succeeded in rushing much needed drought-fighting equipment to the countryside—diesel engines, water pumps, water wheels, etc. On short notice, by waterways alone they delivered 650 water wheels and 12 pumps to the people's communes in drought affected areas. In the first ten days of last month, transport workers in Hsinhsiang, Honan Province, shipped to the rural communes, on a priority basis, 67,500 implements for summer harvesting and tilling, 5,930 tons of rolled steel and timber to make farm tools, and nearly 200,000 *jin* of seeds.

Szechuan Province now operates a fleet of over 300 lorries, 60,000 tons of shipping junk and a large number of horse- and ox-carts, barrows and other vehicles to carry goods for agriculture. Junks, horse- and ox-carts and other simpler means of transport still play a very big role in the rural areas, especially in short hauls. As even the rapid increase in modern transport facilities cannot keep pace with the soaring amount of freight that has to be handled, they actually account for about 50 per cent of the freight moved in the country (not including railway transport) in terms of tonnage and about 4 per cent in terms of ton-kilometres. (This wide discrepancy is due to the fact that they specialize in short-distance transport.)

The air services are giving increased and improved aid to agriculture. They airlift such delicate cargoes as

fish fry, silkworms and specially treated seeds that require careful handling and prompt delivery. In addition to pest control, sowing and the application of fertilizers, they give many other types of direct service to farming. Between 1957 and 1960 the number of flying hours of airwork in direct support to agriculture rose 9-fold. In 1960 planes were giving 101 times as many flying hours to such work as in 1953 when regular aerial aid to farming began.

"Dragon Chain" Transport

One of the great innovations in transport during the past two years has been the introduction and subsequent growth of "dragon chain" co-operation. As the economy went into high gear in 1958, pressure increased on the transport departments to speed up the turn-round of vehicles and vessels and the transport of goods. While this depended in part on the efficiency of transport itself, it also called for closer co-operation between transport and other branches of the economy. It was under such circumstances that continuous ("dragon chain") transport co-operation was evolved.

This new way of co-operation and new organizational form of transport was initiated in 1959 by workers of the port and railway station of Chinwangtao on Pohai Gulf. It involves a continuous line of transport with the port and railway station as the centre connecting scheduled trains and steamships and embracing the relevant factories and mines (the consigners), railway stations, ports, trains, steamers, and the consignees at the ports of destination—all closely knit together. By combining different types of transport operations (by train, by steamer, etc.) into a unified process and making loading at the factory (or mine), transfer of cargo from train to steamer, unloading at the port of destination, etc., integral stages of this unified process, the transport of goods and the turn-round of vehicles and vessels were speeded up. In the second quarter of 1959, the time that railway wagons and steamers stood waiting at Chinwangtao to be unloaded and loaded was reduced by half compared with the time before the introduction of "dragon chain" co-operation. As a result of this better co-ordination, the port was able to ship an additional 180,000 tons of coal without adding new facilities.

"Dragon chain," co-operation has changed the relations between people and their mental outlook. A spirit of mutual help and assistance prevails. The slogan is: "Let other people do the more convenient work and reserve the difficult jobs for oneself."

Since it was introduced there has been a further development of "dragon chain" transport and it is becoming constantly more comprehensive in scope. In Loho City, Honan Province, a flourishing centre of newly established industries, a "ten-in-one" dragon chain has been organized, embracing the departments in charge of railways, highway transport, inland shipping, local transport and trans-shipments, iron and steel production, foodstuffs, capital construction, trade and water conservancy. This has brought production, transport and marketing into closer and more efficient co-operation. In 1960, Yunnan Province in the southwest divided its

road transport into three levels: lorries operated by the provincial authorities handling freight on the trunk lines; those operated by the special administrative regions, *chou*, or cities responsible for transport on the feeder lines; and transport units of the rural people's communes handling carriage over the mountain paths and country roads within the county limits. This system closely knit together the various types of conveyance to the best advantage. The city of Peking has organized its pedicabs, horse-carts and lorries into a "relay transport" system on similar lines, so strengthening ties between railway stations, wholesale depot and department stores and shops serving the rural communes on the city's outskirts.

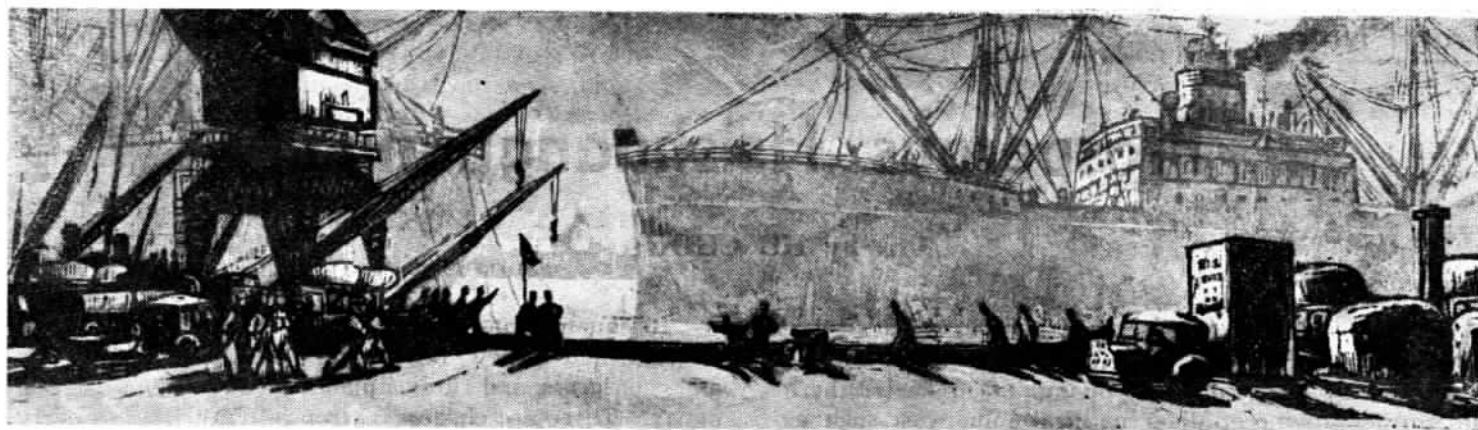
Technical Improvements

The rapid increase in transport efficiency owed a great deal to the technical innovations introduced over the past three years, and especially during the extensive mass movement launched last year to assist the technical revolution in transport.

Motor "trains"—lorries towing a set of trailers—are today a common sight on China's highways. Initiated in 1958, this innovation has spread rapidly. It has gone a long way to raising transport efficiency and lowering costs. Chekiang Province took up the idea in the second quarter of 1958. By the last quarter of that year, lorry-towed trailers were already carrying 28.4 per cent of all freight on its highways or 34.7 per cent in terms of ton-kilometres. That year, too, highway transport costs in Chekiang went down 31 per cent.

Drastic changes have been affected in loading and unloading at the docks. It was here that some of the hardest manual work was done by the stevedores. Now all sorts of hoisting and conveyer machinery, both modern and home-grown, are being employed. Different types of machines are linked together and arranged to form continuous lines which get the job done in minimum time and so reduce the turn-round time of vehicles or vessels.

There has been an extensive development of a movement to establish co-ordinated networks and to effect the "five changes" in transport on short hauls and in transport within industrial and mining enterprises. The guiding principle here is to make comprehensive use of all types of transport facilities in the light of local conditions and locally available means. The actual practices adopted in this movement vary, therefore, according to specific local conditions. But generally speaking, the "five changes" include the following: the use of vehicles to replace carrying things by hand or by carrying pole; the use of boats on all navigable waterways; the use of metal or wooden rails for tip cars, horse- or ox-cart "trains," etc. to facilitate hauls along routes carrying a concentration of freight; and the use of overhead cables and chutes in mountainous and hilly regions. In Szechuan Province, Chiangpei County pioneered this movement and the popularization of its experience throughout that province in 1959 resulted in such labour savings that several hundred thousand men were freed for other jobs in industry or on the farms.



On the Whangpoo Wharf

Woodcut in colour by Chen Chien-yin

Other valuable innovations include the widespread use of elevated platforms to load vehicles by force of gravity and the use of a wide variety of locally devised gadgetry. Technical reforms of such traditional means of transport as horse- and ox-carts have also produced most encouraging results.

Victory of Three Red Banners

These solid achievements in communications and transport have been made under the guidance of the "Three Red Banners"—the Communist Party's general line for building socialism, the big leap forward and the people's communes. As the national economy has forged ahead by leaps and bounds, the people have eagerly sought to keep communications and transport services going and expanding to keep pace with and promote the growth of industry and agriculture. Translating this desire of the people into practical effort, the Communist Party formulated the following set of policies for communications and transport: firmly rely on the local Party organizations for giving leadership; bring into full play the initiative and creativeness of the masses as well as all transport workers; simultaneously develop national and local transport enterprises, including modern and traditional means of transport, modern as well as all sorts of improvised repair, loading and unloading machinery; integrate trunk line and branch line transport and long and short hauls; popularize, that is, develop transport facilities extensively, while raising standards at the same time, with emphasis on the former; comprehensively develop all forms of transport—on water, land and by air; and link the work of communications and transport with farming, forestry and water conservancy so as to develop industry, agriculture, transport and trade simultaneously and bind together production, transport and marketing. These policies are designed to speed up the development of communications and transport and build up a far-flung national transport network which uses mainly modern forms of conveyance to serve production, the people's welfare and national defence.

The mass way of mobilizing the efforts of the people, of bringing all positive factors into play, has enabled transport to make such rapid progress as would have been impossible if reliance were placed solely on the

state enterprises and professional transport workers. In the seaboard province of Fukien, for example, the terrain is extremely difficult from a transport point of view. It is hilly and with many swift-flowing rivers. Before liberation, as many as 18 counties out of 63 hadn't a single kilometre of modern motor road; the "roads" in 28 others were so in name only; they were practically unusable by normal standards. The province had only about 900 kilometres of motor roads in barely serviceable condition. By the end of 1960, however, thanks to well-planned mass efforts, all 63 counties in the province were served by motor transport; highways reached 88 per cent of the people's communes and 52 per cent of their production brigades. Kweichow Province in the southwest was another province notorious for its lack of transport facilities in the past. "Not three feet of the ground is level" was the local saying. Now every one of its counties is linked by motor roads which reach 74 per cent of the province's people's communes.

Consolidating Gains

This year, the work of improving the nation's communications and transport services goes steadily ahead. The rudiments of a national highway network have already been built up; inland navigation and civil air transport have been extensively developed; important new techniques have been introduced and a rich fund of experience accumulated. The task now is to consolidate the gains made and make further improvements.

After three years of high-speed progress, the relations between the various services in communications and transport and between these services and other branches of the national economy also call for readjustments. Naturally the transport services put aid to agriculture at the top of their agenda. Particular stress is being placed on maintenance and repair work within the services to keep every available vehicle, vessel and aircraft shipshape and roads, waterways, ports and other installations in tip-top order. High-efficiency operation is the aim. The quality of services will be steadily raised as they continue to develop, so as to raise this important branch of the national economy to a still higher level.

Prosperous Hsishuangpanna

by HO CHOU

AFTER driving its way down from the northwestern plateau of Yunnan, the Lantsang River flows through an area of upland plains and mountains in the southern tip of the province. Many national minorities such as the Tais, Hanis, Pulangs, Lahus and Yaos live here as well as the Hans. The Tai people, however, make up nearly half of the local inhabitants, so a Tai autonomous *chou** was established here by the People's Government in 1953.

The towering Hengtuan Mountains dominate the scene, framing a series of twelve large open plains. This gives the area its name—Hsishuangpanna. In the Tai language *hsishuang* means 12, and *panna* valley plains. Set like huge plates of green malachite amidst the mountains, these fertile plains are the "granaries" and "fruit and flower baskets" of the autonomous *chou*.

These well-laden "baskets" are strung together by the glittering ribbon of the Lantsang, the main transport artery of the *chou*. Boats bring in salt, chemical fertilizers, farm tools and everyday necessities from upstream. On their way back they carry rice, brown sugar, bananas, pineapples and other local produce.

This is a land of everlasting green. Wild vegetation and crops flourish in its subtropical climate. It enjoys a sufficient rainfall. With its varied plant life, it boasts the name of the "botanical kingdom." In its virgin forests are big banyan trees several hundred years old, and other giants rising 40 metres above the ground. It has excellent timber trees such as teak, *machilus nanmu* and red sandalwood. Paddyrice, maize, tuber crops, groundnuts and soya beans grow on the plains.

* *Chou* is an administrative division embracing many counties under a province or an autonomous region.

Hsishuangpanna abounds in oil-bearing trees such as oil palm and cashew, high-grade essential oil plants such as lemon grass, and fibrous plants such as sisal hemp and kopak. There are clusters of tropical fruit trees in every village and each farm house has its shade trees and coconuts, mangoes or golden papaws. A dozen tropical medicinal herbs are being trial cultivated with success. These include both native plants and others introduced from outside.

Despite these rich natural resources, however, the people of Hsishuangpanna led a miserable life in pre-liberation days. Imperialist plunder, Kuomintang reactionary rule, and oppression and enslavement by local feudal lords, kept its economy and culture stagnant. Disease was rampant. The population was steadily declining.

New Changes

Liberation brought vivifying changes. Guided by the Communist Party, the various nationalities in Hsishuangpanna have broken down for ever the national barriers and discrimination that divided them. Becoming the real masters of their country, they have step by step carried out the tasks of the democratic revolution, and won tremendous victories in socialist revolution and socialist construction. They achieved particularly good results in the past three years of the continuous big leap.

Agriculture, which is, of course, still the main occupation here, has made remarkable progress, greatly increasing the output of both food crops and technical crops, especially tea and sugar cane.

The farming methods inherited by the minority peoples from the old days were extremely backward. To help modernize them, cadres of the autonomous *chou* and its



Beautiful Hsishuangpanna

Painting in Chinese ink and colour by Tsung Chi-hsiang

counties have done a great deal of work right in the fields, cultivating many experimental plots and helping to sum up and spread local experience in getting higher yields. Thanks to this, the local peasants have gradually introduced such well-tested methods as spreading manure, weeding, top-dressing and the use of insecticides. Now they are no longer satisfied with the old farming practice of getting only one crop a year. Two crops of paddyrice are now grown each year on over 43,000 *mu* in the *chou*.

Better farming methods are also adopted by the more than 20 state farms which now specialize in the cultivation of oil palm, coffee and other tropical plants. The People's Government too has spent more than six million yuan for production subsidies over the past decade to help the peasants of the national minorities here develop their various undertakings. The 6,000 big and small water conservancy works built with state assistance in 1958 have extended the benefits of irrigation to more than half of the paddyfields of the *chou*. Higher farm outputs have raised incomes in the villages.

Hsishuangpanna had no modern industry or modern roads before liberation. Now the autonomous *chou* has plants and mills making metal farm tools, paper and dozens of other things needed by its people. Power stations and a tractor repair station have been built. The *chou* today has its own local newspaper printed on paper supplied by its own mill. A working class has been born in the region. The major towns of Hsishuangpanna are now linked by good roads.

Malaria was one of the diseases that specially afflicted Hsishuangpanna. With the training of doctors, nurses and midwives from among the local population, the establishment of clinics and hospitals and the launching of mass public health campaigns, this and the other most serious diseases have been generally brought under control. The high infantile mortality rate has been brought down steadily.

Where Puerh Tea Grows

Interestingly enough, the famous Puerh Black Tea is grown mainly in Hsishuangpanna, and not in Puerh itself. It got its name because Puerh used to be its market place. Nanngo, one of the six tea-producing mountains in this region, is credited with being the native place of the Puerh tea plant. Rising 1,800 metres above sea level, the Nanngo Mountain is covered with large numbers of tea plants, many a century old. The five-metre-high "King of the Tea Plants" on its western slope is said to be 800 years old.

The Hani people on the Nanngo lived in direst poverty until liberation. Only then did a radical change for the better take place. In the years before, a load of Nanngo tea fetched only one-tenth of its weight in salt. It took a whole mule load of tea to buy just one felt hat. There was not much difference then between tea leaves and grass. No wonder then that the annual yield of this famous tea in the Nanngo area dropped to a low level and large tracts of tea plantations were allowed to go to waste. In utter despair some Hani tea growers chopped down their beloved plants for firewood.

After liberation, the Nanngo Mountain peasants soon started to restore their tea plantations. Tea yields in-



By the Lantsang River Woodcut in colour by Yang Yung-ching

creased rapidly year after year. Output reached a new high last year—50 times as much as in 1949—and even better yields are promised. A research institute studying tea cultivation is spreading improved methods of tending tea plants. The state trading agencies have adjusted purchasing prices of tea to reasonable levels.

On the ruins of a tea factory for rough processing built by the Kuomintang reactionaries, the people's government set up a semi-mechanized factory for the preliminary processing of black tea. It handles 10,000 *jin* of fresh leaves a day. The local Hani people make up 90 per cent of the factory workers. Since 1958 this factory has helped neighbouring villages to set up initial tea-processing shops. Among these, Nanngoshan Township has built a workshop using water power for the first-round processing of black tea by indigenous methods. Thanks to its help, all the surrounding villages now have their own tea-processing units.

Nanngo's tea plantations have got a new lease of life and so have the Hani people there. Prosperous villages have replaced the near destitute hamlets of the past. There was a virtual 100 per cent illiteracy among the working people in the Nanngo area. Now practically all the school-age children, 300 all told, are attending the primary school there. The rags of yesterday have gone. Today everybody has made new clothes. The young people are putting on leather and rubber-soled canvas shoes. Peasant households proudly display their new furniture, new cotton-padded quilts or the red cotton

blankets which are especially popular here. Bank savings average some 200 yuan per family.

Progress at Manka

Like many other villages of the Tai people, Manka is surrounded by immense forests which stretch as far as the eye can see. Visitors to this little hamlet in Ching-hung County are immediately impressed by its tidiness. Bamboo houses built in the characteristic styles of the Tai nationality are dotted among groves of banana plants with their bending green sails of leaves and heavy clusters of fruits. Above them tower the bare tall stems of coconut trees. A small bamboo house set somewhat apart is the nursery where a dozen babies are looked after by some of the older women.

This prosperous village was a byword for its poverty in pre-liberation days. More than two-thirds of its households had barely enough grain to last them three months a year. Nineteen of its poor-peasant households (out of a total of 31 households in the village) depended on rented farm tools and draught animals to cultivate their land. Despite the fertile soil and favourable climate, exorbitant rents, debts, taxes and other forms of exploitation kept them at starvation level. Liberation began the change, but it was only after they received land, farm tools and draught animals during the land reform in 1956 that their life began to show really big improvements.* In 1958, the first year of China's big leap, every household in Manka joined the newly organized farm co-op.

What the co-op system could do is shown vividly in the growth of Manka's grain output over the past three years. In 1957, it was 110,000 *jin*, already half as much again as in the peak pre-liberation year. Next year it was 130,000 *jin*. It increased again in 1959 and rose to 197,000 *jin* last year. Each year the co-op has sold more grain to the state.

Manka peasants got these rich harvests by both expanding their cultivated acreage and raising per-*mu* yields. This year they have opened up another 50 *mu* of virgin soil for paddyfields and 100 *mu* on mountain slopes for a trial planting of cotton.

The co-op also enabled the peasants to introduce more modern and productive methods of farming, new to Tai farms, such as the collecting of farmyard manure and green manure, the use of chemical fertilizers, regular weeding and deep ploughing. They built a 2-kilometre-long irrigation ditch to ensure double-cropping in the paddyfields. Thanks to the farm co-op, they have been able to use their labour power to better advantage. The co-op is also seeking to reduce heavy manual labour and save manpower by building itself four ox-drawn carts and using rice threshers and water-powered rice grinders.

Earnings from sidelines account for a large part of the co-op's income. The cultivation of food crops, sugar-cane and fruit trees is now supplemented by other collectively run undertakings including pig breeding, poultry raising and fish farming. All these make a big contribution to co-op prosperity. Household sidelines are

also being energetically developed and are a major source of family income.

The speedy growth of farm output has brought the villagers a steadily rising standard of living. In addition to its new acquisitions, each household has savings deposited in the bank. Three households have acquired bicycles and seven have bought sewing machines.

Yanyoliang, the co-op's chairman, is a man of middle age today. What has happened to his family may well illustrate the life of other Manka households. Before liberation he was a hired labourer living in the depths of poverty. His family of seven had only a single worn blanket to cover themselves with at night. For three-fourths of the year they ate wild vegetables collected by his mother and wife.

Life started to improve after liberation, but in the past three years living conditions in his family took a really phenomenal change for the better. Not to speak of other aspects of life, a list of their new acquisitions gives a fair idea of what the new life has brought them. First, the family has built a new house. Secondly, it has purchased new clothing for every member, together with cotton-padded quilts and mosquito nets. Thirdly, Yanyoliang has bought himself several suits, a felt hat, a pair of leather shoes and a shotgun to boot.

Hsishuangpanna is the place where the sugar-cane grows and peacocks live in native freedom. The Tais and other peoples of the Lantsang valley have taken a road leading to a life unknown before, which they say will be as sweet as the sugar-cane and as beautiful as the iridescent green and golden plumage of the peacock.

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* Due to special local conditions, land reform in these areas was carried out several years after it was completed in most of the rest of China.

Echo of an Echo

THAILAND'S Premier Sarit Thanarat is offended because his delegate's speeches at Geneva have been ignored. The Western news agencies rate them so unnewsworthy that they even prefer to quote various "reliable sources" or "persons in a position to know."

Determined to keep Thailand in good voice, the Premier has instructed his Foreign Ministry to publish and freely distribute a collection of his Foreign Minister Korman's speeches at the conference. One report has it that he is even thinking of founding a news agency like the Associated Press or the United Press International to let the world know what he is thinking.

But surely it is not difficult to understand this lack of public interest in what Bangkok has got to say. So far the Thai delegate has made four speeches. They contain crude distortions of the true situation in Laos; bare-faced denials of the admitted intervention of the United States and the SEATO bloc in Laotian affairs; slanderous perversions of the policies of the legal Laotian Government and the Neo Lao Haksat; vilification of the stand of the socialist countries and assorted attempts to sabotage the conference and obstruct a peaceful settlement of the Laotian question. In a word, they are merely repetitions and variations on the themes already played *ad nauseam* by the United States Delegation.

When the U.S. delegate insisted on an "effective cease-fire" as a "prerequisite" for progress at the conference, the Thai delegate shrieked that the Laotian patriotic forces had "violated the cease-fire."

When the U.S. delegate brazenly slandered the stand taken by Viet Nam and China in support of the Laotian people, the Thai delegate hollered that "the potential source of war" in Laos is in places "north of Laos."

No sooner had the U.S. Secretary of State Rusk put forward the plan for what amounts to an international condominium over Laos than the Thai delegate came forward with the demand that the international commission "must be able freely to enter all areas in Laos without any hindrance whatsoever," and that foreign economic assistance to Laos should be "administered by an international organ as suggested by the United States."

U.S. delegate Harriman opposed the principle of unanimity through consultation within the international commission as provided for in the Soviet proposal, so it was natural to find his Thai junior partner branding this principle as "obstruction instead of help for the commission's capacity for action." The list could be lengthened but enough has been said to show that as the one sings, the other provides the accompaniment. That's the way Premier Sarit evidently likes it, but who ever heard of a second fiddle complaining because he didn't get separate applause?

In fairness it must be recorded that the Thai delegate has also on occasion done a solo act after proper coaching by the conductor.

At the session on May 12, for example, the Thai delegate was so anxious to perform that he even violated normal procedure and demanded the floor without a prior request. He then insisted that the conference consider the long-settled question of Laotian "representation." He asked that representatives of five so-called "political parties" be admitted to the conference, trying by this diversion to prevent the conference from going ahead with the discussion of substantive questions, although everyone knows that these "political parties" are "husband and wife parties," or "family parties," groups of reactionary politicians, military men and their cousins, brothers-in-law, fathers-in-law, sons-in-law, uncles and nephews who represent nobody but themselves.

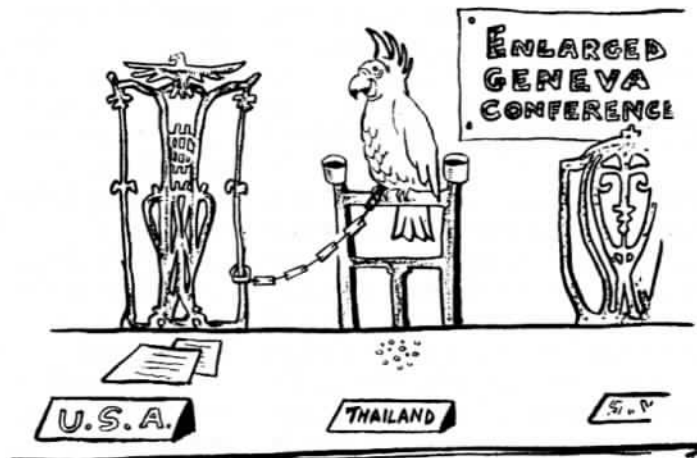
These antics bored most delegates. The chairman was finally forced to get him to cut his speech short. Thus rebuffed, the Thai spokesman refused to take further part in the session and sulked out hugging his briefcase.

And so the squalid role played by the Bangkok delegation at the Geneva Conference got the treatment it deserved and left Premier Sarit and his Foreign Minister Korman wailing that "everybody is opposed to our speeches," and "nothing happens no matter what proposals one makes."

Echo was a shy but beautiful nymph of ancient Greek mythology who could only return another's words. Korman, sitting at the Geneva Conference table, does not look like Echo, but nevertheless he too is an echo.

If Rusk's speeches at Geneva are the echo of that cracked bell once tolled by Dulles, then the chatter of the Thai delegates at the conference is only the echo of that echo. It is surely extravagant megalomania to imagine that anyone should be interested in the echo of an echo of a cracked bell.

— SU MIN



LITERATURE

Literary Histories of National Minorities

Some forty years ago when Lu Hsun was lecturing on the history of literature at Amoy University, he called the printed collection of his lectures there "An Outline History of Han Literature." His refusal to use the name "Chinese Literature" was characteristic of him. He wanted to draw attention to a grave shortcoming of the work done up to then on the history of Chinese literature—its failure to study the literatures of China's many national minorities. The great effort made since liberation to study this literary heritage and make it more widely available has done much to remedy this defect. But its very success has shown that even today, knowledge of the literatures of the minority peoples cannot be considered anywhere near adequate considering the great wealth of their literature that still needs to be brought to general notice.

Fairly detailed literary histories or general outlines of literature of 16 nationalities have been compiled to date. Three of these, the literary histories of the Pais, the Nahsis and the Tibetans, are already on sale in book form. Of the rest, the first drafts of the literary histories of the Mongolians, Miaos, Chuangs, Tais, Yis and Tuchias as well as the first drafts of the general outlines of literature of the Kawas, Tungs, Puyis, Yaos, Hanis and Hehches, have been written.

China has 51 minority nationalities. They all have their own literatures; some have literary histories which go back more than a thousand years. But none of them had systematically written histories of their literature. It was only after liberation that the People's Government and cultural institutions set going systematic investigations and research work on the histories and political, economic and cultural life of the various minority peoples. In the literary field, a treasure trove of material has been unveiled. Just one example of the fruits of such endeavours is the case of the long narrative poem *Ashma*, now known not only all over China but also to many readers abroad through translations in English, French, German and other languages. *Ashma* is an epic poem of the Shanis, a branch of the Yi people living in

Hsishuangpanna in China's southwestern province of Yunnan. To collect and write down this poetry which had hitherto existed only on the lips of the Shanis, the Yunnan local authorities sent out a field team of enterprising young people, including poets, folklorists and linguists. The translation into the Han language was made after carefully comparing 21 versions. Many of these showed only slight variations but a few differed drastically.

It was in 1958, however, that research work on the national minorities' literature really got started on a big scale. This was when the central authorities formally put forward the task of compiling histories of the literatures of all of China's minority nationalities. Where conditions were not yet ripe for the compiling of a full-scale history, it was suggested that a general outline of literature might be prepared as a first step. This directive sent field teams fanning out to the various national minority areas. Their members lived and worked with the people, enlisted their eager cooperation for the work in hand. In most cases these field teams were jointly organized by the provincial propaganda departments of the Communist Party committees of the multinational provinces and the Institute of Literature of the Chinese Academy of Sciences. Many of their members were students of the Departments of Chinese Literature of various universities and colleges. Professors and lecturers too lent a hand and the local offices of the Nationalities Affairs Commission were always ready to give help as well as guidance.

Many of these minority peoples had no written language of their own in the past. Their literature was handed down by word of mouth from generation to generation. This called for a painstaking work in recording their wealth of folk songs, ballads and folk tales, many of which in addition existed in several versions. Field workers took down notes over eight days and nights while a local minstrel sang the long epic poem *Meiko* of the Yis. Now a Han translation of this poem has been published by both provincial and national publishers. In compiling such long poems, the comparative study made of variants invariably proved to be an even more demanding job than recording them.

Field workers found a considerable number of folk tales, myths and fables preserved in ancient hand-copied volumes, in books made of tree leaves, of wooden slips, and in religious scriptures. The *Tungpa Scripture* of the Nahsi people, written in hieroglyphics, was found to run into three thousand volumes. Another scripture, that of the Tais, is inscribed with a metal stylus on leaves of the *pei* tree. This is said to run into as many as 84,000 volumes. In Hsishuangpanna, Buddhist scriptures can be found in almost every household. Then there is the lengthy legend of Gesser-Khan in Chinghai Province said to be the place where this widespread legend originated. This is preserved in hand-copied volumes.

This great work of collecting and compilation is still proceeding. A recent meeting called in Peking by the Institute of Literature of the Chinese Academy of Sciences summed up the work done and mapped out future plans. These envisage in detail the writing and publication of literary histories or general outlines of literature of all of China's nationalities and the collecting, study, translation and editing of all the main works of literature of the various minorities and their publication. A series of reference works will also be compiled containing literary material gathered from the various minority peoples.

While this work on the literary treasures of the past is going on—treasures in most cases brought widely to general notice only after liberation—the minority peoples are daily creating new literary histories. In addition to the national journals which carry stories, poems and excerpts from novels by minority writers from time to time, there are now more than a dozen literary magazines which are devoted solely to literary works of the minority peoples.

In the last ten years and more, some 800 titles of literary works were published in the languages of different national minorities. Of these, 168 were in Mongolian and 59 in Korean. Over 150 of these have appeared in Han translations. More than 200 writers of the national minorities have been admitted to the Union of Chinese Writers or its local branches. It should not be long now before it will be possible to fulfil Lu Hsun's behest to write the full story of Chinese literature.

MUSIC

Current Discussions

Lively discussions are going on in China's academic circles, as reported earlier in our magazine. Writers, artists, literary and art critics, professors and students of the arts, musicians and musicologists too are discussing questions of particular current interest to them.

At a two-week session sponsored recently by the Union of Chinese Musicians, more than 30 leading composers and musicians got together at Nanning (Kwangsi), the home town of that legendary songstress Third Sister Liu who is said to have lived there more than a thousand years ago. They took up such questions as the relationship between life, ideology and technique in music, and the special characteristics of music. The discussions became especially lively when they came to the question of light music. Since Shanghai's musical circles raised this question early this year, it has been the subject of many articles and many symposia. Little symphonic music was written in China before liberation but it has enjoyed a thriving growth in recent years. Its problems too have come in for discussion. There was also a free exchange of ideas on the writing of popular songs, on the question of local colour and national style.

During the talks, participants listened to and discussed many recordings. These included symphonies, oratorios and cantatas, music for traditional instruments, and light music. Among the symphonies were *War Against Japanese Aggression* by Wang Yun-chieh, *The Long March* (drafts of the first three movements) by Ting Shan-teh, Sitson Ma's *Second Symphony* and *Tempest*, a collective work by members of the Central Philharmonic Symphony Orchestra.

Here in Peking, the Musicians' Union has held a series of get-togethers since last spring where composers, poets, and singers exchanged ideas on how to create songs which are pleasing to the ear, easy to sing and to remember. Music teachers of primary and middle schools, editors and others working on children's periodicals and radio programmes, and staff members of children's palaces told the composers and poets



Collecting Folk Songs

Painting in traditional Chinese style by Liu Po-shu

what songs young singers and listeners like best. They asked for more songs with a greater diversity of subject matter and style. They pointed out that while most children like to sing, many also like to make music, and that there should be more instrumental music specially composed for children.

When the Szechuan Opera Theatre from Chungking visited Peking recently the musical circles in the capital were greatly interested in its innovations in the style of operatic singing, in its use of a chorus as an accompaniment to the acting and in its instrumental accompaniment. The visiting artists held exhaustive discussions with the capital's musicians on operatic music and how to carry on and enhance this great heritage.

Special research groups have been organized by the Musicians' Union to study a host of problems including how to preserve or enhance the national flavour of modern vocal music, how to develop a national school of conducting and further promote creative work in music.

SHORT NOTES

Gorky Honoured. The 25th anniversary of the death of Maxim Gorky, the great Soviet proletarian writer, was commemorated at meetings over the weekend by literary and art circles in both Peking and Shanghai. The Peking meeting was chaired by Mao Tun, Vice-President of the Sino-Soviet Friendship Association and Chairman of the Union of Chinese

Writers, the two organizations which sponsored the gathering.

In his opening speech, Mao Tun recalled Gorky's devoted efforts in working for a good and happy life for the toiling masses. He had dedicated the whole of his life and all his immense creative talent to the cause of ending capitalism and the system of exploitation and of building socialism and communism, said the speaker; he created works which are a real inspiration to the working people and which fill the enemies of the working class with alarm. Mao Tun said, "Let us follow Gorky's example still better and work still better for this great struggle today when the progressive people of the world, and especially the peoples of Asia, Africa and Latin America, have launched a surging movement of unprecedented proportions against imperialism and colonialism, new and old."

The meeting heard an address by the well-known writer Liu Pai-yu, entitled "Gorky—The Great Founder of Proletarian Literature." The text of the address was later carried by *Renmin Ribao*.

Like the Peking gathering, the Shanghai meeting was attended by more than a thousand people. At both, the Soviet film *Mother*, based on Gorky's novel, was shown.

Art Exhibition. Sketches from life. Water colours by Ku Yuan, Chou Ling-chao and Wu Pi-tuan. At Artists' Union Gallery. Till June 23.

Indonesian Communist Party Delegation

The Indonesian Communist Party Delegation led by Comrade D. N. Aidit, Chairman of the Central Committee of the Indonesian Communist Party, is concluding its visit to China.

During its stay, Comrade Aidit and members of the delegation had cordial talks with Chairman Mao Tse-tung and other leaders of the Central Committee of the Chinese Communist Party. Besides visiting urban and rural people's communes, they went to see the Great Hall of the People, the Peking Railway Station, the Museum of History, the Revolutionary Museum, the Military Museum, the Nationalities Palace, the Agricultural Exhibition, etc. All these public buildings were constructed following the great leap forward in 1958.

In a farewell radio and television broadcast, Comrade Aidit said that what the delegation had seen and heard during its stay had convinced them more than ever that the Chinese people, under the correct guidance of the Chinese Communist Party's general line and the policies of the big leap forward, have greatly enhanced their creativeness in socialist construction. Everything the delegation saw and heard, he added, showed convincingly that the present socialist system in China is far superior to all the social systems the country had seen before. The people's communes, Comrade Aidit pointed out, into which the more than 500 million rural population in China is organized, is an unprecedented movement in Asia, which will have a far-reaching effect in changing Asia's backwardness.

Comrade Aidit welcomed the fact that the friendly relations between China and Indonesia have entered a new stage following President Soekarno's recent visit to Peking. He pointed out that the two countries had several centuries of traditional ties in the common fight against colonialism. Today, he said, the two peoples are comrades-in-arms: The Indonesian people are fighting to drive out the

U.S.-imperialist manipulated Dutch colonialists from their territory of West Irian while the Chinese people are fighting to liberate their territory of Taiwan from a traitorous, U.S.-controlled clique.

Nigerian Economic Mission

A Nigerian economic mission has just completed a friendly visit to China. On June 18, the day before its departure from Peking, the head of the mission, F.S. Okotie-Eboh, Federal Minister of Finance of Nigeria, and the Chinese Minister of Foreign Trade Yeh Chi-chuang signed a joint communique on the talks between the two sides. Earlier, its members were received separately by Premier Chou En-lai and Vice-Premier Li Hsien-nien. They were guests of honour at banquets given by Vice-Premier Li Hsien-nien, Minister of Foreign Trade Yeh Chi-chuang and the Chinese-African People's Friendship Association.

Speaking at a reception given by the Nigerian Economic Mission, Premier Chou En-lai said that its visit had made useful contributions to the promotion of friendship between China and Nigeria. He noted with great gladness that **in their joint communique the two sides held that the establishment of diplomatic relations and the exchange of diplomatic representatives of ambassadorial rank between the two countries would help promote their friendship and co-operation.**

Vice-Premier Li Hsien-nien, speaking on another occasion, stressed that the development of friendly relations and economic and trade ties between the two countries was the common aspiration of their peoples. "We wish," he said, "to develop such relations with Nigeria on the basis of equality and mutual benefit. We are also willing, within our capacity, to do our small part for the economic construction of Nigeria and other friendly countries in Asia and Africa."

The Nigerian mission was the first its government has sent to China after gaining independence. Earlier this

year, a Chinese trade delegation paid a visit to Nigeria.

Between Chinese and Japanese Peoples

A large number of Japanese delegates and delegations are currently visiting China. In addition to the Delegation of Japanese Communist Diet Members (see page 8), they include the Japanese Writers' Delegation headed by Kan Eguchi; Koshiro Okakura, Director General of the Afro-Asian Solidarity Committee of Japan; Kasuo Suzuki, Managing Director of the Japan-China Trade Promotion Association; the Japanese Women's Delegation headed by Natsu Kawasaki; the Delegation of Japanese Economic Circles headed by Kenzo Sashikawa and a group of five Japanese Liberal-Democratic Diet Members.

A Japanese delegation headed by the noted Japanese Buddhist Eijun Otani has just completed a month's tour of various Chinese cities. Sent jointly by 17 Japanese popular organizations, it brought with it a list of Chinese war victims who died in Japan. Members of the delegation met the families of these martyrs and attended a mass meeting at which they voiced the Japanese people's determination never again to fight the Chinese people, and their aspirations for an early restoration of Sino-Japanese diplomatic relations.

The sending of this delegation was itself a powerful indictment of the crimes of that Japanese militarism now being revived under the wing of U.S. imperialism, and an expression of the close and militant friendship between the Chinese and Japanese peoples. During their war of aggression against China, the Japanese militarists in the early forties rounded up tens of thousands of Chinese civilians for forced labour in Japan. Thousands died there because of maltreatment or were simply murdered in cold blood. Yet after the war, successive Japanese governments, instead of atoning for it, have tried their utmost to cover up this monstrous crime. The Japanese people, however, have taken a different stand. Despite obstruction from the Japanese authorities, they collected the remains of these martyrs to send them back to their homeland, held commemorative meetings in all parts of Japan and now compiled this name list of the victims which they have brought to China.

CHINESE PRESS OPINION

Algeria Must Have Complete Independence

The talks between the French Government and the Provisional Government of the Algerian Republic, which started on May 20 at Evian, have been suspended as a result of France's unilateral request for a recess. This move of the French Government once more shows its lack of sincerity in seeking a peaceful settlement of the Algerian question, says *Renmin Ribao's* Observer (June 20).

The Algerian and French delegations have adopted diametrically opposite attitudes towards the Evian talks, Observer notes. The Algerian delegation is sincerely desirous of conducting serious negotiations with France in order to reach agreement on a reasonable basis. But the French attitude was entirely different. At the very beginning of the talks, France unilaterally announced a one-month "suspension of attacks" by the French side in an attempt to induce the Algerian people to give up their seven-year-old armed struggle for national independence. In the course of the talks, the French side also unreasonably refused to recognize the equal status of the Provisional Government of the Algerian Republic with the French Government; it vainly attempted to disregard the fact that the Provisional Government of the Algerian Republic represents the Algerian people and declared that it would negotiate with all "factions in Algeria." By adopting such a line, France inevitably placed itself in a very contradictory position, notes Observer.

What should be discussed in the talks is how to realize self-determination for the Algerian people, Observer points out. The stand of the Provisional Government of the Algerian Republic on this question is entirely just. As the Algerian delegation has repeatedly affirmed, self-determination and independence should be realized throughout the territory of Algeria and the principle of sovereignty and territorial integrity is sacred and inviolable. At the same time, the Algerian delegation has indicated that provided the national

interests of Algeria are not impaired, a solution of the issue should take into account the realities of the situation and various factors including fruitful co-operation between Algeria and France. Stemming from this position, the Algerian delegation has put forward its reasonable proposals. But the French side, while paying lip service to the Algerian people's right to self-determination, has insisted on using "self-determination" to achieve the so-called "association" between Algeria and France. This so-called "association," as made clear earlier by Louis Joxe, the head of the French delegation, means subjecting Algeria entirely to French control in the economic, financial, technical, cultural and defence fields, and also maintaining French military bases in Algeria. Thus, so-called "self-determination" on the lips of the French Government is merely a demand that the Algerian people accept the decisions of the French authorities. What kind of "self-determination" is this? asks Observer.

The French side has also put forward a plan for the so-called "decolonization of Algeria" as part of the arrangements for the "association" of Algeria with France, Observer notes. According to this French plan, the Sahara which comprises four-fifths of Algeria's territory is to be severed from Algeria and put under the control of enclaves over which France exercises sovereignty. According to this plan, the Algerian people have no claim, de facto or de jure, to the rich resources of Algeria; the Europeans in Algeria will form "a group which is entitled to administer and represent their own interests."

These "arrangements" of France to preserve its colonial prerogatives, Observer says, constitute a blatant violation of Algeria's sovereignty and territorial integrity. They would, in fact, render Algeria's independence meaningless. Such a demand of the French Government is absolutely unjustifiable. That the Sahara belongs to Algeria is an established and unalterable fact known to all. It is stated explicitly even in many French documents and textbooks. The

French authorities now want to sever the Sahara which is rich in oil deposits from Algeria and continue to occupy it. This certainly cannot be accepted by the Algerian people; it will also be opposed by other independent African countries.

At the same time, Algeria as an independent state certainly cannot tolerate Europeans enjoying prerogatives on Algerian territory; it will not allow them to set up a "state within a state" in Algeria. The heroic Algerian people have persisted in seven years of indomitable struggle. Have they done this merely to let France keep its colonial rule intact? Large numbers of Algerians have shed their blood and sacrificed their lives. Have they done this merely to get such a scandalous arrangement?

No conspiracy to impose on the Algerian people unreasonable terms which violate the independence of Algeria can prevail, Observer says. France had better stop dreaming that it can get at the conference table what it has failed to get on the battlefield.

What is noteworthy is the fact that the United States has more and more flagrantly revealed its covetous designs on Algeria, Observer points out. Of late, it has engaged in numerous machinations in an attempt to interfere with the settlement of the Algerian question. Not long ago, it even brazenly instigated and supported the rebellion of the French fascist officers in Algeria. The Algerian people have been maintaining the keenest vigilance against U.S. schemes. The United States is trying to encroach on the national interests of Algeria and seize privileges in the Sahara. This scheme of the U.S. neo-colonialists to take the place of the old French colonialists will inevitably be shattered by the Algerian people.

In conclusion, Observer says: Algeria must have complete independence. The Chinese people have always firmly supported the just struggle of the Algerian people for their national independence. Likewise we support the sincere efforts of Algeria to settle peacefully the Algerian question through negotiation. We are convinced that whether in continued fighting or in negotiation, the Algerian people will eventually defeat all the old and new colonialists and win complete independence.



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