

PEKING REVIEW

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September 28, 1973

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**Chairman Mao Meets Vice-
President Hussein el Shafei**

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**Imperialism Is the Eve of the
Social Revolution of the Proletariat**

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***"Energy Crisis" and Scramble for
Energy Resources***

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Chairman Mao Meets Vice-President Hussein el Shafei

CHAIRMAN Mao Tsetung on the afternoon of September 23 met Vice-President Hussein el Shafei of the Arab Republic of Egypt and extended a warm welcome to the Egyptian Goodwill Delegation he was leading for its visit to China.

Chairman Mao met Vice-President el Shafei at Chungnanhai in Peking. Premier Chou En-lai and Vice-Chairman Wang Hung-wen were present on the occasion. They had a conversation that lasted two hours in a cordial and friendly atmosphere. Towards the end of the conversation, Chairman Mao told Vice-President

el Shafei: "We are always in support of you. The people of our two countries, the people of the Third World and the people of the whole world are always for unity. When you get back to your country, please convey my regards to President Anwar el Sadat and the other colleagues of yours." Vice-President el Shafei said that it was a great pleasure and honour for him to have been able to meet and talk with Chairman Mao.

Also present were Assistant Foreign Minister Wang Hai-jung, and Tang Weu-sheng and Li Liu-ken.





Vice-President el Shafei Welcomed

THE Goodwill Delegation of the Arab Republic of Egypt, led by Vice-President Hussein el Shafei, arrived in Peking on September 21, only a week or so away from the 24th National Day celebrations of the People's Republic of China.

The distinguished Egyptian guests were warmly greeted at the airport by Vice-Premier Teng Hsiao-ping, Vice-Chairman Hsu Hsiang-chien of the National People's Congress Standing Committee, Vice-Foreign Minister Ho Ying, Vice-Minister of National Defence Hsiao Ching-kuang, as well as several thousand people.

That evening Premier Chou En-lai gave a grand banquet warmly welcoming the Vice-President and his delegation. Speaking at the occasion, Premier Chou said: At present, the world is undergoing changes amidst turbulence. The situation is developing in a direction more and more favourable to the people of all countries and unfavourable to imperialism, hegemonism and reaction. With its unity growing stronger and its ranks expanding steadily, the Third World is playing an increasingly important role in international affairs. The recent Fourth Conference of the Heads of State and Government of Non-Aligned Countries in Algeria demonstrated the solidarity and militancy of the Third World and showed that the struggle waged by the governments and people of countries in Asia, Africa and Latin America against imperialism, colonialism and hegemonism to win and safeguard their national independence and defend their state sover-

eighty is developing in depth. The superpowers are contending for world hegemony, which aggravates tensions and threatens the independence and security of other countries, thus depriving the world of tranquillity. But their acts of aggression, expansion, interference in other countries' internal affairs, subversion and even dismemberment of sovereign countries will only stimulate the people of the world to wake up and get united and land the superpowers themselves in a position of being besieged by the people of the world. It can be said with certainty that, however desperately they may struggle and make trouble, the superpowers can in no way stem the surging forward of the historical trend of countries wanting independence, nations wanting liberation, and the people wanting revolution.

More than six years have passed, said Premier Chou, since the war of aggression launched by Israeli Zionism against Arab countries in 1967. With the support and connivance of the superpowers, Israel today still occupies large tracts of Arab territory, tramples underfoot the national rights of the Palestinian people and constantly makes new war provocations against Arab countries. Recently, Israel sent a large number of airplanes to wantonly encroach on Syrian air space and sovereignty, showing a rabid reactionary arrogance. Contending and colluding with each other for their respective selfish interests, the superpowers persist in maintaining the state of "no war, no peace" in the Middle East to the

great detriment of the Egyptian, Palestinian and other Arab peoples.

The Premier in his speech reaffirmed the firm support of the Chinese Government and people for the Egyptian, Palestinian and other Arab peoples in their just struggles for the recovery of lost territories and Palestinian national rights. The Chinese Government and people, he said, sternly condemn Israeli Zionism for its barbarous crime of persisting in aggression, firmly oppose the expansionist policy and hegemonism pursued by the superpowers in this region.

The Arab people are a heroic people, Premier Chou said. The Arab countries' struggle against aggression is a just one and enjoys abundant support. He added that the heroic Egyptian, Palestinian and other Arab peoples, relying on their own strength, reinforcing their own national unity and mutual solidarity, persevering in a protracted struggle and supported by the peoples of Asia, Africa, Latin America and the whole world, will certainly surmount the temporary difficulties on their road of advance and win the final victory of their struggle against aggression.

In his speech at the banquet, Vice-President el Shafei noted that although the social systems of the two countries are different, the friendship between Egypt and China is a true and militant one. This friendship has had a long history, and it has withstood the test of the distress and difficulties experienced by the two countries.

He declared that Egypt is earnestly endeavouring to strengthen



Egyptian-Chinese relations and looking forward to ever broader prospects in her fruitful co-operation with China in many fields.

China, he added, has won deep respect because she has consistently stood on the side of the world cause of justice and adhered to the principle of opposing evil imperialism, colonialism and racism.

Owing to her important geographical location and her important role in Arabia and Africa, Vice-President el Shafei went on, Egypt has long faced constant schemes of invasion. The Egyptian people have firmly fought back and frustrated them one after another. Certain people are calling on us to make peace. In fact they want us to surrender, he said. We will only accept peace based on justice and recognition of the legitimate rights of the Palestinian people. We shall liberate our territories by every means and through actions in all fields.

The Vice-President stressed that Egypt would rely on her own efforts and the support of those who earnestly and nobly uphold justice to wear out the existence of Israel.

Premier Chou and Vice-President el Shafei held talks in Peking in a friendly atmosphere.

On September 23, Vice-President el Shafei gave a grand reciprocal banquet. In his toast he said that his visit, though a very short one, had been a very good opportunity of holding friendly talks with the Chinese leaders on questions of common concern.

Premier Chou noted at the banquet that both sides had had sincere and friendly talks on the current Middle

East situation and international issues of common concern, as well as on the further development of friendship and relations of co-operation between the two countries. This visit by His Excellency the Vice-President, he said, had made important contributions to promoting mutual understanding and friendship between the two peoples and to developing friendly relations between the two countries.

Minister Karki of Nepal In China

Gyanendra Bahadur Karki, Minister of Foreign Affairs and Finance of the Kingdom of Nepal, and his wife paid a friendship visit to China from September 18 to 20 at the invitation of the Chinese Government.

Premier Chou En-lai and Foreign Minister Chi Peng-fei on the evening of September 19 met Minister Karki and his wife and had a cordial and friendly talk with them.

Toasting the distinguished Nepalese guests at the banquet given in their honour, Foreign Minister Chi Peng-fei spoke highly of Nepal under the leadership of King Birendra for persevering in the foreign and domestic policies laid down by the late King Mahendra and for having stood up to foreign pressure and victoriously defended national independence and state sovereignty.

Recently, the Chinese Foreign Minister noted, King Birendra made an important speech calling on the Nepalese people to unite and rise in struggle to safeguard the independence of Nepal. This, he said, "has fully shown the courage and determination of the Nepalese Government and people to defy brute force and dare to struggle. We admire this very much."

Chi Peng-fei said that the Chinese Government and people greatly value their friendship with the Nepalese people and that the Chinese people will for ever remain the reliable friends of the Nepalese people in their just struggle against foreign interference and for safeguarding national independence and state sovereignty.

In his toast, Minister Karki said that China is Nepal's true friend. China has shown a true understanding of Nepalese problems and appreciates Nepal's policy of non-alignment and strict neutrality, he said.

Nepal is a small country, he went on, but the Nepalese people have in all their history never submitted to force and thus have always maintained their independence. "Political independence without economic independence is hollow," he stressed. "Therefore, our King Birendra is resolved to develop our country in the economic field."

Foreign Minister Chi Peng-fei and Minister Karki held talks in a cordial and friendly atmosphere on September 18.

Women's Congresses in Peking And Shanghai

The Sixth Congress of Women held respectively in Peking and Shanghai during the period of September 15 to 22 elected the Sixth Committees of the Peking and Shanghai Municipal Women's Federations.

In Peking, Party and state leaders Chang Chun-chiao, Chi Teng-kuei and Wu Teh met with the delegates to the Peking congress, and Wu Teh addressed the gathering. Wang Hung-wen, Vice-Chairman of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of China and Secretary of the C.P.C. Shanghai Municipal Committee, spoke at the Shanghai congress.

Attending the Peking and Shanghai congresses were 1,201 and 1,500 delegates respectively.

The resolutions adopted at the two congresses call on the women of these two municipalities to read and study conscientiously works by Marx, Engels, Lenin and Stalin and Chairman Mao's writings, and study in earnest the documents of the Tenth Party Congress. The resolutions also call on them to deepen the criticism of the revisionist line pursued by the Lin Piao anti-Party clique, uphold the basic principle "Practise Marxism,

(Continued on p. 21.)

Imperialism Is the Eve of the Social Revolution of the Proletariat

— Notes on studying Lenin's *Imperialism, the Highest Stage of Capitalism*

by Chang Chien

ON the eve of the October Revolution, Lenin published his *Imperialism, the Highest Stage of Capitalism*. In this brilliant Marxist work, Lenin penetratingly analysed the essence, features and basic contradictions of imperialism, elucidated the objective laws governing the birth, growth and inevitable doom of imperialism and pointed to the historical task of the proletarian revolution. It is of great significance for us to read and study again today this brilliant work of Lenin's for it helps us understand the various contradictions of our times and the essence of imperialism and social-imperialism and enables us to gain a deeper understanding of the analysis of the current situation and our era as set forth in the documents of the Tenth Party Congress and to further criticize revisionism.

In his political report to the Tenth Party Congress, Comrade Chou En-lai pointed out: "Chairman Mao has often taught us: We are still in the era of imperialism and the proletarian revolution." This instruction of Chairman Mao's is very important. The present international situation is one characterized by great disorder on the earth. The whole world presents an excellent situation in which "the wind sweeping through the tower heralds a rising storm in the mountains." The struggle of the world's people against the two hegemonic powers—the U.S. and the U.S.S.R.—is forging ahead without a let-up. Countries want independence, nations want liberation, and the people want revolution—this has become an irresistible historical trend.

The two hegemonic powers—the U.S. and the U.S.S.R.—are beset with difficulties internally and externally and ridden by crises. As the Chinese verse goes, "Flowers fall off, do what one may," they are indeed in a helpless fix. This great disorder, as Lenin analysed in *Imperialism, the Highest Stage of Capitalism*, is precisely the corollary of the development of the various contradictions in the world. It propels the development of the international situation further in the direction favourable to the people and unfavourable to imperialism, modern revisionism and all reaction.

The heart of Lenin's theory on imperialism lies in his analysis of its basic contradictions. At the stage of imperialism, the contradictions between the proletariat and the bourgeoisie, between the imperialist countries themselves, between the colonial and semi-

colonial countries and the imperialist countries have become sharper and grown in scale and scope. Only by getting a firm grip on these contradictions and analysing them can we see through the appearance to perceive the essence and master the laws to judge the trend instead of being misled by some transient and superficial phenomena. Basing himself on a study of the basic contradictions of imperialism and their development, Lenin incisively pointed out: "Imperialism is a specific historical stage of capitalism. Its specific character is threefold: imperialism is (1) monopoly capitalism; (2) parasitic, or decaying capitalism; (3) moribund capitalism." (*Imperialism and the Split in Socialism.*) Lenin's analysis of the essence of imperialism and his definition of imperialism are our theoretical weapon for recognizing the various problems concerning imperialism, social-imperialism included, in the present-day world.

Imperialism Inevitably Leads to Contention For Hegemony

Monopoly, the basic economic feature of imperialism, is the inevitable outgrowth of the development of capitalism's basic contradictions. Under capitalism, free competition, which means the sharks swallowing up the smaller fish, gives rise to the concentration of production and capital, which, when developed to a certain stage, inevitably leads to monopoly. The mutual penetration and coalescence of industrial and banking monopolies result in the domination by financial oligarchy of all spheres of social production and public life. However, this domination by monopoly capital and financial oligarchy tends to exacerbate rather than resolve the basic contradictions of capitalism. This is because for all the progress in the socialization of production the means of production remains private property which becomes more and more concentrated in the hands of a few monopoly-capitalists or the state representing the monopoly-capitalist class. Hence, "the yoke of a few monopolists on the rest of the population becomes a hundred times heavier, more burdensome and intolerable." At the stage of imperialism, monopoly, private and state monopoly alike, does not change the capitalist nature of society and the opposition between the proletariat and the bourgeoisie. With class contradictions growing more acute, economic mo-

nopoly is bound to lead to reaction of the imperialist countries all along the line politically. Economic monopoly and political reaction have aggravated the basic contradictions of capitalism and deepened its political and economic crises, causing the imperialists to intensify their struggle for a fresh bid to carve up the world.

Lenin pointed out: **"An essential feature of imperialism is the rivalry between several Great Powers in the striving for hegemony."** The scramble for hegemony is determined by imperialism's economic base and predatory nature. The buttressing up of monopoly rule and the growing crises make the fight among the imperialists for markets, sources of raw materials, outlets for investments and spheres of influence and territory more intense than ever. In this cut-throat contention, the imperialist countries, intent on saving their own skins, always try to get the better of their rivals and conquer other countries. To get high monopoly profits, monopoly-capitalists will edge out their competitors from the domestic and international market. So monopoly will naturally develop into contention for partitioning the world. As Lenin put it, **"The capitalists divide the world, not out of any particular malice, but because the degree of concentration which has been reached forces them to adopt this method in order to obtain profits."** Thus the scramble for world hegemony forms an important tenet of the foreign policy of imperialist powers.

The scramble for hegemony is also closely linked with capitalism's absolute law of uneven economic and political development. Partitioning the world by imperialism is always based on the economic, financial and military strength of the partitioners. Once the balance of forces changes, the demand for redividing the world presents itself most acutely. The struggle between imperialist powers for hegemony, as it grows in intensity, will ultimately result in the recourse to war against the opponents. This is the deep-seated cause of imperialist wars. The two world wars in this century were the results of contention for world hegemony among the imperialist powers. The history of imperialism is a history of competition and war, of contending for hegemony and practising hegemony itself.

The current struggle between the two nuclear superpowers—the U.S. and the U.S.S.R.—for world hegemony is a continuation of the history of the imperialist powers' struggle for hegemony. For some time after World War II the United States became the overlord of the capitalist world by reason of its inflated political and economic strength during the war. But that did not mean the end of contention. Because the unevenness of economic and political development of capitalism manifests itself particularly in the decay of the countries which are richest in capital, the United States soon found itself toppling from its apex and going down the road of rapid decline. In the meantime, the Soviet revisionist renegade clique quickened the pace of its evolution towards social-imperialism. As is the case with other imperialist countries, the

economic base of social-imperialism is also monopoly capitalism. The only difference is in form, i.e., under social-imperialism, it is state monopoly capitalism under the signboard of socialism, and politically a Hitler-type fascist dictatorship is enforced. Subject to the same objective law of imperialism, social-imperialism relies on its rapidly swollen military strength to join the ranks of imperialism to redivide the world in a vain attempt to dominate it. Hence the current situation in which the two hegemonic powers contend with each other.

At present, these two hegemonic powers—the U.S. and the U.S.S.R.—compete with each other everywhere, causing unrest all over the world. They are engaged in a bitter struggle for oil resources and spheres of influence in the Middle East and Persian Gulf and in the South Asian subcontinent. As Lenin pointed out, **"The more capitalism is developed, the more strongly the shortage of raw materials is felt, the more intense the competition and the hunt for sources of raw materials throughout the whole world, the more desperate is the struggle for the acquisition of colonies."** Europe, the heartland of capitalism, has become a major strategic point of contention between the U.S. and the U.S.S.R. Here both have enormous economic and military interests, and it is here that they directly confront each other. Both are doing all they can to consolidate the positions they have acquired and are trying to pull the carpet from under each other's feet. Social-imperialism pays lip-service to the establishment of what it calls "peace and security" in Europe, but actually it has even to this day been increasing its military personnel and materiel in Europe and trying by hook or by crook to gain further control of Western Europe. Not a few European countries have exposed this wild ambition of social-imperialism, and facts have repudiated the assertion that Soviet revisionism hopes to establish peace on its western flank. In his political report to the Tenth Party Congress, Comrade Chou En-lai pointed out: "At present, the Soviet revisionists are 'making a feint to the east while attacking in the west,' and stepping up their contention in Europe and their expansion in the Mediterranean, the Indian Ocean and every place their hands can reach." The contention between the two hegemonic powers—the U.S. and the U.S.S.R.—once again proves the correctness of Lenin's thesis: **"The characteristic feature of imperialism is precisely that it strives to annex not only agrarian territories, but even most highly industrialized regions."** Their fierce contention in all parts of the world fully reveals the predatory nature of imperialism. Aggression, once committed, exposes itself. In the course of contention, the imperialist essence of social-imperialism in carrying out aggression and plunder stands out in increasingly bold relief. People the world over have come to see more clearly that all the words and deeds of social-imperialism contradict each other. Its "aid" is actually plunder, and it gives "support" in order to gain control. While talking glibly about "detente," it frantically engages in arms expansion, masses huge forces both

inside and outside its borders and unscrupulously invades, subverts and dismembers other countries. What is styled "developed socialism" turns out to be nothing but barbarous imperialism.

While fighting for world hegemony, the U.S. and the U.S.S.R., each out of its own selfish ends, may collude with each other in one form or another and create a false sense of "detente." But the contradictions between them have by no means disappeared. On the contrary, this collusion is the starting point for new, greater and fiercer contention. Their purpose for doing so is to cover up the deep contradictions between them, deceive the people and put the opponent off guard so as to facilitate its own contention. Whatever false appearances they put up, they cannot possibly cover up their aggression and expansion. This is perceived by an increasing number of people and countries and has met with strong resistance from the Third World and caused resentment on the part of Japan and the West European countries. The imperialist system determines that contention between the two hegemonic powers is absolute and protracted, whereas collusion between them is relative and temporary. In criticizing the bourgeoisie and Kautsky and his like for substituting the forms of agreements between the imperialists for the content of their struggle, Lenin pointed out: "**The forms of the struggle may and do constantly change in accordance with varying, relatively particular and temporary causes, but the substance of the struggle, its class content, positively cannot change while classes exist.**" Isn't this exactly the case with U.S.-U.S.S.R. contention for hegemony?

Revisionism Must Be Opposed

With monopoly replacing free competition, a handful of imperialist countries have become rentier states plundering the weaker countries in the world, thus turning imperialism into parasitic and decaying capitalism. Such a state of affairs cannot but find expression in socio-political life, particularly in the workers' movement. In *Imperialism, the Highest Stage of Capitalism*, therefore, Lenin gave due emphasis to analysing the natural connection between imperialism and revisionism. For revisionism to become an international phenomenon, Lenin pointed out, its economic base is "**precisely the parasitism and decay of capitalism.**" As a result of the daily ripening revolutionary crisis, the monopoly-capitalist class is bound to leave no stone unturned in sabotaging the revolutionary movement of the proletariat. And the super-profits grabbed by monopoly capital of a few big countries through exploitation and plunder of the world make it possible economically for the monopoly-capitalist class to bribe the labour leaders and the upper stratum of the labour aristocracy. This bourgeoisified privileged stratum is the main prop of revisionism, the watch-dog of the capitalists and the corrupter of the workers' movement. The moribund bourgeoisie understands that it is far more convenient to make use of revisionism to maintain its rule than to take the field itself. But the emergence of revisionism does not make the contradictions

of imperialism any the less acute. In the intense class struggle, revisionism which inevitably comes into sharp conflict with the fundamental interests of the workers' movement and with the trend of development can only end up in merging completely with the reactionary policies of the bourgeoisie and openly siding with the bourgeoisie against the proletariat. The revisionism of the Second International, for instance, reached the apex of its development when World War I broke out and the contradictions of imperialism intensified. In order to render service to imperialism and preserve their own privileged position, the revisionists openly supported the bourgeois governments' policies of aggression and war and even chummed up with the warmongers. In this way, revisionism metamorphosed into "**social-imperialism,**" that is, "**socialism in words and imperialism in deeds.**" Thus the complete bankruptcy of the Second International was proclaimed.

Judged from its birth and growth, revisionism did not emerge by chance but was a product of the era of imperialism and the proletarian revolution. Revisionism is the inevitable concomitant of imperialism. Because of the perniciousness of revisionism and the protractedness of the struggle against it, Lenin pointed out: "**The fight against imperialism is a sham and humbug unless it is inseparably bound up with the fight against opportunism.**" The Tenth Party Congress once again stressed: "We must unite with all genuine Marxist-Leninist Parties and organizations the world over, and carry the struggle against modern revisionism through to the end." This is a long-term fighting task, one which will last through the entire historical period of the proletarian revolution.

Even in a country where the proletariat has gained political power, the task to combat revisionism is still a very important and protracted one. It is a life-and-death struggle, directly related to the question whether the dictatorship of the proletariat can be consolidated and whether a capitalist restoration will take place. "**The correctness or incorrectness of the ideological and political line decides everything.**" Only by following the Marxist-Leninist line, upholding Marxism and opposing revisionism can a proletarian political party carry the socialist revolution through to the end in every sphere, that of the superstructure in particular.

Despite the overthrow of the bourgeoisie in the Soviet Union after the October Revolution, classes and class struggle still exist. Especially on the political and ideological front, the struggle between the two classes and the two lines is extremely sharp and complex. Lenin pointed out: The exploiting classes which have been overthrown invariably "**cherish the hope of restoration, and this hope turns into attempts at restoration.**" "**The new bourgeoisie . . . are emerging . . . from among our Soviet government employees.**" The bourgeois ideology always erodes and poisons people's minds. To avert its doom, imperialism is always bent on pushing the policy of "peaceful evolution" and seeking agents in the Communist Party. The Soviet revisionist renegade clique, made up of a handful of revisionist elements, is the embodiment of the interests

of class enemies both inside and outside the Soviet Union. Seizing an opportune moment, these revisionist elements plotted a counter-revolutionary coup d'état, usurped Party and state power, pursued a revisionist line, and thereby brought about an all-round capitalist restoration in the Soviet Union.

"The rise to power of revisionism means the rise to power of the bourgeoisie." With the usurped state apparatus in its hands, the Soviet revisionist renegade clique has turned the socialist state ownership into state monopoly capitalist ownership. In the name of enforcing what it calls a "new economic system," it has allowed the capitalist principle of profits to govern the economic activities of all enterprises. A bureaucrat-monopoly-capitalist class of a new type has rapidly grown up by bleeding the people white with taxes and levies, and this has become the base of the rule of the Soviet revisionist renegade clique. Lenin pointed out: **"This stratum of bourgeoisified workers, or the 'labour aristocracy,' who are quite philistine in their mode of life, in the size of their earnings and in their entire outlook, is the principal prop of the Second International, and, in our days, the principal social prop of the bourgeoisie."** The bureaucrat-monopoly-capitalist class represented by the Soviet revisionist renegade clique is a reactionary class whose mode of life, size of earnings and entire outlook have been completely bourgeoisified. Leading a life of luxury and indulgence, they live no differently from the parasitic life of the bourgeoisie in the West; on the other hand, the Soviet people are made to endure savage exploitation and worsening impoverishment. Imposing an all-round bourgeois dictatorship in the sphere of ideology, they crack down on proletarian ideas and culture and let the decadent bourgeois ideology spread unchecked to corrupt the people and facilitate their own rule. To suppress and persecute the revolutionary people, they constantly intensify their fascist dictatorship and turn the Soviet Union into a prison for the people of all nationalities. To seize still greater wealth and divert the attention of the Soviet people, they fanatically push their policies of aggression and expansion and follow the beaten track of the old tsars. Thus the Soviet state apparatus becomes an apparatus of imperialism with socialism as its signboard.

The appearance of Soviet revisionist social-imperialism is an adverse current in the advance of the history of the world proletarian revolution. It cannot possibly change the fate of imperialism whose doom is historically sealed. Social-imperialism's reactionary rule and its aggression and expansion are now producing results opposite to what it has intended, making the basic contradictions of imperialism, those between the people of the world and itself in particular, sharper than ever. This will inevitably bring the struggles of the world's people against imperialism to a new high and accelerate its complete destruction.

Era of Proletarian Revolution

Lenin pointed out: The economic essence of imperialism determines that imperialism is **"moribund**

capitalism" and **"is the eve of the social revolution of the proletariat."** This is the place of imperialism in history. It is also the essence of the world today. In seeking maximum profits, a handful of financial and bureaucrat-monopoly oligarchies keep stepping up the socialization of production in order to increase their hold on the material means of production and social wealth, with the result that the relations of production become increasingly the brake on the development of the productive forces. The sharp contradictions between the relations of production and the productive forces have plunged capital-imperialism and social-imperialism into hopeless political and economic crises. The "dollar empire," as the United States once was called, is today shaken to its foundation, with economic crises occurring frequently, financial crises growing ever more serious, balance of payments in the red year after year and the storms of dollar crisis erupting repeatedly. Different crises have intertwined to bedevil the U.S. economy, which finds no solutions in sight.

Soviet revisionist social-imperialism fares no better. Its evil doings have caused great damage to the Soviet economy as a whole: unfulfilled production plans, serious dislocations in industrial and farm production, inflation, acute shortage of commodities and food grain. Cap in hand, it even begs from the Western countries for credits and investments and barter away Soviet national resources. The ferocity the two superpowers show in their aggression and expansion stands in sharp contrast to the weakness of their economic base. This is a reflection of the rapid decline of the imperialist system.

In the stage of imperialism, the strengthening of monopoly control goes hand in hand with the growing impoverishment of the working people. The sharp contradictions between the relations of production and the productive forces reveal themselves most strikingly in the development of class contradictions. When these contradictions reach the breaking point, a revolutionary crisis will inevitably follow. This determines that the era of imperialism is the era of proletarian revolution. Our great leader Chairman Mao points out: **"Imperialism has pushed the great masses of the people throughout the world into the historical epoch of the great struggle to abolish imperialism."** Playing the tyrants everywhere, the two superpowers are engaged in aggression and expansion; Soviet revisionist social-imperialism, which stops at nothing, is even more ubiquitous, throwing its weight about everywhere in the world. In these circumstances, the countries and people suffering from aggression, subversion, interference, control and bullying by the superpowers have risen to fight them. The vast areas of Asia, Africa and Latin America where the people have long been most heavily exploited and oppressed by imperialism have now become storm-centres of the world revolution and the main forces in the struggle against imperialism. Under the strong impact of the revolutionary storms in Asia, Africa and Latin America, the workers' movement and other revolutionary mass movements in the

capitalist countries are gathering momentum. The development of the situation has fully confirmed Chairman Mao's wise thesis: "The danger of a new world war still exists, and the people of all countries must get prepared. But revolution is the main trend in the world today."

It is the proletariat and the oppressed people and nations, not one or two superpowers, that represent the trend of social development and decide the fate of world history today. The allegation by Soviet revisionist chieftain Brezhnev that the political climate of the world is determined by the climate in the Soviet Union and the United States is sheer nonsense. Social-imperialism and capital-imperialism are both paper tigers. Fierce in appearance, their social systems are actually decaying and moribund and resemble "a dying person who is sinking fast, like the sun setting beyond the western hills, and will soon be relegated to the museum." It is the revolutionary people the world over who are really powerful, who are really possessed of strength. The two overlords, the United States and the Soviet Union, can never decide the fate of the world. "The people,

and the people alone, are the motive force in the making of world history." Only the revolutionary people are the masters of the world and the arbiters of our times. As a Chinese verse goes, "Countless leaves fall off with a moan; the Yangtze River rolls on without end." A panoramic view of the world situation today shows that while imperialism is on the decline despite all efforts to save it, the torrent of the people's revolution is rolling on vigorously. "Its fall [the bourgeoisie] and the victory of the proletariat are equally inevitable." This general trend of world history is as inexorable as it is unmistakable. We must carry out in earnest Chairman Mao's teaching "Dig tunnels deep, store grain everywhere, and never seek hegemony," heighten our vigilance and be fully prepared against any war of aggression that imperialism may launch and particularly against surprise attack on our country by Soviet revisionist social-imperialism. Standing for ever with the proletariat and other revolutionary people all over the world, we must carry through to the end the struggle against imperialism, modern revisionism and all reaction.

Revolution in Education

The New Enrolment System and After

This is the second of two articles about the new enrolment system for colleges and universities in China. The first appeared in our last issue. — Ed.

SHANGHAI'S Futan University today has a student body of 2,000, all admitted since the new enrolment system went into force. They came from the ranks of workers, peasants and soldiers with practical experience. Some had been workers or poor and lower-middle peasants before liberation and had personally suffered hardships and bitterness in the old society. Others, the educated youth, have grown up and gone to school in the new society. They hail from all parts of the country, herdsmen from north and south of the Tianshan Mountains in China's far west, soldiers from the frontiers and so on. Their ages vary, as do their backgrounds, but they all have this in common: They are in Futan University on behalf of the working class and the poor and lower-middle peasants and are studying today so as to do more for the motherland tomorrow.

Hung Hsi-hsiang, a physics student, worked in Shanghai's No. 3 Radio Plant before he came to Futan to study microelectronics. He had done very well with his experiments in the technical innovations he introduced in his plant before joining the university. But scientific theory was required to solve many of the thorny technical problems he came up against. He was recommended for a course in Futan, and on being accepted he studied hard and earnestly.

In April last year, his department, combining theoretical study with practical work, decided to improve on the D.C. parameter measuring instruments produced by the No. 3 Radio Plant. How excited Hung was when he and other students of his department arrived at his former plant! Throughout the project Hung Hsi-hsiang discussed and experimented with his fellow students, cudgelling his brain to improve the instrument before him. On meeting problems he could not answer he consulted veteran workers. He stayed up late to study reference materials and to make calculations. After a couple of months they succeeded in turning out a semi-automatic instrument which was up to standard.

A trait common to students today is that they, like Hung Hsi-hsiang, have a clear and definite aim in sight — studying for the revolution and acquiring knowledge to serve socialist construction.

Aikeman, a Uighur girl from Sinkiang majoring in English, had to cope with three languages: Uighur, her mother tongue, and Han, the most widely spoken in China, and English, a foreign language. This is quite a job for this girl of a poor peasant family. One night in bed after struggling through her lessons, she thought of her elder brother who had been killed by a landlord in the old society. She also thought of an elder sister who had been thrown out of the normal school before the Great Proletarian Cultural Revolution when Liu Shao-chi pushed his revisionist line in education. She

also recalled her departure for the university when the poor and lower-middle peasants in the village gave her a hearty send-off and words of encouragement. The more she thought the harder she found to go to sleep. She sat up and taking up her diary wrote: "No difficulties can overwhelm a Communist!"

She put greater effort into her studies and managed to keep up with her class. She got up early in the morning to practise pronunciation and reading. She jotted down the difficult words and phrases, carrying them around with her to memorize them in spare moments. She drew on the good experiences of her classmates and improved her own study methods. She got over one hurdle after another and soon became one of the best students in her class.

A student of the philosophy department once said at a forum: "We're doers, not pedants." This is the militant stance of today's students who are determined to reform the old educational system and wipe out poisonous revisionist influences.

Last year, in July and August, the department of political economy accepted a rural survey assignment to help the Fengwei Commune in Chinshan County on the outskirts of Shanghai sum up experience. This was an excellent opportunity for integrating teaching with practice. Students and teachers conducted a comprehensive study of this advanced unit and drew up a report in under two months. This integration with practical work helped students learn political economy in a much better way. It was more than what the classroom could offer and enabled students to remember and understand better what was being taught.

Noticing some teachers were inclined to concentrate on their professional work to the neglect of political education, one physics student had a talk with the teachers and reminded them that transforming the students' ideology should come before everything else in the work of a university. He urged the teachers to pay attention to handling well ideological and political work. Another student of the Chinese language department saw signs of teachers beginning to cram students. He gathered the correct views of other students and passed them on to the teachers along with proposals for helping them improve their teaching methods. This is the new relationship between teachers and students, one of mutual help and common progress.

These students of a new type understand clearly that their being in a university is made possible for them only by the working class, that they are entrusted by their class and that they must always uphold their proletarian class character.

Ho Chi-kuei, an agrobiolgy student, went home last year for his summer vacation. As soon as he got off the train he noticed a flourishing crop of rice showing signs of insect damage. He went straight to the commune headquarters 15 kilometres away with his luggage and reported this to the Party committee. Leading comrades told him that measures were being taken to deal with the situation and urged him to join in the battle. It was past midnight when he got home.

150,000 New Students in College

Institutes of higher learning in China have completed enrolment of new students for this year, taking in more than 153,000 worker, peasant and soldier students.

From 1970 to 1972, the colleges and universities admitted nearly 200,000 students from among workers, peasants and soldiers.

Since the reform in the enrolment system, China's institutes of higher learning have carried out enrolment on the basis of moral, intellectual and physical qualifications. Outstanding young workers, peasants and soldiers with more than two years of practical experience have been selected and enrolled; in addition, workers, poor and lower-middle peasants and revolutionary cadres who have more than eight years of practical experience or who have inventions or innovations to their credit have also been admitted for further studies. The principle adhered to is: "Voluntary application, recommendation by the masses, approval by the leadership and re-examination by the colleges concerned."

Early next morning, he walked into the commune's crop protection station to offer his help. Together with the staff Ho began mapping out a plan for a thorough investigation and a new device to eliminate the pests.

During the three-week vacation, Ho was at home only for two days, and spent the rest of the time visiting all the production brigades and teams in the commune. On the day of his departure the peasants came to see him off. Among them was an old poor peasant who held Ho's hands and said: "You're a college student, yet you're one of us." Ho understood this to be an exhortation to him not to forget why he was in a university.

Eight girls of the computer section of the physics department who lived in the same hostel formed a group to study the works of Marx, Engels, Lenin and Stalin and the writings of Chairman Mao the day after they joined Fudan University. For the past two years they have maintained a schedule of studying individually an hour each day of the week after school hours. The group met once a week for discussions. They have been through the *Selected Works of Mao Tsetung*, *Manifesto of the Communist Party*, *The State and Revolution*, *Materialism and Empirio-Criticism* and *Anti-Duhring* and have taken copious study notes and written articles criticizing revisionism.

These eight girls try hard to use Marxism-Leninism-Mao Tsetung Thought to guide their action. They take an active part in the movement to criticize revisionism and rectify the style of work, and they live plainly and work hard. Take Teng Feng-hsien for instance. Her mother had given her ten yuan to buy herself a new garment but on hearing of a commune in northern Kiangsu struck by a natural calamity she sent the money to the poor and lower-middle peasants there. Later, she received a letter of thanks which read in part: "It was more than money you sent us. We deeply appreciate your doing so. Only Chairman Mao's revolutionary line can bring forth students like you."

"Energy Crisis" and Scramble for Energy Resources

by Chiu Pei-chiang

NOWADAYS energy and questions relevant to energy have become a matter of universal concern in the capitalist world, where the "energy crisis" is being discussed at great length in the press. Research work on how to ease the tension or solve the problem is under way in a number of countries.

After World War II, petroleum and natural gas have become more and more the main sources of energy in the principal capitalist countries. The development of the chemical industry also boosts the need for oil as raw material. Rapid increases in the demand for oil are accentuated by the lopsided and bloated economic build-up in the capitalist countries and an anarchic expansion of the economy. While in the 1960s the supply of oil still outstripped demand on the world market, an increasingly serious shortage has begun to be felt in the present decade.

"Energy Crisis" in the U.S.

Since the beginning of the 20th century, the United States, hitherto known as one of the richest countries in oil, had always taken the lead in the world's oil production. Up to the early 60s, it was still self-sufficient in oil, and with enough to spare. But in recent years its crude oil output has stagnated and even showed a decrease in 1971, though it was up by a mere 3 per cent last year. Consumption, by contrast, has been rising all the time, thanks to the policy of the oil monopolies to encourage extravagance in the use of oil over the years.

The effect of this yawning gap between supply and demand begins to tell almost immediately in production and daily life. Shortages in oil and natural gas jacked up the retail oil price. Thousands of service stations run by small and medium-sized concerns had to close down, while those which manage to carry on have found it necessary to curtail sales. Industry, communications and transport, farming and people's daily life have all been affected to a considerable extent. Hence the outcry "energy crisis."

At the same time, there is growing discussion about the danger of the United States finding its oil resources depleted. To ease the shortage, the U.S. Government decided to import oil, chiefly from the Middle East. In 1972, U.S. oil imports accounted for 27 per cent of its consumption, and the figure will go up to 33 per cent in 1973. It is estimated that such imports will grow with each passing year.

The energy problem which faces Japan and West European countries, however, is something different

from the one the United States has to tackle. Oil-poor, these countries have been depending on imported oil and natural gas from the very beginning. Japan, in 1972, imported practically all the oil it consumed: over 232 million kilolitres, 90 per cent of which came from the Middle East and its neighbouring regions. The West European Common Market countries, too, import most of the oil and natural gas they need; such imports in 1972 amounted to 448 million metric tons. It must be added that a considerable amount of these imports are procured through the distributing network of U.S. oil firms. This is especially so in the case of Japan. The rising consumption in various countries and the yearly increasing oil imports by the United States have caused great alarm in Japan and the West European countries which fear the development of the "energy crisis" and the effect on their energy supply.

Competition Crisis

But what is the actual state of the "energy crisis"? Are the United States and the world as a whole really facing the danger of the oil resources being dried up? There are people who see this question in a different light. Oil consumption, they say, has been ever on the increase and the deposits underground, which are after all limited, will one day be exhausted. So the supply of energy is indeed a serious problem. But the cause of the present short supply is more or less an artificial one. According to an estimate made by a U.S. economist and cited by *U.S. News & World Report*, the United States still has a deposit of 400,000 million barrels of oil buried underground, enough for another 60 years at the present rate of the country's consumption. Another economist, reported *Wall Street Journal*, estimates that an oil deposit ten times as large has been possibly discovered but at the current price it is not worth exploitation. If, he adds, the price is raised to five U.S. dollars per barrel, the world will find ample supplies of oil. *Christian Science Monitor* in an editorial noted that in the opinion of officials of some state governments in the U.S., there is no energy crisis at all, only a competition crisis. The paper asked for more facts to verify whether the problem has been exaggerated or understated. The Federal Trade Commission, an official agency, points out more explicitly in a recent report that it is the 18 big firms that, out of their own motives to make profit, have stirred up a panic about energy shortage among the public.

In Western Europe and Japan, too, there are people who are sceptical of the "energy crisis." Britain's

Economist dismissed it point-blank as a faked-up crisis. The Japanese *Shekai* magazine (The World) in an article nailed down the present-day "energy crisis" as essentially a political crisis, and more a question of distribution than one of production.

But no matter what the actual situation of the "energy crisis" is like, the scramble for oil and natural gas is being further intensified.

With vested interests in the international oil trade, U.S. monopoly capital has for long looked on oil as a sort of milch cow. Oil, of course, is a strategic material which the United States cannot do without in maintaining its position of strength. All big monopolies in the United States are, without exception, connected with the oil industry one way or another. Of the ten big U.S. enterprises which made the biggest profits in 1971, four are oil firms. In the same year, the turnover of 39 U.S. oil firms totalled 65,800 million U.S. dollars and their total profit came up to 4,600 million. These figures are unrivalled by any other trade in that country. It follows, therefore, that U.S. monopoly capital will go on trying by all means to preserve the "oil interests" it has seized in all parts of the world, in the Middle East in particular.

Soviet Revisionism Pokes Its Nose Into The Middle East

The Soviet Union is very rich in oil deposits, with an oil output second only to the United States. While making itself more or less the sole oil supplier to the East European countries, it exports a certain amount of oil and natural gas to the West European countries and Japan. But since 1965, while its consumption is going up by 8 per cent every year, the rate of growth of Soviet oil production, it is disclosed, has kept on plummeting. Failing to boost production at home, it naturally finds the oil in the nearby Middle East, which is cheap in price and good in quality, a very profitable business indeed. This explains why Soviet revisionism, while restricting its oil supply to the COMECON countries, has of late left no stone unturned to lay its hand on oil and natural gas in the Middle East. To date, Soviet revisionism has already had a hand in the exploitation of oil in some of these countries in the form of "aid." In accordance with the contracts signed, the "recipient" countries are to pay back in crude oil and natural gas set at a very low price. The Iranian press revealed that the price for natural gas sold by Iran to the Soviet Union is only one-fourth of that Europe has to pay for the Soviet natural gas it buys. This extortionate means of buying cheap and selling dear which Soviet revisionism resorts to is no different from the tactics used by the Western oil monopolies.

To try to justify its plundering of the energy resources of the Asian, African and Latin American countries, Soviet revisionist social-imperialism has lately been doing its utmost to dish up a fantastic "theory of international property." The men in the Kremlin say:

Nominally Arab oil is Arab property, but actually it is an international asset for it is a material linked to the life and industries of the modern world. This gibberish is first of all directed against the oil producing countries in the Middle East, striking at the root of the just struggle which these countries are waging to defend state sovereignty and protect their national resources. It is at the same time directed at the oil monopolies of the other superpower. What Moscow wants to say is that everybody can have access to "international property" and so the Soviet Union is fully entitled to have a finger in the pie. This kind of argument, typical of social-imperialism, has laid bare both the reactionary nature of its hostility towards the Middle East countries and people and its wild ambition of rabid expansion in the Middle East and the Persian Gulf area.

In this situation where an intensified struggle for oil resources is unfolding between the two superpowers, the Soviet Union and the United States, it is natural for Japan and Western Europe, being oil-poor and always dependent on oil overseas, to feel ill at ease on the question of energy sources. To make itself less dependent on foreign oil monopoly capital and ensure an unfailing oil supply, Japan is embarked on a course of "independent exploitation" by making direct investments in a number of regions and at the same time makes direct purchases from oil producing countries in Asia, Africa and Latin America. Many countries in Western Europe, too, are strengthening their ties with the Middle East countries and stepping up the oil tapping in the North Sea. What has the future in store? In the opinion of the Western press and economic circles, the scramble for oil resources between the industrial powers will grow fiercer than ever.

In the circumstances, the contradiction between imperialism and social-imperialism on the one hand and the oil producing countries in Asia, Africa and Latin America on the other becomes daily exacerbated.

Struggle Against Control and Plunder

To rid themselves of the control and plunder by foreign monopoly capital, to develop national economy and win economic independence, quite a few oil producing countries have in recent years taken a series of measures aimed at preserving their national interests. In 1960, the Organization of Petroleum Exporting Countries (OPEC) was founded by Iran, Iraq, Kuwait, Saudi Arabia and Venezuela and they were later joined by Qatar, Indonesia, Libya, Abu Dhabi, Algeria and Nigeria. Through this organization, these countries co-ordinate their policies to cope with the plundering and exploitation by foreign oil monopoly capital. They demand that foreign capital must respect the sovereign rights and interests of the oil producing countries and that all oil exploitation and trade must facilitate the development of the oil producing countries.

To counter this struggle against control and plunder, the United States is trying to band together a number of main oil consuming countries in an organization, to take concerted action against

the oil exporting countries so that the international oil monopoly capital headed by U.S. capital may continue to control oil production and marketing.

But in the face of the historical trend of the present-day world — countries want independence, nations want liberation, and the people want revolution — some oil importing countries are worried that a possible outcome of the confrontation may well be losing the chance of getting oil altogether. This is why they hesitate to give consent to this idea of the United States.

Mutual Aid and Co-operation Develop Among African Countries

REFERRING to the world situation, the Political Declaration adopted on September 9 at the 4th Conference of the Heads of State and Government of Non-Aligned Countries points out that the confrontation of the peoples with colonialism, neo-colonialism and imperialism remains a reality of our age. In view of this, the African countries and people are strengthening co-operation in a concerted fight to eliminate the influences of imperialism, colonialism and neo-colonialism and to safeguard and consolidate their national independence. For the same purpose, they have helped and co-operated with each other since the beginning of this year in developing the national economy, exploiting natural resources and transforming nature in the lofty spirit of unity and mutual help to surmount difficulties and seize victories. Following are some of the examples.

Aid for Drought-Stricken Countries

When the six west African countries — Mauritania, Mali, Chad, Niger, Senegal and Upper Volta — ran into economic difficulties this year as a result of a serious drought, a number of other African countries came forward with financial and material assistance to help them solve the problems they faced.

The Algerian Government this year has given assistance to these drought-stricken countries, including 280 tons of food for Mali. The Moroccan Government has given 1,200,000 dollars worth of supplies to the six countries. Ivory Coast President Felix Houphouët-Boigny has sent a cheque of 5 million francs C.F.A. to Senegalese President Leopold Sedar Senghor. Sudan has provided the drought-stricken Mauritanian people with 1,000 tons of reserve grain as relief. What is more noteworthy is the fact that the Nigerian Government has given an urgent aid of 2,500,000 nairas to the six sub-Saharan countries and sent two delegations to ex-

Today, the struggle of the oil exporting countries against the superpowers and international monopoly capital is forging ahead in depth and the situation is becoming increasingly favourable to the people of Asia, Africa and Latin America fighting to preserve their national resources. This struggle will of course be a prolonged, tortuous and complicated one. But as long as they close their ranks, dare to fight and persevere in the struggle, they are sure to go on winning fresh victories.

tend sympathy to their people, though 4 northern states of Nigeria itself were also hit by a serious drought.

Joint Action to Transform Nature

Tanzania and Rwanda have a common border of about 150 kilometres. In the past, highway communications between the two countries had to pass through their neighbour Burundi, sometimes via Uganda in a roundabout way. Early this year, the people of the two countries, by their concerted efforts, built a reinforced concrete bridge over 100 metres long across the Kagera River on the border, thereby ensuring through traffic on the Tanzania-Rwanda highway and expanding mutually beneficial trade between the two countries. Senegal, Mauritania and Mali are strengthening their co-operation in developing and exploiting the Senegal River basin. A ministerial council meeting held early last month heard reports on the basin development programme and the use of the river water. Not long ago, Togo and Ghana reached agreement to co-operate in quarrying limestone and building a cement factory. The two countries will also jointly study how to combat and prevent insect pests and plant diseases.

In the course of their struggle, the African countries and people have come to realize profoundly that political independence is incomplete and insecure without economic development and economic independence. Here economic development and economic independence imply mutual aid and co-operation among the African countries, though the emphasis is on the efforts of one's own people. At the African ministerial conference on trade, development and monetary problems held last May in Abidjan, capital of Ivory Coast, they put forward the slogan of "relying on oneself" and called for the establishment and expansion of their co-operation in various fields such as economy, trade, transport, telecommunications and postal service. In

the past, communications among the African countries often had to pass through Europe. In recent years, direct links have been established among many of them in telecommunications, aviation, highway traffic and maritime transport. Nigeria now has direct telephone links with the capitals of Chad and 11 other African countries. Zambia has opened regular weekly flights with many other African countries including Mauritius, Malawi and Botswana. Algeria's ships call at ports in Morocco, Nigeria, Ivory Coast, Guinea and Dahomey.

Unity Means Strength

Last January, the Rhodesian racist regime flagrantly closed its border with Zambia in an attempt to cut off Zambia's overland communication with the outside world so as to disrupt this landlocked country's economic life and force it to abandon its support for the struggle of the Zimbabwean people. The Zambian

Government and people were resolute in countering this shameless blackmail. Neighbouring Tanzania, Kenya and Malawi immediately made available to Zambia new routes or ports and gave it various transport facilities. The Tanzanian Government also announced that it would give Zambia access to its own share of the capability of two Tanzanian ports and use another port for its own requirements. Zaire, Kenya and Botswana provided Zambia with financial and material assistance. Zaire gave Zambia one million dollars in aid. Sierra Leone donated 50,000 pounds sterling to help Zambia re-route its imports and exports. In face of the joint struggle of the African countries, the Rhodesian authorities were compelled to lift the closure of the border. The victorious Zambian struggle against the blockade demonstrates that the African countries and people will win so long as they remain united. Unity means strength.

At I.T.U. Plenipotentiary Conference

Superpower Monopoly of Radio Wave Resources Opposed

FOR the first time a Chinese delegation took part in the proceedings of the Plenipotentiary Conference of the International Telecommunication Union (I.T.U.), which held its plenary meeting on September 17 in Malaga Torremolinos of Spain. Liu Cheng-ching, head of the Chinese delegation who addressed the meeting, expressed heartfelt thanks to the countries friendly to China for upholding justice and supporting the restoration to China of its legitimate rights in the I.T.U. and to the host country for the arrangements it had made for the conference.

Liu Cheng-ching pointed out among other things that the developing countries, in order to make up for their lag in telecommunication technology, must oppose superpower hegemony and power politics.

He said, "We have consistently held that the affairs of each country should be managed by itself and those of an international organization should be managed jointly by all the countries in the organization. The I.T.U. should act upon the principle of equality of all countries regardless of their size and take into full consideration the interests and needs of the developing countries, so that it can truly meet the expectations of all peoples, particularly the people of the developing countries. Facts show, however, that, in the circumstances in which the superpowers are pushing power politics and hegemony, the people of various countries must wage a united struggle before the above-mentioned principles will be truly applied.

"Take for instance the radio frequency spectrum, which is one of the limited resources jointly owned by all countries. It should be rationally utilized on the basis of equality and co-operation. But the one or two superpowers, by the strength of their technological advantage, have by various means arrogated to themselves large quantities of frequencies and even encroached on the sovereignty of other countries. This state of affairs is most irrational and accounts fundamentally for the great disorder prevailing in radio waves. In these circumstances it is only right and natural that the majority of small and medium-sized countries should unite to oppose superpower monopoly of radio wave resources and demand a change in this irrational state of affairs. The Chinese Government and people firmly support this just action. The Chinese delegation wishes to state here that China is ready to co-operate with the I.T.U. and fellow members and do its part in working for the rational use of the radio frequency spectrum."

Liu Cheng-ching pointed out: "It is proved by the experience of many developing countries that, in order to speedily make up for their lag in telecommunication technology caused by prolonged imperialist plunder, they must oppose superpower hegemony and power politics, win and safeguard national independence and develop independently their own telecommunications by relying on the broad masses of the people. Of course, independence and self-reliance in no way mean self-seclusion. International aid based on equality will

help regeneration through self-reliance and is a factor contributing to the development of telecommunications. But such international aid must be based on strict respect for the sovereignty of the recipient countries, imposing no conditions and demanding no privileges."

China, he said, deeply sympathizes with and actively supports the developing countries in their struggle to safeguard national independence and develop their own telecommunications. "Since the founding of the People's Republic of China, we have, in pursuance of the policy of independence and self-reliance, mobilized our own resources, gradually eliminated imperialist forces and influences and steadily developed our own telecommunications. However, China is still a developing country, and still lags behind in the field of telecommunications. We must continue to work hard, modestly learn from other people and try to contribute more to international economic and technical co-operation," he added.

Referring to the irrational composition of the I.T.U., he said: "The Chinese delegation deems it necessary to reiterate that the traitorous Lon Nol clique which is a handful of Cambodian national scum can by no means represent the Cambodian people in the I.T.U. and that the Royal Government of National

Union of Cambodia under the leadership of Samdech Norodom Sihanouk is the sole legal representative of the Cambodian people. The Paris agreement on Viet Nam has in fact recognized the existence of two administrations in south Viet Nam, and the Provisional Revolutionary Government of the Republic of South Viet Nam is the genuine representative of the south Vietnamese people. In the present situation, it is inappropriate for the Saigon administration unilaterally to be represented in the I.T.U. In the circumstances in which agreement in principle has been reached between the north and the south of Korea on the independent and peaceful reunification of the country, it is preposterous that the south Korean authorities should be an I.T.U. member on its own. The white colonialist authorities in South Africa is a racist regime of the few ruling over the broad masses of the people in South Africa and has no qualification at all to represent the people of South Africa in the I.T.U."

Liu Cheng-ching concluded: "The world situation is constantly changing, and the times are advancing steadily. We hope that the I.T.U. will conform to the trend of the world, reflect the desires and demands of the majority of its members and the peoples of the world and make positive efforts in promoting the development of telecommunications of all countries."

Scramble for Hegemony

Soviet Expansion in Western Asia

INTENSIFIED expansionist moves by the Soviet Union in the Persian Gulf area in Western Asia in recent years have aroused strong resentment in the gulf states and other Asian countries.

Public opinion in many countries pointed out that turmoil and tension came in the wake of the scramble for hegemony between the two superpowers and especially following the Soviet Union's intensified expansionist activities in the gulf area.

The Kuwaiti paper *Daily News* commented: "The gulf has been chosen as the next chessboard in the new game of the superpowers." "We can only see the hand of Moscow behind this scheme to inflame the gulf, together with that of Washington," it added.

The Lebanese paper *Orient-le Jour* said that recent incidents of conflict in the gulf "can only be logically explained within the framework of an organized campaign by the U.S.S.R. with a view to styling itself a power in the gulf economically, militarily and politically. . . ."

One of the immediate objectives of Soviet expansion into the gulf area is to gain control of this

highly strategic area in its rivalry with the other superpower for hegemony. The Kuwaiti paper *Daily News* said that it is quite clear that Russia attempts to dominate the gulf area and that it is playing a "sinister game of power politics." The paper added that "recent events in the gulf area show that the superpowers are intensifying their scramble and struggle for strategic positions and spheres of influence in the area."

Press reports in many countries reveal that the Soviet Union is worming its way into the gulf area by coercion and cajolery. Sometimes it passes itself off as a messenger of "peace and friendship" by using "military aid" or "economic aid" as bait; sometimes it resorts to open threats by dispatching gunboats. It is also inciting or exploiting contradictions and border disputes between the gulf countries so as to profit from the tension thus created. By virtue of these tactics, the Soviet Union has acquired concessions for the "use" of certain ports in the gulf as its naval footholds in the area. There has been increased presence of Soviet warships in the gulf in recent years. Last April a Soviet fleet including the cruiser *Sinyavin* sailed to the head of the gulf to intimidate certain gulf countries.

Commenting on Soviet expansion in the gulf and its southward drive to the Indian Ocean for aggressive purposes, the Lebanese weekly *Al Hawadess* said: "The Middle East with its airports and sea lanes is a vitally important area internationally. It is a link between the Soviet Union and the Indian Ocean region and between the Soviet Union and the Indian subcontinent. When Britain occupied India, it devoted its efforts to controlling every country and every sea lane in the Middle East. Today the Soviet Union has inherited the mantle of Britain in India. Since such is the reality geographically and strategically, why shouldn't the Soviet Union inherit the mantle of Britain in the Middle East too?"

Plundering Petroleum Resources

Another important objective of the Soviet expansionist moves in the gulf is to plunder the area's rich petroleum resources. The Kuwaiti paper *Daily News* said that the superpowers are drawn by the "nauseating but at the same time sweet and enticing smell of petroleum." Nepalese weekly *Matribhumi* wrote: "What the two superpowers want is the situation of no war, no peace in the Middle East so that they can obtain Arab energy resources."

Press reports put the total proved oil reserves of the world in 1972 at about 90,000 million tons of which more than half are in the gulf area. Last year's oil output in the gulf area amounted to over 880 million tons or approximately one-third of the world's total. More than 80 per cent of the supplies in the world oil market come from the gulf area. On an average, there is a tanker leaving the gulf for different parts of the world every 14 minutes.

U.S. oil monopoly capital has long controlled a greater part of the oil production and the vast marketing network of the gulf area and grabbed fabulous profits. The Soviet Union too has cast a covetous eye on the oil resources of the gulf area and has been eager to lay its hands on them. The Iranian paper *Kayhan International* said: "The Soviet Union intends to send less expensive Middle Eastern oil to the Caucasus." "To fulfil its existing contracts with several West European countries in order to acquire hard currency, to retain control over major East European oil markets, and to obtain political benefits, the Soviet Union intends to secure a share in Middle Eastern oil supplies," it added.

New-Fangled Imperialist Logic

The Soviet Union has in recent years acquired by various means a certain amount of low-priced oil and natural gas from the gulf area. In grabbing these important strategic resources, the Soviet Union does not pay in cash. It demands that gulf countries supply oil as repayment for its loans or make up their trade deficits with oil, and it forces down the prices to only one-fourth of the prices of the same kind of products it sells to European countries. Such ruthless exploitation practised by the Soviet Union has aroused resentment among the people and in public opinion of

the gulf countries. A department concerned in a gulf country decided in March this year that in signing new oil contracts in the future, it would demand payment in cash. Another gulf country called for higher prices for natural gas it supplied to the Soviet Union. A paper in that country said that "Russia must pay a realistic gas price." After negotiations, the Soviet Union was compelled to agree to raise the price a bit but it is still much lower than the price at which the Soviet Union sells to Western Europe.

To seek a pretext for robbing the resources of the gulf area, the Soviet Union has spread the nonsense that oil in the Middle East is "international property." The Kuwaiti paper *Al-Rai al-Amm* said that the Kremlin leaders had warned an Arab leader who was visiting Moscow, "Despite the fact that Arab oil is — in form — the property of the Arabs, actually it is international property." The paper pointed out in an editorial in this connection: "The Russians have dished up the slogan on the international property of oil, particularly Arab oil. This is a new idea and a very modern imperialist logic."

Countries Seek Self-Defence

Soviet expansion and superpowers' scramble in the gulf area have aroused serious concern and vigilance of the countries in the gulf and nearby areas, and they are seeking self-defence. The Kuwaiti *Daily News* said that this scramble could possibly turn the countries of this area into colonies of a new type. Iran's *Kayhan International* expressed the worry that to ensure West European dependence on Soviet energy supply to a certain extent, the Soviet Union may attempt to secure the control of more countries in the Middle East. The *Pakistan Times* said that during the past two years, some countries in the region have been flagrantly interfered with, and one of them is Pakistan. It added that the threat to the gulf, the scramble over the Indian Ocean and the Soviet pacts "have compelled these countries to sit up and look to their own defence, individually, if possible, in concert."

The joint communique issued recently between Kuwait and Bahrain said that the two sides "studied the situation in the gulf area and emphasized that only through the lasting co-operation and effective co-ordination among the countries in this area without interference from outside can security, steadiness and prosperity in this area be maintained." The joint communique between the United Arab Emirates and Kuwait also stated that the security in the gulf area can only be attained through co-operation among the gulf countries without interference from outside. The Iranian Government also declared that problems in the gulf area should be settled by the gulf countries themselves.

Iran's *Kayhan International* stressed in an article: "The Russians should know better than anyone else that the time when the major powers can dictate foreign policy to smaller countries has long passed." "The people of the Middle East should insist that they must run their affairs themselves," it added.

They Sing and Dance for Peasants

by Our Correspondent

WHEN this reporter was in Tsincheng County in the Taihang Mountain area, north China, visiting medical and health institutions in the county seat and surrounding countryside, the county women's congress happened to be sitting. A performance was put on one evening to entertain the delegates, and I was invited along.

It began with instrumental music. Sixteen young men and women were playing the *sheng*, flute and various traditional Chinese string instruments, accompanied by an accordion. The melody was gay, reflecting the lively and busy scene at the work-site of a water conservancy project. Water is scant in many villages in the county where mountains and hills make up three-fourths of the area. For years the people here have made great efforts to build water conservancy works.

The Women's Congress Has Done Well was an impromptu item to honour the occasion. It was sung by two girls with two young men, one playing the accordion and the other beating bamboo clappers, chiming in now and then with lively repartee. The number, interspersed with fine singing and witty remarks, told the story of what had been achieved and what remained to be done concerning women's work in the locality. The delegates were pleased and applauded warmly.

The evening's programme lasted two and a half hours. It included 17 items of singing arias from local operas without accompaniment, songs and dances, instrumental music by an individual or a group, operettas, skits and ballads. Some described the bumper harvests the peasants had gathered in, others sang the praises of the flourishing local industry.

With a table and two chairs as props, a short comedy described how a peasant family in a mountain village cherished the People's Liberation Army. It all happened on the eve of a young man's wedding. Word came that a group of P.L.A. men out camping was going to pass through the village that night. The bridegroom, his younger sister and parents all wanted to have the P.L.A. men put up in the room prepared for the new couple. But each was afraid the other might not agree. They beat about the bush and tried to sound out each other, only to lead to a host of misunderstandings. At last, when the P.L.A. men arrived at the village, everything was put right. The entire family rushed out joyously to greet the people's soldiers and billeted them at their home.

Vitality and strong local colour animated the programme which reflected from various angles the

present-day life and work of the people in the county. The audience's warm response showed that it helped fire them with optimism and enthusiasm.

"Sending Fuel in Snowy Weather"

I interviewed the actors and actresses, 17 in all, members of a "cultural work team" under the direction of the county's cultural centre which was responsible for promoting cultural activities in the county, especially in the villages. Apart from giving performances, the cultural team pays great attention to helping the peasants perform and carry out other cultural activities.

Tsincheng had been a backward mountain area where poverty and ignorance were the fate of the people who suffered cruel oppression under reactionary rule from generation to generation. The country folks did not know what a radio-set was like, let alone seeing films or plays.

It was against this background that the peasants started their cultural activities. Therefore, in the early post-liberation years, cultural workers set themselves the task of making available to the peasants some sort of schooling first of all. They said: "The countryside needs culture so badly that we must first 'send fuel in snowy weather' and not 'put more flowers on the brocade.'"

Cultural life gradually became richer. Encouraged by the local Party organizations, cultural workers helped the peasants set up amateur drama groups and recreation centres. The revisionist line, however, constantly interfered. Among the cultural workers, some longed to stage great "shows" in the cities, in the belief that only in this way could they become real "artists."

After restudying Chairman Mao's works and criticizing the revisionist line during the Great Cultural Revolution, Tsincheng's literary and art workers resolved to do their best to serve the working people and make literature and art powerful weapons for "uniting and educating the people, and for attacking and destroying the enemy."

At the beginning of 1970, a group detailed by the county's cultural centre went on a 70-day investigation tour of the countryside where four-fifths of the county's population live. The result was the organization of the said cultural work team to meet the peasants' needs. Its task was more specifically defined, which was to help the peasants carry out spare-time cultural activities, and its members were required to integrate themselves with the labouring people.

Team leader Chang Shu-wen, a young man of 28, had formerly been a village primary school teacher. The other 16 members included eight men and eight women, the oldest being 23, the youngest 17. Most were from the villages in the county; four had grown up in the cities.

A Vast Stage

The countryside is a vast stage. One finds large audiences here and life in the villages is a rich source for creative work.

On the average, team members spent about 270 days a year in the countryside. They toured the communes and production brigades, sometimes together, sometimes in threes and fours. Everywhere they went they joined the peasants in labour, and gave performances or coached local aspirants during work-breaks or after the day's work was done.

Their repertoire consisted mainly of numbers composed by themselves. Life of the people in the county or the villages they had visited was the raw material from which they worked out many items by generalizing and elevating it to a higher artistic level, and these were usually favourably received. Not long ago they visited the building site of a commune's reservoir. They found a man with one leg supporting himself with a pair of crutches, making careful calculations of the earthwork and also directing the transport vehicles. They were told he was a political instructor who had lost his leg in the war against Japanese aggression in the 1940s. Though disabled, he never lost heart. His vigour and revolutionary optimism was an inspiration, and they composed a *kuai pan* (quick patter rhyme recited to the accompaniment of bamboo castanets) and a song based on his deeds on the spot. The performance they gave was a profound education to both audience and the performers themselves.

Climbing mountains and crossing rivers was all in the day's work in their tours of the communes. Car-

rying light musical instruments and props, the team members covered 8,000 kilometres in the past three years and gave performances to an audience totalling 700,000 people. They never regarded themselves as "artists" high above the masses. On the contrary, following Chairman Mao's teachings, they always learnt from the peasants they performed to.

Langching Production Brigade had a record yield in millet (formerly millet was a low-yielding crop in these parts) in 1970 and, to increase output, transformed some arid land into paddyfields last year. Actress Tsui Ai-mei, wishing to share the peasants' enthusiasm in building socialism, came to the brigade to take part in transplanting rice seedlings. But she found she had to go barefoot in the muddy fields. She was not used to this, having been brought up in a mountainous area in north China, and she hesitated. While she was debating with herself, a pair of gum boots were brought to her. To serve the peasants one must do as they do and try to be one with them, she thought. Without further ado, she took off her shoes and socks and splashed her way into the field. The peasants treated her as they would their own daughter. When she returned to the cultural team after working for some time with the brigade, she was able to put forth valuable suggestions for revising the *Dance of Transplanting Rice Seedlings* which had been arranged earlier by the team. The revised version not only gave grace to the movements but better represented the hard-working spirit displayed by the peasants.

For Every "Spectator"

The cultural work team was widely praised for its efforts to serve the peasants.

One tour took the team to the Liuko Production Brigade where the mountains are the highest in the county and the inhabitants live far between. The men in the team got busy preparing the stage while the women went around to find out about the old folks in the brigade and where they lived. Before the performance began, actors and actresses went from household to household, helped these old people to the "theatre" and gave them the best seats in the front rows. When the performance ended, they saw them home, with costumes and make-up still on. A grandma, whom actress Wang Mai-chun saw home, told Wang her life in the old society. She had lived in widowhood for dozens of years, poor, lonely and miserable. Happy times came only after liberation. When she could no longer work, the



Performing for the peasants.

by Wang Yang

(Continued on p. 23.)

ROUND THE WORLD

UNITED NATIONS

28th Session Opens

The 28th Session of the United Nations General Assembly opened at the U.N. Headquarters on the afternoon of September 18. China and 8 other countries were unanimously elected without a vote as members of the Credentials Committee; and Leopoldo Benites, Representative of Ecuador, was elected President of the General Assembly by a vote of 129 in favour.

The German Democratic Republic, the Federal Republic of Germany and the Commonwealth of the Bahamas were admitted as members of the United Nations by consensus without a vote under the recommendation of the Security Council. The membership of the United Nations now totals 135.

The General Committee of the U.N. General Assembly met on September 20 to discuss the question of the provisional agenda and allocation of agenda items for this session. Huang Hua, Vice-Chairman of the Chinese Delegation, set forth China's principled stand on the merging of the two items concerning the Korean question into a single one. He pointed out at the meeting: "The Chinese Delegation has always held that the formation of the so-called 'United Nations commission for the unification and rehabilitation of Korea' and all its past activities are illegal. The combination of items 40 and 41 of the provisional agenda of the current session of the General Assembly into one item does not in the least change the above position of the Chinese Delegation."

"The Chinese Delegation will further elaborate our position on the various aspects of the question when the General Assembly enters into substantive discussion on the Korean question," he said.

The provisional agenda included two items concerning the Korean question: Item 40 was the so-called "Report of the United Nations com-

mission for the unification and rehabilitation of Korea," and Item 41 was "Creation of favourable conditions to accelerate the independent and peaceful reunification of Korea" which was submitted by Algeria and some other member states and joined by more co-sponsors recently. Now the sponsors have increased from 21 to 30 states.

During the discussion of the two items at the General Committee meetings, U.N. General Assembly President Leopoldo Benites proposed that the two items be merged into a single item under the heading of "Question of Korea" with the two original items as two subheadings. The General Committee accepted the proposal.

The 99 items including those concerning decolonization, disarmament and Middle East questions were approved at the General Committee meeting for formal adoption by the General Assembly plenary meeting. One of the items was submitted by the Chinese Delegation which is entitled: "Inclusion of Chinese Among the Working Languages of the General Assembly and the Security Council."

ASIAN GAMES FEDERATION

China Admitted

At the September 18 meeting of the Executive Committee of the Asian Games Federation (A.G.F.) presided over by Prince Gholam Reza Pahlavi of Iran, President of the committee, the Iranian representative put forward a motion pointing out that "without the participation of the People's Republic of China, the Asian Games Federation does not fully represent Asia." It recommended that the All-China Sports Federation should represent China in the federation.

After a heated debate the motion was put to the vote and was passed with five in favour and one abstention. Thus the All-China Sports Federation was admitted as a member of the Asian Games Federation and the so-called sports organization

of the Chiang Kai-shek gang was ousted from the federation. Those in favour of the motion were the President, the Secretary-General of the Asian Games Federation, and executive committee members Iran, Japan and Pakistan. The representative of Afghanistan, member of the executive committee, and the Nepalese observer supported the motion. Israel, also an executive committee member, abstained.

Before the meeting, the Chiang Kai-shek gang had feverishly tried to obstruct and sabotage the proceedings of the executive committee meeting and to prevent the above motion from being adopted, but to no avail.

The Seventh Asian Games is scheduled to be held in September 1974 in Teheran, Iran.

CHILE

Mrs. Allende: People Must Have Army at Their Service

"It is not enough to achieve power through elections. The people should have been armed or have had an army at their service."

This was the opinion of Mrs. Hortensia Bussi de Allende, widow of the late Chilean President, when she spoke to the Mexican paper *Excelsior* on September 20. The interview appeared in the paper the following day.

She said: "I miss the women who have always been firm with the President. Give us arms, they demanded. Now we have seen that the people are really right, because we were unarmed." "We were not prepared for the bombings."

She pointed out that the Chilean army, with its class formation, is an army which has always been at the service of the ruling class.

She continued: "In Chile, a soldier is never a general, a sailor is never an admiral. The officers are all from the upper middle class."

When asked about the international background of the Chilean event, she answered: "Foreign intervention had existed since the inauguration of the government of the Popular Union, since the assassination of Schneider [former Commander-in-Chief of the Chilean army, assassinat-

ed on October 22, 1970. — Ed], which has been proved to have been conducted with foreign aid. So were the paid strikes which broke out subsequently. It would be impossible to stage these strikes if they had not received money from abroad. The nationalization of copper hurt them and that is why the United States boycott began."

VIENNA

OPEC Extraordinary Conference

The Organization of Petroleum Exporting Countries (OPEC) met in an extraordinary session on September 15 and 16 at its Vienna headquarters to discuss how to protect the legitimate economic interests of its members. The discussions centred round a revision of the 1971 Teheran agreement signed by Iran and five other gulf states with the Western oil companies.

Under this agreement a 2.5 per cent rise was stipulated in the oil companies' posted oil prices beginning June 1, 1971 and annually from 1973 to 1975, and an increase of five cents per barrel of crude oil in the same periods mentioned above to offset inflation. But owing to the worsening inflation in the Western countries, the rate of price increase for the oil products of the oil companies has far outstripped the provided figures, while the prices of crude oil has not increased accordingly. From this practice of buying cheap and selling dear, the Western oil companies have reaped superprofits at the expense of the oil exporting countries.

It was against this background that the OPEC decided to convene the extraordinary conference. Ministers and high-ranking officials from the 11 OPEC member nations and Ecuador, an associate member, took part in the deliberations. The conference decided to call for a complete revision of the 1971 Teheran agreement to raise the price of crude oil.

TOKYO

GATT in Session

Tokyo was the site of the 29th meeting of countries participating in

the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade (GATT). Taking part in the meeting, held from September 12 to 14, were over 600 delegates including ministers from over 80 GATT-member countries and regions and representatives from nearly 20 developing countries which have not yet joined GATT. Japanese Foreign Minister Masayoshi Ohira presided over the meeting at which Japan's Prime Minister Kakuei Tanaka and delegates from 62 countries and regions spoke.

The meeting adopted a "Declaration of Ministers" (also known as the "Tokyo Declaration") which pointed out that "negotiations shall be conducted on the basis of the principles of mutual advantage, mutual commitment and overall reciprocity." Negotiations shall cover such matters as tariff cuts, the reduction or elimination of non-tariff measures, the question of trade in agricultural products and an examination of the adequacy of the multilateral safeguard system. The declaration also stated that negotiations "will be open to any other government, through a notification to the director-general to participate in the negotiations."

The difference between the United States and the West European Common Market countries over the relationship between the trade talks and the international monetary reform negotiations "cast a shadow" over the meeting. French Finance Minister Valery Giscard d'Estaing pointed out at the meeting that if trade reform was to be successful the trade negotiations should proceed at the same pace as the talks being held elsewhere for setting up a new world monetary system. The United States disagreed with this view. A compromise was reached after Japanese mediation and the declaration contained a clause that the trade negotiations and the monetary talks "shall be considered as one undertaking, the various elements of which shall move forward together."

On the question of tariff cuts, the United States advocated a further reduction or the complete elimination of tariffs on industrial products while the West European Common Market countries were against the elimination of tariffs and agreed only to

adjust the tariffs according to categories of goods.

Regarding trade in agricultural products, the United States accused the West European Common Market farm policy of being heavily "protectionist" and detrimental to U.S. farm exports. But the West European Common Market countries, particularly France, stressed that the Common Market's farm policy was not open to discussion. Japan, too, was uneasy about the United States dumping its farm products.

At this GATT meeting, representatives of many developing countries condemned certain developed countries for harming their interests by shifting the burden of economic crises on to them. They demanded that the programme and scope of preferential treatment for them be enlarged and that the irrational restrictions placed on them in international trade be removed.

The declaration also decided to set up a new "trade negotiations committee" which shall hold its first meeting not later than November 1, 1973, in Geneva. This round of trade negotiations is to last till the end of 1975.

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and not revisionism; unite, and don't split; be open and aboveboard, and don't intrigue and conspire" put forward by Chairman Mao, and rally the greatest possible number of women from all walks of life around the Party to win still greater victories. The congresses also urge them to carry forward the spirit of proletarian internationalism and pay attention and give support to the revolutionary struggles of the world's people and women.

Chinese Oil Tanker's First Voyage to Japan

The big Chinese oil tanker *Jinhu* with her load of crude oil from China's Taching Oilfield sailed into Kashima in Ibaraki Prefecture on September 17. It was her first voyage to Japan and she received a warm welcome from Japanese friends in various walks of life.

ON THE HOME FRONT

Rapid Expansion of Petroleum Industry

CHINA'S crude oil output in 1972 was four times the amount in 1965, the year before the Great Proletarian Cultural Revolution started. On the average, it rose 22 per cent annually during the intervening years. Output of gasoline, kerosene, diesel oil, lubricating oil and other petro-chemical products rose by a big margin. During the first six months this year, crude oil and natural gas output was much more than in the same period of 1972; a record was set in drilling oil wells, and more wells went into operation than in the corresponding period of any previous year.

In the last few years, many new oil and gas fields were found and opened up as a result of oil prospecting in most of China's provinces, municipalities and autonomous regions. Some achievements were also made in prospecting for off-shore petroleum.

Continuous efforts to transform existing oilfields and tap their potential have greatly raised their productive capacity. In the case of Taching Oilfield, for example, workers, technicians and cadres were organized to investigate the underground conditions there and appropriate measures were taken to ensure high and steady yields from strata already tapped for 12 years. In the first half of this year crude oil output was considerably higher than in the same period last year. Nineteen records were chalked up, including those for daily output, the number of new wells put into operation and new productive capacity. About one hundred new oil wells and water-injection wells were drilled and commissioned during the second quarter of this year.

Yumen Oilfield, opened more than 30 years ago, is another case in point. The workers there have located many new oil strata and zones in the past few years. While raising their output steadily, they have sent men and material to support other oilfields.

At the Shengli Oilfield which was opened in 1964, the wells were rapidly drilled and crude oil output has been rising steadily. The oilfield topped the state plan every month in the first half of this year.

During the Great Cultural Revolution new oil refineries were built while existing ones were improved. The Lanchow Oil Refinery, for instance, more than doubled its capacity after several technical improvements. It now makes ten times as many varieties of products as in the early days. Six refineries doubled their output in 1970 after technical transformation. In 1971, 66 per cent of the newly added oil-refining capacity resulted from technical transformation in the old refineries.

China turns out special petroleum products for advanced scientific and technological needs and for the national defence industry in addition to huge amounts of fuel and lubricants for industry, agriculture and the needs of the people.

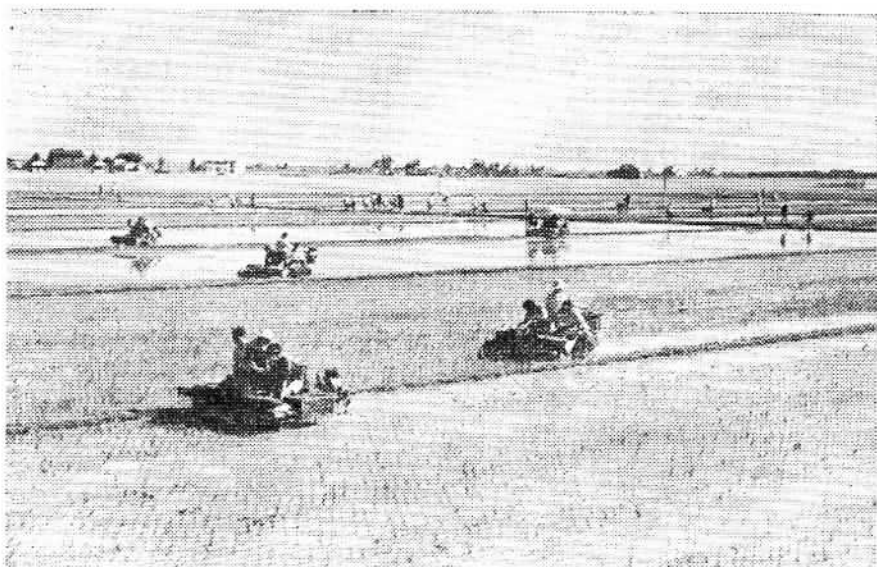
Oil workers, scientists and engineers, breaking down fetishes and superstitions and emancipating their minds, have steadily developed China's petroleum technology. They have evolved a new set of prospecting methods and techniques which speed

up drilling. The monthly footage of drilling last year was 21 per cent more than in 1965.

Scientific experiment groups made up of workers, cadres and technicians have been formed at the various oilfields. A number of scientific research projects have been completed; among them are a new perforation technology, an underground water-flow meter and a new technique for extracting and flooding one oil stratum after another to keep the pressure stable. By going in for multi-purpose use extensively, many refineries have recovered many kinds of chemicals and building materials from waste gas, liquid and residue.

Mechanizing Rice Cultivation

IN recent years machinery has been used in rice-growing areas of south China for ploughing, transplanting rice seedlings, irrigation, drainage and harvesting. Some models of transplanters have been finalized and are now in serial production. By 1972, 230,000 were in use as a result of country-wide popularization. In a number of counties and communes, mechanization of transplanting has been basically achieved. Some areas are using a small-sized rice combine-harvester to reap, thresh and select. The grain comes out comparatively clean and the stalks undamaged. These fea-



Rice transplanters of different types are giving on-the-spot demonstrations.

tures are much appreciated by the peasants.

Rice is the principal grain crop in south China. Before liberation the work was done mainly by human labour and draught animals. After liberation, especially after the establishment of the people's communes in 1958, a mass movement for improving farm implements was carried out in rice-producing areas. In many places, quickly-set-up enterprises for making and repairing farm machinery began to trial-produce a large number of machines for use in rice fields.

Since the Great Proletarian Cultural Revolution there has been a vigorous advance in the cultivation of two rice crops and three crops (various crops including rice) a year, thereby leading to the steady expansion of acreage planted to rice. To promote rice production further, technical workers together with the peasants have invented many farm machines and improved existing ones suited to special local conditions in different places. Not long ago the departments concerned held an on-the-spot meeting to demonstrate machines used in rice cultivation. Over 140 machines of more than 80 types on exhibition attested to the rapid development in this field over the years.

Keeping in mind the needs of growing three crops a year and of close planting in Shanghai's suburbs, the units concerned trial-produced a machine which, among other advantages, transplants rice-shoots evenly and densely. The acreage under early rice put in by machine this year in Shanghai's suburbs was double that of the same period last year. The improved machines not only transplant rice-shoots, but with the necessary tools fixed on them, they can also plough, reap, pump, spray insecticide, haul and do other jobs.

New kinds of machines for plant-protection, irrigation and drainage are being brought out in increasing quantities.

The cost of machinery for rice cultivation has gradually gone down. For example, in 1972 transplanters produced in the Kwangsi Chuang Autonomous Region cost only one-third the 1966 price. They are being popularized throughout the region, with 140,000 now in use.

Electronics Industry

CHINA'S electronics industry produced three times as much in the first half of this year as in the same period of 1965, and the production capacity for electronic elements rose elevenfold. Most of the products are

transistorized. Latest trial-production includes high-speed integrated circuit electronic computers with big storage capacity, high-power short-wave transmitting tubes and colour television receivers and transmitters.

The electronics industry has emerged as an up-and-coming and fairly complete industrial department of the national economy. Departments in charge pay attention to bringing the initiative of local as well as central authorities into full play and to co-ordinating the work of central and local enterprises under a unified plan. Active support is extended to local levels in the form of funds, equipment and materials. With the setting up of over 3,000 enterprises since the Great Proletarian Cultural Revolution, all provinces, municipalities and autonomous regions have their own electronics industry.

Many new electronic products have been turned out in various parts of the country, and this advanced technique is being widely applied and popularized. Electronic devices have been introduced in plant pest control, weather observation, grain and tea leaves drying, seed treatment and detecting ground water for wells. They are also being used in the metallurgical, fuel, chemical, machine-building and textile industries.

(Continued from p. 19.)

Commune was her support. The old woman boiled some eggs for Wang and insisted that she stay overnight with her. When the others came to see her, the old woman brought out walnuts and pears produced in the locality to entertain them. She kept saying, "The youngsters educated by Chairman Mao are really fine!"

One commune member had both legs amputated because of an accident at work. The team went to his home to perform for him. For an old shepherd who suffered from night-blindness, they arranged a performance specially for him during the day. If the team ran into peasants working in the field or on a water irrigation project, they would stop to do a few numbers for them without make-up and props before resuming their journey.

Apart from giving performances, they also put on lantern-slide shows (many of which depicted real local

people), held photo exhibitions and organized "mobile libraries" for peasant readers.

With their help, 501 amateur art troupes have been set up in the county, and all the 605 production brigades now have recreation centres which are frequented by those who want to study, read newspapers, prepare blackboard bulletins, learn to sing and dance, or rehearse an act or two from contemporary revolutionary plays.

"At first we were only enthusiasts of literature and art and knew little in this field," said Chang Shuwen, "but we were so overwhelmed by the welcome shown by the peasants and, knowing that our work is helpful to enlivening the cultural life in the countryside and building up new socialist villages, we felt we must do it well. We must not confine ourselves to popularizing cultural activities. We must raise our level too on the basis of popularization. The countryside is a vast area. There is plenty of room for our talents to flower."

AUTUMN 1973

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