

People's 人民中国 China

January 16

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Li Teh-chuan

KUO MO-JO—FIGHTER FOR PEACE

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2

HOW SANTA CAME TO A P.O.W. CAMP

Spr. E. Fawcett

1952



People's China

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CONTENTS

January 16, 1952

Stalin's Message to the Japanese People.....	Editorial	3
New Soviet Move for Peace.....	Editorial	3
Chairman Mao Tse-tung's New Year Greetings to the Nation.....		4
Welcome 1952 with Full Confidence.....	"People's Daily" Editorial	4
Two Years of Health Work in China.....	Li Teh-chuan	7
Kuo Mo-jo—Fighter for Peace.....	Yang Yu	10
My Impressions of New China.....	Stanli Gogerly	13
"Little Buchenwald" Is No More (How the Children of the Sacred Heart Home Were Rescued).....	Hsiao Ch'ien	19
How Santa Came to a P.O.W. Camp.....	Spr. E. Fawcett	24
Americans Bomb Chinese Territory Again.....		27

PICTORIALS

Health Services for the Workers.....	15
Medical Science Serves the People.....	16
X'mas in a P.O.W. Camp.....	18

CULTURAL FRONT

An Open Road for Science.....	28
-------------------------------	----

MAJOR EVENTS IN CHINA (July 1—December 31, 1951).....	29
---	----

CURRENT CHINA.....	30
--------------------	----

LETTERS FROM OUR READERS.....	31
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Editorials

Stalin's Message to the Japanese People

All the peoples of the world, all fighters for peace look to the Soviet Union, led by Stalin, as standard-bearer of the struggle to preserve world peace from the aggressors. Pointing out the way to defend peace and overcome the threat of war, and the way to win freedom and end the slavery of the oppressed nations, Stalin's every word raises their confidence in victory. That is why the New Year message sent by Stalin to the Japanese people is of the utmost importance.

This warm message of solidarity comes from the great helmsman of the constantly growing world-wide camp of peace and democracy which is immeasurably stronger than the camp of imperialism and war. It conveys the sympathy of the Soviet Union, the mighty Socialist bulwark of peace, to the people of Japan occupied by the U.S. imperialists. It expresses the conviction that the people of Japan, despite the great obstacles which face them, "will achieve the regeneration and independence of their homeland like the peoples of the Soviet Union in the past".

In the same measure as it reinforces the gallant struggle of the Japanese people for

peace and freedom, Stalin's message has exposed the aggressive plans of the American and British imperialists and their reactionary stooges, the present rulers of Japan, and caused confusion and panic among them. The imperialist governments and press are alarmed and dismayed by the welcome it has received from the broadest groups of Japanese patriots.

The Chinese people warmly support these New Year greetings sent by Stalin. They firmly believe that, standing in unity with the Soviet and Chinese peoples, with the peoples of Asia and fighters for peace in all countries, the Japanese people will win their own freedom and independence and contribute powerfully to securing peace in Asia and the world.

Stalin's statement strengthens the confidence in victory of Japanese workers, peasants, intellectuals and all other patriots who are struggling against the increasing impoverishment, humiliation and enslavement into which the imperialist camp is dragging them. It will strengthen also their consciousness that they are fighting in an invincible united front with all the peace-loving peoples for the triumph of peace and democracy throughout the world.

New Soviet Move for Peace

There can be only one explanation for America's sinister opposition to the Soviet proposal for abolishing the unlawful "Collective Measures" Committee of the United Nations General Assembly and the Soviet call for the Security Council to help bring the protracted Korean cease-fire negotiations to a successful conclusion: Wall Street's merchants of death do not want their war preparations upset. *Newsweek*, an organ of American Big Business, admits in its issue of December 24, 1951 that "the Administration is now worried about what a Korean truce might do to the rearmament programme. . . ."

The tactics of the American negotiators at Panmunjom reflect this cynical determination to perpetuate international tension for the sake of super profits. All American moves in the two sub-committees on armistice supervision and the exchange of prisoners are designed to obstruct agreement. The bloodshed continues.

In proposing that the Security Council

meet immediately in regular session to facilitate a cease-fire in Korea, the U.S.S.R. continues its consistent efforts to bring to a peaceful end one of the most threatening situations in international relations—the invasion of Korea by the American and satellite troops.

The Chinese, Koreans and all who have a sense of justice, including an ever growing number of Americans, demand that the Security Council discharge its duties as prescribed in the U.N. Charter. The U.S. government, on the other hand, insists on the so-called "Collective Measures" Committee in order to by-pass the Security Council and get from the U.N. General Assembly a screen of "legality" behind which it can continue its criminal intervention in Korea. Such trickery cannot save the U.S. aggressors and their vassals from the inevitable results of their murderous adventures. In Korea, and elsewhere in the world, the people will rout the American aggressors just as they routed the Japanese fascists.

Chairman Mao Tse-tung's New Year Greetings To the Nation

I wish victory on every front of work to us all—to the functionaries of the People's Government, the commanders and fighters of the people's volunteers and the People's Liberation Army, all the democratic parties, all the people's organisations, all the national minorities and the people of the whole country!

I wish victory to us on the front of the struggle to resist American aggression and aid Korea!

I wish us victory on the front of national defence!

I wish us victory on the front of land reform!

I wish us victory on the front of the campaign to suppress the counter-revolutionaries!

I wish us victory on the economic and financial front!

I wish us victory on the cultural and educational front!

I wish us victory on the front of ideological remoulding among various circles of society, and first and foremost among the intellectuals!

Moreover, I wish us victory on a newly opened-up front—a front at which all the people and functionaries of the country are called upon to rise and launch vigorously and uncompromisingly a large-scale struggle against corruption, waste and bureaucracy, so as to wash away these stains left behind by the old society!

Comrades, on all the above-mentioned fronts, we have in the year 1951 scored victories, many of them very great victories. We hope that, by our joint efforts, still greater victories will be won in all these tasks in 1952.

Long live the People's Republic of China!

Welcome 1952 With Full Confidence

A Condensation of the Editorial of the Peking People's Daily, January 1, 1952

The year 1952 will be of still greater significance than 1951. We shall this year complete the main preparations for large-scale economic construction in China.

We shall ensure that the struggle to resist American aggression and aid Korea scores greater victories and that the national defence is further strengthened. Also, we shall see the whole nation rid of the remnant elements of imperialism, feudalism and bureaucratic capitalism. We shall push ahead with the movement to increase production and practise economy in such a way that production in general is restored to the highest pre-liberation level and even greatly surpasses it in many fields.

Great victories have been achieved in the struggle to resist American aggression and aid Korea during the past 14 months. Together with the Korean People's Army, the Chinese people's volunteers have in this period wiped

out more than 490,000 enemy troops, including over 210,000 Americans. The brave Korean and Chinese people's forces have driven back the aggressor's troops to the vicinity of the 38th Parallel. The enemy has thus come to realise the growth in the power of our army and air force, and has had to agree to armistice talks.

In the course of nearly half a year's negotiations, our enemies have repeatedly used delaying tactics. But this only reveals their own contradictions and confusion instead of their confidence in the outcome of the war. The Korean and Chinese side will continue to strive for a successful conclusion to the talks, which, however, now depends upon the attitude of the government of the United States.

In his opening speech to the third session of the National Committee of the Chinese People's Political Consultative Conference, Chairman Mao Tse-tung said:

We have long said that the Korean question should be settled by peaceful means. This still holds good. So long as the U.S. government is willing to settle the question on a just and reasonable basis, and stops using every possible shameless means to wreck and delay the progress of the negotiations, as it has done in the past, success in the Korean armistice negotiations is possible; otherwise it is impossible.

This is still the case. If the armistice talks end successfully, Korea and China will go further to seek a peaceful solution of the Korean and other Far Eastern questions. If the armistice talks end in failure, Korea and China will inflict even heavier and more disastrous defeats on the enemy.

The great struggle to resist American aggression and aid Korea continues. Victory in the struggle should be taken as the general goal of all the efforts of the Chinese people. Facts in the past 14 months prove that this struggle is not only the goal of all our work, but also its motivation. Contrary to enemy expectations, this struggle has not delayed but hastened construction and preparations for it in China. We are, therefore, fully confident that in 1952 we can achieve still greater victories in the struggle to resist American aggression and aid Korea (while at the same time striving for the success of a peaceful settlement) and complete the main preparations for large-scale economic construction.

As regards large-scale economic construction, the people of our country have done most of the important groundwork in 1950 and 1951. We have accomplished the unprecedented unification of the country, set up organs of the people's democratic power at all levels and established friendly relations with the Soviet Union and the People's Democracies. We have stabilised our financial and monetary situation, restored our communications and domestic and foreign trade, and entered upon the development of co-operative undertakings. We have set out to restore agricultural and industrial production. We have started to reform the management of state enterprises and have made adjustments in the organisation of both commerce and industry to meet current needs. We have eliminated over two million bandits, and effectively suppressed the activities of counter-revolutionaries of all kinds. We have completed land reform in the newly liberated areas inhabited by more than 150 million rural inhabitants. We have restored cultural and educational work and preliminary development and reform have been carried out. We have

advanced united front work among all strata, parties, groups and nationalities, and developed organisational work among the working masses, youth and others. The Chinese Communist Party has grown and is now embarking on the consolidation of its ranks. All this serves the interests of our economic construction, that is, our industrialisation. However, the preparatory work has not yet been completed. We must complete this work in several of the most important phases during the current year.

In 1952, we must exert our utmost efforts to strengthen national defence. American imperialist aggression in Taiwan and in Korea has proved that if we do not possess a modernised and strong national defence, we will be unable to protect ourselves, and all our construction work will be reduced to a shambles under enemy bombardment. We must, therefore, further develop the work of strengthening national defence in which we were engaged last year. We must build up modernised land, air and naval forces. All our construction work must centre round our national defence. We must develop the people's militia in order to create the conditions for enforcement of a draft system.

In 1952, we must further uproot the remnants of imperialism, feudalism and bureaucratic capitalism; that is, except in some areas where national minorities reside, the land reform must be completed this year throughout the country, while in those areas where land reform was carried out in 1951, it should be completed conscientiously. Anti-feudal, democratic reform in public and privately-owned factories, mines and transportation enterprises in the cities must all be completed this year. The struggle to suppress counter-revolutionaries must be continued.

In 1952, we must, on the basis of nationwide land reform in the rural areas and nationwide democratic reform in the factories, mines and transportation enterprises, develop the campaign to increase production and practise economy throughout the country. In the past year, as a result of the efforts of the workers and peasants throughout the country, the output of some industrial products (for instance, copper, caustic soda, rubber tyres, paper, cotton yarn and cloth, steel products and cement) and a part of the agricultural products (for instance, hemp, cotton and tobacco) have already exceeded the highest records in the history of our country. But in other fields, the records have not yet been beaten. In 1952, through the

campaign to increase production and practise economy, industrial and agricultural production should be generally restored to the highest pre-liberation level, while many branches should surpass or even greatly surpass this level.

In agriculture, we should organise the peasants more systematically into mutual-aid teams, and production, supply and marketing co-operative organisations, and also spread more systematically the use of modern agricultural techniques and new varieties of seed among the peasants, so as to raise the yield per hectare, and at the same time lead the peasants onto the road of preliminary collectivisation. In order to set an example for the peasants and enable the state to have direct control of a part of essential agricultural production, the work of developing state farms in 1952 should be greatly increased, and the aim is to establish and operate effectively state farms in every province, region, county and even district, provided there is sufficient land. In every administrative area, province and region, state farm implement factories or repair shops should be set up to supply new farm tools to rural areas.

In industry, the experience of Northeast China in increasing production and practising economy, which created extra wealth equivalent to 13 million tons of grains should be generally applied. In every area of the country, in every enterprise, factory, mine and workshop, the movement of the working masses to map out production plans and to carry out the campaign to increase production and practise economy should be duly developed among teams and carry out the campaign of increasing production and practising economy so as to utilise further the working potential of existing production facilities, improve technique, increase output, raise quality, reduce production costs, tighten control of the management of capital and production and eliminate waste in whatever form in basic construction.

In 1952, our efforts should not only enable the state to accumulate a considerable amount of capital needed for the future development of industry, but also enable the management of enterprises to acquire more experience, without which, the industrialisation of our country would be impossible. Corruption, waste and bureaucracy are the great enemies of the "increase production, practise economy" movement. Therefore, the present struggle against corruption, waste and bureaucracy has a decisive bearing on whether the 1952 plan for increasing production and practising economy

can be realised. The people should be fully mobilised to carry out this struggle to the end, to extend it to every institution, factory, street and village.

For our economic construction, cadres must be trained. Therefore, in 1952, the educational system must be reformed, and middle schools and institutions of higher learning expanded so as to begin large-scale training of cadres needed for economic construction. Ideological remoulding among intellectuals should be developed, so that they can faithfully serve the people's interests.

The work of ideological remoulding is necessary not only for intellectuals but for people in all walks of life. All should understand the present and future of our state, their own position in the state and what should or should not, what may or may not be done, so that they may remould anything erroneous in their own ideology which is not beneficial to the people and whose ultimate result will surely not be beneficial to themselves. Development of the ideological remoulding movement will undoubtedly consolidate, as never before, the Chinese People's Democratic United Front.

The great Communist Party of China is the leader of our glorious Motherland. In its more than thirty years' history of struggle and particularly during the past two years, the Communist Party of China has enjoyed a high prestige among the people throughout the country. Nevertheless, the members of the Communist Party of China must also study and remould their own ideology unceasingly. Since the autumn of 1951, the Communist Party of China has been consolidating its basic organisations. This work of regulating the organisations will unfold on an over-all basis during 1952. The struggle against corruption, waste and bureaucracy will give a still richer content to the work of strengthening the Communist Party of China. Every member of the Communist Party of China must eliminate bourgeois and petty bourgeois influences in his ideology and must endeavour to study Marxism-Leninism, as well as Mao Tse-tung's teachings, which unite the theories of Marxism-Leninism with the actual practice of the Chinese revolution. By so doing they can give correct leadership to the people of the whole country to fulfil the new historic tasks.

Let us unite as one under the leadership of the Communist Party of China and Chairman Mao Tse-tung and advance toward new victories with full confidence and strong determination!

TWO YEARS OF HEALTH WORK IN CHINA

Li Teh-chuan

Minister of Health

Two years have passed since the formation of the Chinese People's Republic. This is sufficient time to enable us to appraise the health work carried out since. New Year, 1952, is appropriate occasion to make such an appraisal.

Two years ago our work was just beginning. We then set ourselves certain tasks, made plans to meet the current situation and blue-printed the first steps to longer-range objectives. The national health policy, outlined clearly in the *Common Programme* adopted by the Chinese People's Political Consultative Conference in 1949, was further detailed and worked out by the National Health Conference in 1951. Basic principles laid down at the conference provided that "emphasis must be on preventive medicine", health work must be directed first of all "towards serving the workers, peasants and People's Armymen", and "close unity between old-style doctors and modern trained health personnel" must be established.

The working programme stressed the prevention of communicable diseases and epidemics most harmful to the people. Concretely, it called for restoration and construction of basic health units, reorganisation and readjustment of hospitals, training of medical and health personnel on a large scale and the rehabilitation and reorganisation of pharmaceutical production and distribution.

Mobilisation in All Fields

In the course of 1951, a number of further national conferences were held to deal with specific problems. They concentrated respectively on epidemic prevention, health work among national minorities, medical administration, production and standardisation of vaccines, education of middle-grade medical personnel, pharmaceutical production, industrial hygiene, school health and other subjects. These special-



Li Teh-chuan

ised national conferences summarised notable results already achieved in each field and planned expanded work in the future.

The progress made in public health has been part of the general progress of China's development in all fields, to which it has contributed substantially. Industrial construction has been accompanied by the growth of health services for the workers. In agriculture, and in the massive irrigation and flood control projects involving millions of people,

preventive and medical services have been provided. In the consolidation of national defence, medical and health personnel have participated actively in the movement to resist American aggression and aid Korea.

Figures on different aspects of health work give a very inadequate picture of the real changes. For example, they cannot portray the ruddy-faced sturdy youngsters on their way to school, the proud mothers with healthy babies, the inexhaustible energy of the workers who set production records only to exceed them, the healthy happiness of well-fed peasants, the physical fitness and heroic endurance of the Chinese people's volunteers and the People's Liberation Army.

Heritage of the Past

The reactionary Kuomintang regime brought people misery, ill-health and death. Rural communities were devoid of any semblance of modern public-health facilities. Enormous numbers died from pestilences that ravaged the countryside as regularly as the seasons, aggravated by the "treatment" of witch-doctors and quacks. In those days, it is estimated, the nation's death rate amounted to over 30 per 1,000 population, half of which was due to preventable disease. In some areas, infant mortality reached the frightful figure of 40 per cent of newborn.

Population-loss from illness was unbelievably great in the national minority areas. In Ikhechao league of Inner Mongolia, which had had 400,000 people in the middle of the 17th century, the population had decreased by 75 per cent at the time of liberation.

Fight Against Disease

Faced with these conditions, the Ministry of Health of the Central People's Government, with its medical and health personnel and the co-operation of the people, has already performed heroic tasks.

Over 209 million people have been vaccinated against smallpox in China since the liberation. By the end of 1952 or early 1953, nearly every man, woman and child in New China will have been vaccinated once. In the major cities like Peking, Canton, Port Arthur and Dairen, etc. no cases of smallpox have been reported since May 1950. Elsewhere in the country, while sporadic cases were noted, there have been no epidemics. Our plan was to wipe out smallpox in three to five years. It is now fairly certain that three years will be enough.

Successes have also been achieved in plague-control. Plague prevention centres have been set up in the Northeast, Chahar, Inner Mongolia, Chekiang, Fukien and Yunnan. The network of centres, and the formation of a special Plague Prevention Corps will be completed in 1952. From January to June of 1951 the number of plague cases in the entire nation was 80 per cent below that for the same period of 1950.

To prevent cholera and other infectious diseases from entering China, 16 quarantine stations have been set up at important ports and frontier points. One of the main factors in preventing cholera is the widespread water sanitation work that has been done. In the past two years over 30 million people in potential cholera areas have been inoculated against the disease. There has been no case of cholera in China in the past three years.

A total of 125 mobile anti-epidemic corps are now operating throughout the country, from the Northeast to Hainan Island and from the coast to Tibet. Six thousand health workers and doctors were sent to provide preventive services for several million workers on the Huai River Control Project, and to areas affected by natural calamities. Diseases such as typhus, relapsing fever and typhoid, which always broke out among large concentrations

of workers in the past, were not reported at all in 1951. Only occasional cases of dysentery were noted.

Kala Azar, long a major public health problem, is now on the decline. This year it will lose its place on the roster of health menaces. Nine treatment and prevention centres have already handled more than 110,000 cases of this disease, according to still incomplete data. Effective sand-fly control has been instituted in a limited area and will be widely extended in 1952. A number of new prevention centres will also be set up this year.

In the fight against parasitic diseases, eighteen centres have the special job of preventing malaria, schistosomiasis and hookworm. In addition to themselves carrying out large-scale prophylactic and curative work, they have devised efficient preventive methods for general adoption, especially against malaria.

In the national minority areas, great emphasis has been placed on child and maternity health work. The scourges of malaria and venereal disease have been vigorously attacked. In certain areas in Inner Mongolia the results are already apparent in an increasing birth rate.

Seven biological production institutes now operating in China produce more than ten times the pre-liberation output of sera and vaccines.

Basic Medical Organisation

The basic organisational unit in our public health work is the Health Centre, geared to serve one *hsien* (county) in the countryside or one district in cities and industrial and mining areas. At present, 1865 rural health centres serve 85% of the counties in China, which is 526 more than in 1950. Beds in rural hospitals have increased by 122%. Below the county level, 1,498 *chu* (sub-district) health centres have been organised by the people themselves, with the assistance and co-operation of the government.

In three national minority areas, Chinghai, Inner Mongolia and Sinkiang, there are now 92 health centres and 24 hospitals.

In the cities, hospital facilities have increased by 26 per cent over 1950.

Protection of Labour

The Central People's Government promulgated its *Industrial Safety and Health Protection Regulations* in 1950 and the *Labour Insurance Regulations* in 1951. By the end of 1950, health and safety commissions had been set up in 10 provinces and 26 cities to inspect



The health of Chinese children has become the constant care of the Chinese People's Government. These happy children are from the Fen Ssu Ting kindergarten in Peking

safety and health conditions in all public and private factories and mines. Factories and mines also formed their own safety and health committees and medical services. The national average for Chinese industry is now one doctor to every 880 workers. In the Northeast industrial area, there is a health worker for every 115 workers.

As a result of improvements of environmental sanitation in industries and mines, as well as obligatory physical examinations for all workers, the average incidence of disease among industrial workers in the Northeast fell by 0.9% between 1949 and 1950. Improved safety work reduced the rate of industrial injuries from 6.41% in 1949 to 2.56% in 1950. The corresponding figures for 1951 have not yet been compiled. But material at hand shows that conditions continued to improve greatly.

In the field of child and maternal health, we have scored major successes against infant mortality. Here efforts have been concentrated on retraining old-style midwives in scientific methods of delivery. So far about 100,000 midwives have been re-educated, while graduates from regular midwifery schools have also increased. China now has nearly 1,000 child and maternal health institutes of various kinds and more than 10,000 maternity stations. According to sample surveys in the Northeast

and North China, infant mortality from tetanus of the newborn has dropped considerably.

Medical Education

With the inauguration of the new three level educational system and reorganisation of old methods, original plans for the training of health personnel are being overfulfilled. The country possesses 42 medical institutes of higher learning, including medical, pharmaceutical and dental schools or colleges. Their total enrollment is just over 20,000 students.

Middle-grade medical educational institutes, giving a 2-year course for "feldsher doctors" (doctor's assistants) now number 94. A total enrollment of 55,592 students are studying in 228 nursing and 101 midwifery and in the doctor's assistants schools. We have set up large numbers of short courses lasting three to six months, which give basic training in control of communicable diseases, sanitation, first aid, etc. Hundreds of thousands of people have already passed through such courses.

Additionally, we have organized 180,000 old-style Chinese doctors and given them a place in our health work. All major cities and administrative areas of China have set up special retraining schools to provide basic scientific medical knowledge and public health education to such doctors. The teachers and professors at these schools are mostly graduates in modern medicine, who thus have the opportunity not only of cementing relations with their doctor-students but also of exchanging valuable experience.

Toward Self-sufficiency in Equipment

After two years of hard work, China has become 48% self-sufficient in the production of pharmaceuticals and medical equipment. Now we are planning to develop the manufacture of medicines and equipment still further. The first goal is to attain complete self-sufficiency

(Continued on page 23)

Kuo Mo-Jo—Fighter for Peace

Yang Yu

Kuo Mo-jo is known for his dauntless spirit, his brilliant oratory, his pen cutting like a sword. Now this revolutionary poet and devoted fighter for the cause of peace and democracy has been awarded the 1951 International Stalin Peace Prize. The award has been acclaimed by the whole Chinese people and the peace-loving peoples of the world.

Kuo Mo-jo was born in 1892 in a small town near Omei mountain by the Tatu river in Szechuan. Son of a merchant's family with scholarly connections, he made the most of his opportunities of getting a wide knowledge of the Chinese classics. This laid the foundation for his profound understanding of ancient Chinese culture. At the age of 12, he made his first contacts with modern Western thought. At twenty he left his native town for study abroad in Japan. His experience of the old society in Szechuan gave him a practical understanding of how feudalism obstructed China's progress and made her the prey of the imperialists. Since he turned his back on that decaying society and threw himself into the revolutionary movement, he has remained an unrelenting opponent of feudal reaction.

Like his great contemporary Lu Hsun, Kuo Mo-jo studied medicine and graduated from a Japanese medical school, but deafness handicapped him in practising his profession. Influenced by the work of Goethe, Heine, Turgeniev, Whitman and, above all, inspired by the 1919 May 4th Movement which marked the beginning of the New Democratic revolution in China, he began his new career as a writer. On his return from Japan in 1921, he founded the afterwards famous Creation Society and published the *Creation Weekly* and many other progressive works. The collection of his poems, *The Goddess*, his play *Three Rebel Women* and several novels, romantic in style, displayed a rich fund of love for humanity and dealt telling blows against the old social system. They inspired many young Chinese to take the road of the revolution.

Kuo Mo-jo writes in his autobiography: "I believe that I profoundly love my country. I studied medicine in order to acquire some practical knowledge of service to the people. I worked in the field of literature because I hoped to inspire people to change the world...."

Yet, to begin with, I knew very little of the new society or how it should be built."

Then came the October Socialist Revolution. Its brilliance illumined the East. It helped the young Kuo Mo-jo to realise the nature of the new society for which we are striving. Early in 1924, he began the serious study of Marxism and it brought about a radical transformation in his thinking and way of life. He played an active part in the First Revolutionary Civil War (1924-27), devoting himself to political and cultural work against the warlords during the Northern Expedition. He joined the historic Nanchang Uprising of August 1, 1927, the rising which gave birth to the Red Army, the forerunner of the People's Liberation Army. In order to expose Chiang Kai-shek's betrayal of the revolution he wrote his pamphlet, *Look at Today's Chiang Kai-shek!*

The reactionary Kuomintang government put a price of 30,000 silver dollars on Kuo Mo-jo's head. He was forced to live in exile.

During the next ten years which he spent in Japan, Kuo Mo-jo was constantly watched by the Japanese police. He continued his researches into ancient Chinese society, making a painstaking study of the hieroglyphs on the ancient bronzes and oracle bones which are rich in historical significance. He translated Marx's *Critique of Political Economy* and German *Ideology* as well as Leo Tolstoy's *War and Peace* and many other world-famous novels.

When the War of Resistance to Japanese Aggression began in 1937, the Kuomintang, despite its insincerity and reluctance, was forced by the pressure of the masses to join in the Anti-Japanese United Front. Kuo Mo-jo returned immediately to his Motherland and threw all his energy and talents into the fight against the invaders and their puppet allies.

Throughout the Anti-Japanese War, Kuo Mo-jo fought courageously and steadfastly against the anti-democratic, anti-Communist and defeatist policies led by Chiang Kai-shek. As a result, when the extreme reactionaries became dominant in Chungking, then the war-time capital, he was held a virtual prisoner there, but he continued to struggle for democracy and the people's war against aggression.

Headed by him on February 27, 1945, over 370 cultural workers in Chungking signed a declaration calling for a democratic coalition government. This exerted a tremendous influence among the people then under Kuo-mintang rule. It roused all the venomous hatred of the reactionaries. A month later, Chiang Kai-shek dissolved the Committee of Cultural Workers which was sponsored by Kuo Mo-jo, just as it was commemorating the death of that great writer and fighter for progress—Romain Rolland.



Kuo Mo-jo

Kuo Mo-jo again took up his pen as his main weapon in the struggle against reaction. In an historical play he protested against the Kuomintang tyranny by lauding the heroism of Chu Yuan, a patriotic poet of ancient times. This and four other plays infused a new quality into contemporary art and heartened all progressives, particularly writers in the Kuomintang-controlled areas.

In June 1945, at the invitation of the Soviet Union, Kuo Mo-jo attended the 220th anniversary of the Academy of Sciences of the U.S.S.R. During his 50-day sojourn in the U.S.S.R. he visited Leningrad, Stalingrad, Uzbekistan and many other places. Through this visit Kuo Mo-jo realised still more clearly what the victories of Socialism mean. His book, *A Tour in the U.S.S.R.*, vividly described the happy life of the Soviet people. It came off the press at an opportune moment just when the Kuomintang and their imperialist masters resumed their savage anti-Soviet propaganda.

Kuo Mo-jo returned to China in August, 1945. Late in that year the All-Party Political Consultative Conference was started under the pressure of the people who were bitterly opposed to Chiang Kai-shek's plot of launching a new counter-revolutionary civil war. Without hesitation Kuo joined this political struggle, a struggle that would decide China's destiny—civil war and reaction or peaceful construction and democracy. Kuo Mo-jo and several of his comrades-in-arms, including Professor Li Kung-po, were attacked by Kuomintang thugs while leading the great mass rally in Chungking that celebrated the holding of this con-

ference and its work for national peace. That was February 10, 1946. Not long after, both Li Kung-po and Wen I-to, one of China's most brilliant revolutionary poets, were murdered by KMT secret agents in Kunming, Yunnan. In May of that year, Kuo Mo-jo left for Shanghai where he fought shoulder to shoulder with the students and other democratic elements against the reactionaries and the American imperialist instigators of a new civil war and intervention. In November 1947, together with many other patriots, he left for Hongkong.

In these years, as Kuo Mo-jo has himself remarked, life was like "the stream of the Tatu river, flowing on a winding course in the high mountain valleys". Then came the time of the people's epoch-making liberation movement, when the stream linked up with the sea of the masses.

Kuo Mo-jo remained in Hongkong until November, 1948 when Hsuehchow was liberated and Nanking, the centre of despotic rule, was exposed to the armed forces of the people. He then went to the Northeast liberated areas, and at once joined the political and social activities of New China. In September, 1949 he said at the First Plenary Session of the Chinese People's Political Consultative Conference of which he was a member: "We must be forever united, acting in concert with the Chinese Communist Party which serves the people whole-heartedly. Under the outstanding leadership of Chairman Mao, we must exert every effort to develop the patriotism and patriotic internationalism of the New Democracy, we must put forth ever greater efforts to fulfil the task of liberating this entire nation so as to accelerate the liberation of the whole of mankind."

When the People's Republic of China was founded, Kuo Mo-jo was elected to the following posts: member of the Central People's Government Council, vice-premier of the Government Administration Council, chairman of the Commission for Cultural and Educational Affairs and president of the Academia Sinica. At the same time, he was elected chairman of

the All-China Federation of Writers and Artists and vice-chairman of the Sino-Soviet Friendship Association.

Kuo Mo-jo has been a consistent fighter for the defence of world peace. In April 1949, he headed the Chinese delegation to attend the World Peace Congress held concurrently in Prague and Paris. Representing the Chinese people, he condemned the criminal warmongers headed by the American imperialists who are plotting for a new war. He told the whole world of China's desire and determination to defend world peace. This pledge on behalf of 475,000,000 liberated people gave a mighty upsurge of confidence to the peace-loving peoples of the world.

Kuo Mo-jo was elected one of the vice-chairmen of the permanent committee of the Congress. On his return he told hundreds of thousands of eager welcomers in China about the Congress, its aims and achievements. He was elected chairman of the China Peace Committee when it was founded in October 1949. He again headed the Chinese delegation to the second session of the World Peace Congress in Warsaw and was elected one of the vice-chairmen of the Executive Bureau of the World Peace Council.

On June 25, 1950 the American imperialists invaded North Korea. Kuo Mo-jo, in speeches and articles, expressed the bitter indignation of all Chinese at this brutal act of aggression. He headed the Chinese People's Mission to fighting Korea in August to attend the celebration of the fifth anniversary of the liberation of the Korean people from the Japa-

nese yoke. This Mission brought China's sympathy to the armed forces and the people of Korea, fighting heroically against the U.S. invasion. It brought sympathy and aid to victims of the aggressors. Based on his experiences in Korea, Kuo Mo-jo wrote a series of articles under the title, *Visit to Korea*.

The announcement of the list of laureates of the 1951 International Stalin Peace Prize coincided with the homecoming of Kuo Mo-jo from the session of the Permanent Committee of the World Peace Congress in Vienna. The people throughout China are proud of this great international honour given to Kuo Mo-jo, outstanding social and cultural worker and well-tried partisan of peace. Kuo Mo-jo said on learning of the award: "It is a great honour to me but the merit of this honour must go to the people of the whole country." A special celebration in Peking expressed the congratulations of the entire people. Messages have poured in to him from every stratum of the people, pledging their redoubled efforts in defence of peace.

Strong in his trust in the peoples of the world, Kuo Mo-jo has full confidence in the victory of the struggle for peace. As he said at the second session of the World Peace Council:

"The road to peace is the road of the people, the road of fraternity, mutual economic assistance and cultural exchange. This road is open to all upright people who really serve the welfare of mankind.

"We are firmly convinced that peace will surely defeat war."

"The Greatest Honour in the World"

Kuo Mo-jo's Statement

In his statement on the award to him of the 1951 International Stalin Prize "For the Promotion of Peace Among Nations", Kuo Mo-jo described the prize as one of "the greatest honour in the world".

He said: "Please allow me to understand by it that this is not an award to me personally, but to all the Chinese people, who, under the brilliant leadership of Chairman Mao Tse-tung, are struggling for the 'promotion of peace among nations'. The victory of the people's revolution of the Chinese people, the victory in resisting American aggression and aiding Korea and the victory in every phase of construction have all contributed to the 'promotion of peace among nations.'" Kuo Mo-jo pointed out that the award would be "a great encouragement to the people throughout China".

"It is the great Soviet people," he continued, "who have contributed most to the 'promotion of peace among nations.' Under the direct leadership of Generalissimo Stalin, the greatest teacher of the working people of the world and the greatest leader in the preservation of world peace, the Soviet people have firmly carried out a peace policy and are displaying outstanding creativeness. Thus the Soviet Union has become the strongest bulwark of world peace and the brightest beacon of world culture.

"Because of the existence of the Soviet Union, people of goodwill throughout the world have gained and are increasingly gaining confidence in the winning of peace. They are all thankful to the people of the Soviet Union and are learning from them."

My Impressions of New China

Stanli Gogerly

Secretary of the Ceylon Federation of Democratic Youth and Chairman of the Ceylon Youth Delegation to China

Our six weeks' stay in China has been an unforgettable experience for every member of our delegation—the first Ceylon youth delegation to come to this great country. Never before, except in the Soviet Union, have we seen such determined constructive efforts, such bold confidence in the future, and such enthusiastic support for the government from all sections of the people.

We were astounded by the tremendous advances made in the two years of liberation. The American instigators of the economic "blockade" of China may well ponder over the fact that their shameless manoeuvres have only given an added incentive to the Chinese people to produce their own necessities, so that today they have become completely self-sufficient in regard to food and clothing and, to a great extent, produce even machinery, oil and medicines for themselves.

How profoundly true are those historic words of Chairman Mao Tse-tung: "The Chinese people have stood up!" They are conquering all difficulties in their path. In the factories we visited, we learnt how the liberated Chinese working class is brilliantly acquitting itself as the leading class of the country. We were amazed by the remarkable improvements in workers' conditions, by the great working people's cultural palaces and rest centres that have been set up by the trade unions with the assistance of the People's Government. Little wonder that one worker, whom we met in a power plant, referred to the new *Trade Union Law* as "equal to two sons" for it ensured much more prosperity than two earning sons could bring an aged father.

A class that was once bitterly oppressed, living under the most abominable conditions, has now, under the leadership of the Communist Party, educated itself both politically and culturally to become the pride of the nation, capable of applying the experiences of the Soviet Union, making valuable new inventions in many spheres, and showing the way forward to the whole nation.

The gigantic project to harness and alter the course of the mighty Huai river, large-

scale railway construction which will link up every key part of the land, these are testimonies of the bold initiative of the Chinese workers.

At the village of the Black Pagoda, we were able to see the happy life of the peasantry after land reform. No more did they toil under the cruel yoke of landlordism. The land they tilled, the product of their labour, now belong to them. No wonder we saw such beaming smiles illuminating the faces of the men and women, young and old, who came to meet us.

We met many formerly illiterate peasants now learning to read and write in the evening schools which had been set up by the peasants' association with the aid of the People's Government. We also met many couples, for whom marriage, due to their poor economic circumstances, had been out of the question before liberation. The liberation had not only brought them land, but also love. It was a moving experience to meet those newly-wedded "old couples", for whom age was no barrier to a happy married life. One such proud husband was 51-year-old En Teh-tsuan who, significantly, had named his new-born child "Received Land".

We were particularly impressed by the way the land distribution had been carried out to carefully ensure the economic independence of women and children, and also by the new *Marriage Law* which ensures the rights and equality of women, forever liberating them from the virtual slavery that was marriage under feudalism. Considering the new status acquired by women in New China, it is not surprising to see the way in which they have been drawn into public life, striving as hard as the men in the service of the Motherland.

Another aspect that impressed us particularly was in regard to the Chinese national bourgeoisie, who also play an important role in the building of a New Democratic China.

In the shops owned by the middle class, we noted the slogans they themselves put up: "We shall not bargain with customers, we shall help each other." We were also deeply

impressed by the slogans showing their support for the movement to resist American aggression and to aid Korea which, once again, proved to us that the whole of the Chinese people, the whole nation, was in the battle for world peace.

We saw the patriotic fervour of the youth of China, their remarkable capacity for organisation and the self-sacrificing yet confident spirit in which they took upon their young shoulders the most varied responsibilities. Wherever we went, we were overwhelmed by their friendliness and sincerity. We knew this was an expression of the keen desire of Chinese youth to unite with all peace-loving youth throughout the world, irrespective of colour, race or creed.

In the schools and universities, we saw the doors of education being ever more widely opened to the masses of the people. Children from the working class and peasantry, who never had the opportunity of seeing the inside of an elementary school before liberation, were now finding their way into the universities. In addition to the ordinary schools, we saw also the workers' and peasants' middle schools created with the set object of repairing the damage of years of illiteracy and educational darkness.

We also saw the special schools for the national minorities, further pointers to the care of the People's Government for the minority peoples who, now with all the other amenities provided for them, such as the edition of books in their own languages, the provision of facilities for developing their culture etc., and the important positions they hold in the Central People's Government itself, live in happy union with the rest of the Chinese people.

I could not help contrasting the happiness of the people of New China with the condition of my own people in Ceylon.

In view of these conditions, it is no surprise that the influence of the Chinese revolution should find its way into our country, wielding a tremendous influence over the oppressed masses, particularly the youth. Just as the Great October Socialist Revolution brought added hope and courage to the Chinese people and the toiling millions of the whole world, the victorious Chinese revolution has, in turn, reinforced and invigorated the revolutionary movement all over the world, blazing a trail of liberation for the peoples of Asia in particular.

Seeing the great transformation of China, Ceylonese youth have been awakened to the fact that happiness and peace do not drop from heaven, that they must be striven for with the same heroism with which the Chinese and Korean peoples are battling for peace and preserving their happiness by resisting American aggression in Korea.

The Chinese people who have been through the furnace of war for scores of years fervently love peace. Nowhere did we hear one word, or see one single act, which even slightly savoured of a bellicose character, or indicated a preparation for war. On the contrary, wherever we went, we were struck by the emphasis on peace.

But the Chinese people also know, through their own hard experience, that peace will not wait on them, that it has to be fought for. When only the Yalu river separates China from Korea, when the flames of the Korean war have literally extended onto Chinese territory, when the rash statements of crazy politicians in America about invading China have been complemented by the reckless bombing of Chinese towns like Antung and Chian, it is obvious to any honest observer that the Chinese people must have a vital interest in the peaceful settlement of the Korean war—that the struggle of the Chinese people's volunteers in Korea has been necessitated, both by the interests of Korean independence and world peace, and by the vital cause of protecting China's own sovereignty.

That is why the Chinese people have sacrificed so much to aid Korea. Never will we forget our conversation with the old Lee Shu-*jen*, a 50-year-old railway worker, whom we met in a workers' rest house. With a heavy heart, yet with a sparkle in his eyes which lit up his countenance, he told us how his first son had sacrificed his life to the Korean battle, how he had then encouraged his second son to volunteer for Korea, and how he, himself, is now appealing to the authorities for permission to go to aid Korea.

The Chinese people are fortunate indeed to have found a great leader in Mao Tse-tung, a leader so utterly devoted to the cause of the people, whose teachings symbolise that wisdom that the Chinese people have always been famous for, and whose magnificent leadership in bringing China's revolution to victory inspires the peoples in all colonial and dependent countries in Asia and makes him truly the hope of renascent Asia.



A railway workers' hospital in Northeast China

Health Services for the Workers

The Labour Insurance Regulations assure health benefits to over
ten million workers and their dependents

A ward of the Shanghai Workers' Hospital, one of several
established for the workers of China's greatest industrial
city and port



A doctor examines a worker patient at
a public clinic in Shanghai



Medical Serves

Public Health Work
emphasis on preven
the whole system o
masses of the peopl
People's Army



The basic principles of hygiene are widely popularised throughout the country. The Mothers' Meeting in Peking pictured here is one way in which mother and child care is brought to the masses



Typical of the m
serve the peopl
Committee of Na
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rese

Peasants on the Hwai river project getting anti-cholera inoculations. Medical science has turned to the countryside. Two hundred million people have been vaccinated since liberation. Such measures have prevented major epidemics

Old-style midwives from villages near
struction in hygiene. One hundred
already been re-trained throughout th
has been sharply



Science for the People

...in New China puts its main
...native medicine and turning
...of medical care to serve the
...—the workers, peasants and
...men in the first place



...medical men who today
...—a specialist of the
...National Health and Scien-
...which directs all medical
...arch work

...Peking receiving modern in-
...thousand such midwives have
...the country and infant mortality
...reduced



Medical care is taken to the national minorities. A doctor of the Central People's Government Goodwill Mission to the Central-South areas treats a woman of the Yao tribe of Kwangsi

The packing department of the National Vaccine and Serum Institute. Seventy state plants help produce 48 per cent of all pharmaceutical and medical equipment needed. China advances to self-sufficiency in this field





The P.O.W's enjoyed a special X'mas dinner complete with wine and coffee

X'mas in a P.O.W. Camp

U.S., British and other P.O.W's of the Korean People's Army and the Chinese people's volunteers celebrated X'mas in traditional style. Every effort was made to make them feel "at home". They knew they could have been home by now but for the sabotage of the cease-fire negotiations by the U.S. delegates at Panmunjom

Each platoon produced a bumper number of its wall-newspaper for the celebrations. P.O.W's studying the issue of a British platoon



X'mas trees formed the centre of the gaily decorated camp



"Little Buchenwald" Is No More

How the Children of the Sacred Heart Home Were Rescued

Hsiao Ch'ien

It happened in January 1950, at the Catholic Sacred Heart Home for Children in Nanking. A young couple named Liu took their plump, fifteen-month-old baby to the Home and entrusted her to the care of the nuns. The Lius thought they had found a good solution for their problem of taking care of the baby. The father was a newspaper man and the young mother, Ting Chi, was bent on studying at the East China Revolutionary University. The couple were impressed by the big modern house with shining floors where the nuns received guests. While neither of them were believers, the name "Sacred Heart" had a solacing effect on them. They did not find it strange that they were not invited to inspect the nursery, and see the other children.

Mr. and Mrs. Liu paid the one month's keep for their baby—the cash equivalent of five *tou* (about 80 pounds) of first quality rice, one bar of soap and two cattles of sugar. They did not grudge the amount, feeling that it would guarantee good care for their child. They had no qualms as they signed the entrance form which said that "the establishment was not to be held responsible in case of any untoward accident to the child." The Franciscan sisters with their huge, triangular white hoods, inspired complete confidence.

The mother went off to study with no misgivings, sure that she was doing what was best for the child.

The first time Mr. Liu went to visit the child he had an unpleasant surprise. The baby was in a cellar, her clothes sopping wet. Despite his misgivings he did not tell his wife what he had seen because it was he who had persuaded her to leave the child at the Home and go for studies at the University.

Later, when the mother herself went to the Home, she saw one of the sisters, Jacqueline Andre, cruelly beating a child. When the sister saw the caller approaching, she immediately stopped and was all smiles. "You are Baby Liu's mother, now there's a sweet child," she said. But Baby Liu looked thin and was in tears when her mother saw her.

On the afternoon of May 11, while Mr. Liu was busy at the newspaper office and the mother was engrossed with a discussion group, Baby Liu was badly burned all down one side of her body. The sister on duty applied some vaseline and left it at that. No doctor was consulted; and no one bothered to take the child's temperature. It was only at night, when she started to run a high temperature and have convulsions, that the parents were notified. They arrived at the Home before daybreak. Upon their insistence, the child was finally sent to hospital. By this time the wound had festered, resulting in acidosis. Baby Liu died.

In the eyes of the Sacred Heart sisters, nothing serious had happened. Hadn't 372 of the 557 babies that were entrusted to their care in the two and a half years between January 1948 and June 1950, also died? Chinese babies were always dying. The sisters pointed at the dilated eyes and emaciated body of Baby Liu and said: "There, can't you see that she is smiling? We ought to rejoice, her little soul is now in Heaven, and the Virgin Mary has her under her care."

This was cold comfort to the distraught parents. But it made them realise with a shock that the "Sacred Heart" Home was in reality a vile hell.

In the old days the Lius would have had no redress. But this was 1950 and things were different. Mr. Liu wrote a letter which was printed in the *Hsinhua Daily*, Nanking, describing the circumstances which led to the death of his child. After the publication of this letter, an avalanche of correspondence came to the newspaper office. The Sacred Heart Home was revealed to be a smaller-scale Buchenwald, doubly terrible because all the victims were children.

The shocking stories told in the letters aroused the municipal people's government, the local branch of the Democratic Women's Federation, child-welfare workers in Nanking and parents from far and wide. On the afternoon of May 22, more than fifty parents of Sacred Heart children met to tell what they knew.

Starvation, Neglect and Cruelty

The picture that emerged was one of starvation, callous neglect and slave labour.

New-born babies were fed half a pint of heavily watered milk a day, plus a little bean powder. Toddlers had to subsist on plain rice gruel day in and day out. As for older children, at least a dozen of them had to scramble for each bowl of tasteless soup and each dish of vegetables (most often musty carrots). Meat and fats were virtually unknown.

There was a complete absence of minimum health requirements. Dozens of children shared the use of one wash-basin and one towel. There was not a single room in which a sick child could be kept isolated from the rest. Tuberculosis, meningitis and other serious illnesses were left to run riot. Death took a heavy toll.

When children first came to the Sacred Heart they were arbitrarily baptised. Any child old enough to understand was terrorised with stories of "original sin" and devils with protruding, tusk-like teeth. As soon as a baby started to walk it had to attend mass three times a day: the first at five in the morning—four and a half hours of kneeling every

day. Then there were prayers before and after each meal, prayers before going to bed, and "retreats" which came several times a year. During those periods, the children were absolutely forbidden to utter a word, notwithstanding the fact that all of them were at that curious age when normally they would ask endless questions.

Children were said to be doing "no more than their duty" when they slaved for the sisters at tasks far beyond their strength. They were made to ruin their eyes on embroidery, break their backs feeding the fowls and animals, cut grass, plant vegetables, clean floors, grind beancurd, bake bread for their "mummies" (the sisters), wash dishes, sift coal and knead coal-balls.

Inhuman punishments, reminiscent of the Middle Ages, awaited any child that failed to carry out its "duty" and get through all the work assigned. The most common form of torture was to be shut up in the "dark room"—a cellar. Children were confined in this way for as long as twenty days without as much as a musty carrot to eat with their gruel.

Investigation and Trial

These were the facts revealed at the parents' meeting which stirred up bitter public anger and indignation. The Nanking People's Court was bombarded with petitions to take up the case of Baby Liu and investigate conditions at the Sacred Heart.

The local government and several people's organizations formed an investigation committee, which worked hard on the case for eight months. The truth of the charges against the Home was incontrovertibly established. Many other horrible and shocking facts, previously unsuspected, were also brought to light. On February 12, 1951 after the People's Court had weighed the evidence at several sessions, sentences were pronounced: deportation from China for the two sisters in charge of the Home, Irene Mary Langran (Irish) and Jacqueline Andre (French).

One would have thought that the case of Baby Liu would have caused the nuns to reflect and change their ways. But it was just the reverse: they used the period of investigations to redouble their efforts to poison the minds of the children, whose lives remained unchanged.

During this period shocking conditions in another Nanking nursery—the "Tze Ai Tang", the Hall of Mercy—were also exposed. "Tze Ai" had been set up by a Kuomintang bureaucrat, and was handed over to 16 sisters of assorted nationalities (American, German and Austrian) on the eve of Nanking's liberation. After the Sacred Heart investigation started, sobbing mothers with children at Tze Ai took their stories to the government, demanding that prompt action be taken.

In Tientsin, Shanghai, Canton, Wuchang, similar infanticidal establishments were being unmasked. The voice of the people swelled like a tide: "Rescue our children! Take over the homes!" Group discussions throughout the country, demonstrations, letters to newspapers... all were unanimous on this point.

It was against this background of events that the Sacred Heart Home was taken over by the

People's Relief Administration of China on instructions from the chairman of the People's Liberation Army Nanking Military Control Committee at 10 p.m. on April 17, 1951.

They Are Rescued

When the nuns learned that the Home was to be taken over, Marie Joseph le Baroy (French) and Maria Angelica da Silva (Portuguese), the sisters in charge, planned to resist, holding the children as hostages. They padlocked the office and store-room and refused to turn over the files or give any information concerning the number, age, state of health, etc., of any of the children. They even tore the labels off the medicine bottles. One girl, Lailai, had tubercular meningitis and had fallen into a coma, but the sisters paid absolutely no attention to her. She was removed to hospital immediately after the take-over, but died without recovering consciousness.

Feng Po-hua, the branch chairman of the People's Relief Administration, who was in charge of the take-over, announced to the Chinese staff and sisters that this action had nothing to do with religious convictions. "Our People's Republic upholds religious freedom," he said, "but no one is free to torture and massacre children." He called on all present to exert themselves energetically to rescue the children in accordance with the task entrusted to them by the people of Nanking. The atmosphere was electric. To protect the children from possible reprisals by the nuns, women cadres slept on the floor of the night nursery.

The next morning the 57 children had their first taste of fresh whole milk—something that formerly they had only seen the sisters drink. Then they each had a bath and a haircut. Their nails were pared, and their filthy clothes, full of lice, were taken off and replaced by new ones. They were moved from the cold-in-winter-stuffy-in-summer prefabricated house into large, airy rooms on the south side of the nuns' building. For the first time in its life, each child was given a wash-basin and towel of its own.

Needless to say, the orphans were not a little puzzled. These "Liberation Aunties", so kind and thoughtful, seemed in no way to conform to what Sister le Baroy had told them about the Liberation Army: that they were all fierce devils with red eyebrows and green eyes.

Two doctors and three nurses on the rescue team gave the children fluoroscopic examinations and blood tests. The report was hair-raising. All 57 were afflicted with some kind of disease. There were 21 T.B. cases (not one ever isolated); 39 trachoma cases (from the common wash-basin); lymphadenitis, rickets, conjunctivitis... A number of children had as many as five different diseases.

Some of the seven and eight-year-olds were already hunch-backed. Some were afflicted with cataracts. Their complexions were mostly of a sickly greenish pallor. Their mental state was as ghastly as their physical condition. Nan-ling, nearly four years old, had cut a full set of teeth, but she could only suck her fingers and was hardly equal to the task of holding a teaspoon. Fourteen-year-old Shen Lanfang had never seen the national flag nor heard

the name of Chairman Mao. Asked: "What kind of society do we have today?" One child answered unhesitatingly, "Saint Mary!" (The Catholics had an organisation of this name.)

In the three thick volumes marked "Registration", one entry after another was struck out—dead, dead The pattern had an inexorable uniformity: Admitted, arbitrarily baptised, died. The one thing the sisters bragged about to their donors and trustees was: "This year we have again baptised (so many) children!"

The following are these entries picked at random from the "Registration" book. Examination showed them to be typical.

"Li Ling-ling: Registration number 103: Reason for application: mother died in child birth. Parents' religion: Buddhism. Admitted: October 4, 1948. Baptised and renamed Francis, November 4. Died: November 15. Cause of death: *high fever*.

"Tien Mei-mei: Registration number 133: Reason for application: mother remarried. Admitted: October 6, 1948. Baptised and renamed Marie Fabiola, October 15. Died on the same day. Cause of death: *weakness*.

"Cha Mei-mei: Registration number 134: Admitted: October 6, 1948. Condition of health: good. Baptised and renamed Simone, November 16. Died: November 21." The cause of this infant's death is not even given.

Girl in Slavery

Fourteen-year-old Chi Yu-lan, her eyes dim with precocious distrust towards all the world, confessed that the take-over gave her the first change in her life to taste chicken broth. Yet ever since she had been sent by her parents to the Tsingtao "Sacred Heart" at the age of nine (she was later transferred to Nanking), she had been feeding chickens and other animals for the sisters.

For years, Chi Yu-lan got up at 4:30 a.m. to help the other small girls dress, went to mass, prepared the sisters' breakfast—ate only one mouthful of *wò tou* (steamed bread made of corn flour) herself.

Her day's work began with the soaking of a huge bucket of beans. Then she drove ducks and geese to a pond in the backyard and pulled grass with her bare hands to feed the rabbits. (The sisters even grudged her a knife to cut grass with.) When the clock struck ten, she had to let the cattle out of their pen, and then go about collecting new-laid eggs to be handed over to the sisters, eggs that she never tasted herself. After she had finished grinding beancurd, there was a brief recess for afternoon service. Then to work again—baking bread for the sisters, driving the ducks and geese back to their pens, putting the small girls to bed after supper and again to the chapel for prayers until well after ten o'clock. Only when the sisters went back to their spring-mattressed beds did Chi Yu-lan dare creep to her bed of hay in a barn.

When Chi Yu-lan did not do things exactly as her slave drivers liked, she was trounced, kicked and shut up in a dark room. Finally, in September 1950, she was sold to a cattle-dealer outside Taiping Gate as a child bride. For how many *piculs* of rice she was sold, she could not quite remember. Her voice broke when she got around to telling how a man on the farm once forced her into an attic and raped her.

Several workers and staff members also told of the inhuman oppression and exploitation they suffered at the hands of the sisters. Two of them were supposed to attend to "odd jobs". Under questioning it turned out that the "odd-job man" buried children. One of them, Wang Hung-po, had been a devout Catholic at his home in Tamingfu, he confessed, but half a year at the "Sacred Heart" had made him realise the double-tongued hypocrisy of the imperialists. He says he has never gone to church since.

Wang could not remember the exact number of children he had buried. But scarcely a day went by without his having to bury some. The children were generally stripped naked and thrown into a junk-room. Some were still breathing. Burial began immediately after dark. If there were only a few,



Hui-ai at the time of the take-over was on the verge of death



Hui-ai, four months after the take-over

they were wrapped in newspaper. Otherwise cardboard cartons were employed, into one of which not infrequently five or six small bodies were squeezed.

An Hung-yuan, another worker, remembered one night when they had to bury over forty—that was during a smallpox rage—and the bodies of some of the children were still steaming hot. One morning Sister da Silva suddenly took it into her head to ask Wang Hung-po how many children he had buried the day before. "Five," was the answer. "Is that all?" said the sister. "I thought we'd buried six." The callous remark made Wang shiver.

The Evidence Uncovered

At six o'clock in the morning on April 19, two days after the take-over, the cadres, with the help of Wang Hung-po, started work on unearthing the bodies.

Wang first took them to a bed of parsley and onions. At the first thrust of the spade, about one foot below the surface, two skeletons were found. The flesh had all rotted away, but the hair and bones were still intact, as were the rusted charms hung round the children's necks on a chain, engraved with characters about "original sin". A few feet away another five corpses were found. Five was necessarily a rough guess, they could see only a barely distinguishable mass of rotting flesh, with here a pair of protruding eyes, and there a bunch of intestines. In the third hole they dug, they found two bodies which had apparently been buried fairly recently. Decomposition had not yet set in, and the printed words on the foreign newspapers in which they were wrapped were still legible. The children's arms, legs and feet were all bound with hempcord, but the eyes were open, as with a burning will to live.

Filled with anger and grief, the men toiled on until midnight. By that time they had unearthed 123 small bodies. The vegetable garden in which they carried on their grisly mission was on an elevation seven or eight feet above the bordering Canton Road. All day long a huge crowd stood on the slope the other side of the road shouting, "Avenge the deaths of our children!"

The nuns watched from the third floor windows. They cursed Wang Hung-po's wife as an ungrateful turncoat. They tried to conceal ten million yuan which they had in banknotes by sewing it into their clothing. They sewed blankets, given for the children, onto their quilts.

The People Demand Justice

On the fourth day, after coffins had been made and the cadres had pieced the bones together as best they could, 30,000 Nanking citizens gathered in an open space near the vegetable garden to hold an accusation meeting. With one voice they demanded that the murderers be punished. The meeting was broadcast over the radio. The presidium of the meeting received about 250 telephone calls and over 300 letters of condolence to the parents. Gifts—including over twenty million yuan in cash, over twenty thousand eggs and countless bottles of cod-liver oil, powdered milk and vitamin tablets—were sent for the survivors, not only by Nanking residents but from towns and villages many miles away.

A sizeable crowd still milled around the children's remains after the meeting had ended. One octogenarian leaning on a crutch spoke to the cadres: "The imperialists, under whatever garb, are all hateful creatures." Then he stroked the hair of a child playing on the lawn and added in a voice full of emotion, "Yes, rescued from the tiger's jaws. All right, my child, from now on you'll have Chairman Mao to look after you!"

About eighty students from the Theological Seminary of Chinling University also took part in the accusation meeting. What a valuable lesson it had been for them can be gathered from the words of Cheng Ya-ku, chairman of the Students' Association. Pointing at the dead children, he cried, "Is anything more needed to show us the inhuman cruelty of the imperialists? Never, never again will the Chinese Christians have any more traffic with imperialists who deal in wholesale murder without batting an eye!"

The children's remains were buried in a public cemetery outside the Chunghua Gate. The students of architecture in Nanking University are designing a tablet which will be erected in their memory.

Seven sisters of foreign nationality were arrested. Sisters le Baroy and da Silva were sentenced by the Nanking People's Court to ten years imprisonment, as the chief perpetrators of the crimes who showed no sign of repentance. Four others were ordered to be deported immediately: Rosalie Steinel (Austrian), M. Blancherie (French), Marcelle Hachet (French) and Julianna Weber (Polish). Sister Zambiasi Barmen (Italian), whose share of responsibility for the crimes proved to be less, was admonished and asked to leave the country within a specified period.

First Taste of Human Affection

Sympathy for the orphans flowed from all strata of the population. Particularly moving were the love and friendship shown by the Nanking children. Pioneers from the primary schools took turns to visit and play with the afflicted children. They bought gifts out of their pocket money and came armed with toys, candies, portraits and medals of Chairman Mao Tse-tung and picture books.

Both physically and psychologically, the two groups of children constituted a sharp contrast. The undersized orphans huddled together with their worn, pasty faces, husky voices, and pale-rimmed, blood-shot, trachomatous eyes. They felt timid and uncomfortable beside the rosy-cheeked Pioneers, so full of high spirits, dashing about and playing like squirrels.

But gradually they made friends. The Pioneers sang songs, told stories, danced and began to teach the orphans games. There were many touching incidents as the orphans tried to respond. They fidgetted, nervously biting their fingers, and some fixed their eyes on the ground. Chi Yu-lan was the only one to speak. "We only know *Our Lady's Rosary*," she said. Not knowing what this was the Pioneers clapped heartily. Chi Yu-lan felt compelled to sing.

There was a lump in her throat as her eyes swept over the half-circle of bright, expectant faces.

The *Rosary!* It reminded her of the dark room, the cow barn, of having her head knocked against the wall, of a life lower and more despicable than that of an animal. Tears welled up in her eyes, and she turned around and covered her face with her sleeve, her shoulders shaking convulsively.

A nurse ran to her side and sat her down.

In the evening, long after lights were out, Chi Yu-lan sat up in bed and asked the nurse beside her, "Who were those children with red scarfs?"

"Go to sleep!" said the nurse, surprised that she should still be awake. "They are Chairman Mao's children!"

A long pause. Chi Yu-lan kept turning over in her bed. Finally hearing the nurse approach on tip-toe, she sat up again:

"Will Chairman Mao take any more children?"

"Since the seventeenth, when I first came and when Sister da Silva left for good, you have all become Chairman Mao's children."

A smile of utter content was on Chi Yu-lan's face as she went back to sleep.

Life Blooms Again

But children have wonderful recuperative powers, and with all the loving kindness and care that was showered on them, the orphans quickly began to change. Where there were only seven nurses before, the home now had 23 trained nurses. Milk, fruit juice, liver extract and vegetable soup was fed to the infants in small quantities eleven times a day. Expert dieticians worked out menus for three meals and two light snacks for the older children each day. The house was cleaned. Screens were put in the windows and doors. The children were taught to wash and take sunbaths.

Two Years of Health Work in China

(Continued from page 9)

in sulfa drugs, anti-malarial drugs and anaesthetics. Next year we will also be able to organise partial self-supply in anti-biotics and insecticides such as DDT, 666 etc. More than 70 pharmaceutical plants now operate under government management.

There are many other aspects of health work that we cannot go into here. In the struggle against the social diseases such as tuberculosis, 1,600 medical workers have been trained and over a million BCG vaccinations given. A large-scale anti-venereal disease campaign is under way in the national minority areas and major cities. A vast programme of popular health education includes lectures, radio broadcasts, posters, films, etc. (about 20,000 film strips on health education topics are issued monthly). Research institutes are working on many problems. The number of nurseries and kindergartens has grown, and we now have over 10,000 seasonal nurseries in the countryside. No single article is enough to present a complete picture.

In carrying out all these tasks, the Ministry of Health has had a valuable helper in the Chinese Red Cross. In co-ordination with the health departments and civil administration departments of the local governments, the 38 reorganised Red Cross chapters have done a great deal in the field of epidemic prevention, popular health education, first-aid training

With the sole exception of Lai-lai, who died in hospital shortly after the take-over, not a single death was recorded in the six months up to October 17, 1951. The 23 skin diseases, 16 lymphadenitis, and the 18 ascariasis cases, have been completely cured. Four of the 21 tubercular and 39 trachoma cases have recovered.

What is more, the children gradually regained their self-confidence, faith in mankind and human dignity. The three girls who had been raped are no longer afraid to meet strange men. The fact that they were given back their original Chinese names also strengthened the children's feeling that they "belonged" to their country.

On May 1, 1951 they joined the International Labour Day parade. It was the first time they had been among so many people. They were caught up in the rejoicing and marched past the review stand happily with raised arms shouting "Long live Chairman Mao!" For the first time they felt the warmth of love of the Motherland.

Later the children were taken to the motion picture, *The White-Haired Girl*. Many burst out crying when Hsi Erh, the peasant girl, was cruelly beaten. Said Chi Yu-lan, "It's exactly like my story!" Then they saw the Soviet film, *Happy Childhood*, and were agog with envy and surprise at life in the Soviet Union. "Wait till you grow up," the nurses told them, "and China will be like that too!"

On October 1, the children put up a wall-newspaper. One eight-year-old orphan wrote in it:

"Lying in bed this morning I said to myself: 'Why, today is our National Day, the day our country was born, the day Chairman Mao came! I am going to put on my newest and best clothes!'"

and school health work. The Red Cross has also assumed a portion of the work in areas affected by natural disasters. It has organised seven International Medical Service Teams with total of over 600 members who are now serving in Korea. A Red Cross Medical Service Team of 300 members is carrying on health work on the Huai River Control Project and in various flood areas.

A New Outlook

The health personnel throughout the country have worked very hard to achieve these results. They have developed political consciousness and the spirit of serving the masses. Actively participating in the patriotic and internationalist movement sweeping the country, they have set up many "Resist American Aggression and Aid Korea" committees. Many medical workers have joined the Chinese people's volunteers in Korea.

While we can point to the successes of past two years with pride, we admit that they represent only a small, a very small amount of what needs to be done. We are still far from meeting the demand for medical and health facilities.

With the improvement of the economic and living conditions of the people has come a demand for better health. It is our duty to satisfy this demand. Our People's Government has given us this responsibility and helps us to meet it by correct leadership and generous support. We are confident that we will make New China healthy.

How Santa Came to a P.O.W. Camp

Spr. E. Fawcett

7893412 Spr. E. Fawcett, 8th Hussars, 29th Brigade, of 12 Bishopdale Holme, Buttershaw, Bradford, Yorkshire, England, is a P.O.W. in a camp somewhere in Korea. He has written this account for People's China, on behalf of 7 P.O.W's, describing how the P.O.W's in his camp spent Christmas 1951.

To Christians the world over, Christmas is one of the most important days of the year, for this is the day on which the "Prince of Peace", Jesus Christ, was born on this earth. It is a day when the feeling of "Peace on Earth, Goodwill to All Men" predominates in the hearts of all peace-loving people in the Christian world. In consequence, it is a day on which great celebrations are held.

How, you may ask, does this affect a P.O.W.? Surely, such a day would have to pass men in such a position by, unnoticed, except in their hearts. And is it not a prisoner's belief, in his early days of capture, that Communism is opposed to religion? The answers to such questions, however, are far different from what you may expect, and you will find that the P.O.W's in all the camps throughout North Korea celebrated a Christmas far beyond their wildest dreams. You could do nothing better than pay a visit to one of these camps, and see the truth for yourself. So put on your coat, and come along with me.

As we walk towards the camp which is part of a once beautiful town, nestling in a long valley leading down to a river's edge, we see on all sides the grim evidence of the ravages of war. Piles of debris mark the spot where once a house stood. But from these ruins new houses have arisen, despite the daily danger of still more air attacks. In the camp, we shall see how the hard work and tireless energy of the Chinese volunteers, the Korean people, and the war prisoners have once more made the location a place of beauty.

On approaching the main camp gate, we see an immense archway of pine boughs, gaily decorated with coloured paper balls, streamers and chains, while across the main arch we read those age-old greetings "Merry Christmas and A Happy New Year to All". We walk through this archway, and we see more colourful Christmas trees everywhere, and the rooms in the camp are also gaily decorated. Everywhere there is great activity in preparation for the festivities.

Volunteers Respect Our Customs

Thanksgiving Day, a religious festival observed by the people of the U.S.A. at the end of November, had already been celebrated—and what a wonderful day that had proved! We always celebrate national holidays in our camps, irrespective of which nation celebrates that day. The Chinese volunteers respect our customs and encourage us to observe them. We also celebrate their national days, such as Army

Day, and October 1, the day commemorating the founding of the People's Republic of China.

It has always been the policy of the Chinese volunteers to allow us to organise all activities, under their guidance and assistance. For Christmas, preparation committees were elected, the members of which in turn organised teams to carry out their allotted tasks; and so great was the enthusiasm of all that volunteers came forward in large numbers. The Chinese volunteers worked tirelessly side by side with the P.O.W's, never failing to produce any item asked for. With their help the appearance of the camp has undergone an amazing transformation....

Now that preparations are almost complete, let us take a peep into one of the camp theatres. Inside is a scene of orderly pandemonium: directors are shouting instructions to players; conductors are imploring certain individuals to keep in tune or time; dancers are repeating intricate steps until they have perfected them. The room is bordered with platoon wall-newspapers from all over the camp, specially written for the occasion, all with but one purpose in view—that their own particular platoon should come out top in the competition.

Perhaps we should also take a glance at the cook-house, for there are delicious odours wafting on the breeze from that direction. The amount and variety of rations here seem unlimited, and the cooks are to work right through two nights in succession, cutting up pigs, preparing chickens, mixing dough and doing the hundred and one jobs necessary.

Enter Father Christmas

And then it is the morning of December 24th. Brilliant sunshine greets us as we step from our room, a sunshine that takes the chill out of the cold, crisp wintry air. The whole camp is a hive of activity as last-minute touches are put to decorations. Christmas carols ring out from the P.A. system; and an air of merriment is to be felt everywhere, and it is hard to believe that this is actually a P.O.W. camp. There is a rumour that Santa Claus himself is to pay the camp a visit and will be holding a reception in the newly-erected theatre. Perhaps this is true, for, as we enter, the Chinese volunteers' band is already there in full strength and on the stage is the company choir, which opens proceedings by singing several well-known carols, in which the whole assembly joins.

Then the choir leads off into that lovable tune, "Jingle Bells"—but there is a commotion at the door,

and there is Father Christmas, loaded down with presents! He slowly makes his way to the stage, and shakes hands with the choirmaster, William Massey, of Dublin, Eire. Thanks to the Chinese people, there is a parcel for every man, and Santa is there to distribute them. Soon the men are slowly filing past Father Christmas to receive their gifts, while the band is playing the carol "Joy to the World." At that moment, everyone present realises surely he is among friends and not forgotten, with this beautiful gesture of world friendship.

Soon, Santa's sack is empty and everyone is back in his seat, marvelling at the contents of his parcel: nuts, sweets, biscuits, apples and cigarettes—all the while regretting he is unable to return a like gift. But Santa hasn't quite finished yet: it seems there is present among us one P.O.W. from Rotherham, England, whose child was born on Christmas Day, and for the proud father there is a special gift on condition that he open it on the spot. He does, and then steps back, blushing, for there is a baby's rubber dummy on a brightly coloured ribbon dangling in his hand!

After the laughter has subsided, Dick Grenier of Howland, Maine, U.S.A., thanks Santa on behalf of the American boys, while Leak, of Leeds, England, performs that task for the British lads. Then, to the rousing refrain of "For He Is A Jolly Good Fellow", Father Christmas makes his way out of the hall, followed by a merry crowd of prisoners....

Sliced Pork and Pork Soup

See what those chaps have in the basins they are fetching from the company office—wine, is it? A gift from the Korean people? It seems nothing has been forgotten. And what have we for supper? Looks good: rice, sliced pork and pork soup!

By the time we finish supper, darkness is fast falling, and across the square comes the sound of carol singers with the Chinese band, starting on their round of the camp. As midnight draws near, we join the small groups of men sauntering towards the new hall again to take part in Midnight Mass. A beautifully made altar is now in the centre of the stage whilst in the background is a magnificent painting of Joseph at the door of the inn, talking to the landlady. Beside him is Mary, seated on an ass, and above, the brightly shining Star of the East. The service is simple but full of meaning. At its close, we wander slowly back to our room, gazing a while across the starlit waters at the mountains towering into the heavens above, to wonder whether this is going to be a white Christmas—the only thing lacking to make the setting perfect.

There is still a light in headquarters, so shall we drop in for a chat? Comrade Lin, the Third Company's commander, is seated alone in his room. He tells us he is very deeply moved: he says he



"Peace throughout the world and friendship with all nations" was the theme of P.O.W. Christmas toasts

was approached first by one prisoner and then another, all wishing to express their profound gratitude to the Chinese people's volunteers for all that had so far come to pass, and for making this Christmas one they will long remember. Before bidding us goodnight, Comrade Lin lets us into a big secret—Santa Claus was none other than Joseph Davison, of Belfast, Northern Ireland....

Dawn breaks. The surrounding hills are fast donning a mantle of dazzling snow, turning our dreams of a white Christmas into reality. No gong to waken us this morning but the merry sound of "Jingle Bells" ringing out over the wintry air, followed by other beloved Christmas tunes. Some of the prisoners are staying in bed, or are leisurely preparing for breakfast.

But many are wending their way up the hill to the new hall for morning service. We listen, entranced, to the narrator telling the Christmas story. Heads are bowed as the worshippers join in prayer, expressing their deep-felt desire for peace and return home to their loved ones.

As the congregation moves out into the open air, many are thinking of their buddies in South Korea wondering what they are doing on this Christmas morn; or of their loved ones far away across the seas, knowing that they, too, will be celebrating with the same desire for peace and goodwill throughout the world in the forthcoming year.

Breakfast over, everyone is eagerly awaiting the journey to town outside the camp, to take part in

an extensive sports programme. However, by now it is snowing thick and fast, and it is deemed wisest to postpone the games. Soon the air is ringing with merry, laughing voices as the winter sports get into full swing. Some are tobogganing down the nearby slopes, and some are engaged in fierce snowball fights.

Thence to dinner. The rest of the party is already assembled—Americans, British, and Chinese volunteers. In next to no time, the table is literally groaning under the amount of delicacies being piled on: fried chicken, sliced pork, candy-coated pork, potatoes (both chipped and mashed), meat balls, king's dish, liver gravy, apple turnovers and bread. All agree that the cooks have really surpassed themselves!

"Friendship With All Nations!"

Grace is said by J. Tracy of Escondido, California, and dinner begins. Massey, of Dublin, Eire, enthusiastically takes on the job of carving and serving the food. Throughout the meal, wine is served, and toasts are made, first by one of the Chinese volunteers, to be returned by one of the Americans—"Peace throughout the world, and friendship with all nations!" No better toast could be given on such an occasion. All the time, the hall is a babble of voices, laughter and song; and all are sorry when the time to leave the hall comes around. Some of the prisoners say that, during the meal they really forgot they were captives.

And now to the evening's entertainment. As we enter, we are confronted by a mass of gay colours. Seasonable greetings are everywhere, and the stage is flanked by two life-like images of Father Christmas. The audience is in very high spirits, and never did a cosmopolitan crowd such as this assemble together so harmoniously. There are Chinese volunteers, Koreans, Americans, British, Turks and a host of others....

Then the commander of the Third Company, Comrade Lin, steps onto the stage. So great is the ovation he receives that, although usually an excellent speaker, for once he is really at a loss for words. But finally he says: "Fellow members of the Third Company, I am speaking to you tonight on behalf of the Chinese people's volunteers staff of Third Company. It gives me great satisfaction and joy to watch you fellows singing and laughing, full of the Christmas spirit. I hope, along with you, that peace will soon be realised, and the day on which we will shake hands and see each other on our homeward journeys will not be far off." Here he is forced to pause, unable to make himself heard above the thunderous clapping and cheering. Comrade Lin makes several vain attempts to gain silence. Finally, he succeeds, and concludes by wishing all "Good health, a very Merry Christmas, and a Happy New Year." Then he turns the stage over to the master of ceremonies and retires to the sound of still more heart-stirring applause.

The highlight of the programme is an admirable performance of Charles Dickens' immortal *Christmas Carol*, for which Edward Beckerley of Wellingborough, England, wrote the script and also directed.

So spectral and eerie is the ghost scene that the whole audience is held spell-bound. For the main part, the show concentrates on humour. One particular incident stands out in our minds. Victor White of Frome, England, is performing a very strenuous Russian dance, accompanied by the band. Much to his dismay, they turn a blind eye on his frantic appeals to stop, and the poor fellow has to dance till he drops, to the vast amusement of the onlookers.

Our Chinese comrades are not lacking, either,—two of them step forward to render a duet. Our Turkish friends send us one of their "ladies" to contribute to the evening's fun—but, whoever saw a member of the fair sex sporting a large, drooping moustache?! Our Irish lads are performing a very energetic Irish folk dance, presenting a colourful picture in their white shirts, blue slacks and gay sashes. Then the curtain parts on a slender, girlish figure, to the accompaniment of the British singing group, and we gradually recognise the American dancer as Harry Copeland of Muncie, Indiana. For his second dance number, he is joined by one of his coloured friends, and between them they gain an even greater round of applause than Harry achieved alone. Here a slightly solemn tone is introduced as Leroy Carter of Wisconsin, U.S.A., recites his poem "Peaceful Man". One of our Mexican boys and his guitar enthrall us with "Babalu" and several other tunes. Beckerley, Condron (of Edinburgh, Scotland) and Richards (of Bagnor, Sussex, England), bring an innovation to the camp in the form of a "double-or-nothing" quiz, cigarettes being the prizes offered.

When the entertainment ends, we make our way back via the cook-house where, we find, the cooks have been busy again preparing coffee and sweet pastries, as a fitting end to a truly memorable day.

Deepest Sympathy for the Koreans

The following morning dawns bright and clear, and after breakfast it is decided that the sports will be held. Going through the town, the stark reality of war is brought back to our minds by the bare emptiness of the bomb-sites and the crowded houses, for now there are insufficient dwellings for the Korean civilians. At this season of happiness and goodwill, our hearts are filled with deepest sympathy for these people, and we are reminded of the miseries and hardships which they are suffering as a result of the war.

The first game—American football—ends in a scoreless tie between First and Fourth Companies. Then, two teams of Britishers line up for the kick-off of their soccer match. The players find it difficult to keep their feet on the hard, brittle ground. In the end, the youthful First Company snatches the final goal and runs off victor, six goals to five.

During the interval, we take a walk around the field. Over in one corner, a group of Chinese volunteers and Americans have made a slide on a large patch of ice, but as we arrive, we witness a tragic accident. One of the G.I.'s falls heavily to the ground and fails to rise, his head actually cracking the ice. Two of the Chinese volunteers pick him

up and rush him to the nearest building. In a matter of seconds, a doctor joins them, and the unfortunate fellow is carried off on a stretcher to the Chinese volunteers' General Hospital.

Thoughtfully, we rejoin the crowd around the ball game. When the final whistle blows, we find Third Company the winner of the American football game by one touchdown. A. Cookson of Pasadena, California, played a really great game for Third Company. The shining light for Fifth Company was R. Wells of Cleveland, Ohio.

A World of Everlasting Peace

It is now getting dark, and the prisoners in their warmly-padded blue uniforms lend a touch of colour to the whiteness of the snow, as they walk gaily back to camp and supper. We take a stroll to the hospital to find out how the G.I. is getting on after the accident. We find him quite comfortable, and the hospital, gaily decorated with wreaths and candles on every door, with a giant Christmas tree in

the centre of the courtyard, has also been the scene of Christmas festivities. We learn this from Dr. Liu and 1st Lt. Wm. D. Beall of Hogansville, Georgia. Everybody seems to have had a marvellous time, too, with Santa Claus dropping in together with one of the camp choirs, not leaving till everyone had received his gift. We learn that tomorrow the prisoners will have yet another celebration, thanks to the Chinese volunteers.

And now that we have completed our tour of the camp, we part, dear reader. A last warm hand-clasp under the cold, starlit Korean sky brings our acquaintanceship to an end. If only the whole universe could be united in such a spirit as this but free from the minor restrictions of a prisoner's role, and be instilled with the same intense feeling of Peace and Goodwill, our world would surely be a far better place for all, regardless of race or creed. For deep down in everyone's heart is the same desire—a desire for a world which knows nothing but everlasting Peace.

Americans Bomb Chinese Territory Again

In the 19 days ending January 13 this year American military aircraft have repeatedly violated China's frontiers. These provocations by the aggressors in Korea follow the pattern set two months after the American invasion of Korea when U.S. warplanes raided across the Yalu river into Northeast China, killing and wounding Chinese civilians and destroying and damaging property over a wide area. These raids are now being carried out even while the truce negotiations are going on at Panmunjom, and in spite of repeated protests by the Central People's Government of China.

On December 26, 1951 an American aircraft entered China's air over the Northeast and flew to Tatungkou where it dropped a flare. It then flew on to Peichingtsé and released four bombs on both sides of a highway. Three women and five men were wounded and five houses demolished.

Five days later at 18:00 hours on December 31 another enemy bomber penetrated to Tatungkou, southwest of Antung county, dropped one bomb there and went on to Wenchialou where it dropped another bomb, wounding five people and destroying fourteen houses. Ack-ack gunfire prevented these American planes from doing further damage.

In the new year the American air pirates continued their criminal activities. On January 6, eight American F-84's flew over Chian county, Liaotung province, and dropped fourteen bombs. Three were duds, but the rest exploded at the Chian railway station. Three railway workers were badly wounded and sections of the rails were damaged.

On January 13 a flight of sixteen American planes again violated China's frontiers and penetrated as deep inland as Mukden, capital of Liaotung province. Other parts of the province—at Penki,

Fushun, Tsingyuan, Hwanjen, Chian, Tunghwa and Kwantien—were also raided.

These latest provocations of the U.S. air force, which have become more frequent of late, are closely related to its air activities in Korea. On January 14 they wantonly bombed a P.O.W. camp in North Korea, killing over ten American and other prisoners of war and wounding over sixty. Their planes are violating the neutral conference area zone. They are clearly plotting to wreck the Korea armistice negotiations at a moment when real headway could be made.

In its editorial of January 8 the *Peking People's Daily* pointed out that these provocations betray completely the contemptible and persistent efforts of the American imperialists to extend their Korean aggression. "By resorting to artillery, bombs and bullets, they would like to obtain what they cannot get in discussion at the talks. Moreover, they have already carried out their blood-thirsty aggression—which they euphemistically call their 'arguments'—once more into our territory."

"The American imperialists," the editorial continued, "refuse peaceful methods for settling the Korean question and do not hesitate to resort to the bomb as a substitute for discussion around the table."

The editorial concludes: "Regardless of whether American imperialism resorts to discussion or military threats, they will never reach the goal of their aggression. The Chinese and Korean people's forces have long prepared themselves so that in the event of the United States breaking off the discussions, we will smash their attacks to smithereens and teach the forgetful enemy a lesson they are not likely to forget."



AN OPEN ROAD FOR SCIENCE

For the first time in history Chinese scientists are free to make science serve the needs of the people. The basic law of the People's Republic stipulates that "culture and education shall be New Democratic—national, scientific and popular." At their first national congress in Peking, in August 1950, scientists took steps to turn these words into reality. Along with other decisions on planning, on new lines of research to aid national construction, on the re-organisation of research institutes and colleges to satisfy the new demands, they established the All-China Association for the Dissemination of Scientific and Technical Knowledge. During the past two years under the People's Republic the Association has increased its membership to include 8,000 physicists, chemists, biologists, geologists, mathematicians, technicians, doctors, specialists in agriculture and education and other fields of knowledge. It has set up 28 organisational committees in as many big cities, 15 branch associations in smaller cities and 135 scientific work groups spread through the key rural areas of China.

Summing up its first year of work at the end of September, 1951 the Association reported the successful completion of an ambitious programme of 2,100 scientific lectures with an additional 1,600 lantern-slide talks and 36 big science exhibitions which altogether attracted more than 1,360,000 people.

Popular Science

An entirely new relation between the scientists and the people has developed in the past two years. The scientists have participated keenly in a movement to remould their own outlook, so as to make the idea of service to the people an integral part of their life. They have resolutely repudiated the ivory tower attitude to science. They have eagerly taken their knowledge to field and factory, putting it at the service of practical

problems of peaceful construction and defence, without however losing sight of the long-term interests of scientific research. The workers and peasants, People's Liberation Armymen and the general public are coming more and more to look to science as the helpmate of progress in every sphere of life.

Every member of the Association holds himself ready for social work in the propagation of a scientific outlook. Last October when the Shanghai Branch Association sponsored a series of lectures as part of the National Day celebrations, 217 scientists took part in the preparation of 125 lectures delivered in the space of three weeks on such themes as *Scientific Knowledge and National Defence* and *The Development of Local Products*.

Such lectures are eagerly welcomed by the mass membership of the trade unions, women's associations, spare-time schools and cultural centres of every description. They have become a regular feature of the people's educational centres in every large and many smaller cities. In Peking alone, 219 scientific lectures have attracted more than 130,000 people in the past 10 months.

The People's Government through its Science Popularisation Bureau of the Ministry of Cultural Affairs gives every possible aid to the work.

Road to Tomorrow

New China's workers know that the popularisation of science paves the way for the industrialisation of the country. Hence the mass attendance at technical lectures. *Testing for Hardness, The Principles of the Internal Combustion Engine, Repairing Electrical Motors, The Construction of a Lathe*—these are some of the recent lectures given by the Shanghai Association in factories, in the workers' palaces, clubs and evening schools. Lecturers closely study local interests in order to make their talks meet practical needs. They maintain contact with their listeners to

answer belated queries. The Association also acts as a scientific liaison body, carrying news of all recent rationalisation proposals or inventions that are of general interest from factory to factory.

In the rural areas, the conflict between the scientific thought of the proletariat and the obscurantism of the old society has been particularly dramatic. In especially difficult areas, to rouse the peasants' interest in science, Association workers have used many novel methods of instruction, including lantern-slide talks, exhibitions and scientific fiction stories, and have lived and worked for considerable periods with the peasants in order to thoroughly inculcate new scientific methods of work. But science has in the long run proved its own best propagandist. In 1950 the harvest in Chekiang was threatened by a certain kind of moth. Local tradition said these were "heaven sent". Many peasants would do nothing but pray for heavenly help to drive them away. Scientists summoned from Nanking started their campaign of eradication with simple lecture stories on the real nature of the pest. With sprays and insecticides wielded by the peasants themselves the danger was destroyed. Now the peasants have an endearing name for an agronomist: Mr. Wheat.

The Chekiang Branch Association's style of work is typical. In addition to its lecture activities it uses the *Peasant Masses* and other local rural newspapers to give information and maintain close ties with the peasants. Operating through the press, their information office answered 1,334 major queries in nine months. Over 100 experts are available as consultants.

Continuing such work, the All-China Association has announced its plans for the new year: 10,000 lectures, 15,000 lantern-slide talks, 250 big scientific exhibitions and an increase of membership to 28,000 members. It is a shock brigade of knowledge in the battle for peace and People's Democracy.

MAJOR EVENTS IN CHINA

(JULY 1-DECEMBER 31, 1951)

JULY

- 1 Nation celebrates the 30th anniversary of the Communist Party of China. 165-kilometre Chungking-Yungchwan section of the new Chungking-Chengtu railway opened to traffic.
- 10 First meeting of delegations to the Korean cease-fire talks held in Kaisung.
- 12 Sino-Hungarian agreement on cultural co-operation signed in Peking.
- 21 Swedish Ambassador Staffan Soderblom presents credentials.
- 26 A five-point agenda adopted for Korean cease-fire talks.
- 27 Ministry of Trade orders price reductions for major industrial materials.

AUGUST

- 1 Nation observes Army Day.
- 2 Traffic resumed on Tatung-Puchow railway in Shansi province.
- 8 General Chang Ching-wu, resident representative of the Central People's Government to Tibet, arrives in Lhasa.
- 15 Foreign Minister Chou En-lai issues statement denouncing U.S.-British Draft Peace Treaty with Japan and the San Francisco conference. Final statistics show that 344,053,057 persons, or 72.4% of the total Chinese population, have signed the Appeal for a Five-Power Peace Pact. 339,903,092 or 71.5% voted against the U.S. rearming of Japan.
- 23 Korean-Chinese delegation suspends cease-fire talks following U.S. violations of Kaisung neutral zone.
- 25 Decision to build a new harbour at Taku near Tientsin announced.

SEPTEMBER

- 2 Chinese democratic parties and people's organisations issue joint declaration commemorating the 6th anniversary of V-J Day (September 3).
- 4 *Provisional Organisational Regulations of the People's Court and the People's Procurator-General's Office of the People's Republic of China* promulgated.
- 9 Advance unit of the People's Liberation Army enters Lhasa, under the *Agreement on Measures for the Peaceful Liberation of Tibet*.
- 18 Foreign Minister Chou En-lai issues statement denouncing the "Peace Treaty with Japan" signed by the U.S. and its satellites in San Francisco. 1950 International Stalin Peace Prize presented to Soong Ching Ling in Peking.
- 20 Chinese Cultural Delegation leaves Peking for India and Burma.
- 27 Burmese Ambassador U Hia Maung presents credentials.

OCTOBER

- 1 All China celebrates second National Day. In Peking, more than 400,000 people parade before Chairman Mao Tse-tung. Present at the ceremony are people's delegations from 14 countries of Asia and Europe. *Decisions Concerning the Reform of the Educational System* announced.
- 5 First National Conference of the Sino-Soviet Friendship Association. Association announces it has some 17 million members.

- 9 Sino-German agreement on cultural co-operation signed in Peking.
- 12 First volume of the *Selected Works of Mao Tse-tung* published. Sino-German agreement on posts and telecommunications signed in Peking.
- 23 Third session of the First National Committee of the Chinese People's Political Consultative Conference (Oct. 23-Nov. 1) opens in Peking. Chairman Mao Tse-tung makes the opening speech. Summary of war gains during the past year on the Korean front by the Korean People's Army and Chinese people's volunteers announced by Hsinhua News Agency. Enemy losses from October 25, 1950 to October 10, 1951 include the following: personnel casualties: more than 387,000 (including 176,655 Americans); planes destroyed: 2,300; captured: 10.
- 24 Dalai Lama of Tibetan Local Government in cable to Chairman Mao pledges support for *Agreement on Measures for the Peaceful Liberation of Tibet*.
- 25 The first anniversary of the entry of the Chinese people's volunteers into the Korean war observed throughout the country. Korean cease-fire talks resumed in Panmunjom.
- 31 Peking *People's Daily* reports that by the end of October, workers in state enterprises in Northeast China overfulfilled 1951 targets, equivalent to the value of over 10 million tons of grain.

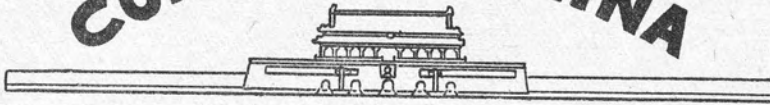
NOVEMBER

- 5 Kuo Mo-jo, head of the Chinese delegation, addresses the 2nd session of the World Peace Council held in Vienna.
- 12 Pakistan Ambassador Nawabzada Agha Mohammad Raza presents credentials.
- 17 Foreign Minister Chou En-lai issues statement supporting the Soviet four-point peace proposal at the 6th session of the U.N. General Assembly.
- 20 Second phase of work on Huai River Control Project begins.
- 22 Hsinhua reports land reform has begun in Northwest, Southwest, East and Central-South China and Tsuiyuan province. (Some 100 million rural population are involved in this period of the reform.—Ed.)
- 26 Chinese People's National Committee in Defence of Children founded under the chairmanship of Soong Ching Ling.
- 27 Agreement on Item 2 of Korean cease-fire talks ratified by both sides. Korean-Chinese delegation puts forward a 5-point proposal for Item 3.

DECEMBER

- 7 The 119-kilometre Yungchwan-Neikiang section of the Chungking-Chengtu railway opened to traffic.
- 11 Sub-committee set up to discuss Item 4 of the agenda of Korean cease-fire talks.
- 12 Sino-Rumanian agreement on cultural co-operation signed.
- 21 Kuo Mo-jo awarded the 1951 International Stalin Peace Prize.
- 31 Conclusion of campaign to donate heavy equipment for the Chinese people's volunteers in Korea. 3,233 planes have been given since the campaign began on June 1.

CURRENT CHINA



NE Industrial Output Soars

The ratio of industrial output to over-all agricultural production in Northeast China rose to 52% in 1951 as against 35% in 1949, the first year of the establishment of the People's Government. The national ratio between industrial and agricultural output is estimated at 10% to 90%.

In Northeast China productivity in government industrial enterprises in 1951 rose by 24.8% over the previous year. The total value of industrial and agricultural production in government enterprises in 1951 increased by 13.5% over 1950.

Production in many branches of both light and heavy industry, such as machine tools, electrically operated machines, electrolytic copper, nitric acid, textiles, glass, automobile tyres and electric bulbs, has surpassed the peak pre-liberation level of 1943.

The average output of industrial workers in 1951 was 42% greater than the 1943 level.

This rise in productivity has resulted from the introduction of advanced Soviet techniques, use of rationalisation proposals, etc. By adopting high-speed processing of metals, for instance, the rate of production in the machine tool industry has risen twentyfold. In another instance, workers in one electrical appliance plant have suggested 1,197 rationalisation proposals to streamline the management of the plant. Many important technical problems were solved in this way.

Water Transport in E. China

Town and country trade is being speeded up in East China through use of a network of some 25,700 kilometres of navigable waterways for transport. 80% of the total of goods transported in southern Kiangsu province are now carried by river boats. In the first six months of 1951, the volume of river freight totalled 125 million tons per kilometre.

In round figures, 800,000 tons of foodstuffs and equipment were shipped to the Huai river project sites by junks during the first stages of the project. During the present stage, about 17,000 junks have been mobilised in north Anhwei province to ship construction materials to building sites on the Huai.

The China Inland Steam Navigation Corporation operates 38 routes with regular sailing schedules and 40 routes with irregular sailing schedules, covering nearly 80% of the total waterways in East China. Many waterways in Shantung, Anhwei and southern Chekiang, which were without steamship services before liberation, are now served by steamers and motor-driven junks.

Freight charges by water transport average only one-tenth that of road transport. In East China, the mileage of inland waterways is 8.4 times that of existing railway routes and 1.4 times that of highways.

More Houses in Peking

At the beginning of 1951, Peng Chen, mayor of Peking, pledged that 15,000 to 20,000 rooms would be built by the end of the year to help meet the increasing demand for housing. By December 31, 18,850 rooms had been made available.

Of these rooms, 10,943 were built by the government to be rented or sold to individuals; 212 were built jointly by the city government and a private construction company for renting out; 7,696 were built by private individuals with land rented from the government and loans from the state bank. Since April last year, loans amounting to over 1,000 million yuan have been extended to more than 600 families for this purpose.

Priority in renting the rooms has been given to workers and families of revolutionary martyrs and People's Liberation Army men. Rents average from one-seventh to one-tenth of the tenant's income.

In addition to newly-built rooms, over 80,000 rooms in private houses were repaired with the aid of loans made to the owners by the city government.

Growth of North China Co-ops

Supply and marketing co-operatives in North China, serving over 16 million members, have published their plan for 1952. It calls for an increase of retail trade 3.4 times, and wholesale marketing 3.2 times over the 1951 level.

The marketing activity of the co-ops takes in agricultural and auxiliary products. Supply and marketing for the first quarter of the year have been already assured by contracts for 2,000,000 million yuan worth of goods. During the whole of 1951, the co-operatives in North China supplied peasants with more than 1,600,000 farm tools and 250,000 tons of fertilisers.

Co-operative membership in North China at the end of September 1951, was 89% over the figure for 1950. As compared to 1950, retail trade for the whole of 1951 rose by 62% and marketing by 106%.

In order to aid the peasants raise production, the co-operatives this year will handle more fertilisers, farm tools and insecticides. They will also add a new service by dealing in livestock.

Loans to Private Enterprises

Loans to privately owned light industrial enterprises in Shanghai, one of China's leading industrial cities, made by the People's Bank of China, increased fourfold in the four months of July-October, 1951.

Credits extended to private commercial enterprises between July and October, 1951, were 23.5% more than during the same period of the previous year. These loans and credits have helped increase production and trade.

Total loan capital was increased tenfold in industries manufacturing medical apparatus, paper, educational equipment and stationery, flour, woolen textiles and silk fabrics.

The bulk of the credits extended to private merchants were to cover incoming consignments and outgoing cargoes. The People's Bank has recently signed agreements with various trade guilds. Through the recommendation of their guilds, member commercial enterprises of

small and medium size may obtain loans from the Bank to finance their businesses.

News Briefs

Yak meat from Chinghai province is now on sale in the Shanghai markets for the first time. Obtained from the long-haired yak, the ox of Tibetans, the meat is more tender than beef and is noted for its delicious flavour. The introduction of yak meat to Shanghai's markets will enable the national minorities in Chinghai to increase trade with the city. Shanghai residents will now be able to add one more meat dish to their tables.

The sale of raisins from Turfan, Sinkiang, has been made possible in major Chinese coastal cities, as a result of new roads which now link Turfan with the rest of the country. The market boom has raised the income of grape-growers in Turfan who plan to increase the area of their vineyards in 1952.

The documentary film *Resist American Aggression and Aid Korea (Part I)* is now running simultaneously in 44 major cities of China, as well as in many factories, army units and villages. Among the many cities where advance bookings were made, Chungking recorded the unprecedented figure of 190,000 one day before the opening show.

The 1951 acreage of winter wheat is 6% greater than in 1950, reports Hsinhua News Agency.

Chronicle of Events

December 27

The China Peace Committee announces that the nation-wide campaign for donating heavy equipment for the volunteers in Korea, which began on June 1, 1951, has exceeded the amount pledged by 19% and will end on December 31.

The Government Administration Council has designated a North China Administrative Committee, with Liu Lan-tao, minister of North China Affairs, as chairman.

December 29

The third session of the Peking People's Representative Conference opens.

January 1

The Central People's Government holds a New Year celebration in Peking at which Chairman Mao Tse-tung expresses his good wishes to the people for the New Year. Greetings were received by Chairman Mao and

Premier Chou En-lai from the leaders of the People's Democracies.

The All-China Federation of Labour sends New Year greetings to the World Federation of Trade Unions and workers all over the world.

January 3

In Lhasa, Tibet, 20,000 people hold a rally to celebrate the joining up of units of the People's Liberation Army which entered Lhasa from Southwest and Northwest China.

January 4

Vice-Chairmen of the Central People's Government Chu Teh and Li Chi-shen and other leaders of the Central People's Government attend National Day celebration of the Union of Burma given by the Burmese Ambassador U Hlo Maung.

January 8

The Standing Committee of the National Committee of the P.P.C.C. approves the organic regulations of the preparatory committee for establishing a national commercial and industrial association.

Letters

Our Ally for Freedom

HAMAAPIL, ISRAEL

October 1, 1949 presents an outstandingly significant day not only in the annals of the great and heroic Chinese nation but in the history of the international struggle for peace, of the world-wide struggle for democracy and of the universal emancipation efforts of the international working class.

The victorious conclusion of the epic war of national and social liberation of your people achieved not only its immediate aim—the destruction of the reactionary-feudalistic, comprador-capitalist and pro-imperialist classes—but served the whole progressive world by striking a heavy blow at the strongest imperialist power existing, by becoming a giant reinforcement to the ranks of the peace-loving people all over the world and by strengthening the great camp of Socialist construction. I express my sincere hope that the Chinese people—under the Marxist-scientific leadership of the Communist Party—will soon enter the next, Socialist stage on their victorious march towards the ultimate destination, a Communist-collective society.

I myself am a member of a collective village in Israel. It is my deepest conviction that the history made in these and the coming years by your people will influence to an ever-growing extent all the nations of Asia still suffering under colonial or "independent" semi-colonial rule. Your victories and achievements will spur all the oppressed peoples of Asia to

a more intensive struggle for national and social liberation. The history of the cruel war, waged by the imperialistic invaders upon the brave and heroic Korean people, already gives striking evidence that the great Chinese nation is not allowing national freedom in Asia to become a plaything in the hands of the international warmongers. Your country has always been and now is more than ever a decisive power in the political arena of Asia, and this influential power will even become more felt according to your progressive successes and achievements.

I consider the history, past and present of your nation as a never-ending source of study and research for a country which is fighting for national freedom and social equality.

I made it my duty to learn all about the problems of your country and your people in order to foster understanding and friendship for the Chinese People's Republic, for the Communist Party under the gifted leadership of Mao Tse-tung, for the great revolution in changing the political, social, economic and cultural structure of your ancient people and for the powerful ally of all Asiatic nations fighting for freedom—the free people of popular-democratic China. To establish this kind of understanding and friendship within the ranks of the peace movement in Israel—that is the task I have set myself.

ELIEZER ANATH

An Inspiration to Us

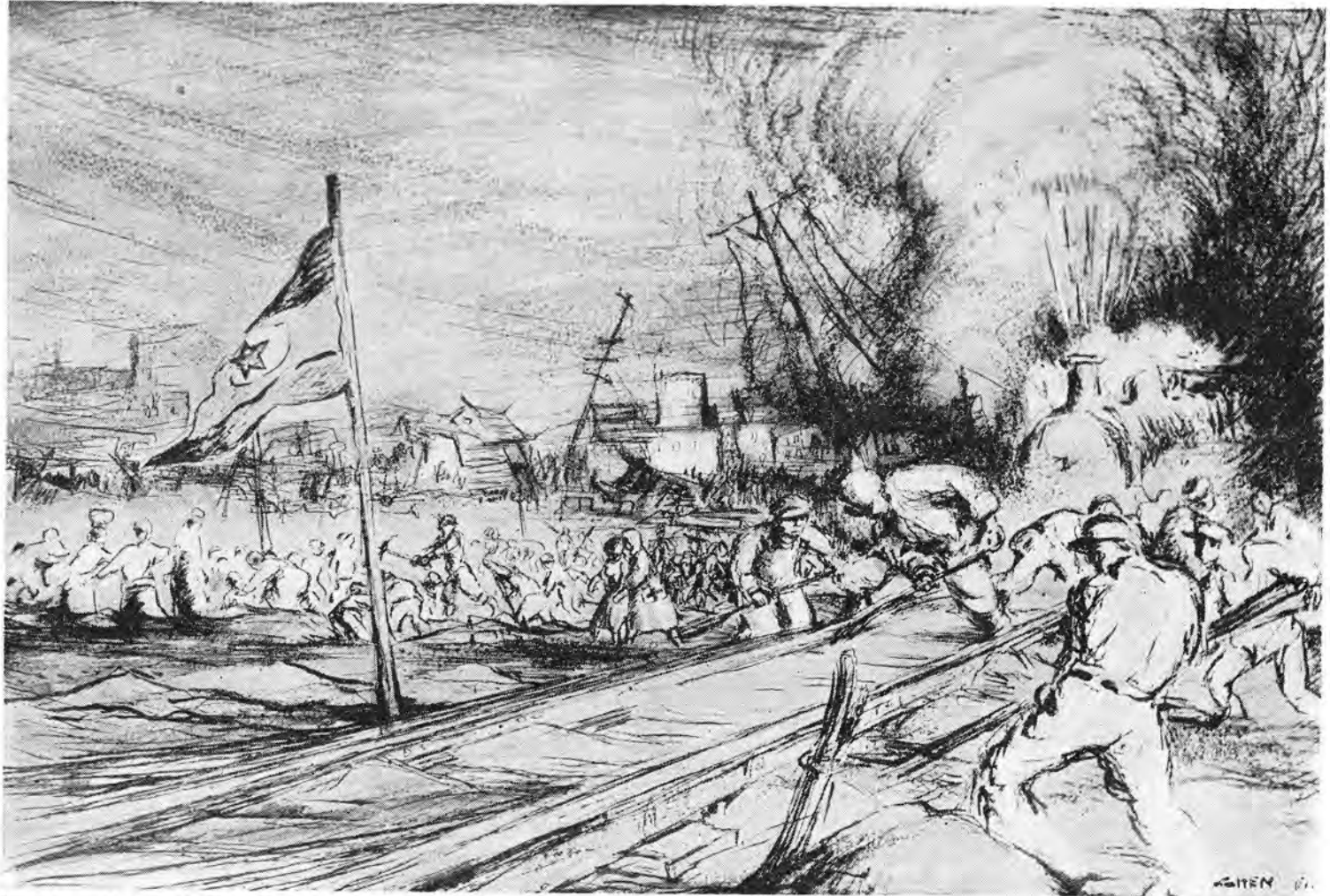
JOHANNESBURG, SOUTH AFRICA

It is most interesting for us here in South Africa to read of the new advances and achievements of the Chinese people. These are an inspiration to us reminding us that you had greater trials and difficulties than we have, yet you have overcome them.

Although our country is so far from yours, and so different in many ways, yet the life of the African peasants here is often like that of the Chinese peasants before the revolution. Poverty, hard work, illiteracy, disease and oppression—that is the life of most of the black people of South Africa, who have no votes, no political rights and little chance of advancement. Everything here is governed by the colour bar—if you are white, you enjoy the privileges of any capitalist democracy, but if you are brown or black you must only do the hardest, unskilled work, live in certain areas set aside for black men, have few schools or opportunities for development.

Meanwhile, it is a real pleasure to read your magazine and to realise that we are all working towards the same end and that we have comrades and brothers in all the Chinese people, who are achieving so much under the banner of the Communist Party.

HILDA WATTS



Keeping the rail-link to the front open in Korea

Drawing by Jack Chen