

REVIEW

Progress in China's Light Industry

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Japanese Militarism on the Come Back

A factual review of the revival of Japanese militarism under U.S. auspices (p. 7).

China's Champion Blast Furnace

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In a Tibetan Autonomous Chou in Szechuan

What democratic reforms have brought to the Tibetan people in Szechuan Province (p. 12).

Yankee Intrigues in Latin America

*Archaeology, Sports and
Other Features*

北
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報

Children's literature occupies an important place in the writing of New China. "THE MAGIC GOURD," a story by Chang Tien-yi, is one of the best recent examples of the new children's literature. A Young Pioneer becomes possessed of a magic gourd that grants him every wish: sugared walnuts, an electro-magnetic crane, goldfish, model planes . . . but it brings other complications as well. You can read it in the CURRENT ISSUE of

CHINESE LITERATURE

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- ▲ "On the Bridge" by Wang Lu-yen, a writer of the last generation
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- ▲ Three plates in full colour including a Yuan dynasty (1279-1368) painting by Chien Hsuan



A literary monthly
in English

Distributed by:

GUOZI SHUDIAN

Importers and Exporters of Books and Periodicals
P. O. Box 399, Peking, China

Stories of Old China

Translated by Dr. W. W. Yen

In this selection of 22 short stories written in the Tang, Sung, Ming and Ching (Manchu) dynasties, the reader will find not only the brilliant literary qualities of the old-time Chinese short story, but also interesting glimpses of Chinese society over a period of thirteen centuries.

The translations skilfully captures the atmosphere of the times. They were made by Dr. W. W. Yen (1877-1950), who won wide recognition as a scholar and diplomat, but whose literary attainments are not yet known to many.

178 pp.

Published by: **FOREIGN LANGUAGES PRESS** Pai Wan Chuang, Peking (37), China

Distributed by: **GUOZI SHUDIAN** P. O. Box 399, Peking, China

PEKING REVIEW

北京周報

(BEIJING ZHOUBAO)

A WEEKLY MAGAZINE OF CHINESE
NEWS AND VIEWS

June 16, 1959 Vol. II No. 24

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Published every Tuesday by PEKING REVIEW,
Pai Wan Chuang, Peking (37), China
Cable Address: PEKING 6170

Post Office Registration No. 2-922

Printed in the People's Republic of China

Yankee Intrigues in Latin America

RECENT flareups against tyranny in Nicaragua, Paraguay, the Dominican Republic and Ecuador give added proof that the peoples of Latin America are battling with increasing fury against the military dictatorships and their U.S. wire-pullers. *The New York Times* of June 5 noted with alarm that bolts of lightning of a great storm seem to be hitting Latin America.

The fight against dictatorships in Latin America is inseparably interwoven with the mounting struggle against U.S. intervention. The reason is quite simple. Wall Street financial magnates and Pentagon brass-hats stand behind the Latin American caudillos who maintain their reactionary rule against the will of the people. The American weekly *New Republic* disclosed in its March 16 issue: "The U.S. provided tacit or open support to many of the dictators in exchange for oil and other concessions — and for anti-Communist declarations. Any military coup which wanted quick recognition from the Department of State had only to announce that it was carrying out 'a crusade against Communism.' Frequently, the 'crusade' was against liberal and democratic political parties." In other words the reactionary rulers of the Latin American countries and their U.S. paymasters are working hand in glove to suppress national independence and democracy behind the smokescreen of combating communism.

The case of Nicaragua is particularly revealing. Strongman Luis Somoza is over his neck in trouble. Popular forces are marching on the capital. Four opposition political parties have issued a joint declaration which calls upon the people of Nicaragua to sweep away Somoza's dictatorship and set up a popular provisional government. The unsavoury record of the Somoza dynasty's slavish subservience to Washington is well known. As *The New York Times* put it, to none have U.S. policies been more closely linked than to General Somoza and his sons.

In the face of the "critical" situation in Nicaragua, the United States once again resorted to crude intervention through the Organization of American States. The OAS has asked 13 nations in the Caribbean area whether the current developments in Nicaragua "constituted a threat to the peace of the hemisphere." But there is much more to the story. UPI reported from Washington on June 6 that "a broad investigation of the Caribbean would look into such indications of tension as the Cuban revolution, the recent abortive invasion of Panama and rumours that Cuban-based rebels might invade Haiti and the Dominican Republic."

Running parallel with its manipulation of the OAS, Washington stage-managed the two-day conference in Guatemala of the Home Ministers of six Central American countries to discuss ways and means of "preventing Communist infiltration in this area." The examination of the Cuban situation figured prominently at the conference.

All this hammers home the fact that Yankee imperialism is plotting large-scale intervention in the Latin American countries, with its spearhead directed chiefly against Cuba. Over the years, the peoples of the Latin American countries have thrown out one U.S.-backed dictator after another. Now that the situation is vastly changed, they are in a better position to call a halt to U.S. intervention and put the United States in its place.

ROUND THE WEEK

Harvest Time Around Peking

By the time this issue of *Peking Review* is in your hands the people's communes in the Peking area will have passed the peak of the winter wheat harvest. Of all the crops gathered in the summer in north China, wheat holds a special place, partly because it is a staple diet and partly because it accounts for a large proportion of the summer harvest. It is the first crop of winter wheat to be harvested since the founding of the people's communes.

Nearly 1.4 million *mu* of land on the outskirts of Peking were planted to wheat this year. All around the city there are immense tracts of rich wheat-fields, the plants already golden and glistening in the sun.

But it will be difficult for the communes to gather in this heavy crop by themselves within the short space of time generally allowed for wheat-harvesting. As in 1958, but even more so this year, the peasants will need outside help to see them through the summer harvest and summer cultivation, which go hand in hand. As soon as it was known that the countryside could do with volunteers from the towns to help with the harvesting, from scything to stacking the crop in the bins, the response from government offices, factories, universities and schools, and the armed forces in Peking was immediate.

Last week, an exodus of able-bodied men and women—around 120,000 in all—left for the rural areas. There were newspapermen among them and four members of the staff of *Peking Review* are also out in the wheat fields now. In the spirit of socialist co-operation the city helps the countryside when extra hands are needed.

* * *

Meanwhile, the communes along the Yellow River and Yangtse River valleys are racing against time to bring in their wheat crops. Harvesting in the provinces south of the Yangtse was completed by the end of May and the commune members are now busily engaged in threshing. But peasants in the areas north of the Yellow River are now in the thick of the battle. Honan, the leading wheat producer in the country, and Shantung, on the east coast, have about 10 million people in the fields every day fighting rains and windstorms to bring in the wheat. More than six million people in Hopei Province are

working day and night to complete the harvest. By June 11 more than 12 million *mu* of wheat had been brought in. In practically all the other wheat-growing provinces—Shensi, Shansi, etc.—the fields are alive with millions of people threshing the wheat.

When the wheat is reaped the land is immediately ploughed to plant the summer crops—maize, rice, soya beans, sweet potatoes, etc. In Honan Province alone something like 40 per cent of the harvested land has been resown. And the communes in these provinces are also enjoying help from the people in the urban areas.

Shihchingshan's New Lease on Life

At 9:40 in the evening of May 23 the red molten iron began to pour. The workers let out an excited cheer. The new giant blast furnace at Peking's Shihchingshan Iron and Steel Works had produced its first heat of iron. A new coke-oven battery has also gone into production and a new ore sintering plant has been completed and will be commissioned soon.

The completion of the three new projects winds up the first phase of the plan to expand and modernize the 40-year-old Shihchingshan Iron and Steel Works on the northwestern outskirts of the capital. Old Peking, in pre-liberation days, had little industry to boast of, not to speak of heavy industry. The only hint of heavy industry was Shihchingshan which was built during the days of the Peiyang warlords. Although it called itself an iron and steel company, it had only two medium-sized blast furnaces and several smaller ones and produced only iron, no steel. Moreover its meager output kept declining steadily. When Peking was liberated in December 1948 the dilapidated plant was on the verge of total collapse.

Much has been done to breathe life into the old plant since liberation. Iron output has risen year by year. In 1958, the annual output of iron was greater than the plant's total iron production in its entire thirty years before liberation! And Shihchingshan began to produce steel. But it remained a moderate enterprise as steel output is measured in China today. Peking's steel-conscious residents, especially the workers of the Shihchingshan plant, dreamed of turning it into a major metallurgical plant. To the joy of the Shihchingshan workers the People's Government approved the plan to modern-

ize the plant and turn it into a full-size integrated iron and steel works. The first spade of earth was dug on May 28 last year.

The new No. 3 blast furnace, the coke-oven battery and ore sintering plant have the most up-to-date equipment. No. 3 is one of the modern giants in the country. The whole process, from the charging of materials to the tapping of the iron, is automatically controlled. It has built-in radioactive isotopes for corrosion detection. The 71-compartment coke-oven battery and the ore sintering plant are also mechanized and highly automatic. This trio adds the weight of Peking to China's fast-growing iron and steel industry.

The building of the three projects took only a year, no small feat in itself. The main force of the building workers came from Anshan, China's No. 1 steel city, and Taiyuan, the industrial centre in Shansi Province. These skilled Chinese builders, with the help of Soviet experts, used many advanced techniques and methods that cut construction time. Shihchingshan's own corps of workers made remarkable contributions to the building of the projects. In the course of construction Shihchingshan received materials and help from more than three hundred enterprises all over China. And last but not least, office workers from the government organizations, officers and men of the People's Liberation Army in Peking, members of the people's communes in the city's suburbs, students from the colleges and schools put in many volunteer workdays.

Needs of Tibetan People Studied

Visiting the serfs who have suffered cruelly at the hands of the reactionary serf-owners accounts for a good part of the time of the leading cadres of the Tibet Working Committee of the Communist Party, the Preparatory Committee for the Autonomous Region of Tibet and the Tibet Military Area Command these days. During the past few weeks Chang Kuo-hua, Chou Jen-shan and other leading cadres have paid an extended visit to the Loka area and have called on lamas, laymen, and Tibetans of all walks of life. They asked them their opinions of the policies of the Central Government, and what the People's Liberation Army and government functionaries could do further in implementing these policies.

While travelling through Loka they made an intensive study of the social conditions in the area which the rebels had once made a stronghold of reaction. The serfs in these parts indicated that they wanted to see an early end of the



Bringing in the wheat

Woodcut by Wang Wei

system of unbridled exploitation. They particularly demanded that the *ula* system (see *Peking Review*, No. 23, June 9, 1959) be done away with and that democratic reforms be introduced as soon as possible.

In all parts of the Loka area the peasants expressed their warm support of the policy outlined by the Central Government after the outbreak of the rebellion which allows the tillers to harvest and own the crops grown on the land of the rebels this year. They are making extra efforts to cultivate larger farm areas than usual, now that they are able to enjoy the fruits of their own labour.

Huaipei—A New Coalfield

One of east China's richest coal reserves—the Huaipei coalfield north of the Huai River in Anhwei Province is now being tapped.

Work is going on simultaneously on many pits in this area of some 250 square kilometres rich in coal deposits. Several hundred kilometres of railway bed and highways have been constructed and many buildings have already been completed.

The pits are being sunk at a very rapid pace despite thick strata of shifting sand and the presence of subterranean water. The speed is made possible by the use of the new method of sinking reinforced concrete pipes with vibrating pile-drivers. It is expected that a large pit with an annual capacity of 900,000 tons, which ordinarily takes several years to build, will be completed in a single year. Many more pits are planned for the new colliery. When completed, it will be one of China's largest collieries.

Rising Birth Rate of China's National Minorities

Reports from Huhehot, capital of the Inner Mongolian Autonomous Region in the north, and from Kweiyang, the chief city of Kweichow Province down in the southwest, indicate that there is a general rise of the population of the national minorities in these areas.

In Inner Mongolia, the population of the Mongolian people has risen from 840,000 in 1950 to more than 1,130,000; the Olunchuns from 910 to 1,100 and the Owenkes from 5,200 to 6,300. The other national minorities in the region, such as the Huis, Manchus and Koreans, have also grown.

In Kweichow, a census showed that by the end of 1958 the total population of the Miaos, Puyis, Tungs, Yis, Shuis, and several other minority nationalities had reached a total of 4,360,000—420,000 more than in 1953. Within five years, the Miaos in Kweichow have grown from 1,420,000 to 1,530,000. The biggest increase in population was registered by the Shui people along the Tu River. In 1958 the population reached 160,000—a 25 per cent increase over 1953! In all the areas inhabited by the national minority peoples a rising birth rate has become the general phenomenon.

Both the Mongolian steppes and the Kweichow plateau were known in the past for the chronic decline of population. The new population trend is a great change.

Owing to the long years of national discrimination and oppression during the reign of reaction, the people of the national minorities suffered intensely from cold-blooded exploitation and cultural backwardness. There was a frightful lack of sanitation and medical care. Plagues and diseases ran rampant for decades taking lives by the thousands. In Inner Mongolia venereal disease was the scourge and in Kweichow, malaria. In Ikh Chao League, Inner Mongolia, the population of the Mongolians in the early years of the Ching dynasty was 400,000 but by the time of liberation there were only a little more than 100,000 people left. In those days a healthy baby on the pastures was a rare sight. On the Kweichow plateau the local saying was "there are pregnant women but no walking children."

Now all this is only a memory. National equality replaced national oppression in liberated China, the life of the people was steadily improved and

thanks to the efforts of the People's Government medical care was greatly extended and health conditions were fundamentally improved. Venereal diseases, malaria and other diseases have been licked. The results are evident in the population rise in these areas inhabited by the national minorities.

Dragon-Boat Festival

Last Wednesday, June 10—the Fifth Day of the Fifth Moon of the Lunar Calendar—people throughout the country found time for some fun in this busy harvest season. Members of the people's communes along the Milo River in Hunan Province crowded the banks to watch the race of more than thirty colourfully decorated dragon-boats, manned by a thousand people, amidst thunderous cheers and the beating of gongs and cymbals. Similar dragon-boat races were held in the Min River in coastal Fukien Province. In Chengtu, Szechuan Province, too, workers, army-men and students held boat races and water sports contests. In Peking's Peihai Park lotus lanterns floated on the lake under the white dagoba. And throughout the country a special delicacy—the triangular *tsungtze*, or stuffed glutinous rice dumplings wrapped in a special kind of leaves—were made and served in many homes. The occasion? The traditional Dragon-Boat Festival or *Tuan Wu*—the Double Fifth.

The annual festival is held in memory of Chu Yuan, ancient China's great patriot-poet (author of *Li Sao*) and statesman. More than 2,200 years ago Chu Yuan, exiled from the court of Chu (one of the seven Warring States) drowned himself in the Milo River as a protest against the betrayal of his country by corrupt rulers. Legend has it that the grief-stricken people rushed out in boats to try and recover his body. Rice dumplings were thrown into the river to feed the water dragons so that they would not devour the body of the great poet. Hence the traditional dragon-boat race and *tsungtze*—an expression of the people's love of freedom and justice.

Progress in China's Light Industry

by LI CHU-CHEN

Minister of Light Industry

DURING the First Five-Year Plan (1953-1957), total output value in China's light industry (excluding textiles) doubled. It increased at an average annual rate of about 17 per cent. It was on this basis that the industry achieved a big leap forward in 1958 and pushed up its output value by about 40 per cent. In that year the big leap in agriculture provided rich resources and enormous markets for light industrial and food products. The big boost in steel output also stimulated the progress of light industry. Workers and employees in light industry implemented the general line for building socialism and the set of policies known as "walking on two legs." While making way for the tremendous growth of steel production, light industry itself effected an unprecedented leap forward, mainly by mobilizing its own resources and by launching a mass movement for technical revolution.

In the past few years, many light industrial enterprises were built or expanded and latent capabilities were tapped, thus enabling the industry to make big advances. From 1891, when China had her first paper mill using machine production, to 1949, the year of liberation, the highest annual output of machine-made paper was only 165,000 tons. In 1957, output reached 913,000 tons, more than five times the pre-liberation peak. It went up to 1,220,000 tons last year.

In 1957 salt production more than doubled the pre-liberation peak annual output and reached 8,277,000 tons, surpassing the 1949 output by 5,387,000 tons. It went up to 10,400,000 tons last year.

The output of sugar in 1957 was more than double the peak annual output in pre-liberation days. The production of rubber footwear also more than doubled; 130 million pairs were made in 1957 and in 1958 output went up again by more than 50 million pairs. There have also been enormous increases in the output of other products, such as edible vegetable oils, bicycles, sewing machines, clocks and watches.

Better Production Techniques

Light industry has made rapid advances not only in capital construction and production but in production techniques. The designing and manufacture of many products were beyond the capabilities of old China. New China has established many new branches of industry and turned out thousands of products never before made in the country. They include various kinds of industrial paper (such as 6 or 7 micron condenser paper and high-tension cable paper), viscose pulp, stone-ware machine parts, enamel equipment for the chemical industry, optical glass, quartz glass, glass fibre, tempered glass, cameras, films, wrist-watches, artificial leather, rectified spirit, high-grade glycerine, aromatic products, etc.

1958 was a year of marked achievements in the technical revolution and innovations in light industry.

First, technical progress was manifest in improved tools and equipment, mechanized production and higher productivity. More than 700 major technical innovations were made in five trades (paper making, salt production, pottery and porcelain, glass, enamel products). They played a significant part in raising production, saving labour and fulfilling the plans. The more than 100 advanced technical improvements introduced in the paper industry cover all of the production processes—stocking, cooking, beating, paper making and packing and may raise productivity from 20 to 50 per cent. Take the Tientsin Paper Mill, for example. It took 13 hours during the period of Japanese occupation (1937-1945) to cook the reed pulp used. This has been reduced now to just over two hours. The salt industry adopted many measures to change production from a seasonal to an all-year-round basis.

Secondly, workers and employees devised various methods to economize on the use of iron and steel. Reports from 14 provinces and municipalities show that last year 70,000 tons of iron and steel were saved thanks to the manufacture of over 80 kinds of stone-ware equipment. These included alcohol distillators, blowers, pumps, acid-resistant pumps and sulphuric acid towers. This solved part of the needs of light industry in its big leap and supported the growth of other industries as well.

Thirdly, many light industries worked out methods to economize on the use of raw materials and adopted substitutes. The paper industry, for example, popularized the use of annual plants to make pulp and adopted measures to recover caustic soda.

Combination of Two Methods

Besides technical revolution, another important factor for the 1958 leap forward in light industry was the building of small workshops using indigenous methods of production in the people's communes. Since 60 to 70 per cent of the industry's raw materials come from the countryside and most of its products are sold there, the relations between light industry and agriculture are very close. The building of industrial units to process agricultural produce and make certain consumer goods within the practical possibilities of the people's communes ensures the timely processing of farm and rural side-line products, reduces the need for the cities to supply light industrial goods to the villages and brings about a more rational distribution of light industrial units in the country. It will also free a lot of rural manpower, especially women, from certain household production tasks (milling grain, etc.) and help consolidate and develop the people's communes. The combination of modern and indigenous methods of production also brings quick returns with smaller investments and less equipment.

Both the scale and speed of capital construction in light industry in 1958 were never before known. Capital con-

struction alone boosted the annual paper-making capacity by over 300,000 tons and sugar-refining capacity by 600,000 tons, including sugar refining by indigenous methods. These are close to or higher than the total increases during the First Five-Year Plan.

Standards of Living Improved

Development of the national economy in the past few years, particularly the industrial and agricultural leap forward last year, has brought fairly big improvements in the standards of living of the working people. According to data supplied by the State Statistical Bureau, retail sales of several major consumer goods showed substantial increases in 1958. Compared with 1957, retail sales of rubber footwear rose by 52 per cent, thermos flasks by 29 per cent for example.

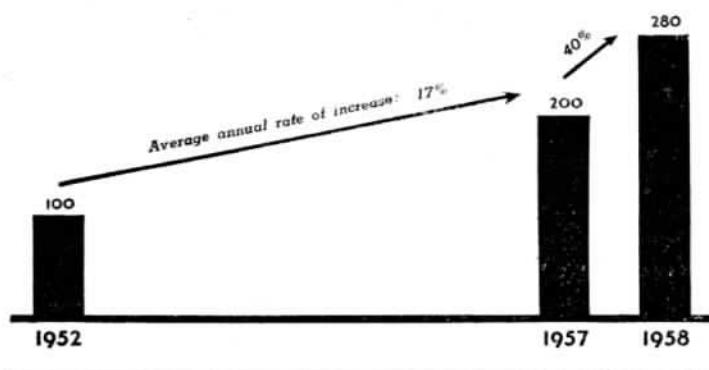
A survey of nine counties in nine provinces shows that the 1958 consumption of consumer goods in these rural areas recorded still bigger increases. Taking the corresponding amount of consumption in 1957 as 100, the 1958 figures were as follows: rubber footwear, 215; machine-made paper, 193.7; enamel wash basins, 179.7; enamel cups, 161.5; soap, 103.3.

Fountain pens, clocks and watches were formerly bought only by a few well-to-do people; now they are being used by large numbers of people. The womenfolk of the peasantry formerly made practically all clothes in the countryside by hand. Now in many villages clothes are being made with sewing machines. Over 630,000 sewing machines were produced last year, more than double the amount manufactured in 1957.

Industrial articles of daily use that were sold formerly almost exclusively to the city population are now found in large quantities in the rural markets. Many goods formerly enjoyed by the few, have now become popular among the masses. Some articles which were luxuries to the general public and only the well-to-do could afford

INCREASE IN OUTPUT VALUE OF LIGHT INDUSTRY

1952 — 1958



to buy, have been placed within the reach of the majority of the people.

Like all the other branches of the national economy, 1958 was a year of a great leap forward in light industry. But since the output of certain products still lags behind demand and the people's living standards must be further improved, light industry must continue its leap forward this year.

It is both necessary and possible this year for light industry to continue its big leap on the basis of the overall progress in the country and the increasing purchasing power of the people. The planned increases for many products in 1959 are really enormous both in percentages and actual amounts. Last year, paper output exceeded the 1957 figure by 410,000 tons; this year it is planned to increase output by another 570,000 tons. Similarly large increases are planned for salt, cigarettes, sugar, edible vegetable oils, etc. The 1959 plan for light industry, therefore, is one of a continued big leap and high-speed development.

U.S. - Japanese Collusion

Japanese Militarism on the Come Back

by LIAO CHU

THE Kishi government of Japan is stepping up its efforts to reinvigorate Japanese militarism. But, as recent events indicate, there is a mounting wave of popular opposition to these efforts. In the elections to the Upper House of the Diet held earlier this month, the ruling Liberal-Democratic Party was pitted in a hard-fought battle with the democratic forces. Kishi's party was desperately anxious to get the two-thirds majority which would enable it to revise Japan's war-renouncing post-war Constitution and railroad through a revised U.S.-Japan "Security" Treaty tying Japan even more closely to Washington's atomic war chariot. It failed to achieve its aim in the elections. Meanwhile, a nationwide drive to prevent the revision of the U.S.-Japan "Security" Treaty is rapidly gathering momentum.

In Tokyo two weeks ago, a Japanese monk killed himself in front of Kishi's official residence as a protest against the projected revision of the U.S.-Japan "Security" Treaty and Japan's rearmament. Such an act of itself will not deter the reactionaries from their course, but it is one of the many indications of the spreading public awareness of the dangers involved in Kishi's drive to war.

Deep-Seated Reasons

The revival of Japanese militarism has long been the common policy of the U.S. and Japanese reactionaries. But, as the Chinese saying goes, "lying in the same bed, they are dreaming different dreams." U.S. imperialism wants to use Japan as a cat's-paw in its aggressive war

in the Far East; it wants to turn Japanese territory into its military base spearheaded against China and the Soviet Union, and against other Asian countries. Japanese reaction, on its part, counts on U.S. support to realize its hidden imperialist ambitions.

Deep-seated socio-economic forces in Japan are behind this drive to revive militarism. Japanese monopoly capital made new advances in the post-war years by serving the war policy of the U.S.A. During the Korean war, it was fed on huge U.S. military orders and grew enormously. By 1951, Japan had already surpassed its pre-war (1934-36) level of industrial production. In 1957, the index of industrial production climbed to 2.6 times the pre-war level. Bloated with easy pickings Japanese monopoly capital now finds the domestic market too small for its ambitions, and seeks expansion abroad. The Kishi cabinet serving the interests of these monopoly circles and toeing the Washington line, has been working energetically on its so-called "Southeast Asia Development Plan" ever since it came to power in 1957. Designed to exploit the natural resources of Southeast Asia with U.S. capital and Japanese technique, this plan is in effect a new version of the notorious plan for building a "Greater East Asia Co-prosperity Sphere," that was the blueprint for Japan's invasion of many Asian countries in the Second World War. Here lies the root cause of the revival of Japanese militarism.

The situation has been aggravated by the economic crisis which spread from the United States to Japan under Kishi's rule. As a result of the crisis, unemployment has risen, class contradictions have sharpened and the workers' movement has gathered strength in Japan. The reaction of monopoly capital has been to call for a more blatant policy of expansion abroad and suppression of popular opposition at home. That is why the Kishi cabinet has shown greater vigour than any previous post-war cabinet in reviving militarism.

Old Militarists in the Saddle Again

The process of reviving militarism has actually been going on for a number of years. That the threat it poses is now very real is shown by many facts. First of all, the old militarists and the fascist organizations are once again active in Japan's public life.

In 1949, the U.S. occupation authorities began to release Japanese war criminals sentenced to prison terms. At the end of 1950, they began to "de-purge" war criminals. The process of "de-purging" was practically completed by August 1951 and, by the end of 1958, all war criminals in the custody of U.S. forces had been set free. "De-purged" and released, and enjoying the support of the reactionary Japanese Government, the old militarists have gradually resumed their activities in the open.

The better to do their pernicious work they have founded a host of organizations and "research" bodies. Kyodo News Agency reports that there are now more than 200 such organizations. The largest among them, Kyodo says, is known as *Nihon Goyu-Renmei* which, with Neiji Okamura, one time commander-in-chief of the Japanese invasion forces in China, as president, boasts a member-

ship of 1.5 million scattered all over Japan. In the meantime, large numbers of old militarists have been absorbed into the armed forces. They now hold the posts of chiefs of staff of Japan's army, navy and air force; and most of the commanding officers in Japan's armed forces, from divisional commanders up, are from their ranks.

Today the old militarists and Japan's financial oligarchy are in closer collusion. During the Korean war, some 3,000 former military technicians were recruited by various war plants to help rehabilitate and rebuild the armaments industry. Old militarists are staging a comeback on the political scene, too. Many reactionary old brass-hats are playing active roles in the ruling Liberal-Democratic Party. These include former Vice-Admiral Zenshiro Hoshina and former Admiral Yoshisaburo Nomura. Since 1953, old militarists have begun to run for membership in the Diet. Seven of them are serving as Diet members and 400 sit in local legislatures. Since 1953, the Japanese Government has resumed the payment of pensions to old militarists. Such payments now amount to 100,000 million yen a year.

Armed Forces Rebuilt

The U.S. occupation authorities started rebuilding Japan's military power even before the signing of the separate "peace" treaty with Japan in San Francisco in 1951. This was obvious from the abnormally swollen size of Japan's then police force. Before V-J Day Japan had only 56,000 policemen. In 1948, according to official statistics, its police force had 141,206 men.

The victory of the Chinese revolution in 1949 and the outbreak of the Korean war in the following year made the U.S. imperialists all the more anxious to turn Japan into a source of cannon-fodder and a Far Eastern arsenal. In July 1950, former U.S. General MacArthur ordered the then Yoshida government of Japan to



The latest style

Cartoon by Chiang Yu-sheng

establish a "police reserve corps" of four divisions which in effect was Japan's army. In the following years, a navy and air force were also formed, as well as the command centre for all the armed forces, the so-called "Defence Agency."

In 1955, the Japanese Government formulated a six-year (1955-1960) plan for expansion of the armed forces. The target figures of the plan are as follows: army: 180,000 men; navy: approximately 34,500 men with ships and craft totalling 124,000 tons and 200 aeroplanes; air force: approximately 41,600 men with 1,300 planes; total strength for all the three branches of the armed forces: approximately 276,000 men (including about 20,000 civilian employees) with a reserve of 20,000. Fulfilment of this plan will give Japan an army and air force nearly equal in strength to those it had in 1931, the year it began the invasion of China's northeastern provinces.

When the Kishi government came to power in 1957, it made some slight changes in the target figures for the last three years of the six-year plan. But the expansion of Japan's armaments has gone ahead essentially in accordance with that plan. By the end of March this year, the strength of Japan's armed forces stood as follows: army: 170,000 men with 228 aeroplanes; navy: over 25,500 men with ships and craft totalling about 111,000 tons and 200 aeroplanes; air force: over 26,600 men with 963 aeroplanes; total strength of the three branches of the armed forces: over 240,000 men (including more than 20,000 civilian employees) plus more than 10,000 in reserve; total number of aeroplanes: 1,391.

While pressing forward with a general expansion of armaments, the Japanese military authorities are intensifying their efforts in research and the trial manufacture of new types of weapons. The aim is to completely modernize the equipment of the Japanese armed forces. Their plan calls for the gradual introduction of guided missiles from 1960 onwards, proceeding therefrom to nuclear weapons.

The Kishi government at the present time is working to establish a military force of considerable numerical strength, gradually expand it in proportion to the growth of the "national strength," and re-equip it, step by step, with guided missiles and nuclear weapons, so as to form the "hard core" of an aggressive military machine with the framework and structure laid out, in preparation for large-scale expansion as occasion demands.

Armaments Industry Grows

The process of rehabilitation of Japan's war industry during the post-war years can be roughly divided into two stages. The years from 1950 to 1954 were a period of "special procurements," i.e., of big U.S. military orders. The years since 1955 are the period of "defence procurements," i.e., of armaments production for Japan's own growing armed forces. During the Korean war, U.S. "special procurements" in Japan amounted to 1,338 million U.S. dollars according to statistics compiled by Japanese sources. The enterprises producing munitions and light weapons which were rehabilitated by these orders have an aggregate capacity which far outstrips the normal training and replenishment needs of the Japanese army.

Since U.S. "special procurements" have declined each year following the Korean armistice, Japanese monopoly capital has put forward the demand that Japan's "self-defence" forces be equipped with Japanese-made weapons so as to gear the war industry to the arms expansion programme. The main emphasis during this period has been put on the production of aeroplanes and naval craft, as well as research into new types of weapons. Aircraft production was resumed in Japan in 1956 and there are now 25 companies engaged in it. Japan's potentialities in building naval craft is considerable; out of the 27 shipyards which built such craft in the pre-war years, 12 have now resumed production. During the past few years, Japan's budgetary outlay on atomic research has risen steadily; it was 350 million yen in 1954, and soared to 11,100 million yen in 1958.

The Kishi government is now trying to foster the expansion of war industry, maintain productive capacity for various types of weapons, step up the research and trial manufacture of new types of weapons, and gradually modernize the equipment of the Japanese forces with Japanese-made weapons.

Restoring Fascist Rule

The revival of militarism and establishment of fascist rule are two sides of a single coin; the one goes with the other. The imperial system headed by the mikado, a symbol and pillar of militarism, still exists in Japan although it has been weakened since the end of the war. Japanese reaction has not been slow in attempting to revive the worship of the mikado. A significant pointer was the introduction, in December 1957, of so-called "moral education" in primary and middle schools designed to instil the children with feudal moral concepts centred on loyalty to the mikado. Once again the schools are now required to celebrate the so-called *Kigen-setsu* Festival (February 11, the legendary date of the inauguration of the Japanese state by the first mikado), and the *Tencho-setsu* Festival (April 29, birthday of the present mikado). Since 1957, the Japanese film industry has produced a number of movies extolling the old imperialist aggressive wars and disseminating militarist ideas. They include a film about Japan's war with tsarist Russia and another one about the so-called "War of Greater East Asia."

Post-war Japanese governments have promulgated a series of reactionary laws and decrees designed to re-institute fascist rule. In July 1956, for instance, a system was introduced for censoring non-official school textbooks; in July 1957, a decision was adopted to institute a so-called "efficiency rating system" for primary and middle school teachers which is a sort of "loyalty check." In October 1958 the Kishi government sought to push through the Diet the "Police Duties Law Revision Bill" which aimed to expand its police powers, legalize such measures as "preventive arrests," and by depriving the people of the minimum guarantees of liberty and democratic rights, pave the way for a fascist rule based on police terror. This attempt was foiled as a result of vigorous popular opposition. The Kishi government, however, is still trying by every means to have this bill

passed and also to enact such reactionary laws as the so-called "security" law and the "anti-espionage" law.

Lurking Ambitions

It is clear from the foregoing facts that the groundwork for a revived Japanese militarism has already been laid. Its lurking ambitions are also taking clearer shape. In his interview with the American NBC correspondent, Cecil Brown, last October, Kishi flatly declared that "the time has come for Japan to eliminate the 'no war' provision in the Japanese Constitution," and that this "has to be revised because at the present time we are forbidden to send troops abroad." He even declared that "Japan must do everything possible to prevent Formosa [Taiwan] and Korea from being taken over by the Communists" for the sake of "Japan's security." During the Japan-south Korea talks in 1958, the Japanese delegate Renzo Sawada insolently stated that it was the aim of the Kishi government "to push the present 38th Parallel border line to the Yalu River." Earlier this year, Banboku Ono, Vice-President of the Liberal-Democratic Party, called for the formation of a "United States of Japan" in which south Korea and Taiwan will be annexed!

Recently, the Kishi government has become still more blatant in its hostility towards China. While continuing to follow the United States in trying to create "two Chinas," it has slandered China on the question of the rebellion in Tibet. It has rejected the Soviet proposal for a peaceful and neutral Japan on the pretext of "opposing interference in internal affairs," and, moreover, is plotting an anti-Soviet campaign under the slogan of

"recovering the northern territory." It has tried to curry favour with the Syngman Rhee clique of south Korea by preventing the return of Korean nationals in Japan to the Korean Democratic People's Republic. And, disregarding the repeated protests of the Democratic Republic of Viet-nam, it has concluded an "agreement on war reparations" with the south Viet-nam authorities.

The recent "Blue Book" on Japan's foreign affairs issued on May 16 was another exposure of the Kishi government's true colours. Formerly the Kishi clique pretended to adhere to "three principles" in foreign relations, viz: the United Nations as the "centre," co-operation with the "free" nations, and Japan as "a member of Asia." But the Blue Book openly scrapped these "principles" and announced, instead, three new principles which are tantamount to a public announcement of Japan's embarking on the road of militarism. These principles are: rejection of a neutral stand for Japan, the strengthening of Japan's "self-defence" forces and establishment of a Japan-U.S. "security system." With the issuance of this Blue Book, the Kishi government assumed an openly offensive posture.

In all their calculations, however, the U.S. and Japanese reactionaries have forgotten one simple yet most fundamental factor: that the forces for peace and progress both within Japan and internationally have grown enormously as compared with the "good old days" of Japanese militarism. If Tojo and his Western ally, Hitler, "lifted a rock only to have their own toes squashed," as the Chinese saying goes, Kishi and his U.S. backers are "lifting a rock to crush their own skulls."

From Anshan's Steel Front

China's Champion Blast Furnace

by CHU CHI-LIN

ANSHAN Iron and Steel Works' No. 9 blast furnace has been much in the news lately for an outstanding performance. Its workers boosted the average coefficient of utilization to a high of 2.187 tons in May 1959 to win the national championship in the emulation drive among the country's big modern blast furnaces. Average coefficient of utilization is the output of iron per cubic metre of available furnace volume per 24 hours and is the most important index of blast furnace efficiency. This achievement places the No. 9 among the world's most efficient blast furnaces.

Built in 1956, the No. 9 was China's first automatic high-pressure blast furnace. But its current success lies not so much in its up-to-date equipment as in the spirit and ingenuity shown by its operators. A little more than a year ago, its average coefficient was 1.348 tons. This put it last among all the Anshan blast furnaces. Hard

work and thought leading to radical improvement in technique finally carried its workers to their present success.

Mastering Technique

The workers in charge of No. 9 tamed this modern giant in a struggle with technical difficulties. The first problem they encountered concerned the method of charging. Originally, a large proportion of agglomerate was used and each charge was pretty heavy; the charge tended to concentrate at the centre of the furnace and this resulted in a poor distribution of the gas current. In the words of the workers, the furnace suffered from "chronic indigestion." To solve this problem, the Communist Party committee called a meeting of technical personnel and workers with the director of the plant attending. At this meeting, two "schools" of thought emerged. One, following a careful analysis of the situation, advocated a new

method of using clean ores once every few charges and reducing the quantity of each charge; the other, the "minority school," opposed this, claiming that a somewhat similar method was employed before without much success. Some even asserted that smooth operation simply could not be achieved because of the peculiar shape of the furnace and that it was impossible to raise output any more. The majority view prevailed. The new proposals were given a trial. The attempt was entirely successful—smooth operation was effected and the coefficient of utilization was boosted 18 per cent in a single month.

This gave an indication of what could be done. The workers of the No. 9 began regularly to sum up their experience in production and draw the necessary conclusions from them. Work was reviewed after each shift and at the end of each working day. More systematic reviews were made every ten days. Special meetings were called to study specific technical problems.

Important Innovations

It's a characteristic of the workers of the No. 9 that they never get complacent but are constantly trying out and introducing new refinements of technique. Pei Wei, the self-possessed, forward-looking young man of twenty-four who is in charge of the whole furnace, has only three years of actual blast furnace experience behind him, but he already has several important innovations to his credit and is striking out in new directions. A year ago, when he was in charge of the Company's No. 8 blast furnace, he boldly advocated increasing the smelting intensity (the amount of coke burned per cubic metre of furnace volume per 24 hours) as a means of increasing output. At that time, the prevalent view was that a moderate intensity of smelting should be maintained and that intensive smelting would raise the coke ratio (amount of coke consumed in producing one ton of iron) and tend to cause abnormalities in operation. Nevertheless Pei's bold idea was experimented with and proved very effective. It carried the No. 8 to first place in production among all Anshan's blast furnaces.

Since then, the method of increasing smelting intensity has become generally accepted as a dependable measure of raising output. By combining this method with the principle of reducing the coke ratio, a new system of iron smelting was gradually evolved. When these techniques were applied to the No. 9 blast furnace, it was found that neither the volume nor the temperature of the blast supplied was sufficient for intensive smelting. Hsu Chen-yeh, a veteran worker with 20 years of experience, made a thorough study of the problem. He found that the trouble lay in the tapping hole. This was too shallow with the result that, when the furnace was tapped, coke sometimes gushed out together with the molten iron and the volume of blast had to be greatly reduced. To remedy this he devised a new method of work that deepened the tapping hole and avoided the necessity of reducing the volume of blast. By readjusting the proportions of gas and air and improving combustion in the hot blast stoves, Chen Chuan, another worker, successfully raised the temperature of the blast from around 800° C to 900° C thus facilitating the reduction of the coke ratio.

Systematic application of the new method of smelting is no simple affair. It requires close co-ordination of all

on the job. This spirit of mutual help prevails among the men of the No. 9. Workers on each shift are at pains to see to it that all's well for the next shift to take over. One night not long ago, just 20 minutes before the shift ended, members of the first shift found that some molten iron still remained in the furnace to be tapped because not enough ladles had been available at the first tapping. It wouldn't have been a violation of the rules if they had left the metal in the furnace and left off as their time was up, but this would have meant difficulties for the next shift. So they stayed on, asked the dispatch room for more ladles and made preparations for a second tapping. This meant a great deal of extra work. But there was no hesitation among them. By the time the second tapping was done it was already a good half hour over time. Only then did they quit.

Co-ordination was, of course, not limited to workers at the furnace. By providing the high-grade ores and coke needed for high efficiency smelting, workers at the sintering plant and the coke ovens made important contributions to the success of the No. 9 blast furnace. "When harmony reigns among the workers, smooth operation of the blast furnace is ensured." So the workers say.

Friendly Emulation

In April, in the friendly emulation among the Anshan blast furnaces, the No. 9 was in the lead with an average coefficient of utilization of 2.051. This was a remarkable achievement, but the edge it had over the others was by no means a comfortable one. The No. 3 blast furnace was close on its heels with a coefficient of 1.995 and the No. 3 workers declared that they would catch up with their colleagues of the No. 9 in May.

It was a serious challenge. By raising the temperature of the blast and increasing the intensity of smelting, the workers of the No. 3 succeeded in raising their average coefficient for the first ten days of May to 2.17. No. 9 was left behind.

Workers of the No. 9, of course, would not take this lying down. The meeting they called to study the situation brought out the formidable nature of the problem confronting them. At first, it seemed that there were only two ways of raising efficiency further: by increasing the volume of the blast which would accelerate the combustion of coke; or by raising the temperature of the blast. But both methods were limited by the capacities of the blowers and the hot blast stoves. Having studied the problem for two nights, Pei Wei hit on a new idea: increase the steam supply. Since this would at the same time increase the amount of oxygen, Pei figured that it would facilitate the combustion of coke. The idea was presented to the workers on the shift and they all agreed to give it a try. It proved successful and, in the second ten days of May, the men of the No. 9 raised their average coefficient to 2.201, regaining first place in the plant.

With emulation proceeding full blast within Anshan's iron-smelting plant, the workers have kept a wary eye open on the achievements of blast furnaces in other plants in the country. The Ministry of Metallurgical Industry keeps them fully informed regularly publicizing the best records in the coefficient of utilization, coke ratio, etc.

and the standing of the various iron works in the country both in the national press and in *Yejin Bao* (Metallurgy), its own organ widely read by iron and steel workers.

The men of Anshan's No. 9 and No. 3 blast furnaces had picked pretty formidable "opponents" in the emulation drive — the blast furnaces at the Penki Iron and Steel Works, which had led all blast furnaces in the country in efficiency for more than a year in the past. On May 12, a "contract" of competition was solemnly signed in a workers' club in Penki with representatives of Anshan's No. 9 and No. 3 blast furnaces sent specially to Penki for the occasion.

All furnaces taking part in the emulation campaign distinguished themselves in May. Anshan's No. 9 and No.

3 blast furnaces won first and second place respectively among the country's big blast furnaces, while Penki's furnaces led the country's medium-sized blast furnaces with an astonishing coefficient of 2.442.

The emulation campaign is still on. As there are no technical secrets involved and every iron works in the country is mastering the best methods and pressing ahead steadily, the men of Anshan's No. 9 are well aware that to stay in the lead, they can't rest on their laurels but must keep on improving their work. It's not profit or a selfish sense of pride that spurs them on. They know that every improvement they make contributes to the national effort to boost steel production, to build socialism and create a better life for all. These are the ideals that animate them in the drive for steel.

Tibetans in Szechuan

Democratic Reform: The Road to Happiness

— In the Kantse Tibetans' Autonomous Chou —

THE Kantse Autonomous Chou for the Tibetan People in Szechuan Province gives a living picture of the life of Tibetans before and after democratic reform, of what happens when the terrible yoke of serfdom is lifted from a people.

The Kantse Tibetans' Autonomous Chou stands on the eastern part of the Tibetan plateau, between the Kinsha and Tatu Rivers. It adjoins the Chamdo area of Tibet in the west, Yunnan in the south and Chinghai in the north. It covers an area of about 150,000 square kilometres, about the size of Anhwei Province. It has a population of 540,000, of whom more than 440,000 are Tibetans. The rest are the Hans, Yis and Huis.

The area is rich in mineral resources such as mica, asbestos, gold, coal, iron, lead, zinc, rock crystal, gypsum, etc. One of China's great forest areas is along the Kinsha and Yalung Rivers. Seventy per cent of the musk produced in China comes from this area. Its deer's antlers and land otter furs are well known throughout the country.

The area was liberated in the spring of 1950. National regional autonomy was instituted there in the winter of that year.

The Old Order

The Tibetans inhabiting the autonomous chou suffered from the same terrible serf system as their fellows in Tibet. Lands and pastures were owned by the serf-owners. The serfs were utterly at the mercy of their overlords. In and out of season, they had to toil on the land of their masters, do unpaid labour service and fight

in the clan wars for them. They had almost no time to cultivate the small plots of land allotted to them for their use. They were further exploited by usury practised by the serf-owners. They had to pay 50 to 100 per cent interest on loans. Once in debt they were hopelessly



enmeshed. Serf families were forced to keep on paying the interest on debts from generation to generation. A serf who rented a yak had to pay a certain amount of butter to its owner each year, and keep on paying this even after the animal died!

Some serf-owners were also merchants. They compelled their serfs to sell their local products at rock bottom prices, and themselves charged the exorbitant prices for the goods they sold to the serfs. It was not unusual for a serf-owner to requisition outright the produce of a serf. All in all, by such extortions and levies, the serf-owners took away more than 70 per cent of the annual earnings of a serf. Driven to desperation some serfs ran away from their masters. But this was at the risk of suffering the severest punishments if caught, whipping or mutilation. As often as not they would be caught by another serf-owner and have to suffer the same cruelties from which they sought to escape.

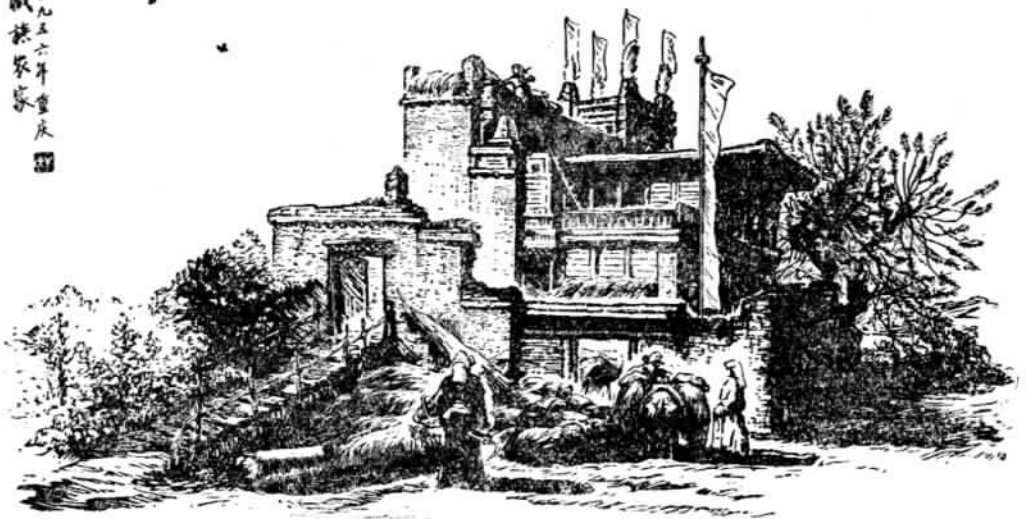
The serf-owners held complete political power. They had their own armed forces, they controlled the law courts, prisons and torture chambers. Most of the serf-owners were the local chieftains and headmen. In his own area the local chieftain ruled supreme. Under him were a number of headmen in charge of finance and military affairs and so on. Lesser headmen exercised direct control over the people. They could kill and torture the serfs at will. Those who offended them would have their noses, ears or tongues cut off, their eyes gouged out, their hands and feet amputated, their hearts ripped out or their bodies skinned.

The full story of this criminal rule of feudal serfdom reads like a hell on earth.

End of Serf System

After liberation, the people's government organized the local Tibetan people to reclaim wasteland, distributed farm tools and issued loans and relief grain to help them develop production. Help was also given to them to develop local trade, education and public health work. The sufferings of the people were somewhat alleviated, but since the old social system remained basically untouched it was not possible to bring about a radical improvement in their conditions. The awakened Tibetan people of the *chou* pressed strongly for democratic reforms and the ending of the serf system so that they could enjoy the same freedom and prosperity as the other nationalities of China. In these circumstances, in 1956, the Communist Party and the people's government began to lead the Tibetan people to carry out the reforms they desired. The reforms were introduced systematically from area to area. By the end of 1958, they had been completed in all the agricultural areas and part of the pastoral areas of the *chou*. The feudal serf system that had plagued the people of the area for centuries was finally ended.

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A Tibetan farm-house

Woodcut by Niu Wen

In the course of the democratic reforms, it was made clear to the serf-owners that if they relinquished their feudal ownership of the land and restored personal freedom to their serfs, their livelihood would be provided for and their other properties would be left intact. However, directed and instigated by the reactionary clique of the upper social strata in Tibet, a handful of the most reactionary serf-owners in the *chou* openly opposed the democratic reforms and launched an armed rebellion. They attacked the People's Liberation Army units, set fire to houses and brutally murdered and persecuted progressive elements among the Tibetan people who strongly demanded democratic reforms. With the mass of the people in action against it, the rebellion speedily collapsed.

After the democratic reforms, all serfs won their freedom and were given land and freed from the grip of usury. The mutual aid and co-operative movement that followed advanced rapidly. In 1956, the first group of farming co-operatives were set up in the area where democratic reforms had already been completed. In 1958, 30 per cent of the peasant households had joined. By this spring, the proportion increased to 63 per cent and some of the over 600 co-operatives formed were of the advanced, socialist type. A number of herdsmen's co-operatives have also been set up.

Greater Agricultural Production

Co-operative farming has shown great advantages in production. Last year, although many counties suffered the most serious drought in twenty years, the output of food crops of the autonomous *chou* as a whole increased by 19.63 per cent. In those counties which were less affected by drought, income from agricultural production increased by 110 per cent compared with 1955, the year before the democratic reforms were started. This spring the organized peasants went about their work with even greater enthusiasm. In the old days, the local peasants used to cast horoscopes to decide on a propitious date to start plowing or sowing. They stopped work on what they considered unlucky days. In many districts the people were afraid to build conservancy works for fear that this would cut off the "veins of the dragon." Nor did

they use any manure on the land. This year, all these outworn habits, prohibitions and superstitious fears were thrown overboard. The peasants in Yakiang County started sowing 10 to 15 days earlier than last year. The land was ploughed from 16.5 centimetres to 33.3 centimetres deep compared to 10 centimetres in the past. Half the acreage of cultivated land was brought under irrigation, a threefold increase over last year.

Democratic reforms and the co-operative movement that followed have also brought a new life to the people of pastoral districts.

In the Takung pastoral district, for instance, over 3,000 herdsmen have been freed from the big feudal livestock owners as a result of the democratic reforms carried out there early this spring. For the first time in their lives the herdsmen enjoyed a free and happy spring. More than 30 per cent of the herdsmen's households in the area joined the co-operatives. The herdsmen of the area have planned to reclaim 12 million *mu* of wasteland this year to grow fodder crops and bring about a 24 per cent net increase in their herds. Better breeds of sheep, horses and cattle have been introduced. Many young herdsmen are learning the techniques of artificial insemination of livestock and the prevention and treatment of animal diseases.

Immediately after the democratic reforms, a primary school was set up for herdsmen's children in the district, but this was quickly filled and two more are being built. New health centres, veterinary stations and trading companies have also been set up, a boon to the herdsmen. Many herdsmen have moved into new tents. New sheds have also been built for their herds. In April alone, a hundred couples of young herdsmen and women who could not set up their own homes in the past registered their marriages at the local people's government.

Industrial Growth

Before liberation, the whole area had only a single small hydro-electric power station. In the past few years and particularly after the democratic reforms, the development of industry and communications has been making headway. With the aid of the state and the support of other provinces, 55 industrial and mining enterprises have been set up. These include iron-smelting, coal-mining, power-generating, paper- and cement-making industries and the manufacturing of farm implements. During the big leap of 1958, many factories were also built in the countryside to produce chemical fertilizers, bone powder, insecticides and powdered milk. As a result, the total value of industrial production in the autonomous *chou* last year reached 17.85 per cent of that of its agricultural production.

No modern communication facilities existed in the area in pre-liberation days. There were only narrow trails leading to the major cities and towns. In the past few years five new highways have been built with a total length of 1,325 kilometres. Thirteen out of the 21 counties are now served by motor transport, and the Sikang-Tibet Highway runs across the autonomous *chou* from east to west. After motor transport was opened to Litang, a major town in the southern part of the auto-

nous *chou*, the price of one pack of tea went down from 40 yuan to 12 yuan and one *jin* of salt from 1.5 yuan to 0.3 yuan. Machines and new-type farm tools have appeared for the first time in distant mountain villages, whose local products are also enjoying a brisk sale in new markets.

The autonomous *chou* now has 32.5 times as many post offices in the various counties as in pre-liberation days. The number of postal routes has increased 3.7-fold. Telephones have been installed in some of the townships. Today, people in Kantse and Patang can read the current issue of *Renmin Ribao* from Peking five days after publication.

To foster production and improve the life of the people, the people's government is vigorously developing trade in the area and follows a price policy that favours the local Tibetan people. In the past few years, more than 500,000 tools and implements have been supplied to the autonomous *chou* at low prices. In 1958, the prices for the major consumer goods dropped by 30.75 per cent, while the prices on local products went up by 129.95 per cent, compared with 1950, when the area was liberated. The purchasing power of the people in 1958 was more than double what it was in 1957.

Spread of Education

The people's government made great efforts to set up schools in the area soon after liberation, but the serf-owners did everything they could to prevent their serfs from sending their children to the schools. So, before the democratic reforms, there were only a few score primary schools with 5,000 Tibetan children in the counties of the Tibetan-inhabited areas. Now the autonomous *chou* has more than 270 primary schools with 24,000 pupils as well as three middle schools including one set up especially for the national minority peoples. More than 200 teachers of Tibetan nationality have been trained in a nationality normal school and in short-term training classes. More than 90 per cent of the pupils in the newly established schools come from families of the labouring people. In a primary school in Kantse, all of the 110 pupils are children of former serfs.

In the early days of liberation there were only five hospitals and clinics in the area. In 1958, they increased to 94. The number of medical workers went up 7.5-fold; 3,260 nurses and midwives have been trained for the agricultural and pastoral areas.

These facts make one thing clear: the change of the face of the autonomous *chou* would have been impossible without democratic reform and the uprooting of the vicious serf system.

— CHANG SEN

CHINESE WEIGHTS and MEASURES at a GLANCE

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

Cotton Bow to Cotton Mill

by LIN NIEN

THERE is an old-fashioned, two-storey house down a lane in Changsha's East District with a newish sign-board over the gate: "East Wind Cotton Mill." Women are working at wooden spinning wheels in its hallways. Its four large rooms, both upstairs and down, are taken up by sixty wooden looms, clacking gaily throughout the day. Women weavers are producing brilliant-coloured, hard-wearing bedspreads and patterned bed sheets with novel designs. These have a brisk sale not only here in Changsha, capital of Hunan Province, but in quite a few other cities.

Little more than a year ago this busy factory was just a small production team in a rented shop-room with a couple of shredding machines and a pair of twanging bows that fluffed up and reconstituted old cotton wadding. Their business then was to clean and re-fluff old cotton and make it up into bats for quilts. Their chief was Lin Shu-hua, a former child cotton mill hand and an ordinary housewife, just over thirty and hardly literate.

The Beginning

The team was a product of last year's big-leap campaign to promote locally run small enterprises. In Shu-hua's district the people's government appointed her, an active social worker throughout the post-liberation years, and Wang, a high school graduate with some knowledge of book-keeping, to organize this production team and utilize old cotton. It was hoped that after getting the necessary experience the team would eventually develop into a small mill. With the 200 yuan she got as capital, Shu-hua bought the two bows and shredding machines and several hundred *jin* of cotton. Renting the small shop-room facing directly on the street, she recruited a few workers, mostly housewives like herself, and the team was in business.

Everything seemed to be all right except the weather. It was March and with the nights getting warmer and warmer, the early, lively demand for bats dwindled steadily. Business got so slow that finally Shu-hua couldn't even find funds for the team's wages. Wang, the book-keeper, dismayed by the mounting deficit, uttered loud complaints. Her grumblings infected the other members of the team. Shu-hua was made of sturdier stuff. She had been through a hard school before liberation as a peasant girl who had gone into a cotton mill at the age of eleven. For her, troubles were things to be overcome. Two thoughts obsessed her: "We must stick together!" and "we've got to find a way out!"

Every spring the people give their cotton-padded winter clothes, quilts and bedding a thorough wash. Many

take out the cotton padding, dust it and get it bowed fluffy and soft again. As Shu-hua prepared her family's own winter clothes for spring cleaning, she thought: "If we can't sell our bats, we can still sell our services with the tools we have!" She consulted Wang, her co-organizer. Wang wasn't against it but thought it below her dignity to go out on the street to canvass for clients. Shu-hua took on the job of drumming up, or rather blowing up, trade. She took a hand-cart, walked the small lanes and busy streets, blowing the traditional bugle and calling out customers. She got them.

The team worked efficiently. Gradually the place became known and clients began to come of their own accord. Business prospered. The team bought a few more second-hand machines and took on twenty more hands.

A Bold Idea

Shu-hua initiated a bold move to turn old cotton into cloth after she heard a talk at the district centre about doing work in the communist style and emancipating one's mind to think, speak out and act boldly. Several members of the team, supported by Shu-hua, immediately went into action by spinning seven *jin* of yarn with cleaned and reconstituted old cotton. She herself did the weaving. When the head of the district saw the result he was



At the loom Scissor-cut by Li Chun and Niu Kuei-ying

delighted and suggested that the cloth be taken to the city's Textile Goods Examination Committee for testing. She went immediately. The examiner scrutinized the stuff, didn't look pleased, and scowled when the material simply ripped asunder in the testing machine: "Only 40 per cent up to standard! Do you call that a joke!" He was still muttering something about "investigating the whole thing" when Shu-hua made good her escape, crestfallen, with her ill-fated cloth in her arms. How to break the news to the team? She knew that everyone was waiting, like herself only a moment ago, with great expectations. How to meet Wang's stare over the abacus? Courage failed her. She went to report the whole affair to the district chief. Not in the least annoyed, he answered: "Who's that comrade doing the examining? What a rotten attitude he has! Don't get discouraged. You can't expect success to come at a single stroke. If it's a problem of quality, then consult with your comrades and see what can be done to solve it." When Shu-hua took her leave, her heart felt lighter.

Wang didn't exactly say "I told you so," but she looked it and insisted that costs would be too high anyway even if they did succeed in turning out suitably graded cloth. "There won't be any profit even if we do get up to standard," she declared, waving her abacus. Nevertheless the whole team put their heads together to find a way out. They finally decided to have another try. This time they selected their cotton carefully, using only the best, and bleached the yarn before weaving.

When she appeared in the examiner's office for the second time, he gave her a long stare: "So here you are again? You still haven't given up this idea of yours, eh?"

Shu-hua answered: "This time the cloth's different!"

He took it over without even bothering to look at it and thrust it into the testing machine. His expression quickly changed. "Good," he said, "seventy per cent this time." He added in a friendly tone, "Can be used for industrial purposes."

The production team grew. Through various channels, Shu-hua bought another dozen second-hand looms and began producing cloth. Working and studying hard, the team was now producing more than twenty types of goods. Buyers liked them. They were sturdy and cheap. Production expanded and more hands were taken on. Most of them were local women who were now able to send their children to the growing number of community day creches and kindergartens.

Expansion

Soon afterwards, Shu-hua learnt from the district office that an old weaver, highly skilled in making Jacquard figured bedspreads, was available. There was a great demand for good, inexpensive bedspreads. Success in producing them would put the team well on the way to setting up a regular mill.

Shu-hua immediately went to see this paragon, was favourably impressed and proposed that a mill be set up

under his technical guidance. He readily agreed and soon handed in his plan. It called for 200,000 yuan in capital. He looked faint when Shu-hua tried to explain that this mill could only start on the basis of their present production team. The weaver, however, was finally persuaded to try. His two looms were bought over by the team and soon they started producing figured bedspreads in small quantities.

As production gradually expanded, a new problem cropped up: the hand-spun yarn fell far short of demands. The hunt for yarn was a long story for other enterprises were after it too, but it ended quite successfully. The Min Sheng Hou Mill, the city's best-equipped mill, took notice of the superior quality bedspreads and other goods being made by the team. It offered a contract under which the team would use its surplus yarn to weave top-quality bedspreads and sheets.

A Small Cotton Mill

With this steady supply of raw material assured, the number of workers now rose to over a hundred. More spacious premises were needed. The local authorities gave a helping hand by finding the team the two-storey house we've mentioned. A big signboard with the characters "East Wind Cotton Mill" painted on it showed that the new plant had been born.

More looms were added, this time brand new ones from Hsiangying, a neighbouring county. By last autumn the mill had sixty looms at work with 140 workers in two shifts.

Bigger scale production, new techniques, new products once again raised new problems. The first products even with the new machines were below the necessary standards. But now they were more experienced in overcoming difficulties. With their contacts in the big mill, they got skilled technical guidance from outside. They held exhibitions to study the merits and demerits of their own products. The more skilled workers signed contracts giving a "guarantee to teach" the less skilled, while these in their turn gave simultaneous "guarantees to learn." They challenged Changsha's best with the slogan "Surpass the Min Sheng Hou!" After a month of indefatigable probing and hard work the new mill succeeded in getting its goods graded "excellent."

The growth of this small public-run mill with its humble beginnings has been a school for each of its workers and not least for Lin Shu-hua, its director, who put her whole soul into it. As it has grown so has she. Born in a peasant family, married to a carpenter who used to beat her in the unhappy pre-liberation days, when precarious casual labour was all he could get, and tied to household chores for so many years, she is now a happy mother in a happy home—her husband now is a model factory worker—and is playing an active part in the nation's economic construction, managing this mill of 140 workers quite efficiently. Her election last year to attend first the provincial and then the National Conference of Active Women Builders of Socialism was regarded as a well-deserved honour by all those who knew of her work.

SIDELIGHTS

The Boy Who Asked Questions. Ten years ago a poor village lad asked his grandfather: "Grandpa, why do the corn leaves grow out in only two directions?" Grandpa waved the question aside—children are always asking questions. So the question remained unanswered. The lad, Chang Ming-teh, grew up and became secretary of the Communist Party Committee of the Shangchia People's Commune in Hsuanhan County, Szechuan Province. Corn is the commune's staple crop, but yields were low. Deep ploughing and plenty of fertilizer helped raise yields somewhat, but close planting, which had proved so valuable with other crops, seemed impossible here, because so much room had to be left between the plants to keep their leaves from getting entangled. Puzzling over this one day, Chang Ming-teh suddenly recalled that question of long, long ago. The leaves of each cornstalk always grow in two directions: could the leaves of all the plants be made to grow in the same two directions? The solution might lie in the way the seeds were sown, he reasoned. So he got a seed box and sowed four rows of corn each with the seeds set in a different way. Three days later, one of the rows came up, straight as a column of tin soldiers, with the leaves all pointing in the same two directions! A simple law of plant growth was mastered, and it enabled the commune to plant 7,000 plants to each *mu* instead of 1,000. This raised the per *mu* yield over sevenfold, from 136 *jin* in 1957 to 1,029 *jin*. But one question remained. Sowing each kernel in the same direction by hand took up endless time. Chang Ming-teh set to work again. Thirty experiments later, he produced a two-wheeled seed drill which sowed each kernel in exactly the desired position and raised efficiency sixfold. Now Chang's method of making corn grow in a set direction and his two-wheeled seed drill are being used throughout Szechuan Province.

Community Services. A bulletin board in front of an unpretentious one-storey building on one of Peking's side streets announces: We do the following for you: Make theatre bookings and buy cinema tickets, clean house, mend and wash, hire taxis, forward payments for water and electricity bills, deposit money in the bank, write letters, design interior decorations... We also sell newspapers and magazines, soft drinks, general drugs

and medicines, articles of daily use... It is the Erhlunglu Community Services Centre. Set up by the residents' committee of that neighbourhood some time ago, the centre is run by housewives. It started with only six women but as more and more people came to rely on its services the staff soon increased to a dozen or so and its services expanded from a few to more than 40. Charges are nominal. Some services such as writing letters, booking theatre seats, etc. are free. In the six months since its establishment it has proved to be a real friend in need and it often volunteers services not on the list. A young couple decided to get married and the centre practically turned out in force to help them fix up their new home. Its good example was contagious: 82 such centres have been set up in Peking's western district.

The Story of an Egg. As the People's Liberation Army cleared the Loka area of the rebels and restored order, those who had fled in fear of the rebels came back home. One returning Tibetan peasant got the surprise of his life. On entering his cottage he found a note. He got it read to him. It said: "Dear house owner, we're very sorry to have broken one of your eggs. Here we're leaving some money to reimburse you. Please accept this payment with our apologies." It was signed by a unit of the P.L.A. which had put up for the night there while in pursuit of the rebels. The incident passed like a fairy tale from mouth to mouth and soon everybody in the locality was talking about these extraordinary fighting men. Such behaviour by the P.L.A. men is nothing unusual. Their discipline is proverbial. People in other parts of China can cite chapter and verse on many similar incidents, for the Communist Party has always taught the P.L.A. not to touch "even a needle or thread" belonging to

the people. But to most of the Tibetans coming into close contact with the P.L.A. for the first time this was really something new; they had never met anything like the propriety, kindness and discipline of the P.L.A. men who are now helping them to overthrow their oppressors.

More Shaohsing Wine. If you travel southeast on the Hangchow-Ningpo Railway line in Chekiang Province, you will come to a town crisscrossed with streets divided by water with a busy traffic of small boats. From afar you can see the banks piled high with great earthenware jars. This is Shaohsing, home of China's famous yellow rice wine. For wine-lovers the world over there is good news from Shaohsing: annual output has now gone up to almost 100 million *jin*, four times the pre-liberation annual output. And more is expected in this year's big leap. The first jar of Shaohsing wine was made more than 1,500 years ago. Mellow and fragrant, it is known as one of the "Eight Famous Wines" of China. It is made from first-grade glutinous rice and mineral water from picturesque Chien Lake. There is a wineshop in every street and lane in Shaohsing. A fine old tradition here provides for a certain number of jars of Shaohsing wine to be put in the cellar when a child is born, to be taken out and consumed at his or her wedding years later.

Happy 122nd Birthday. Chang Chuan, the son of a poor peasant family in Hopei Province born in the 18th year of the reign of the Ching Emperor Tao Kuang celebrated his 122nd birthday in Changchiakou on June 1. He was greeted by a representative of the city government and a delegation of children. A transport worker since he was 17 years of age, Chang Chuan was given a house after liberation by the People's Government to spend the rest of his life in comfort.

The Girl Behind the Plough Walks in the Clouds

A folksong from Shansi Province, illustrated by Mi Ku

*Aglitter with silver light
the terraced land rises
step by step;*

*The hill land seems to
perch amid the clouds.*

*And through the clouds
walks a girl guiding her
plough,*

*Like the Weaving Maid
vying with her Cowherd.*



New Neolithic Site

One of the most important archaeological finds since liberation has been the discovery of a neolithic village at Panpo on the eastern outskirts of Sian in Shensi Province. After four years of careful work from 1954-1957, archaeologists excavated over 40 dwellings, 130 tombs and six kiln sites, together with a large quantity of pottery, stone and bone objects, well-preserved remains of millet and the bones of domestic animals. This discovery has enabled us to get a full picture of the life of our ancestors in primitive society.

Recent capital construction in the western part of Shensi has brought to light another complete neolithic village on the bank of the Chinling River at Paochi. Working from August to December 1958, a team from the Institute of Archaeology of the Chinese Academy of Sciences combed an area of 2,200 square metres and unearthed ten dwellings, two kilns, 386 tombs and over 1,000 pieces of pottery, stone and bone objects. This discovery, which is as important as that made at Panpo, shows that the neolithic settlement at Paochi belongs, like the Panpo site, to the Yangshao painted-pottery culture (named after the place in Honan where it was first discovered). It adds considerably to our knowledge of ancient Chinese neolithic life.

This newly unearthed neolithic village is situated on the northeastern outskirts of the city of Paochi, and covers a total area of about 25,000 square metres. Judging by the exposed section of the cultural deposits, which in some places are three to six metres deep, neolithic men must have lived here for a very long time. They chose this place for settlement because it is near the confluence of the Chinling River, flowing southwards right through the site, and the Weiho, flowing eastwards. The settlement is divided into two parts: the dwelling section with its sites of huts, storage pits and kilns, and, about 40 metres south of it, the communal cemetery of the clan. The Panpo site is similarly divided.

The ten huts excavated were shallow, rectangular pits with rounded corners, sunk below the original ground level, with the surrounding yellow loess earth for walls. Most of the huts were five metres long and four metres wide, and the remains of the walls measured 38 cm. high. Each has a door facing north—a narrow slanting passage, wide enough only for a single person to pass through at a time, cut in the centre of the northern wall. Inside the huts, there was a pear-shaped oven, on the northern side

of which was a pottery jar laid horizontally and partly buried in the earth. This jar with its mouth facing away from the door was probably used to keep the precious fire going. The oven was plastered on its outside with mud mixed with chopped straw; through firing it became hardened and tinged with a greenish colour. The floor was covered with a coat of plaster made of a mixture of mud, chopped straw and lime concretion obtained from virgin soil. It was polished and hardened, and made suitable for sleeping on. The walls were also covered with this coating of plaster, but in most parts it has fallen off. In the centre of the floor there were two and sometimes four post-holes with a diameter of 25 cm. and a depth of 80 cm. to 1 metre. Potsherds or gravels were laid at the bottom of these holes as supports for pillars. But as no traces of holes for beams have been found on the surrounding walls, it may be inferred that the neolithic men most probably put up the upright pillars to support a framework of wooden planks forming two slanting roofs covered with mud and chopped straw. Huts of this type, common in neolithic sites belonging to the Yangshao culture, have been found in Shensi, Honan and Shansi. But what is interesting to note is that, in the case of the recent excavations at Paochi, the doors open on the north, whereas in previous excavations, the doors open on the south. Coupled with this, the cemetery here is to the south of the settlement and not, as in other cases, to the north. The practice of opening the doors in the opposite direction to the cemetery was probably connected with the religious beliefs of the people at that time.

Two different kinds of kilns were found. One was a horizontal kiln, at

one end of which was the baking chamber, with the flame conveyed to it through a flue from a furnace at the other end. The other kind was vertical, with an aperture at the lower end for feeding fuel, and a flue for the flame to pass to the baking chamber. The tops of these kilns are time-worn and weather-beaten, but their remains show they were a rather advanced type of kiln which produced the good pottery found at the site.

Burial Customs

At the burial ground to the south of the settlement, 386 tombs were unearthed. They lie close to one another; some are super-imposed. In most cases, the dead were buried in shallow pits, with their heads pointing to the north-west. There are no traces of wooden coffins in the tomb pits which are generally 50 cm. to 80 cm. deep. The shallowest of the pits are only 10 cm. in depth, while the deepest is 1.3 metres. Most of the three hundred and twenty-nine tomb pits for adults contain a single corpse; a few have two or three corpses. There were a few prone burials, and many cases of second burials. This practice of second burial, especially in tomb pits with two or more corpses, was quite common in neolithic sites of the Yangshao culture. Funerary objects were found in over half of the tomb pits; they are mostly pottery jars, bowls, vases with a narrow neck and vases with a pointed bottom. Though not common, stone axes, palettes, bone arrow-heads and strings of bone beads and turquoise pendants were also used as funerary objects. Judging by the phenomenon that the dead were buried together in a common burial ground and that funerary objects are usually found in the tombs, specific burial customs must have existed at that time.

For dead children, burial-jars were used. The funerary objects were put in the jar covered with a pottery basin. Many burial-jars are perforated with a small hole at the bottom—probably an established practice at the time. The children are usually found buried at the feet of adults, or near them. This shows that they were probably related.

So far, the greatest number of tombs belonging to the Yangshao culture were excavated at Paochi. This has provided invaluable material for studying the human body and burial customs of that period. The human skeletons found at Paochi appear to be similar to those unearthed at Panpo which bear a close resemblance to those of modern Chinese. This proves that men of the Yangshao culture were our ancestors who had their abode in China since primeval



Pottery bottle design of a water-bird with a fish in its beak

From the Paochi neolithic site

New Successes

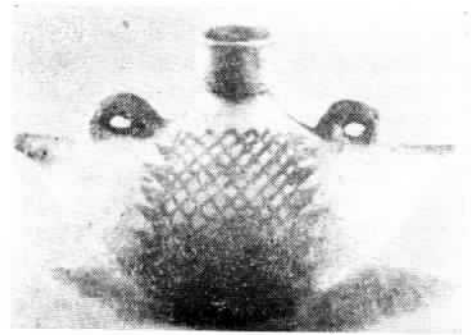
Chinese swimmers touring Hungary held their first contest with the Hungarians on June 7 in Budapest. They did extremely well, carrying off four of the six titles in the men's events. In the 100 metres butterfly-stroke, Chen Yun-peng won in 1 min. 3.8 secs., a new Chinese national record. Mu Hsiang-hsiung, who broke the world record for the men's 100 metres breast-stroke in 1 min. 11.4 secs. in a contest held between China's best swimmers in December in Peking, won the event this time in Budapest in 1 min. 12.5 secs. Lin Chin-chu, China's ace free-style swimmer, finished first in the 100 metres free-style in 58.1 secs. In the 400 metres medley relay, the Chinese team beat the Hungarians in 4 mins. 22.5 secs.

China's young sportsmen in other fields are training hard in preparation for the gala sports meet to be held in the capital in September this year. Their progress has been very rapid. In the first five months of this year, they have broken nearly half of the 183 national records ratified only last January. Most of these new records, covering a wide field ranging from weight-lifting to speed skating, were set at national tournaments or at provincial and municipal sports meetings.

In track and field, thirteen new national records were set. Su Wen-jen, a 23-year-old long distance runner, broke the national record for the 5,000 metres when he covered the distance in 14 mins. 34.4 secs. This is 25.8 secs. better than the national record for last year. In the 1,500 metres, three athletes broke last year's record and could cover the distance in about 3 mins. 58 secs. In sprinting, much headway has been made. At present, there are at least four sprinters who can cover the 100 metres in 10.6 secs. Several others can run the distance in about 10.8 secs. Many young athletes have come to the fore in the high jump. Last May, 18-year-old Shih Hung-fan and 21-year-old Tuan Chi-yen cleared 1.96 metres. Two young girls, Yang Mei-ju and Kuo Nai-ying, have cleared 1.61 metres. In the pole vault, China's champion Tsai Yi-shu succeeded in clearing 4.45 metres in Canton last March.

Correction: In the story "New Steel Records" in our last issue, page 5, a typographical error gave the figure for the coefficient of utilization of Penki No. 1 Iron and Steel Plant's blast furnaces as 2,442 tons. It should read **2.412 tons**.

—AN CHIH-MIN



Pottery vessel with fishing net pattern
From the Paochi neolithic site

times and had already during their time attained a high level of civilization.

Pottery

Most of the artifacts unearthed at the neolithic site at Paochi are pottery ware. Though they resemble those found at Panpo, the designs on the painted pottery are quite different. There are no traces of the use of the potter's wheel; both the coarse and the fine pottery are hand-made. They are mostly baked into a reddish brown or brick-red colour; some are of a greyish brown colour. Most of the fine ware either have a plain, burnished surface or are decorated with thread impressions; a few have geometric designs in black paint—triangular, dotted, zigzag or trellis patterns. On one of the long-necked bottles is painted a water-bird with a fish in its beak. It is a simple but lively and realistic drawing, an example showing that the people at that time had already attained a high artistic level.

Many pottery bowls with round bottoms and bottles with narrow mouths and long necks were found. The latter, with triangular designs on the burnished surface, were mostly found in the tombs; they were probably made specially for burying with the dead. Also unearthed were small-mouthed jars with pointed bottoms, with a lug on each side. These are usually decorated with thread impressions, some have decorations in black paint on the upper part. They were used for drawing water, as many similar jars have been found in wells of the Han dynasty. Many of these jars were found in tomb pits. The people at that time probably believed that even after death they needed such articles of daily use. One of the most interesting finds is a pottery vessel with a peculiar shape, like that of a water-chestnut. It has a small mouth and a short neck, as well as a loop on each of the protruding sides. A trellis pattern is painted on it in black with small triangles on either sides. This probably represented a net and the net-sinkers. From its shape, we can see that a rope could be attached to the jar

for ease in carrying. When a man took hold of its pointed ends at the sides, he could easily drink water from it. This beautiful vessel, thought to be a water jar, is another proof of the ingenuity of our neolithic ancestors.

Tools

Tools made of stone found at the site include axes, adzes, chisels, hoes and knives. The first three were used by carpenters, and the last two were farm implements used in tilling the soil and harvesting. Saddle-shaped querns and stone rolling pins used for grinding grain were also found. Of great importance is a stone palette found in a tomb pit. There are still reddish tints on it, proving that it was used to grind hematite into powder. But as no red colour was used on the painted pottery, the hematite powder was probably used for body adornment.

Bone artifacts such as needles, awls, chisels, hoe-blades and arrow-heads, were also found, but not as many as those unearthed at Panpo, and they are more coarsely made.

These important discoveries at Paochi have added much material to the study of our neolithic ancestors. The means of production discovered here, such as stone and bone hoes, stone knives and other implements, show that the people at that time engaged mainly in agriculture. They also reared some domestic animals (investigations are still being made to determine what they were); fishing and hunting were also still being engaged in, but they had become secondary in importance compared with agriculture. The people of this neolithic village lived in huts built close to one another, and had a common burial ground. This shows that man had reached the stage of primitive clan society, with quite a number of people living together in one place. The productive forces were fairly well developed, though only tools made of stone and bone were used. The potter's wheel had not yet been invented, but the technique of making pottery was already fairly advanced. The thread impressions on the pottery and the existence of the spinning wheel indicated that the people knew how to spin with hemp. The absolute date of the site remains to be determined by the new dating method using Carbon 14, but it can approximately be attributed to over 2,000 years B.C.

Excavation work is still being continued on the site. Further valuable materials are expected to be found here which will deepen our knowledge of China's neolithic age.

CHINESE PRESS OPINION

End Atom Threat to Balkans!

Commenting on the current situation in the Balkan area, *Renmin Ribao's* Commentator (June 12) writes: the Soviet Union and the socialist countries in Eastern Europe are making untiring efforts to ease tension in that area so that the Balkans may become a peninsula of peace. Comrade Khrushchov's proposal for establishing an atomic-weapon-free zone in the Balkan and Mediterranean areas was given unanimous support by the Rumanian Government in its statement of June 6 and the Bulgarian Government in its note of June 9 to the Greek Government. Both governments have also advanced the idea of convening a conference of the heads of the Balkan states and of concluding a non-aggression pact among them. On June 10, in its reply to the Italian Government, the Soviet Government reiterated Comrade Khrushchov's proposal, adding that if countries in the Balkans and on the Adriatic reject the establishment of rocket and atomic weapon bases in their own territories, they will be making a great contribution to turning this zone into a zone of peace.

As a result of the intensified war preparations carried out recently in the Balkan and Mediterranean areas by the imperialist bloc headed by the U.S., the situation there is deteriorating and causing great apprehension among the peoples of various countries. The Italian Government, the Commentator says, disregarding the repeated warnings of the Soviet Government, in the face of public censure in various countries and strong opposition among its own people, has agreed to allow the U.S. to build rocket and atomic weapon bases on its soil. The U.S. is again negotiating with Greece to build similar bases on Greek territory. The Greek Government, Commentator points out, while declaring that it will not refuse to do anything aimed at promoting conditions for peaceful co-existence among the peoples of the Balkan countries, has, however, openly rejected the proposal for the establishment of a peace zone in the Balkan area. In so doing, the Italian and Greek Governments have not only violated the fundamental interests of their peoples but also posed a serious menace to peace and security in the Balkan and Mediterranean areas, impeding the normal development of international relations in this zone. The aim of the United States is of course to turn Italy and Greece into

a military springboard for its future war of aggression. Thus, compliance with the U.S. request and readiness to act as a tool of U.S. aggression means to adopt a hostile attitude to the countries of the socialist camp. The Soviet Union and other socialist countries in Europe have declared that the socialist countries now threatened by the establishment of U.S. rocket and atomic weapon bases in neighbouring countries cannot ignore this matter and will have to take appropriate measures, Commentator stresses.

The peaceful proposal for turning the Balkans into an atomic-weapon-free zone put forward by the Governments of the Soviet Union, Rumania, Bulgaria and Albania, is clearly an eminently reasonable and feasible one. If Italy and Greece cherish peace and the interests of their peoples, there is no reason why they should seek excuses to reject it, Commentator declares.

Eisenhower's Summit Strategy

An article in *Renmin Ribao* (June 7) comments on Eisenhower's views expressed at his June 3 press conference on the question of holding a summit conference. There was a general hope, the article says, that Eisenhower would respond to the desire of the world's people for the holding of a summit conference and that he would show a somewhat positive attitude in arranging for such a conference. But we can see what Eisenhower's attitude is from his words. He said: "There has not been any detectable progress [at the Geneva Foreign Ministers' Conference] that to my mind would justify the holding of a summit meeting.... There should be a clear commitment of our rights and privileges... with respect to West Berlin." This is the same as the Western press clamour that the Soviet Union should "pay a price for a summit conference." It should be remembered, the article notes, that on May 6, on the eve of the Geneva Conference, Eisenhower expressed the opinion that the question of whether a summit conference could take place depends upon the "progress" made at the Geneva Conference. This proves that Eisenhower still stands where he did before the Foreign Ministers' Conference began. But this time, he described more concretely what he meant by "progress."

It is worth noting that Eisenhower's set conditions for holding a summit conference are precisely the obstacles which

the West has used to hold up solution of the West Berlin question at the Geneva Conference, the article points out. The so-called "commitment" of the "rights and privileges" of the West means continuance of the occupation system in West Berlin and the keeping of this cancer there for them to create international tension.

The U.S. and other Western countries are using the cry of "no progress has been made" as a pretext for refusing to hold a summit conference. This only proves that they lack sincerity in negotiating at the Geneva conference or at a summit conference, notes the article. The object of holding the Geneva Conference and a summit conference is to solve current international problems, and ease the tense international situation through negotiations among the countries concerned. The Foreign Ministers' Conference should make appropriate contributions to the solving of these international issues. If it cannot achieve such results, this merely demonstrates the need to hold a summit conference.

Referring to Western press comments that this attitude of the Western powers is intended to show their "toughness," the article declares that, on the contrary, it reflects the fact that at present the Western countries are in a passive and difficult position at the Geneva Conference. Their attempt to obstruct the work of the Foreign Ministers' Conference so as to block the way to a summit conference is an expression of weakness. It proves that they have no other means at their disposal but blackmail and pressure. And these tactics will certainly not achieve their aim, the article concludes.

De Gaulle Wants Atomic Secrets

De Gaulle's demand for a French share in U.S. and British atomic secrets points up a new cleavage in Western "unity," comments *Da Gong Bao* (June 10).

Ever since de Gaulle came to power in France, the commentary says, French ambitions in regard to Atlantic leadership have been coming out more and more into the open. The de Gaulle government has persistently demanded the setting up of a U.S.-British-French "triumvirate," and that France should be given a more important role in NATO and in Western policy making.

Dissatisfied with France's present position in NATO, the commentary points out, de Gaulle, on the one hand, has been moving closer to West Germany and, on the other hand, in his bargaining with the U.S. and Britain for a better position, has time and again resorted to unilateral action. As an example, the commentary

cites France's insistence that it would not allow the U.S. to set up guided missile bases on French territory unless France is allowed to exercise control over the nuclear warheads. France has also refused to hand over its tactical air force to the NATO Command. In March this year, the commentary recalls, the French Government announced that its Mediterranean fleet would no longer be under the control of the NATO Command.

De Gaulle's current demand for a share in atomic secrets has obviously put the U.S. in a difficult position, the commentary notes. U.S. officials say that this French demand has posed a "touchy, difficult problem," adding that they are trying to find out "how serious a threat it poses to the NATO alliance."

The "Atlantic Congress" is in session in London. At such a time the open quarrel about leadership is certainly a mockery of Atlantic "solidarity," the commentary says. It not only reflects the contradictions among the imperialist powers, but also the weakening of U.S. control over its allies due to the bankruptcy of its policy of strength; it shows the imperialist camp is disintegrating, the commentary concludes.

Rule of Terror in South Viet-nam

Not only are the U.S. imperialists instigating the pro-American Laotian Government to tear up the Geneva agreements and start a civil war; as part of their general plot to stir up trouble in the area they are instigating the Ngo Dinh Diem clique to intensify its fascist reign of terror in south Viet-nam. An article in *Renmin Ribao* (June 8) exposing this terror, recalls that since the armistice, the Diem clique has carried out mass killings and persecuted and arrested former members of the Resistance and other patriots. This year, it has gone a step further; it has been carrying out bloody reprisals against all those who uphold the Geneva agreements and demand the peaceful unification of their motherland. Between July 1954, when peace was restored, and February 1959, the south Viet-nam authorities had been guilty of thousands of criminal punitive acts which violate the Geneva agreements. There is a record of 4,971 people either killed or missing, 10,185 persons wounded and 180,843 persons arrested and jailed.

The crimes are too many to be listed in detail. People, including women and children, have been buried alive, drowned, or brutally tortured. Many laws and regulations have been enacted stifling democratic rights and freedom; concentration camps under the name of

"Training Courses for Denouncing Communism," like those in Hitlerite Germany, have been set up. In the tragic events at the Phu Loi concentration camp which occurred in December 1958, over 1,000 political prisoners were poisoned to death.

Yet another crime of the Ngo Dinh Diem clique is the so-called "mopping-up" campaign being carried on in many provinces in south Viet-nam in an attempt to suppress the south Viet-nam patriots. The latest of these is the large-scale military campaign against the former Resistance base known as "D Zone" which has been going on since February.

On May 6, this year, the south Viet-nam authorities announced the so-called "No. 10 Decree for 1959." This is an out-and-out fascist measure and heralds still more frantic attacks on the former members of the Resistance and patriots in south Viet-nam. Article Six of the "Decree" provides for the setting up of three "special military tribunals" in Saigon, Banmethuot and Thuan Hoa in south Viet-nam for the purpose of punishing "criminals" who, in the opinion of the Ngo Dinh Diem clique, "aim at sabotage" or "violate security both within and outside the country." Punishment is to be imposed on those who have either committed a "crime" or "intend" to commit it. Article 12 of the "Decree" also stipulates that by order of the Minister or Vice-Minister of Defence of south Viet-nam, the "special military tribunals" may pass sentence in three days without inquiries and investigations, and the convicted has no right of appeal. Sentence of death and life imprisonment with hard labour are the only two sentences the "special military tribunals" may pass and once the sentence is announced, there will be no commutation of any kind.

The aim of the U.S. and Ngo Dinh Diem clique in intensifying their reign of terror in south Viet-nam is to suppress all the aspirations of the people for the peaceful unification of the motherland, and to completely scrap the Geneva agreements so as to turn south Viet-nam completely into a U.S. military base and colony.

Exposing other gross violations of the Geneva agreements by the U.S. and the Ngo Dinh Diem clique, the article points out that since the conclusion of the Geneva agreements, U.S. military personnel and war materials have poured into south Viet-nam and the U.S. has built or expanded its military bases there on a large scale. The U.S. military advisory group in south Viet-nam is in fact the supreme command of the south Viet-nam troops, directing the drafting and implementation of their military plans. The U.S. has illegally shipped weapons and war materials into south Viet-nam on over three hundred occasions.

Before the armistice, there were only six military airfields in south Viet-nam, now they number more than twenty; there were only two naval bases in Saigon and Cai-be, now the U.S., apart from expanding the military installations there, is building five more new naval bases and planning one submarine base. And at the same time the U.S.-Diem clique is also opening up a series of strategic highways and many more branch lines. It is also building fifty military bases which are piously called "Reclamation Centres."

The crimes that the U.S. and the Ngo Dinh Diem clique have committed, the article concludes, have aroused the indignation of the people of Viet-nam, and are also being strongly opposed by the forces of peace the world over.

THE PASSING SHOW

Servant of Two Masters

As he presented the Gold Medal, reports *The New York Times*, the U.S. President remarked with a smile: "My congratulations. We're proud of you." The citation said: "The security of the nation and the free world has been enhanced by his great learning and his extraordinary achievements." Who is this great American? — Dr. Von Braun, who fifteen years ago received the Knight's Cross from Hitler for his work in perfecting the V-2 rockets used to bombard London.



Change Your Shirt, Brother, and Keep Out of Jail!

When thousands of Africans came down to Nairobi airport to welcome back Tom Mboya, general secretary of the Kenya Federation of Labour, ten of them were arrested by the British colonial authorities. The charge? Wearing red cotton shirts.

CHINA AND THE WORLD

China's Workers Demand Solution of German Question

More than 1,000 workers' representatives, who met at a rally in Peking on June 9, demanded that a German peace treaty be signed and West Berlin become a free city. The rally was held in support of the appeal of the recent European Trade Union and Workers' Conference for a month of joint action on the German question. It sent a message of support to the working people of Germany through the Federation of Free Trade Unions of Germany.

President Wang Chiung of the Peking Trade Union Council declared at the meeting that "the government and people of China and the entire Chinese working class are solidly behind the just stand of the Soviet Union and the German Democratic Republic on the German question." He condemned the Western countries for obstructing a solution of the German question at the Geneva Foreign Ministers' Conference.

Hsi Tsan-yuan, member of the Secretariat of the All-China Federation of Trade Unions, gave a report on the recent European Trade Union and Workers' Conference. He was a member of the Chinese delegation which attended the conference as an observer. He said that this conference fully demonstrated the firm and powerful determination of the working people in Europe and other parts of the world to support the German workers' efforts to bring about a German peace treaty.

Hsi Tsan-yuan said: "Peace is indivisible. We are concerned not only for peace in Asia. We also want peace in Europe to be assured." He pointed out that workers of the G.D.R. have supported the Chinese people in building up their country and in the struggle to liberate Taiwan. He pledged full solidarity of the Chinese workers with the workers of the G.D.R. in their struggle against imperialism and for the unification of their fatherland.

Dr. Paul Wandel, the G.D.R. Ambassador to China, was warmly applauded when he addressed the meeting.

Following the Peking rally, similar

meetings were held in Shanghai, Shenyang and other major cities.

Military Mission to Mongolia

The Chinese military goodwill mission headed by Marshal Peng Teh-huai, Vice-Premier and Defence Minister, has just concluded its visit to Mongolia, thus winding up its visits to eight fraternal countries in a 7-week period.

In the Mongolian People's Republic, the mission was warmly welcomed by the Mongolian people and their leaders. At a banquet given in honour of the Chinese visitors, U. Tsendenbal, First Secretary of the Mongolian People's Revolutionary Party and Chairman of the Council of Ministers, stressed the significance of the visit of the Chinese mission in cementing the unbreakable friendship between the two peoples. He declared that the people of Mongolia unanimously support all the measures taken by the Chinese Government in suppressing the rebellion in Tibet. This is entirely China's internal affair, he pointed out. He wished further success to the Chinese people and their armed forces in building socialism, in safeguarding peace, and in their struggle to liberate Taiwan.

During its stay in Mongolia, the Chinese mission visited various places of interest including the Sukhe-Bator-Choibalsan Museum, a textile mill and a state farm. It was also the guest of a battalion of the Mongolian People's Army.

Between China and Latin America

There was much coming and going between China and the Latin American countries during the past two weeks. Among those now visiting China are a Peruvian parliamentary group, former Vice-President of Chile Guillermo del Pedregal and his wife, a Latin American students' delegation, a Bolivian medical delegation, and women delegates from Venezuela, Chile and Uruguay who are among guests from many countries invited by the National Women's Federation. Juan Marinello, Chairman of the People's Socialist Party of Cuba, is also on a tour of China.

A delegation of Chinese journalists, after visiting Chile, went on to Uruguay. It visited the Uruguayan Parliament House and was received by President Rodriguez of the Chamber of Deputies. Its members have met many prominent people in the country, including deputies of various Uruguayan parties, members of the Council of State and other leading officials. During their visit, a Uruguay-China cultural association was set up in Montevideo.

Sino-Japanese Cultural Exchange

A joint statement on cultural exchange between the Chinese and Japanese peo-

ples was signed on June 8 in Peking by the Chinese People's Association for Cultural Relations with Foreign Countries, the Japan-China Cultural Exchange Association and the Japan-China Friendship Association.

It states that the two sides have conducted friendly consultations on questions relating to cultural exchange between the peoples of China and Japan this year and next year, and achieved unanimity of views.

The statement stresses that the Kishi government is so far unwilling to renounce its manoeuvres to create "two Chinas" and to change its policy of hostility to China. It continues to obstruct the restoration of diplomatic relations between China and Japan and therefore, cultural exchanges between the two peoples cannot but be seriously affected.

The statement declares, "Cultural exchange between the peoples of China and Japan, both at present and in the future, must therefore be based on the constant enhancement of mutual friendship and trust between the two peoples, and all forces hindering friendly relations between the two peoples must be fought so as to promote a renaissance of Asian-African culture on a new basis of independence and to maintain world peace."

The two sides were in unanimous agreement about arranging exhibitions in Japan of Chinese cultural and economic achievements, the graphic arts, philately and calligraphy and of Japanese painting and calligraphy in China, and also visits to China by Japanese drama groups, delegations of writers, painters, and those interested in language reform, and also by other people prominent in the cultural world.

Kenzo Nakajima, noted Japanese political commentator and Chairman of the Council of the Japan-China Cultural Exchange Association who came to China as head of the Japanese mission, was invited to speak to the literary and cultural circles of Peking on June 8. He said that the Japanese people are striving for still greater solidarity in their struggle against the Kishi regime, and expressed his belief that "Japan will become in the near future a new country of the East wind and achieve friendly coexistence with China."

Peking Commemorates Pushkin

On the evening of June 6, more than 1,000 Peking writers, artists, workers and students packed the Sino-Soviet Friendship Hall to commemorate the 160th anniversary of the birth of Alexander Pushkin, the great Russian poet.

The meeting was chaired by Tsang Kechia, poet and member of the Secretariat of the Union of Chinese Writers. Pushkin's thoughts on the struggle for liberty had an ever-increasing significance in mankind's fight for peace, he said.

Ko Pao-chuan, Vice Secretary-General of the Sino-Soviet Friendship Association and one of China's well known translators of Russian literature, gave a talk on the life and literary career of Pushkin, his contacts with China and his influence among Chinese readers. N. G. Sudarikov,

counsellor of the Soviet Embassy in Peking, also spoke.

A recital of Pushkin's poems was given and the colour film *Eugene Onegin* was shown during the evening.

Similar commemorative activities were held in Shanghai, Tientsin and other major cities.

Pushkin's works, including his novel *The Captain's Daughter*, were the first Russian literary works to be translated into Chinese. Almost all his

famous works have appeared in Chinese language.

Warning on U.S. Provocations

A U.S. warship intruded into China's territorial waters in the Pingtan and Matsu areas of Fukien Province at 21:49 hours on June 4.

The spokesman of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the People's Republic of China has been authorized to issue China's forty-ninth serious warning against such U.S. military provocations.

WHAT'S ON IN PEKING

— Highlights of Current Entertainment, Exhibitions, etc. —

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

PEKING OPERA

▲ **THE MEETING AT WU CHIA PU** A comedy episode from the famous traditional opera *Wild Horse with the Red Mane*. It describes the meeting between Hsueh Ping-kuei and his wife, Wang Pao-chuan, after seventeen years of separation. Ping-kuei disguises himself as a soldier in order to test his wife's fidelity. The programme includes two other episodes from the same opera. Produced by the Mei Lan-fang Peking Opera Troupe.

June 16, 7:30 p.m. *Zhong He Theatre*

▲ **THE YEN YANG TOWER** A traditional opera. Kao Teng, son of an evil prime minister of the Sung dynasty, taking advantage of his father's position, kidnaps Hsu Fei-chu, daughter of a brave general treacherously killed by the prime minister. Fei-chu's brother, with the help of his friends rescues his sister and avenges his family. Produced by the China Peking Opera Theatre.

June 16, 7:30 p.m. *Renmin Theatre*

▲ **DRAWING LOTS FOR LIFE OR DEATH** A magistrate is ordered by a local military commander to sentence an innocent girl to death. Once rescued by the girl's father, he determines to save her life. His daughter and god-daughter offer to die in her place. The three selfless girls draw lots to decide who will make the sacrifice needed to save the lives of the rest. The timely arrival of a just inspector-general saves the situation. Produced by the Mei Lan-fang Peking Opera Troupe.

June 17, 7:30 p.m. *Zhong He Theatre*

PINGJU OPERA

▲ **THE LAKE FAIRY** A folk-tale of a lake fairy who falls in love with a young woodcutter and helps him out of trouble in various ingenious ways. Produced by the China Pingju Opera Theatre.

June 16, 7:30 p.m. *Da Zhong Theatre*

MODERN OPERA

▲ **THE RED ROCK** Set in 1935, it describes the indomitable spirit of the people in the revolutionary base of the Szechuan-Shensi border area. Despite white terror and incredible difficulties, they keep up the red flag flying. Produced by the Central Experimental Opera Theatre.

June 21, 7:30 p.m. *Tianqiao Theatre*

THEATRE

▲ **SONG OF THE SOUTH CHINA SEA** A new play by the P.L.A.'s Canton Cultural Troupe based on the exploit of the People's Liberation Army in crossing the Hainan Straits to liberate Hainan in 1950.

June 16, 7:30 p.m. *Tianqiao Theatre*

▲ **TSAI WEN-CHI** Kuo Mo-jo's latest historical play. Tsao Tsao, Prime Minister of the Han Kingdom, sends two envoys to ask Tsai Wen-chi, who is married to a Hun noble, to return home and continue her scholar-father's work. One envoy threatens the Huns; the other accomplishes Tsao Tsao's aim by winning their friendship. On their return his life is saved by Wen-chi when he is falsely accused by the other of treachery. On the death of her husband, Wen-chi marries the loyal envoy and is happily reunited with her children. Produced by the Peking People's Art Theatre.

June 16-22, 7:30 p.m., *Shoudu Theatre*

▲ **THE TEMPEST** The famous play by the great Russian dramatist, A. N. Ostrovsky. Produced in Chinese by the Experimental Theatre of the Central Drama School.

June 18-25, 7:30 p.m. *Shiyan Theatre*

▲ **A STORY OF TWO HUMPBACKS** Adapted from a Russian tale about two humpbacks one of whom is a young scavenger while the other is a viceroy of the foreign invaders. Both want to marry a girl named Fenica. The scavenger, together with the people, defeats the invaders, rescues Fenica and frees the enemy-occupied city. Produced by the China Children's Theatre.

June 21 & 22, *Peking Theatre*

SONG AND DANCE

The P.L.A.'s Foochow Cultural Troupe presents an evening of choral singing, folk dances, one-act operettas and other *quyi* performances.

June 16 & 17, 7:30 p.m. *Music Hall in Zhongshan Park*

FILMS

▲ **THE STORY OF A PEARL** Screen version of a Chinese opera produced by the Kiangsi Opera Troupe. Kao Wen-chu, a young scholar, leaving his beloved wife, goes to the capital to take the imperial examination. He passes it successfully but finds himself in a dilemma when the Prime Minister proposes he should marry his daughter. Faithful to his wife, Kao finally finds a way out and is reunited with his love.

June 18-20, *Shengli, Xi Dan Theatre*
June 21-23, *Guang He Theatre, Xin Zhong Guo*

▲ **FINDING HUSBANDS IN A HURRY** A Hongkong colour film adapted from an ancient tale. When an imperial official arrives in a city to select beautiful women for the emperor's seraglio, a panic ensues. Mothers in their anxiety to save their children rush headlong into the streets to grab the first passers-by as husbands for their daughters. There are some strange denouements.

June 16-20, *Shoudu Theatre, Peking Theatre, Shengli, Xi Dan Theatre, Guang He Theatre, Xin Zhong Guo*

▲ **THE HEART SINGS** A Soviet Armenian colour film dubbed in Chinese. How a talented blind singer, son of a poor fisherman, under

the care of the Soviet Government, regains his sight and happiness with his true love and becomes a famous singer.

June 16-19, *Da Hua, Jiao Dao Kou, Ertong*
June 20-23, *Xin Jie Kou, Peking Exhibition Centre Cinema, Shoudu Cinema*

▲ **HONEYMOON** A young woman medical graduate marries an engineer with the expectation of enjoying life in Leningrad. But right after the marriage, her husband is assigned to build a bridge in Siberia. Her plans gone awry, they spend a miserable honeymoon. Life and work in Siberia, however, soon help her to realize what enjoying life really means. Their true honeymoon begins. A Soviet colour film dubbed in Chinese.

June 16-19, *Xin Jie Kou, Peking Exhibition Centre Cinema, Shoudu Cinema*
June 20-23, *Guang An Men, Zhongyang, Peking Workers' Club*

▲ **SAILS ON THE NORTH SEA** Based on a true story about a group of Norwegians who fought the fascists, conveying arms from Britain to Norway and refugees back to Britain across the North Sea in 1941 while Norway was under Nazi occupation. A Norwegian film dubbed in Chinese.

June 20-23, *Da Hua, Jiao Dao Kou, Ertong*

EXHIBITIONS

▲ **EXHIBITION OF PORTRAITS AND FIGURE PAINTINGS** by Ming and Ching dynasties artists. Beginning June 19. Open daily 9:00 a.m.-7:00 p.m.

At the *Gallery of the Artists' Union*

▲ **HUNGARIAN FOLK ART AND HANDICRAFTS EXHIBITION** On display are colour photos and handcraft articles including works by the famous Hungarian handcraft artist, Margit Kovacs. Open daily till June 20, 9:30-12:00 a.m., 2:30-7:00 p.m.

At *Beihai Park*

SPORTS

Displays of aerial stunts and parachuting by a visiting team of Czech fliers at Nan Yuan Aerodrome on June 21.

SWIMMING

▲ **OUTDOOR SWIMMING POOLS**

The *Tao Ran Ting Swimming Pools*
Daily 12:00 a.m.-2:00 p.m., 1:00-3:00 p.m.,
2:00-4:00 p.m., 3:00-5:00 p.m.

The *Shi Cha Hal Swimming Pools*
Daily 9:00-11:00 a.m., 12:00 a.m.-2:00 p.m.,
3:00-5:00 p.m.
(Medical certificates required)

PEKING PLANETARIUM

Daily showing:

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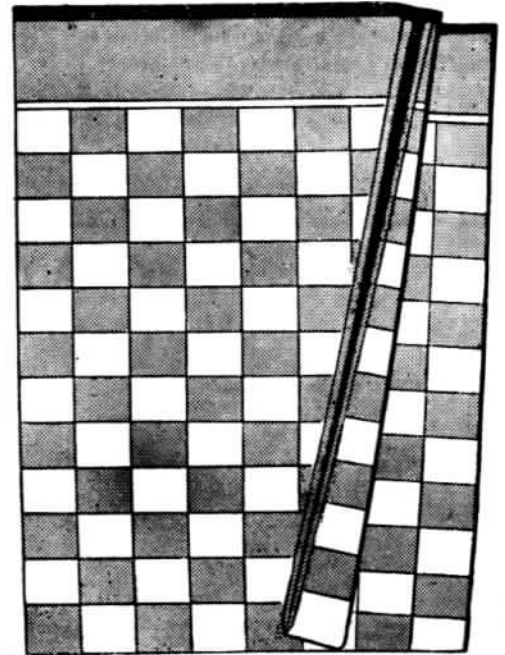
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