

June 23, 1959

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# PEKING REVIEW

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## An Early Peace Treaty With Germany Is Imperative

Chinese views on one of the most pressing issues of international relations today (p. 6).

## Spreading Technical Know-How

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*Chinese Press Opinion, China and the World  
and Other Features*

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# THE RISE OF THE CHINESE PEOPLE'S COMMUNE

by *Anna Louise Strong*

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# PEKING REVIEW

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June 23, 1959

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## Pooling Experience in Industry

**E**LSEWHERE in this issue, we give you the story of the recent nationwide tour by a group of young innovators who visited 477 factories in 41 cities to share and popularize their technical know-how among their fellow workers. It is not an isolated incident. It is part of the movement for technical innovations now sweeping the country marked by the pooling of collective industrial wisdom and the spreading of advanced experience. The popularization of new techniques has assumed many forms: exhibitions, on-the-spot conferences, visits for mutual exchange of experience, etc. This tour proved to be a new and successful form.

The sharing of good experiences by all workers is characteristic of the movement for technical innovations. Everybody wants to contribute whatever he or she can and at the same time extend the frontiers of their knowledge. This is motivated by the common desire to accelerate the process of transforming China, with its heritage of economic backwardness, into a great socialist country with modern industry, modern agriculture and modern science and culture. The movement stimulates the initiative of the workers, taps their best experiences and makes them the common property of the whole working class. The workers everywhere are anxious to master new techniques, improve their working methods and the equipment they use, because they are aware that all this will help boost production and hasten the day when China will achieve its socialist goals. Here we can see how political understanding advances technique.

As the story of the tour of young innovators demonstrates clearly, in China today there is no hogging of "trade secrets" and skills, of "hush hush" methods whereby one enterprise establishes its superiority over another. This is inconceivable in capitalist society where cut-throat competition and devil take the hindmost is the rule, where a worker's job security is jeopardized if his specialized skills become common knowledge.

But things are different in our socialist society. Advancing the collective good is the road to individual satisfaction, the progress of the national economy as a whole is the road to higher standards of living for all. That is why everyone is eager to pass on his experience to others and different factories engaged in friendly competition, or emulation as it is known in China, help one another. Increasing production, improving quality, reducing costs and raising labour productivity are a common endeavour, in which the wisdom and talents of all the workers are pooled.

And that is not all. The vigorous development of the movement for technical innovations also illustrates the fact that the Chinese workers today are no longer just manual labourers. They are quickly acquiring knowledge of modern science and technology and gradually becoming experts in their lines. Many workers have actually shown their mettle as innovators and inventors too. The rapidly growing ranks of workers of this new type reinforce the technical force of our expanding industry and will undoubtedly further accelerate China's socialist construction.

# ROUND THE WEEK

## North Harvests, South Sows

More than half of the winter wheat in China has been gathered in. Harvesting has been completed in the Yangtse Basin area and is in full swing in the areas north of the Yellow River.

Good harvests are reported all along the great winter wheat belt stretching from the Great Wall in the north to the Yangtse Valley in the south. Heavy rains and windstorms hit some areas during the harvest. To bring in the crops, some 20 million people were out in the fields in Honan and Shantung Provinces.

An outstanding feature of this year's harvest is the fact that high yields per *mu* were obtained over extensive areas. Here are a few examples. In Chihhsien County, Kiangsi Province, commune members harvested 6 million *jin* over a stretch of 15,000 *mu* of land, averaging 400 *jin* per *mu*. This is unprecedented for this part of the country where the red soil in the hilly regions is notoriously poor. The peasants achieved these high yields by improving the soil and the careful application of fertilizers.

Lochi County in Szechuan Province has already threshed the crop of 90,000 *mu* of its 190,000 *mu* of wheat-fields and averaged 501 *jin* per *mu*. The neighbouring county of Anyueh has already threshed the crop of 120,000 *mu* of its land, and has averaged 410 *jin* per *mu*.

The two adjacent counties are both in poor hilly regions. Intensive field management by the peasants and friendly emulation between the two counties, characterized by mutual help and encouragement, were key factors in their high yields.

While the peasants in the north are busy harvesting wheat, commune members in the southern provinces are winding up their summer planting. In Szechuan, for example, the peasants have completed the planting of semi-late rice on 40 million *mu* of land. The sowing of maize, cotton and other crops has also been completed.

## Lhasa Greets Panchen Erdeni

Panchen Erdeni, Vice-Chairman of the Standing Committee of the National People's Congress and Acting Chairman of the Preparatory Committee for the Autonomous Region of Tibet, and Wang Feng, Vice-Director of the United Front Work Department of the Central Committee of the Chinese Communist Party

and Vice-Chairman of the Nationalities Affairs Commission, arrived in Lhasa by plane on June 15. More than a thousand people, lamas and laymen, turned out on the square in front of the Daipung Monastery to greet them.

Chang Ching-wu, representative of the Central People's Government in Tibet and Secretary of the Working Committee of the Chinese Communist Party in Tibet, Chang Kuo-hua, Vice-Chairman of the Preparatory Committee for the Autonomous Region of Tibet and Commander of the Tibet Military Area Command of the Chinese People's Liberation Army, and Ngapo Ngawang-Jigme, Vice-Chairman and Secretary-General of the Preparatory Committee for the Autonomous Region of Tibet, headed the welcoming party.

Cheers, applause, and the sounds of traditional gongs and drums greeted Panchen Erdeni and Wang Feng as they drove into the square. Lamas of the Daipung Monastery carried religious banners and *hata* (ceremonial scarves) to welcome Panchen Erdeni. Cheering crowds lined the road as Panchen Erdeni drove to his new palace at Shurtsir Lingka.

Panchen Erdeni left Lhasa for Peking early in April to attend the recent session of the National People's Congress. On the return trip, he, Wang Feng and their party left Sining for Lhasa on June 5 by plane but bad weather detained them for ten days on the way.

On the day following their arrival a banquet in honour of Panchen Erdeni and Wang Feng was tendered by the Working Committee of the Chinese Communist Party in Tibet, the Preparatory Committee for the Autonomous Region of

Tibet and the Tibet Military Area Command.

Panchen Erdeni, in a speech at the banquet, called on the Tibetan people to rally around the Central Committee of the Chinese Communist Party and Chairman Mao to carry out democratic reforms and go all out in building a democratic and socialist Tibet.

"Cruel, dark, feudal serfdom must be abolished, a people's democratic system must be established and the provisions of the Constitution must be carried out in all parts of Tibet," Panchen Erdeni declared. "Taking the road of socialism through democratic reforms is the inevitable course of historical development for the people of all nationalities."

It is impossible for the Tibetan people to free themselves from the fetters of poverty and backwardness if democratic reforms are not carried out, he said. "The Tibetan people have been urgently demanding reforms, and following the defeat of the counter-revolutionary armed rebellion, such demands have become more imperative than ever."

In a speech welcoming Panchen Erdeni, Chang Ching-wu said that normal social order had in the main been restored on the whole throughout Tibet. "The task before us," he said, "is to quell the rebellion completely and to mobilize the people to carry out democratic reforms. We warmly welcome the return of Panchen Erdeni to lead the work."

## To the Grass-Roots in Tibet

More than 1,200 Tibetan young men and women also returned to Lhasa last week, graduates from the Central Institute for Nationalities in Peking, the Southwest Institute for Nationalities in Chengtu, and the Tibetan School in Hsienyang. They are dedicated to help liberate their kinsmen from the shackles of serfdom.

Over 90 per cent of these Tibetan students are the children of peasants, herdsmen and handicraftsmen. Almost every one of them has personally experienced the horrors of the Tibetan serf system. Many of them were serfs themselves. Others were beggars and young vagabonds. All suffered at the hands of the Tibetan reactionaries. The names given them by their parents, like Nimas (the sun), Serens (long life, happiness) and Jaltsos (the ocean, the great future) were expressions of aspiration and hope. In the past there was a great gulf between the hopes of poor Tibetans and their actual bitter lives. The peaceful liberation of Tibet for the first time opened the perspective of converting aspirations into reality. They were sent to the schools set up by the People's Government especially for the national minorities.



When the reactionaries in Tibet started the rebellion, the students pleaded with their schools and the government for permission to go back to their native towns and villages at once to work for the liberation of the Tibetan people.

As we go to press reports from Lhasa indicate that these eager young men and women have already taken up work at the grass-roots levels in Lhasa, Loka, Gyantse, Shigatse, Nagchuka, Chamdo, Ari and other places.

\* \* \*

It has long been the set policy of the Chinese Communist Party and the People's Government to help train the people of the national minorities so that they will be able to run the affairs of their own people. Take Chinghai Province, for example. It now has over six thousand cadres who come from its many minority nationalities. This is thirteen times as many as the number in 1950. They include Tibetans, Huis, Tus, Mongolians, Kazakhs, and members of other national minorities. Most of the cadres in the autonomous *chou* and autonomous counties in Chinghai today are members of the national minorities and more than 600 of them have taken up leading positions as Communist Party secretaries of the autonomous *chou*, heads of counties and directors of various departments of the local government.

### More River Traffic

Many rivers have been opened for navigation in various parts of China during the past several months. This is one of the ways to meet the increasing demands for transport facilities in the rural areas stemming from a growing national economy. Thousands of local rivers, big and small, have been dredged and made navigable to junks and boats.

In Kweichow Province, in the southwest, 520 kilometres of new waterways have been opened this year. This brings the total length of waterways made navigable since liberation to 3,200 kilometres — three times the total in pre-liberation years.

The local authorities in Kweichow are also helping the people remodel some of their old boats. At a recent conference 14 types of boats designed for greater speed and more freight were standardized. To date 40 per cent of the old boats in the province have been rebuilt. The total amount of freight carried by river boats in the province in the first five months of this year was 43.34 per cent higher than the corresponding period last year.

In Hunan Province, central China — where 2,900 kilometres of riverways were made navigable last year — junks and boats are plying the waters of many of the hilly regions for the first time. As

a result, river traffic carried 85 per cent of the total volume of all freight in the province last year.

Kwangtung Province, along the southern coast, is now opening up new waterways and harbours, and adjusting and dredging existing ones, with a total length of 6,000 kilometres. These inland waterways will be opened to junks up to 200 tons. An increase of several hundred thousand tons in the province's shipping tonnage is expected this year alone.

### Summer Resorts Welcome Workers

With the rising June temperatures the first groups of vacationers bathed, boated and basked in the sun on the sandy beaches of Tsingtao, the famous seaside resort in Shantung Province on the east coast.

Many sanatoria and rest homes for miners, textile and railway workers and cadres have been expanded and renovated. This year the government has spent large sums for the planting of more trees and for more lawns and gardens in and around the rest and recreation districts to make the place more enjoyable than ever.

Workers and tourists are also launching the new season at beautiful Lushan Mountain which rises high and cool above the torrid Yangtse. Only a decade ago Lushan was the exclusive reserve of the privileged few who used to go there to "avoid the heat." Today it is the property of the people. Many luxurious villas and official residences of Kuomintang officials and imperialists of former days have been turned into hotels, sanatoria and rest homes for the workers. All of them have been repaired and redecorated for this vacation season.

Many new buildings, nestling in the mountain woods, have been completed and are ready to receive visitors. There are 31 sanatoria and rest homes in this mountain resort. The Lushan Workers' Hot Springs Sanatorium has also begun to receive visitors.

### The Palm Fan and the Machine

Summer days bring out the fans in China, of every variety: aromatic sandal wood fans, ivory fans, silk fans, paper and straw fans. . . . Down south the palm-leaf fan is one of the favourites and there are more of them this year, thanks to some new wrinkles in an old craft.

The palm-leaf fan is a special product of Hsinhui, a county in subtropical Kwangtung Province. The making of the fan, an art of the Hsinhui handicraftsmen renowned for generations, involves many processes: drying the leaves once they are cut from the trees, flattening them out, washing, drying, fram-

ing them with bamboo and wicker sticks, putting on ivory or plastic handles adorned with coloured silk tassels, and some high-quality ones decorated with Chinese classical paintings. This special kind of painting, known in the trade as "fire-painting" is done with heavy iron pens, heated to the proper temperature in fire. Only a few very experienced handicraft artists can do this properly.

During the Japanese invasion Hsinhui's art was all but extinguished. The fire-painted fans ceased to be produced. It was only in February 1956 that veteran fan artists Chao Kuang, Chao Chan and others organized a handicrafts producers' co-operative with the help of the People's Government, that gradually revived the craft. During the past few years production has increased steadily. But the Hsinhui fan-makers couldn't keep up with the ever-growing demand. Simple as the fan is, its production is a time-consuming affair. It takes about ten days to finish.

During the big leap last year, the workers and management of the workshops in the county, inspired by the remarkable achievements of their compatriots in industry and agriculture, began to think of "revolutionizing" the manufacturing process. First they thought of using machines to do the trimming of the palm leaves. Cutting the palm leaf into the desirable shape of a fan with a pair of big scissors, which weighs a *jin* and a half, is no easy job. It usually takes three to four years for an apprentice to master this skill. A veteran can only do about a thousand a day. Wang Chen-peng, a worker in the fan workshop, hit on the idea of making a simple wooden machine with a knife to do the job. Backed up by the Communist Party committee he produced the machine after a few trials at a cost of less than one hundred yuan. It increased efficiency 100 per cent!

Wang's success spurred the imagination of the 3,000 fan-makers in the county. Soon the baking process, too, was replaced by a baking machine which cuts the drying time by one-half. Still more important is the adoption of an electric pen to do the job of the fire-heated iron pen for painting the fans. The sewing is now also done by a special sewing machine which raises output five times.

The result of this "little revolution": the workers invented or improved 48 machines or implements which not only greatly improved the working conditions but raised the output by 20 per cent and cut the costs by 9 per cent. The simple story of the fan-makers in Hsinhui is characteristic of what Chinese workers and craftsmen are doing today to improve production techniques in every field.

# An Early Peace Treaty with Germany Is Imperative

by WEI LIANG

SHOULD a peace treaty with Germany be concluded promptly? This has been one of the major issues at the Foreign Ministers' Conference in Geneva. Here in China, public opinion has voiced full support for the Soviet Union and the German Democratic Republic in their efforts to have such a treaty concluded without further delay.

Fourteen years have passed since the end of the war against Nazi Germany. The Allied countries signed peace treaties with all the European nations which fought on the side of Hitler. But no such treaty has been concluded with Germany itself. This, of course, is an extremely abnormal state of affairs. It has become one of the pressing issues of present-day international affairs.

## Treaty Long Overdue

In February 1945, the Soviet Union, United States and Britain stated explicitly in the communique on the Crimea Conference that the aim of Allied occupation and control of Germany was "to destroy German militarism and nazism and to ensure that Germany will never again be able to disturb the peace of the world." The Potsdam agreement reached later that year provided more specifically for "the eventual reconstruction of German political life on a democratic basis and for eventual peaceful co-operation in international life by Germany." It also entrusted the Council of Foreign Ministers established at that time with "the preparation of a peace settlement with Germany." These provisions in the two fundamental international documents leave no room for doubt but that Allied occupation of Germany was intended to be an interim arrangement to uproot German militarism and nazism and rebuild a peaceful and democratic Germany.

The Soviet Union has always maintained that speedy preparations should be made for the early conclusion of a peace treaty with Germany in compliance with the Potsdam agreement. At the Foreign Ministers' Conferences held successively in Paris (July 1946), Moscow (March 1947), London (December 1947) and then again in Paris (May 1949), the Soviet Union repeatedly proposed the formation of a unified all-German government and the signing of a German peace treaty. All these proposals, however, were turned down by the Western powers.

While delaying the establishment of a central administration in Germany, the Western countries refused to conclude a peace treaty on the pretext that no such central organ existed. At the same time, they vigorously

implemented a policy of splitting Germany. In 1949 they took unilateral steps to set up the West German government headed by Adenauer, thus bringing about the division of the country. The German people then founded the German Democratic Republic in the eastern part of the country. Two German states have been in existence ever since.

In the subsequent years, the Western powers stepped up their efforts to re-arm West Germany and revive militarism there. They signed the Bonn and Paris agreements with West Germany and dragged it into the aggressive NATO bloc. These steps completely undermined the Potsdam agreement and deepened the rift between the two German states.

The Soviet Government has continued its efforts to seek an early peace treaty with Germany and promote the reunification of that country. It has put forward specific drafts of a German peace treaty. It has also made many constructive proposals and taken actual measures to facilitate the rapprochement between the two German states. These efforts made by the Soviet Union during recent years include its declaration on the termination of the state of war with Germany, the abolition of the military occupation of the German Democratic Republic, the restoration of normal diplomatic relations with West Germany, and the proposals for the withdrawal of foreign troops from East and West Germany and from other parts of Europe, the establishment of a zone free of atomic weapons in Central Europe, the conclusion of a non-aggression pact between the NATO bloc and the Warsaw Treaty powers, etc. In 1957, the German Democratic Republic put forward the proposal for the two German states to form a confederation, and the Soviet Union has supported this proposal. All these proposals and measures have contributed to the creation of favourable conditions for the signing of a German peace treaty and a peaceful settlement of the German question.

## Western Obstruction

But the Western powers have not made corresponding efforts. Instead, they have stuck to the proposition of establishing an "all-German government" through so-called "free elections." Then, they say, a peace treaty will be signed with the "all-German government." This, of course, is a thinly veiled trick to annex the German Democratic Republic. Their insistence on this proposition is in fact a deliberate attempt to prevent the conclusion of a German peace treaty.

Since the last Conference of Foreign Ministers held in 1955, the Western countries refused to hold further negotiations on the German question. They were preoccupied with the rearmament of West Germany. But the international situation as a whole developed to the disadvantage of their scheme. The German Democratic Republic has been growing in strength and prestige. The Soviet Union, having proposed to turn West Berlin into a demilitarized free city, once again put forward a draft German peace treaty and called for negotiations last January. The Soviet Government made it clear that should the Western countries reject this proposal, it would proceed to conclude a peace treaty with the Government of the German Democratic Republic. It was this Soviet initiative coupled with mounting popular demands for peaceful negotiations in all parts of the world which eventually brought about the Foreign Ministers' Conference in Geneva with the participation of the two German states. This in itself is a victory for the forces of peace.

### Herter's Untenable Arguments

At the Geneva Conference, however, the Western countries have continued to obstruct the conclusion of a peace treaty with Germany. They set up an obstacle known as the "package plan," which makes "German reunification" a prerequisite for signing a peace treaty while seeking to "reunify" Germany by annexing the German Democratic Republic to West Germany. But it becomes constantly more difficult for them to justify their position.

Christian A. Herter, the U.S. Secretary of State, led the argument against the conclusion of a German peace treaty. A brief resumé of his arguments shows how feeble the Western position is.

"It was the international entity known as Germany," Herter declared on May 18, "with which the United States was at war and with which it has outstanding problems." Accordingly, he said, the United States maintains that "any 'final settlement'... must await the establishment of a government which can act for and bind Germany as a whole."

It is interesting to note, in this connection, how many military agreements the United States has concluded with West Germany. Indeed, on the very eve of the present Geneva Conference, the United States signed an agreement with the Bonn government on May 7 on nuclear weapons. The government of West Germany is certainly not "the international entity" "which can act for and bind Germany as a whole," as Herter put it. But the United States has no qualms about concluding military agreements with it. Only when a treaty of peace is involved does the United States trot out all sorts of disabling excuses.

Conscious that this line of reasoning does not hold water, Herter himself explained that the conclusion of the Bonn agreements between the United States and West Germany was "in no way inconsistent" with his present attitude towards a peace treaty, because those agreements, he said, "are of an interim nature." But it may be recalled that according to the Bonn and Paris agreements, the U.S., British and French occupation forces are to remain in

West Germany till 1998! What an "interim"! You don't need a microscope to see that all this legalistic juggling is nothing but a sinister scheme to put off the signing of a German peace treaty for an indefinite future.

The U.S. Secretary of State argued further that "since the United States was never at war with the Federal Republic of Germany, nor with the so-called German Democratic Republic, any 'peace treaty' with such portions of Germany... could not be a final peace treaty with Germany." This, he contended, is because the two German states either separately or jointly cannot be called an all-German government. The proposition that the United States "was never at war with the Federal Republic of Germany" and so on is ludicrous. If this line were pursued to its end, the United States, to begin with, had no right to join in the post-war occupation of Germany. The contention that a peace treaty cannot be concluded with the two German states is equally untenable. Historical precedents show that peace treaties have been signed with new states founded on the territory of a former belligerent state to take its place. A notable example was the Austro-Hungarian empire. Following World War I, the Entente Powers concluded the Treaty of St. Germain with Austria (September 10, 1919) and the Treaty of Trianon with Hungary (June 4, 1920). The United States itself was a signatory to these treaties. If the United States at that time accepted the fact that Austria and Hungary jointly represented the former Austro-Hungarian empire, why can't the German Democratic Republic and the German Federal Republic today jointly represent pre-war Germany?

Another reason Herter advanced against the conclusion of a German peace treaty was that this would allegedly "recognize in effect the permanent partition of Germany." Here the Western countries appear to be "opponents" of the division of Germany. But, as the foregoing review of events since 1945 shows, it is precisely the Western countries which have created the division of Germany. In fact, the historical record shows that at both the Tehran and Crimea Conferences held during the war, the United States proposed to carve Germany into five countries. Britain, too, proposed at the Crimea Conference to partition Germany into three parts. It was upon the insistence of the Soviet Union that the decision was made to establish a unified Germany after the war. Then the Western powers went back on the war-time agreements and split Germany. While paying lip service to "German reunification," they are in fact merely using it to ward off the signing of a peace treaty. "It is well known," as the American columnist Walter Lippmann put it, "that the Western Allies have adjusted themselves very comfortably to the partition of Germany, and that their hearts are not in the reunification."

The objective reality today is the existence of two German states side by side. In these circumstances, if the reactionaries continue to obstruct the adoption of practical measures aimed at the rapprochement between the two German states and the re-establishment of German unity, a peace treaty should be concluded with the existing two German states so as to put an end to the present abnormal state of affairs in Germany.

The draft German peace treaty put forward by the Soviet Union contains provisions for the re-establishment

of German unity (Part II of the draft). Article 22, for instance, specifically states that the Allied and Associated Powers recognize the right of the German people to re-establish the unity of Germany and express their readiness to render the two German states every manner of assistance for the achievement of this goal through rapprochement and agreement between the German Democratic Republic and the German Federal Republic. Article 24 provides that the peace treaty shall remain in force after the re-establishment of German unity, and its clauses shall extend to the united German State. These explicit stipulations are a powerful rebuff to the deceptive Western propaganda.

To facilitate the reunification of Germany and consolidate peace in Europe, it is essential to conclude a peace treaty with Germany. Conditions are ripe for this step.

But the Western countries have vehemently declared that the Soviet proposal, to use Herter's words again, "holds the seeds of future discord and conflict." What strange logic! While delaying the signing of a German peace treaty, the United States is stepping up the nuclear rearmament of West Germany. Isn't it precisely this course of action which "holds the seeds of future discord and conflict"? The absence of a peace treaty has long been used by the Western countries as a convenient gap to foster the West German militarist forces. On the other hand, the adoption of the Soviet proposal for signing a peace treaty which provides for the removal of the threat of German militarism and for the peaceful development of the two German states, will facilitate the rapprochement of the two German states, create conditions for their reunification and ease the tension both in Europe and the world.

The Western countries have tried to discredit the Soviet draft of the peace treaty in various ways. They allege that it is "discriminatory" against Germany and that it is "imposed" on Germany like the notorious Versailles treaty. This is simply humbug. The treaty of

Versailles was indeed imposed on Germany by a group of victor imperialist powers as the result of an imperialist war. The Soviet Government at that time, it may be recalled, was opposed to the treaty. But there is no resemblance whatsoever between the present draft treaty and the treaty of Versailles.

### **The Interests of the German People**

In its preamble the Soviet draft clearly states the aim of the treaty as "ensuring Germany the opportunity for peaceful democratic development and fruitful cooperation with other states as an equal member of the family of nations." Article 26 provides that "Germany shall have national armed forces (land, air and naval) necessary for ensuring the country's defence." Article 32 stipulates that "no restrictions shall be imposed on Germany in the development of her peaceful economy," "nor shall any restrictions be imposed in relation to Germany's trade with other nations, navigation and access to the world markets." The Soviet delegate at the Geneva Conference further amended this article to the effect that Germany will have the right to set up enterprises in connection with the peaceful uses of atomic energy. All this underlines the Soviet Union's respect for the interests of the German people. Moreover, the Soviet Union has always maintained that a peace conference with the participation of the two German states be convened to discuss the draft. What a far cry from "imposing" a treaty on Germany! It is clear why the Soviet draft has won the enthusiastic support of the German Democratic Republic as well as the people of West Germany.

The endeavours for a peace treaty with Germany are an important struggle to halt the resurgence of West German militarism and to safeguard European and world peace. The Chinese people will continue to give their full support to the Soviet Union and the German Democratic Republic in their unremitting efforts to achieve this aim.

## **National Tour of Young Innovators**

# **Spreading Technical Know-How**

by **OUR CORRESPONDENT**

**J**UST as the northeast-bound train was about to pull out of Tangshan, an industrial city in Hopei Province, two young workers rushed in to the relief of their pals who had been anxiously waiting for them to show up. The group consisted of 58 young workers in all—outstanding technical innovators touring the country under the sponsorship of the Communist Youth League to pass on their experiences and advanced skills in industrial production to fellow workers throughout the nation. The two young workers who caught the train just in the nick of time, Liao Shih-kang, a milling-machine operator from Chungking in southwest China, and Yen Wen-hua, a lathe

turner from Shenyang in northeast China, had been out at the Tangshan Rolling Stock Works until 20 minutes before train time, testing a new method of processing a hollow driving shaft for locomotives with the workers there. When they got on board breathlessly, they had reason to be excited—they had just made an important contribution to locomotive production in China.

When the group arrived in Tangshan, they found that workers of the rolling stock works had been trying without success to manufacture hollow driving shafts, which are more efficient and less metal-consuming than



the solid driving shafts still being used in the locomotives they were producing. Liao Shih-kang, who is well known for his inventiveness (for his story see *Peking Review*, No. 19, 1959), figured that Yen Wen-hua's method of boring the spindle of a lathe with his hollow drill might provide a solution. So he and Yen got together to study the problem. They came to the conclusion that the same principle was applicable to the processing of the driving shaft for locomotives and the boring of the spindle for a lathe. So they proposed that they try this method. Their suggestion was supported by the director of the works and the secretary of the Communist Party committee and the workers were only too glad to proceed with preparations for the experiment. One big question loomed. Yen's hollow drill had been used thus far only to process small billets of 300 mm. Could it be adapted to process the hollow driving shaft for locomotives which is 1,800 mm.? Liao believed it could—provided it was properly made and of the right material.

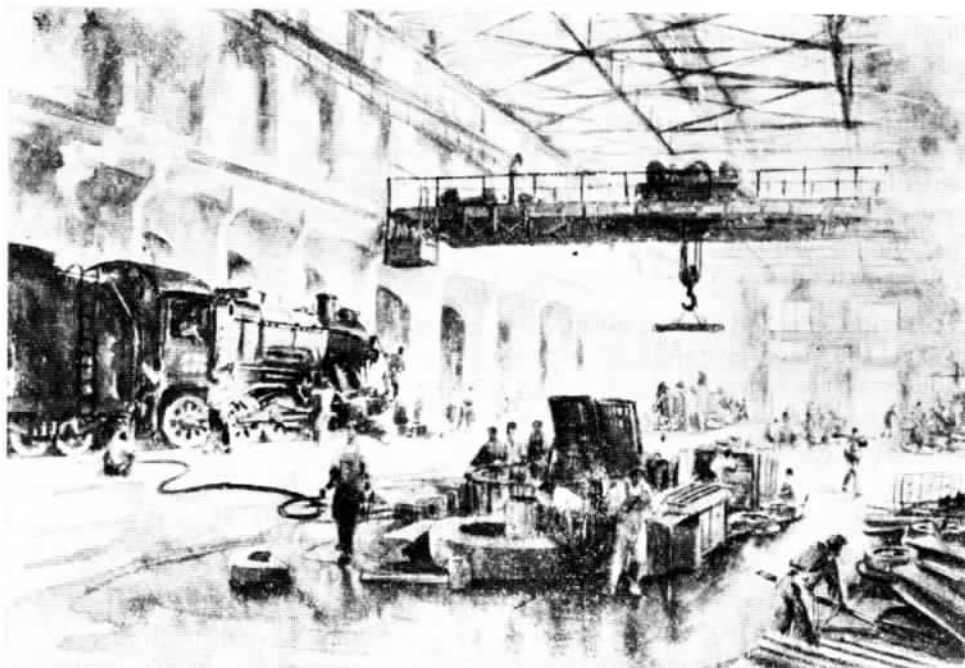
At 11:00 p.m. the next day everything was ready for the trial. Workers crowded around the big 3-metre lathe to watch the experiment. The lathe was started. The spindle revolved rapidly, smoothly and coils of metal came off. In only 6 minutes, the drill progressed 70 mm. The tense onlookers began to smile. Then, the drill started to vibrate a little and it was found that the cutting edge was blunted. Since the drill was made in a hurry, it was not precise enough. But the experiment proved that the method would work. It was with this knowledge of near success that Liao and Yen boarded the train to continue their journey with their group.

Three days later, the two young workers received a telegram from the Communist Party secretary of the Tangshan works informing them of the birth of China's first hollow driving shaft for locomotives made by their method with a hollow drill the workers of the plant had improved.

### "Bumper Harvest"

This was only one of the many exploits of this group of young innovators—iron and steel workers, machinists, electricians, building workers, textile workers and others. In the course of 70 days, from April 1 to June 9, they visited 41 cities on their unusual tour of "sowing" techniques. They were enthusiastically welcomed by the local workers wherever they went. Their contributions boosted the "red banner" emulation campaign to increase production and practise economy centring on technical innovations. The young innovators visited and demonstrated their technical know-how at 477 factories. They held meetings to swap experiences with nearly one-quarter of a million young workers.

They spent only a couple of days in each city, and as the Chinese say, "hardly had time to warm their seats." But because the tour was well organized, remarkable



In a locomotive workshop

Water-colour by Pan Szu-tung

results were achieved. As soon as the group arrived in a city, they were received by leaders of the local Communist Party, Communist Youth League and trade union organizations who had studied beforehand the key production problems in their city and the young innovators' strong points so that the right person was picked to tackle the right problem. The young innovators were invariably invited to crack the hardest nuts together with the local workers. With their technical ingenuity and the local workers' knowledge of their own tasks and equipment, quick results were achieved. In the three cities of Lanchow, Changchun and Harbin alone, the group solved 174 key production problems together with the local workers, put forward 5,729 concrete proposals to improve technique, more than one-quarter of which have already been implemented by the local workers.

### When Steel Workers Meet

Young iron and steel workers in the group were an important force in the nationwide drive to up steel output. Blast furnaces in Kunming in southwest China benefited greatly from the method of increasing smelting intensity brought to them all the way from Penki in northeast China by Chang Yu-pu, chief of Penki's famous "Youth" furnace. In Peking and Canton where steel production really got going only during the big leap last year when new converters were built, converter men Sheng Hsientien from Shanghai and Sun Hung-hsun from Tangshan helped the new steel workers raise efficiency and improve the quality of the steel made from iron produced by small blast furnaces using both modern and indigenous methods. Pu Yao-tsu, a steel worker from Shanghai, helped the workers of a rolling mill in Tsingtao adjust their repeater equipment with a resultant 50 per cent increase in rolled steel output.

The following episode of the tour is typical.

When nationally known steel maker Hao Chin-fang, chief of the Anshan Iron and Steel Works' "Youth Friend-

ship" open hearth furnace, called on the Taiyuan Iron and Steel Works in Shansi Province, there was a great stir among the steel workers. The workers of the big open hearth furnaces in Anshan and Taiyuan had been engaged in a friendly emulation. The Taiyuan workers had been particularly anxious to learn from their "competitors" because steel making in Taiyuan wasn't up to Anshan. The sulphur content was rather high and they had difficulties cutting down smelting time.

Having checked the furnaces, Hao picked the No. 2 furnace, the worst in the plant, nicknamed the "Old Bull," to demonstrate his method. It was a tough job. But he was there to help, not to create a record. He learnt about the "temperament" of the "Old Bull" from its tenders and figured out the way to tame it. To reduce the sulphur content of the steel, he directed that consecutive layers of lime be used when the furnace was charged. He waited for each charge to be thoroughly burnt before a next charge was made. Though this lengthened the time for combustion it ultimately shortened the smelting time.

In the process, Hao personally handled the heaviest work. The first heat was turned out in 10 hours and 16 minutes—about 2 hours less than usual. The sulphur content was reduced below the stipulated level.

Hao made the most of his stay at the Taiyuan Iron and Steel Works. He not only passed on his own experiences in production but also learnt from the Taiyuan workers their method of checking samples of the molten steel and the 3-tapping trough method for which the Taiyuan workers were famous.

The Taiyuan workers, of course, were happy to acquire Hao's method of steel making. They incorporated the best parts of their own method into his and succeeded in shortening the time for a heat to 7 hours and 46 minutes, and at the same time considerably reduced the sulphur content of the steel they made.

### The Teachers Learn

Not all of the know-how demonstrated by the young innovators was developed by themselves. While popularizing their own technical ideas, they collected new ideas and experiences on the way and popularized these too. The young workers knew very well that their innovations were only a tiny portion of the wealth of technique mastered by the workers in China today and that all technique can be further refined.

Lu Sheng-ho, a milling-machine operator from Talien (Dairen), learnt no less than 56 new techniques on the tour. He analysed them and carefully planned their application and popularization. He sent all the technical data collected on the way to his own plant and passed on the newly acquired techniques to others. When in Peking, he found a very efficient tool for the automatic milling of screws. He made a thorough study of it and later shared his knowledge with workers in Sian and Lanchow to good effect.

By combining the methods for the milling of racks learnt in Peking and Wuhsih respectively, Li Yu-min, a milling-machine operator from Shenyang, helped workers

of a machine tool plant in Canton tackle a tough problem there.

Spinners in Wuhsih devised a marvellous technique for mending broken ends in high speed operation that guaranteed the quality of the yarn. But the experience was spread far and wide—in Hangchow, Nanchang, Chuchow, Canton, etc.—by Liu Chuo-chen, an outstanding woman spinner from Shensi, who had picked it up in Wuhsih on the tour.

Peking bricklayers marvelled at the method used by Chu Sze-min from Changsha which saved considerable labour and ensured quality. They were surprised when told it was an improvement of a method learnt by the Changsha bricklayer in Peking itself. This was indeed food for thought.

### More than Technique

If the hundreds of thousands of young workers who had come into contact with the young innovators learnt much from their advanced techniques, they gained no less in learning from their moral qualities, their style of work and their profound devotion to the cause of socialist construction. When young women textile workers saw Hsu Kuei-hua, a mother of five children from Tsingtao with little formal education behind her, tend 120 looms all by herself and all her products were first grade, they knew it was hard work and devotion to her job that brought success. It took time for one to become acquainted with the equipment, so quite a few textile workers were very particular about the type of equipment they used. But when they saw the young innovators demonstrate on any equipment—often the worst equipment around—and perform miracles, they also learnt an object lesson.

Inspired by the example of the perseverance and drive of the young innovators who simply refused to be licked by difficulties, a group of young carpenters in Tsinan continued their experiment with a new machine which they had once given up in the face of difficulties and carried it through to success.

The group wound up its activities on June 9. But the fruits of its labours are inestimable. Their activities have started a chain reaction and the end is not yet in sight. On the very first day the group started its work in Peking, some 500 Peking workers were organized to learn from them. In the country, a total of 17,160 workers studied their methods closely. Now these workers are passing on what they learnt to others. By learning from the innovators, representatives from the No. 2 State Cotton Mill in Peking have already increased the average number of broken ends mended per minute from 13 to 16. In a few days, they succeeded in helping all spinners in their shop to achieve an average speed of 14 per minute. They are now aiming at 20 per minute. The best among them are already nearing this goal.

In Hofei, Anhwei Province, as in many other cities, similar teams have been organized to spread advanced technique throughout the province.

This is one of the ways China's workers advance their industrial skills and technical knowledge.

# Eight Measures for Higher Yields

by WU YI-CHENG

*In response to letters from many of our readers requesting further explanation of the measures known as the "Eight-Point Charter for Agriculture" we present the following article. — Ed.*

**T**HE "Eight-Point Charter for Agriculture" embraces the eight measures which constitute a complete set of methods leading to higher yields. Included in the charter are: deep ploughing and soil improvement, fertilizer, water conservancy, seed selection, close planting, plant protection, field management and reform of tools.

The Chinese Communist Party has always attached great importance to summing up the experience of the peasants in farm production, so that scientific theory and production practice can be integrated and the experience of the peasants can be elevated and put on a systematic basis. During the agricultural big leap in 1958, the peasants and research institutions developed in a creative way the farming experience accumulated over centuries. They not only enriched various measures but reformed them as well. Though few of the eight measures of the charter are entirely new in farming techniques, each acquired new content as a result of the rich harvest last year.

The charter is an entity and its eight points are closely co-ordinated, one supplementing the other. Neglect of one item may adversely affect the crops as a whole. For instance, deep ploughing without adequate increases in manuring and watering cannot yield rich harvests while heavy fertilization without deep ploughing will probably invite crop lodging.

The eight measures are not dead formulae but call for flexible application. They are carried out after local conditions are duly considered. The specific arrangements under each point usually vary with the soil, weather, manpower, seasons, crops, strains of seed, etc. Even within one province, Kwangtung for example, the more than 100 types of soil rule out the use of uniform farming techniques in the entire region. And in districts situated in quite different latitudes or altitudes above sea level, application of the same measure invariably differs.

## Deep Ploughing and Soil Improvement

In addition to loosening the top soil in depth, deep ploughing, when

combined with layer-by-layer fertilization, helps the sub-soil to mature and promote granulation of the soil which helps it absorb both water and fertilizer. Without deep ploughing, the root system of a plant cannot penetrate deep into the soil; in which case closely planted crops cannot get sufficient water and nourishment and as a result lodging ensues.

Experiments in 1958 shattered the former notion that there was no need to plough deeply in the paddyfields because the rice shoots could not extend their roots far anyhow. Moreover, deep ploughing has proved to be a contributing factor in getting not only heavy rice crops but maize, cotton and other crops as well.

Last year, over 800 million *mu* in China were ploughed to a depth of about 33 centimetres. All the other cultivated land which can be deep ploughed, it is planned, will be ploughed deeply once in the coming years.

A nationwide soil survey and analysis is being undertaken by the peasants to provide the basic data for the rational use of land and soil improvement. Since the peasants are familiar with the character of the soil in their own districts, their conclusions, which will be determined with the aid of scientific tests, are closely linked with production needs.

China, according to a rough calculation, had 470 million *mu* of saline, alkaline, sandy and red loam soil and other poor soil that has to be improved. By the end of 1958, some 200 million *mu* were improved in varying degrees and work on the rest is expected to be carried out in the coming years.

## Fertilizer

It is an old tradition of the Chinese peasants to use organic manure such as night soil, barnyard manure, peat



Making chemical fertilizers in a commune

Woodcut by Chang Chin-tsu

and mud from the bottom of ponds. In the past few years the area sown to green manure crops has steadily grown. These fertilizers help improve the soil and can be drawn from extremely rich resources. In 1958, the amount of these fertilizers applied to each *mu* of land was many times greater than before, while the amount of chemical fertilizers used also increased considerably.

In order to meet the urgent demand for chemical fertilizers, rural people's communes last year set up huge numbers of workshops to produce chemical fertilizers by indigenous methods. They managed to use simple equipment and the raw materials available locally. Their total output ran to tens of millions of tons. At the same time, modern plants also increased their output of chemical fertilizers (excluding ammonium nitrate) by 29 per cent in 1958 and succeeded in the trial manufacture of certain new chemical fertilizers, a few of which are being produced in large quantities.

The high-yield fields in 1958 generally followed two principles in applying fertilizer. First, though the proportions may vary, the stress was laid on the use of ground fertilizers (treating the soil with fertilizers before planting) rather than their additional use in the later stages. Secondly, additional manure was given more frequently than before but the amount applied each time was reduced.

### Water Conservancy

Thanks to the tremendous efforts in water conservancy last year, 480 million *mu* of cultivated land were brought under irrigation. This boosted the nation's irrigated land to 1,000 million *mu*, about 60 per cent of the total cultivated area. Water-logging was initially checked on 210 million *mu*.

Since 1957 the peasants have built large numbers of small reservoirs, ponds and small irrigation channels throughout the country. Most of the counties have dozens or even scores of such works. Owing to their wide dispersion, these small works have a bigger combined capacity in controlling floods and combating droughts than a few big projects. Big and medium water conservancy projects, however, are still absolutely necessary in some areas.

More attention is being paid to storing water. In dealing with floods, drainage alone sometimes caused drought on the upper reaches and flood on the lower reaches. Moreover, it was rather difficult for the river channels to carry down all the floods in a limited time. With overall planning and maximum storage of water by all sorts of facilities, both irrigation and the threat of water-logging can be satisfactorily solved.

#### 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

Many types of water conservancy projects have been engineered to suit varied local conditions. For instance, canals and channels are being dug in the low-lying plain area along the Huai River in Anhwei and Kiangsu Provinces and they intersect with each other to form a water network of a checker-board type. This water system takes care of the needs of both irrigation and drainage as well as fish breeding, transport and power generation. Along the waterways, highways with trees planted on both sides are to be built.

### Seed Selection

The main source of China's improved strains of seed is the stock of varieties used by the peasants. With careful selection and examination, many good varieties adaptable to local conditions can be chosen from this source. Seventy per cent of the strains recommended for popularization are of farm origin. Last year in Kwangtung Province alone, 121 varieties of paddy-rice strains were chosen from farm sources each of which bears no less than 200 grains per ear.

The selection and breeding of new strains have been undertaken by both research institutes and peasants. Last year thousands of commune members worked in this field and more than 200 scored outstanding results.

In 1958, 1,750 million *mu* of farm crops used good strains. This accounted for 76 per cent of the total sown area and was almost one-third more than the year before.

### Close Planting

Proper close planting is an important measure to raise yields per *mu* of land. On the one hand, distances between rows and between hills (clusters of shoots) or plants must be arranged in a way to give the crops sufficient space for aeration, sunlight and extension of their root systems. On the other hand, a series of measures—deep ploughing, soil improvement, manuring and irrigation—must be brought in line with the new situation, so that photosynthesis can be carried out to the full. If close planting is done up to these standards, there is no need to worry about small ears and crop lodging.

Some people held that a *mu* of paddy rice should have around 200,000 ears and no more. However, the number was increased greatly last year in many high-yield fields.

Specifications for close planting cannot be uniform even for the same crop in a people's commune. After the land, strains of seed and other related factors are well considered, a brigade in the Weixing People's Commune in Fukien Province used six standards in planting its 1,080 *mu* of early rice this year.

Close planting, of course, should not be pushed to the extreme and must be kept within reasonable limits in a *mu* of farmland. When the crops are closely planted, they call for much better field management and strict plant protection.

### Plant Protection

The prevention and elimination of plant diseases and pests made rapid progress last year and several hundred

counties wiped out one or more of the major crop enemies—plant diseases, harmful insects, birds and animals. This was made possible by the all-embracing and continuous work of the masses and proved the falsity of pessimistic views about plant calamities.

Timely information about the appearance and spread of plant diseases and insect pests is vital to plant protection. According to preliminary reports, there were 678 forecasting stations, 12,000 information centres, and hundreds of thousands of people gathering information in the communes by the end of 1958. This helps a great deal in wiping out plant diseases and pests in the quickest possible time and with economical use of manpower and materials.

Side by side with the manufacture of insecticides by modern plants, the peasants last year made "indigenous" insecticides from several hundred kinds of local materials, mostly wild plants. Some are fairly effective. For instance, the use of *Euphorbia helioscopia* powder to kill harmful underground insects and of *Polygonum nodosum Pers.* to deal with *Nephotettix apicalis cincticeps* yielded satisfactory results.

### Field Management

Chinese peasants have a fine tradition of tending the fields meticulously and carefully. In 1958, the level of field management in the country as a whole was greatly elevated: harrowing, weeding, irrigation and fertilization were all done in better time and more meticulously. The success of many high-yield fields was inseparable from good field management. Take Szeyang County in Kiangsu Province, for example. It obtained high yields of cotton on more than 200,000 *mu* of land. During

cultivation, besides other measures, fertilizers were applied 6 to 14 times, harrowing and weeding were done more than 10 times and two waterings were added to combat drought.

The saying in the Chinese countryside today is that field management must be done by "looking at the sky, the land and the crops," meaning that it must be in accord with the weather, soil conditions and the growth of crops.

### Reform of Tools

Simple and backward tools are unable to cope with the enormous increases in the amount of farming work, necessitated by the implementation of the measures for high yields. Mechanical equipment in China's countryside was very limited in the past and even today large-scale mechanization is still to be realized step by step. At the present time, the reform of tools—improving old, backward tools and creating more efficient ones—is the necessary step on the road to agricultural mechanization.

Last year, a mass movement to reform tools began with the implements used in constructing water conservancy projects, accumulating fertilizers and transport. It was followed by similar reforms in irrigation, drainage, cultivation and reaping tools. Then came another upsurge in July which centred on fitting ball-bearings to the vehicles and revolving parts of farm tools. In October cable-towed tools began to be popularized.

Huge numbers of improved tools were popularized all over China in 1958 and over 40,000 farm tool plants and workshops were set up in the same year. The new tools raised efficiency from four to twelve times compared with the old, simple ones.

## Report from the Tarim Basin

# NEW OASES IN SINKIANG

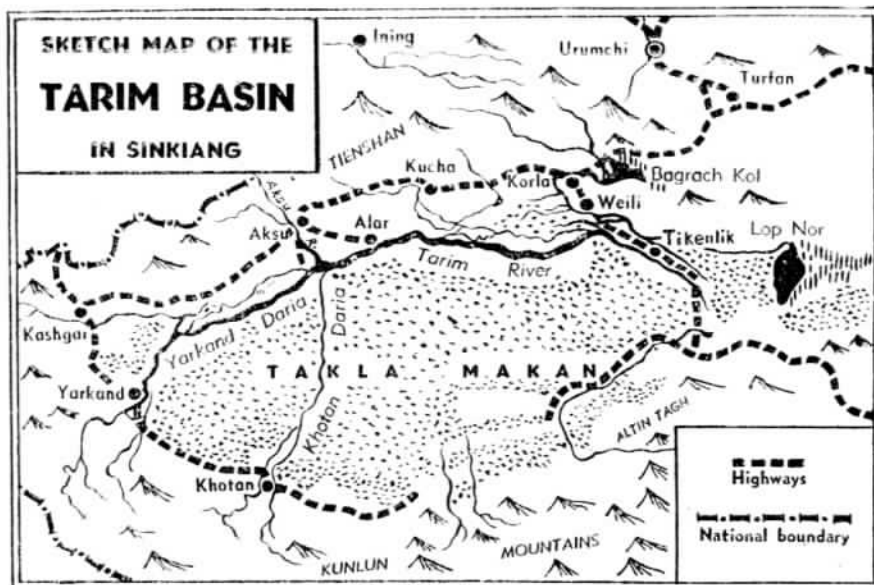
by LIU CHO-TANG

NEW life is coming to the basin of the Tarim, China's greatest inland river in the Sinkiang Uighur Autonomous Region. Where there was nothing but deserts, dry flats that extend in all directions, a criss-cross network of canals and ditches is being laid out, reservoirs are being built and new mechanized farms are being started, raising cereals and industrial crops and flocks of cattle and sheep.

The great barren bowl of the Takla Makan Desert lies at the centre of the southern part of Sinkiang. This is surrounded by the mountain ranges of the Tianshan, Pamirs, Kunlun and Altin Tagh from which many mountain streams flow to water such historically famous oases as Keriya, Khotan, Yarkand, Kashgar, on the south, and

Aksu, Kucha, Weili and others on the north. The greatest of these streams are the Yarkand and the Khoian Darias which are fed by the glaciers of the Kunlun and flow north across the Takla Makan to join with the Aksu River and form the Tarim River. The Tarim flows in a great bend around the northern rim of the Takla Makan to lose itself finally in the marshes of Lop Nor after a course of 2,000 kilometres.

The upper and middle reaches of the Tarim flow through a vast alluvial plain bounded on the north by the southern foothills of the Tianshan, with the confluence of the Aksu and Yarkand Rivers on the west, and Weili on the east. This plain has rich water resources; its soil and weather conditions are ideal for farming and



animal husbandry. Surveys show that at least 20 million *mu* of land can be cultivated in the Tarim Valley. Yet, over the centuries this land has remained a largely uninhabited waste. This was mainly due to lack of water conservancy works. The Tarim in winter was a sluggish stream, but when the Kunlun and Tianshan snows melted in summer it poured down its course uncontrollably. The Uighur people called it an "untamed horse" beyond the power of the old society to tame. Only after liberation, when the energies of the people were freed, could this task be tackled. Then it was started with unbounded enthusiasm.

### Pioneers in the Wilderness

It happened in the summer of 1956 and winter of 1957 when thousands of people went into action from Aksu on the upper reaches and Weili on the middle. This first stage of the project was aimed to reclaim as quickly as possible, 10 million *mu* of land on the upper and middle reaches from Aksu to Weili. The next stage will tackle the valley of the Yarkand Darya, main source of the Tarim.

The pioneers had to bear the brunt of this attack on the wilderness. In that first winter water was scarce in many parts. Life in tents is no holiday in the summer heat of the Tarim or in the cold of its winter. Transport often broke down over unknown ground, putting isolated teams on pretty stringent rations. But perseverance was their Aladdin's lamp. New oases began to emerge out of the wastelands of the Tarim Basin.

Water is the key to opening up this area. Priority was given to building thousands of canals and ditches to water the land to be reclaimed. This included five main canals, some sections of which are wide and deep enough for navigation. The main canal on the upper reaches of the Tarim, is nearly 75 kilometres long with a rate of flow of forty cubic metres per second. On the lower reaches, two fairly large reservoirs have been built near Chunke and Tikenlik in Weili County to protect some 200,000 *mu* of newly reclaimed land from draught when the Tarim runs dry. Drifting sand dunes added to the difficulties

of building these canals and reservoirs. It was necessary to anchor the sand-drifts until afforestation and other more permanent means of conquering them take effect.

### Farms and Farm Produce

By last winter, a land reclamation emulation drive was in full swing. Over 600,000 *mu* of land was reclaimed in a month, an average of 20,000 *mu* a day. This phenomenal rate was achieved largely by mechanizing the work. The Victory State Farm No. 16, for instance, set a record of 235 *mu* of land per worker per day. There are now 17 mechanized farms and one jute plantation on the upper and middle reaches of the Tarim. Cereals, cotton, oil-bearing crops and vegetables are being raised here. Some crops are growing particularly well. The virgin soil produces in astonishing profusion. At the Victory Farm No. 15, eight million *jin* of cabbage were grown on 200 *mu* of kitchen garden cultivated by machines. The biggest cabbage raised there weighed 23 *jin*. At many farms turnips grew to a weight of 12 *jin*. It can already be said that the Tarim can and will soon become a major grain- and cotton-growing centre of west China.

Spring sowing this year covered some 300,000 *mu* of land. Bumper harvests of grain, cotton and oil-bearing crops are anticipated this autumn. Energetic efforts back up these hopes. Nearly 10,000 million *jin* of manure was collected by last January; each *mu* of land was given over 10,000 *jin* of fertilizer. Most of the field work is mechanized.

Wild jute grows in profusion on both banks of the upper and middle reaches of the Tarim. Unbroken fields of it extend in some places for several hundred kilometres. It is a valuable crop. It can be used as raw material for the textile industry and rubber can be extracted from its leaves. It is being cultivated now in a huge plantation along the upper reaches of the Tarim, while large areas along the lower reaches have also been reserved for it. It is planned to raise about five million *jin* of wild jute in these areas, shipping the harvest out this year to other parts of the country for the manufacture of high-grade fabrics, fishing-nets and rope.

The new Tarim farms are also raising livestock. Over 20,000 head of sheep, cattle and horses brought in from north of the Tianshan are already being pastured in the former wilderness of the Tarim Basin.

The lower reaches of the Tarim River with their woods and lakes abound with wild deer and many farms here are fencing in deer parks. The Tarim River and many lakes on its lower reaches are also rich in fish; fishing teams organized by the farms are already catching enough for their own consumption. Later they will send their surplus catch to other parts of Sinkiang.

Life in the new settlements of the Tarim Basin is now no longer the pioneering affair of two or three years ago when the first settlers came. The various state farms have built a floor space of over 140,000 square metres—

warehouses, granaries, hot-houses, processing plants, office buildings, canteens, hospitals, nurseries, schools, clubs, shops and living quarters.

All the farms are now linked by highways and telecommunication lines. The first motor road built is the broad, well-paved 135-kilometre-long Aksu-Alar Highway. This crosses the first bridge to span the wide Tarim on its upper reaches, a 325 metres long, 7.5 metres wide affair. With the completion of this road and bridge, the exploitation of large tracts of land on the southern bank of the Tarim and virgin forests there will be greatly facilitated. All the state farms on the upper and middle reaches of the river are now on the phone. Settlers can also make long distance calls to their friends in Urumchi or even to Peking thousands of miles away.

### Alar — Boom Town

The Aksu-Alar Highway has given birth to the new boom town, Alar. This first town of the Tarim Basin is beautifully situated at the northern end of the Tarim Bridge. Less than two years ago, this was wasteland. The only inhabitant was Jehaman, an old Uighur shepherd and his flock of sheep. He saw it grow from its first mat-shed shack to its present size. Today, on its main street you will find a department store, guest house, restaurant, bookshop, post and telegraph office, bank and a bus station, the terminal of the Aksu-Alar bus service. At the east end of the town is the Tarim Agricultural College where more than seven hundred men

and women from the Tarim state farms are acquiring theoretical knowledge of farming based on their practical experience in this field. In the woods southeast of the town centre, a large general hospital with 400 beds is now being built. Part of it will be completed by this autumn. In addition to brick-kilns, and a food processing plant, there is also a fairly large engineering plant. This not only repairs tractors for all the Tarim Basin state farms but supplies electricity to light up the town at night.

Alar also has a community square with a basketball ground and an open-air stage for theatrical performances. Old Jchaman has been joined in Alar by a rapidly growing population of close on 3,000.

All this, of course, is just a prelude to the further transformation of the entire Tarim Basin. This is scheduled to become a granary of west China. It also looks like a potential centre of the oil industry. There are rich oil deposits here and its other mineral wealth has not been touched by modern development. There is an ambitious plan afoot to survey and map out the use of this potential wealth but, in the meantime, the accent is on the Tarim Basin's agricultural possibilities. The whole area will be turned into a flourishing oasis by the building of more reservoirs, by more rational utilization of water resources, amelioration of the soil, stabilization of the river courses and afforestation. The men and women of the basin have a slogan: "Reclamation, production, construction, accumulation and more of 'em—all at the same time!"

## Tibetans in Szechuan

# A Visit to a Tibetan Farm Co-op

by LI TEH-SHEN

I RECENTLY visited a farm co-op at the foot of misty Mount Cheto in the Kantse Tibetans' Autonomous Chou in Szechuan. The Tibetan peasants in this area freed themselves from the yoke of serfdom three years ago when democratic reform was carried out and then took to agricultural co-operation. The co-op I visited, the Yingkuan Agricultural Producers' Co-operative, was formed last year. It embraces 107 households. All suffered bitterly before the democratic reform. Quite a few wandered from place to place, hardly able to keep body and soul together. Many had to work like beasts for the serf-owners and eat wild plants six months out of the year. Some of their relatives were killed by the back-breaking *ula* system of forced labour\* or were tortured to death by the serf-owners.

Democratic reform and the establishment of the co-operative brought about great changes. The primitive and antiquated farm tools used under serfdom, co-op

vice-chairman Dantzen-tsema told me, are giving way to new ones. This year new-type ploughs and horse-drawn sowing machines appeared on the co-op's farms and the crops have grown remarkably well. During the last autumn harvest the co-op hired some combine-harvesters from the nearby state farm and all the *qingke* barley and wheat crops were dried and winnowed in three days and garnered in time. Previously, the same amount of work would have dragged on until the end of the year.

In the past, as the thaw set in, peasants here just spread seeds on the land in a half-hearted manner and would not care how they grew. Of course, the peasants were not to blame. Under the ruthless exploitation of the serf-owners, they had no incentive at all to increase production. When I met Ghama, head of a youth shock brigade, on his way to work, he said: "In the past, we Tibetans never manured the land for a rich harvest would cause us more trouble. More people would come for their 'debts.'" Today, Tibetan peasants here not only apply manure on their land but have also learnt all kinds of skills in field management. The whole co-op has

\* See "The Ula System and Taxation in Tibet," *Peking Review*, No. 23, June 9, 1959. — Ed.

planned to apply 20,000 *jin* of fertilizer on each *khal*\* of land. It has already established ten small chemical fertilizer plants for this purpose. The co-op members, organized in small teams, besides manuring the land, now go into the fields to harrow the soil, clear away the weeds and get rid of the insect pests. The old practice of divining before sowing and other superstitious practices have become a laughing stock among the people. As a result, crop yields here have gone up from a hundred *jin* per *khal* of land to more than 200 *jin*.

### Co-op Members

All the co-op members now live much better than in the days when they were serfs working for their masters. Today, nearly every household has more grain in stock than the family can consume, and some hogs and cattle to keep. About half of the households have moved into new houses or had their old ones repaired. Every co-op member has three square meals a day and many have new clothes.

Molo, a member of the co-op, and three other members of her family recently moved into their new home, a typical two-storied Tibetan house. The ground floor was used as a pen to keep their two cows. There were three rooms on the upper floor well appointed with low

\* *Khal* is a Tibetan unit of weight equivalent to about 12.5 kilogrammes. One *khal* of land means a piece of land large enough to sow one *khal* of seed. — Ed.

tables and cushions. On the wall was a portrait of Chairman Mao Tse-tung. When I called on the family in their new home, this old peasant woman in her sixties was cooking some bacon while keeping an eye on her grandchild at play. Her daughter had not yet come back from her work in the fields. In answer to my questions the old woman started telling me her story at length. Last year, the whole family received a share of 3,600 *jin* of grains. They had raised two hogs and two cows. Now they ate more *tsamba* (a Tibetan food made of *qingke* barley) in a month than they did in a year in the past. . . . When she recalled her life in the past, she paused for a while and took out a pile of rags from a wooden box. These were the clothes and blankets which she had used for many years in the past. The Molos used to cultivate land for the feudal lords. She herself began to tend cattle and do all sorts of unpaid labour for the overlords at the age of eight. The whole family then was crowded in a battered hovel and eked out a scanty livelihood. "But these years there have been so many changes," Molo recollected. "It is a change from hell to paradise. But for the Communist Party and the overthrow of the feudal lords under its leadership, we would have starved to death long ago." She said that many villagers here wished they would some day see Chairman Mao in person. She herself could not help looking at the portrait of Chairman Mao on the wall with deep gratitude every time she had a cup of strong buttered tea in her hands.

Another co-op member I spoke to was Lozong-dorje, a man in his fifties. For thirty or forty years he had worked like a dog but on the eve of democratic reform, a tub, a broken pan and a bronze ladle were the only possessions he could boast of. Every year after the autumn harvest, all the crops he brought in were taken away by the feudal lords and the usurers. With a broken bowl and a stick to frighten away the dogs, he went begging, roving from village to village. Now he lives differently. I found two brand-new blankets on his bed and all sorts of food and utensils characteristic of a well-off Tibetan family. While showing me around his house the old man chuckled: "Democratic reform, co-operation. . . . It never occurred to me that I would come to luck at my age."

### New Family Life

Among the co-op members many young couples now got married of their own will and choice. This is something they could never dream of in the past. The old system forbade people of different positions to intermarry. Among the newlyweds I met were Gyanchehsi, son of the bailiff of a lamasery and Chashi, daughter of a *chaba*\* family who had been in love for many years but were not married until the democratic reform. The co-op also saw to it that their new home was well furnished and they were paid with a part of their share of grain and cash in advance. The man now heads a production team and the wife is a good farmhand.

When I was there quite a few co-op members asked me what a people's commune was like. They expressed their desire to boost their agricultural output and run their co-op well so that some day their co-op, too, can be reorganized into a people's commune.

\* Tibetan serfs of a higher status. — Ed.



Tibetan girls weaving

Woodcut by Li Huan-min



# SIDELIGHTS

**Blossoms on Old Trees.** You can find the Central Research Establishment of Literature and History in Peking, set up in 1951, in beautiful Beihai Park, just a stone's throw from the coloured Wall of Nine Dragons. All members of this organization, about 90 in all, are scholars of advanced age. They employ their time now writing on classical poetry and literature, ancient astronomy, geography, history, archaeology and other fields.

Shih Jung-chang, in his late seventies, has just finished compiling the works of writers and scholars of Hupeh Province, a project of some 630 volumes. For over a decade before liberation he collected the materials but the work was never brought to fruition because he was also forced to do odd jobs to keep the wolf from the door. After liberation, he was able to carry on his unfinished work with the help of the People's Government. Vice-Chairman Tung Pi-wu, a native of Hupeh, is interested in his work and has given him personal encouragements.

Among the women members are Kang Tung-pi and Liang Ling-hsien, daughters of Kang Yu-wei and Liang Chi-chao, scholars and leaders of the Reform Movement of 1898 which was frustrated by the Empress Dowager Tsu Hsi, the aunt of Emperor Kuang Hsu who advocated the Reform. Seventy-nine-year-old Kang Tung-pi, who toured China and foreign countries with her father in her teens does gardening at home every morning. She completed a 120,000-word *Supplement to the Chronicle of the Life of Kang Yu-wei* last year, and is now collecting the many unpublished posthumous works of her father written before and after the Reform. As an eyewitness to the fiasco of her father's reformist activities, she is now convinced that socialism, and only socialism, can bring happiness to the entire Chinese people.

**Seven Queen Bees in One Hive.** Beekeepers and many scientists of the world have long considered how to make use of the surplus pollen in beehives. There is only one queen in a beehive and the larvae it produces cannot possibly consume all the pollen the worker bees collect. If there were more than one queen bee in a bee

colony, the output of honey would be increased ten to twenty times during the season of honey flows. But the question has been how to introduce more queen bees in a colony without causing a "civil war."

Experiments to solve this problem have been carried out in this country for some time based on Soviet experience. This year some beekeepers in Canton succeeded with new experiments based on the knowledge that bees fight only because all the queen bees are jealous of each other and that the bees recognize their queen bee not visually but by the odour of an excretion peculiar to the queen bee. Queen bees do not fight one another when they are brought together after being kept in isolation for about thirty minutes because they are frightened and hungry. The worker bees will easily accept more queen bees and their different odours when the queen bee is absent from the colony for four hours. Operating on the basis of this knowledge the Cantonese beekeepers have succeeded in introducing seven young queen bees into a single hive. The final results, however, are still to be confirmed as further experiments are in progress.

**Lou-Wei-Lou, Hangchow's Famous Restaurant.** Lou-Wei-Lou, or the Outer Storey of Storeys, the century-old nationally famous restaurant on the West Lake in Hangchow, will serve its customers this autumn in a new building now under construction. With five times as much floor space as the old premises, it will embrace an area ten times as large as the original one. The new building is air-conditioned, can accommodate 600 people in three dining halls. There is also a big foyer and a beautiful garden of its own. Dining halls on the upper floor will command a grand view of the well-known scenic area, with the West Lake in the front, Ku Shan (Lonely Hill) in the rear, the Hsiling Seal-Engravers' Club at its left and at its right the causeway named after the poet Su Tung-po of the Sung dynasty.

In addition to its traditional specialties such as "Sour Fish of West Lake," "Shrimps in Long Jing (Dragon Well) Tea" and "Sweetened Ham," new table delicacies will also be served, including such recent innovations of its best chefs as "Fragrant Chicken in Water Lily Leaves," "Beancurd with Eight Precious Ingredients" and "Stewed Pork with Oranges and Dates."

The new premises are scheduled to open on the eve of National Day (October 1).

**Basketball Tournament.** The stadium was packed with nearly 2,000 spectators watching a well-played basketball game. The players were unusually alert and quick in their reactions, their judgement most accurate and their movements sharp and slick. At the time out, the players were briefed by their coach through an "interpreter" who "speaks" sign language. It was the National Deaf Men's Basketball Finals which opened on June 14 in Peking. Sponsored by the China Welfare Society for the Deaf and Mute, and other related organizations, the preliminaries were held recently in Shenyang, Nanking and Wuhan. Teams now taking part in the finals are the winners of the previous elimination contests.

**Miniature Picture Books.** Several children were playing hide-and-seek in a garden. Splash! One of them slipped and fell into a big water jar. The rest were panic-stricken and did not know what to do. But one of the boys hastily picked up a big stone and threw it at the jar without hesitation. The jar broke and the water gushed out. The victim was saved. The boy who saved the life of his playmate was Szuma Kuang who grew up to become the Prime Minister of the House of Chaos of the Northern Sung dynasty (960-1127). The well-known story of Szuma Kuang is one of many included in a new series of miniature folding picture books for pre-school children published by the People's Fine Arts Publishing House in Peking. Picture books are popular reading material for children in New China. Some of these pictures are drawn in Chinese traditional style while others are like cartoons. All the illustrations are coloured.



Szuma Kuang and his playmates  
Drawing by Mo Lang

# THEATRE

## *Tsai Wen-chi*

*For centuries past the tragic song of  
Wen-chi has been sung,  
Today her happy fate brings joy to  
all.*

These lines by Kuo Mo-jo, the poet, historian and dramatist, might well be taken to describe the warmth with which Peking theatre-goers have received his latest five-act play *Tsai Wen-chi*. Produced by the Peking People's Art Theatre, the play is now in its fifth week, and is still being performed to packed houses, with bookings made for many weeks ahead. An ingenious director, Chiao Chu-yin, has staged this historical play most effectively. He is well served by an excellent cast. The poet-dramatist, while basing himself on historical facts, has given full rein to a rich imagination, giving his play a rare poetic beauty. The foyer and the press have been filled with lively discussion and debate about the new image of Tsao Tsao that appears — not the swashbuckling tyrant so often presented in the theatre, but an outstanding statesman.

Kuo Mo-jo has written many historical plays; his *Chu Yuan* and *Tiger Tally* scored great successes when they were restaged after liberation. *Tsai Wen-chi* was completed only this year and is the first play he has written since liberation. It covers a period of eight years, from 208 to 216 A. D., in the life of Tsai Wen-chi, the daughter of Tsai Yung, a scholar who lived during the declining years of the Eastern Han dynasty (25-220 A. D.).

Many stories have been told about this talented woman poet and musician who showed the keenest sensibility to music even when she was still a child. Tsai Wen-chi's life, however, was filled with misfortune. In childhood she drifted from place to place with her father, a victim of political intrigues. When she grew up, she became widowed after only a few years of happy married life. At that time the Eastern Han empire was crumbling under the increasing pressure of peasant uprisings, internal power politics, and invasions from alien tribes. When the Hsiung Nu (Huns) invaded the country, she was captured and taken to wife by the Prince of the Eastern Region. Though she led a settled life among the Hsiung Nu, she yearned for her homeland and its cultural pursuits.

In the meanwhile, Prime Minister Tsao Tsao had restored a large part of the country to peace and prosperity. Anxious to revive and foster the arts and literature, his thoughts turned to his deceased friend Tsai Yung's daughter, Wen-chi, for whose literary talents he had great admiration. He sent two envoys to the South Hsiung Nu Kingdom to redeem Tsai Wen-chi, so that she could return to her homeland to carry on her father's literary work.

"To return or not to return" is the dilemma Tsai Wen-chi finds herself in when the curtain rises on a scene set in a Hsiung Nu encampment. Wen-chi, as she cradles her baby girl, is in an agony of indecision. She has lived with the Hsiung Nu for twelve years, and has given birth to two children. But now she is asked to return to the Hans. She longs to return to her homeland, but cannot tear herself from her husband and family. If she returns, she may never be able to see them again. She has been considering the matter for three days and nights. Now it is the fourth, decisive day. Off-stage a voice sings the lament of her famous *Song of the Reed-Pipe*. "No one knows the piercing pain I feel in my heart . . ." and other lines sung to the accompaniment of traditional Chinese music, vividly reflect the struggle in her heart. Suddenly she hears the cry of wild geese flying past. She raises her head to see them, but they have already vanished in the distance. Off-stage a girl sings:

*Would that the south-bound geese  
might take my heart with them,  
And on their northward journey  
bring me news of home.  
But flying high, they have vanished,  
What avails my broken heart, con-  
sumed by grief!*



Tsao Tsao and Tsai Wen-chi

The Hsiung Nu Prince is at first reluctant to let Wen-chi return. When Chou Chin, one of Tsao Tsao's envoys, tries to browbeat and threaten him with the use of military force, he is so enraged that he has a mind to kill Wen-chi and the children, and so put an end to everything. Wen-chi herself is also angered by Chou Chin's haughtiness. But this misunderstanding is cleared up when Tung Szu, the other envoy, tells Wen-chi that Tsao Tsao, who wishes for peace, merely hopes that she will return to carry on her father's scholarly work. Tung Szu dispels the Prince's doubts when the latter overhears him tell Wen-chi that Tsao Tsao is working for unity and friendship between the various nationalities and is not, as Chou Chin has falsely said, trying to bully others into submission by military force. Tung Szu's words succeed in moving both the Prince and Wen-chi. The former now gives his consent to Wen-chi's return. Though reconciled to this new turn of fate, Wen-chi bids farewell to her family and the Huns in deep sorrow. Off-stage the voice sings:

*Every step takes me further and  
further away,  
Each step is heavy and hard to take.  
Broken-hearted, I bid you all fare-  
well,  
Leaving my dear ones behind.*

On the way back, she writes her famous *Song of the Reed-Pipe*. In the still of the night she recalls the past, bewailing her hard fate. Tung Szu, a childhood friend, does his best to encourage her to start life anew and forget her sorrows. On their return, however, he is falsely accused of philandering and treason by his fellow envoy; Wen-chi's resolute rebuttal of the charges saves his life. In the following eight years she succeeds in writing down from memory over four hundred of her father's writings which were lost during the years of war. Meanwhile her husband the Prince had died. Relations between the Hsiung Nu Kingdom and the Han dynasty have greatly improved. To Wen-chi's great joy, she is reunited with her children whom the King of the Hsiung Nu brings to the Han court. Her story ends happily with her marriage to Tung Szu, with Tsao Tsao acting as the matchmaker.

Tsai Wen-chi's story, as one of the more outstanding of those of countless thousands of other unfortunates during those years of unrest, has been told by many writers and dramatists



The two envoys: Chou Chin (left) and Tung Szu  
Sketches by Yeh Chien-yu

over the centuries. The earliest stage version was by Chin Jen-chieh of the Yuan dynasty (1279-1368 A.D.); but his *Tsai Wen-chi Returns to the Han Dynasty* was later lost. During the Ming dynasty (1368-1644), Chen Yuchiao also wrote a play about Wen-chi, in which the emphasis was placed on the sorrow of Wen-chi in parting from her children. Later, in the early years of the Ching dynasty (1644-1911), Yu Tung wrote a play in which Wen-chi mourned and wailed at the tomb of Wang Chao-chun, the ill-fated imperial concubine of the Emperor Yuan Ti of the Han dynasty who was sent to marry and appease the king of the invading Hsiung Nu. In this play, Wen-chi pours out her sorrows and complaints to Wang Chao-chun, and bewails their fates which had much in common. The late great Peking opera actor Cheng Yen-chiu who died a year ago used to perform in a play about Tsai Wen-chi based on this version. But it was only in a play written by a playwright with the pseudonym Nan Shan Yi Shih in the Ching dynasty that Tsao Tsao was lauded for his gallant act in redeeming Tsai Wen-chi; this play also mentioned the fact that after her return, Wen-chi carried on the work of her scholar-father.

Kuo Mo-jo has intended to make his play about Wen-chi a happy romance. The play does end happily with Wen-chi's reunion with her children and her marriage to Tung Szu, but the first two-thirds are filled with sorrow, and the gaiety at the very end, the "happy ending," is hardly enough to outweigh the rest. Nevertheless, the main theme, the story of Tsai Wen-chi's life, stands out vividly; its secondary theme, unity and friendship between the nationalities, is given an interesting place. Great credit for the artistry of the production must go to the director Chiao Chu-yin. Before this, he directed Lao Sheh's *Dragon Beard Ditch* and *Tea House*, Tsao Yu's *Bright Sky*, and Kuo Mo-jo's *Tiger Tally*. Here,

in *Tsai Wen-chi*, he has continued his efforts to adapt techniques of acting characteristic of traditional Chinese opera to the needs of modern Chinese drama, and it is generally agreed that this time he has done so more successfully than in the *Tiger Tally*. The use of off-stage singing to the accompaniment of *kun-qu* tunes, after the style of Szechuan opera, is particularly successful. Not only does it give a rhythmic movement to the play, and helps the audience under-

stand the inner feelings of the characters, but it adds much poetic beauty and provides a unique enjoyment with its melodies composed by Chin Tzu-kuang, Fu Hsueh-yi and Fan Pu-yi. The stage sets, props, costumes and lighting are well harmonized.

The acting is of a very high order. Tiao Kuang-lan has made a living Tsao Tsao out of Kuo Mo-jo's new conception of this controversial figure in Chinese history. Equally good is Chu Lin in the role of Tsai Wen-chi. She gives a deeply moving portrayal of this woman poet-musician during the various periods of her troubled life. She ably projects the image of a tender-hearted mother who is also a brave, strong-willed and eloquent woman ready, when occasion demands, to stand up against power and injustice. They are ably supported by other members of the cast.

—NING YI

## CINEMA

### Documentaries on Tibetans

Two documentary films on the Tibetans inhabiting the Kantse area in the southwestern province of Szechuan are now being exhibited in Peking. One is a shattering exposure of the hellish life the mass of the Tibetans lived under serfdom in the past; the other is an account of the present since the power of the Tibetan upper-class reactionaries was broken and democratic reforms carried out.

*The Kantse Tibetans Accuse!* produced by the August First Film Studio of Peking is a record of the horrifying crimes committed against the people by the handful of reactionaries who ruthlessly oppressed and exploited the people under the cloak of religion. These big landowners, usurers and illegal traders, working in collusion with the imperialists and Kuomintang reactionaries, not only turned

monasteries into reactionary strongholds, but set up their own private prisons. These are aspects of life that they kept carefully hid. Now you can see screened the inside of their torture chambers with instruments of barbarous torture, their "collections" of skulls of innocent victims, amputated arms and hands and dried human skins found in these private dens. This is the barbarous system that the awakened Tibetan working people demand should be ended for good and all. There are intensely moving episodes in this documentary of the people pouring out their pent-up grievances and telling of the unheard-of atrocities they suffered under serfdom. This is an indictment, packed with irrefutable evidence, against the Tibetan reactionaries.

In *New Life of the Khambas*, its latest release, the Central Newsreel and Documentary Film Studio records how the 540,000 people of the Kantse Tibetans' Autonomous Chou in Szechuan are building a new and prosperous life now that they are their own masters. Democratic reforms have been carried out there. Former serfs are now free men, and for the first time in centuries, we see them happily tilling their own land and herding their own flocks.

On the same programme is a newsreel on life in Lhasa today: the joyous May Day rally, poor Tibetans moving into new homes, hundreds of children going to new schools, and soldiers of the People's Liberation Army helping Tibetans till their land. Seen in that sequence it becomes clearer what a fearsome chapter has ended for the Tibetans, and what great promise the future holds in store for them.

\* \* \*  
*Flying Over the Roof of the World*, a Peking Film Studio production to be released this month, is a colour feature about the opening of the difficult Peking-Lhasa air route. An exciting story has been built up around the life and activities of China's young pilots and navigators and their dedication in opening an air route that means so much to the happiness of the Tibetan people. The climax comes on the last trial run. Chao Chung-kai (played by Yu Yang), Chang Chi-liang (Chao Lien) and Liu Ho-cheng (Li Tzu-ping) have succeeded in flying over the roof of the world to Lhasa, but on their return journey, the supply of oxygen runs short. There is not enough for the three of them. At this moment of decision the revolutionary ethical and social principles in which they have been raised determine the solution. Their adventure is also the occasion for some spectacular shots of mountains and landscape of the Sikang-Tibet plateau never before seen on the screen.

# CHINESE PRESS OPINION

## *Inspiring Review of Soviet National Economy*

The Peking press gives extended coverage to the opening of the Soviet National Economy Exhibition in Moscow. *Da Gong Bao's* commentary (June 17) describes the exhibition as "a grand parade of the fruits of labour of the Soviet people and a significant event in the national life of the U.S.S.R." that "will inspire the Soviet working people with still greater courage and confidence in the building of communism."

The exhibition "showing the blossoms of communist construction," the commentary declares, "is a concentrated demonstration of the historic victory of worldwide significance won by the working people of the Soviet Union." It shows the talent and creative power of the Soviet people and at the same time opens before them the glorious vistas of the country's seven-year plan.

The commentary notes that since the raising of labour productivity is of decisive significance in the building of communism, the Soviet people are now engaged in a big effort to improve their productive equipment, and are working hard to carry out automation, mechanization and technical innovation. In this connection, the exhibition will give a further great impetus to the advance of technology in the various branches of the Soviet national economy to create favourable conditions for the early fulfilment of the seven-year plan which will represent a decisive step forward in the establishment of the material and technical basis for communism.

The exhibition also shows the victorious advance of the Soviet Union in its peaceful economic competition with the capitalist world, *Da Gong Bao* points out. A hundred thousand articles on exhibition shatter the malicious calumnies directed against the economic development of the Soviet Union by Western imperialism and reaction. This exhibition makes clear the vitality of the new and thriving socialist system and the grounds for the complete confidence of the Soviet people that they will fulfil their basic economic tasks by catching up with and surpassing the most developed capitalist country in per capita production within the shortest space of time.

The current exhibition, therefore, rightly attracts world attention. The Chinese people and peoples throughout the world rejoice at the great achievements of the Soviet people. The glorious

example of the U.S.S.R. inspires them all in the noble cause of peace, democracy and socialism.

## *U.S. Intervention in Cuba*

Condemning U.S. intervention in Cuba's internal affairs, *Renmin Ribao's* Commentator (June 17) points out that adoption of a land reform law by the Cuban Government is entirely Cuba's own business; there is no call whatsoever for the U.S. owners of sugar plantations who exploit the Cuban peasants and workers, to be invited as advisers.

Land reform is one of the fundamental measures of the Cuban revolution, Commentator says. The plantation system is a root cause of the impoverishment and misery of the Cuban people. It is inseparably bound up with the predatory activities of the U.S. monopoly capitalists.

The present attempt by U.S. imperialism to interfere in Cuba's land reform is a continuation of U.S. interference when Cuba was dealing with its war criminals, Commentator writes. U.S. intervention is designed to prevent the Cuban Government from pursuing a policy that conforms with the interests of the Cuban people. Furthermore, using the "anti-communist threat" as a smokescreen to cover up its interven-

tion, U.S. imperialism is attempting to set the rulers of other Latin American countries against Cuba by fanning doubts and stirring up hatred; it is trying to split the unity among the Cuban people of various social strata so that it can repeat in that country the 1954 armed coup in Guatemala which subverted the Arbenz government.

Now, Commentator continues, in addition to putting political and economic pressure on the Cuban Government and collaborating with the big feudal plantation owners of Cuba in opposing the land reform, the U.S. is working actively on a plot of international armed intervention against Cuba. The U.S. Senate recently adopted a resolution to appropriate 29,500,000 dollars as a "loan" to set up a so-called "police corps" for American countries. This "police corps" is directed against Cuba, Commentator notes. The U.S.-sponsored conference of the Ministers of the Interior of six Central American countries which recently met to discuss measures of "defence against communist infiltration" in the Caribbean area, was also spearheaded against Cuba. At the same time, the U.S. is sending more reinforcements to its Guantanamo naval base in Cuba, thereby posing a serious threat to the peace and security of Cuba and Latin America, Commentator states.

Praising the great courage shown by the Cuban people and government in face of brazen intervention and blackmail by U.S. imperialism, Commentator quotes Prime Minister Fidel Castro

## THE PASSING SHOW

### Life Begins at Ninety

Doubtful of the inflexibility of his NATO partners, Adenauer has decided not to relinquish the chancellorship of the West German government. He explained: "I decided that I myself must come out to help ensure the continuation of Western policy." He also drew up a blacklist of those Bundestag members of his Christian Democratic Union who had opposed his decision, and then got his federal security men to put them under "protection." Twenty-three members of his party were arrested from mid-May to June 5 for opposing his government, reports the ADN agency.



"It's no use growing older if you only learn new ways of misbehaving yourself."

**"All men are created equal"** — American Declaration of Independence  
— but some are more equal than others

Official U.S. statistics show that the under-privileged 20 per cent of the U.S. population gets only 4.8 per cent of the national income while the privileged upper 20 per cent gets 45.3 per cent and the upper crust 5 per cent gets 20 per cent of the nation's income.

as declaring that Cuba "would not change a single comma in the land reform law." The Cuban people are mobilizing themselves in the struggle to defend the revolution and the land reform, says Commentator.

All the Latin American people support the just cause of the Cuban people, Commentator declares, Cuba has the sympathy of people all over the world. As Prime Minister Castro said, although the land reform has aroused opposition, the "enemy has stimulated the revolution to march on." Commentator concludes that "no enemy, not even the vicious U.S. imperialism can prevent the Cuban people from marching on. The shameless intervention of U.S. imperialism will surely be smashed by the united strength of the Cuban people."

### Laotian Situation Deteriorating

Reviewing the deteriorating situation in Laos in the past two weeks, a news survey in *Renmin Ribao* (June 16) notes that world public opinion is expressing legitimate concern over the grave situation that is arising as a result of the sabotage of peace in Laos. Those countries and peoples who are concerned with the Geneva agreements especially cannot be indifferent, it states.

Egged on by the U.S., the Sananikone government launched armed attacks on the Pathet Lao forces. The Second Battalion of the Pathet Lao fighting units had to resist and it is now putting up a heroic fight with the support of the local populace.

The Governments of the Democratic Republic of Viet-nam and the People's Republic of China have time and again called for a check to be put on the activities of the Royal Laotian Government violating the Geneva agreements and requested that the work of the International Commission for Supervision and Control be resumed so as to save peace in Laos.

As one of the co-chairmen of the 1954 Geneva Conference, the Soviet Government on May 30 sent a note to the British Government, the other co-chairman, calling for resumption of the work of the International Commission in Laos and stressing that the sabotage of international agreements by the Laotian Government has gravely threatened the peace of Indo-China. The Polish and Indian Governments, as members of the International Commission in Laos, have also requested that effective measures be taken to solve the Laotian question in accordance with the Geneva agreements.

But, the survey points out, the British Government has ignored its serious

responsibility to safeguard the Geneva agreements and rejected the Soviet Union's proposal that the practical work of the International Commission in Laos be resumed; it has defended the Laotian Government in its violation of the Geneva agreements and tried to exonerate the U.S. of the crime of interfering in the internal affairs of Laos and instigating civil war in that country.

The news survey notes that the aggressive forces headed by the U.S. are further stepping up tension in Laos and Indo-China, and fanning the flames of war in Laos. A UPI dispatch from Washington on June 5 ranted that if the Laotian situation develops into an "international crisis," SEATO may intervene in it directly. SEATO Secretary-General Pote Sarasin openly declared on June 9 that SEATO would not "sit and idle" in the face of developments in the Laotian situation; he also said that if the Laotian authorities ask for "aid," SEATO will consider that request. Saigon is also bruiting it about that the so-called "free nations and SEATO" will take a "firm stand" on the Laotian situation.

This clamour from the U.S. imperialists and their lackeys clearly exposes Washington's plot to use SEATO to intervene in Laos. The peace-loving countries and peoples of Asia and of the rest of the world cannot fail to pay close attention to the fact that the U.S. aggressive forces are plotting to sabotage peace in Indo-China, the survey concludes.

### De Gaulle's Algerian Policy

"The de Gaulle government will never be able to suppress the Algerian people's struggle for national indepen-

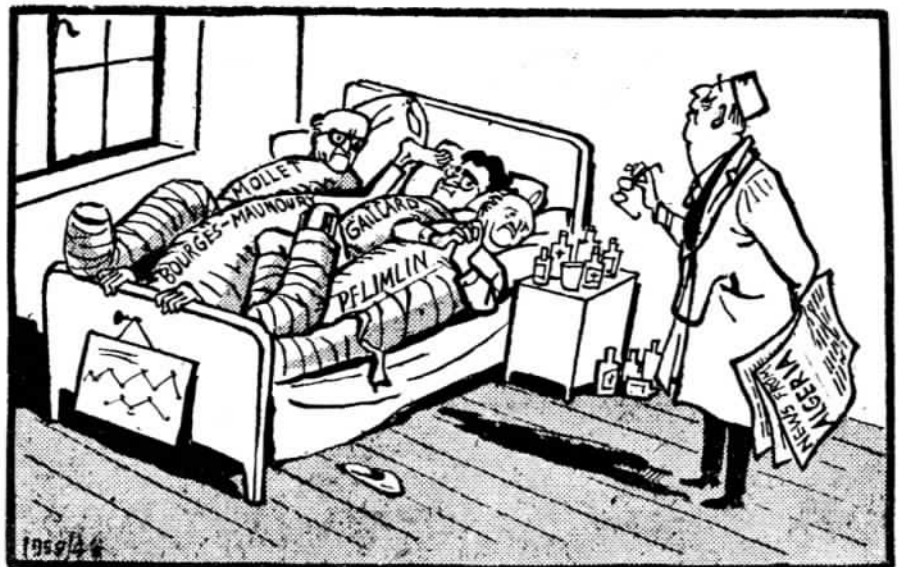
dence," says *Da Gong Bao* (June 15) in a commentary entitled "De Gaulle's Government Up a Blind Alley."

Ever since the Algerian people launched their armed struggle against the French colonialists, the commentary recalls, practically every French cabinet has tried to deceive the people with the slogan of bringing about peace in Algeria, and nearly all of them have collapsed either directly or indirectly because of their insistence on continuing the aggressive war in Algeria.

The French National Assembly recently held a session to debate the Algerian question. Under pressure of the right-wing parties, it adopted two bills to incorporate Algeria's budget and currency into those of France. This, the commentary points out, aims at the virtual annexation of Algeria by France. French Premier Debre stridently claimed that France was the only country which could bring "peace and freedom" to Algeria. But these measures can neither deceive the Algerian and French peoples nor get the French Government out of its difficulties.

The press has revealed that French military expenditure for 1960 will increase by another 40,000 million francs. This is partly to finance the colonial war against the Algerians. It shows that de Gaulle's government is determined to continue this hopeless war.

The Algerian people on their part are determined to carry on their just struggle to the end; in this they are supported by people all over the world. They are bound to gain the final victory. In persisting in this policy of war and annexation the de Gaulle government is working its way up a blind alley, the commentary concludes.



Doctor: It looks as if you will have to make room for the General!

By Mi Ku

# CHINA AND THE WORLD

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## Peruvian Guests in China

The visiting Peruvian parliamentary group, after touring Peking, Lushun-Talien, Shanghai and other cities, is scheduled to leave China for home by the end of this week.

During their visit to this country, members of the group were warmly welcomed by the Chinese people and their leaders. Mao Tse-tung, Chou En-lai and Chu Teh personally received them and took photos with the group. Lin Po-chu, Vice-Chairman of the Standing Committee of the National People's Congress, gave a banquet in their honour.

In his speech at the banquet, Lin Po-chu noted that in recent years friendly interchange between the two peoples has developed despite various obstacles. A profound sentiment of mutual sympathy and mutual support exists between the peoples of China and Peru, he said. Lin Po-chu expressed the hope that the countries on both sides of the Pacific Ocean will develop economic and cultural relations, promote contacts and interchange between their peoples, so that the Pacific Ocean may become "a genuinely pacific ocean overflowing with friendship between the peoples on all its shores."

Peruvian Deputy Ernesto More, head of the parliamentary group, said that it was very difficult for the members of the group to find words to express their emotion at the friendly and enthusiastic reception accorded them since their arrival in China. He said he agreed with Lin Po-chu that the countries around the Pacific Ocean should have mutual understanding and help each other in a friendly atmosphere.

During their stay in China, members of the group visited factories, dockyards, people's communes, scientific research institutes and other places of interest. In Peking, they also discussed economic and agricultural questions with interested circles.

In an interview with Hsinhua correspondents, four members of the 26-man group who left earlier for home described the deep impression made upon them by the Chinese people's constructive efforts and by their big achievements. Eduardo

Vallejos, Second Vice-Chairman of the Peruvian Chamber of Deputies, said his general impression was that China was now teeming with new life. He felt that the Chinese leaders and the ordinary workers he had met had a common ideal and that was to work hard for the construction of the country. Jorge Avavelo, First Secretary of the Peruvian Chamber of Deputies, said he believed that "the socialist system is good for China."

## Colombian Parliamentary Delegation

A 16-member parliamentary delegation from Colombia arrived in Peking last week. It has come to China after visiting Czechoslovakia, the German Democratic Republic, Poland and the Soviet Union.

Mao Tse-tung and Liu Shao-chi together received the members of the delegation last Wednesday. In the same afternoon, Vice-Chairman Lin Po-chu of the Standing Committee of the National People's Congress gave a reception in their honour.

In his toast of welcome Lin Po-chu said that the Chinese people have always taken the keenest interest in the efforts of the people of Colombia and other Latin American countries to defend their national independence and secure prosperity for their countries. "We look on the recent achievements of the people of Colombia and other Latin American countries in developing their national economies, resisting outside aggression and defending world peace as if they were our very own. We are elated and inspired by them," he declared.

Horacio Rodriguez Plata, head of the Colombian delegation, replied that the people of both Colombia and China had many things in common as both had been oppressed by imperialism. He expressed the belief that the current visit of the delegation would result in the establishment of firmer friendship between the two peoples.

Among other distinguished Latin American guests now visiting China are former Vice-President of Chile, Guillermo del Pedregal and his wife. During their stay in Peking they were received by Mao Tse-tung and Liu Shao-chi.

## Trade with Ceylon

The China-Ceylon trade protocol for 1959 and contracts for rubber-rice transactions for the same year were signed on June 13 in Colombo.

The protocol envisages exports by China to Ceylon to a total value of 124.6 million rupees and exports by Ceylon to China to an equivalent value in 1959.

Under the contracts for rubber-rice transactions, China in 1959 undertakes to buy 30,000 metric tons of rubber from Ceylon and will export 230,000 metric tons of rice to Ceylon.

A joint communique on the trade talks between the governments of the two countries issued on the same day said that "discussions were conducted in an atmosphere of utmost goodwill and cordiality, and the agreements reached mark a further step forward in the development and consolidation of trade and friendly relations between China and Ceylon."

## Sino-Soviet Central Asian Survey

A joint Chinese-Soviet palaeontological survey team of 70 members has left Peking for Inner Mongolia to begin an investigation into the origins of life in the deserts of Central Asia. The Institute of Vertebrate Palaeontology of the Chinese Academy of Sciences and the Institute of Palaeontology of the Soviet Union are co-operating on this venture.

The survey is expected to take five years. The first three years will be devoted to surveys in Inner Mongolia, Ninghsia, Kansu, Chinghai and Sinkiang within the territory of China. Activities in the next two years will be transferred to the Kazakh, Kirghiz and Uzbek Republics within the territory of the Soviet Union.

Central Asia, heart of the Eurasian land mass, is the centre of the origin and evolution of many important types of land vertebrates. This area runs from east to west across a zone of deserts extending 4,000 to 5,000 kilometres in which are located many inland sedimentary basins. Besides containing abundant mineral resources it is known for its rich yields of vertebrate palaeontological fossils. This is a key area for the study of geology and the history of biological development on the Eurasian land mass. Scientific circles look for rich results from this survey and expect it will be of great significance to the geological and biological sciences.

The Soviet Union is providing the equipment to be used by the survey team.

## Gift from Korea

Peking has received a gift of 500 precious mementoes of the friendship sealed between the Chinese and Korean peoples during the Korean war. They have been sent by the National Liberation War Memorial Hall of Korea to the Military Museum of the Chinese People's Revolution in Peking.

Collected from local people and army-men all over Korea after the withdrawal of the Chinese People's Volunteers from Korea, they include reminiscences written

by the Korean hero Kim Yung Chel about the repulse of a tank attack at Mun Dung-ni. Here a Korean anti-tank group of 28 men, in co-operation with the Chinese People's Volunteers, crippled 39 enemy tanks and wiped out 260 enemy troops.

There are also pictures and gifts of those heroic Korean women who became known as "Mothers of the Volunteers." Pak Dong Yun, one of these heroines, was repeatedly beaten by enemy officers but refused to reveal the whereabouts of four Chinese scouts she had hidden.

Among the gifts are the tools used by Li Chun Kyn, Party committee chairman of a Korean island and four other men who risked death in breaking through thick ice to rescue some wounded Volunteers.

"These souvenirs are testaments to the brotherly ties between the peoples of China and Korea," reads the letter of thanks sent by the Chinese Military Museum to the Korean Memorial Hall.

"They symbolize the victory of the peoples of the two countries in their common struggle against U.S. aggression."

### Friends from Indonesia

The Indonesian naval training vessel *Dewarutji*, under the command of Lieutenant Commander Frits Suak, has just concluded a 7-day goodwill visit to Canton, south China's biggest port city. A great crowd of well-wishers saw the vessel off from Whampoa Harbour on June 17. Admirals, generals and other high-ranking officers of the Chinese People's Liberation Army in Canton were present.

Speaking at the farewell ceremony, Vice-Mayor Sun Lo-yi of Canton pointed out that this friendly visit has further strengthened the friendship between the armed forces and peoples of the two countries. In his speech, Lieutenant Commander Frits Suak warmly praised the Chinese people's industry in building

up their country. His listeners enthusiastically echoed his words: "Long live our common cause—the independence of our motherlands and opposition to colonialism! Long live the friendship between our two countries!"

During their stay in Canton, the Indonesian guests visited famous city sights and historical spots and people's communes in the suburbs.

Among other Indonesian friends now visiting China are members of a youth delegation headed by Eliander Dantjie, member of the Central Council of the Indonesian Youth Front. The delegation was received by Premier Chou En-lai on June 16. Four days earlier, some 800 young people in Peking gathered at a meeting to give a rousing welcome to the Indonesian guests.

Professor D. Tirtod Inigrat, President of the Indonesian National Hasanudin University who came to China at the invitation of Peking University, is now on a tour of the country.

## 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 BUTTERFLY CUP** A prefect's son, Tien Yu-chuan accidentally kills the son of a viceroys when he intervenes to stop the latter from beating an old fisherman to death. Tien has to flee with the help of the fisherman's daughter. They fall in love and he gives her a butterfly cup on their betrothal. Later he saves the life of the viceroys in battle against invaders. The viceroys drops the case against him and Tien marries the fisherman's daughter. Produced by the China Peking Opera Theatre.

June 24, 7:30 p.m. *Renmin Theatre*

### PINGJU OPERA

▲ **GREEN JADE GARDEN** Adapted from a popular Chinese folk tale which satirizes feudal family relations. Duke Ning of the Ming dynasty wishes to build a pleasure garden named Green Jade. He victimizes a poor scholar for refusing to surrender his homestead. Fate overtakes the villain. Produced by the China Pingju Opera Theatre.

June 24, 7:30 p.m. *Da Zhong Theatre*

### WUSHIH OPERA

▲ **THE PEARL PAGODA** Adapted from a popular Chinese folk tale which satirizes feudal family relations. Fang Ching, a young scholar, seeks help from his snobbish, wealthy and miserly aunt who, far from helping him, treats him with contempt because of his poverty. Spurred by this bitter experience, Fang Ching studies hard, passes the imperial examination and becomes a high official. How, on his return in the guise of a Taoist, he teases his aunt is the comic ending of the play.

▲ **MENG LI-CHUN** A traditional opera. Meng Li-chun has been promised in marriage to the son of a traitor. To escape this fate she disguises herself as a man and runs away, eventually to become a high court official.

(The above two operas are produced by the visiting Kiangsu Wushih Opera Company. Watch for place and date!)

### MODERN OPERA

▲ **THE CLOTH SELLER** (Arshin Mal Alan) A comic opera by the famous Azerbaijan playwright, Uzer Gadjibekov, produced in Chinese by the Central Experimental Opera Theatre. A wealthy Azerbaijan youth who wants to choose his own bride, disguises himself as a wandering cloth seller, and so meets a beautiful girl. They fall in love. The girl's rich father refuses to let his daughter wed a poor cloth seller, but with the help of a friend, all ends happily.

June 28 & 29, 7:30 p.m. *Tianqiao Theatre*

Previews of programmes by the China Youth Cultural Troupe prepared for

THE 1959 WORLD YOUTH FESTIVAL IN VIENNA

\*A recital of orchestral music, singing (choral and solo), folk dances.

June 23, 7:30 p.m.

\*An evening of juggling, acrobatics and impersonations.

June 24 & 25, 7:30 p.m.

\*A variety performance of Peking opera, folk songs and dances, vocal solos, orchestral music and acrobatics.

June 26 & 27, 7:30 p.m.

\*CONCERT: Vocal solos, orchestral music and performances on Chinese instruments.

June 28, 2:00 p.m.

All the above programmes will be presented at the *Peking Workers' Club*.

### SONG AND DANCE

▲ **FOLK SONGS AND DANCES** of China's many nationalities performed by the Central Nationalities Song and Dance Troupe.

June 23, 7:30 p.m. *Renmin Theatre*

### THEATRE

▲ **TSAI WEN-CHI** Kuo Mo-jo's latest historical play. (See p. 18.) Produced by the Peking People's Art Theatre.

June 23-30, 7-30 p.m. *Shoudu Theatre*

### FILMS

▲ **THE KANTSE TIBETANS ACCUSE!** and **NEW LIFE OF THE KHAMBAS** Two documentaries about the old and new life of Tibetans. Showing from June 23-30 at Peking's four newsreel cinemas.

▲ **THE STORY OF SHEN CHING** A coloured film version of a Korean opera adapted from an ancient folk tale. Shen Ching, daughter of a poor blind old man, sells herself to pay for an offering to the gods to return her father's sight. Her filial love moves the King of the Sea, who helps her. She becomes the queen of Korea and is reunited with her father.

▲ **HOW CAN WE BEAR TO PART** A Korean feature film about a young man who is captured by the U.S.-Syngman Rhee forces during the Korean war and is taken to south Korea. His widowed mother, despite many difficulties, tries to find her only son. The enemy prevents their reunion.

(The above two Korean films will be showing from June 25-29 at Peking's major cinemas. For dates see daily press.)

### EXHIBITIONS

▲ **EXHIBITION OF PORTRAITS AND FIGURE PAINTINGS** by Ming and Ching dynasty artists. Open daily till June 28 9:00 a.m.-7:00 p.m.

At the *Gallery of the Artists' Union*

▲ **PEKING'S FIFTH EXHIBITION OF TRADITIONAL CHINESE PAINTINGS** On display are over 200 pictures by Peking artists. Sponsored by the Peking Research Society of Chinese Paintings. Open daily 9:00 a.m.-6:00 p.m.

At *Beihai Park*

### SPORTS

▲ **AIR DISPLAY** Aerial stunts and parachuting by a visiting team of Czech fliers at Nan Yuan Aerodrome on June 23.

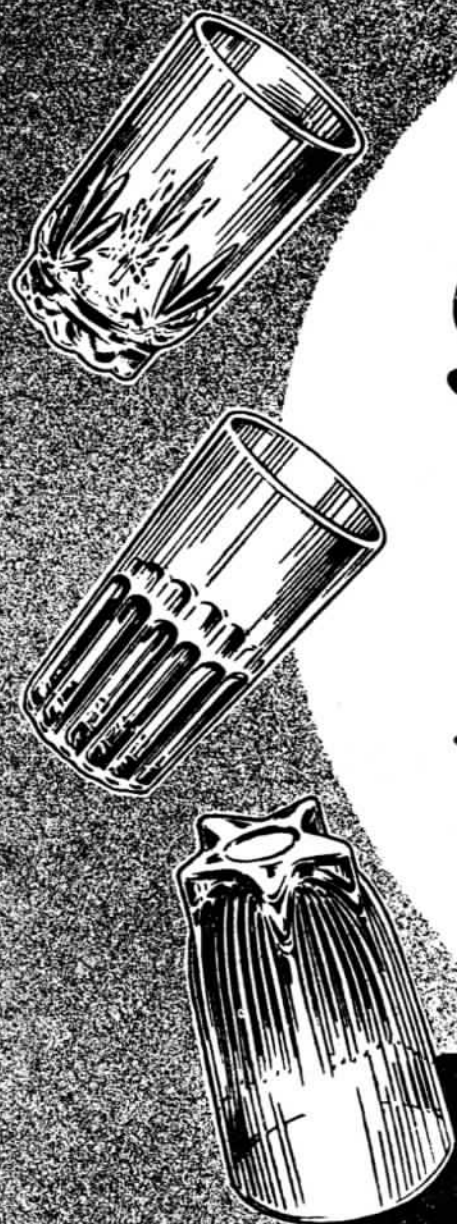
▲ **FOOTBALL MATCH** The Bulgarian State Football Team will shortly visit Peking and play a match with a Chinese team on June 28 at the Peking Stadium.

▲ **TABLE TENNIS** A table tennis team from Nepal will shortly visit Peking and play matches with Chinese teams. Watch for date and place!

### SWIMMING

▲ **OUTDOOR SWIMMING POOLS**  
\*The Shi Cha Hai 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)



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