

PEOPLE'S CHINA



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1953

PEOPLE'S CHINA

A FORTNIGHTLY MAGAZINE

Editor: Liu Tsun-chi

CHRONICLES the life of the Chinese people and reports their progress in building a New Democratic society;

DESCRIBES the new trends in Chinese art, literature, science, education and other aspects of the people's cultural life;

SEEKS to strengthen the friendship between the people of China and those of other lands in the cause of peace.

No. 15, 1953

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In the orchard of the Li Hung-hai Mutual-aid Team, Hsinfu
Village, Yentai County (Chefoo), Shantung Province

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Welcome Reinforcements

THIS summer 35,000 students graduate from China's institutions of higher learning. They are all immediately absorbed into the work of national construction. The number of graduates is double the figure in 1951 and represents a 70 per cent increase over 1946 in Kuomintang days. Next year the number of these welcome reinforcements will be yet greater.

There was also a new feature about the graduates this year. They included the first 454 men and women to complete the three-year course at the People's University where the student body is mainly composed of outstanding workers and peasants. At the same time, the first 1,700 students completed their courses at worker and peasant short-term secondary schools to join various institutions of higher learning. The appearance of these new intellectuals from the worker and peasant

masses marks a new page in China's educational history. Their numbers will grow from year to year.

These developments are part and parcel of the New Democratic life of People's China. Under the old regime the working people were the objects of ruthless exploitation. They were denied the right to education. Often enough those few who did get university training graduated only to unemployment.

Today there are limitless opportunities for the youth. All education serves the people. Unemployment for skilled hands and brains is done with for good. In the new China there are more jobs than graduates. Today the gigantic task of industrialising China calls for tens of thousands of qualified cadres in all the many fields of national endeavour to create a better life for the people.

China's First Automobile Plant

CHINA has begun to build her first automobile plant. This rapid start—less than four years after liberation—to create one of the key branches of modern industry is a momentous step in the progress of this liberated country to industrialisation and economic independence.

In its semi-colonial status, oppressed by the imperialists' and reactionaries' rule, old China could never hope to develop its own automobile industry. It had only a few small car repair shops. But liberation ended this subservience to foreign capital. The building of this automobile plant is typical of the way the country is forging ahead under the leadership of the Chinese Communist Party and the People's Government.

In this enterprise, as in so many others, the selfless aid of the Soviet Union is of decisive

importance in overcoming difficulties of technique and lack of experience. The Soviet Government has sent specialists to help select the site, draft plans and make designs. Later the plant will be equipped with the most modern machines imported from the U.S.S.R.

Thus a new industry is being launched which will be of great importance for China's economic construction and the people's livelihood, opening new perspectives for the rapid development of power, transport, mechanised construction and agriculture. It will give impetus to whole new branches of industry and raise the technical level of the country to new heights. It is an impressive demonstration of the vitality and liberated creative initiative of China's workers and labouring people as a whole in their peaceful construction.

Let Negotiation Replace Force

Mao Tun

THE entire conference hall resounded with stormy applause—and, unanimously, the Appeal of the World Council of Peace was adopted. Many a delegate, in a solemn tone filled with emotion, repeated the concluding words of the Appeal: "Peace is within our reach. It is for us to win it."

Such was the grand historic scene at the closing Budapest Session of the World Peace Council held on June 20.

Appeal to All Mankind

The brief yet penetrating Appeal, every single word of which expresses the aspirations of the peoples the world over, and every word of which captures their very hearts, had been drafted by the Commission on Negotiations and Relaxing International Tension on the proposal made by Major-General Sir Sahib Singh Sokhey, the Indian delegate, in his speech at the first plenary session. On behalf of the Indian Delegation, Major-General Sokhey had concluded his speech with the following suggestion that brought the session to its feet:

We of the Indian Delegation wish to place before this assembly a suggestion which I know corresponds to the wishes of all of you. Let there go forth from this meeting in this beautiful city of Peace, an appeal, couched in the simplest words, to all mankind to join the great struggle for the triumph of the spirit of negotiation over war. Let us spread the glad tidings

The author, a well-known Chinese writer, is a member of the Standing Committee of the World Peace Council. He attended the recent session of the Council held in Budapest.

in this appeal that there is no dispute between nations, no problem which creates an atmosphere of terror, which cannot be solved through negotiations. Korea has shown us the supreme power of negotiation.

Let the call of Budapest be: Negotiate, negotiate, negotiate on each and every issue that creates friction today. Let us not attempt to seek out cut and dried solutions of each and every problem, for there should be no conditions attached to our call to the Powers to negotiate. Any settlement which brings Peace, any invitation for Peace from any quarter must be hailed by us. In each country let us endeavour to persuade our own governments to do whatever lies in their power to help in the opening of those negotiations which can and will bring Peace to all humanity.

Major-General Sokhey was one of the many figures of international renown who attended the Budapest Session. Such highly representative persons as Rene F. Bocard of Switzerland, Oskar Jansson of Sweden, Wilhelm Elfes (Chairman of the German League for Unity, Peace and Freedom) and Pastor Martin Niemoller of West Germany, Eugene Hernu, French Radical and President of the Jacobin Club, the Buddhist priest, Saranan Karam Thero from Ceylon, Professor Ikuo Oyama and Kumaichi Yamamoto (former Japanese Deputy Foreign Minister) from Japan, and Edward Dixon (member of the British Labour Party and Coventry City Councillor) from Great Britain, made their appearance for the first time at the session of the World Peace Council; many of them now associated themselves with the peace movement. Representative of various social strata with differing religious creeds and

political convictions, they, nevertheless, went to Budapest with a common goal: "Negotiate, negotiate, negotiate on each and every issue that creates friction today."

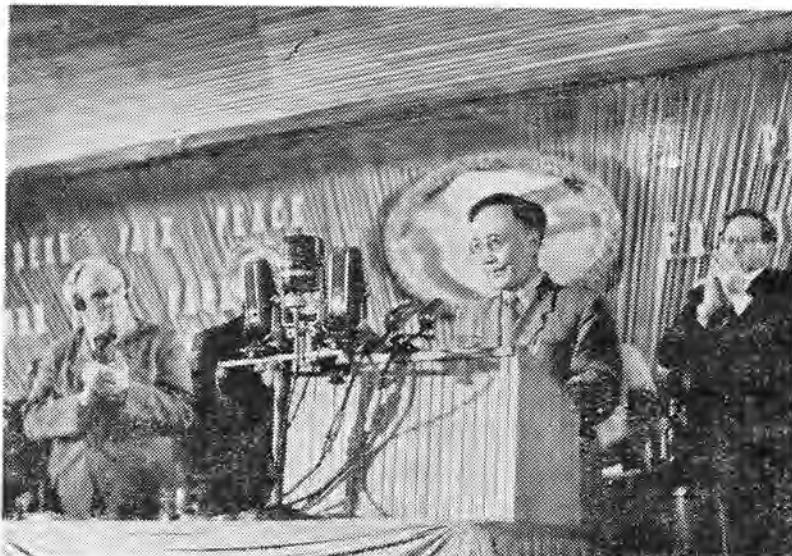
The most notable feature of the session was the unprecedented breadth of its representation.

Nevertheless this broad conference, attended by nearly 400 delegates, met in unity and harmony throughout. From beginning to end, there were warm discussions, but always the objective was the same. This was another outstanding feature of the session.

This oneness of purpose has not been accidental. It is the common demand of the world's peoples who can no longer tolerate the oppressive weight of the past three or four years, which have been like an evil dream—the "cold war," the arms drive, the ever-multiplying U.S. war bases, obstructions to international economic and cultural exchange, deterioration of living standards and mounting threats to national security and sovereignty. It is this pressing demand that the Budapest Session has given timely expression.

A Logical Development

The demand has been a logical development of the new international situation which resulted from the great unswerving efforts made by the Soviet Union, China and other People's Democracies in the struggle for peace. Especially important was the Soviet Government's recent clear and explicit statement that it is willing to settle international disputes with any country (including the United States) by means of peaceful negotiations, and the patient, reasonable and tireless endeavour of the Korean and Chinese peoples to bring about an armistice in Korea and a peaceful settlement of Far Eastern problems. The Budapest Session, in line with the new situation, organised on a wider scale the forces of peace to carry out its work.



Kuo Mo-jo delivering his address on the armistice in Korea and the peaceful solution of Far Eastern problems at the Budapest Session of World Peace Council

Of course, the call for negotiations is also the result of the World Peace Council's efforts over the last three years. The principles set forth by the World Peace Council at its inception, that the different systems in the world can and must co-exist in peace and that all international differences can be settled through peaceful negotiations, have proved to be completely correct. So has the Council's persistence in the above-mentioned principles and its unflagging work to enlist in this great cause, which concerns every individual, more new forces (regardless of their political views and ways of life) from among the various social strata which hitherto had no contact with the peace movement.

When the World Peace Council was first established, the warmongers deliberately slandered it as an organ manipulated by the Communists, so much so that not a few honest and good-hearted people were deceived by them and came to look upon it with suspicion. Today, the bellicose elements are still brazenly repeating their fantastic vilification, but every unbiased, honest man has been brought face to face with the truth through facts. The large number of the specially-invited delegates to the session and the list of additional Council members elected at the plenary session proved this: that the World Peace Council is an organisation

formed of persons in the defence of peace who are representative of various political views, religious beliefs and social strata. There are Communists among them. The Communists certainly do not keep away from the peace movement just to avoid being suspected as the men who pull the strings, for they also want peace. But they certainly have no intention of monopolising the Council. If a proposal put forward by a Communist wins support, it is not because the proposal has been raised by a Communist, but because it conforms to the people's interests.

New Page in History

The Budapest Session showed that a new historic page had been added to the peace movement. In the struggle between peace and war, peace had undoubtedly won the first battle.

However, this does not mean that the task has been accomplished and that the enemies of peace have acknowledged defeat. No, we must not be that naive. Emmanuel d'Astier de la Vigerie said in his opening speech: "However, forces still powerful—directly or indirectly—oppose negotiation, and if some in their ranks are becoming enlightened, others redouble their efforts." Ilya Ehrenburg, the Soviet delegate, too, pointed out in his speech: "The forces of war do not yet by far consider themselves vanquished."

Even as they and other delegates warned in their speeches that the enemies of peace had not been disillusioned, the tiny group of wamongers demonstrated by a series of actions that this was absolutely right. Instigated by U.S. officers, nazi hooligans created riots in Berlin by sneaking into the democratic section of the city. When, thanks to the indefatigable efforts of the Chinese and Korean peoples, the Korean armistice negotiations were about to reach an agreement, the base and shameless Syngman Rhee clique forcibly detained the prisoners of war to openly undermine the basis of the armistice talks and clamoured again and again that it would unify Korea by force. It is notorious that the criminal deeds of the Rhee gang which have been condemned by world public opinion are due to the instigation of bellicose elements in the United States. It is a fact that cannot be concealed from the eyes of the world. Again, the barbarous execution of the Rosenbergs, the

fighters for peace, which aroused world-wide indignation was certainly not an action to ease the cold war and relax international tension.

However, the series of intrigues and provocations of the enemies of peace do not prove that they really have the power to turn the tide of the world situation and use it according to their own designs. On the contrary, what they demonstrate is the desperation of those who fear the might of the peace forces. But it is precisely because of this obstinacy, this desperation, that the fighters for peace and peoples throughout the world must not relax their efforts, for otherwise all their labour will be in vain.

The Appeal and Declaration drawn up at Budapest are inspiring documents which should serve to rally many more millions around the banner of peace. In China they have the support of everyone. At public meetings, in factories and villages, in government offices and in schools, in the churches, mosques, and temples, by the written and spoken word, in the languages of all nationalities of the country, the need for peaceful negotiations is being explained and popularised.

Campaign Will Grow

We who attended the Budapest Session have every confidence that the campaign for negotiations will grow. The words of the Declaration and Appeal are penetrating with the power of truth the smokescreen of lies that the forces of war have thrown around the world and are finding a ready response among those who have up to now remained passive. It is a fact that day by day, meetings in India, Japan, Britain, France, Italy, the United States and elsewhere, made up of persons of different trades and professions, are declaring their belief that the countries of our world can live together in peace. Trade union and religious organisations, political parties which only six months ago dismissed our appeals as "Communist propaganda" are now demanding trade between East and West, passing resolutions for an agreement among the Big Five and for the admission of China to the United Nations. This is our assurance that the idea of negotiation will triumph and compel the forces of war to retreat. "Peace is within our reach. It is for us to win it."

For Richer Crops in 1953

Wang Shuang-yeh

THE Chinese people have planned their economic development on a large scale to transform their country into an advanced industrial power. This poses new tasks for China's agriculture. The production of food crops must increase considerably, for the demand for foodstuffs will grow constantly with the growth of urban populations, which will increase alongside industrial development and with the improvement of living conditions in towns and villages. Simultaneously, the production of technical crops will have to be increased to satisfy the growing demand of industry for raw materials.

China's agriculture achieved great successes last year. The total production of food crops and cotton exceeded the maximum prewar level by 16.9 per cent and 52 per cent respectively. In 1953, agriculture will advance still further. According to the plan for the current year, the production of food crops and cotton will exceed last year's by 7.2 and 7.6 per cent respectively. Production of technical crops will also be increased.

The main effort in the struggle for the increase of agricultural production will be directed at raising the per-hectare yield, and this is to be achieved by further developing the mutual-aid and co-operative movement. These are the chief among a whole series of practical measures to secure the fulfilment of this year's agricultural plan to which the Communist Party of China and the Central People's Government are directing the peasants' efforts.

Mutual Aid and Co-operation

The strengthening and further development of the mutual-aid and co-operative movement is one of the most important conditions for the increase of the country's

agricultural production. Following the agrarian reform, the peasants of China led by the Communist Party and the Central People's Government have organised themselves with increasing effectiveness for production. Last year, more than 40 per cent of all peasant households in the country were organised into various agricultural work groups. These included a huge number of mutual-aid teams of various types, about 4,000 agricultural producers' co-operatives and more than ten experimental collective farms. There were in addition more than 2,000 state model farms and experimental agrotechnical stations. This year, the movement for mutual aid and co-operation is being developed on a still larger scale.

Collective labour leads to the increase of the crop capacity of the fields. Facts prove that the fields cultivated by mutual-aid teams yield bigger harvests than those worked by individual peasants, and that agricultural producers' co-operatives, by pooling land and using collective labour and some modern farm implements, reap bigger harvests than mutual-aid teams. Thus, in Hopei Province last year, the yield per hectare harvested by mutual-aid teams was 29.4 per cent above that of individual peasants, while that harvested by some agricultural producers' co-operatives exceeded that of mutual-aid teams by 55.7 per cent.

The movement for mutual aid and co-operation, however, must develop gradually, according to the voluntary principle and the principle of mutual benefit. In the past, leading personnel in certain agricultural districts displayed a certain impetuosity in organising mutual-aid teams and agricultural producers' co-operatives without taking into consideration the conservative characteristics of the peasants as small owners and therefore slipped

into adventurism. This spring, the Central Committee of the Communist Party published its *Decisions on Mutual Aid and Co-operation in Agricultural Production** in which it made timely corrections of this and other erroneous tendencies. Since then, the movement for mutual aid and co-operation has been developing gradually and in a planned manner.

Applying Best Local Methods

The organisation of mutual-aid teams and agricultural producers' co-operatives has created favourable conditions for widespread dissemination of the successful experience accumulated by peasants in various parts of the country, for the study and application of advanced Soviet experience and for the improvement of agricultural techniques. In order to foster these developments on a large scale, the government has set up technique-dissemination stations in various parts of the country, and helped the peasants to organise small discussion groups on improving techniques. Last year, the peasants of Kuohouchi Banner (formerly Chaoyuan County), Heilungkiang Province, Northeast China, led by county Communist Party branch secretary Jen Kuo-tung, summarised and disseminated the most successful methods of local farmers, and succeeded in raising the yield of food crops on an area of 110,000 hectares by 92.9 per cent. This example is now being followed throughout the country.

Alongside this movement to make widely known and utilise the most successful local technical advances, much is being done to introduce the advanced agricultural experience of the Soviet Union. For instance, in Shansi Province a plan has been worked out this year to improve agricultural technique by combining the most effective methods devised by the peasants of this province with advanced Soviet experience as applied to local conditions.

The visit made to the U.S.S.R. by a peasant delegation has played an important part in the study and introduction of advanced Soviet methods. For instance, following the return from the U.S.S.R. of model farmer Li Shun-ta of Pingshun County, Shansi Province, the pea-

sants of this province began an enthusiastic study of Soviet agricultural methods.

To stimulate on a large scale the application of advanced Soviet agricultural methods, the Ministry of Agriculture of the Central People's Government organised special meetings of model farmers in Peking between October 1952 and February 1953. At these meetings, they were familiarised with the Michurin methods of seed selection. These meetings were attended by model farmers from all parts of the country, including Tibet and Inner Mongolia.

New Tools

Chinese farmers throughout the country are beginning to use new types of farm tools for cultivation of the soil, modern ploughs and other horse-drawn farm implements, new light and handy three-forked hoes, etc. Plans for this year call for the establishment of at least one or two state-operated experimental farms in each county. These farms give the peasants in general practical demonstrations of how to improve their agricultural technique and how to use new farm implements.

As part of the drive for bigger harvests there will be a considerable increase this year in the area of irrigated land. In addition to the construction of major water conservancy projects on the Huai River and in other places, the improvement of existing projects, and measures for a more rational use of water, considerable work has been done in building such small irrigation projects as wells and ponds, in repairing and building small reservoirs and irrigation canals, and setting up water pumps. At the same time, everything possible is being done to improve the use of existing irrigation systems.

In the past, China's agriculture suffered seriously from various plant diseases and insect pests. But big successes have been achieved in the past three years in the struggle against these natural enemies. In June 1952, the Ministry of Agriculture convened a conference to discuss measures to be taken to deal with the problem of paddy borers. In November, a nationwide conference was held to discuss anti-locust measures. It decided that in 1953 this struggle would be waged mainly with the help of special apparatus and insecticides since China's rapidly developing industry was already

* See supplement to No. 13 of *People's China*.

able to supply agriculture with such necessary equipment.

At the end of 1952, the peasants throughout the country launched a mass campaign for the extermination of nymphae of various insect pests. They have already achieved important successes on a more extensive scale than ever in the extermination of pests.

As regards other natural calamities which cause losses to the country's agriculture, it has not yet been possible to overcome them all because of the vastness of China's territory, the big differences in climatic conditions in various parts of the country and also because the country's new agricultural technique is still in its infancy.

This year, the wheat harvest has been good in most parts of the country. In certain areas, however, wheat crops were hit by cold air currents, late spring frosts and other natural calamities. Under the leadership of and with the assistance of the Central People's Government and the Communist Party of China, the peasants took vigorous and successful counter-measures, with the result that losses in the stricken areas were considerably reduced, while in the areas only slightly affected, normal production levels were reached. There were welcome rains throughout the country since May. The spring sowing was successfully completed ahead of schedule and this has laid a solid foundation for a bumper harvest of food crops.

Peasants Aid Planned Production

The agrarian reform, which has made the peasants masters of their land, has greatly increased their enthusiasm for labour. This enthusiasm, in its turn, is contributing to the planned economic construction that has been launched throughout the country. Striving patriotically to help the country's economic construction and at the same time to raise living standards, the peasants are doing everything possible to expand production and raise yields.



Members of the Ho Chi-cheng Mutual-aid Team, central Shensi Province, bringing their wheat crop to the threshing ground

The increase of agricultural production will represent their contribution to the successful realisation of the first five-year plan. A large-scale patriotic campaign for the increase of agricultural production has developed this year in the rural areas, and at the head of this campaign are the mutual-aid teams and agricultural producers' co-operatives. Taking part in this campaign are all the 4,000,000 mutual-aid teams and co-operatives (twice more than last year), uniting more than 29,000,000 peasant households. Millions of individual farmers are also taking part in the campaign. This patriotic campaign, born among the masses and developing now under the leadership of the Party and organs of people's power, is playing an extremely important role in the increase of agricultural production this year.

The correct leadership of the Communist Party and the People's Government, steady development of the movement for mutual aid and co-operation, large-scale introduction of the most successful experience and new agricultural techniques, expansion of the construction of water conservancy works, the peasants' patriotic campaign for the increase of production—all this is contributing to the development of agriculture and guarantees the successful fulfilment of this year's plan of increased agricultural production.

The Minority Situation In New China

Louis A. Wheaton

I AM a member of the biggest minority in the United States—the Negro minority with a population of 15 million. Most of them live in the southern part of the United States. This region is called the “Black Belt,” an area of the greatest suffering for the Negro people.

My interest in the question of minorities is a natural one as I was born of parents who were born and reared in the South as I was born, reared and educated there. Not only do I know the suffering of the Negro people from my own experience, but I know it historically from the stories that were told to me by my great grandparents, grandparents and parents.

I also know of the suffering of other minorities such as the American Indians, Mexican Americans, Puerto Ricans, Jewish people, Asians, Irish people, Italians and others.

The system of divide and rule has long served the ruling circles of the United States. This division is generally created by the use of the gimmick of racial superiority. Prejudices are taught to the children of the majority from the time they are able to speak until they depart this life. They further graduate the prejudices on the basis of colour first, then language and the exploitation of minority customs in order to divide one minority from another. More than this, stereotypes are consciously created to convince the people that their prejudices are scientifically sound.

Louis A. Wheaton is a lathe operator and a member of the United Electrical, Radio and Machine Workers' Union, U.S.A. He is now a deputy secretary-general of the Peace Liaison Committee of the Asian and Pacific Regions.

This practice permeates every aspect of American life and serves as a source of huge profits for the ruling circle. The profits come chiefly from the cheap labour sweated out of the Negro people in particular and in turn sweated out of the other minorities in varying degrees by openly saying or subtly implying that one group is better than the other.

In New China

How have I felt in China? I have experienced a feeling of brotherhood, a feeling of being a member of the great human family. There are no exceptions made for me as a Negro. I find myself thinking less and less of my dark skin.

Of course, I don't say that I don't attract attention when I go to places where a Negro has never been seen before. Of course, large crowds gather around to see me and to talk to me. But there is a distinct difference in the reactions of these people and that of the people at home. Here there is a warmth, a feeling of great friendliness, a feeling that for the most part I have experienced before only among Negro people. There is not the glare of hatred; there is no snobbishness or disdain in their expressions.

In getting on a bus or streetcar here in China, there is no inching away from you as if you had the plague or as if you were a leper, as is done on the subways and buses in New York and other places in the United States. Or, there are no people who refuse to sit beside you because of the colour of your skin. In restaurants and hotels there is no difference

of treatment, it matters not whether you are North, South, East or West.

No Job Discrimination

Through the industrial Northeast I found members of practically every minority working in one form of industry or another. They hold managerial posts, supervisory posts or technical jobs as well as ordinary jobs. There are great training courses being conducted to train these minority workers for skilled jobs. There are many model workers, quite a number of whom are from the various national minorities. There is no job discrimination in China. The minority women who were formerly confined to the home are beginning to make their appearance and contribution to the industrialisation of China. The minority nationalities have no special job categories as, for example, the Negro, Mexican American or Puerto Rican have in the United States. All categories are open to them and they are working in complete equality with the majority nationality.

Was China always like this? Indeed not. It had in the long history before liberation in 1949 a ghastly system of racial suppression and exploitation. Much like the system in the United States was the system that existed here. National groups were kept in a constant state of conflict, the better to exploit them. The despots, landlords and the ruling cliques made a business of sowing prejudice and hatred among the minority peoples.

As a result of this practice, in many instances whole minority groups have become almost extinct. This reminds those of us who live in the United States of the rapidly disappearing American Indian. His disappearance is due to the ravages of disease and lack of health facilities, lack of proper diet, lack of social and political equality and lack of education. The treatment of the American Indian on his death reservations is a crime against humanity.

Law Provides Equality

The treatment I have received in New China is not exceptional under the People's Government. The Common Programme, the basic law of the country, gives to all minorities complete and equal rights with all other

people of China. What is more, the government enforces this principle and aids these various minorities in setting up their own local autonomous governments.

The Hans, the majority of the Chinese people, make special efforts on behalf of the people who are members of the national minorities in China. In other words, because these minorities have been exploited, now there is special attention given to them, and it is not enough to treat them as the members of the majority are treated. The attempt here is a conscious one to raise the minorities to the level of the majority; therefore, the special attention paid to their complete well-being.

Under the leadership of the Chairman of the People's Republic of China, Mao Tse-tung, the more than 60 national minorities are advancing at a very rapid pace. Close attention is being paid to their culture and their growth and development. Every assistance is given to the raising of their standard of living and their level of understanding. These minorities no longer feel separate and apart from the majority. They feel as one big happy family working for the industrialisation of their great motherland. This strong bond of unity is bringing about the new strength that will industrialise China in a very short period. It must be noted that this unity and brotherhood has been accomplished in the most peaceful and patient way. It is this peaceful attitude and policy that indicates the peaceful policy of the Chinese people towards nations and people of the world. You cannot have one policy at home and another abroad. The domestic policy of any nation is reflected in its foreign policy because they are interconnected and interdependent.

Suppose we examine some of the things that I have observed here in China with the view of seeing the reflection of this domestic policy in the foreign policy of the People's Republic of China.

Example of Olunchun People

Take the Olunchun people. They number only a little over 2,000. Half of them live in their own autonomous region and the other half live in the nearby Northeast China. Today they are enjoying a happy life. Before libera-

tion they were confined to the forest and were called "barbarians." They are hunters, but for a whole century they had been savagely oppressed and nearly became extinct. These people before liberation lived on game and wore skins all year round. The unscrupulous merchants combined with the reactionary rulers to fleece them. They would beat down the hunters into accepting the most miserable prices for their valuable skins. Opium smoking was openly and widely encouraged.

Today the Olunchun people have their own government and are the masters of their destiny. The Olunchun Autonomous Region was set up in October, 1951. This immediately arrested the decline of the minority and an upward trend became noticeable.

They have established three co-operatives with 624 members. These co-operatives sell food, firearms and cloth. They buy the hunters' game, furs and skins and other products, giving them very reasonable prices. In the first nine months of 1952, trade was fifteen times that of the entire year of 1950. Cotton cloth and good food is no longer a rarity among these people.

With the gaining of political rights and a steady improvement in living conditions has come an increase in the population. Opium smoking has been completely done away with. A clinic has been set up. Doctors and nurses constantly go the rounds in the dense Hsingan Mountain Range.

In 1952 alone, 80 per cent of the population were inoculated against smallpox, which was formerly an age-old scourge in the forest region. Ninety-nine per cent of the Olunchun people were illiterate when they were liberated. Now children are provided with grants by the government. Students are also given grants to go on from primary to middle school (high school) in other parts of Inner Mongolia. Special classes have been set up by the local government to train workers in every phase of work important to the region. Most striking is the fact that a number of hunters have given up their nomadic life and taken up farming.

Minority in the Southwest

Suppose we look at the Southwest. There are 18 million people of various minorities liv-



Women of the Tai nationality are now frequently seen in open markets. Before liberation, they shunned public places for fear of humiliation

ing here. Vigorous steps are being made to raise the level of agriculture among these minorities. This year alone 1,350,000 farm implements, made in China, the Soviet Union, Czechoslovakia, Rumania and Hungary, are being shipped to this region. Within three years the tool shortage will be eliminated.

Irrigation projects, the lack of which brought constant crop failure in the past, are being launched. With government aid, the Tai, Lolo and Aini peoples have constructed 437 irrigation projects and 240 kilometres of irrigation canals and ditches. Numerous agro-technical stations and state farms have been specially set up for the minority peoples.

Early this year at a meeting held in Peking in honour of visiting minority delegations, Chang Hsi-jo, Minister of Education, pointed out that in the last three years, nine institutes for minority nationalities have been opened by the Central People's Government as well as numerous training classes. Now over 70,000 national minority personnel have been

trained throughout China. Educational facilities in minority areas will be greatly expanded this year.

In Sinkiang, in the extreme northwest of China, where the Uighur people make up about 80 per cent of the population, a telegraph service in the Uighur language is now in operation. For the first time in history the Uighur people are able to send telegraph messages in their own language.

Hundreds of thousands of textbooks in the various languages of the northwest minority peoples are being published to meet the needs of the growing thirst for education. The Sinkiang People's Publishing House alone published more than 939,000 copies in the Uighur, Kazakh and Mongolian languages.

Immediately I heard this, I thought of the policy with the Puerto Ricans in the U.S.A. Not only do we disregard their national culture but we in the United States force them to use the English language. We can learn from China how to respect the rights and the cultural heritage of all people and to assist them in developing their cultures and their national heritage. In the United States no effort whatsoever is made to preserve the culture and heritage of any minority. That which is maintained is maintained through the struggle of the minority people to preserve the pride and dignity of their various ethnic cultures. The general pattern is to disregard anything that is not considered "American" and declare it to be insignificant, unimportant and inferior.

The Case of the Kazakhs

Practical help to 3,000 Kazakhs of Northwest China was decided on at a conference of all national minorities along the borders of Kansu, Chinghai and Sinkiang Provinces. This minority will be given funds to build homes, develop a settled life and set up their own regional government.

This decision opens a new chapter in the history of a people who were driven from their homes in Sinkiang by the despotic rulers and, in the ten years prior to liberation, forced to settle in the remote mountainous regions. These Kazakhs were only last August persuaded to come down from the mountains and settle in

the lowlands of Chinghai and Kansu Provinces. Terrifying rumours spread by a U.S. agent named Wusman, who was rounded up in 1951, were finally dispelled last year as a result of patient explanation.

When I learned this I thought of the many false rumours spread about the Negro people by the reactionary elements. The results in the United States of such provocation is mob violence, lynching, and, in the modern era, electrocution. It has the effect also of preventing the unity of the poor people, Negro and white, to protect their own interests and better their living conditions.

But to continue the account on the Kazakhs. The Mongolian people offered some of their own grasslands to the Kazakhs, and other nationalities made other and similar offers. Prior to liberation the Kazakhs were in a constant state of conflict as a result of incitement by reactionary elements. The head of the Kazakh minority said, "Today we feel the warmth of the big family of our motherland."

Construction has begun on many new public buildings in Lhasa, capital city of Tibet. These new buildings will cover a floor space of 16,000 square meters and will include an up-to-date movie theatre, a rinderpest and anthrax serum plant, buildings for government offices, homes for workers, schools, etc.

Government loans to the Tibetan peasants this year will be sixteen times that of last year. Mobile teams have already been sent to the various areas to distribute the interest-free loans. Included in the teams are medical personnel and veterinarians sent to help the Tibetan peasants and livestock breeders. These loans will also be extended to herdsmen and the total amount in loans will come to nearly two million U.S. dollars.

Freedom of Religious Belief

Another aspect of the respect for the minorities is the respect for their religion. At all conferences held in Peking and throughout China, the people attending the conference are asked their religions and special arrangements are made to meet their religious needs. A special kitchen, for instance, has been set up in the Peking Hotel to serve Muslims.

It was indeed a pleasure to note the Festival of Bairan, or Id al-Fitr, which was celebrated on June 14 in Peking, Tihua and other places by Muslims of the Uighur, Hui, Kazakh, Uzbek, Tartar, Tadjik and other minorities.

Early in the morning, services were held simultaneously at many mosques.

National minorities, discriminated against in the past in China, are now favoured. Although these minorities constitute only one-fourteenth of China's population, deputies from the national minority regions are to occupy about one-seventh of the total number of seats in the All-China People's Congress, China's supreme assembly. Let's compare this with the United States. In the United States the Negro people comprise one-tenth of the population, but not a single one of the 96 senators is a Negro. Out of 300-odd representatives, there are only two Congressional Representatives of the Negro people. Minorities such as the American Indian, the Mexican American, the Puerto Rican and others have no representatives. They are under-represented, and in the vast majority of cases not represented at all, in local legislatures.

Policy of Peace

From this it is clear that the policy of the People's Republic of China is one of real democracy and equality of all people regardless of

race, colour or national origin. What is more, it is clear from this that China has a policy of peace and economic construction for the benefit of her people.

I contend that one must reason irrationally to conclude that from a policy such as this China could have an aggressive policy. The opposite is true. China is practising at home the very thing that her leadership is putting forward in foreign policy—that is, a friendliness among nations, mutual respect for the rights of all people and economic and cultural exchange on the basis of equality and mutual advantage.

The programme as outlined for the people of China is a peace programme. It is a programme designed to improve the welfare and living conditions of the Chinese people. It is a programme which calls for living in peace with all people regardless of nationality or system of government. Such a programme demands peace in order to reap the fruits that can obviously be produced from this policy—the fruits of peaceful co-existence with the peoples of the world.

It has become abundantly clear to me that we in the United States would do well to learn from China in the treatment of minorities. The fiction of inherited prejudices and hatreds has been completely exploded. People who have been at one another's throats for centuries now live in peace and happiness.

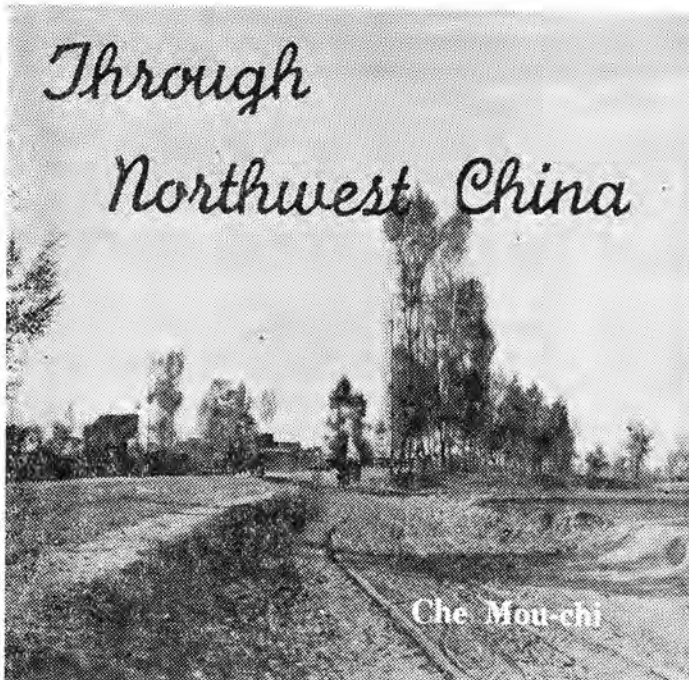
China's Students

There are now 202,000 students in institutions of higher education and 3,090,000 in secondary schools in China. Compared with 1946 under the Kuomintang regime, the increases are 156.3 per cent and 164 per cent respectively.

The proportion of students of worker or peasant origin has also grown considerably. These now constitute 20 per cent of all students at institutions of higher learning, 60 per cent of secondary school students and 80 per cent of primary school pupils.

National minority youth is now receiving education. No less than 10 institutions of higher education have been established for the minorities in Sinkiang Province, the Northeast, Inner Mongolia as well as in Peking, and the Southwest, Central-South and the Northwest. The 6,300 students at these colleges and institutions come from 50 different nationalities. In addition, primary schools for 1,474,000 students and secondary schools for 89,400 students have also been set up in the minority areas.

Students at all institutions of higher education, technical schools, teachers' training colleges and worker-peasant middle schools enjoy free education.



MY work recently took me along China's great Northwest route, from the railhead at Lanchow, past where the railway builders were laying the new line from Lanchow to Sinkiang along the ancient Silk Road. The trail ran straight for scores of kilometres northwest, past the western terminus at Chiayu Kuan of China's Great Wall—here only unimposing ruins of a rampart. To our left for many days of travel towered the snow-covered peaks of the Chilien Range, shrouded for the most part in white mist or clouds. Most of the route lay across barren plains and hills, dead fingers of the Gobi Desert.

The land is bare, both mountainsides and desert, on this plateau which stands an average of 3,000 metres above sea level. Only here and there are green cultivated areas by springs or riversides with small towns. But today the road is busier than ever it was in the past. Daily convoys of lorries are making the trip with oil products from Yumen. In the old days—the days when Marco Polo described it—it was travelled only by the rare camel caravans carrying goods to and from China through Central Asia to India, the Middle East and Europe. This was the way Chinese silk was brought to Rome and the West before the

Christian era. This was the way the monk Tripitaka brought the Buddhist scriptures from India.

Today this route is the life line of China's Northwest Administrative Area. It links scattered towns and nomad settlements of Hans, Uighurs, Uzbeks, Kazakhs, Mongols, Tibetans and many other peoples. It cuts through or skirts all of the five provinces of the area: Shensi, Kansu, Ningsia, Chinghai, Sinkiang, and the three special municipalities of Sian, Lanchow and Tihua. It is a route of merchandise caravans of trucks, pack-horses or camels bringing raisins, famous Hami melons from Sinkiang, oil from Kansu, wool from Chinghai and, in exchange, grains, tea and the products of the country's industrial centres—manufactured goods and now, increasingly, machines and construction materials.

Now the road traffic is supplemented by the airlines of the Sino-Soviet Civil Aviation Airlines on the Peking, Sian, Lanchow, Tihua, Alma-ata route, and the railway reaching out steadily day by day over the 2,000 kilometres from Lanchow to Tihua.

Treasure Hunters

As the truck sped on, roaring with a cloud of Gobi dust in its wake, my companion, perched high on a pile of empty oil drums, sat spellbound, taking in every feature of the road. He was the head of an oil-survey team. He talked exultantly: "The wild is my home and I like my home so much. When we strike oil, a new oil city will be built on the plateau. Then I'll be off again—to find still more oil."

He had been surveying in the Mongolian district in Ningsia Province, then in the Tibetan-inhabited steppes in Chinghai Province. Now, he was heading for the Yumen Oilfield.

Large-scale prospecting and surveying is going on in the Northwest. I met many parties of geologists, energetic young people, coming in from the Gobi Desert on camelback, or making their way on foot into the mountains,

braving all the rigours of the Northwest's severe continental climate. Their field is the huge area from the U-bend of the Yellow River to the westernmost border of China.

There are ten large geological teams and 52 oil-prospecting teams now in Shensi, Kansu, Ningsia, and Sinkiang Provinces, looking for minerals and petroleum.

No unusual occurrence today in the Northwest, I met a young man carrying a heavy knapsack. His weather-beaten face and sturdy boots immediately revealed his profession. When I asked him jokingly what treasures he had in his bag, his face glowed with pride. He opened the bag and showed me a shiny lump of coal. He told me that he had found two coal-fields north of the Wei River after two years' strenuous work in Shensi Province. They covered a huge area and the quality was excellent.

China's Northwest has long been known for its rich mineral resources, but the Kuomintang government never took the trouble to make detailed surveys. Under the People's Government, in the past three years geological teams have covered more than 46,000 square kilometres in the Northwest. Their drillings total over 33,000 metres. Petroleum, coal, iron and salt have been discovered in abundance; non-ferrous metals such as manganese, tungsten, bismuth, beryllium, and zinc have also been found. Abundant deposits of copper have been discovered near Lanchow. North Shensi, Kansu and Sinkiang Provinces have far richer oil deposits than previously estimated. Fields are located on both sides of the Tienshan Range. Now the Northwest deposits are said to be the biggest in the country.

This large-scale, systematic prospecting and surveying of mineral resources and water power is paving the way for the industrialisation of the Northwest.

Northwest's New Day

Long under the Kuomintang warlords, the Northwest was ruthlessly exploited, sunk in poverty and internecine strife. Travel was a hazardous undertaking.

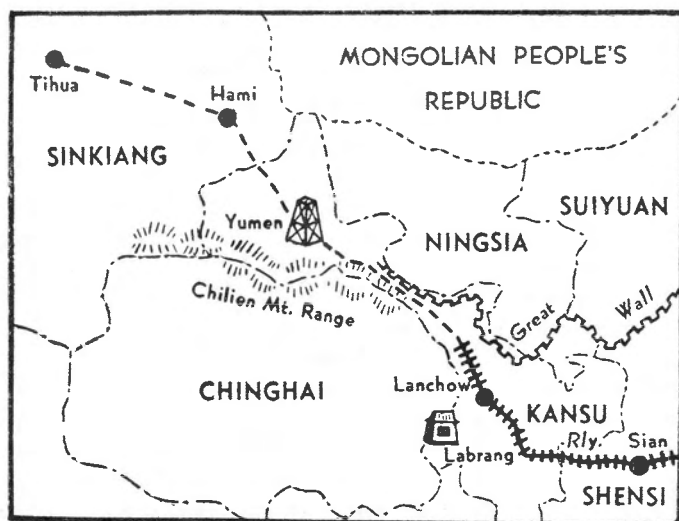
All caravans were armed. It was difficult enough for the ordinary man even to earn a bare livelihood. Industrialisation, of course, was only a dream.

Liberation at one stroke destroyed the old Kuomintang warlord system. The land reform (carried out only in some of the areas inhabited by the national minorities, but in all areas inhabited by Hans) and various measures of government aid have already brought about a complete transformation in the life of the people.

The Northwest makes its main contribution to the national economy with its agriculture and animal husbandry. Its small modern industry and handicrafts still only account for some 5 per cent of its economic wealth. Agriculture is the main source of the people's livelihood. Wheat and cotton are the main products. They are centred in Shensi, east and west Kansu, Chinghai, on the banks of the Yellow River in Ningsia, and in south Sinkiang. The grain crop in 1952 was approximately 25 per cent over that of 1949.

Animal husbandry ranks second in importance. It is concentrated in Ningsia, south Chinghai, southwest Kansu and north Sinkiang. The stockmen raise fine cattle, camels, horses and sheep.

Post-liberation progress has been rapid. In the areas exclusively engaged in animal



Sketch map of Northwest China

husbandry the number of all kinds of cattle in 1952 was more than double that of 1949. Chinghai in 1952 produced 60 per cent more wool than before liberation.

The development of animal husbandry is the main task of the area at the moment, but economic developments are going ahead apace in many fields. Since 1950 the government has made big investments totalling approximately six times the original capital investment in the area. One quarter of this was invested directly by state enterprises. Signs of progress are very visible along the road to Sinkiang. I saw oil refineries, power plants, cotton mills and flour mills, coal mines, match factories and small engineering works in Sian, Paochi, Lanchow and Tihua and many new plants abuilding. Road communications by truck convoy are being constantly expanded to improve transport. Radio, telegraph and posts link up the remotest centres.

The whole Northwest stands on the eve of the greatest period of political, economic, social and cultural development in its long history.

On the Lanchow-Sinkiang Railway

The Tienshui-Lanchow section of the Lunghai Railway is open to regular traffic and the construction of the Lanchow-Sinkiang Railway is already well under way. You can now travel by rail from the station 86 kilometres west of Lanchow through Tienshui and Sian, to Tsingtao, Shantung Province's biggest port.

It is China's greatest east-west trunk line crossing areas of vast populations and varied natural wealth and linked by rail with the Northeast and East China, North and Central-South and South China. Tienshui will be the junction of the line from Chungking and Chengtu, linking it with China's southwest.

On the road to Wuhsiao Peak, I saw tens of thousands of railway workers building roads, bridges and cuttings in the mountains. At the construction site of a bridge spanning a valley are giant excavators, cranes and cement mixers, the "heavy artillery of industrial construction." Steel girders, timber and cement are being brought to the site. Blocks of new houses for the workers stand in the shadow of the snow-capped mountain.

It was a great day for the national minority peoples when the railway came to Lanchow. They staged many colourful celebrations when they heard that construction of the Lanchow-Sinkiang line was started. Lanchow, formerly a base from which the old regime maintained its political and economic yoke on the national minority peoples, is now a centre from which culture and trade radiate throughout its area. The medical teams and various delegations sent by the Central People's Government to the national minority regions go through here and, in turn, representatives of the minority peoples go to visit Peking and other areas.

Peace Among the Peoples

In the streets of Lanchow I saw minority people of many nationalities: Uighur girls with brown eyes and long braids falling to their waists; Mongolian horsemen in their gay robes and leather high boots; and Tibetan women who adorn their hair with agate and wear gemmed belts.

Though the Northwest contains almost 33 per cent of China's total area, and is the biggest Administrative Area, it has only 6 per cent of the country's population. Some 6,200,000, almost one-fifth of the total population in the Northwest, are members of the 16 national minorities living there—Uighurs, Huis, Tibetans, Mongolians, Kazakhs and others. For centuries bloody feuds had existed among the various nationalities. Horrible relics of that time are the *Paiku* Towers (Towers of White Bones)—where the bones of the killed are stored. On many hill slopes, I came across mud forts, remnants of defences put up by one nationality against the attacks of another.

These ancient disputes are now past history. The People's Government has adopted various measures to consolidate the unity of the various peoples. It is carrying out step by step a policy of regional autonomy, religious freedom, respect for national customs and traditions, and assistance in developing economic, cultural and educational work in the national minority regions.

I visited the Northwest Institute for Nationalities at Lanchow.

Classes were over when I arrived at the Institute. Under a shady tree a Tibetan stu-

dent, beads in hand, was reciting the scriptures. The dancing and singing of some gay Uighur students had attracted a large audience on the recreation ground. Mongolians and Kazakhs were reading magazines and pictorials in their own languages in the library. In a specially built mosque in a quiet corner of the compound Hui students were holding a service. I ate an excellent meal in the large mess hall with the students, while the Huis and other Muslims dined in a special hall of their own.

It has an enrolment of 1,500 students of 16 nationalities who are preparing themselves for work in the economic and cultural construction of their respective regions. They include workers, peasants, herdsmen, lamas, Living Buddhas, princes, *pehu* or tribal heads, merchants. Admittance to it is through personal application and recommendation of the respective autonomous governments of the national minorities. Students study in their own language, taking courses in political science and various specific studies, such as animal husbandry, co-operatives, law, etc.

Visit to Labrang

Leaving Lanchow for the south, the bus made its way along the banks of the clear Ta Hsia River which is walled on both sides with steep and towering mountains covered with pine trees. The air was full of fresh fragrance from the pines and many flowers that grew here. Gilt tiled-roofs of temples glittered among the foliage and could be seen at a distance. A homesick Tibetan sitting beside me in the bus suddenly broke into a beautiful hymn, which greatly moved all the passengers. And as the song ended we found ourselves in Labrang.

Labrang is a famous monastery and trading centre. Over 3,000 lamas and 500 Living Buddhas live in its temples.

These are grandly built, and are surrounded by over a mile of verandas along which are placed hundreds of prayer-wheels. Rolls of Buddhist scriptures are kept in these wheels which look like small drums.

Temple fairs are held nine times a year and they are attended by people from as far afield as Tibet. Tents of many colours built for dancing, singing and trade are scattered over the hills and fields. The Tibetans come to

sell wool, animal hides and musk; in return, they purchase food grains, piece goods and tea. They are eager to buy fine porcelain ware from Chingtehchen in Kiangsi Province and embroidered brocades from Nanking, agate and amber jewellery.

During the days of the reactionary Kuomintang rule the rascally traders cheated the people mercilessly. When such outrageous practices as false weight or substitution were exposed, violence often resulted. The Kuomintang warlords, hand in glove with the speculators, used their forces to protect them, deploying machine-guns around the market as if it were a battleground.

Today excellent order prevails at the fairs. Illegal practices of all kinds have been strictly forbidden. To benefit the people, the National Animal Products Corporation of China has annually raised the prices of local products, while the state-owned trading companies have steadily reduced the prices of daily necessities. In 1952, 100 catties of wool in Labrang could exchange for 47 pieces of brick-tea in place of the 5 to 10 pieces in the past. In 1952, the total business turnover in Labrang was ten times that of 1949.

The Tibetan head of Labrang County, Huang Hsiang, gave me a clear-cut picture of government policy and the life of the Tibetans today. He himself was a lama in his youth; later he led the Tibetans of his area in the fight against warlord Ma Pu-fang. He joined the people's administration after liberation. In 1950, he attended the World Peace Conference at Warsaw.

I was invited to attend the People's Representative Conference and listened to a keen discussion on the development of animal husbandry, the distribution of a 700 million yuan government loan to stock raisers, the setting of boundaries and planting of pastures, and on alternative methods of cross-breeding. Huang, an excellent chairman, listened attentively and gave a clear, just summing-up.

I left the Northwest with a vivid memory of the vigorous activities of the national minorities, the railway workers, the geologists. ... The aged Northwest has awakened. The people are healing the deep wounds suffered in the past. They are working energetically for the peaceful construction of the area.

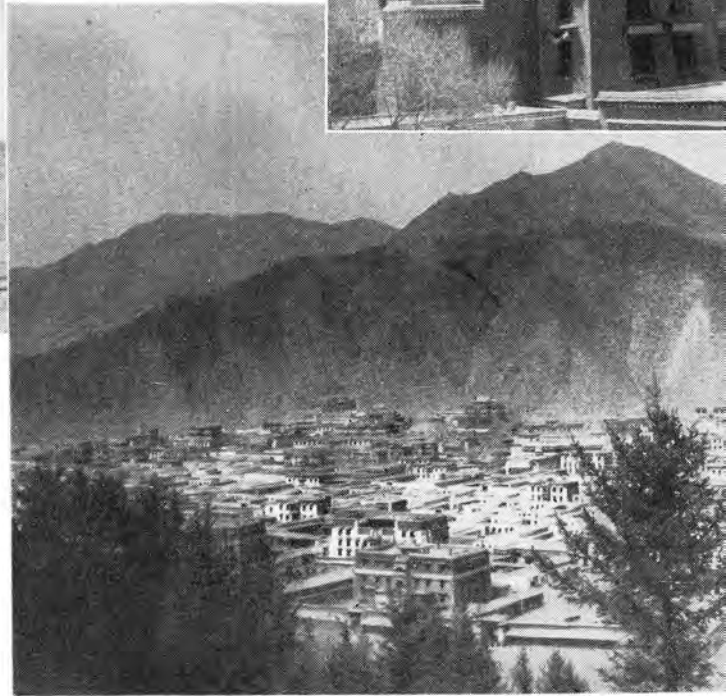


Drilling for oil in Northwest China

A corner of
Labrang Temple



General view of
Labrang Temple



Huang Hsiang, head of Labrang County

Glimpses of the Northwest

Signs of the times in the Northwest. Hu Yu-mei, a woman bulldozer operator on the Tien-shui-Lanchow Railway construction site



Two Tibetan students of Lanchow's
Northwest Institute for Nationalities





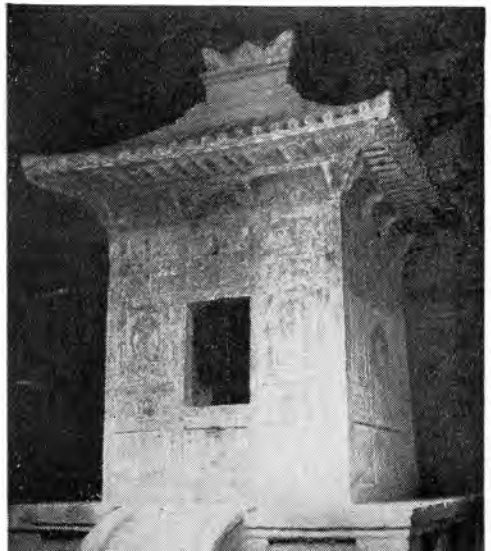
Buddha and Bodhisattvas. Northern Wei
Dynasty. (Niche No. 79)

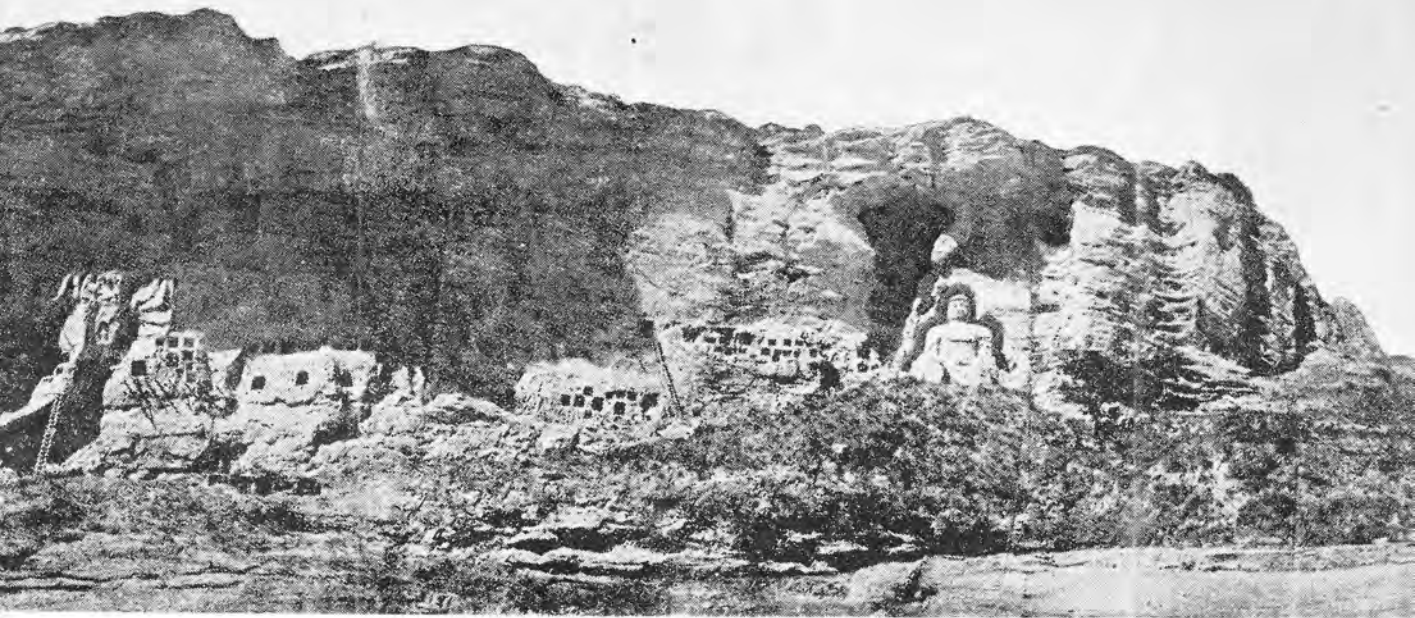
Standing Buddhas. Tang Dynasty.
(Niche No. 51)



Upper le
Head o
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A general view of the site of the grottoes

ART TREASURES OF THE PINGLINGSSU TEMPLE

These photographs were made by the expedition which went to study the rock chapels of the Pinglingssu Temple, recently brought to light in the Lesser Chishih Mountains in Kansu Province, Northwest China. These chapels and the masterpieces of art they contain are of major artistic and historical value

Buddha.
Wei Dy-
ve No. 81)

ed shrine.
ynasty.
3)

Figure of a yaksha (Heavenly guard).
Tang Dynasty. (Niche No. 56)



Part of a restored mural of the Sung Dynasty.
Copied by Chang Ting. (Cave No. 84)





Workers laying stonework on the river bed near the 697-metre-long San River Regulating Dam

The San River Dam

Part of the third stage of the Huai River Project, the dam on the San River, main outlet of Lake Hungtse on the borders of Kiangsu and Anhwei Provinces, will regulate the level of water in that lake and maintain year round navigation on the lower and middle reaches of the Huai. It will help irrigate 1,670,000 hectares of cotton and rice fields. It is the second longest regulating dam in China after that of the Chinkiang (Yangtse) Flood Detention Basin



Installing electrical equipment to control the sluice gates of the dam

A Soviet expert gives advice on work on the dam's 63 sluice gates

The construction site



Boom in Light Industry

AS a result of the rapid economic recovery and development achieved by China in the past three years and more, there is an increasing demand for light industrial products by the people, whose standard of living is steadily rising, and light industry is in a stronger position to supply that demand. Light industry last year surpassed its previous highest records in all main branches of production. Cotton cloth, for instance, registered a 57 per cent increase over former peak production; cotton yarn, 51 per cent; paper, 123 per cent; and automobile tyres, 458 per cent.

This remarkable growth in production is mainly attributable to the fuller utilisation of existing equipment. But several light industrial plants were renovated and new ones built during this period. China's light industry is also branching out into new lines. Rotary newsprint, certain medical apparatus, penicillin and other pharmaceutical products that could not be made or had never hitherto been produced in large quantities in China can now be manufactured with domestic raw materials or for the first time in considerable quantities.

This year 137 light industrial projects are being newly built or expanded, eight of which are major ones. Some of them are under construction already while preliminary work is being done on others. By the end of June, 34 per cent of the capital construction planned for light industry this year had been completed.

This year's new construction includes 13 paper mills to be built or reconstructed. The Kwangtung Paper Mill, the best newsprint mill in China, will double its production when part of its new machinery is installed this year. When its expansion is completed in 1956, present production will be quadrupled. A new mill, making paper for industrial uses, is being built in Kiamusze, Northeast China. It will be finished in 1957.

In Northeast and East China, two plants making rubber tyres will double their capacity this year, and a new plant for the mass production of automobile tyres is being planned.

With the completion of these projects, China will in the main be able to provide itself with all the automobile tyres it needs.

Mass production of antibiotics and other drugs will begin with the commissioning of 10 new or reconstructed factories, on which work started this year. One state-owned penicillin factory in Shanghai is being expanded and will increase its production by 7.7 times this year. A still larger plant for the preparation of streptomycin as well as penicillin is being planned and construction will soon start on a factory producing sulpha drugs.

Shanghai this year will produce the first complete set of large X-ray equipment to be made in China. A new factory for manufacturing X-ray apparatus will be completed before 1956, and preparations are also going ahead for a plant to make precision equipment for medical use.

In November, a large new sugar refinery in Kwangtung will be commissioned. It will handle the rich sugar-cane crops of the Pearl River Delta. Two other refineries will be completed by the end of this year to handle sugar-beet crops in Northeast China.

Plans of construction are now in hand to increase the capacity of the textile industry by one million spindles. Complete spinning and weaving machines can be made in China now, and there is an abundant domestic supply of cotton for the industry. New capital construction, either in progress or in course of preparation, will increase the production of salt, tobacco, wine and other commodities and consumer's goods.

China's light industry was formerly colonial in character. In the past, it depended both for equipment and raw material on imports from abroad. But now its character has been entirely transformed. China can today develop its light industry independently, out of its own resources, and is not dependent on processing foreign semi-manufactured products.

W. T. H.

The Crossing of The Wukiang River

AN EPISODE OF THE CHINESE
RED ARMY'S LONG MARCH

Chiu Chun

The first revolutionary civil war in China (1924-27) ended in defeat following the betrayal by Chiang Kai-shek. After this, the Communist Party of China, leading the Chinese people, organised many armed uprisings, and founded the Chinese Workers' and Peasants' Red Army, the predecessor of the People's Liberation Army. Thus began the second revolutionary civil war (1927-1936) in which the armed revolution fought against the armed counter-revolution. By 1930, the Red Army led by Mao Tse-tung had grown to a force of 60,000 men, and soon afterwards its strength increased by another 40,000 men. A central base was established in Kiangsi Province, and many other bases were set up elsewhere.

Chiang Kai-shek, the reactionary ruler, was galled at the growth of the Red Army. Disregarding the armed aggression of the Japanese imperialists against China which began on September 18, 1931, he launched several large-scale "encirclement and annihilation campaigns" against the Red Army. Thanks to Mao Tse-tung's strategy, four of these attacks were crushed, one after the other, between the end of 1930 and February, 1933. By then, the Red Army had grown to some 300,000 men with the result that the revolutionary bases throughout the country, including the central base in Kiangsi Province, were further strengthened and expanded.

In October, 1933, Chiang Kai-shek unleashed his fifth encirclement campaign against the Red Army, using a force of a million men. This time, the Red Army failed to smash the enemy offensive owing to a completely wrong military line of remaining solely on the defensive, as well as wrong policies pursued by the Central Committee of the Party which was then dominated by the "Left" opportunists and excluded Mao Tse-tung from the leadership. In order to preserve its main forces and to fight against the Japanese invaders in the north, the Central Red Army withdrew from its base in Kiangsi Province in October, 1934. Thus began the epic 25,000-li Long March which arrested the attention of the whole world.

During the Long March, the Central Committee of the Party continued to make many mistakes in military affairs. Mao Tse-tung, together with many others, conducted a resolute struggle for a correct policy and secured the calling of an enlarged conference of the Political Bureau of the Central Committee at Tsunyi, Kweichow Province. The conference removed the "Left" opportunists from the Party leadership. It established the leadership of Mao Tse-tung throughout the Party.

The Central Red Army, led by Mao Tse-tung, then smashed the numerous ambushes laid by Chiang Kai-shek and defeated the troops following it in close pursuit. It overcame many natural obstacles, crossed snow-clad mountains and deserted marshes and finally reached the Shensi-Kansu-Ningsia Border Region, the revolutionary base in Northwest China, in October, 1935. Other Red Army units soon joined the main force there. The victory won by the Red Army in the Long March tided the Chinese revolution over the difficulties of that time.

The account of the Long March which we print below has been written by a participant. It is the first of several incidents described, which form a historical record of the heroic deeds of the Chinese Workers' and Peasants' Red Army and of how it overcame the great difficulties of the march to the north. —Editor

AFTER the decision to leave for the north had been made, the Chinese Workers' and Peasants' Red Army began the evacuation of the base area in Kiangsi Province. In a series of sharp battles the ring formed by Kuomintang troops around us was cracked and the Red Army broke free of the encirclement.

The Long March had begun.

The Red Army's path lay over the great Wuling Mountain Range on the border of Kiangsi and Kwangtung Provinces, and across the Hsiangkiang River—famous in Chinese legend and poetry. The arduous and dangerous

journey was sometimes made in the night. It was autumn, the height of the rainy season. The continuous rain added to the hardships of the men.

Kiangchiehho, Kweichow

On the eve of the New Year, 1935, more than two months after leaving the old base, the vanguard unit—the Fourth Regiment—arrived at the town of Kiangchiehho in Kweichow Province. Before it, barring the road forward, lay the swift flowing and perilous Wukiang River.

The town is on the south bank. The river here is 300 metres wide and flowed at a rate of two metres per second. Rocks submerged beneath the surface of the stream add to its perils. On either side are towering cliffs which fall perpendicularly to the waters; so high are these grim mountain walls that they shut the sunlight from the river all the year round.

On either bank, a rugged ten-li-long trail leads to the ferry-boat pier at the water's edge. Except for this narrow trail, there is no other way to reach the river.

Across from us, on the north bank, Kuomintang troops, three regiments strong, had already built strong defensive works. The only two ferry-boats had been drawn to the northern shore and sunk. From the rear of the Red Army, more Kuomintang troops were advancing in hot pursuit. If the army was to survive, our vanguard had to cross the river

and rout the enemy on the opposite bank. The extreme cold had to be defied and every difficulty overcome. Cross the river! Cross the river now! This was the pressing task of the moment.

Sappers of the Fourth Regiment immediately began to build rafts of bamboo for a forced crossing and a bridge. A dozen good swimmers were selected to swim the river. They were to eliminate the sentries on the other side and cover our advance units during the crossing.

The First Crossing

The crossing began in the evening. The sky was gloomily overcast. It was drizzling and a cold wind blew, chilling the air. The swimmers stripped themselves naked, strapped Mausers on to their backs and, under cover of fierce gunfire from their comrades, plunged into the icy waters and were swallowed up by the dark night.

The comrades on the southern bank anxiously waited for the landing signal. Hard-pressed by our heavy protective fire, the Kuomintang troops shot wildly into the river. After ten minutes of hard swimming against the current and the turbulent waves, the Red Armymen landed on the north bank. But the current was too rapid and the ropes for building the bridge could not be drawn to the opposite side of the river. The commander then ordered a raft to be sent out. In the middle of the river it was sunk by an enemy shell. The swimmers were recalled. The first crossing had failed.

A second attempt was planned for the night of New Year's Day. On New Year's Eve, the very night of the failure of the first attempt, all the fighters of the Regiment were mobilised to build rafts; those who knew how to row were assigned the role of oarsmen in the coming crossing.

New Year's Day. The preparations were closely examined and everyone waited im-



Sketch map of the Juichin-Tsunyi stage of the Long March

patiently for the advent of night. At last, night fell. Nimbly and noiselessly the fighters embarked. The first raft made swiftly for the opposite bank followed by the second. In an instant, they had disappeared into the pitch black night. There were no signs that the enemy had discovered them. The second raft was in charge of the commander of the first company, Mao Chen-hua. With him were five fighters armed with one light machine-gun and two carbines. On reaching their objective, the men were to strike a match to signal their landing.

Their comrades, ready for action on the south bank, stared eagerly across the dark expanse of water towards the mountains, now faintly silhouetted against the sky, waiting for the signal. One, two, five, ten minutes passed ... but still no signal. Were the rafts still moving forward? Had something happened to them? Had they reached the opposite shore or not? A thousand and one unanswered questions crowded into our minds. In this situation, no reinforcements could be sent.

Failure

We waited a full hour. Then, the first raft returned. What had happened? We crowded round asking whispered questions. The raft had gone half way across the river, but in the middle of the stream the current had caught it in its grip and forced the men five li downstream. The raft was all but capsized by the waves. The assault squad had lost its bearings and finally had to turn back and head for home. There was no news of the second raft. After listening to the report, the Regimental Commander ordered a third raft to be sent out immediately. But it, too, met with difficulties mid-stream and was forced to turn back. The second crossing had also failed.

Failure, one after another! Was the Wukiang unconquerable after all? No, we could not believe it. The men of the Red Army were ordinary people—workers and peasants. Yet they had fought off and defeated the attempts of Chiang Kai-shek to crush their beloved Red Army. For their dream of a beautiful future they had won many battles

and overcome immense obstacles. The Wukiang must be crossed!

It was decided to make a third attempt during the day, and to cross in force. At day-break, January 2, shrill bugles of the march resounded in the gorges, giving the signal for the attack. Under cover of heavy gunfire, the first three rafts carrying lightly armed Red Armymen shot across the stream. But at the very point where the other two rafts had been forced back the previous night, the rafts slowed down. Watching, we saw the rowers plying the oars hard against the waves, which were rocking the rafts so violently that it seemed they were in danger of being upset.

Success

Slowly, the waves were pushing the rafts eastwards downstream. Would this be another failure? But no, the brave fighters, oblivious of the enemy's fire, were putting up a stubborn fight to get across and slowly, but surely, they were winning the battle. We watched with excitement as they drew nearer and nearer the north bank.

When the leading raft was still some 50 metres from the enemy, there suddenly broke out on the north bank the clear sound of a machine-gun—firing at the enemy! Spurred on by this welcome turn of events, the men in the raiding rafts rowed even harder for the shore.

It turned out that the firing came from the advance unit led by Captain Mao Chen-hua whose raft had in fact reached the opposite bank the previous night. As soon as they had set foot on land, the fighters heard the sharp tinkle of metal striking stone from a spot not far above their heads. They guessed the enemy must be hurriedly building fortifications somewhere among the rocks. Captain Mao and his five comrades lay all night in ambush. At dawn when they saw their comrades coming over the water, they were overjoyed and prepared for the attack.

Taken by surprise, the enemy troops were thrown into confusion and fear by the unexpected machine-gun fire from the flank and the

rush of our fighters who had landed on the north bank. A swift advance, and we had captured the enemy's outlying posts and penetrated into his positions.

Counter-Attack

At this moment, the enemy's reinforcements arrived. Concentrating their forces, the defending troops launched a counter-attack which held back the advance of our fighters. By then, another platoon of the Red Army had landed and immediately joined in the attack on the enemy who was forced to yield. However, handicapped by the narrowness of the mountain paths and the unfavourable terrain, our fighters had to momentarily halt their advance. Taking advantage of this short pause in the fighting, the enemy hurled a second counter-attack against us and forced back the leading squad of the Red Army.

Several warriors of the squad gloriously laid down their lives in this battle.

It was a critical moment in the battle for the pass. By order of the officer in charge of the crossing, a squad climbed along the steep cliffs on the left flank of the enemy, occupied the peak, and from this commanding position opened fire on the enemy. At the same time, another company had crossed the river and plunged at once into the fighting. The fierce battle soon reached its climax and the enemy was finally ousted from his positions. Triumphant, we rushed on to the highest points of the mountains and occupied all the posts. The Kuomintang troops retreated pell-mell in the direction of Tsunyi. Thus did the Red Army add another victory to its glorious arms—the crossing of the Wukiang River.

At dawn, January 3, the Workers' and Peasants' Red Army occupied the city of Tsunyi, 120 li from the Wukiang River.

Better Life for Metallurgical Workers

In 1952 China's output of pig iron and steel ingots surpassed the pre-liberation record by 5 per cent and 70 per cent respectively. High quality steel, steel products and equipment never before made in China are now being mass produced.

The workers' enthusiasm in the patriotic emulation campaign has created production records which are boosting output and raising living standards. By inventing an automatic device, Chang Ming-shan, a worker in the rolling mill in China's steel city, Anshan, has mechanised a process formerly done by manual labour. He has not only raised productivity by 45 per cent but has saved the state 132,100 million yuan.

The average wage in the industry went up by 39.4 per cent in 1952. The Labour Insurance Regulations have freed workers from financial worries relating to childbirth, old age, sickness, death and disablement. In 1952, the accident rate in North China dropped by nearly three-fourths compared with 1950.

There are 61 libraries and 72 clubs in the metallurgical industry and each factory has its own spare-time school. Workers have every opportunity for advanced studies. The State No. 101 Iron and Steel Plant has sent 1,062 workers to study in colleges, universities and factories in Northeast China, during the past three years. In the Anshan Iron and Steel Company, 112 workers have been promoted to various leading positions.

Art Treasures of the Pinglingsu Temple

Yang Yu



THE Province of Kansu in Northwest China is sometimes known as the "Art Gallery Province," so famous is it for its many magnificent relics of ancient art. The world-famous Tunhuang grottoes are found at the western end of the Kansu Corridor, the narrow neck of the province leading west into Sinkiang. These hundreds of Buddhist rock chapels contain some of the most beautiful mural paintings and sculptures in China. And now another treasure house of art has been found. A new series of Buddhist rock chapels—the earliest about 1,500 years old—have been brought to light in the Lesser Chishih Mountains in Yungching County, north of the Yellow River, about 120 kilometres southwest of Lanchow.

Here in the Pinglingsu Temple, as it is now called, are more than four hundred stone sculptures or carvings in high or low relief and many ancient murals in rich colour. They match in beauty those of the Tunhuang caves. From the time when they were first built down to the Ching Dynasty (A.D. 1644-1911) these chapels served as a place of worship and prayer. In the troubled times in which the Ching Dynasty ended, in the succeeding era of warlord wars, Kuomintang reaction and Japanese invasion, the temples fell into great disrepair, and knowledge of them became little more than a legend. Only since the people have become masters of their

own country, have they been restored to living knowledge and their great cultural value brought to light.

The grottoes were re-discovered in October 1951. Attention was first drawn to them by intellectual circles in Kansu Province. Then an expedition composed of artists and archaeologists was formed under the auspices of the Ministry of Cultural Affairs to thoroughly explore them and start the work of scientific preservation and restoration. It was headed by Chao Wang-yun, Director of the Bureau of Social and Cultural Affairs of the Northwest Cultural Affairs Department, assisted by Wu Tso-jen, Dean of the Central Academy of Fine Arts, and Chang Shu-hung, Director of the Institute for Research on the Tunhuang Relics. The expedition arrived at Pinglingsu in September last.

Although Yungching County, where the grottoes are located, was an important traffic centre in ancient times just off the Silk Route connecting China with the West, it is now almost a hermitage. The roads leading to the grottoes have all but disappeared. After crossing the Yellow River, the expedition rode up the mountains on horseback. Then the mountain paths became too narrow and steep for riding, and they finished the journey on foot. Finally they reached the levels where

the cliffside is honeycombed with 124 grottoes or shrines. A rock-carved Buddha of great height dominates the site.

The temple has two "stories": the upper temple has only two caves worthy of note. Two kilometres away and connected to it by a narrow path is the lower temple which was a flourishing religious centre during the Northern Wei (A.D. 386-534) and Tang (A.D. 618-907) Dynasties. From an examination of the remains around the grottoes and an ancient painting of the Pinglingssu Temple discovered by the team, it can be presumed that once there were magnificent buildings here. But these structures have all been destroyed by man and time.

When members of the team finally climbed up to the grottoes, they came upon an inscription on the precipice over one dated the second year of the Yenchang Period, Northern Wei Dynasty, i.e., A.D. 513. This, however, is probably not the earliest rock chapel here, as annals of the Tang Dynasty record grottoes built here as early as A.D. 265.

In some of the chapels built in the Tang Dynasty, the expedition discovered stone tablets with small carved characters and many other signs showing the flourishing state of Buddhism at that time. The ruling class of the Tang Dynasty were devout believers in Buddhism. Aspiring for rebirth in the Western Land (an imaginary kingdom of eternal bliss), they built splendid monasteries and grottoes here. Grottoes of the Sung Dynasty (A.D. 960-1279) have not yet been found, though grottoes and stone tablets of the Ming Dynasty (A.D. 1368-1644) and restored Sung and Ming Dynasty murals have been discovered.

Unique Sculptures

Chief artistic treasures of the caves are the sculptures, which occupy a unique place in the Buddhist art of China. The beautiful stone images of Bodhisattvas and devotees chiselled during the Northern Wei Dynasty display to an exceptional degree the characteristic qualities of Northern Wei sculpture—their strength and charm, accuracy of details, combined with vitality in the treatment of folds of clothes, foreshadow the genius of the paintings of the famous Ku Kai-chih of the Chin Dynasty (A.D. 265-420).

These grottoes have preserved for us some of the most characteristic sculptures of the Northern Wei and Chin Dynasties. In the Wei cave of A.D. 513 mentioned above is a sculptural masterpiece, the like of which can seldom be found after the Northern Wei Dynasty. It is an image of Manjusri sitting between two other images. It is endowed with a profound air of solemnity as well as vitality, splendour as well as simplicity, "movement caught in a moment of time."

The sculptures in the Tang caves represent the climax of the development of Chinese sculptural art during the period of the Six Dynasties (A.D. 420-589). The turmoil and unrest in the later days of the Northern Wei Dynasty gave way to peace and prosperity in the Tang Dynasty. This change was reflected in art: simplicity gave place to mellowness and maturity. One of the masterpieces of the Tang chapels is a beautiful bust of the deity Avalokiteshvara, carved with exquisite elaborateness and realism.

The biggest Tang grotto is a sculptural unit hewn on the cliff from the solid rock. Some of its images of Buddha, six or seven feet high, are astonishingly magnificent.

These images of the Tang Dynasty represent a synthesis of the Gandhara type of Indian art, which was introduced to China with the Buddhist religion, and the traditional art of China.

The mural paintings in the caves are largely restorations of earlier paintings done in Ming times. The main subject matter treated is the *mandala* (pantheon of the tantric school of Buddhism). The artistic treatment of the Buddhist stories, images of devotees, and ceiling designs in these paintings are different in style from those of the Sung and Yuan (A.D. 1280-1368) Dynasties as well as from those which come from Tibet in modern times. In some paintings dealing with the theme of transmigration of souls, the broad and forcible strokes and bright colours characteristic of most Ming murals, are strikingly evident. They enrich the history of murals since the Yuan Dynasty. They form a valuable supplement to the Tunhuang murals.

Such is this artistic treasure that has come down to us marvellously preserved despite all the vicissitudes of time. It is a great monument of China's splendid cultural heritage, to the skill

of artists and artisans and the genius of the people.

The strange beauty of the Lesser Chishih Mountains is itself a natural wonder. They seem to be the prototype of what is typical of classical Chinese landscape painting. To find such a treasure as the Pinglingssu Temple in such a beautiful natural setting is a rarity, and there is little doubt that, with the re-opening of communications (the railway has recently been extended to Lanchow), this hitherto neglected place will attract not only an increasing number of specialists but of ordinary art lovers.

The researches already made at Tunghuang and Pinglingssu are only two of several expeditions of artistic and archaeological interest being conducted at the present time. Another expedition has been formed to explore the caves of the Mechi Mountains southeast of Tienshui, Kansu Province, where lies another treasury of art. As early as the Han Dynasty (206 B.C.-220 A.D.) this place was known as "the paradise of woods and springs." It promises artists and archaeologists a rich harvest.

It is characteristic of our time that these researches are organised as complex, co-ordinated efforts of artists, archaeologists and

historians applying the principles of historical materialism to classify and unravel the problems which arise. Each new discovery adds valuable material to the knowledge of China's past and is absorbed into the cultural stream of the present. The art of the Tunhuang grottoes, besides shedding new light on many aspects of social history from the Chin to the Ming Dynasties, on religious beliefs, architecture, dress, techniques, etc., of the times, has had an enormous influence on contemporary Chinese art. It has given new impetus to the appreciation and study of the nation's art heritage. It directly influenced a new trend in decorative art, in architectural and textile designs, ceramics and book production.

In his book *On New Democracy*, Chairman Mao has written:

"To clarify the process of development of this ancient culture, to throw away its feudal dross and to absorb its democratic essence is a necessary condition for the development of our new national culture and for the increase of our national self-confidence."

It is in this spirit that the heritage unearthed at Pinglingssu Temple and other places is being approached.

Book Review

"The Scalpel, the Sword"

The Life Story of Dr. Norman Bethune

IT is given to a few men only to be highly honoured in a country far from their homeland. Dr. Norman Bethune, whose life story is told in *The Scalpel, the Sword*,* is one. In China today a number of medical universities and hospitals are named after him—the Bethune International Peace Hospitals and Medical Schools. This title is symbolic of the hopes of the Canadian and American people who sent him, and of what he himself struggled and fought for in his lifetime—internationalism and peace.

* *The Scalpel, the Sword*, Ted Allan and Sydney Gordon (1952), Canada, U.S.A.

Today, in New China, the beliefs and hopes of Dr. Bethune have come to fruition. Hundreds of his patients and colleagues are devoting their efforts to building a new nation, and they want to construct it in and for peace. Thousands of graduates and trainees from the Bethune International Peace Hospitals and Medical Schools emulate his internationalist spirit and his devotion to science in the service of the people and in the service of peace. These graduates can be found in the medical services of the Chinese people's volunteers in Korea giving blood transfusions, in the marshes of Hainan Island fighting malaria. They can be found in the deep interior of Tibet training medical work-

ers among the national minorities, and in the forefront of the patriotic health movement which brought China decades forward in its public health work.

Among Chinese medical workers there are yearly Bethune commemoration meetings held all over the country to summarise and take stock of what has been done. It is also an occasion to educate the rising generation of medical workers in the spirit of revolutionary humanism, internationalism and the devotion of science to peace. Dr. Norman Bethune is held up as a model.

The work and life of this Canadian doctor is vividly recapitulated in *The Scalpel, the Sword*. For those who knew Dr. Bethune, the book brings back many indelible memories. Those first making their acquaintance with this true son of the Canadian people will be deeply moved by the thorny path travelled by an honest individual trying to find a meaning in life for himself and his fellowmen, and will be greatly encouraged from the success he achieved. In moving terms there is reaffirmed the justness of a cause that puts progress of humanity as its main aim.

When we read in this story about the brutality of fascism in Spain, and the sufferings of the refugees on the road from Malaga, we imbibe, just as he did, the great courage of the people fighting for their just rights. Again, when we follow with him the tortures and agonies of the victims of Japanese imperialism in the plains and mountains of North China, we not only see in each of these and in many other episodes the immense courage, determination and devotion of the man fighting injustice, but we are also reminded that elements in the world today are trying to lead us back along that bitter road.

The authors portray the development of Dr. Norman Bethune against the socio-political background in which he lived—World War I, crisis of the 30's, the growth of fascism, civil war in Spain, the war against Japanese imperialism and World War II—a vicious cycle.

The book in living terms shows the contradictions and problems that existed in Bethune, and the answers which this truth-finding scientist found after rejecting many

seeming solutions. It was, we see, in Spain and in China that his final answers were rounded out. He himself summed it up as follows:

The contest in the world today is between two kinds of men: those who believe in the old jungle individualism, and those who believe in co-operative efforts for the securing of a better life for all.

When I had the good fortune to meet Dr. Bethune in Yen-an in early 1938, we spent many a long evening in the loess cave in which he lived, discussing world problems and personal problems, sandwiched in between philosophical and technical discussions. No matter what topic we were dealing with, he spoke with a sense of burning urgency. He seemed to feel that he had wasted too much time in finding the correct answers and was now making up for it. It was always "Comrade, we must ... we must hurry ... we can lick this TB ... we can lick this problem of the wounded ... we can lick these fascists ... we are Communists." He no longer had that feeling of frustration which had dogged his trail in the earlier days and which he talked about so freely.

I did not know that when I saw him off, seated on an impatient chestnut horse, that in less than two years he would give up his life for a cause that he held dear, whose success he did not live to see.

This book faithfully reproduces a lifelike picture of Bethune. In China, where he is a people's hero, he is part of the tradition of all medical workers who believe in the struggle for human dignity and peace. For those outside of China, it is as Commander-in-Chief Chu Teh feelingly stated in his funeral oration for Dr. Norman Bethune: that not only will "the Chinese nation ... recall him with love and admiration ..." but "someday all progressive mankind will cherish his memory."

The life of Bethune will serve as an encouragement to all progressive people working for a peaceful life in a better world. He should be doubly dear to the everyday Canadian and American people who helped to send him to China.

Dr. Ma Hai-teh

New Democratic Youth League in Congress

Our Correspondent

THE China New Democratic Youth League held its second national congress from June 23 to July 2 in an enthusiastic atmosphere of unity of the youth of the nation for the forward march of national construction.

Model workers in many fields, peasants, young intellectuals, outstanding students and heroes of the Chinese people's volunteers and the People's Liberation Army, government cadres and other youth came from all parts of the country to discuss the role of the League as the vanguard of China's youth in the period of China's industrialisation.

Floodlights and red banners added splendor to the Huai Jen Tang Hall in which the Congress opened.

Among the 810 delegates were Ho Chien-hsiu, the famous young model spinner and innovator; Chi Mo-chia, young scientist of the Biological Products Research Institute who

invented a new method for producing penicillin in varying temperatures; air hero Han Teh-tsai of the CPV who shot down five enemy planes in four air battles; and Chang Tao-hua, a 19-year-old blind girl, a heroic nurse of the CPV.

Embracing a membership of nine million youth from 14-25 years of age and with 380,000 branches in factories, villages and schools all over China, the League is "the lieutenant and reserve force of the Communist Party" and a nucleus around which the youth rally.

Liu Shao-chi, Secretary of the Secretariat of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of China, received the most enthusiastic applause as he extended fraternal greetings to the Congress on behalf of the Central Committee of the Communist Party.

He cited the achievements of the League in helping the Party in the national liberation war, in the struggle against U.S. aggression and to aid Korea, in social reform movements and in the rehabilitation of the national economy during the past four years. He urged the Youth League membership to master Marxism-Leninism and the teachings of Mao Tse-tung.

The Congress was also greeted by Hsiao Hua, deputy head of the Central Political Department of the People's Revolutionary Military Council; by Lai Jo-yu, Chairman of the All-China Federation of Trade Unions, and Teng Ying-chao, Deputy Chairman of the All-China Democratic Women's Federation.

The Congress unanimously adopted the report



The presidium of the Second Congress of the China New Democratic Youth League receiving bouquets from the Peking branch of the League

Youth in Congress

The enthusiasm and confidence of all Chinese youth in the first five-year plan of national construction were vividly demonstrated at the Second All-China Youth Congress held from June 10-15 in Peking.

Convened under the auspices of the All-China Federation of Democratic Youth which comprises the All-China Students' Federation, the YMCA, YWCA and the China New Democratic Youth League, the Congress rallied the young strength of the nation in support of the current tasks of the country.

These tasks of Chinese youth were defined in the Congress' key report on "The Defence and Building of the Motherland" delivered by Liao Chen-chih, President of the ACFDY.

He stated that in the present historical period when our country has started on its large-scale economic construction, China's youth must actively study and struggle for the realisation of the industrialisation of the country and the gradual transition to Socialism. The report called on the young workers to develop emulation campaigns and learn from Soviet experience. It called on the young peasants to support the drive for better crops, to join mutual-aid teams and agricultural producers' co-operatives. It called on the students to study science and politics and pay special attention to physical culture, and on young servicemen and youth in the people's volunteers to study Soviet military science and work hard for the consolidation of national defence.

By show of hands, the 550 youth delegates of various nationalities, diverse professions and religious beliefs unanimously agreed on the cardinal tasks of Chinese youth today.

The Congress ended after five days of exchanging experiences, eager discussions, reports of achievements, and gala evenings after work.

Congress guests included representatives of the World Federation of Democratic Youth, the USSR, the People's Democracies and democratic youth organisations of other countries of Europe, Asia and the Pacific, who brought fraternal greetings to the Congress.

The Congress re-elected Liao Cheng-chih as president of the ACFDY; and elected a new 112-member national committee of the ACFDY and a Chinese youth delegation to the Third World Youth Congress in Bucharest. It revised the ACFDY constitution and resolved that the ACFDY should join the Sino-Soviet Friendship Association *en bloc*.

on the new tasks of Youth League members as defined by Hu Yao-pang, Secretary of the League's Central Committee. Hu urged League members in industrial construction, "the centre of gravity of our economic construction," to take the most active part in the emulation campaigns.

He declared it a duty of the Youth League branches to discover, support, train and to foster respect and admiration for young workers who, by their creative labour, overcome difficulties and lead the way in setting new technical norms.

He called on the five million League members in the field of agriculture to strive for bigger crops of food and industrial raw materials, to improve the economic life of the peasants, to promote mutual aid and co-operation in the villages.

Dealing with the international ties of the League and world youth, Hu called on the League to strengthen its unity with the peace-loving youth of the world, to strengthen Sino-Soviet friendship and support the struggles of the youth for their rights in capitalist, colonial and dependent countries.

Youth in New Situation

The Congress revised the Youth League constitution to gear it to the new situation of advance to the industrialisation of the country and the gradual transition to a socialist society.

A new, 143-member central committee of the League was elected. The Congress also resolved that the League should join the Sino-Soviet Friendship Association *en bloc* and increase its activities to strengthen Sino-Soviet Friendship.

Youth delegates from 15 countries, warmly acclaimed by the Congress, presented greetings to the Chinese youth.

Besides the delegates from the U.S.S.R., Korea, Viet-Nam and other People's Democracies, these guests of honour also included delegates from India, Japan, Indonesia, France, Italy, Britain and Australia.

At the closing session on July 2, Commander-in-Chief Chu Teh congratulated the delegates on their successes and expressed the confidence of the Party that the League would fulfil its tasks with even greater effectiveness than before.

Chairman Mao Tse-tung's words of guidance to the League as the upbringer of the nation's youth, were reported to the Congress by Hu Yao-pang. He said Chairman Mao Tse-tung told the Presidium of the Congress that New China must care for its youth and show great concern for the growth of the young generation. The young people must study and work, but their days are days of physical maturing. Therefore, full attention must be paid to both their work and study on the one hand, and their recreation, sport and rest on the other.

"Full of profound care for our generation," Hu Yao-pang continued, "Chairman Mao asked to convey his best wishes to the youth of the country and to all Youth League members. He wishes us all 'good health, and good progress in our study and our work.'"

Speaking for all League members, Hu Yao-pang expressed deep gratitude for Chairman Mao's concern. He concluded that Chairman Mao's wishes of the "Three Goods"—good health, good study and good work—will be the direction of our work from now on.

Liao Cheng-chih, President of the All-China Federation of Democratic Youth, in his concluding address expressed confidence that the League, under the leadership of the Communist Party, would rally the youth of the whole country in work and study, will strengthen its ties with the masses and, in the defence and construction of the motherland, fulfil the tasks entrusted to it by the Communist Party and Chairman Mao Tse-tung.

On July 4 the new central committee of the League held its first plenary session. It elected a presidium of 21 members and a secretariat which include Hu Yao-pang, Liao Cheng-chih, and Liu Tao-shen.

Document

General Nam Il's Statement on the Question of Ensuring The Implementation of the Armistice

On July 19, at the full delegations' meeting of the Korean truce negotiations, General Nam Il, senior delegate of the Korean-Chinese delegation, read a statement on the question of ensuring the implementation of the Armistice, thus putting an end to the discussion on this question. We print below the full text of the statement:

IN the latter half of June, 1953, the South Korean Government and army of your side, under the control of the United Nations Command, coerced more than 27,000 of the captured personnel of our side into leaving the prisoner-of-war camps and violated the prisoner-of-war agreement, thereby subjecting the signing of the Armistice Agreement to delay and obstruction, and making the implementation

of the terms of the Armistice Agreement void of assurances. We consider that the United Nations Command cannot shed the responsibility for conniving at this disruptive action of the South Korean Government and army and for the unfavorable developments which may result from this action with regard to an armistice in Korea.

The disruptive action of the South Korean Government and army has given rise to the greatest vigilance of the Korean and Chinese people and of the peace-loving people throughout the world. In order to obtain explicit assurances of the implementation of the terms of the Armistice Agreement so that a genuine armistice can be realised in Korea, the Korean and Chinese side considers it necessary to have put a series of questions to the United Nations Command side and asked for clarifications. In order that the people of the world may know the assurances of your side, we have now grouped together, according to the records, the answers of your side to the questions which we have raised, as follows:

1. With regard to the question of whether or not an armistice in Korea includes the South Korean Government and its forces, General Harrison answered on July 11, 1953: "In offering to execute the instruments of the Armistice, the United Nations Command has expressed its willingness to bind itself to the terms of the Draft Armistice Agreement." General Harrison said on July 16: "On July 12 I stated: 'You are assured that the United Nations Command which includes the Republic of Korea forces, is prepared to carry out the terms of the Armistice.'... I again assure you we have received from the Republic of Korea government necessary assurances that it will not obstruct in any manner the implementation of the terms of the draft Armistice Agreement."

2. With regard to the question of whether the South Korean forces will completely cease fire within 12 hours after the Armistice Agreement is signed and withdraw two kilometres from the Military Demarcation Line along the entire front within 72 hours after the Agreement becomes effective to establish the Demilitarised Zone, so as to realise a genuine cease-fire and armistice in Korea, General Harrison made the same answer on July 12 and July 15 respectively: "The Republic of Korea forces will cease fire and withdraw."

3. With regard to the question of how the United Nations Command side will assure that the South Korean forces will abide by all the related terms of the Armistice Agreement, General Harrison answered on July 11: "In the event the provisions of the Armistice Agreement are violated by one side or the other, it

is provided in the Agreement that the facts will be brought before a Military Armistice Commission.... Finally, if the efforts of the Armistice Commission to insure observance of the Armistice terms do not prove effective, and if the security of either side is threatened by failure of the other side to observe the provisions of the Armistice, the injured side can, for good and sufficient reasons, abrogate the terms of the Armistice and take such military action as it deems essential under the circumstances. The United Nations Command will not give support during any aggressive action of units of the Republic of Korea Army in violation of the Armistice."

4. With regard to the question of whether the United Nations Command will maintain the state of Armistice, if the South Korean forces undertake aggressive action in violation of the Armistice Agreement after the Armistice, and the Korean and Chinese side takes necessary action to resist their aggression in order to safeguard the Armistice, General Harrison said on July 13: "The answer is yes."

5. With regard to the question of whether by saying that no support would be given, the United Nations Command means that it will not give any support to South Korea, including support in equipment and supplies, if the South Korean forces undertake aggressive action in violation of the Armistice Agreement after the Armistice and we take necessary action to resist their aggression in order to safeguard the Armistice, General Harrison said on July 13: "The answer is yes."

6. With regard to the statement made by the Senior Delegate of the United Nations Command that "during the post-hostility period," the South Korean Government would work in close collaboration with the United Nations Command to implement the provisions of the Draft Armistice Agreement, the Korean and Chinese side has pointed out that the phrase of qualification "the post-hostility period" is obviously inconsistent with the Armistice Agreement since there is no time limit on the effectiveness of the Armistice Agreement, and that this phrase of qualification of the United Nations Command side suggests implicit agreement with Syngman Rhee's indication that he would not obstruct the Armistice only for 90 days. Later, on July 13, General Harrison re-

plied: "There is no time limit to the Armistice." On July 16, General Harrison stated: "Your side has requested assurances that the Republic of Korea Government and forces will abide by all provisions of the Armistice Agreement for the entire period when the Armistice will be effective and not for a temporary period until a certain time limit. . . . The United Nations Command has clearly and unequivocally stated to you that it is prepared to enter into and abide by all the provisions of that Armistice Agreement, including Article 62."

7. With regard to the question of whether the United Nations Command will ensure the safety of the personnel of the neutral nations and of the Korean and Chinese side, who will be dispatched to areas in South Korea to function in accordance with the Armistice Agreement and ensure facilities for their work, General Harrison replied on July 12: "Any personnel who are authorized to enter the Republic of Korea in conformity with the Armistice Agreement will be protected." On July 13, General Harrison further replied: "The answer is yes. Personnel of the Neutral Nations Supervisory Commission, the Neutral Nations Repatriation Commission, and of your side, dispatched to the area of our side in accordance with the Armistice Agreement, will be protected and will be given facilities for their work."

8. With regard to the question of how to ensure the safety and operational facilities of the personnel of the neutral nations and the personnel of the Korean and Chinese side, who will go to the areas in South Korea to exercise their functions in accordance with the agreement, General Clark, in his letter of reply dated June 29, 1953, to Marshal Kim Il Sung and General Peng Teh-huai, stated: "Where necessary, the United Nations Command will, to the limits of its ability, establish military safeguards to insure that the armistice terms are observed." On July 10, General Harrison also stated: "The United Nations Command will furnish police protection to the Neutral Nations Repatriation Commission, the Neutral Nations Supervisory Commission and the joint Red Cross teams."

9. With regard to the question of the forcible retention of more than 27,000 of our captured personnel by the South Korean Government and army in violation of the prisoner-

of-war agreement, our side considers that the United Nations Command bears the unrelievable responsibility for recovering all these personnel. In the above-mentioned letter of reply of June 29, General Clark said: "The United Nations Command is continuing its efforts to recover the prisoners of war who have escaped." But General Harrison refused to give further account of this matter.

10. With regard to the question of whether the United Nations Command side is prepared to ensure that no further action will be taken to forcibly retain the remaining captured personnel of the Korean and Chinese side, General Harrison answered on July 12: "The remaining prisoners of war will not be released until they are turned over to the Neutral Nations Repatriation Commission." On July 15, General Harrison stated: "The remaining captured personnel of your side who refuse to be repatriated direct would be delivered to the Neutral Nations Repatriation Commission in accordance with the Terms of Reference for Neutral Nations Repatriation Commission."

The foregoing, except Question Number Nine, are the answers given by the United Nations Command since the resumption of the armistice negotiations concerning the assurances of the implementation of the Korean Armistice. We consider that clarifications on these questions are entirely necessary.

However, with regard to the question of recovering the more than 27,000 prisoners of war forcibly retained by the South Korean Government and Army, the United Nations Command has not actually made any effort, nor has it given our side a further account. As to the question of the remaining prisoners of war not to be directly repatriated, despite the repeated definite assurances given by the United Nations Command that these personnel will be delivered to the Neutral Nations Repatriation Commission in accordance with the Terms of Reference for the Neutral Nations Repatriation Commission, yet the joint communique issued by Mr. Robertson, representative of the President of the United States and the South Korean Government openly contends: "At the end of a specified period, all prisoners desiring to avoid returning to Communist jurisdiction shall be set free in South Korea or, in the case of non-Communist Chinese, to proceed to the

destination chosen by them." Although this joint communique has no binding effect whatsoever in the Korean Armistice Agreement, yet this proposition of the United States Government and the South Korean Government obviously contradicts Paragraph 11 of the Terms of Reference for the Neutral Nations Repatriation Commission and is aimed at making preparations in advance for South Korea to further violate the prisoner-of-war agreement after the Armistice and forcibly retain our captured personnel. In view of the situation mentioned above, our side cannot consider your side's assurances with regard to the question of prisoners of war as satisfactory, and reserves our right to ask your side to ensure the thorough implementation of the prisoner-of-war agreement.

In view of the assurances given by the United Nations Command regarding the question of the implementation of the Korean Armistice Agreement, and in spite of the fact that that portion of your side's assurances with respect to the prisoner-of-war question is not satisfactory to our side, our side is, nevertheless, prepared to discuss with your side immediately the various preparations prior to the signing of the Armistice Agreement. The Korean and Chinese side declares: Your side bears at all times the responsibility for recovering all the forcibly retained prisoners of war and giving account to our side. If after the armistice your side is still unable to recover this group of prisoners of war and hand them over to the Neutral Nations Repatriation Commission, our side will reserve the right to submit this question for discussion to the Political Conference provided for in Paragraph 60 of the Armistice Agreement. With regard to the question of handing over all the remaining prisoners of war not for direct repatriation to the Neutral Nations Repatriation Commission at locations in Korea to be designated by the detaining side in accordance with the provisions of Article Two, Paragraph Four of the Terms of Reference for Neutral Nations Repatriation Commission, our side considers that, in view of the fact that the South Korean Government has declared its refusal to admit the Indian forces into its area, this question must be settled before the signing of the Armistice, so that all neutral nations concerned as well as the In-

dian forces may be timely informed and make preparations in advance, and that this question should not be left to be settled by the Military Armistice Commission after the Armistice.

It must be pointed out that up to recently the South Korean Government and forces have still been openly stating that South Korea is opposed to an armistice and has freedom of action, and that the United Nations Command is still adopting the policy of connivance towards the South Korean Government and forces. The Korean and Chinese side must hereby declare: The assurances of the United Nations Command concerning the observance of the terms of the Armistice Agreement by the South Korean Government and forces will only be accepted at their face value. If such a policy of connivance of the United Nations Command towards the South Korean Government and forces continues, it is possible that the implementation of the terms of the Korean Armistice Agreement will continue to be obstructed, before or after the Armistice. This is what must be seriously watched by the governments and people of the nations throughout the world, particularly by the governments and people of the nations concerned on both sides in the Korean conflict. We consider that in case such circumstances arise at any time, the United Nations Command side must, in conformity with the findings of the inspections of the Military Armistice Commission and the Neutral Nations Commissions and with the just demand of the peace-loving people throughout the world, strictly fulfil the solemn assurances already furnished by itself. The Korean and Chinese side will thereupon, in accordance with the Armistice Agreement and the assurances given by the United Nations Command, have the right to take action against aggression in self-defence to safeguard the implementation of the Armistice.

The Korean and Chinese side pledges itself to implement all the terms of the Armistice Agreement, once the Korean Armistice Agreement is signed and becomes effective. Furthermore, we believe that the peace-loving people throughout the world will certainly give firm support to the Korean Armistice so as to facilitate a peaceful settlement of the Korean question and defeat any scheme of the bellicose elements.



Half-Year Targets Fulfilled

Most of the state-owned industries have fulfilled or overfulfilled their half-year production targets. The textile industry overfulfilled its plan in all fields: the output of woollen goods, for instance, surpassed the target by 19.7%. Electric power plants reached an average of 99.7% of the semi-annual plan. Coal consumption per kilowatt was reduced.

Drillers in the Tatung Coalfield, North China, and in the Huainan Coalfield, East China, have all overfulfilled their targets. Oil drilling in the Yumen Oilfield was 4.34% above quota. Production of crude oil topped the targets by 2.82%. The Yunnan Tin Company exceeded its goal for pure tin by 0.2%, and for crude tin, by 17.9%.

Tientsin Builds

Buildings with a total floor space of nearly one million square metres were built during the past three months in Tientsin, North China's commercial centre. The city's building programme this year includes workers' houses, schools, sanatoria, hospitals, nurseries, a palace of culture, offices, factories and public buildings.

In semi-colonial China, Tientsin was divided into eight different foreign concessions, each with its own industrial and commercial life, its separate sewerage and road systems. In the working class quarters (which were located outside those concessions) there was an appalling absence of the most elementary health and sanitation facilities.

Historic Documents

An order of the Chinese Workers' and Peasants' Red Army signed by Chairman Mao Tse-tung and Commander-in-Chief Chu Teh during the 2nd Revolutionary Civil War (1927-1936) and other proclamations, declarations, laws and regulations are among the more than 2,400 precious revolutionary documents and relics which have been collected in the old revolutionary bases in Fukien Province. The relics include medals, land certificates issued during the period, currency notes, books, weapons, photos, letters and other articles left behind by revolutionary martyrs.

Today the water supply and other public utilities have been greatly improved. Since liberation, 480,000 square metres of roads have been surfaced and over 95 kilometres of sewerage pipes laid. Road and drainage systems have been largely unified.

Seven new workers' housing projects with a floor space of about 840,000 square metres have been completed.

Progress in Afforestation

Almost 600,000 hectares of land were planted with trees this spring. This is an increase of 62% over last spring's planting.

In Northeast China, work on the 1,100-kilometre-long shelter belt

continued. Along the sea coast, 1,100 hectares were afforested.

In Northwest China, tens of thousands of hectares were planted to saplings, primarily to conserve water and prevent soil erosion, stop sand drifts and strengthen river banks.

Hundreds of millions of pines and firs have been planted in Kiangsi and Hunan Provinces. In Kwangtung, more than 72,000 hectares have been planted.

National Minorities' Schools

The second group of graduates, numbering 130, from the Central-South Institute for Nationalities have left to take up posts in minority areas. Most students of this Institute, which was founded in 1951, are former peasants from more than 10 different nationalities in Central-South China.

The Sinkiang College for Nationalities founded in 1950 is also graduating its second group of students this summer. They will take up posts as middle school teachers and agricultural and livestock specialists in Sinkiang Province. Over 90% of those studying at the College are Uighurs, Kazakhs, Huis, Uzbeks, Tartars, Mongolians and Sibos.

A Mongolian Language School was established in Kweisui, seat of the Inner Mongolian Autonomous Government, on July 7.

The first middle school for Hui girls will be set up this autumn in Kansu Province, thus marking a big step forward in the education of the Hui people. Before liberation, few Hui girls in this province ever attended school. Now 240 are studying at the two girls' primary schools and others are attending the 104 primary schools formerly reserved for boys only.

Return of Martyrs' Remains

The remains of 560 Chinese martyrs of the war of resistance to Japanese aggression were returned to China on July 7, the 16th anniversary of the war. The Japanese delegation, which brought the ashes of the martyrs back to their homeland, was led by Riri Nakayama, Member of the Standing Committee of the Japanese League

of World Buddhists. The delegation brought with them wreaths and eulogies presented by the Japanese Communist Party, trade unions, other people's organisations and Buddhist Associations.

The martyrs were among the 900 Chinese soldiers and workers forcibly sent by the Japanese militarists to do compulsory labour in Japan from July, 1944 to June, 1945. They were murdered *en masse* at the Hanaoka Mine in 1945. The U.S. occupation authorities, the Yoshida government, and Chiang Kai-shek, tried to cover up the crime and protect the war criminals. However, the facts came to light in 1950 after thorough investigation by overseas Chinese in Japan who were helped by the Japanese people.

From the USSR

A volume of the monumental Yung Lo Encyclopaedia of the Ming Dynasty (1368-1644) is one of the many gifts brought back by the 26 Chinese scientists who have returned from the Soviet Union after a three-month visit. An exhibition of the gifts was arranged by Academia Sinica in Peking.

The gifts included Russian translations of the *Selected Works of Mao Tse-tung*, Chinese scientific books in Russian, Soviet scientific and technical books and magazines, specimens of mineral ores, animals, plants and timber products, and also gifts from Soviet factories and mines which the Chinese scientists visited.

The Encyclopaedia, totalling 22,937 chapters and bound in 11,095 volumes, was compiled from 1405 to 1408, during the reign of Emperor Yung Lo. It incorporated in whole or in part about 8,000 ancient books covering the classics, history, philosophy, Buddhist sutras, Taoist writings, northern operas, southern dramas, folk tales and ancient ballads.

The original was destroyed at an unknown date. Of the duplicate set, most volumes were either destroyed or looted by foreign powers. Today, it is estimated that only some 390 volumes remain. Some are in China and some abroad. In 1951, the Oriental Department of

the Leningrad University in an act of friendship returned to China 11 volumes which had been with the University since Tsarist days.

Chinese Exhibitions Abroad

During the first ten days, 200,000 people visited the Chinese Industrial and Agricultural Exhibition, which was opened on July 11 in the three specially-built Chinese-style halls in Moscow's Central Park of Culture and Rest. The Exhibition shows the rapid progress China has made, with Soviet aid, during the short three-and-half years since liberation. *Pravda* and other Soviet papers devoted many columns to the exhibition and its significance.

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In Bucharest, an exhibition of Chinese New Year pictures has been opened under the auspices of the Rumanian Institute for Cultural Relations with Foreign Countries.

CHRONICLE OF EVENTS

July 6

A business arrangement is made between the China National Import and Export Corporation and a group of British businessmen visiting China.

July 12

A Chinese delegation leaves Peking to attend the World Conference of Teachers in Vienna.

July 13

General Nam Il protests at the U.S. bombing of Suan P.O.W. camp on July 10 in which five U.N. P.O.W.'s were killed and 15 injured.

July 14

The Korean-Chinese delegation to the Korean armistice negotiations protests against the shelling of the Panmunjom conference area by the other side on July 12.

July 16

Sino-Hungarian postal and telecommunications agreements are signed in Peking.

July 19

General Nam Il issues a statement on the question of ensuring the implementation of the armistice.

LETTERS

To the Editor

From a U.S. P.O.W.

P.O.W. CAMP, NORTH KOREA

From the moment that I was captured, I had the idea that my life would not be spared, due to previous propaganda distributed by our leaders. Contrary to our thoughts, we were kindly treated.

Upon arriving at our destination we were kindly welcomed with a hand-shaking. Our rooms were nice and warm. Three days later we received toilet articles and cigarettes. To me all this kind treatment was like a dream.

We have a good hospital—emergency cases are dealt with at any hour. We also have good specialists in the line of medicine or surgery.

We now have a club room and library in each company. We have all types of sport equipment available including musical instruments. Outside of this we also have a theatre for the whole camp. At theatre we enjoy a movie or a drama performed by the Chinese, Koreans or sometimes by ourselves. In this camp we have complete freedom to visit our friends daily. We are now living like a big family with no racial discrimination, everyone is treated equally here. We not only celebrate our holidays but also the holidays of the Asian people. During all holidays we have an extra special menu and in each we get the famous oriental alcoholic beverage called "soju."

To the Chinese and Korean people who have proved to have met the principles of humanitarianism, allow me to give you my most sincere thanks for your incomparable benevolent treatment which I have been subject of hitherto.

Corporal Fred Garza Jr.
RA 18353921



Writing a Letter to the Chinese People's Volunteers

Drawing by Chiang Chao-ho