

March 3, 1959

9

PEKING REVIEW

Answers to Some Questions About the People's Communes

By the First Secretary of the Kwangtung Provincial Committee of the Chinese Communist Party in an interview with Hongkong and Macao newspapermen (p. 6).

Chemical Industry: Big Advance

The achievements of China's chemical industry (p. 10).

China and Africa

A speech by Dr. W. E. B. Du Bois at Peking University (p. 11).

Weather Men on the Farms

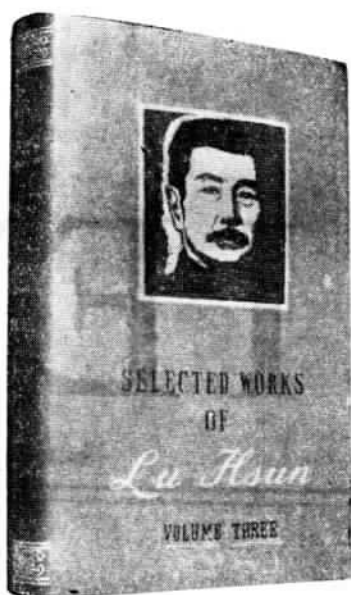
A new trend in China's meteorological service (p. 16).

Chinese Warning on South Viet-nam Intrusions

*Chinese Press Opinion, Sidelights
and Other Features*

北
京
周
報

C
O
M
I
N
G
S
H
O
R
T
L
Y



SELECTED WORKS OF LU HSUN

(Vol. Three)

This volume contains ninety-eight of Lu Hsun's essays written during the Second Revolutionary Civil War (1927-36). They deal with key events in the life and struggles of the Chinese people during this period and reflect important developments in the outlook and thinking of the author.

Lu Hsun's essays have a style all their own. They epitomize his life-long struggle as a thinker and fighter, and the main events in China during the democratic revolution. Although many of his works have been translated, this is the first published selection of English translations of his essays from the above period.

Annals of a Provincial Town

by KAO YUN-LAN

Part of Fukien Province, including Amoy, was occupied by the Japanese forces during their 1937-1945 invasion of China and those were bitter days for its people. In the countryside, traitor landlords battled to keep their land and power by favour of the invaders. They did not hesitate to betray patriot peasants. In the cities, Japanese *ronin* and Chinese traitors ruled the streets. Selfish merchants traded in Japanese goods. Japanese espionage agencies and Kuomintang reactionaries collaborated in a plot to make Fukien "autonomous." But the people fought back valiantly. *Annals of a Provincial Town* is a story of that struggle, of the workers, fishermen, youth, intellectuals and others who joined together in a broad united front to free Fukien.

A native of the province, Kao Yun-lan knows his hot-blooded Fukienese well and he portrays them vividly in all their colourful, impetuous ways. His humour is deft and sharp, and his treatment of romantic love in the midst of war, delightfully human.

TUNG TSUN-JUI: The Making of a Hero

by TSO LIN

The life story of an outstanding hero of the Chinese People's Liberation Army. To save his comrades' lives and clear the way for the liberation of an enemy-held city, he destroyed a Kuomintang block-house at the cost of his own life. This book, describing the development of his character as a result of the education given him by the Chinese Communist Party, has had a tremendous influence on young people in China.

Published by: FOREIGN LANGUAGES PRESS .. Pai Wan Chuang, Peking (37), China
Distributed by: GUOZI SHUDIAN P. O. Box 399, Peking, China

PEKING REVIEW

北京周報

(BEIJING ZHOUBAO)

A WEEKLY MAGAZINE OF CHINESE
NEWS AND VIEWS

March 3, 1959 Vol. II No. 9

CONTENTS

EDITORIAL	
Our First Anniversary	3
ROUND THE WEEK	4
Shanghai Aims High; Wuhan's No. 2; Coal in South China; Keeping the Wheels Rolling; "Storming the Fortress of Culture"; More Livestock	
ARTICLES	
Answers to Some Questions About the People's Communes — Tao Chu	6
Chinese Warning on South Viet-nam In- trusions	9
China's Expanding Chemical Industry — Wang Jun-tung	10
China and Africa — W.E.B. Du Bois	11
Birthday Party in Peking	13
Warming Up for a New Leap — Our Correspondent	14
Weather Men on the Farms — Ho Shan	16
POETRY, SPORTS	17
SIDELIGHTS	19
CHINA AND THE WORLD	20
Sino-Soviet Trade Protocol; Soviet Army Day; U.A.R. Anniversary; Sino-Korean Agreement; Briefs; Cultural News	
CHINESE PRESS OPINION	21
U.S.-Instigated Provocations on Hsisha Islands; The Unquenchable Flame of Freedom; The Passing Show; "Be- ware of the Poison Pedlar!"; New Plot to Shackle Cyprus	
WHAT'S ON IN PEKING	23

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

Post Office Registration No. 2-922

Printed in the People's Republic of China

Our First Anniversary

PEKING REVIEW, which made its debut on March 4 last year, is now one year old.

In the opening remarks of our first issue we said that **Peking Review** intended to "provide timely, accurate, first-hand information on political, economic, and cultural developments in China and her relations with the rest of the world." We also expressed the hope that in doing so our magazine would be able to do its bit in "promoting better understanding and friendship between People's China and the other countries of the world." Looking back upon the past year we feel happy to be able to say that **Peking Review** has made its contribution in this respect.

Twelve months is certainly not a long time. But for China 1958 cannot be measured by the mere length of calendar time. It was the first year of China's Second Five-Year Plan. It was a "great leap forward" year. The tremendous achievements which have been scored by every branch of the Chinese national economy are unparalleled in Chinese history. The wealth of experience gained in developing industrial and agricultural production at top speed quickens the tempo of building socialism in a vast land embracing approximately one-fourth of humanity.

Peking Review has covered a great stretch of history in its very first year of existence. Our uppermost birthday thoughts are on enhancing its usefulness to keep pace with the fast-moving flow of events in China and to foster better understanding between the Chinese people and the peoples of other lands.

Since the founding of the Chinese People's Republic, the imperialists, particularly United States imperialists, have conducted a violent smear and slander campaign against the new China. During recent months, their attacks have been centred on the people's communes. They fabricate all sorts of ridiculous tales in a frantic attempt to paint an utterly gloomy picture of the Chinese scene.

Why are the imperialists so mad about People's China? The answer is no mystery. They are terribly afraid lest the truth about China becomes known to their people. In order to confuse and mislead public opinion, they stop at nothing in spreading slanders against People's China.

Lying propaganda and wishful thinking, however, will not get them anywhere. People's China is here to stay. Moreover, it is advancing along the socialist path in seven league boots. This overriding fact gives the imperialist rumour-mongers a whacking slap in the face.

People's China has long been a staunch champion for peace. The Chinese people set great store by better understanding between the peoples of various countries. Such understanding is conducive to growing friendship between nations and to the preservation of peace.

It has been our fixed editorial policy to present the truth about China, thus playing our part in bringing about better understanding between this country and the rest of the world. Socialist construction in China is expected to forge ahead at a still greater tempo this year. We are sure **Peking Review** will also march forward and do still better in its second year.

ROUND THE WEEK

Shanghai Aims High

Shanghai, taking another big stride forward this year, will increase its industrial output value by 55 per cent, as compared with the big leap year of 1958. This was announced by Ke Ching-shih, Mayor of Shanghai and the First Secretary of the Shanghai City Communist Party Committee, on February 25 at an industrial conference held in China's largest city.

Shanghai has been doing well in industry for some time. Last year the total value of industrial products registered a 50.3 per cent increase. Steel output topped the million-ton mark and its cotton yarn output beat Britain's 1957 national total, to cite but two examples. Its heavy industry turned out quite a few notable new products, such as ball-bearing steel, silicon steel containing aluminium, 25,000-kilowatt steam turbo-generators, and 10-ton Bessemer converters.

It is on such past performance that Shanghai bases its new programme of industrial expansion. But to raise its total industrial output value by as much as 55 per cent in a year's time is no easy matter, especially when the output of some of the major industries, such as the engineering and power equipment industries, are expected to soar 100 per cent. A call has therefore gone out from the conference to the million industrial workers of the city to make a major effort to raise labour productivity. The solution lies in pressing on with the technical revolution and in raising efficiency. Shanghai's high targets can be realized, said its Mayor, if every worker pulls not just his own weight, but, through technical reforms and still higher skills, the weight of one and a half men. The workers in all factories are responding enthusiastically. Representatives attending the conference in the daytime report back to the workers the highlights of the proceedings in the evening and discuss with them the practical measures to realize their targets this year. A wave of enthusiasm for more and better products, for an emulation campaign between workers and between factories is spreading throughout Shanghai's heavy and light industries on both sides of the Whampoo River.

The country as a whole is like a complete chess-set. While the conference reviewed the achievements of 1958 and assessed the lessons of last year's unusual

success, the work of 1959 was also discussed against the background of the Communist Party's policy popularized in the slogan "The country as a whole is like a complete chess-set" which has gained wide currency in China today.

It is impossible to explain this vital policy fully in a few sentences. Broadly speaking, it presumes a proper relationship between the central and local authorities, between the whole and the parts, between centralization and decentralization, and it reflects the laws governing the planned and proportionate development of the national economy.

As in a chess contest which entails concerted and inter-related moves, so the bigger struggle of economic construction demands co-operation and co-ordination on a national scale for success. Shanghai is one of the pieces on the national chess-board, and an extremely important one at that. As an industrial city it has developed both heavy and light industries and it leads the country in the manufacture of certain types of products. All the same, it must proceed according to the rule—"The country as a whole is like a complete chess-set." Shanghai produced more than one-tenth of last year's national total of 11 million tons of steel, but it must be remembered that the raw materials that went into the making of that million tons or so of Shanghai steel came from various parts of the country. Shanghai accounted for a quarter of China's total cotton-yarn output in 1958, but the cotton used in its textile mills is furnished by the people's communes in rural China.

In the light of the discussions, it became increasingly clear to all the factory delegates attending the conference that the policy "The country as a whole is like a complete chess-set" is indeed an important key to the realization of the great leap forward of 1959. In the case of Shanghai, important as it is as an industrial centre and going forward as it is in the direction of specialization in the manufacture of finer and more complex products, precision tools and instruments and heavy type equipment, it nevertheless should help other cities in the country to make the industrial grade while it is advancing rapidly itself.

Wuhan's No. 2

At ten minutes to five in the afternoon of February 18 ground was broken

at the Wuhan Iron and Steel Works for the construction of its No. 2 blast furnace. Bigger than the No. 1 blast furnace which came into operation last September, Wuhan's second blast furnace will be fully mechanized and automatically operated. It will use the most up-to-date metallurgical techniques when it is commissioned.

The builders are making a bid to rush the job through ahead of schedule so that the No. 2 blast furnace can join in time the national battle for 18 million tons of steel.

Coal in South China

One of the happy consequences arising from the nationwide steel drive of last year was the discovery of abundant coal-fields in Hupeh Province. Once widely believed to be coal-deficient, this rich central China province has established the fact that more than two-thirds of its counties abound in coal. A big effort is being made to build the area between Wuchang and Puchi, to be known as the Onan coal-mines, into a coal centre.

Until now Hupeh Province, which has the giant Wuhan Iron and Steel Works and other major industrial enterprises within its borders, used to count on other provinces to supply more than 90 per cent of the coal it consumed. The Onan coal-mines plus the thousands of small coal-pits opened in various parts of the province since the steel-making campaign will now go a long way to making Hupeh self-sufficient in coal.

Even more ambitious is Kiangsi Province, its neighbour on the southeast. Last year, Kiangsi produced 160 per cent more coal than in 1957. With 69 of its 82 counties explored and certified as rich in coal, the province has mapped out a plan to turn itself into an important coal-producing centre in south China with enough coal not only to satisfy local consumption but to meet part of the needs of the industries in east China.

Other provinces in south and southwest China, equally well-endowed in coal, are also very coal-conscious these days. Kwangtung, in the extreme south, has decided to double its output this year and become self-sufficient in the mineral too. Szechuan and Kweichow, in southwest China, are working along similar lines. Szechuan is building a network of coal-producing points around its major iron and steel works at Chungking, Chengtu, Yuchiang, and along the railway lines to feed the railways.

This heavy building programme of the coal industry south of the Yellow River

is an earnest of the effort to change the industrial map, to make the south self-supporting in coal supplies. In doing so, these provinces will be in a better position to feed their own industries, steel-making first of all, with coal from local resources.

Keeping the Wheels Rolling

Transport is under pressure from the big leap in industry and agriculture to develop at top speed. The realization of such major targets as steel, coal, grain and cotton depends in no small measure on how much and how fast the transport services can expand in 1959.

In ordinary years, these four major products would take up some 50 per cent of the railway freight, 60 per cent of motor and 40 per cent of water transport space. With the target of all these four products set high in the big leap forward spirit this year, the claims for more transport space can well be imagined, to say nothing of the claims, maybe just as pressing, from other sources. So the transport departments are looking forward to a year of further and greater development of their services.

Expansion of the transport system was big and fast last year. With all this increase in the transport capacity of the railways, lorries, ships and aeroplanes to start with, it nevertheless looks certain that transport capacity will still have to be much further increased in order to meet the fast growing volume of transport which, in all probability, will double in 1959.

"Storming the Fortress of Culture"

Ask anyone in the Chinese People's Liberation Army what he likes to do with his spare time, and you will most likely get the answer—"to storm the fortress of culture." This is a popular phrase on the lips of officers and men of the P.L.A. these days, and it stands for scaling the heights of the world of knowledge. In the war to free China from the rule of reaction and the domination of foreign imperialism, the P.L.A. had shown how good they are in storming and taking fortresses. Now in the battle for knowledge they prove to be no less determined fighters. This is a sure sign that China's cultural revolution has caught up with her army, too.

The P.L.A. has always demanded of its officers and men to be both defenders and builders of socialism, not just a body of fighters but soldiers of the people who are as ready to give a helping

hand to the worker and the man behind the plough as they are to stand guard over the security of the nation. To be good in both requires a knowledge of science and technology and of general culture. And especially in these days, when industry and agriculture are expanding by leaps and bounds, to be of help in doing a really good job of building socialism calls for as much know-how with the pen and slide-rule as with weapons. But this can be obtained only by consistent studies.

The Political Department of the P.L.A. has worked out a comprehensive plan for the officers to attain secondary school and university levels within 10 years. According to this plan, for the first three or four years the officer-students will be grounded in foundation courses and for the rest of the time they will take special courses. In many units today special education departments have been set up above the regimental level to provide the facilities and create the conditions for the army officers to be free to get the most out of their spare-time studies while carrying on their normal duties.

With the whole army "going to school" the problem of teachers is, of course, quite a formidable one. To solve it, the P.L.A. relies on a body of part-time teachers chosen from among the better qualified officers to supplement the regular teaching staff. It also gets help from many other quarters because of its close links with other sections of the population. In Kweilin, in the Kwangsi Autonomous Region for the Chuang People, for example, the Normal College there sent its teachers to help the local garrison operate their spare-time schools. In Peking, the army units often receive teaching assistance from the Teachers' University.

Like their officers, the ranks are taking to studies with an unusual keenness, too. The aim at present is to give every soldier a full primary education, and to those who already had a primary school educa-

tion, facilities to continue with their studies on the secondary school level. The spirit of learning runs high, and subscriptions to newspapers and magazines and purchases of books are swelling. Education is the password in the Chinese army today.

More Livestock

Although 1958 was a year of great expansion for livestock breeding in China, taken all in all animal husbandry and poultry farming remained a weak branch of the country's agriculture. For all the extra head of pigs and sheep and other livestock raised in the big leap year, they were not enough to satisfy growing needs. The Central Committee of the Chinese Communist Party and the State Council have therefore jointly issued a directive calling for a 10 per cent increase in the number of big farm animals during the year. This is the breeding season and the state livestock farms and the people's communes are reminded to make the most of the next two or three months.

While the increase of oxen, horses, donkeys and mules will play a big part in raising agricultural production, the significance of accelerating the expansion of livestock and poultry to provide more meat, eggs and dairy products for consumer needs is stressed too. For China with its 650 million people needs a staggering amount of meat and animal products annually.

In an editorial commenting on the rapid development of livestock farming *Renmin Ribao* noted the favourable conditions that exist for developing livestock breeding in China. In the northern regions there are wide pasturage steppes covering an area of some 3.6 million square kilometres, while only 45 million head of cattle, an average of 12 head to each square kilometre, graze the land. There is plenty of room for expansion. The same is more or less true of the mountainous areas, which occupy more than half of China, and sub-tropical China where a far greater number of animals can prosper.

The advent of the people's communes in particular has made it possible for animal husbandry to be pursued as a specialized branch of the economy, and not just as an adjunct to grain cultivation. The communes offer greater opportunities for animal husbandry to develop on a larger scale and at a greater speed, said the paper.



Veterinarians at a livestock farm

Woodcut by Hsu Yun-pao

Answers to Some Questions About the People's Communes

by TAO CHU

Tao Chu, First Secretary of the Kwangtung Provincial Committee of the Chinese Communist Party, received a delegation of reporters from Hongkong and Macao on December 27, 1958. This delegation, then visiting Canton, consisted of reporters from the Hongkong newspapers "Ta Kung Pao," "Wen Hui Pao" and the "Macao Daily." Also present at the interview were members of visiting delegations from cultural, industrial and business circles in Hongkong and Macao. At the interview Tao Chu replied to questions put forward by the visiting reporters regarding the people's communes. The interview was published in "Nanfang Ribao" on January 18. Following is an abridged translation of the talk he gave at the interview.—Ed.

YOU have raised some concrete questions concerning the people's communes. Here I would like to say something about the main ones. To begin with, the question of the family. The reactionaries are very fond of saying that we are "destroying and abolishing the family." This is something the reactionaries have been shouting about for the past hundred years. The *Manifesto of the Communist Party* drafted by Marx and Engels in 1848 already hit back hard on this question. Will families be abolished? The answer is definitely no. What is to be abolished is the patriarchal family left from feudal society and the family of capitalist society built on cash relations. With the abolition of these irrational families, a really equal, harmonious, full and happy family life will be built up. The family is always closely connected with a definite social system. It undergoes change with the changes in the social system and makes progress with the progress of society. When private ownership is destroyed and the social productive forces make rapid progress, changes in the family are also bound to take place. It is impossible to keep the family unchanged.

Speaking of the family, it easily reminds one of the novels *Dream of the Red Chamber* by Tsao Hsueh-chin and *Family* by Pa Chin. Both the Chia family described in the *Dream of the Red Chamber* and the Kao family described in *Family* are full of evil. There is no warmth at all; everything is icy cold. These are indeed a portrayal of families in Chinese feudal society. We have no obligation to keep and preserve families like these; we firmly want to destroy such families. If the reactionaries are attacking us in this sense, they are more or less telling the truth when they declare that we are "destroying" or "abolishing" the families. I think you too will not want to preserve such families. And in actual fact, such families have been in gradual disintegration for some time.

Families built on private ownership and families with the husband or father as the absolute ruler, however, are

still there. In these families, since the husband or the father alone holds the purse, the wife has had to be dependent on her husband, and the children on their father, so it is only natural that the husband or the father becomes the ruler of the house and has the final say. This, of course, has changed a lot since liberation. Old families have begun to undergo tremendous changes in the course of our democratic revolution and socialist revolution carried out in the last few years. For instance, the state has enacted laws to protect women and children, ensuring women the freedom to choose an occupation, to get a job and take part in social activities. During the land reform in the countryside, women got an equal share of land, like the men did, and the women were free to do what they pleased with the land they received. Particularly after agricultural co-operation, the family ceased to be a productive unit; in a co-operative, women and men alike were paid according to their work-days. All these seriously destroyed the husband's or father's rule in the family. When the old and irrational families are destroyed the question that follows is what kind of families are we to build up. Are we to build up bourgeois families then? Of course that's impossible. The very nature of the bourgeois family was laid bare long ago in the *Manifesto of the Communist Party*. "On what foundation," it asks, "is the present family, the bourgeois family, based? On capital, on private gain. In its completely developed form this family exists only among the bourgeoisie. But this state of things finds its complement in the practical absence of the family among the proletarians, and in public prostitution." Many of you have been to a number of capitalist countries and you certainly know these things better than I do.

WHAT are the elements in the family we have "destroyed" in setting up the people's communes? What kind of families are we to build? First of all, production by individual families as a social economic unit was in the main destroyed. "Destruction" of this scattered individual production is of great advantage to the development of production. As far as this is concerned, it was in fact modern and big bourgeois industry that started this long ago, although the way they did it was different from ours and it was only a question of doing it thoroughly or not. For instance, while abolishing the individual families as an economic unit in society, we also took some measures to see to it that all women could take part in social labour and fully emancipate themselves. When the rural people's communes began to provide their members with free meals and pay wages to every labourer so that they can spend money as they like, the communes also set up community

dining-rooms, nurseries and kindergartens. Women are thus freed from household chores. All these are just some efforts to build up more rational and more ideal homes, for women must win real economic equality and an equal status in labour before there can be a family in which everybody is really equal. That is why these efforts have been warmly supported by the working women and all women who are willing to participate in various kinds of labour.

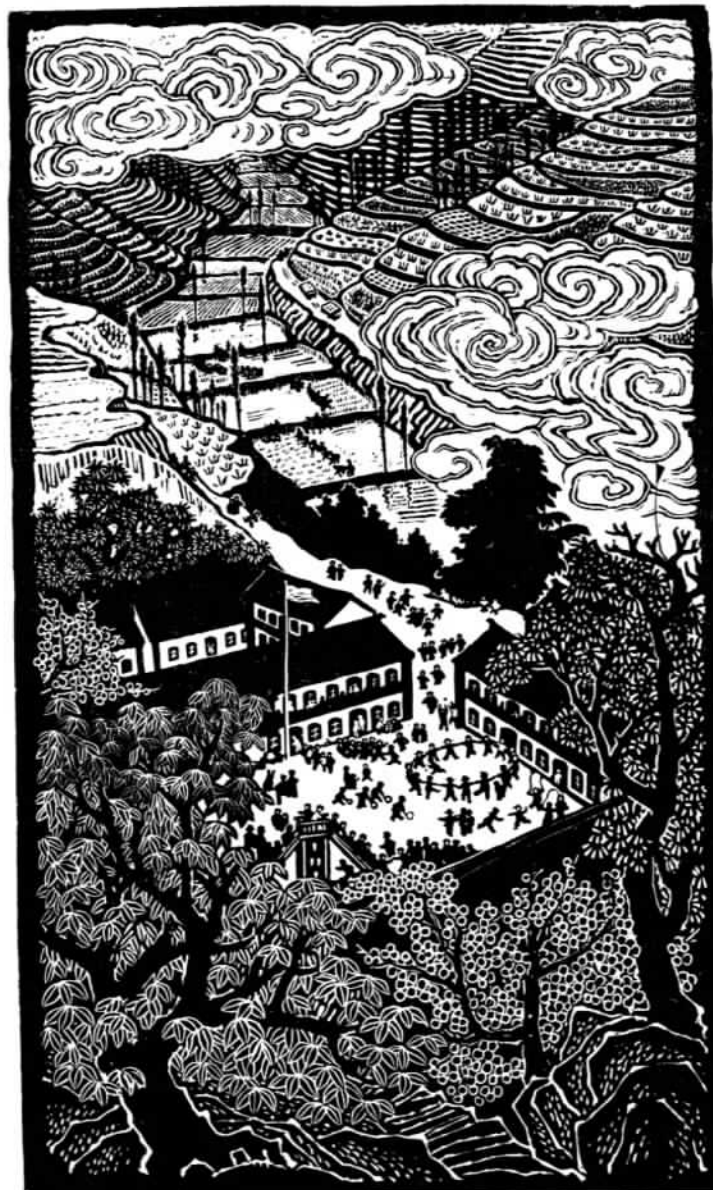
ALL of you are very much interested in the kindergartens, nurseries and the "homes of respect for the aged" in the people's communes. We all know that nurseries and kindergartens are established with the hope that women will not have to worry about their children when they work. Mothers may send their children to kindergartens or nurseries when they go to work and bring them back after work. This is far better than in the past—then women in our province used to work in the fields with babies on their backs, others were on tenterhooks when they worked in the field because they had left their children at home with no one taking care of them, some simply stayed at home day in and day out, just to take care of the children.

And this is only one side of the matter. The establishment of nurseries and kindergartens also solves the question of educating the children. In a collective life, children quite naturally receive a social and collective education. As they now form collective and socialist habits in their childhood, in the future they will be brought up as new people of the socialist society.

The "homes of respect for the aged" are built mainly with the purpose of taking care of the aged people who have no family and no one to depend upon. Those who have children can and should live with their family, they can take care of their grandchildren, do some light work and enjoy a happy family life.

All these—kindergartens, nurseries and "homes of respect for the aged"—are something new. It is impossible for newly established things to have no defects at all. Besides, before long we'll get experience and have things done well. In this society of ours, the relations between man and man are entirely different from those in the capitalist countries, where, as the *Manifesto of the Communist Party* describes it, the bourgeoisie "has left remaining no other nexus between man and man than naked self-interest, than callous 'cash payment.'" Here in our society, there is no oppression, no exploitation, everywhere man shows his greatest consideration for the other. That's why there are no parents who pay no regard to their children and no children who pay no regard to their parents.

With the switchover to the people's communes, as required by the big leap in industry and agriculture, we put forward the slogan: "Get organized along military lines, work as if fighting a battle and live the collective way" (later "democratic management" was added). This slogan is supported by the broad masses of the peasants, and has played a big part in our industrial and agricultural production. But the reactionaries have persistently raised an outcry against our "getting organized along military lines," saying that we have used it as a means to "enslave" the peasants and that by "getting organized along military



Primary school in a commune

Woodcut by Hstu Chun

lines" the peasants have been "completely deprived" of their freedom.

WHAT are the facts? I think I had better start with the rural conditions and production problems in Kwangtung Province in 1958. In that year we set up the people's communes. Each commune, on the average, consists of something like 10,000 households. This has brought enormous advantages to production, but at the same time gave rise to some new difficulties in the organization of production. To organize 10,000 households (with 40,000 to 50,000 people) in production and in a way that all will act in unison and co-ordinate with each other in all fields, is not an easy thing. We all know that the peasants worked very hard when they engaged in individual farming, but because they went it alone their efficiency was very low. If we did not want to raise our level of production and our standard of life, we might reconcile ourselves to this state of affairs.

But we don't want this. We have changed this situation gradually from the day when the mutual-aid

teams and the farming co-ops were formed. The question poses itself most acutely with the establishment of the people's communes and the leap forward in industrial and agricultural production. As everybody knows, the communes develop agriculture and industry simultaneously and go on to realize industrialization, the mechanization and electrification of agriculture. In the circumstances it is hard to imagine that work can be done without organization and discipline. Take iron-smelting for instance. There must be well-co-ordinated arrangements in every sector. You cannot start production even if 90 per cent of the required arrangements are ready while the remaining 10 per cent are not.

"Get organized along military lines, work as if fighting a battle and live the collective way" means that there must be organization and discipline while at work. As a matter of fact, there is nothing new in this; nor was it only during 1958 that it began to be invented. You too have this sort of thing in your work of editing the newspapers. Can you get your job done without organization and discipline? If press time is set at two o'clock in the morning it just won't do if before two o'clock the whole thing had not been arranged in the way of "getting organized along military lines and working as if fighting a battle." It won't do too if all other editors have finished the editing of the pages they are in charge of while you yourself have not. If the editor who lags behind in his work doesn't care a hang for organization and discipline is it possible for the newspaper to come out at the set time?

As a matter of fact, as far as "getting organized along military lines" is concerned the bourgeoisie started it much earlier than we did. When modern industry turned small handicraft workshops into big factories of industrial capitalists the bourgeoisie had practically organized the factory workers into an industrial army and demanded that the factory workers must work with discipline and in an organized way. The question is not who uses the method of "getting organized along military lines" but for what purpose it is used. In organizing the workers into an "industrial army" the bourgeoisie have no other purpose but squeezing out more profits for themselves and grabbing more of the surplus value produced by the workers. The workers have to work for them to earn their daily meals. So forced labour in the true sense of the term can be found only in the factories of the capitalists. In putting forward the slogan "Get organized along military lines, work as if fighting a battle and live the collective way" our aim is to advance our common cause, the common interests of the 650 million people. Therefore, as soon as the slogan was put forward it was at once warmly supported by the peasants, and has become a source of great strength in their actions.

THE reactionaries also said: You are putting emphasis on organization and discipline and so you have no "freedom." We hold that freedom and organization and discipline are at one and the same time both contradictory and in unity. As man carries on production in a planned way and lives a collective life, inspired as he is by a single great purpose, he will naturally have ease of mind. In fact in class society there is no such thing as absolute

freedom. You cannot dispense with organization and discipline unless you live, like Robinson Crusoe, on an uninhabited island. But when you come to that state of affairs what you get is not much more freedom but much less.

Is there more freedom in capitalist society? This depends on what kind of people this question refers to. For the handful of capitalists surely there is more and greater freedom. They have the freedom to live in luxury, the freedom to do evil things and the freedom to indulge in gay life and debauchery. As to the broad masses of the labouring people, the only freedom they have is the freedom to be exploited, the freedom to starve and the freedom to be enslaved. As you have already seen very clearly in Hongkong, many of the people living there, because of bad housing situations, do not even have the freedom to breathe fresh air, to bask in the sunshine or to drink a mouthful of clean water.

We ought to say frankly that the kind of bourgeois freedom mentioned above simply does not exist here in China. What we have here is the genuine freedom of the broad masses of the labouring people. Our organization and discipline is built on the premise of guaranteeing such freedom.

CONCERNING the question of labour. Some reactionaries, confronted with hard facts, could not but admit that we have made great achievements in the big leap forward in industrial and agricultural production in 1958. But they assert with exasperation: "You made your achievements by completely robbing the people of their rest." "Your leap forward depended on oppression and enslavement." Is this just to make themselves feel good? Or is this to spread rumours and slanders? In my opinion, it contains both elements. It is true that in 1958 the masses of the people, in response to the call of the Communist Party, demonstrated unparalleled energy and drive and worked selflessly and that, at the peak of the busy farming season, they worked at night for a couple of days. The assertion of the reactionaries to the effect that we regularly work through the nights without sleep, however, is in direct contradiction with common sense and physiology and is hardly worthy of refutation. It is unthinkable that a person can work continuously without rest.

But this is not the point. What I want to explain is why the masses work selflessly and what our attitude is towards the enthusiasm of the masses in work. During your tour, you have probably visited quite a few of these people who worked selflessly. What were their answers? Their answers may vary, but I believe the general spirit is certainly the same, that is, they wanted to get rid of the poverty of our country and raise the level of production and standards of living quickly. The people understand that these aims cannot be achieved without relying on their own hands and their own selfless labour. Therefore, there is nothing strange about these people who, filled with the lofty sentiments of conscious patriotism and socialism, did a little more work. It is utterly clear to all that it is precisely to create the conditions so that working hours may be shortened in the future that we are doing a little more work now. Is it not true that we have

already begun the practice of the eight-hour day in the countryside this year? It is certain that, with the development of production, the reform of tools, the work-day will be further reduced greatly in the future, until the time when labour becomes a pleasure instead of a burden, and when it becomes the primary necessity of a person's life. We have always stressed the integration of labour with rest and the carrying out of production in a rhythmic way. In the "Resolution on Some Questions Concerning the People's Communes" by the Central Committee of the Chinese Communist Party (see *Peking Review*, 1958, No. 43, p. 16. — *Ed.*), it is pointed out that "the greater the working enthusiasm of the masses, the greater the attention the Party should pay to their well-being." Many concrete measures for this purpose have also been stipulated in the resolution.

THE reactionaries assert that the growth and the accumulation of our people's communes result from "oppression" and "enslavement." It is not at all strange that they should have made such an assertion. For capitalist accumulation depends on oppression and enslavement. The entire history of capitalist development is one of bloody oppression and cruel enslavement of the labouring people and the reactionaries themselves depend on oppression and enslavement for their existence. Therefore, it is natural for them to think along these lines.

But we must tell them that ever since they—the imperialists and the reactionaries—were driven out of China and class exploitation was abolished within the country, things like "oppression" and "enslavement" were buried in our country once and for all. The unprecedented upsurge of labour enthusiasm in socialist construction and the unparalleled revolutionary drive demonstrated by the working people fully bear this out. We urgently need accumulation, but it is an accumulation entirely different from capitalist accumulation. The purpose of capitalist accumulation is more and bigger private profit, greater oppression and exploitation of the labouring people. Our accumulation is for socialist expanded reproduction, for the elevation of socialist productive forces so that the needs of the entire population may be satisfied. As the aims are not the same, so the means to achieve these aims differ completely. Under capitalism, it is by oppression, exploitation and enslavement of the labouring people. In our case, we depend on the conscious, revolutionary socialist labour enthusiasm of the working people, and what the proportion of accumulation should be is decided entirely by members of the people's communes through democratic discussions. I believe the ugliness of capitalist accumulation is clear to you all. They not only cruelly oppress and enslave the labouring people within their own countries, but they also adopt such methods as "subversion" and slaughter abroad so as to achieve the aim of even greater oppression and enslavement.

Chinese Warning on South Viet-nam Intrusions

ON the night of February 20, a south Viet-nam gunboat was prowling about Peh Island in the Hsisha Archipelago. The next day it intercepted several Chinese fishing vessels and at gunpoint seized an old Chinese fisherman to get information on the Hsisha Islands out of him. In the morning of the 22nd, the gunboat's crew landed on Shenhang (Tengching) Island. They tore down Chinese national flags, and finally made off with 82 captured Chinese fishermen, five fishing vessels and other property.

A south Viet-nam aircraft flew over the islands on reconnaissance.

In connection with this outrage, the Chinese Foreign Ministry on February 27 issued the following statement:

"According to reports from our national coast guard, south Viet-nam naval men made an illegal intrusion on Shenhang Island of the Hsisha Islands of our country on February 22, 1959, kidnapped 82 Chinese fishermen and took away five Chinese fishing vessels and other property. In regard to this, the Ministry of Foreign

Affairs of the People's Republic of China is authorized to state:

"The Hsisha Islands are part of China's territory. The Government of the People's Republic of China made solemn statements concerning this fact on August 15, 1951 and May 29, 1956. Now the south Viet-nam navy has openly violated China's territorial integrity and sovereignty and kidnapped Chinese fishermen and fishing vessels. This has aroused the great indignation of the Chinese people.

"The Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the People's Republic of China gives solemn warning that the south Viet-nam authorities must immediately release all the Chinese fishermen kidnapped, return all the fishing vessels and other property carried away, compensate for the losses of these fishermen and guarantee that similar unlawful incidents will not recur in the future; otherwise, the south Viet-nam authorities must accept responsibility for all consequences."

For press comments on south Viet-nam intrusion, see p. 21.
—Ed.

China's Expanding Chemical Industry

by WANG JUN-TUNG

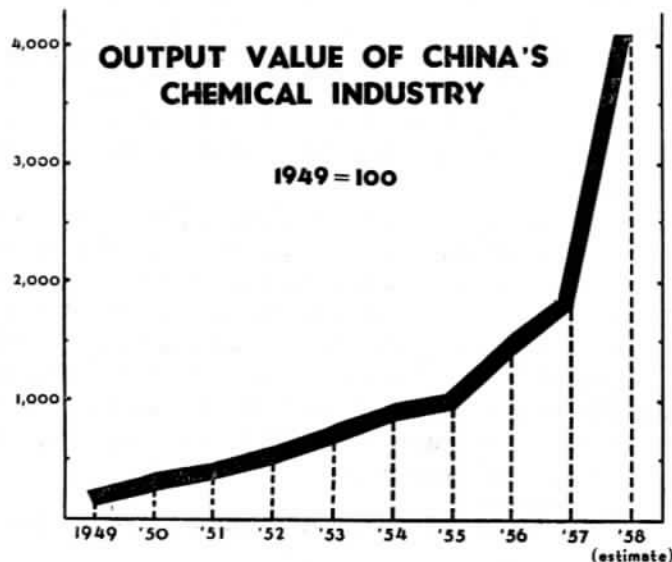
THE chemical industry is an important part of China's national economy. Besides products essential to the development of other industries, both heavy and light, it supplies fertilizers and insecticides for agriculture, tires and other rubber products for transport and communications, and drugs for the public health services. Constantly growing too is the volume of consumer goods which the chemical industry turns out directly.

Enormous Increases

The output value of China's chemical industry last year (not including the output of local chemical workshops using indigenous methods) was some 2.3 times that of 1957. This was a jump far in excess of the annual average increase of 30 per cent during the First Five-Year Plan (1953-1957). The rapid growth in the output of major chemical products can be seen in the following table.

	<i>Estimated % increase over 1957</i>
Ammonium nitrate	157
Chemical fertilizer	34
Sulphuric acid	19
Pure soda	29
Caustic soda	31
Calcium carbide	44.6
Synthetic ammonia	59
Tires	97
Antibiotics	334

During the past few years China has built up her basic chemical, rubber-processing and drug industries into independent systems. Rapid progress has been made in dyestuffs. The field of organic synthesis (plastics, synthetic



fibre and synthetic rubber) in which China was behind also moved ahead. China's chemical industry is now able to produce the major chemical raw materials, reagents, solvents, and processed products to meet the needs of the national economy.

The Gloomy Past

The change since liberation has been phenomenal. Before liberation China's "chemical industry" was confined mainly to a few processing plants which got their raw materials from abroad. The highest annual output reached for major chemicals were:

Sulphuric acid	179,000 tons
Nitric acid	16,000 tons
Pure soda	103,000 tons
Ammonium sulphate	226,000 tons
Motor-vehicle tires	75,000

These figures, tiny for a country the size of China, included the output of plants run by the imperialists, who did not, of course, consider the country's needs but thought only of how to plunder China's resources and exploit her labour. For instance, plants run by Japanese imperialists in the northeast turned out some 57,000 tons of chemical fertilizer in 1943. But only a little over 1 per cent was used locally. The rest was sold outside China for higher profits.

Even the few existing chemical factories were not intact at the time of liberation (1949). Those in the northeast suffered most from damage and looting by the Kuomintang, which went so far as to bomb some of them into complete ruin. The Shenyang Chemical Works, when the People's Government took it over, consisted of a few dilapidated buildings and some cranes—nothing more.

Growth After Liberation

It was thus on the weakest of material foundations that New China had to restore and build her chemical industry. By 1952, as a result of great efforts in reconstruction, it already surpassed the highest pre-liberation output in the major products, and the overall value of its production was 4.5 times that of 1949.

Great progress was further made during the First Five-Year Plan. Compared with 1952, gross output value in 1957 rose nearly four times. For major chemical products, increases during the same period ranged from 110 per cent for tires to 320 per cent for chemical fertilizer.

The big leap forward in 1958, and especially the development of heavy industry, created a huge demand for certain chemicals (synthetic ammonia, nitric acid, pure soda, caustic soda, calcium carbide, etc.). To cope with it, the chemical industry has been carrying out the policy

put forward by the Chinese Communist Party for the simultaneous development of national and local enterprises, of large, small and medium-sized enterprises, of modern and indigenous methods of production, of combining centralized leadership and mass movements on a broad scale.

Government investments in the industry in 1958 alone nearly equalled those of the entire First Five-Year Plan. In 1953-57, the construction of 33 key chemical plants was undertaken; last year work began on another 53.

Considerable, too, was the output of the small workshops and factories using indigenous methods to make chemical fertilizer, insecticides and other chemicals—which also widely spread technical knowledge and productive skills in the rural areas.

During the spring and summer of last year, Honan Province, as a good example, was energetic in such local manufacture of chemical fertilizers and insecticides. On the average, about 370 *jin* of chemical fertilizers made by them were applied to each *mu* of farm land, which was one of the factors for the abundant Honan harvest.

Many advantages make it feasible to spread small chemical workshops using indigenous methods of production more widely in the rural areas. Not requiring very complex equipment or big investments, they yield almost immediate benefits. The skills involved are easy to learn. The rural people's communes are not only a huge market for fertilizers and insecticides but have the raw materials to make them. Once the workshops are built, sweet potatoes, bran, rice husks and grain stalks can be converted into valuable chemicals. This determines the tremendous

potential for chemical industry run by the people's communes.

Mass Technical Revolution

In modern chemical plants, the mass technical revolution centres on innovations in production techniques, the invention or improvement of equipment, heightening the quality of products, the manufacture of new products and the application of up-to-date science and technology. By such means, the Yungli Plant in Nanking succeeded in raising its daily output of sulphuric acid by 30 per cent and the Talién Chemical Works raised its daily output of pure soda by 90 per cent. A new catalyst for the production of sulphuric acid has proved six times as efficient as the one previously used.

Innovations have greatly speeded capital construction in the industry. Installations in the Lanchow Synthetic Ammonia Plant were completed in only 15 months, more than a year ahead of schedule. Its early commissioning will mean a lot to industry and agriculture. One of its teams installed two large high-pressure compressors in the record time of 18 days. Generally two months to install one compressor would be rated good time.

The primary goals of the chemical industry in 1959 are to increase greatly the production of chemicals and to ensure the prior development of heavy industry, and at the same time to take care of the needs of light industry and, wherever possible, agriculture. In the meantime, both large plants and small and medium-sized factories will be greatly developed in a co-ordinated nationwide scheme.

CHINA AND AFRICA

by W. E. B. DU BOIS

Dr. W. E. B. Du Bois, noted American Negro scholar, who is now visiting China with his wife, the writer Shirley Graham, addressed more than 1,000 faculty members and students at Peking University on February 23, his 91st birthday. Here we present the full text of his speech.—Ed.

BY courtesy of the government of the 680 million people of the Chinese Republic, I am permitted on my ninety-first birthday to speak to the people of China and Africa and through them to the world. Hail, then, and farewell, dwelling places of the yellow and black races. Hail human kind!

I speak with no authority: no assumption of age nor rank; I hold no position, I have no wealth. One thing alone I own and that is my own soul. Ownership of that I have even while in my own country for near a century I have been nothing but a "nigger." On this basis and this alone I dare speak, I dare advise.

China after long centuries has arisen to her feet and leapt forward. Africa arise, and stand straight, speak

and think! Act! Turn from the West and your slavery and humiliation for the last 500 years and face the rising sun. Behold a people, the most populous nation on this ancient earth which has burst its shackles, not by boasting and strutting, not by lying about its history and its conquests, but by patience and long suffering, by hard, backbreaking labour and with bowed head and blind struggle, moved up and on toward the crimson sky. She aims to "make men holy; to make men free." But what men? Not simply the mandarins but including mandarins; not simply the rich, but not excluding the rich. Not simply the learned, but led by knowledge to the end that no man shall be poor, nor sick, nor ignorant; but that the humblest worker as well as the sons of emperors shall be fed and taught and healed and that there emerge on earth a single unified people, free, well and educated.

You have been told, my Africa: My Africa in Africa and all your children's children overseas; you have been told and the telling so beaten into you by rods and whips, that you believe it yourselves, that this is impossible; that mankind can only rise by walking on men; by cheating



Uncle Sam: "Now try wearing this one. It's gilded!"

By Jack Chen

them and killing them; that only on a doormat of the despised and dying, the dead and rotten, can a British aristocracy, a French cultural élite or an American millionaire be nurtured and grown. This is a lie. It is an ancient lie spread by church and state, spread by priest and historian, and believed in by fools and cowards, as well as by the down-trodden and the children of despair.

SPEAK, China, and tell your truth to Africa and the world. What people have been despised as you have? Who more than you have been rejected of men? Recall when lordly Britishers threw the rickshaw money on the ground to avoid touching a filthy hand. Forget not, the time when in Shanghai no Chinaman dare set foot in a park which he paid for. Tell this to Africa, for today Africa stands on new feet, with new eyesight, with new brains and asks: Where am I and why? The Western sirens answer; Britain wheedles; France cajoles; while America, my America, where my ancestors and descendants for eight generations have lived and toiled; America loudest of all, yells and promises freedom. If only Africa allows American investment. Beware Africa, America bargains for your soul. America would have you believe that they freed your grandchildren; that Afro-Americans are full American citizens, treated like equals, paid fair wages as workers, promoted for desert and free to learn and earn and travel across the world. This is not true. Some are near freedom; some approach equality with whites; some have achieved education; but the price for this has too often been slavery of mind, distortion of truth and oppression of our own people. Of 18 million Afro-Americans, 12 million are still second-class citizens of the United States, serfs in farming, low-paid laborers in industry, and repressed members of union labor. Most American Negroes do not vote. Even the rising six million are liable to insult and discrimination at any time.

But this, Africa, relates to your descendants, not to you. Once I thought of you Africans as children, whom we educated Afro-Americans would lead to liberty. I was wrong. We could not even lead ourselves, much less you.

Today I see you rising under your own leadership, guided by your own brains.

Africa does not ask alms from China nor from the Soviet Union nor from France, Britain, nor the United States. It asks friendship and sympathy and no nation better than China can offer this to the Dark Continent. Let it be given freely and generously. Let Chinese visit Africa, send their scientists there and their artists and writers. Let Africa send its students to China and its seekers after knowledge. It will not find on earth a richer goal, a more promising mine of information. On the other hand, watch the West. The new British West Indian Federation is not a form of democratic progress but a cunning attempt to reduce these islands to the control of British and American investors. Haiti is dying under rich Haitian investors who with American money are enslaving the peasantry. Cuba is showing what the West Indies, Central and South America are suffering under American Big Business. The American worker himself does not always realize this. He has high wages and many comforts. Rather than lose these, he keeps in office by his vote the servants of industrial exploitation so long as they maintain his wage. His labor leaders represent exploitation and not the fight against the exploitation of labor by private capital. These two sets of exploiters fall out only when one demands too large a share of the loot. This China knows. This Africa must learn. This the American Negro has failed so far to learn. I am frightened by the so-called friends who are flocking to Africa. Negro Americans trying to make money from your toil, white Americans who seek by investment at high interest to bind you in serfdom to business as the Near East is bound and as South America is struggling with. For this America is tempting your leaders, bribing your young scholars, and arming your soldiers. What shall you do?

First, understand! Realize that the great mass of mankind is freeing itself from wage slavery, while private capital in Britain, France, and now in America, is still trying to maintain civilization and comfort for a few on the toil, disease and ignorance of the mass of men. Understand this, and understanding comes from direct knowledge. You know America and France and Britain to your sorrow. Now know the Soviet Union and its allied nations, but particularly know China.

CHINA is flesh of your flesh and blood of your blood. China is coloured and knows to what a coloured skin in this modern world subjects its owner. But China knows more, much more than this; she knows what to do about it. She can take the insults of the United States and still hold her head high. She can make her own machines or go without machines, when America refuses to sell her American manufactures, even though it hurts American industry, and throws her workers out of jobs. China does not need American nor British missionaries to teach her religion and scare her with tales of hell. China has been in hell too long, not to believe in a heaven of her own making. This she is doing.

Come to China, Africa, and look around. Invite Africa to come, China, and see what you can teach just by pointing. Yonder old woman is working on the street. But she is happy. She has no fear. Her children are in

school and a good school. If she is ill, there is a hospital where she is cared for free of charge. She has a vacation with pay each year. She can die and be buried without taxing her family to make some undertaker rich.

Africa can answer: but some of this we have done; our tribes undertake public service like this. Very well, let your tribes continue and expand this work. What Africa must realize is what China knows: that it is worse than stupid to allow a people's education to be under the control of those who seek not the progress of the people but their use as means of making themselves rich and powerful. It is wrong for the University of London to control the University of Ghana. It is wrong for the Catholic church to direct the education of the black Congolese. It was wrong for Protestant churches supported by British and American wealth to control higher education in China. The Soviet Union is surpassing the world in popular and higher education, because from the beginning it started its own complete educational system.

The essence of the revolution in the Soviet Union and China and in all the "iron curtain" nations, is not the violence that accompanied the change: no more than starvation at Valley Forge was the essence of the American revolution against Britain. The real revolution is the acceptance on the part of the nation of the fact that hereafter the main object of the nation is the welfare of the mass of the people and not of a lucky few.

Government is for the people's progress and not for the comfort of an aristocracy. The object of industry is the welfare of the workers and not the wealth of the owners. The object of civilization is the cultural progress of the mass of workers and not merely of an intellectual

élite. And in return for all this communist lands believe that the cultivation of the mass of people will discover more talent and genius to serve the state than any closed aristocracy ever furnished. This belief the current history of the Soviet Union and China is proving true each day. Therefore don't let the West invest when you can avoid it. Don't buy capital from Britain, France and the United States if you can get it on reasonable terms from the Soviet Union and China. This is not politics; it is common sense. It is learning from experience. It is trusting your friends and watching your enemies.

Refuse to be cajoled or to change your way of life so as to make a few of your fellows rich at the expense of a mass of workers growing poor and sick and remaining without schools so that a few black men can have automobiles.

Africa, here is a real danger which you must avoid or return to the slavery from which you are emerging. All I ask from you is the courage to know; to look about you and see what is happening in this old and tired world; to realize the extent and depth of its rebirth and the promise which glows on yonder hills.

Visit the Soviet Union and visit China. Let your youth learn the Russian and Chinese languages. Stand together in this new world and let the old world perish in its greed or be born again in new hope and promise. Listen to the Hebrew prophet of communism:

Ho! every one that thirsteth; come ye to the waters; come, buy and eat, without money and without price!

Again, China and Africa, hail and farewell!

Birthday Party in Peking

A gala Chinese-style party to celebrate the 91st birthday of Dr. W. E. B. Du Bois, the famous American scholar and Negro leader now visiting China with his wife, the writer Shirley Graham, was held at Peking Hotel on February 23. Vice-Premier Chen Yi and other Chinese prominent in many fields of work and Americans in Peking were guests. Scrolls with traditional symbols of longevity decorated the walls. A birthday cake and a bowl of "long life" peaches from Premier Chou En-lai, and candles, flowers and miniature cypress trees stood on the ceremonial table.

Kuo Mo-jo, Chairman of the China Peace Committee, which, with the Chinese People's Association for Cultural Relations with Foreign Countries, was co-host at the festivities, congratulated Dr. Du Bois on behalf of the millions who have the deepest love and respect for him. "We see in Dr. Du Bois a worthy representative of the American people with whom we hope very much to maintain peaceful and friendly intercourse," he said.

Describing present-day U.S. imperialism as Enemy Number One of the peace-loving peoples of the world, Kuo Mo-jo paid tribute to the struggle which Dr. Du Bois has waged untiringly for his ideals in a political atmosphere heavy with deceit and tyranny. He greeted

Dr. Du Bois' efforts as "a brilliant demonstration of the American people's love for peace and justice.... Countless American and African working people, groaning under the yoke of monopoly capital and racial prejudice, look upon Dr. Du Bois as the standard bearer of their struggle." Kuo Mo-jo wished the famous Negro leader long life, saying: "Spring has come for mankind. Supported by your continued efforts, future developments will further encourage and strengthen the confidence of the peoples of the United States, Africa and the whole world in a glorious and happy tomorrow."

Well-known Chinese singers and dancers provided entertainment for the party. Outstanding were two Negro folk songs sung in Chinese. Many veteran Chinese scholars, artists and men of letters presented gifts, paintings and poems to Dr. Du Bois. He received a copy of the Chinese translation of his own work, *Battle for Peace*, and birthday greetings from personal friends in China, the United States, the Soviet Union and many other lands.

Renmin Ribao marked Dr. Du Bois' birthday with an article in its literary columns by the noted Chinese novelist Mao Tun and a couplet by Kuo Mo-jo greeting Dr. Du Bois' great contributions to the cause of peace and freedom.

Warming Up for a New Leap

by OUR CORRESPONDENT

CHINA'S farmlands are teeming with activity. The Spring Festival is over and the big push is on to top last year's record crops this year. The targets, as proposed by the Central Committee of the Chinese Communist Party at its December meeting in Wuhan, call for 1,050,000 million *jin* of grain—40 per cent more than 1958, and almost three times as much as 1957; 100 million *dan* of cotton—almost 50 per cent more than last year and more than three times as much as 1957.

The harvests will be decided, in large part, by the work invested throughout the country now, and the peasants have set their shoulders to the preparatory work for a bigger leap in agriculture this year.

The "Battle for Fertilizer"

Round I is the battle for fertilizer. "A plant needs fertilizer just like a man needs his food." More plants call for more fertilizer. This year, when most of the land is deeply ploughed, the planting is even closer than last year, so more and higher quality fertilizers are needed. Since the latter part of January, the gathering of manure and the manufacture of fertilizer have grown into a mass movement in the countryside. The Central Committee of the Chinese Communist Party and the State Council issued a directive on January 28 calling upon the whole people to help collect manure and make fertilizer. Millions of people, men and women from various walks of life, in both village and town, are taking part in this work.

In Anhwei Province in east China, more than four million people were participating in the collection of manure. By the end of January they had gathered 71,000 million *dan* of manure of all kinds—six times as

much as the amount collected in the corresponding period last year—and produced 13 million *dan* of chemical fertilizers locally. A million people of many nationalities in scenic Yunnan, in the southwest, collected 350,000 million *jin* of manure of all kinds by January. This was nine times as much as last year. In the coastal province of Fukien three million people joined the battle for more fertilizer. 2,800 million *dan* of manure were stored up in January alone. In Heilungkiang, in the north, about a million people—which account for a quarter of the rural labour force in the province—were out in the field digging manure and making fertilizer despite sub-zero weather.

City people, too, helped out. In Peking, Shanghai, Lanchow and other cities the collection of manure was linked with the sanitation campaign. Waste material, garbage, river or sewage silt—in fact virtually all waste material that contained nitrogen, phosphorus and potassium was dug out and sent to the countryside. Factory workers, students, shop clerks and officers and men of the People's Liberation Army all lent a hand.

With the establishment of the people's communes, which also run industry, small local fertilizer plants now dot the countryside. Even last year, these small local fertilizer plants turned out a huge amount of fertilizer for local use. This adds considerably to the chemical fertilizers produced by the big, modern factories. This year, many more such plants are in production, and the big, modern plants in the cities also increase their output. These local plants are turning out a large quantity of granular fertilizer, bacterial fertilizer and other fertilizers. The small local chemical fertilizer plants use lime, gypsum, peat, alum, factory smoke, brine, nitrate, phosphate and other minerals as their raw materials. In Anhwei and Liaoning Provinces, every people's commune has its own small fertilizer plants, using indigenous methods and local materials and equipment.

Irrigation

Water is another item in today's work schedule. Although the water conservancy work in the countryside is not being done on last year's gigantic scale, the peasants in most places are still building local water conservancy works, extending and renovating irrigation systems. They have not forgotten that to reap last year's great harvest they had to conquer a serious drought. They are taking no chances. And the peasants are making the most of the heavy February snow that blanketed north China at the end of a dry winter. The snow is being piled where needed in the fields.

In Szechuan Province in the southwest which produced one-tenth of the country's grain last year, the building of local irrigation and water conservancy works is being rushed. During the past month the commune members started 24,000 small-scale water conservancy



projects and more than 8,000 of them have already been completed.

Peasants in Kansu and Shansi are breaking up ice floes along the local rivers to lead the water to irrigate their fields. In Hunan, one of China's major rice-producing provinces, some 50,000 reservoirs, ponds and other irrigation works were completed or renovated by the end of January involving over 400 million cubic metres of earth and stone work. In Hupeh Province in central China, more than 8,000 irrigation projects have been completed. In Anhwei, in the Huai River basin, the province which won national fame for its irrigation network last year, the peasants are extending the irrigation systems and 750 million cubic metres of earth have already been dug.

Tools Reform

The new all-round development of agriculture means a great demand for labour power in the countryside. To help solve the problem, tools reform is the order of the day. Last year's experience proved that by improving tools and implements, labour efficiency can be raised greatly and much labour power can be saved.

In Anhwei a conference was held recently to sum up the experience gathered in this field last year and to map out a tools reform programme for this year. This year's plan calls for more improved types of farm implements and new tools, and more ball-bearings. Last year, Anhwei's improved tools proved from 100 per cent to 200 per cent more efficient than the ordinary ones and tools with ball-bearings increased efficiency by 200 to 300 per cent. In Szechuan Province, factories and workshops in the cities and the people's communes are working round the clock to turn out farm tools for the spring sowing and ploughing. So far 500,000 cable-towed ploughs and more than a million improved ploughs for deep ploughing in paddyfields have been produced. Thousands of rice planters are being manufactured. When finished they will save the labour of several million people.

Chekiang Province, on the east coast, is turning out large numbers of rice planters, and operators for the new machinery are being trained in Hangchow. In Yoyang, Hunan Province, teams of blacksmiths and carpenters are moving around the people's communes to help in the repair and manufacture of farm tools on the spot.

Seed selection, deep ploughing and soil improvement are other activities in which the nation's peasants are now engaged.

Field Management

While most of the people's communes in the country are busily preparing for the spring sowing, rice-planting is proceeding on sub-tropical Hainan Island, Kwangtung Province. Sixty per cent of the able-bodied men and women in the island's Kiunghai, Yahsien and Mencheong Counties are taking part in rice-planting. Rice-planting machines fresh out of the workshops in the people's communes are the pace-setters. Wheelbarrows and carts line the roads for the manuring of the fields before the last harrowing and work songs fill the air. In the Kwangsi Chuang Autonomous Region, the sowing of early rice, maize, buckwheat and other crops has begun.

Winter wheat in the south has already started to grow profusely and stoutly. In the north, however, the commune members are still watching carefully for the



wheat plants to turn green—a crucial stage in wheat-growing. Good field care will ensure the healthy growth of the ears of wheat. This calls for proper and intensive field management, which at this stage means the application of fertilizer and irrigation. Throughout the wheat-growing areas the slogan of the day is “work on the wheat fields as if working on embroidery!” In Hsiangyang, the famous wheat-producing region in Hupeh Province, over a million young people are working on the wheat fields “to see to it that the wheat plants eat and drink their belly full!” Honan, where wheat accounted for more than one-third of the total grain output of the province last year, has launched a movement for a great wheat harvest over large areas and has worked out ten concrete measures for the proper care of its wheat fields.

An emulation campaign to secure a still higher wheat output than last year is spreading among the commune members in the major wheat-producing areas. Yangchung, a county in Kiangsu Province, suggested that it would strive to achieve a record 1,000 *jin* per *mu* yield for all its wheat fields. As soon as this was announced, peasants in other counties in the province accepted this as a challenge and emulation began. Now Yangchung's slogan is echoed in the Yangtse valley. In other provinces too, emulation campaigns are gathering momentum. In Hopei Province, the peasants of five leading counties which won distinction last year for their wheat harvests—Ankuo, Kaocheng, Yungnien, Ningtsing and Loting—have set themselves the target of becoming “1,000 *jin* per *mu* of wheat” counties. Emulation campaigns for bigger output of various other crops are also developing among the people's communes throughout the country. “Overtake those in the lead!” “Be the first!” These are typical expressions in the farmlands today. China's peasants are confident that with the rich experience of last year and with their people's communes they can do even better this year.

CHINESE WEIGHTS and MEASURES at a GLANCE

1 *mu* = 0.06 hectare or 0.1647 acre

1 *dan* (picul) = 0.05 ton or 0.984 hundredweight

1 *jin* = 0.5 kilogramme or 1.1023 pounds

Weather Men on the Farms

by HO SHAN

EVERYBODY talks about the weather. In China today millions are doing something about it, are studying it with an eye to more precise weather forecasts as an immediate aid to agriculture. The establishment of a wide network of weather reports to serve agricultural production was called for last summer by the Third National Meteorological Conference which met in Kweilin, Kwangsi Chuang Autonomous Region. Last year's Conference on Meteorological Work in Rural Areas and the recent Conference of the Directors of the Meteorological Bureaux held in Chengtu, Szechuan Province, devoted further attention to this question.

China's meteorological services are expanding fast. Observatories, meteorological stations, weather posts and "sky observation" teams are operating over the length and breadth of the country, not to mention the huge force of local weather liaison men.

In this field, too, the linking of theory and practice—bridging the gap between theoretical meteorology and practical weather forecasting—and the implementation of the "mass line" have brought good results.

Peasant Observers

Many veteran peasants are keen observers of the weather conditions in their own localities. Many old Chi-

nese sayings reflect experience acquired over the generations from observing changes in the weather. For example, peasants say that when there is rainbow in the east the day will be fair and when there is rainbow in the west the day will be rainy; when the south wind blows hard all day long the north wind will soon follow.

The saying goes: "When the mountain puts on its cloudy cap, it rains; when it throws a cloudy belt around its waist, it shines." Another specifies: "Sunny and fair when swallows drift high above the sky; rainy and cloudy when they skim over the earth." Chinese peasants have formulated the knowledge they have gained from watching the sky, the movements of animals and birds, etc., into these sayings.

Meteorologists are today collecting such old folk sayings and submitting them to scientific interpretation and are disseminating scientific information among the peasants at large so as to popularize the science of weather forecasting in the interests of better planning in farm work.

Many of the weather stations in the countryside still lack precision instruments and well-trained technicians. But on the basis of the climatic conditions and the sequence of weather developments in their specific vicinities, and with the help of the weather reports announced by the national and regional observatories, many local weather stations have succeeded in making reasonably good weather predictions for their own regions.

Revised Weather Forecasting

Thanks to the Communist Party's policy of relying upon and involving the masses in every field of endeavour, a new system of weather forecasting is evolving in our country based on the establishment of a far-flung network of weather posts in the countryside. This is now known as revised weather forecasting. A local weather station, basing itself on the general outlook of weather conditions in its province as supplied by the regional observatory, works out a revised weather report for the locality, taking into account the special climatic conditions of the locality and utilizing the weather experience of veteran peasants in the immediate vicinity. The weather posts and "sky observation" teams of the communes and production brigades work out their own revised weather forecasts in much the same way. After these revisions are made at the different levels, these forecasts, as experience to date shows, are about 90 per cent accurate.

Boon to Agriculture

Take the "sky observation" team in Kaohan Township in Yuki County, Yunnan Province, for example. On the basis of the weather forecasts it received from the radio,



"What's this world coming to! And I laughed when those young fellows said they'd experiment with man-made snow!"

Cartoon by Liu Hsiao-ching

it made 14 revised weather reports between July 13 and August 15 last year. All these forecasts turned out to be accurate. Four of these revised forecasts were contrary to the original weather reports made by the local weather station but proved to be correct. Here is another example. The provincial observatory in Kwangsi, on June 3 and 26 predicted moderate rain; but on these two days, in Yulin County the cloud layer was thick, it was thundering, everywhere the frogs were croaking and it was close and hot. So members of the Tungming People's Commune commissioned to make weather reports modified the forecast and predicted heavy rain and, true enough, there were heavy downpours on these two days. The significance of this revised forecasting in a vast country like ours, where the climatic conditions vary considerably, is self-evident. It takes into account the specific weather conditions of each locality, which the bigger weather stations are unable to cover, and serves local agriculture more directly.

Reliable weather forecasting services are a boon to agricultural production. People are no longer panic-stricken by natural calamities, as they were in the past. Forewarned is forearmed: they can organize prompt preventive measures to reduce or obviate damage. "The bumper harvest in 1958," noted some secretaries of county Party committees in Heilungkiang Province, "owes a lot to accurate weather forecasting." And this is no exaggeration. In Heilungkiang, by a colossal effort, the peasants saved large amounts of food crops and vegetables from the scourge of wind, rain and frost in a few days' time, thanks to the timely and reliable weather forecasts in the area. To ensure a good cotton harvest in Szeyang County, Kiangsu, the provisional meteorological bureau, together with the Department of Meteorology of Nanking University and the East China Agricultural Institute, organized a "mobile weather station" to help the peasants fight against frosts. In Shensi Province, over 26 million *mu* of winter wheat were sown in time on the advice of the regional weather bureau.

In many places the weather posts of the people's communes, which

already have some experience in short-range weather forecasts, are now interested in mid-range and long-range weather forecasting. The one in the Hsinhua People's Commune in Kweitung, Hunan Province, last year began to go in for long-range weather forecasting with good results. In addition, its novel way of giving its weather forecasts in folk poetry is an innovation appreciated by the commune members. One of its forecasts dated October 30, 1958 went:

"Forecast for the period 10:30 to dawn:

Bright moonlight with few stars;
fresh north winds.

Outlook and song for the evening:

Bright moon and few stars suggest
fair and little change,

Bushes and grasses withering
away with the coming of frost;

For autumn harvest and winter
ploughing work hard we must,

It's wonders we're after — not
just a crust."

Future Outlook

Now that a good start has been made in building up a nationwide network of weather stations, the next step is to raise their technical standard so that they will be able to provide better services to aid the nation's agricultural production.

Today, with the rapid development of science in our country, many are questioning whether man has to be subject to the vicissitudes of the weather for ever. Meteorologists and others are not only interested in foretelling weather changes but also in controlling the weather and subjecting it to the human will, by means of artificial rain or snow and the like. In this field progress is being made too (see *Peking Review*, No. 43, 1958).

Among China's peasants and meteorologists, the saying now is: "Yesterday, slave of storm, at the mercy of heaven — today, rival of storm, knowing the sky like the palm of the hand — tomorrow, master of storm, placing heaven under human command."

A Peasant Poet

Along the Weiho River in Shensi Province, Wang Lao-chiu has long been famous as a peasant poet. He was born, bred and lived most of the 66 years of his life here. Now his name is much in the news far beyond his native village. The February issue of *Yenhe*, the literary monthly published in Sian, the provincial capital, carries five of his latest poems, an article in which he tells about his life and writing, and two critical studies of his poetry. For about ten days a month since October last, he serves as "guest" editor to the *Shanxi Ribao* (Shensi Daily), editing poems contributed by peasant, worker and student readers, and giving them sympathetic help and advice. He is well known in national literary circles. In 1951, he attended a provincial conference of writers and artists of Shensi, and in 1953 the Second All-China Conference of Writers and Artists in Peking. A collection of his poems was brought out in 1954 by Peking's Popular Readings Publishing House. Wang Lao-chiu's story is an eloquent commentary on the way the new China has radically improved the life of the working people and given them the chance to develop literary talents which in the past would have been either stifled or curbed.

Wang got his name, Lao-chiu (Old Nine), because he was the ninth child of a poor peasant family in a village in Lintung County, Shensi. He did not have any chance to go to school until he was sixteen, and then only for a year. At seventeen he worked briefly in a junk shop. From eighteen on he earned his living as a farmer. As a child he took a great fancy to local Shensi opera and liked to memorize and sing the songs and recite the dialogues of his favourite pieces. When he grew up, he began to compose verses and ballads. Most of them were directed against the vices of the petty local despots and reactionaries and the evils of the old society. These stinging barbs delighted the peasants. His fame soon spread. At celebrations of weddings or births in neighbouring villages he was also an eagerly welcomed guest who could coin an extemporaneous eulogy or birthday greeting with the best.

Poor as he was, he steadfastly refused to have anything to do with serving the rich with his art. When Chin Sung-cheng, a Kuomintang village head, sent for him to compose propitious verses to celebrate the birth of his son, Wang Lao-chiu refused to turn up. Infuriated, Chin sent his thugs to wreak vengeance on Wang: they burst into his hut, gave him a beating and took away his grain. Wang had his own way of retaliation: he composed

a poem about this little despot and his big protector in the northwest, the Kuomintang general Hu Tsung-nan:

*The village head is a tyrant,
The general, a locust plague.
Teamed together like a pair of
millstones,
They grind the people down to dust,
And squeeze out every drop of sweat
and blood.
But the good day will come,
We'll smash those stones
and chuck them into the river!*

This was only one of scores of verses pillorying the reactionaries. In 1950 the liberated peasants called the local despots to account. At the open meetings where they poured out their tales of the sufferings of the past, Wang Lao-chiu testified too; he recited some of the poems he had written in secret earlier, exposing the crimes of these village rascals. They were printed in the press and Wang, barely known outside his immediate neighbourhood before liberation, was widely recognized as an outstanding peasant poet.

His avid interest in life has found a thousand new themes in the new society. His bitter exposures of the old regime have been supplemented since liberation by poems written with warmth and love for the new society. One of them reads:

*Deep in the earth a pearl was buried,
Its glow blacked out!
With a clap of thunder,
Heaven and earth burst asunder,
And the pearl, unearthed, in beauty
blazed.*

This poem, in fact, is a good description of the poet himself. In the past, he was like a buried pearl, but now he is able to give full expression to his poetic talents. Another of his verses reads:

*Feasts are quite common in the
villages these days,
The young men have marrying ways.
Poor and unwanted for years in the
past,
They now have wives, at last.*

A recurrent theme in many of his new poems is the struggle between advanced and backward ideas. It crops up in his verses on the movement for co-operation in agriculture or the popularization of new farm tools and farming techniques. In the past he frankly employed his verses to hit at landlord rule. Now, a keen supporter of the Communist Party, he as forthrightly takes the side of the people, as a champion of advanced ideas and new ways of doing things, the rural co-op movement, the communes. . . . The story of three poor-peasant households which decided to carry on a small co-op in Hopei after the middle peasants had backed out is well known throughout the country. Chairman Mao Tse-tung had singled out this example for special mention, and said that the road taken by these three poor-peasant households was the one which



Wang Lao-chiu

would be taken by China's 500 million peasants. Wang Lao-chiu also threw in his lot with the new and advanced way of doing things. In his *In Praise of Three Poor-Peasant Households* he sang:

*This co-op was like the secret
lingchih fungus.
Its tiny shoots had barely sprouted;
But Chairman Mao watered it
when the time was right,
And it grew mountain-high overnight.*

In many of his poems he sings the praises of the leadership of the working class, the worker-peasant alliance and the modern, industrialized future of the country. This was a new stage in the development of this peasant poet. The compass of his poems has broadened out; there is a deepening of the revolutionary optimism as the following stanza shows:

*With Chairman Mao guiding the
country,
The hearts of six hundred million
are afire;
They tame the Yellow River and the
Yangtze,
Open mountains with their picks
and do not tire.*

Wang Lao-chiu is inventive and versatile too in form. His narrative poems have all the ease and liveliness of the traditional popular ballad. And with the old ballad form, he describes new types of men and their deeds: Communist leaders, worker-inventors, farmer-heroes, revolutionary victories, record yields. . . . This has led him to a creative development of the ballad and other forms of popular verse into clear-flowing narrative poems. His lyrics are a happy combination of popular rhyme and traditional Chinese poetry. Like the latter, they have a measured rhythm, with five or seven Chinese characters to a line. But into this traditional form he has infused new feelings and ideas, and he uses the daily speech of ordinary people. He is no mechanical

stickler for the "rules." Where he feels it necessary he expands his line to eight or nine characters. But whatever the form, his poems are brimful of the vitality of his people, their buoyant optimism, quick sympathy, courage and abounding humanity. They have a pronounced rhythm and are easy to remember and recite. This goes far to account for their popularity.

Wang Lao-chiu is as keenly responsive to events as ever. A collection of his latest poems has just been published by the Tungfeng Literary Publishing House in Sian under the title *A Dragon Has Arisen in the Eastern Sky*. This was his contribution and response to the events of last year—the year of the great leap forward in building socialism.

—CHANG SEN

SPORTS

Table Tennis

China's team of eleven men and women, on their way to Dortmund to take part in the world table tennis championships, stopped off in Budapest in the earlier part of February to play a number of matches with Hungarian teams. On February 11 the men's team won over their Hungarian rivals by five to two, but the women's team lost by one to three. Wang Chuan-yao, China's 1956 and 1957 national champion, defeated Berczik, the European champion, in two straight games. On February 14 and 15, the Chinese players were invited to take part in the Hungarian national championships. They carried off three of the five titles.

The eight-member Chinese team which will contend for the coming Swaythling Cup in Dortmund is made up of veterans and new blood. It includes Wang Chuan-yao, an experienced international player, who has to his credit a victory over former world champion Ogimura of Japan at the Stockholm Championships in 1957. Wang was placed seventh among the world's nine best men players for 1957-1958.

The Chinese men's team also includes 21-year-old Jung Kuo-tuan, the current national champion. Included in the team are other top-ranking Chinese players: Chiang Yung-ning, Chuang Chia-fu, Hu Ping-chuan, Yang Jui-hua, Hsu Yin-sheng and Li Jen-su. China's team for the Corbillon Cup is made up of three top-ranking women players: Yeh Pei-chun, 1958 national champion; Sun Mei-ying who was placed seventh among the world's top women players for 1957-1958; and Chiu Chung-hui, former champion of China. The Chinese women's team took third place in the 1957 Stockholm competitions.

SIDELIGHTS

Sanmao and Alyosha. A name wasn't the only thing Sanmao didn't have. A home, food to fill the belly, a decent shirt to his back—these were unknown to this waif who used to roam the streets of Shanghai. Other things he knew only too well—the policeman's big stick, and the shopkeeper's kick. This was Sanmao's life for almost a dozen years before liberation. When we saw him again, he'd already found a happy home and friends, and had become a member of China's Young Pioneers.—Did we say he is still a Young Pioneer? Yes, Sanmao—meaning Three Tufts of Hair—never grows a day older, for he is a cartoon character created by the Chinese cartoonist Chang Lo-ping in the 1930s. From his first appearance, Sanmao won the hearts of the people. They saw in Sanmao before liberation a true reflection of the life of the underdog in the old society, just as they see in Sanmao after liberation their happy life of today. A great event in Sanmao's life was his recent encounter with Alyosha, a boy of his own age, a popular cartoon character created by Soviet cartoonist Boris Yefimov. When Yefimov visited Shanghai recently, he met the creator of Sanmao. The Soviet and Chinese artists went for their brushes and brought their two popular cartoon characters together in a joint drawing which is reproduced below.

Spring Afforestation. Spring afforestation time is here again. In the first six



weeks of the year, some 54 million *mu* of land were afforested in 12 provinces, including Kiangsu, Kweichow, Szechuan and Kwangsi, and 190 million more trees were planted in the villages, along the roads and river banks. Timber trees accounted for more than a half of the total, while tea-oil, walnut trees and bamboo add to a variety of greenery in the countryside.

Yunglo Murals. The famous murals in the Sanmen Gorge area are being removed from the Yunglo Temple and will be set up again in a new temple near by. The Sanmen Gorge area is the site of a giant hydro-electric project. These precious works of art will be housed in a replica of the Yunglo Temple which will be built by the government. The Yunglo Temple, built in the middle of the 13th century, is one of China's earliest Taoist temples. It has 960 square metres of murals depicting a great range of themes which, in addition to their artistic value, are excellent documentation for the study of the social life, customs and habits, utensils, costumes and housing of the Yuan dynasty. The folk artists of the time portrayed the Taoist legends in terms of their own times.

Snake Doctor. Students of the Chungshan Medical College in Canton warmly greeted a newcomer—white-haired, 74-year-old Ho Hsiao-sheng, a "snake doctor" who cures snake-bites with medicinal herbs. As a boy, Ho Hsiao-sheng saw the sufferings of snake-bite victims in his native village. Compassion started him on his precarious career. Whether as apprentice in a shop or working on other odd jobs for his living, he devoted all his spare time to learning from local snake doctors and even caught snakes himself to study their ways more closely. In 47 years of practice he has cured over 3,000 snake-bite victims. He can identify the species and size of the snake from the marks of the snake fangs and tell when the patient was bitten. With all his skill it was only in New China that his rich store of experience and knowledge was duly recognized. On the medical staff of the People's Hospital in Wuchuan County, Kwangtung Province, since 1958, he has now been invited by the Chungshan Medical College to become its adviser and supervisor in laboratory and research work on preparations of cures for snake-bites.

Midget Taxi Cabs. Midget taxis made their debut on Shanghai's streets not long ago. Not much bigger than a pedicab, they have four seats, are easy to steer and consume only 5 litres of petrol per hundred kilometres. Its maximum speed is 50 km. per hour. The fare is only half

that of an ordinary taxi. It will gradually replace the pedicab in Shanghai.

S. S. Kiangya Recommissioned. S. S. *Kiangya*—a name millions in China remember for its association with the greatest tragedy in Chinese navigational history—was recently recommissioned in Shanghai. The tragedy occurred in 1948 near the end of Kuomintang rule, when 3800 people on board were killed in an explosion and the boat sank to the bottom of the Whampoo River. It was salvaged in 1956.

Peking's New Botanical Garden. A 32-hectare botanical garden, part of a new park, is being built in Peking. In addition to its recreational appeal, it will provide facilities for Peking's school children to study biology first hand. Many classrooms and exhibition halls are being constructed. Farm tools will also be available for the students who want to learn how to handle them. The botanical garden will have 13 sections including flowers, fruit trees and industrial crops.

Steel-making in Ancient China. The site of a steel-making workshop built more than 1,900 years ago was recently unearthed in Kunghsien County, Honan Province. Among the discoveries were the remains of a smelting furnace built of bricks and stones, refractory bricks made out of coke and quartz, a blower, iron ore and slag. Tools for mining and smelting were also found. It is believed that the relics are from the Han dynasty (206 B.C. to 220 A.D.). The discovery was made while people in the locality were looking for iron ores for the new iron and steel plant they have built.

Animated Films Exhibition. A treat for children—and for grown-ups too—is the animated films exhibition now being held in Shanghai. It has cartoons, puppets and scissor-cuts taken from the animated films New China has produced, together with gift cartoons and puppets from the Soviet Union, Czechoslovakia, Poland, the German Democratic Republic, Indonesia and Japan. The exhibition also illustrates how the cartoons, puppets and scissor-cuts are animated and made into films.

New Shanghai Gliderdrome. Gliding, relatively new to this country, is gaining in popularity. Besides newly built gliderdromes in Peking and other cities, Shanghai has also provided its sports lovers with a new gliding field covering about 550 *mu*. Pilots in its training classes will receive two and a half months' practical training in gliders made in China.

CHINA AND THE WORLD

Sino-Soviet Trade Protocol

A Sino-Soviet trade protocol signed in Moscow on February 26 provides for a considerable increase in the exchange of goods between the two countries this year. It will bring the total amount of trade between them in 1959 to 7,200 million rubles.

The Soviet Union will send China a larger number of complete sets of industrial equipment than in 1958, and substantially bigger quantities of power equipment, particularly turbo-generators, diesel-generators, transformers, locomobile generators and equipment for small hydro-power stations for rural use. It will also deliver more drilling equipment, transportation equipment, axle bearings, etc.

China's shipments to the Soviet Union will include tin, tungsten, molybdenum, mercury, raw silk, wool, tea, citrus fruit and other goods. Exports of rice, soya beans, knitwear and textiles will increase substantially. For the first time China will supply cotton to the Soviet Union.

The two countries have also reached agreement on the completion of reciprocal deliveries of commodities programmed for 1958. This will bring the value of Sino-Soviet trade to 600 million rubles above the sum originally set in the protocol signed on April 23, 1958.

Soviet Army Day

China's Minister of National Defence Marshal Peng Teh-huai extended heartfelt congratulations to the Soviet people and their army on the occasion of the forty-first anniversary of the founding of the Soviet Army on February 23.

Speaking at a Soviet Army Day reception in Peking, Marshal Peng Teh-huai pledged that "the Chinese People's Liberation Army will stand shoulder to shoulder with the glorious Soviet Army and the armed forces of the other socialist countries in safeguarding the security of the socialist camp and world peace. The militant friendship between the Chinese and Soviet armed forces, based as it is on a common cause and ideal, is eternal and unbreakable."

U. A. R. Anniversary

Vice-Premier Chen Yi has again stressed the vital need to strengthen Asian-African unity in the struggle against imperialism.

Speaking at a reception in Peking given by the U.A.R. Ambassador Hassan Ragab to mark the first anniversary of the U.A.R.'s national day on February 22, Chen Yi described the struggle which faced the peoples of Asia and Africa today as being even more complex and arduous than ever before. Such a time, he declared, demanded that "we hold still higher the great banner of anti-colonialism and Asian-African unity and reply to the new imperialist schemes with practical action to maintain the struggle and strengthen our unity."

Chen Yi pointed out that an important lesson taught by history was that the "greedy imperialists will never reconcile themselves to their defeat and wind up colonial rule of their own accord. To save themselves from utter defeat in Asia and Africa, they will inevitably step up their treacherous activities against the Asian and African countries—as they are in fact doing—in still more vicious and deceitful forms."

"The imperialists," he said, "are well aware of the fact that the victories of the national liberation struggle of the Asian and African peoples stem from their ever-growing unity. That is why they are racking their brains and resorting to every despicable means to sow discord among the Asian and African peoples and instigate dissension among them so as to undermine their unity and strike them down one by one."

Vice-Premier Chen Yi noted that the Chinese and Arab peoples have consistently given each other mutual support in the struggle against imperialism. "The Arab people have shown profound sympathy for and given tremendous support to the Chinese people's struggle against the U.S. imperialist occupation of our territory Taiwan. In the same way the Chinese people have consistently looked upon the struggles of the peoples of the Arab and African countries as their own. The Chinese people will spare no effort in doing their part in order to enhance the unity of the Asian and African peoples and in carrying through the struggle against imperialism. The U.A.R. has made great contributions in the anti-imperialist struggle of the Arab countries. The people of the U.A.R. can always count on the support of the Chinese people in their anti-imperialist struggle."

Vice-Premier Chen Yi referred to the growth of friendly Sino-U.A.R. relations during the past year in accordance with the five principles of peaceful coexistence and the Bandung spirit, and expressed the confidence that such relations of friendship and co-operation would be further consolidated and enhanced with the continued economic and cultural development of the two countries.

Premier Chou En-lai, who attended the reception, proposed the toast to the U.A.R. and to Sino-U.A.R. friendship.

Sino-Korean Agreement

A Sino-Korean agreement signed in Pyongyang on February 21 maps out a varied programme of cultural co-operation during the next five years. It arranges for mutual visits by delegations in the fields of culture, education, science, public health, sports, broadcasting and journalism, the exchange of students and senior research workers and the supplying of books, magazines and other publications. The scientific research institutes of the two countries will exchange publications and make the results of research available to each other. Plays, musical scores and films will be exchanged and literary works translated.

BRIEFS

The Deputy Imam of Oman Prince Harithy left China for home on February 20. The Deputy Imam cabled a farewell message to Chairman Mao Tse-tung thanking China for her support of Oman's national cause.

Pai Jen has been appointed Chinese ambassador to Morocco. He is China's first envoy to that country since diplomatic relations were established last November.

CULTURAL NEWS

During its two months showing in Shanghai, more than half a million people visited the exhibition on the use of atomic energy for peaceful purposes in the Soviet Union. Besides local residents, visitors came all the way from Peking and all the east China provinces to see it. Soviet experts on hand gave many interesting lectures to Chinese scientists and technicians. Popular scientific films on the subject were shown to capacity audiences.

The exhibition has now been transferred to Canton.

Soviet and Chinese cameramen are co-operating on a colour documentary about the sub-tropical animals of south China. Entitled *Paths in the Forests*, it has shots of more than a hundred wild animals including tigers, crocodiles and leopards as well as scenes of the virgin forests in which they live. The film is scheduled for release in May.

The Shanghai Shaohsing Opera Theatre had a successful premiere in Hanoi. It played *Dream of the Red Chamber*, an adaptation of the famous Chinese classical novel which is widely known in Viet-nam. The theatre will tour the V.D.R. for two months.

CHINESE PRESS OPINION

U.S.-Instigated Provocations on Hsisha Islands

"China's sovereignty over the Hsisha Islands permits of no infringement," declares Observer in *Renmin Ribao* (February 28). He characterizes the recent kidnapping of Chinese fishermen and fishing vessels by naval units of the Ngo Dinh Diem clique of south Viet-nam on Shenhong, one of the Hsisha Islands, "a deliberate provocation" that has greatly angered the Chinese people. (See statement on p. 9.) He points out that in recent years, the south Viet-nam authorities have many times made the fantastic claim that they had "traditional rights" over these islands, in face of the fact that the Hsisha Islands have always been Chinese territory. As early as the fifteenth century, the island groups in the South China Sea, including the Nansha, Tungsha, Chungsha and Hsisha Islands, were already part of China. This has long been acknowledged by the world. The Hsisha Islands were occupied by Japan during the Second World War, but they were returned to the then Chinese Government on November 27, 1946 after Japan's surrender. China's territorial sovereignty over these islands is therefore undeniable, and the south Viet-nam authorities are only indulging in daydreaming in their attempt to grab China's territory.

Observer notes that the U.S. imperialists have repeatedly attempted in the past to deny China's territorial sovereignty over the Hsisha and other islands in the South China Sea. But they failed on every occasion.

In the 1951 U.S.-British unilateral draft peace treaty with Japan, the United States deliberately avoided mentioning the question of sovereignty over the Hsisha Islands. Observer recalls that the Chinese Government solemnly declared at that time, on August 15, 1951, that the Hsisha and Nanwei Islands, like all the Nansha, Tungsha and Chungsha Islands, were Chinese territory. The Chinese Government made a similar statement on May 29, 1956, to smash the U.S. plot of using certain ambitious elements in the Philippines for a grab at China's Nansha Islands. The south Viet-nam authorities were not unaware of this.

All the evidence shows that this latest outrage of the south Viet-nam authorities was perpetrated under the direction of

the U.S. imperialists. U.S. news agencies have displayed particular interest in the Hsisha Islands in the past few days. Their propaganda about China "colonizing" the Hsisha Islands keys in with the activities of the south Viet-nam authorities, Observer points out. UPI has broadcast the story that the Hsisha Islands "loomed today as a potential new trouble spot in Southeast Asia." These statements are not worthy of refutation, Observer says, but it is worthy of note that it is the United States itself that has been stirring up trouble everywhere in Southeast Asia. It is engineering a series of intrigues in Laos, Cambodia, Thailand and south Viet-nam, to create tension in the region. The trouble caused by the south Viet-nam authorities at U.S. instigation is a part of these intrigues.

Observer concludes: "The south Viet-nam authorities will not profit by serving as a willing lackey of the U.S. aggressors and remaining an enemy of the Chinese people. The Hsisha Islands are part of the sacred territory of the 650 million Chinese people and absolutely no infringement from anybody will be tolerated." Supporting the Chinese Government's

warning Observer voices the demand that the south Viet-nam authorities immediately put a stop to all activities violating China's territorial integrity.

The Unquenchable Flame of Freedom

Writing on the Nyasaland demonstrations against British colonial rule, Commentator of *Renmin Ribao* (February 27) vigorously voices Chinese support for the right of the people of Nyasaland to throw off the yoke of the British colonial federation of Rhodesia and Nyasaland and to rule their own country.

Following on events in the Belgian Congo, Commentator continues, the flame of the African national independence movement is spreading in Africa from west to east, from north to south. In addition to Nyasaland, the people are going into action in French Togoland, Portuguese Mozambique and in British Central and East Africa. Popular uprisings against colonial rule have also been reported in Italian Somaliland. These developments show ever more clearly that the colonial system in Africa has been shaken to its foundations and is in process of rapid disintegration.

Recalling Britain's forcible federation of Nyasaland and Rhodesia, Commentator notes that intensified enslavement and plunder of the territory by the British colonialists after World War II have

THE PASSING SHOW

Seamy Side Out

On taking office Kishi declared he would wipe out official bribery and corruption. Now *Akahata* reveals that Kishi received a "gift" of 60 million yen from the Kinoshita Trading Co. of Tokyo and another 20 million yen from the Ito Chiu Trading Co., Japanese agents for the U.S. Grumman Aircraft Co. *Nippon Kaizai Shimbun* confirms that the Kinoshita Co. did well out of Japanese reparations in kind to Indonesia.

Kishi's ability to come through trouble unscathed earned him the political nickname of "The Seamless Man." He seems less seamless now.

The Beatniks at It Again!

Over a hundred generals and admirals of the new West German armed forces are former high Hitlerite officers. Over seventy served in Hitler's supreme command. Seven are accused or convicted war criminals. The West German Bundeswehr employs nearly two thousand former senior and junior officers of the hated SS.

There's no doubt: the best recommendation for command in Adenauer Germany's "next war" is to have been beaten in the last.



turned Nyasaland into "a paradise for European adventurers and a living hell for honest Africans." British trusts have seized over 70 per cent of the land; 400,000 dispossessed Africans are forced to work for starvation wages on colonialist plantations or in Rhodesian mines. Racial segregation and discrimination are rampant. The Africans, 96 per cent of the population, are deprived of political rights.

The panic-stricken British colonialists, writes Commentator, are now resorting to fire and sword in an attempt to suppress the 2.6 million Nyasaland Africans who are rising to demand their freedom. Colonial troops and police are making mass arrests throughout the territory; they have used tear gas and batons and fired on demonstrators. These atrocities have aroused anger and protests among the people of Nyasaland and throughout the world.

Commentator concludes: The courageous people of Nyasaland will not be cowed by British colonialist terror and violence. The struggle of Nyasaland for national independence will continue; the flame of the African national independence movement will burn as long as colonial rule exists. We are confident that the sun of freedom will rise eventually triumphant over Nyasaland and over the whole "Dark Continent."

"Beware of the Poison Pedlar!"

Observer, commenting in *Renmin Ribao* of February 22 on the latest gambit in Yugoslav policy, writes:

The Tito clique of Yugoslavia has been making a great to-do recently about what it calls its policy of "active coexistence" and "no blocs." *Borba* of Belgrade declares that the policy of "active coexistence" is "a significant factor" and a "brilliant page" in international life. *Komunist*, organ of the Yugoslav League of Communists, announces that the policy of "active coexistence" "essentially reflects the general aims of mankind and is an indispensable need of the contemporary world," because it "is a live and practical negation of the exclusive bloc schemes and theories to the effect that the various peoples and countries can subsist only as members of one or the other bloc, only under the protection of one or another ally."

In thus advertising itself, the Tito clique is seemingly oblivious to the world situation and its own actual status. There exist in the world today not only exclusive but also aggressive blocs such as NATO, SEATO and the Bagdad Pact which have been created by U.S. imperialism. May one ask: which of these have been "negated" by the Tito clique's policy of "active coexistence"? Not only have

they not been negated, but quite the contrary, Yugoslavia itself is a member of the Balkan bloc the two other members of which, Turkey and Greece, are members of NATO. And Turkey in addition is also a member of the Bagdad Pact. The Balkan bloc has been from its very inception an imperialist instrument for activities against the Soviet Union, communism and peace. Although this bloc was temporarily paralysed by the Turkish-Greek dispute over Cyprus, Western news agencies now report that it is ready to start up business again. The spokesman of the Yugoslav State Secretariat for Foreign Affairs, Drago Kunc, admitted as much on February 13. On the same day the London correspondent of the *Times of India* reported that both the U.S. and Britain felt the urgent need for reconciliation between Greece and Turkey on the Cyprus issue in order to "pave the way for early revival of the Balkan Pact to draw Yugoslavia once again if possible into the Western military fold against the Soviet Union."

In addition to Yugoslav participation in the Balkan bloc, many other facts show that the Tito clique's so-called "active coexistence" and "no blocs" policy is quite different from the policy of peace and neutrality of the newly independent Asian and African countries. This latter policy is founded on the principles of peaceful coexistence prescribed by the Bandung Conference; it conforms with the interests of these countries and world peace, whereas the Tito clique has sold itself to the imperialists, sprays perfume on their ugliness and serves them in other ways. What is "no bloc" about this? Where is its "active coexistence" when it maliciously slanders the Soviet Union, attacks China, opposes the socialist camp and tries to undermine the unity of the countries of the socialist camp? The actions of the Tito clique prove precisely that whoever takes an attitude of steadfast hostility to the Soviet Union and the socialist camp cannot at the same time oppose imperialism, nor remain genuinely neutral.

The Tito clique aims neither at socialism nor peaceful neutrality; it is serving as an auxiliary detachment of imperialism designed to penetrate into and damage the socialist and national independence movements. Its efforts are directed at splitting the socialist camp, breaking the unity between the socialist camp and the newly independent countries in Asia and Africa and disrupting the unity within and between these newly independent countries. All this is greatly appreciated by the imperialists and they bestow handsome material and political rewards on it. It is surely no accident that U.S. Secretary of State Dulles recently openly praised the "courage" of the Tito clique.

Of late, the Tito clique has been propagandizing its so-called "active coexistence" and "no blocs" policy with particular vigour. Under this signboard it schemes to set up a so-called "third bloc." This is a big political scheme the chief aim of which is to undermine the friendly relations existing between the various nationally independent countries of Asia and Africa and the socialist countries and so hamper the national independence movement throughout the Afro-Asian area. A wealth of facts, past and present, shows that friendship and unity with the socialist countries is essential for the Asian and African peoples in their struggle for freedom and independence. This is precisely why the imperialists are consistently trying to undermine that unity. The current attempt of the Tito clique to set up a so-called "third bloc," and all its other activities, are obviously designed to serve this imperialist plot.

Although the U.S. bosses are cagey about this open secret, sometimes they let the cat out of the bag. *The Washington Post* wrote on December 11 last year that if the Tito clique wished to organize a "bloc of the no blocs" among the neutral countries of Asia, this could serve some useful purpose.

Judging by the latest reports, the Tito clique has not succeeded in finding much of a market for these exports "useful" to imperialism. Foreign news agencies report that Indonesian diplomatic circles have declared that Indonesia objects to the uncommitted countries entering into bloc commitments. Ceylonese Prime Minister Solomon Bandaranaike said he did not approve of forming a so-called "third bloc." The noted Indian statesman V. K. Krishna Menon said he believed that a "third bloc" would not help in stabilizing the situation and, therefore, should not be formed. These opinions serve to show that what Tito is boasting is clearly incompatible with the fundamental interests of the independent nations of Asia and Africa. It is not difficult for the keensighted to see that what the Tito group is peddling is full of poison.

New Plot to Shackle Cyprus

The London agreement is a new colonialist plot to seal the fate of the Cypriot people, says a commentary in *Da Gong Bao* (February 22).

The decision to set up a "Republic of Cyprus" under the agreement, the commentary says, is a satire on the Cypriots' dream of independence. It gives Britain the right to retain sovereignty over its military bases there, while Turkey and Greece also have the right to station troops.

The Cypriot people have waged a long, heroic struggle for national independence

and dealt a telling blow against British colonial rule, the commentary states, that is why Britain is sparing no effort to suppress the Cypriot patriots. At the same time, the island is a key NATO base in the Eastern Mediterranean: it was from here that the U.S. and Britain launched their recent armed aggression in the Middle East. So NATO, headed by the U.S., is trying to get permanent control over this base. Britain, Turkey and Greece had long-standing and acute conflicts over the Cyprus question and it became a major element of disruption in NATO. Hence U.S. intervention.

The U.S. actively engineered the so-called Zurich agreement between Greece and Turkey, the commentary notes. Pressure was first applied to Greece. During his Middle East tour last year, U.S. Assistant Secretary of State William Rountree went to Athens to compel the Greek Government to agree to hold talks with Britain and Turkey. The U.S. has long wanted to have a hand in Cyprus, with the aim of finally bringing it under direct U.S. control.

The commentary asserts that a further aim of the new U.S.-British scheme

to enslave the Cypriot people is to revitalize, by settling the Cyprus question, the Turkish-Greek-Yugoslav Balkan military bloc. The U.S.-British plan to enslave Cyprus thus takes its place as part of their plan to organize military blocs in the Balkans and the Mediterranean and to create tension. It gravely jeopardizes peace in these areas.

The London agreement will sow new seeds of conflict; it will be resisted by the Cypriot people, whose struggle for national independence will continue, inevitably dooming the imperialists' plans to failure, the commentary concludes.

WHAT'S ON IN PEKING

— Highlights of Current Entertainment, Exhibitions, etc. —

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

PEKING OPERA

▲ **THE SPUTNIKS IN HEAVEN** The Sputniks, newest arrivals in Heaven, rescue two celestial maids from the tyranny of the Jade Emperor. They cheer Heaven's inhabitants by describing the great happenings on earth and announcing the news that soon heaven and earth will be brought much closer by space travel.

Mar. 3, 7:00 p.m. *Zhong He Theatre*

▲ **WU TSE TIEN** The story of the concubine of a Tang emperor, who later became the first woman ruler of China.

Mar. 7, 7:00 p.m. *Minzhu Theatre*

▲ **YANG NGO** An historical opera. A patriotic woman of the Ming dynasty leads the people against foreign invaders.

Mar. 8, 7:00 p.m. *Yuan En Si Theatre*

(The above three operas are produced by the Fourth Troupe of the Peking Opera Company of Peking.)

PINGJU OPERA

▲ **FAMILY** Based on Pa Chin's famous novel. A drama of the conflict between old and new as represented by the tyrannical head of the Kao family, an upholder of the old feudal ethics, and the younger members of his large family, who break away to seek a new life.

Mar. 3, 7:00 p.m. *Tianqiao Theatre*

▲ **BITTER FLOWERS** A play about the Shantung peasants who rose against oppressive traitors and landlords at the start of the War of Resistance to Japanese Aggression.

Mar. 3-6, 7:00 p.m. *Da Zhong Theatre*

THEATRE

▲ **THUNDERSTORM** A tragedy of incest in classic form written in 1833 by the famous playwright Tsao Yu. A damning exposure of the family of semi-feudal and semi-capitalist society in pre-liberation China. Produced by the Peking People's Art Theatre.

Mar. 3-6, 7:15 p.m. *Shoudu Theatre*

Mar. 7-10, 7:00 p.m. *Peking Workers' Club*

▲ **TEMPERED STEEL**—adapted from Ai Wu's novel of the same title. The story of three different steel workers of different backgrounds: a Communist, a veteran steel-maker and a former petty businessman. Produced by the Peking People's Art Theatre.

Mar. 3-6, 7:00 p.m. *Peking Workers' Club*
Mar. 7-9, 7:15 p.m. *Shoudu Theatre*

▲ **SAKUNTALA** Adapted from the classical Indian play by Kalidasa. The romance between King Dushyanta and Sakuntala, the daughter of a nymph. Produced by the China Youth Art Theatre.

Mar. 3-8, 7:00 p.m. *China Youth Art Theatre*

▲ **THE GUN** Produced by the China Children's Theatre. The young "scouts" of a village in the liberated areas want a gun of their own. They capture one from the enemy, but finally decide to present it to the regular people's forces.

Mar. 3-5, 7:00 p.m. *Shiyan Theatre*

CONCERT

Modern Chinese and Western music by the Central Philharmonic Symphony Orchestra.

Mar. 8, 10:00 a.m. *Renmin Theatre*

SONG AND DANCE

The Central Experimental Opera Theatre presents:

- *Orchestral music
- *Folk dances
- *Choral singing
- *Solos

Mar. 8, 1:30 p.m. *Tianqiao Theatre*

FILMS

▲ **LETTERS FROM THE FRONT** When Shen Ch-lan learns that her husband, a C.P.V. in Korea, has been killed in action, she avenges her husband's death by throwing herself heart and soul into the campaign to resist U.S. aggression and aid Korea.

Mar. 3-5, *Da Hua, Jiao Dao Kou*

Mar. 4-8, *Peking Exhibition Centre Cinema*

▲ **RED SHOOTS** A young woman Communist's adventure in an enemy occupied village during the War of Liberation.

Mar. 6-10, *Da Hua, Jiao Dao Kou, Guang An Men, Shoudu Cinema*

▲ **BY THE "MARCH 8TH" RIVER** A new production by the Chiangan Film Studio, based on the true story of a group of women in Anhwei who step by step advanced from forming a mutual-aid team to establishing a people's commune.

Mar. 7-9, *Zhongyang, Da Hua*

▲ **LE ROUGE ET LE NOIR** An adaptation of Stendhal's famous novel, jointly produced by French and Italian film workers, dubbed in Chinese.

Mar. 3-5, *Guang An Men, Peking Workers' Club, Zhongyang*

Mar. 6-10, *Ertong*

▲ **DON QUIXOTE** Soviet adaptation of Cervantes' famous novel, dubbed in Chinese.

Mar. 3 & 4, *Ertong*

Mar. 6-8, *Peking Workers' Club, Zhongyang*

EXHIBITIONS

▲ **NATIONAL AGRICULTURAL EXHIBITION** In eleven halls, it shows New China's great achievements in agriculture. Open daily (except Mon.) 8:30 a.m.-5:00 p.m. At San Li Tun, east suburb.

▲ **EXHIBITION OF CHINESE CALLIGRAPHY AND PAINTINGS IN TRADITIONAL STYLE** Sponsored by the Peking Research Society of Chinese Paintings. Open daily 9:00 a.m.-5:00 p.m.

At *Beihai Park*

▲ **EXHIBITION OF OIL PAINTINGS AND STUDIES** by Lo Kung-liu done in the Soviet Union. Open daily 9:00 a.m.-6:00 p.m.

At the *Gallery of the Artists' Union*

LECTURE

"The Life and Works of Sholokhov"—Speaker: Chin Jen. Jointly sponsored by the Sino-Soviet Friendship Association and the Peking Library.

Mar. 7, 7:00 p.m. *Sino-Soviet Friendship Club*

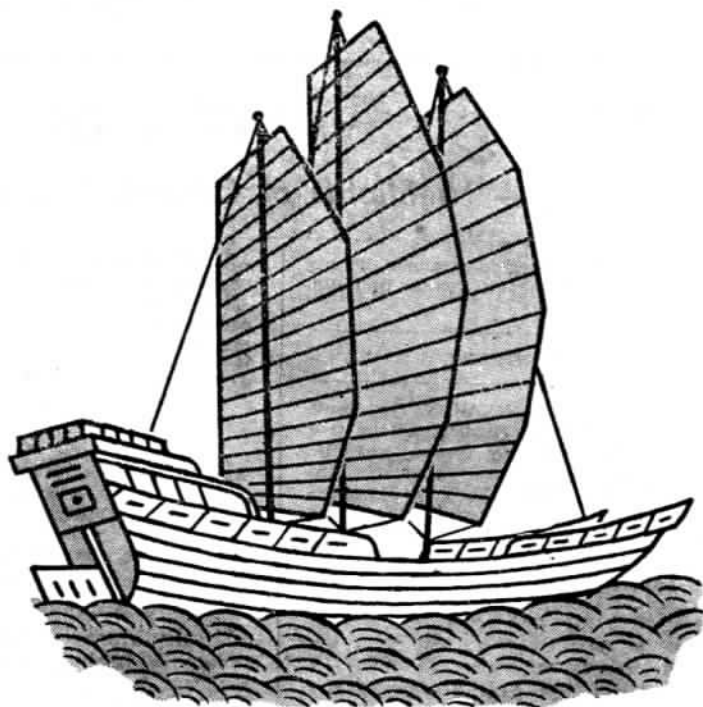
FORTHCOMING SPORTS EVENTS

The "Zenith" Football Team of Leningrad and the "Spartak" Volleyball Team from Brno, Czechoslovakia, will shortly visit this city for matches against Chinese teams. Watch for it!

CHINESE EXPORT COMMODITIES FAIR

Whether you wish to *buy* or *sell*, representatives of every branch of China's foreign trade at the Fair will be ready to discuss trade with you

- ❖ Industrial machinery, transport machinery and instruments
- ❖ Technical equipment, data and consultations
- ❖ Metals and minerals
- ❖ Industrial chemicals and pharmaceuticals
- ❖ Oils, fats, cereals and animal by-products
- ❖ Tea, silk, foodstuffs, native produce and sundries



SPRING 1959

APRIL 15 — MAY 15

*(Sponsored by China National
Foreign Trade Corporations)*

FAIR TERMS

**CHINESE EXPORT COMMODITIES EXHIBITION
HALL in Canton**



CHINA TRAVEL SERVICE LTD. OF HONGKONG
will be pleased to look after all your travel arrangements