

PEKING REVIEW

17

April 27, 1962

Chinese N.P.C. Delegation in Korea

"Rain or shine, the 650 million Chinese people will always stand by the fraternal Korean people" (p. 7).

Commemorating China's Great Realist Poet — Tu Fu

A study of his life and poetry (p. 13).

A Decade After Land Reform

First-hand report on big changes in the Kwangsi countryside (p. 17).

Latin American Peasants on The March

Their struggle for land and against Yankee imperialism (p. 11).

*National Table Tennis Championships,
Sidelights and Other Features*

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報

A WEEKLY MAGAZINE OF CHINESE NEWS AND VIEWS

LANDSCAPES OF CHINA

A Photographic Album

An album of landscapes in colour and black-and-white.

The lush, green subtropical south; ice-bound winter scenes of north China; the splendour and calm repose of ancient gardens restored after liberation; the bustling tempo and excitement of new construction. Each photograph is an interpretive study.

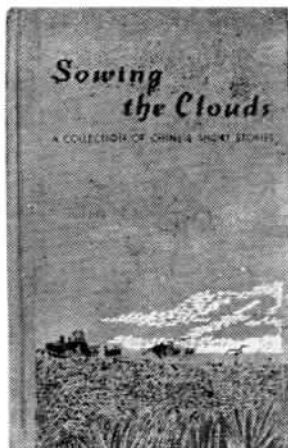
An album of dramatic scenes — the landscape face of China today.

Size: 23.5 × 26 cm.

Sowing the Clouds

A collection of modern Chinese short stories

by Chou Li-po, Li Chun and others



The ten short stories in this collection are the pick of the latest written by some of China's best-known authors and some talented newcomers. **Sowing the Clouds** by Li Chun tells of the setting up of a weather station in a people's commune and what happens when the forecast of its young meteorologist conflicts with that put out by the county station. It exemplifies what is meant by the Communist Party's call to be "bold in thought, bold in speaking out and bold in action." Chou Li-po contributes a humorous piece on a wedding and a speechmaker. Malchinhu, a young writer of the Mongolian minority people, tells a story of socialist construction in the steppelands with a poignant little reminiscence that does much to explain what it is that animates the enthusiasm of the new socialist people of the Inner Mongolian plains.

Lingkuan Gorge, Summer Nights, A Fighting Journey and the rest by turns, lyrical, tender, didactic, give other revealing glimpses of China's new countryside and factories and the life and outlook of her youth and of those who knew well the dark days before liberation.

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PEKING REVIEW

北京周報

(BEIJING ZHOUBAO)

A WEEKLY MAGAZINE OF CHINESE
NEWS AND VIEWS

April 27, 1962 Vol. V No. 17

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Round the Week

C.P.P.C.C.'s Session Ends

The Third National Committee of the Chinese People's Political Consultative Conference ended its Third Session in Peking on April 18.

The session, which opened on March 23, was attended by 897 members of the National Committee and 816 specially invited persons distinguished for their work in various fields of activity. During the session, they heard a report by Chen Shu-tung, Vice-Chairman of the C.P.P.C.C.'s National Committee, on the work of its Standing Committee. They also attended the Third Session of the Second National People's Congress as observers, and heard Premier Chou En-lai's report on the work of the Government.

The two reports were then discussed in group and plenary meetings. The discussions were thorough and conducted in a highly democratic spirit. Agreement was expressed, and criticisms and constructive proposals were made in a spirit of unity and co-operation. The lively atmosphere during the discussions well reflected the state of affairs today in the country as a whole.

The resolution adopted at the session approves Vice-Chairman Chen Shu-tung's report and warmly endorses Premier Chou En-lai's report on the work of the Government. It stresses that the C.P.P.C.C. will further strengthen its unity and its work and, under the leadership of the Chinese Communist Party and Chairman Mao Tse-tung, hold still higher the three red banners of the general line for the building of socialism, the big leap forward and the people's commune; work hard with one heart and one mind for the prosperity of the country and strive for the fulfilment of the ten tasks in adjusting the national economy in 1962 put forward by Premier Chou En-lai in his report on government work (see *P.R.*, No. 16, 1962); and continue its efforts to build China into a socialist country with a modern industry, modern agriculture and modern science and culture.

Backs Government's Foreign Policy

Wholehearted support was expressed for the general line of the Govern-

ment's foreign policy. Many speakers at the session stressed the Chinese people's ardent love of peace as they go about the great task of socialist construction. They recalled that the Chinese Government has consistently pursued a foreign policy of peace, always advocated peaceful coexistence based on the Five Principles, stands for the settlement of international disputes through negotiations, and resolutely supports the struggles against the imperialist arms drive and war preparations, and for the realization of general disarmament and the banning of nuclear weapons. It is because of this, they said, that China is playing an increasingly important role in international affairs, and has friends all over the world. In spite of the slanders and calumnies heaped on the Chinese people by the imperialists and other reactionaries, it is the imperialists and reactionaries, and not the Chinese people, who are becoming increasingly isolated.

Speakers noted that People's China will continue to strengthen its unity, mutual assistance and co-operation with the Soviet Union and the other socialist countries; work for peaceful coexistence on the basis of the Five Principles with countries having different social systems; support the revolutionary struggles of the oppressed peoples and oppressed nations against imperialism and colonialism; firmly oppose the policies of aggression and war of U.S. imperialism; unite all the forces in the world that can be united, and defend world peace. They pointed out that the wheel of history could never be turned back and, no matter what twists and turns there may be in the future, victory will surely go to the world's people.

Recent and increasingly provocative activities carried out by the U.S. imperialists along China's coast were severely denounced during the session. Speaker after speaker made it clear that the Chinese people are determined to smash U.S. imperialist plots to perpetuate its occupation of Taiwan and create "two Chinas." They voiced the Chinese people's determination to

liberate Taiwan, which is an inalienable part of China.

Domestic Situation and Future Tasks

There were wide-ranging discussions on the domestic situation and future tasks. Speakers quoted many facts and experiences showing the correctness and vitality of the three red banners. They spoke enthusiastically of the rapid development in recent years of China's iron and steel, coal, oil, machine-building, power, chemical and other basic industries, pointing out that twelve years ago no one could have imagined that we would have made such advances.

Delegates who had come from the agricultural front or had made inspection tours of the countryside spoke with enthusiasm of the sound development and consolidation of the people's communes and the superior advantages they have shown over the co-operative farms in building water conservancy works, in combating natural calamities, and in restoring and expanding agricultural production. They also spoke with deep satisfaction of the advances made in science, technology, education, art and public health.

Many speakers dwelt on the great efforts the Chinese people have made in overcoming the effects of the serious natural calamities of the past three years. They paid tribute to the magnificent courage shown by the people of all nationalities in the country in face of these difficulties. They had stood closely united, in high spirits, with a staunch and militant determination, and successfully passed this heavy test. Speakers expressed unshakable confidence that the nation, united as one around the Chinese Communist Party and Chairman Mao Tse-tung, would overcome the temporary difficulties that have arisen and continue the advance to fresh victories. Speakers also dwelt on the valuable experience and lessons to be drawn from socialist construction in the past few years. Concrete proposals were put forward for overcoming defects and errors in certain specific tasks.

Unanimous support was voiced for continued and thorough implementation of the policy of adjusting, consolidating, filling out and raising standards centred on adjustment in the national economy in the present period. This policy, as was pointed out, is a positive measure taken with

a view to building the country in an even better and quicker way; it will not only lead to the consolidation and extension of the tremendous successes already gained but also pave the way for a new leap forward in the future.

The ten tasks put forward by Premier Chou En-lai in his report on government work naturally received great attention. Many useful and positive suggestions were made to facilitate their fulfilment.

Many scientists and agricultural and water conservancy experts made concrete suggestions concerning how to bring into fuller play the advantages of the people's communes, increase *per mu* yields of farm produce, build water conservancy, extend the use of chemical fertilizers, produce more agricultural machinery, improve the soil, develop the work of water and soil conservation, rationalize irrigation systems and methods, transform alkaline land and increase industry's aid to agriculture.

Engineers, technicians and economists offered suggestions on how industrial departments could carry out more fully the principle of ensuring greater, faster, better and more economical results in socialist construction and on how to shorten the front of capital construction, improve the quality of products and increase the variety, open up new sources of raw materials and expand existing ones, and improve the management of enterprises.

Speakers from scientific, cultural, educational and public health circles put forward proposals in regard to making the necessary adjustments in cultural and educational work, raising the level of scientific research, improving the qualifications of teachers and training new ones, further improving joint research by doctors in traditional Chinese and modern medicine, and many other questions. Every participant in these discussions made a contribution to ensuring and facilitating fulfilment of the tasks confronting the nation.

Democratic Centralism

The question of further developing democracy and thoroughly implementing the principle of democratic centralism was another eagerly discussed topic during the session. The consensus of opinion was that the principle of democratic centralism must

be implemented, and joint efforts made to create a dynamic and lively political situation in which, as indicated by Chairman Mao Tse-tung, there is both centralism and democracy, discipline and freedom, unity of will and personal ease of mind.

Over the past few years, under the leadership of the Chinese Communist Party and Chairman Mao Tse-tung, the people of all the nationalities in the country have put forward their best efforts and worked earnestly and industriously at their various tasks in socialist construction. This was noted in their speeches by members of the various democratic parties and national minorities, non-party democrats, intellectuals, industrialists, business men, members of religious bodies, returned overseas Chinese and other patriots.

The deliberations of the delegates to the C.P.P.C.C. have shown again that the people's democratic united front based on the worker-peasant alliance has been consolidated and expanded, and a new situation has emerged. The C.P.P.C.C. has played an active role in promoting the unity and progress of all nationalities, democratic classes, democratic parties and people of various circles, in developing the people's democracy, and in consolidating and expanding the people's democratic united front. It is necessary, in the days to come, to unite still more closely around the Chinese Communist Party and Chairman Mao Tse-tung, to carry out thoroughly the policy of "long-term coexistence and mutual supervision," so as to mobilize to the maximum all positive factors for socialist construction. It is necessary to make an earnest study of Marxism-Leninism and the works of Mao Tse-tung.

Many intellectuals working in the fields of science, culture and education expressed their joy that the great majority of the intellectuals who have come from the old society have now become intellectuals of the working people. This has made them feel that their responsibility is now greater than ever before. They expressed their determination to work still harder to raise their political and ideological level, to improve their knowledge and further develop research, to carry out thoroughly the policy of "letting a hundred flowers blossom and a hundred schools of thought contend," and make still greater contributions to rid the country of the poverty and

backwardness which it inherited from the past.

Lenin Is With Us

Commemorative activities of many kinds in Peking and other cities marked the 92nd anniversary of the birth of Lenin (April 22).

In Peking's Beihai Park, the Sino-Soviet Friendship Association sponsored a photographic exhibition on the life of the great revolutionary leader of the proletariat. The city's cinemas and the Sino-Soviet Friendship Hall screened several Lenin films, including *Stories About Lenin*, *Prelude to the Revolution* and *The Ulyanov Family*. The Central People's Broadcasting Station in a special programme honouring the occasion broadcast Shostakovich's Twelfth Symphony dedicated to Lenin's memory and the revolutionary events of 1917, parts of Mayakovsky's long poem *Lenin* and several of Lenin's favourite revolutionary songs. At the anniversary reception given by the Soviet Embassy in Peking, the film *Lenin Lives* was shown.

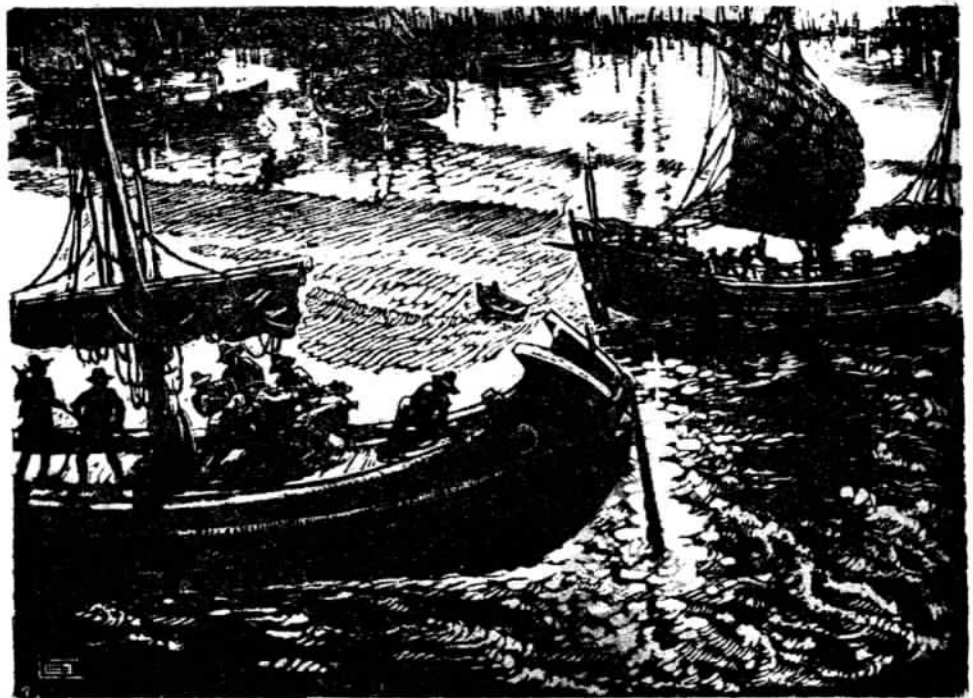
Renmin Ribao and other newspapers all carried articles and pictorial features on Lenin's life and work. On April 22, *Renmin Ribao* carried a translation of the article by N.K. Krupskaya, Lenin's wife, entitled "Leader, Revolutionary and Scholar."

There were similar activities in Shanghai, Tientsin, Changsha and other cities. It was an occasion on which the people of China honoured the memory of this great revolutionary leader of the world's proletariat and paid tribute to his outstanding contribution to the cause of human progress.

Big Spring Catch

The spring fishing season is now on along the entire China coast from Lushun-Talien in the north to Hainan Island in the south.

The fishermen of subtropical Kwangtung have brought in their first hauls of horse-mackerel from the South China Sea. Fukien reports a catch of some 20 million *jin* of yellow croakers, which is five times as much as in March 1961. Fishing communes further north up the coast are well satisfied with their first catches of prawns and miscellaneous fish from the Yellow and Pohai Seas. Big fishing fleets made up of craft of



Ready to Put to Sea

Woodcut in colour by Sung Ping-heng

all sizes and types—from sailing junks to diesel-powered trawlers—are now out at sea for the biggest fishing season of the year. The fish market is brisk.

Every year from March to June, small and big yellow croakers, hair-tails, mackerels, pomfrets and other marine fish move in large shoals from south to north along the coast to spawn. The spring catch from the off-shore fishing grounds accounts for more than half of the year's total catch in these waters.

Thirty thousand fishing vessels from Kwangtung are in the South China Sea where large shoals of tropical fish have been reported. Their catch in the first two months of this year outstripped that for the same period last year. Fishermen from villages at the mouth of the Pearl River brought in a record catch of hair-tails. The average haul for a big trawler was 18,000 *jin*, while that of a medium-sized trawler was 14,000 *jin*—unusually high figures for recent years. Thousands of other craft from the fishing villages on Hainan Island have sailed to the Changhua fishing ground where large shoals have been sighted.

Vessels from Liaoning, Hopei and Shantung up in the north are fishing the grounds in the Yellow Sea known for their cuttlefish and prawns. The first batch of fishing boats sent out by the state fishing companies and communes in Lushun-Talien have already

hailed in a catch of 4.6 million *jin* of fish and prawns. The big season for prawns, however, will be in the coming weeks.

Situated off the coast of Chekiang Province the Choushan fishing grounds, one of the biggest in the Far East, are famous for their small yellow croakers. March and April are the big months for these fish, and over 40 million *jin* of them and hair-tails have already been caught there. In one five-day period in early March, a record catch of 700,000 *jin* of small croakers was hauled in. Large shoals of these fish have been located also in the East China Sea. Bigger hauls can be expected in the coming months.

The country's fishing fleets are today better equipped than ever. There are now five and a half times as many motor craft in the fishing villages of the Choushan Islands as in 1957, the year before the people's communes were organized. They make up over 60 per cent of the fishing vessels in the fishing communes there. Radio equipped, these vessels are at all times in communication with each other while at sea and with their fishing headquarters on shore. A meteorological service network gives them regular weather forecasts. All this has greatly facilitated deep-sea fishing. Comparing the past three years with the first three years after liberation, Choushan fishermen have doubled both their average annual catch and their income.

United Africa Will Triumph

“**A**FRICA Freedom Day” (April 15) this year finds the whole of Africa a key sector of the frontline in the worldwide anti-imperialist and anti-colonialist struggle. From the southern shores of the Mediterranean to the Cape of Good Hope the national-liberation movement is forging ahead. Africa’s 240 million people are struggling to take their fate into their own hands; no force on earth can hold them back.

The national-liberation movement in Africa is one of the salient features of our times. It has already transformed the map of the continent. Of Africa’s 58 countries and regions 29 are now sovereign states. They comprise 80 per cent of Africa’s population and over 70 per cent of its area.

The Algerian people are the latest to win an outstanding victory. After seven years of determined armed struggle, they compelled the French colonialists to recognize their independence and sovereign rights. The peoples of the Kamerun, Angola and other areas in Africa are waging an armed struggle against their foreign exploiters. Countries already independent are step by step doing away with the vestiges of colonial domination and consolidating their political as well as economic independence. They stand shoulder to shoulder with the other peoples of the world in the fight against imperialist policies of war and aggression. In the Congo, the imperialists are making a major effort to retain or gain new positions. Despite temporary setbacks, the national-liberation movement there is indestructible. All Africa is awakening politically. *Uhuru*—the battle cry of “Freedom” is rocking the very foundations of colonial rule.

The successes achieved have been great, but a bitter battle will still have to be fought before all Africa becomes free.

“Renmin Ribao” Editorial

A recent *Renmin Ribao* editorial on “Africa Freedom Day” had this to say:

“The old colonial powers are struggling desperately to maintain control. No matter how weakened they have become, none of them will voluntarily give up their African colonies. By brutal repression and political deceit, imperialist Britain and France and the smaller colonial powers like Belgium and Portugal, all without exception, try to hold Africa’s national-liberation movement in check. The French colonialists continue their bloody military suppression of the patriotic aspirations of the Kamerunian people. Massacres and repression of the native people are being perpetrated by the Portuguese colonialists in Angola, Mozambique and Portuguese Guinea. In the Congo, the Belgian colonialists cling desperately to rich Katanga. By “constitutional reforms” and other political tricks, the British colonialists are

attempting to block the onward march of the peoples of Central and East Africa. The contradictions between the African peoples and imperialism and colonialism, far from easing, are growing sharper.

U.S. Neo-Colonialism: A Serious Menace

“A still more serious menace to the national-liberation movement in Africa is U.S. imperialism, which is even more ferocious, savage, vicious and cunning than the old colonial powers. Pretending ‘sympathy’ towards the Congo’s independence and unification, the U.S. neo-colonialists, under cover of the U.N. flag and with the use of ‘United Nations forces,’ have in fact taken over the military occupation of the Congo. At the same time, they have fostered their own puppet clique, and juggling with such slogans as ‘taking the parliamentary road’ and ‘preserving the country’s unity,’ have succeeded in splitting and dismembering the patriotic forces in the Congo. Having overthrown the legal Congolese Government headed by Lumumba whom they afterwards murdered, the U.S. neo-colonialists then went on to break up the legal Congolese Government represented by Gizenga, whom they later seized and imprisoned. In carrying out their plan to swallow up the Congo, the U.S. neo-colonialists have not hesitated to clash with the old British, French and Belgian colonialists. In the past two years, the twists and turns in the situation in the Congo have exposed U.S. neo-colonialism as an extremely dangerous enemy of the African national-liberation movement.

Need for a Patriotic United Front

“Faced by these formidable enemies, the most urgent task of all African nationalists is to strengthen their unity under the banner of anti-imperialism and anti-colonialism and, by rallying all anti-imperialist, anti-colonialist patriotic forces, to form the broadest possible patriotic national united front. Experience shows that the broader and more consolidated the anti-imperialist patriotic united front, the more assured is the victory of the national-liberation movement.

“The victory of the Algerian national-liberation movement is assured, fundamentally, because the entire Algerian people have rallied firmly around the National Liberation Front and have waged a heroic, unyielding armed struggle against the French colonialists supported by U.S. imperialism and NATO. Armed struggle and a national revolutionary united front—these are the two all-powerful weapons in the hands of the Algerian people. The Algerian workers, peasants, revolutionary intellectuals, the national bourgeoisie and all patriots and patriotic parties and organizations have joined hands to form a solid, anti-imperialist, patriotic united front. It was thanks to this solid unity that the Algerian people have been able, under extremely arduous conditions to beat back

the French colonial army, which was greatly superior both in numbers and in military equipment. This unity is also the fundamental guarantee for still bigger victories to come in the Algerian people's struggle for their national independence, the unity of the people and the territorial integrity of the country.

"Divide-and-Rule" Tactic

"The tactic of 'divide-and-rule' has long been used by imperialism to keep the oppressed nations in subjection. It is also one of U.S. imperialism's most vicious means in its aggression against the Congo. Taking advantage of disputes and contradictions both among the tribes and parties and also within the nationalist forces in the Congo, and by fostering from the very beginning such quislings as Tshombe, Mobutu and others, U.S. imperialism has been able to create serious political divisions within the country. These weakened the national patriotic forces represented by Lumumba. After Lumumba's murder, the United States used fresh political deceits to split the national patriotic forces which had regrouped around the Gizenga government. It was only when U.S. imperialism reckoned that it had broken the back of the Congolese patriotic forces and had its own stooges groomed and ready to take over that it came out with the slogan of 'preserving the unity' of the Congo. 'Unification' U.S.-style, however, is nothing but the suppression of all the patriotic forces and the placing of the entire country under the rule of its puppets—in short, turning it into a U.S. colony.

"The old colonial powers Britain, France, Belgium and Portugal, like the United States, also rely on the same tactic. To prop up their colonial rule, they too are hard at work sowing discord among and within the nationalist forces, the various parties and tribes in Central and East Africa. Particularly in the Portuguese colonies, U.S. neo-colonialism too has had a hand in such splitting activities and these have already caused serious damage to the national-liberation movement there. Both the old and new colonialists are engaged in all kinds of criminal activities to undermine the unity of the independent African countries and of the various African peoples.

"All this calls for keen vigilance on the part of the African peoples. There is no doubt that becoming daily more awakened, they will continue to profit from the experience gained in their liberation struggle and will



Africa's Chain Breaker Woodcut by Chao Yen-nien

ceaselessly strengthen their unity. By forging a great unity, the African nations and peoples will certainly be able to smash all imperialist-colonialist schemes, persevere in their struggle and win final victory."

Final Victory Certain

As the *Renmin Ribao* editorial points out: Africa today is no longer the politically backward continent it used to be. By its militant actions, it has joined the ranks of the politically advanced progressive forces of the world currently experiencing an upsurge of revolutionary awakening. The African peoples, along with the peoples of the socialist countries, the Asian and Latin American countries and all progressive mankind, are taking an active part in the great struggle which will accelerate the march of world history and determine the destiny of mankind. All Africa will ultimately return to the hands of the African peoples. An independent, free, happy and prosperous New Africa will eventually emerge.

For an Ever Closer, Militant Friendship

Chinese N.P.C. Delegation Visits Korea

A TEN-MEMBER delegation of the Chinese National People's Congress is now in Korea adding new strength to the militant friendship between the peoples of China and Korea. Led by Peng Chen, Vice-Chairman of the Standing Committee of the N.P.C., it arrived in Pyongyang on April 23 at the invitation of the Supreme People's Assembly of the Korean Democratic People's Republic.

Leaders of the Korean Workers' Party and of the Government of the Korean Democratic People's Republic and a crowd of tens of thousands of people gave the delegation a rousing welcome at the Pyongyang railway station. Later in the afternoon, Peng Chen and other members of the delegation paid a courtesy call on Choi Yong Kun, President of the Presidium of the Supreme People's Assembly of the K.D.P.R.

The delegation had a busy time on the second day of its visit. Accompanied by high-ranking Korean officials and the Chinese Ambassador to Korea, Peng Chen and his party laid wreaths at the monument to the fallen heroes of the Korean People's Army, the Liberation Monument dedicated to the Soviet Army and the Friendship Tower which stands as a symbol of the militant friendship between the Korean and Chinese people. At noon time, Kim Il Sung, Korean Premier and Chairman of the Central Committee of the Korean Workers' Party, received the Chinese delegation. He had a most cordial and friendly talk with the Chinese guests and entertained them at lunch.

That afternoon, 20,000 citizens of the Korean capital gathered in the Youth Park at Moranbong, or the Hill of Peonies, one of Pyongyang's beauty spots, for a meeting in honour of the visiting delegation. Addressing this rally, Chung Il Ryong, who is a member of the Political Bureau of the Korean Workers' Party, Vice-Premier of the Cabinet and Chairman of the Pyongyang People's Council, paid tribute to the traditional friendship between the peoples of China and Korea born of their long struggle against their common enemies. He praised the achievements of the Chinese people in socialist construction and pledged full support for their just struggle to liberate their sacred territory Taiwan. The Korean Vice-Premier condemned the U.S. imperialists for their occupation of south Korea. The aggressive armed forces of U.S. imperialism, he declared, must pull out of south Korea without delay and Korea must be peacefully reunified as speedily as possible.

Peng Chen, head of the Chinese delegation, also spoke at the rally. He lauded the great achievements of the Korean people in socialist construction; he declared that

the Chinese people resolutely support the just and patriotic struggle of the Korean people against U.S. imperialism, and stand firm by the Korean Government in its efforts to bring about the peaceful reunification of Korea. On behalf of the Chinese people, he expressed heartfelt thanks to the Korean people for their great, internationalist aid to the Chinese people. In the days to come, he declared, rain or shine, the 650 million Chinese people will always stand by the fraternal Korean people, building socialism and defending peace in Asia and the world shoulder to shoulder.

In Peking, *Renmin Ribao*, besides carrying the full texts of the main speeches exchanged between Peng Chen and his Korean hosts, published an editorial on April 25 to commemorate the 30th anniversary of the birth of the Korean anti-Japanese guerrilla forces led by the Korean Communists with Comrade Kim Il Sung at their head. Pointing out the repeated violations of the Korean Armistice by U.S. imperialists and their attempt to harness together the reactionary forces in Japan and south Korea in the service of their policies of aggression and war, *Renmin Ribao* declared that nothing could destroy the Korean people's desire to bring about the peaceful reunification of their fatherland. "Thirty years have passed," the editorial said, "but when we look back over the history of this period, we come to a clearer realization of an eternal truth: that is, no matter how powerful the enemy may be, once the oppressed people awake, unite and oppose armed counter-revolution with armed revolution, victory will always go to the people."

Hailing the unbreakable spirit of Sino-Korean friendship and unity the paper concluded: "May that friendship and unity be as everlasting as the universe, as brilliant and shining as the sun."

No Interference in Tibet Allowed

by "RENMIN RIBAO" OBSERVER

The following is a translation of a commentary published by "Renmin Ribao" on April 22 entitled "It Is Vain and Futile to Try to Interfere in Tibet." Subheads are ours. — Ed.

PUBLIC attention has been attracted to certain overt activities at the so-called "Tibetan refugee camps" in India which give shelter to the rebels from Tibet.

The *Hindustan Standard* reported on April 1 that Pearl S. Buck, the American writer who is notorious for her novels that heap insults on the Chinese people, had arrived at Darjeeling at the end of March in the company of Jialo Dundrub, elder brother of the Dalai Lama. She was also accompanied by an official of the Indian Ministry of External Affairs named Kaul. According to the paper, Pearl Buck is now touring India "at the invitation of Jialo Dundrub."

What's Behind Buck's Indian Tour?

It is rather strange that Jialo Dundrub, who is not an Indian national, much less an Indian official, should have

invited an American to "tour" India. But the fact that both the "host" and the "guest" are accompanied by an Indian government official is something more than strange. This raises a number of questions: Who has actually extended such an "invitation" to Buck? What is she up to? What is the purpose of her Darjeeling and Indian trip?

Earlier, on January 26, the Indian paper *Statesman* carried a dispatch from Darjeeling stating that a so-called "Tibetan Welfare Association" organized by the secret agents of the Chiang Kai-shek gang had recently been "reopened" after having been closed down for a long time. This secret service organ is distributing money from dubious sources among the "Tibetan refugees" at Kalimpong and Darjeeling. Some light has been shed on this matter in an AFP dispatch of April 6 from Taipei. It says that on the basis of a plan advanced by "an influential Tibetan leader now in India," the Chiang Kai-shek gang contemplates training in Taiwan 2,000 Tibetan youths as "future leaders" of Tibet. They will be recruited from among the "Tibetan refugees" in India by "underground leaders who keep in constant touch" with the Chiang Kai-shek gang.

Obviously, U.S. imperialism and the Chiang Kai-shek gang are actively planning to help Tibetan serfowners to stage a comeback riding once again on the backs of the people of Tibet. But, apart from them, it appears that there are also many others who want to make use of the Tibetan rebels sheltering in India. Some Indian papers have recently raised the demand that the Dalai Lama be permitted to engage in political activities in India. The *Statesman* has gone even further; it openly proposes that support for the Dalai Lama and for the "Tibetan refugees" be made part of Indian policy towards China. It was amidst this clamouring that the Dalai Lama inspected the "Tibetan refugee camps" in March and met the Indian President, the Vice-President and Prime Minister Nehru. Nehru, according to a London *Times* report, took the initiative in meeting the Dalai Lama and took Defence Minister Krishna Menon along with him. It is not without reason that the *Times* should mention the Dalai Lama as "a significant factor" in the Sino-Indian "border dispute."

The Wailing Nehru & the Incensed Nehru

On March 12, the day before the Dalai Lama's arrival in New Delhi, Nehru, speaking on a B.B.C. television programme, interfered in China's internal affairs by accusing it of having turned its own territory of Tibet into a "colony." Answering questions put to him, he called China's exercise of its sovereignty in Tibet "the Chinese occupation of Tibet," adding that it "has done a lot of harm to Tibet and its people" and that in this sense the word "colonialism" could be used. "I do think," Nehru

said, "that Tibet even when it has been a part of the Chinese empire has been an autonomous part and they have taken away the autonomy of Tibet, and in spite of their promise not to do so, and made it practically not only a colony but in some ways you may say almost worse than a colony."

The people of Tibet have discarded the savage serfdom which oppressed them for generations and have realized genuine autonomy. Nehru feels incensed every time he thinks of it. It is noticeable that this incensed feeling contrasts sharply with the sad feelings which he often displayed in earlier days. This reminds one of what Nehru said at the Lok Sabha on December 5, 1961. India then, according to him, "had to come out of Tibet. There was no [other] way. . . ." "We could not have adopted any other policy," he said, "except of course that foolish policy, the policy of accepting what has happened and bewailing our lot." Clearly, there is in India a group of people who have never reconciled themselves to this "coming out of Tibet."

The days when the people of Tibet were oppressed and enslaved are gone beyond recall. No matter how wild their fancies may be, neither U.S. imperialism nor the Chiang Kai-shek gang, nor those who look askance at Tibet, can stop the march of history there. It seems that they are now under the impression that "a lucky star" is again shining over their heads. However, it would be better for them to find out first whither this "star" will lead them before they start groping their way forward.

Report From Laos

U.S. Puppet Offensive Backfires

THE Royal Laotian Government forces and Pathet Lao Fighting Units have jointly smashed the latest offensive launched against the liberated areas by the U.S. puppet Phoumi Nosavan's troops.

The communique of the Laotian National Military Council announcing this major victory in the first quarter of 1962 states that the rebels lost over 1,000 men in killed, wounded and captured, considerable amounts of equipment and a large tract of territory which they had treacherously occupied after the May 1961 ceasefire.

This is a brilliant success for the patriotic Laotian forces, and a bitter blow both to the Nosavan rebels and the U.S. imperialists, who inspired and directed the rebel offensive.

After the three princes' meeting at Hin Hop last October, where Souvanna Phouma, Souphanouvong and Boun Oum agreed on the formation of a coalition government under Prince Souvanna Phouma, Washington promptly incited the Nosavan-Boun Oum clique to go back on their word and disavow the Hin Hop and the earlier Zurich joint communiqués. With the double aim of torpedoing the formation of a coalition government headed by Prince Souvanna Phouma and wiping out the Laotian

patriotic forces, the Kennedy Administration speeded up its military assistance to the Nosavan rebels, and preparations were made for a large-scale military offensive against the liberated areas.

Officers and men of the Nosavan troops who later went over to the patriotic forces declared that the plan for this offensive was drawn up by the U.S. "Military Assistance and Advisory Group" in Vientiane, under direct orders from Washington. Some members of the aggressive SEATO bloc supported the plan. In fact, cocky Nosavan was so sure of himself that he gave the operation the code-name—"Offensive Success."

A large number of high-ranking U.S. army officers arrived in Laos to take direct command of the operation. Furthermore, 14 battalions composed of Thai, south Vietnamese and Philippine troops as well as remnants of the Chiang Kai-shek bandit groups in the area were brought in to beef up the Nosavan forces. These were reinforced with new U.S. military aircraft, field guns, tanks and other equipment.

Three-Pronged "Offensive Success"

On November 15, rebel field guns opened up on the Muong Say front (1) in the northern part of Luang Pra-



bang Province. These were the first shots fired in the three-pronged "Offensive Success." Rebel attacks followed on the Mahaxay front (2) along Highway No. 12 in central Laos and on the Tha Thom front (3) in the southeastern part of Xieng Khouang Province.

For this operation the rebels mustered a total of 33 infantry battalions and 18 artillery companies—including both foreign and local troops. Commanded by U.S. officers, they were given air cover by U.S. AT-6 fighters.

The attack on the Muong Say front was particularly fierce. Under the command of four U.S. officers, eight infantry battalions and one artillery battalion of Nosavan rebel troops and remnant Chiang Kai-shek bandits staged a pincer movement against the liberated areas. They had pushed forward as much as 100 kilometres, capturing scores of towns and villages.

Meanwhile in central Laos, eight rebel battalions advanced eastward in order to capture the strategic road, Highway No. 12, and another four battalions pushed northward around Tha Thom in the direction of Xieng Khouang.

Dizzy with these "successes" the U.S. imperialists and their lackeys threw caution to the winds and no longer bothered to keep up pretences. When Princes Souvanna Phouma and Souphanouvong went to Vientiane for a pre-arranged meeting of the three princes in late December, they were rudely treated and crude pressure was put on them. At first Prince Boun Oum, the U.S. stooge, flatly refused to meet them. Later, he attended the meeting, but would not discuss any substantive questions. He made it known that he considered the Zurich and Hin Hop com-

muniques "out of date" and, further, that the three princes' meeting was "unnecessary."

Counter-Attack on All Fronts

Boun Oum, Nosavan and their masters, however, had rejoiced too soon. The Laotian people, far from being frightened by the treacherous rebel attacks, put up a stiff resistance. Throughout the months of November and December they waged a stubborn campaign to wear down the enemy. Then, early this January, their patriotic forces started counter-attacking on all fronts. From then on, they gained one victory after another.

On the Muong Say front, having driven the enemy back more than 100 kilometres, they advanced to the banks of the River Mekong. On the northern sector, they pushed the invaders back more than 30 kilometres and recaptured the strategic town of Na Mo, inflicting heavy casualties on the enemy. The invaders were compelled to retreat to Nam Tha.

On the Mahaxay and Tha Thom fronts, too, the patriotic forces dealt the enemy heavy blows. In Mahaxay, the rebels were pushed back to the spot from which they had started the offensive, and here too they suffered heavy losses. Casualties included six U.S. officers.

Why the Patriotic Forces Won

The patriotic forces engaged were inferior to the enemy both in numbers and equipment and, unlike their opponents, lacked air cover. But, also unlike their opponents, they had the support of the people and their morale was high. This made all the difference. On the hilly Tha Thom front, for instance, seven patriotic fighters held their positions successfully for two months, pushing back repeated attacks by two enemy companies in spite of air and artillery bombardments.

In contrast, the U.S. officers and Nosavan troops panicked in the face of counter-attacks. When the patriotic forces advanced on Na Mo, the U.S. officer commanding the rebel troops and the rebel field commander there were the first to escape to Luang Prabang by helicopter. There were also cases of U.S. N.C.O.s disguising themselves as rebel troops and fleeing into the jungle to escape capture. Large groups of rebels also took to their heels or surrendered. Over 400 of them went over to the patriotic forces in the first quarter of this year.

"Offensive Success" has fizzled out. Yet Washington and its stooges seem to have learnt nothing from their defeat. They have recently introduced yet another five or six battalions of Thai troops into Laos, and there are ample signs indicating that they will try to launch an even bigger offensive before the monsoon season begins. Meanwhile, to cover up these shady undertakings, Washington continues to spread its smokescreen about wanting "peace," a "neutral Laos" and "putting pressure on Nosavan to get him to negotiate." However, there is nothing to indicate that these latest U.S. manoeuvres, both military and political, will fare any better than their ill-starred "Offensive Success." Rather the reverse. A worse defeat awaits them if they continue their present course.

—C.C.S.

Latin American Peasants on the March

by CHANG LU

"Day in, day out, you will meet people in the field. Rocks, sticks and machetes in hand, they are seizing the land which rightfully belongs to them, driving in land markers and staking their lives to defend them."

—From the Second Havana Declaration.

ALL over Latin America, the peasants are on the march. This peasant movement and the closely related powerful struggle against U.S. imperialism constitute the two major currents in the present-day national and democratic revolutionary movements in Latin America.

Paradise of Big Latifundists

The latifundia system, characterized by the heavy concentration of private land ownership, prevails in all the Latin American republics with the exception of Cuba and Haiti. Holders of more than 500 hectares are generally regarded as latifundists. Latifundists and foreign monopolists, mainly U.S., control more than two-thirds of the cultivated land of Latin America. The former, comprising only 1.5 per cent of all landholders, own more than half of the cultivated land, while the peasants making up 70 per cent of the rural population own no land at all.

In Brazil, the biggest country in Latin America, latifundists, accounting for only 3.4 per cent of the landholders, own 62.3 per cent of the land. The land held by 2,000 latifundists there is equal to the combined areas of Italy, the Netherlands, Belgium and Denmark. On the other hand, 9 million Brazilian peasants are landless. In Argentina, where capitalism is fairly well developed, 240,000 peasant households own 3.25 million hectares of land while 370 latifundists own 52 million hectares. In Chile, 68 per cent of the arable land is owned by members of the ruling classes and only 2.5 per cent by 130,000 small holders. The latifundists in Venezuela, comprising less than 1.69 per cent of the landholders, own 74.48 per cent of the land suitable for farming and stockbreeding.

The heavy concentration of land in certain countries under dictatorial rule in Latin America is particularly appalling. In Paraguay, for instance, 43 per cent of the land belongs to 25 families; 176 latifundists hold almost 90 per cent of the country's land, while 75 per cent of its peasants are landless. In Nicaragua, 362 latifundists (mainly relatives of the dictator Somoza) hold 33 per cent of the cultivated land while 26,000 peasants cultivating small plots hold only 5.62 per cent of it. In the Dominican Republic, the former dictator Trujillo's family alone owns more than half the country's fertile land while more than 80 per cent of the rural population is landless. In Guatemala, 70.5 per cent of the land is in the hands of the latifundists, representing 2.2 per cent of all the landholders, while 57 per cent of the peasantry has no land.

Similar heavy concentrations of land are also evident in other Latin American countries. In Peru, for instance, 66.44 per cent of the cultivated land belongs to 918

latifundists. On the other hand, 90 per cent of the rural population with holdings of less than 20 hectares own only 21.43 per cent of the cultivated land. In Ecuador, 464 latifundists have appropriated 73 per cent of the country's land.

U.S. Monopolies—The Biggest Landlords

But the biggest landlords in Latin America are the U.S. monopolies. By buying land cheap or through long-term leases, these U.S. concerns have gained control of huge areas. The United Fruit Company, known as the "Green Devil," controls 2.5 million hectares of land in eight countries in Central and South America. It has seized 188,339 hectares in Guatemala and 160,000 hectares in Honduras. In Brazil, Standard Oil and other U.S. monopolies have concessions totalling 4.8 million hectares. In Paraguay, 13 million hectares of land are held by 25 U.S. and British companies. In the Dominican Republic, two U.S. companies control an area equal to one-third of the country's total cultivated area. In Argentina, large tracts of land have been appropriated by the U.S. Coney Company. The Argentine weekly *Nuestra Palabra* reports that this company recently acquired about 1 million hectares of concessions in Mendoza Province.

These powerful U.S. monopolies with their large holdings control agricultural production and marketing and a wide range of other activities. In some Latin American countries, the United Fruit Company controls shipping lines, ports, railways, trams, telephones and other means of telecommunications; it enjoys all sorts of privileges and extracts U.S. \$100 million in profits each year. This company's estates form an independent domain with their own troops, police and "laws," in which the life and activities of the hired farm labourers are kept under the strictest control. That is why the Latin American peoples call the United Fruit Company "a state within a state."

The Root Causes of Poverty

The latifundia system has stifled the productivity of the Latin American countries and held back the advance of farming techniques. Cultivation is largely done by human labour, because the latifundists have invested very little in equipment, machines and fertilizers, and paid little attention to improving the management of their huge holdings. At the same time, most of them undertake stockbreeding, which has brought great profits; only very few engage in agriculture alone. Actually, most of the land taken over by the U.S. monopolies has been used to exploit underground resources; only a small proportion has been allocated to farming. That is why large areas of land in Latin America have been laid waste and tens of thousands of peasants and farm labourers have no land for farming. The worst thing is that the U.S. monopolists have done their utmost to force the Latin American countries to grow mono-crops over huge areas. This brings large profits to the big landowners and

monopolies but is ruining the national economies of these countries.

Backward farming techniques, waste of large areas of land and the development of mono-crop farming have resulted in a miserably low level of agricultural productivity in the Latin American countries. Being unable to support themselves in grain, they have to spend U.S. \$1,000 million annually importing food, mainly from the United States.

Exorbitant rents in kind or cash or both are exacted by the latifundists. These account for 40 or 50 per cent and sometimes as much as 70 or 80 per cent of the harvest. Even more ruthless exploitation faces the farm workers. When hard pressed they have to ask for their wages in advance and then find themselves tied to the latifundist usurers for life as virtual peons. More and more of the peasantry of Latin America are being turned into hired labourers toiling the year round simply to repay their debts.

It is this intense exploitation that has brought starvation and appalling poverty to the peasantry who accounts for two-thirds of the population of the Latin American countries. The average life span of a Guatemalan or an Indian in Peru (Indians constitute a large proportion of the Peruvian population) is only 22 years. In Salvador, 83 per cent of the population is undernourished. Agricultural workers on the Argentine sugar cane plantations earn only 200 pesos monthly, when the amount needed for a minimum standard of living is 300 pesos a month.

The latifundia system has impoverished and retarded the progress of the Latin American peoples but it has secured staggering profits for the U.S. monopolies. At the same time, it is a mainstay of U.S. imperialist aggression and plunder in Latin America. Thus, U.S. imperialism is both the No. 1 latifundist in Latin America and the biggest enemy of land reform there. Whenever the people rise and threaten the interests of the latifundists, U.S. imperialism comes forward to protect them and preserve its own interests. It has attempted by every possible means to obstruct, undermine and interfere with the Latin American people's struggle for land. This is best illustrated by its frantic sabotage and intervention against the land reforms in Mexico, Bolivia and Guatemala and the land reform introduced in Cuba after the victory of the revolution there. It is for these reasons that the Latin American peasants' anti-feudal struggle aimed at wiping out the latifundia system and taking the land into their own hands is closely linked with the anti-imperialist struggle to throw out the U.S. monopolies and achieve national liberation; it is, in fact, a struggle which centres around opposition to U.S. imperialism. In Latin America today, "Land Yes, Yankees No!" is as resounding a battle cry as "Cuba Yes, Yankees No!"

Peasant Struggle — Aims and Forms

While the primary objective of the current peasant movements in Latin America is to abolish the latifundia system and institute land reform, the struggle takes on many forms. The peasants are fighting the forcible seizure of land by the latifundists and foreign monopoly companies, and the food and taxation policies of their governments. They are defending the land they have themselves reclaimed. They are seizing lands that are allowed to lay idle. Agricultural workers are fighting

indomitably for wage increases and for the extension of social legislation to agriculture. The Latin American peasants are no longer content with petitions and demonstrations as the only form of struggle. Faced with brutal repressions by their reactionary governments, they have been compelled to take up arms. In recent years, for instance, 3 million landless peasants in Mexico have been active in the struggle to seize land. Landless Brazilian peasants have again and again taken up arms against the local authorities to defend the land they themselves have reclaimed. Led by the peasant associations, the peasant struggle in northeastern Brazil is spreading like a prairie fire.

The spontaneous seizure of land by the peasants in Ecuador began last year and has developed into a conscious and organized movement, which has spread to the coastal areas, and Manabi, Loja and other provinces.

In Peru, early last December, 3,500 peasants in the central mountain areas, seized all the land of one latifundium, part of the land of two others, and 6,000 hectares owned by a U.S. copper company. On January 1 this year, 1,200 peasants in a village in Junin Province took back the land which had been seized by the same U.S. copper company. In the past few months, Peruvian peasants have, on several occasions, fought the government troops and police sent to suppress them.

The struggle to seize land has spread throughout Honduras. Early this year, a large number of peasants under the "Peasants' United Central Committee" seized a latifundium belonging to the U.S. United Fruit Company. In January and March, hundreds of households of landless peasants in Chinandega Province, Nicaragua, on two occasions entered a latifundium, fought the national guards and distributed the land. On April 1, armed peasants seized lands in Chontales Province in southeastern Nicaragua. Armed struggles by the poor peasants have also taken place in Colombia and Venezuela. They seized some latifundia and distributed their lands.

Armed Struggle

Along with their fight for land and bread, the peasants are actively struggling for national independence and democratic freedoms. The peasants in Paraguay and Colombia are a most important force in the armed struggle against the dictatorships in their countries. The steadily developing guerrilla warfare against the reactionary governments in Venezuela, the Dominican Republic and Nicaragua is, in effect, an armed struggle for land and freedom. The current armed struggle against the dictatorship in Guatemala has won the broad support of the peasants.

The Latin American peasants' struggle for land has won the sympathy of the people of all social strata. In particular it has the resolute support of the working class and the students. The Communist Parties and trade unions in the various Latin American countries have taken land reform as part of their programme of struggle. The peasants and the working class in Latin America support each other; they have formed an alliance that is becoming ever firmer. The Second Havana Declaration has pointed out that the peasantry in Latin America is "a potentially strong force which will have decisive significance in the struggle for national liberation so long as it is led by the workers and intellectuals." The surging peasant movement in Latin America daily furnishes new facts confirming this truth.

TU FU—China's Great Realist Poet

by FENG CHUNG-YUN

TU Fu is one of China's greatest realist poets. The 59 years of his life (712-770 A.D.) were years of tumultuous change; they saw the powerful and prosperous Tang Dynasty (618-907 A.D.) slide from its zenith into its decline and disintegration. During the middle period of the Tang Dynasty, internal strife and external conflicts resulted in constant wars, grave financial difficulties and the dismemberment of the country. The people suffered terrible hardships. In the upheavals of these times, Tu Fu was swept to the lowest rung of the social ladder. He came close to the broad masses of the people both in his thinking and in his poetic works. He took many socially significant themes as the subject of his poems. They mirrored the sufferings and hopes of the people in a time of unrest, and reflected the society of the time with its many acute contradictions. As a portrayal of the times, his poems surpassed those of all his predecessors and contemporaries in scope and depth of understanding. Posterity has called them "history in poetry." He took over and developed the finest traditions of Chinese literature and carried classical Chinese poetry to a new height, uniting a high level of ideological content with superlative literary skill. For more than a thousand years since, his poems have served as brilliant examples for others to learn from and have taught the masses. The people have honoured him with the title of "sage among poets."

Social Background

Tu Fu was born into a family of scholars and officials. His grandfather Tu Shen-yen was a well-known poet. He himself was a diligent student and at 20 was a highly cultured youth. The Tang Dynasty was still at the height of its glory and he was able to visit many parts of the country. His travels broadened his vision and inspired him with a profound sense of patriotism.

Later in Loyang, he met Li Po (701-762 A.D.), another great poet of the Tang period. Tu Fu was then 33 and Li Po was 11 years his senior, but they formed a close friendship. They wine and dined and went hunting together and talked about poetry and literature in general. Although the time they spent together was brief, their acquaintanceship and literary interchanges left an indelible impression on Tu Fu. He wrote many poems in memory of Li Po and their comradeship. The friendship between the two poets is a treasured passage in the history of Chinese literature.

This was a romantic period in the life and works of Tu Fu. Only a few of the early works of this time remain; but those that we know of like *Looking at Taishan* and *Painting of a Falcon* already demonstrated the poet's original individual style and literary skill.

In 746 A.D. when Tu Fu was 35, he went to Changan (present-day Sian), the Tang capital. He aspired, like many other young scholars in ancient Chinese feudal

society, to pass the imperial examinations and become an official so that he could bring his talents into full play. But by this time the Tang glory was passing. The ruling clique at the centre became daily more corrupt. Power fell into the incompetent hands of eunuchs and other court favourites. Tang relations with the peoples on and beyond the borders fell into disarray; internal stresses too became more acute and the years of crisis began. Tu Fu lived on in Changan for ten years. His political hopes failed to materialize and he hardly had the means to support himself and his family. It was, however, precisely because he was unsuccessful in his pursuit of an official career and was plunged into poverty that he awoke from his dreams to face the hard facts of real life. He witnessed and experienced the sufferings of the people and gained a profound understanding of the society in which he lived. He drew closer to the masses in his outlook and a radical change became more and more apparent in his poetry: He became a realist poet.

Poems of Social Significance

During his ten years in Changan, he composed many fine poems of profound social significance. Inspired with a deep love for his country and his people, he realistically portrayed various social events and phenomena at that crucial historical moment when the Tang Dynasty went into its decline. At first he expressed only his personal sentiments and feelings in such poems as *Melancholy in the Autumn Rain* and *To Vice-Minister Wei Tsi*. But later in *Pretty Ladies* and *The Army Carts*, poems that have enjoyed an undiminished popularity through the centuries, he took a step further and directly attacked the evil rule that brought such sufferings to the people. *Pretty Ladies* was more than just a sharp satire on the powerful Yang Kuo-chung and his cousin, the emperor's favourite Lady Yang Kuei Fei; it relentlessly castigated the profligate ruling clique. *The Army Carts* vividly depicts the tragic scene of conscripts mustering for the march to the border; it upbraided the rulers for imposing heavy taxes and military service on the people, disrupting rural production and bringing poverty and ruin to the people. The themes of both these poems were drawn from actual life by the poet after he had undergone a profound change in mental outlook; they were written in a poetic form which Tu Fu developed out of the traditional forms of Chinese poetry found in the old classical anthologies, and a form which was better suited to the new realistic content which he introduced into poetry.

The most important work of this whole period was *A Lament After Travelling From the Capital to Fenghsien*, a poem in 100 lines written after Tu Fu left Changan for home in the winter of 755 A.D. This poem summed up his ten years' experience of life in the capital, his mental development up to that time and his literary achievements.

In it, the contradiction between his ideals and reality is sharply evident. He generalized the most essential and typical aspects of social reality in poetic images of great power; he exposed the extravagance and decadence of the ruling clique and boldly brought out the acute class conflict caused by class oppression and exploitation. He used sharp contrasts to denounce injustice:

*Behind those scarlet gates meat and wine go to waste,
While out on the road lie the bones of men frozen
to death.*

and again:

*But the silk shared out in the Vermilion Hall
Was woven by the hands of poor women,
Women whose men were whipped in their own homes
By tax collectors who took the silk to the court.*

Tu Fu sharply dramatized the fact that the pleasures of the ruling clique were founded on their ruthless exploitation of the people. He expressed his sentiments in the following couplet:

*In years of want my heart yearns for the people
And, sighing, I burn with compassion.*

The picture he painted in this poem showed that this was not just a momentary emotional outburst; his indignation and distress was based on a profound understanding of reality. This poem also shows Tu Fu's mental growth. From his own experience he gained an insight into society and life; he closely linked his own sufferings with those of the people and the security of the nation. The progressive outlook and artistic maturity of this poem surpassed anything written by his predecessors. The breadth and depth with which it reflected the actual life of the time represented a step forward from his earlier works like *Pretty Ladies* and *The Army Carts*.

Mental Growth

In 755 A.D., the year Tu Fu left Changan for home, An Lu-shan, a general of mixed Turkic and Tartar origin guarding the northern frontiers, staged a rebellion. The insurgents swiftly occupied Changan. The rebellion was quelled only after eight years of bitter and destructive fighting. During those years, Tu Fu was a refugee. Once he fell into the hands of the rebels. The new hardships he experienced brought him even closer to the people. He gained a deeper understanding of their sentiments and aspirations. Almost all the poems he composed at that time expressed his passionate love for his country and people and his distress at their sufferings. *The Lament on the Defeat at Chentao* was written in Changan where Tu Fu lived as a captive. It reads:

*Early winter, and the best of our youth from ten
provinces
Has turned to blood the water of the Chentao
marshes;
Wide the plain and clear the sky, with no noise of
battle,
For all in one day forty thousand good men gave
their lives.
The Tartars returned to wash the blood from their
arrows,
To sing Tartar songs as they drink in the market-
place;*

*But we in Changan turn our faces north and weep,
Waiting day and night for the government troops'
return.*

Here the poet expressed his and the people's burning yearning for liberation from the rebels. Spring is the time when everything comes to life again after the cold of winter. But with Changan under enemy occupation that spring was desolate and deserted. Tu Fu wrote the following lines from the bitterness of a heart appalled by the suffering and humiliation of his country and people:

*Our land is lost; only hills and streams remain;
Spring comes to the city—a riot of weeds and
brambles;
Even flowers shed tears, it seems, for these sad times,
And birds sing heart-rending songs of separation;
Three months on end the beacon fires have flared,
A letter from home is worth ten thousand pieces of
gold;
My white hair falls out when I touch it,
Grown too thin for the pin to hold.*

(*The Sights of Spring*)

Tu Fu was deeply concerned with the destinies of his country and people throughout the time he lived in captivity in Changan. His poems express his anger against the rampant pillaging rebels, his concern for the common people in their distress, his grief at being away from home, his anxiety on hearing of the defeats of the Tang army and his hopes that the rebellion would be quelled.

Finally in the spring of 757 A.D. Tu Fu managed to escape from Changan and made his way to Fenghsiang where the emperor then maintained his court to the northwest of the fallen capital. He became an imperial counsellor. After the recovery of Changan, he returned to the capital together with the court. The emperor, however, did not like his outspokenness and he was sent away from the capital and was given a new post in Huachow. His failure in politics, however, afforded him further opportunities for getting into ever closer touch with the people in their sufferings. His poetry reached new heights in thought and artistry.

Emotional Conflict

From Huachow, Tu Fu managed to take a trip to his native Loyang, which had suffered from the damages of war. In 759 A.D. Tu Fu left Loyang and returned to Huachow. It was a heart-rending journey. Everywhere he saw the tribulations and misery caused the people by An Lu-shan's rebellion. He put his bitter thoughts into the famous poems known collectively as the "Three 'Officials'" (*The Hsinan Official*, *The Shihhao Official* and *The Official at Tungkuan*) and the "Three 'Laments'" (*Lament of the Newly-Wed Wife*, *The Old Man Returns to War* and *The Homeless*). This group of poems not only reflected the sufferings of the people, they manifested the poet's own deep mental conflict. With his country and people experiencing the ravages of war, Tu Fu, passionately desiring the restoration of peace and tranquillity, could only, in the historical circumstances of his time, place his hopes in the imperial court. But this was a court which cruelly exploited the people even in peace time and was quite unable to put down the re-

bellion. It refused to forfeit any of its privileges but, on the contrary, intensified its exploitation of the people, plundering them and drafting them indiscriminately into the army. This naturally caused a sharp emotional conflict within the poet who loved his country and people ardently. This conflict also reflected, to a certain extent, the outlook of the people at large and the social realities of the time. These six poems differed from *The Army Carts* in that when Tu Fu wrote them he had to consider the gravity of the national crisis even while he raised his voice on behalf of the people in distress. It was for this reason that in these six poems he first of all expressed his deep sympathy for the people who were forced to pay heavy taxes and do corvee, who were driven from their homes and wrenched from their families. He also wrathfully denounced the brutal officials and the Tang soldiers who harassed the people. But at the same time, he encouraged the people to take part in quelling the rebellion. Thus he advised:

*Better forget your young wife,
And do your duty as a soldier.*

(*Lament of the Newly-Wed Wife*)

This was because the restoration of peace and order was also in the fundamental interests of the people.

Tranquil Life

In the latter half of that year, Tu Fu gave up office and took his family to Szechuan by way of Shensi. In high spirits he wrote many lovely poems on his way to Chengtu, describing the magnificent scenery of the southwest. After his arrival in Chengtu, with the help of his friends, he built a thatched hut by the Wanhua, a stream in the western suburbs. This was the celebrated thatched hut immortalized in his poems. Here he cultivated medicinal herbs, planted pines and bamboos, made friends with his neighbours and lived a simple, quiet life among the countryfolk. But this life of repose did not last long. In a time of unrest, he was soon compelled to resume his wanderings. In 770 A.D., deeply distressed by the state of the nation and the sufferings of the people, sick and wretchedly poor, the great poet, who had had more than his share of sorrow and pain, died in a boat on the Hsiang River at the age of 59.

In the ten years he spent in Szechuan, Tu Fu produced poetry prolifically. His subject matter covered an increasingly wide range; his art deepened and matured. During this period he composed a greater number of poems cherishing and enshrining thoughts of the past and in remembrance of old friends, lamenting the times, praising natural beauty and describing the people's customs. Written in his old age, poems like *Autumn Feelings—Eight Poems* and *Thoughts on Ancient Places—Five Poems* are masterpieces of the highest order. Plain or intricate in form, passionate or reserved in feeling, they all censured those responsible for the dark reality of the times. His love of the good, his hatred for the evil was clearly expressed in the couplet:

*May the young pines spring up a thousand feet,
Crushing the ten thousand bamboos that threaten them.*

When news came that the Tang army had recovered the region along the Yellow River, he was wild with joy. The alarming report that the enemy was threatening



Tu Fu

By Chiang Chao-ho

Lungyu (western Kansu and northeastern Chinghai) deeply distressed him. In his *Thatched Hut*, he exposed the arrogance and brutality of the upstart military commanders. In another poem he bitterly satirized the muddle-headedness of the emperor and the eunuchs who brought shame upon the nation. Using the metaphor of a withered palm, he denounced the rulers for brutally exploiting the people. When his thatched hut was wrecked by the autumn wind, he expressed the hope that there would be "a great mansion with ten thousand rooms," so that "all the poor on earth could find welcome shelter." His love for the people overshadowed his personal afflictions. In his old age, he could not go to sleep because

*I worry about war, knowing I have
No way to set the world aright.*

(*Night in the Pavilion by the River*)

Even in his last poem composed before his death, he could not forget that

*Blood is still flowing as of old in battles,
And the alarms of war can still be heard.*

(*Thoughts When Lying in My Boat Ill With Rheumatism*)

Nature Poems and Lyrics

Tu Fu's realist creative method is seen not only in his masterly generalizations of momentous political and social events, but also in his nature poems and lyrics.

After his many years of roaming the country he led a relatively quiet and settled life in Szechuan. His art took in new horizons. He wrote pastoral poems and poems about everyday life. Here are a few typical couplets:

*My wife draws out a chessboard on paper,
While our little boys bend needles into fish hooks.*
(*The River By Our Village*)

*The water in autumn is quite shallow,
And the little farm boat will take but three.*
(*Our Southern Neighbour*)

*Light rain brings small fish to the surface,
A soft breeze makes the swallows heel over.*
(*Taking Pleasure by the Balustrade
Over the Water*)

and

*In the garden of the fourth wife of Huang,
flowers fill the whole place;
Blossoms weigh the branches low;
Gay butterflies flit in and around,
Accompanied by the joyous song of birds.*
(*Along the Riverside, Alone and Looking
at the Flowers—No. 6 of Seven Poems*)

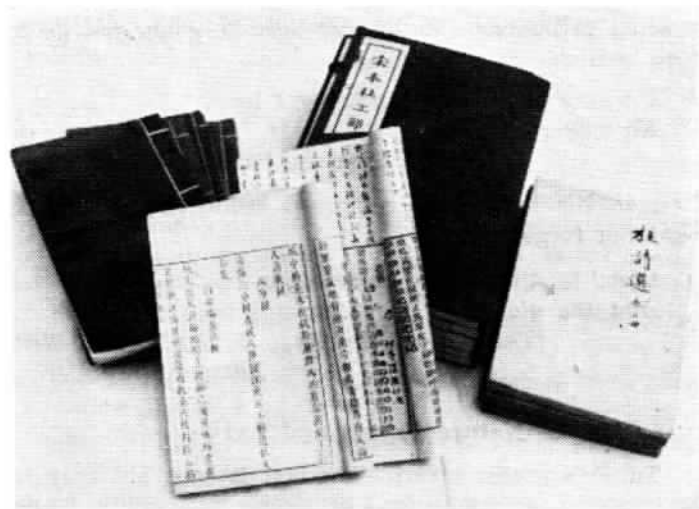
All these are written with great naturalness and simplicity. Tu Fu distils the magic of beauty out of the ordinary. He displays extraordinarily keen powers of observation. Only one who ardently loved life and his native land, who had experienced the upheavals and bitterness of war and rebellion, could so convincingly and touchingly describe natural beauty and the happiness afforded by a simple, wholesome life.

Mature Artistry

Tu Fu's language is precise, succinct and rich in imagery. He chooses unerringly the most appropriate poetic language and form in which to cast his thoughts.

He wrote *Hearing of the Recovery of the Regions North and South of the River by the Imperial Forces* in the flush of elation at the news that the rebels had been defeated:

*Through the Sword Pass comes sudden news of
recovered lands in the north,
And, hearing it, I drench my clothes with tears.*



Tu Fu's poems printed in different dynasties

*I gaze at my wife and children, all grief forgotten,
And roll up my papers at random, wild with joy.
The sun has not set, yet I feel I must drink and
sing;*

*Lovely spring shall be our companion as home we go;
We shall sail through the Yangtse Gorges
Down to Hsiangyang and the road to old Loyang!*

This poem is universally praised for its swift flowing fluency vividly conveying the poet's jubilant mood. Only one who had known the depths of despair in war's defeats could so rejoice at news of victory and peace. In its many, swift changes of mood it has all the endearing directness of a man who scorned to dissemble. It is rich in melody and the lilting rhythm of the poet's exaltation.

Another example is the *Welcome Rain One Spring Night*:

*A good rain knows its season
And comes when spring is here;
On the heels of the wind it slips secretly into the
night,
Silent and soft, it moistens everything.
Now clouds hang black above the country roads,
A lone boat on the river sheds a glimmer of light;
At dawn we shall see splashes of rain-washed red—
Drenched, heavy blooms in the City of Brocade.**

The second couplet beginning with "On the heels of the wind" is regarded as the most incisive description of spring rain in Chinese poetry. The words "slips" and "soft" describe the lightness of spring rain admirably. The following couplet beginning "Now clouds hang black" gives another vivid picture of rain on a night in spring as seen from the poet's thatched hut. The last couplet reflects the poet's happiness and once more recalls the life-giving power of spring rain. On a first reading, this poem may sound rather commonplace. But with repeated readings one realizes its wonderful subtlety.

Tu Fu was one of the country's most strongly political poets. At the same time he was also one of its finest lyric poets. He admirably expressed the sentiments of the people of a whole historical era. He dedicated his whole life to literature. How conscientiously he worked may be seen from his well-known phrase: "I laboured without rest to amaze the world with my writing." He polished and re-polished his poems until he felt fully satisfied. He studiously learnt from his predecessors: "I've read ten thousand volumes and my writing has magical power." All this went to make Tu Fu the great poet that he was. What was most precious was that he stood with the people at a time of tempestuous change and refused to submit in face of the severest hardships. The more he suffered, the more he loved his native land and people, the more profound his understanding and criticism of reality became, the harder he worked, and the greater were his achievements.

Some 1,400 of Tu Fu's poems have been handed down to posterity. They show that the poet had mastered all the forms of poetry writing known to his time. He also developed these forms in a creative way. His poems are the precious legacy of the Chinese people and of all the peoples of the world.

* Another name for Changan.

A Decade After Land Reform

by CHAO CHIU-CHANG, TSAO MENG-CHUN and HU NAI-CHIU

The authors are deputies to the National People's Congress. In the following article they share their impressions gained during a recent tour of inspection to Liucheng County, Kwangsi.—Ed.

WE are no strangers to Liucheng in the Kwangsi Chuang Autonomous Region. From the winter of 1951 to the following summer, we took part in the land reform movement there as members of a land reform team sent out by the National Committee of the Chinese People's Political Consultative Conference side by side with the peasants, and we saw that epoch-making struggle through to its successful conclusion. Time flies. Ten years have elapsed since those stirring times. In the intervening years we have been as anxious to see the folks back there again as if they were our own kith and kin. But it is only recently that our wish was realized. Once again we found ourselves in Liucheng, visiting the villages where we worked during the land reform. We have been deeply inspired by what we saw.

Many Changes

We drove northward from Liuchow through wide-spreading fields surrounded by mountains. Groups of factories frequently appeared along the highway. Soon Shatang was left behind. Towering eucalyptus trees that neatly lined the road greeted us like old friends. Big and small ponds here and there shone like mirrors in the fields. Skirting the town of Shapu with its many new houses, the cars rolled across the bridge over the Shapu River and turned again. Facing us was Chikung Mountain.

We were reminded of the big meetings and the public trials held at the foot of the mountain and at Shatang. At those mass meetings, attended by tens of thousands, the peasants had exposed the atrocious crimes of the landlords as they told of the endless years of brutal exploitation to which they had been subjected. Places and scenes flashed by, some familiar and others completely new to us. In a few moments the county town, Tapu, came into view. Its buildings could be seen from quite a distance. Just before reaching the town, we passed the square where all the county's land reform work teams had assembled ten years ago before setting out for the surrounding villages. Finally we arrived at Liucheng.

During our few days' stay in Tapu, we visited the Dapu and Shapu People's Communes. We listened with interest to the briefings given by leading local cadres. We had cordial talks with the villagers. Naturally, in a short article it is not possible to describe all the changes of the last decade, so let us start with what

concerned us most—the progress of agriculture, especially grain output. Between 1950 and 1959, the county has raised its grain output by 61 per cent and its chief grain crop, rice, by 60 per cent.

Both 1957 and 1959 were years of bumper harvests. Our guides told us of the long lines of peasants delivering the public grain (agricultural tax in kind) to the state granaries in those years. Late-comers had to wait until late in the evening for their turn. In 1960 Liucheng was hit by one of the longest droughts in decades. Last year drought again threatened in the spring. Then there was some rain, but it continued to be scarce throughout the summer and autumn. The people's commune system, however, showed an efficiency beyond that of the old co-op farms; this and the irrigation works which had been built over the years, combined with the energetic efforts of the peasants led by local Communist Party organizations, beat the drought. It was often a hard struggle. Some production teams irrigated their fields by using water wheels set at three different heights to raise water to higher fields. As a result of these measures, grain output exceeded 1960's total by 11 per cent. Given normal weather, a still better harvest is expected this year.

Water Conservancy

Liucheng's achievements in water conservancy work are impressive. Its 360 large and small irrigation projects serve 54 per cent of the county's paddyfields. The latter makes up more than half of its total farmland. More land was brought under irrigation in the three years, 1958-60, than in all of the previous eight years. Forty-one projects each capable of watering at least 1,000 *mu* have been built in the past 11 years. This extensive construction of water conservancy works has changed the natural features of the county, expanded the area of paddyfields bearing more than one crop annually and boosted per-*mu* yields. It is thanks mainly to this work that it was possible to raise the grain output even in face of extremely bad weather.

Take the Chongmai People's Commune, for example. It is in a dry district and formerly had just a few paddyfields. Before liberation, double-cropping had not even been thought of. The main food crop grown by the impoverished peasants was barley. In response to a call from the Party, the peasants undertook large-scale water conservancy projects in the winter of 1957 and the following spring. In that period 36 small reservoirs were completed, immensely expanding irrigated areas. Three medium-sized projects are under construction at present. Chongmai is now mainly a rice-producing commune and rice has become the peasants' staple food. Although Chongmai



Primary School on the Water

Woodcut by Ma Ke

has had droughts in the last two years, its annual grain output was a little higher than in 1959, a year of bumper crops.

Better Living

We were impressed by the large number of new houses in the villages. In Liuhsiu, a hamlet of 96 households belonging to the Dapu People's Commune, 57 new brick-and-tile rooms were added to 27 of the houses. Counting those built for community use, the number of newly built rooms runs to 75. This village has a considerable number of well-built brick-and-tile rooms and their number is growing just as in the other villages that we visited or passed.

Everywhere we went the peasants extended us a warm welcome. They grasped our hands and greeted us saying: "Glad to see you back again!" In contrast with the poor peasants and farm hands who before land reform had neither cotton-padded quilts, adequate clothing or shoes, adults and children were all neatly dressed. Now cotton-padded articles, mosquito nets, cotton and woollen knitwear are taken as a matter of course. Formerly, they mostly went barefoot or wore rough wooden clogs, but now they have shoes to wear and rubbers for rainy days.

There has been a change in household utensils too. In place of the few simple pieces of locally made pottery they used ten years ago, former poor peasants and farm hands now have good chinaware, enamel wash basins, thermos bottles and aluminium ware. The county's retail sales reached 10 million yuan in 1960, a 90 per cent increase over 1952 sales just at the end of land reform. The peasants' purchasing power showed further increases last year. Take again, the 96 households of Liuhsiu Village. Nine-tenths of them were in debt before land reform, but now 70 per cent have money in the bank.

As for food, peasant households generally have some grain reserves. Each household is raising a dozen or so

chickens and ducks and many keep rabbits and pigs. In the Tapu town there are plenty of vegetables, fowls and other farm products on market days. Crowds throng the big department store and the town cinema attracts large audiences.

Tapu now has electric light and running water. The latter is much appreciated by the women, who previously had to fetch it from a nearby river.

Well-Educated Children

One afternoon in Tapu, we saw a group of youngsters singing and laughing on their way home. We learnt from the teachers escorting them that they were from the kindergarten attached to the town's primary school. The primary school itself has expanded enormously and now has more than 1,000 pupils enrolled. Now Liucheng has one middle school, five junior middle schools and over 200 primary schools of various sizes. There are nearly ten times as many middle school students as in 1950, while the number of primary school pupils has increased 32-fold in the same time.

Tetanus has been practically wiped out in Liuhsiu Village. The mortality rate among the children is now very low.

Up to the time of land reform, Teng Jung-fu had been a farm hand. He was nearly 40, but he had never been able to afford to get married. We met him again recently, he was the proud father of six lovely children.

"We, the poor peasants and farm hands, were of no account in the past," said Yang Ting-kun, secretary of the Liuhsiu Production Brigade Party branch, "but the Party has educated us." Under the leadership of the Party and Chairman Mao, he continued, we peasants took the socialist road of collective farming, overcame many difficulties, expanded our collective wealth and laid a firm foundation for a still better life in the future.

As we were leaving Liucheng ten years ago, we saw a handful of peasants together ploughing a plot of paddy-field. This scene indicated that the first step on the road of collective farming had been taken. When we left there this time, the peasants were busily cultivating the land, tending lime kilns, collecting manure and carrying on a wide range of activities. They work with confidence that, guided by the Communist Party and Chairman Mao Tse-tung, by tapping the advantages of the people's commune system and putting their collective strength to best use, they will gain new and greater victories in the years to come.

SIDELIGHTS

Teachers and Pupils. "Twenty years ago, you were my teacher. You are my teacher now and it is certain that in the future you will continue to be my teacher." This was Chairman Mao's sincere and humble tribute to Comrade Hsu Teh-li on the latter's 60th birthday. The Chairman's teacher is 85 this year and still takes an active interest in all aspects of education. This tradition of enduring respect and honour from pupils is very alive today and widespread.

Professor Hsiung Ching-lai, 68, of the Miao national minority and a well-known mathematician and member of the Chinese Academy of Sciences, is another of the many old teachers who enjoy the esteem of distinguished men and women who were once their pupils. He has taught in a number of universities and among his many ex-students are Professor Yen Chi-tzu, Director of the Department of Technical Sciences of the Academy of Sciences and Vice-President of the University of Science and Technology, and nuclear physicist Chao Chung-yao, both his pupils 40 years ago in Nanking. Professor Chien San-chiang, mathematician Hua Loken-geng, both famous scholars, and other eminent scientists still call Professor Hsiung their teacher. This is not simply a term of respect: master and pupils still meet regularly at the professor's home for discussions. Some of those taking part are pupils of his ex-pupils. These young people Professor Hsiung likes to regard as his scholastic "grandchildren."

Peacocks Bring Prosperity. This year of 1962 is the 1,323rd year in the Tai calendar and the 12th anniversary of the "peacocks" coming to Hsi-shuangpanna Tai Autonomous Chou in Yunnan Province. Last April 14, in Hsi-shuangpanna, was the Tai New Year, and the traditional "Water Splashing Festival" when everyone splashes everyone else with water. This is the way people here wish each other prosperity in the coming year. The olive-green "peacocks" came in for their full share of dousing. Who are these "peacocks"?

When the Tai people call anyone a "peacock" or a "golden phoenix" they mean he is a jolly good fellow, a man they can trust and love. In this case the "peacocks" are men of the People's Liberation Army. For the last dozen years they have been made the special targets at each water festival. The soldiers returned the good wishes splash for splash, but folks here say that they always give back more than they get! They have brought the people peace and prosperity, always giving a hand whenever there is work to be done, freely and unselfishly.

Chinese Newsreels. It's twenty to one that any cinema show today includes a newsreel or a documentary. These 10 to 30 minute newsreels or documentaries, short or full length, tell millions each week what is happening inside the country and outside it. Most of the studios set up over the past four years make documentaries but the chief nerve centre of film reportage in all its forms is the Central Newsreel and Documentary Film Studio in Peking. This puts out weekly *News Briefs*; each covers seven or more topics.

There is a frontline command post atmosphere about its office in the heart of Peking. It directs an army shooting with movie-cameras. They're on the spot wherever people are doing things, wherever victories are being won by men and women on the agricultural and industrial fronts. Every hour of the day brings in reports; orders go out for action to camera crews stationed across the country filming the history-making activities of 650 million busy people.

A lot happens each week in China and this calls for highly mobile cameramen: The meeting of the National People's Congress, the arrival

of important visitors, activities marking the 1,250th anniversary of the great poet Tu Fu's birth, and the recent national table tennis championships is just a sample from last week.

Weeks or months of patient and sometimes hazardous work may go into the making of a few minutes of celluloid news. One film group was at Sanmen Gorge for four years to shoot a documentary on the first stage of the building of the first great dam across the Yellow River. Another crew travelled five days and nights with a pack-horse train across some of the toughest trails of mountainous Yunnan Province. They were making a short feature on how industrial goods reach remote mountain villages.

More and more Chinese cameramen have taken their lenses abroad. Movie-goers from Peking to Khotan are enjoying travelogues produced by Chinese cameramen in Cuba, Ghana, Mali, Morocco and other countries. The documentary in colour *Horn of Africa* is a hit abroad too. Showing the progress made by the new Somali Republic, it carried off the "Africa" award last year at the IVth International African Film Festival held in Mogadishu. China is exchanging documentaries with Cuba, Guinea and a host of other countries.

Pedicab Driver and Painter. The life of a pedicab driver is not a dull one; he meets people and makes many friends. Most times the friendship is for the duration of the ride but sometimes it leads to more than that. And Cheng Chiang, who loves to paint and sketch when he is not propelling a pedicab through the streets of Canton, quite by accident, met Fang Jen-ting.

One day he happened to be chatting, as usual, to his fare and chanced to mention he paints after work, mostly in Chinese ink. His passenger who works at the Canton Academy of Chinese Painting was glad to find a fellow enthusiast and offered to introduce him to Fang Jen-ting, the well-known Cantonese painter.

Cheng and Fang became good friends and pedicabby and professional painter have spent many fruitful hours together studying the works of past masters or doing paintings of their own. The young painter says what progress he has made is due to his friend's coaching and a society that affords him leisure to paint.



In Memory of a Great Poet

Peking's meeting on April 17 to honour the memory of the poet Tu Fu was the highlight of activities that have been going on for weeks in this country in commemoration of the 1,250th anniversary of Tu Fu's birth. The World Peace Council chose the great eighth century Tang Dynasty poet as one of the world's outstanding cultural figures of the past to be honoured this year.

The Peking meeting, attended by 1,400 people from all walks of life, was chaired by the poet Kuo Mo-jo, President of the China Peace Committee and Chairman of the China Federation of Literary and Art Circles. In his opening speech, Kuo Mo-jo called Tu Fu "a poet of the people," and his poetry "a mirror of his time." Recalling the life and times of Tu Fu, and particularly his fifteen years of wandering and poverty before his death, he said, "Tu Fu shared the fate and sufferings of his country and people—this was the fundamental reason for his tremendous achievements as a poet."

Kuo Mo-jo drew attention to how Tu Fu has amassed a rich experience of life and learnt modestly from earlier poets and from folk song, skilfully using both the classical and vernacular language and blazing a new trail in poetry. "His verse is characterized by strict observance of the rules of poetry, expressiveness, vitality, a heroic spirit and a superb fusion of form and content."

Kuo Mo-jo also referred to the famous friendship between Tu Fu and Li Po, that other incomparable poet of Tang times. "Their position in Chinese poetry is like that of the Gemini in the sky which side by side shed an eternal radiance. Beyond doubt, both of them superbly fulfilled the task set them by their age."

The torch of poetry has passed into our hands, Kuo Mo-jo said and he urged China's poets today to work hard to create a new socialist poetry and literature and carry out the task set them as "writers of the new age."

The main address at the Peking meeting was delivered by Feng Chih, Professor of Peking University and author of the *Biography of Tu Fu*. He

dealt at length with Tu Fu's aspirations, the poet's attitude to life, his brilliant role in Chinese poetry and his times. Tremendous political enthusiasm was the soul of Tu Fu's poetry, he said. Tu Fu's poems vividly and truthfully mirrored the tremendous changes in political and military affairs as well as in the economic and social life of his time; they stand as eloquent testimony to the poet's progressive views on many important problems and comprise an accurate biography of their creator. The meeting ended with recitations of Tu Fu's poems by the well-known lutanist Cha Fu-hsi.

Tu Fu Documentary Film

Cinemagoers in Peking, Shanghai, Chengtu, Sian and other leading cities are seeing *The Poet Tu Fu* just released by Peking's Central Newsreel and Documentary Film Studio as part of the commemorative programme. It uses a montage of historical relics, paintings, pictures of the places associated with Tu Fu and his own poems to bring us closer, visually and in spirit, to the poet. Thanks to the work of our archaeologists during the last decade a great deal of new material is available in this field to illuminate the social background of the poet's times. We see screened the newly excavated remains of Changan, the ancient Tang capital, and the polo ground recently unearthed in the royal garden of the Ta Ming Kung Palace there. Paintings, with telling enlargements of details, show the extravagant, pleasure-loving and corrupt life of the court and aristocracy. Such incidental details as the ornate head-dresses worn by the imperial concubines, heavy with pearls and precious stones, or the silver ingots bigger than bricks presented by favour-seeking nobles to the imperial treasury, take on the significance of symbols of the profligacy of the doomed court of the Emperor Ming Huang.

Contemporary paintings point up the contrast between that life and the people's sufferings; the poverty, starvation and broken homes described by Tu Fu in such poems as *The Army Carts*, *The Hsinan Official*, *The Shihhao Official*, *The Official at*

Tungkuan, *Lament of the Newly-Wed Wife*, *The Old Man Returns to War* and *The Homeless*.

The cameramen have done a splendid job bringing us the magnificent scenery which so stirred the poet as he journeyed down the Grand Canal to the fertile lands south of the Yangtse or climbed Mount Tai to see the rest of the mountains dwarfed beneath him. We see the village where Tu Fu was born and passed his early childhood and the suburban Chengtu where, after years of wandering and sufferings, the ailing poet spent a few years of tranquillity with his wife and children. The visual images of the film are reinforced by the classical music rendered on national instruments and the music of Tu Fu's own immortal lines finely recited in traditional style by a living poet.

"In 770, a brilliant star fell." There is an immense sadness as a small boat sailing on the Milo River, just such a one as that in which the poet is thought to have passed his last moments, gradually moves away from the shore into the distance. In the next sequence the camera takes you back to Chengtu to the "thatched hut" (only so in name, but in reality today a lovely commemorative building modelled in classical style). Chairman Mao Tse-tung, Chairman Liu Shao-chi and other government leaders on visits are seen attentively turning the pages of some rare editions of Tu Fu's poetry. On the walls are hung, among others, inscriptions by Vice-Premier Chen Yi and the poet Kuo Mo-jo in praise of Tu Fu. It is a little scene indicative of the unprecedented esteem in which Tu Fu is held in the land now truly ruled by its people.

Thatched Hut at Chengtu

In preparation for the anniversary celebrations this year, Tu Fu's "thatched hut" was thoroughly renovated—for the sixth time since it was rebuilt and extended in 1955.

Tu Fu built this lodge by the Wan Hua Chi (Flower Washing Stream) on the western outskirts of Chengtu, Szechuan, in the spring of 760. He wrote more than 200 poems in the four years he lived here. In Tu Fu's day, this was a wild stretch of country with few houses, trees or flowers. In 1955, the People's Government built the Tu Fu Memorial Hall on the old site of the thatched hut. Today the whole area thickly planted with

flowers and shade trees, has become a Chengtu beauty spot.

The vermilion columns of the central building of the Memorial Hall, the Hall of the Poet-Historian, and the verandas linking it with the surrounding exhibition rooms shine through thick foliage. Pleasant paths have been laid through the flower beds. The stream on whose banks the poet composed so many of his oft-quoted lines, runs clear once more.

Since its establishment, the Memorial Hall has become the main repository of Tu Fu relics in China. The more than 2,200 exhibits include various editions of Tu Fu's poems, the oldest being a hand-copied volume over a thousand years old, and also monographs and studies on the poet's works. One section shows Tu Fu's poems published abroad in 14 different languages. His poetry is treasured as part of the literary heritage of the world.

On April 12, Chengtu poets, writers and artists gathered at the "thatched hut" to celebrate Tu Fu's birthday. A poem written and recited then by the poet Ke Pi-chou, contains the lines:

*Outside the garden, mansions with
ten thousand rooms have risen
—the ideal of poor scholars
through the ages.*

He was referring to Tu Fu's poem, *My Thatched Hut Is Wrecked by the Autumn Wind*, the last stanza of which reads:

*Oh, for a great mansion with ten
thousand rooms
Where all the poor on earth could
find welcome shelter,
Steady through every storm,
secure as a mountain!
Ah, were such a building to spring
up before me,
I would freeze to death in my
wrecked hut well content.*

Nationwide Commemoration

There have been similar meetings all over China these days. Those of particular interest were the ones held in Sian, Shensi, where the Tang capital Changan was located, in Loyang, Honan, where Tu Fu spent most of his childhood and youth, and then, of course, in Kunghsien, Honan, where the poet was born and through the ages has been spoken of as the greatest pride of the county. In the Children's Palace in Peking, school-boys and girls heard talks on Tu Fu,



Painting by Chu Mei-tsun inspired by Tu Fu's poem "The Shihhao Official," the first few lines of which read:

*At dusk I found a lodging in Shihhao Village,
At night there came an officer to seize conscripts;
My old host climbed the wall and got away
While his old wife went to the gate.
Fiercely the officer raged at her,
And bitterly she cried. . . .*

They make an early acquaintance with his poems in their readers. The daily children's programme on the radio has helped to make the new generation Tu Fu conscious. They all know that Tu Fu was a most studious boy who also loved to play:

*I remember I was still a child in
heart at fifteen
A sturdy calf in my comings and
goings.
In the eighth month the pears
and dates in the courtyard ripen
I would climb the trees a thousand
times a day.*

Never has Tu Fu been so close to the people of China.

SPORTS

1962 National Table Tennis Championships

At the national championships held last week, the world champion Chuang Tse-tung and China's national champion Li Fu-jung both were defeated by young unseeded players in the men's singles. Yang Jui-hua is the new national men's singles champion. Chiu Chung-hui only just managed to retain her national singles title. The championships, held in Nanchang (Kiangsi Province) from April 17 to 20, were a field day for China's table tennis newcomers — and the handshake grip. Li Fu-jung and Wang Chia-sheng won the men's doubles, Cheng Ming-chih and Lin Hsi-meng won the women's doubles and Hu Tao-pen and

Liang Li-chen carried off the mixed doubles title.

Of the new champions, only Yang Jui-hua, Chiu Chung-hui and Li Fu-jung are well known at home and abroad. The others are some of the many talented young players who hit the headlines for the first time during these championships. This well illustrates the progress of table tennis in China over the past year. In the men's singles, world-famous players such as Chuang Tse-tung, Li Fu-jung and Chang Hsieh-lin were eliminated by practically unknown players. Another notable feature of the championships was the success of an unusually large number of young players using the handshake grip with new offensive tactics. World champion Chuang Tse-tung was one who went down to a player using this grip. He was defeated 1:3 by Wang Chih-liang in the quarter-finals (11:21, 12:21, 21:19 and 16:21). But not all the upsets in the championships were caused by these players. Last year's national singles champion Li Fu-jung was beaten at his own game with the penholder grip by Li Shu-shen, one of the many "dark horses" at these championships.

Seeded players in the women's singles had an equally difficult time with the newcomers. By the time of the semi-finals only Chiu Chung-hui, the world women's singles champion, remained of the eight seeds. She managed to retain her title but only after some very narrow escapes. On several occasions she was forced to gruelling five-set matches.

Chairman Mao Receives Brazilian Guests



Chairman Mao Tse-tung, on April 18, had a cordial talk with Alexina de Paula, wife of Francisco Juliao, President of the Peasants' League of Northeastern Brazil, and her two daughters.

Sino-Soviet Trade and Economic Co-operation

A protocol on exchange of goods in 1962 was signed in Peking last week between China and the Soviet Union. Under the protocol, China will supply the Soviet Union with non-ferrous ores, tin, mercury, wool, woollen and silk fabrics, ready-made clothing, knitwear and handicraft art products. The Soviet Union will provide China with rolled steel and rolled non-ferrous metals, lorries, various kinds of machinery and equipment, parts and accessories, oil products, chemicals and instruments.

The representatives of the Chinese and Soviet delegations, expressing great satisfaction with the results achieved, described these results as a new contribution enhancing the great, unbreakable and everlasting friendship between the Chinese and Soviet peoples and promoting the common advance of their national economies.

During their stay in China, members of the Soviet delegation were received

The Brazilian visitors arrived in China on April 6 as guests of the China-Latin America Friendship Association, whose President Chu Tu-nan gave them a warm welcome at a banquet. They are continuing their touring in China.

by Premier Chou En-lai and had a cordial talk with him. They visited factories, rural people's communes and other places of interest in Peking and Tientsin.

A banquet, attended by Vice-Premiers Li Hsien-nien and Hsi Chung-hsun, and the Soviet Ambassador S.V. Chervonenko, was given by the Chinese Minister of Foreign Trade Yeh Chi-chuang to celebrate the signing of the protocol.

Chinese-Japanese Peoples' Solidarity

In the struggle against their common enemy — U.S. imperialism, the Chinese and Japanese peoples have always given each other steadfast support. This support was reaffirmed at a mass rally held recently in Peking to welcome the visiting Japanese delegation of the Fukuoka Council for Joint Struggle Against the U.S.-Japan "Security Treaty."

The people of Fukuoka prefecture play a leading part in the Japanese people's just and patriotic struggle

against U.S. imperialism and for independence, democracy and peace. Fukuoka has seen some of the most impressive mass demonstrations in this struggle. On March 25 this year, carrying the slogans: "Quit the base!" and "Americans, go home!" 100,000 demonstrators surrounded the big U.S. airbase at Itazuke near Fukuoka in Kyushu. The world-noted 300-day Miike coalminers' strike also took place there.

Liao Cheng-chih, Chairman of the Chinese Committee for Afro-Asian Solidarity and Vice-Chairman of the China Peace Committee, speaking at the rally, called on the Chinese and Japanese peoples to unite still more closely in the struggle against the forces of war led by U.S. imperialism, to safeguard Asian and world peace and promote the friendship between the Chinese and Japanese peoples.

Ichitaro Komiya, head of the Japanese delegation, having addressed the rally, read a letter to the Chinese people from the March 25 Kyushu mass rally against U.S. military bases. It pointed out that it is becoming increasingly obvious that the new U.S.-Japan "Security Treaty" has prolonged U.S. occupation of Japan. The guns on Itazuke base are directed at their brothers of the Soviet Union, China, Viet Nam, Laos and Korea who are fighting for justice. "We will not help imperialism in its cruel war of aggression against our Asian brothers," the letter declared.

At Soviet Komsomol Congress

Addressing the recent 14th Congress of the Leninist Young Communist League of the Soviet Union in Moscow, Yang Hai-po, head of the Chinese Communist Youth League delegation, Member of the Secretariat of the Central Committee of the Chinese C.Y.L., stressed that the rich experience of the Soviet people and youth in their revolution and construction are the common treasury of the peoples and youth of all countries. "China's youth never forget the teachings of the Chinese Communist Party: Always learn from the advanced experience of the Soviet Union from which we have received such great inspiration," he declared.

He also pledged that the Chinese youth will, as in the past, continue to do their utmost to defend and

strengthen the solidarity between China and the Soviet Union and the solidarity of the entire socialist camp.

Asia-Africa Society Formed

The Asia-Africa Society of China has just been formed in Peking. It aims to promote academic research into the political and economic affairs, history, philosophy, languages, literature, the arts, religion and social conditions of the Asian and African countries. It will also increase cultural and academic exchanges between China and these countries.

Warmly greeting the founding of the society, Vice-Premier Chen Yi noted the increasingly important role

which the Asian and African countries are playing in international affairs. It is essential, he said, for us in China to have a better knowledge of these countries with their ancient cultures, and to develop cultural and academic relations between China and the other lands on the two continents.

The society has a present enrolment of over 500 members living in various parts of China.

Cultural News

The 1962 plan for the implementation of the cultural co-operation agreement between China and Bulgaria was signed on April 18, in Sofia.

Chairman Liu Shao-chi has made a gift of a documentary film in colour to the King and Queen of Nepal. The film records the tour of China made by Their Majesties in October last year.

Meetings were held recently at Moscow, Tirana and Ulan Bator to celebrate the 1,250th anniversary of the birth of the great Chinese poet Tu Fu of Tang times.

In Tokyo, a Japanese translation of the poems of Tu Fu has been published in four volumes. The newspaper *Akahata* carried an article written by a Japanese poet commemorating Tu Fu's life and work.

WHAT'S ON IN PEKING

HIGHLIGHTS OF CURRENT ENTERTAINMENT, EXHIBITIONS, ETC.

The following programme scheduled for the coming week is subject to change.

PEKING OPERA

▲ **MEETING OF HEROES, BORROWING THE EAST WIND AND HUA YUNG PASS** Three exploits of the celebrated strategist Chuko Liang from the *Romance of the Three Kingdoms*. China Peking Opera Theatre.

▲ **MONKEY SUN SUBDUES THE WHITE BONE GHOST** An episode from *Pilgrimage to the West*. Monkey Sun Wu-kung defeats the crafty schemes of the demon who seeks to devour his master. The Youth Peking Opera Troupe.

▲ **SHE SAI-HUA** Tsui Lung and Yang Chi-yeh fight for the hand of beautiful She Sai-hua. The lady, however, has already given her heart to the latter, but it is only after many adventures that the two are wed. Shang Hsiao-yun Peking Opera Troupe.

PINGJU OPERA

▲ **CHIN HSIANG-LIEN** A Sung Dynasty story. An ambitious scholar, after gaining wealth and position, tries to murder his wife and children, obstacles to a new advantageous marriage. He is brought to justice by Pao Cheng, a just magistrate. China Pingju Opera Theatre.

KUNQU OPERA

▲ **THE CHAIN SCHEME** An episode from the *Romance of the Three Kingdoms*. In the latter part of the Han Dynasty, Prime Minister Tung Cho tries to usurp the throne. To save the Han Dynasty, Minister of the Treasury Wang Yun devises a plan to turn the faithful retainer, Lu Pu, against his master Tung Cho. He promises that the beautiful Lady Cicada shall marry Lu Pu, but actually marries her to Tung Cho. The scheme works: Lu Pu in his jealousy kills his evil master. North Kunqu Opera Theatre.

QUYI OPERA

▲ **YI HO TUAN** A new historical *quyi* opera about the patriotic anti-imperialist uprising in 1900. Peking Quyí Opera Theatre.

MODERN OPERA

▲ **THE CLOTH SELLER** (*Arshin Mal Alan*) A comic opera by the famous Azerbaijan playwright, Uzer Gadjibekov, produced by the Central Opera and Dance-Drama Theatre. A wealthy Azerbaijan youth disguises himself as a wandering cloth seller and so succeeds in finding and marrying the bride of his own choice.

DANCE-DRAMA

▲ **THE MAGIC LOTUS LANTERN** Based on a Chinese fairy tale. How a brave warrior,

son of the Nymph of Mt. Huashan, defeats his intolerant uncle in combat and sets his mother free. Central Opera and Dance-Drama Theatre.

SONG AND DANCE

The Central Song and Dance Ensemble presents: *Folk dances of the Uighurs, Koreans, Tibetans and other nationalities.

*Vocal and instrumental solos.

CONCERTS

May 1 At Peking Concert Hall

The Central Philharmonic Symphony Orchestra presents:

Tchaikovsky: Symphony No. 5

Ho Chan-hao and Chan Kang: Concerto for Violin and Orchestra—*The Butterfly Lovers*

Violinist: Szutu Hua-cheng

Conductor: Han Chung-chieh

May 2 At Peking Concert Hall

The chorus of the Central Philharmonic Society presents excerpts from Chinese and foreign operas.

MODERN DRAMA

▲ **THE WRATH OF THE HUOYEN MOUNTAIN** A new play by Burhan Shahidi, a Uighur writer, based on a heroic Uighur peasant uprising in 1913. Though the uprising is defeated the unbreakable friendship formed during the struggle between the Hans and Uighurs will last for ever. The Central Experimental Modern Drama Theatre.

▲ **THE MAGIC ASTER** Adapted from an ancient fairy tale. The magic aster of the valley falls in love with a girl and they live happily. Envious of their happy life, the girl's wicked sister, who wants to take her place, kills her. But the good animals of the valley, the birds, monkeys and squirrels help to put things to rights. China Children's Theatre.

▲ **PRINCESS WEN CHENG** A historical play by the noted contemporary playwright Tien Han. Emperor Tai Tsung of the Tang Dynasty consents to the marriage between Princess Wen Cheng and Tibetan king Sron-Tsan Gampo. Despite the plots of traitors, the Tibetan-Han union is consummated and fraternal ties strengthened between the two nationalities. China Youth Art Theatre.

FILMS

▲ **A GIRL CLOUD WATCHER** Adapted from a short story by Li Chun. After a short period of training in meteorology a

peasant girl is appointed weatherman of her commune. The film tells of her battle against conservative ideas and the success of her work in the end. Peking Studio.

▲ **THE POET TU FU** A full-length documentary commemorating the 1,250th anniversary of the birth of the great Tang Dynasty poet. The social background of Tu Fu's age is shown in relics of the time and paintings. We see scenes of the places where he lived and worked. His deep concern for the people is manifested in his poems which are recited. Central Newsreel and Documentary Film Studio.

▲ **THE ULYANOV FAMILY** A Soviet feature film about the boyhood of Lenin.

▲ **RED SHOES** A British colour film about the tragic fate of a talented ballerina caught in the toils of the bourgeois commercial theatre. In English with Chinese subtitles.

EXHIBITIONS

▲ **EXHIBITION OF PHOTOGRAPHY COMMEMORATING THE 92ND ANNIVERSARY OF LENIN'S BIRTH** Daily, 9:00 a.m.-5:00 p.m. At Beihai Park.

▲ **SHANGHAI INDUSTRIAL AND APPLIED ART EXHIBITION** Daily, 9:00 a.m.-5:00 p.m. till May 13. At Artists' Union Gallery.

(Above exhibitions closed on Mondays.)

OUTINGS

This is the season for outings. Fish, boat or saunter among the blossoming trees in Peking's playgrounds: Summer Palace, Zhongshan, Beihai, Shih Cha Hai and Tao Ran Ting Parks. Visit the lovely temples and beauty spots; see the villas of Hsiangshan (Fragrance Hill) and climb the Western Hills on Peking's western outskirts.

SWIMMING

The swimming pool of the Peking Workers' Gymnasium is open to the public.

Tues.-Sat. 12:00 a.m.-2:00 p.m.

3:00-5:00 p.m.

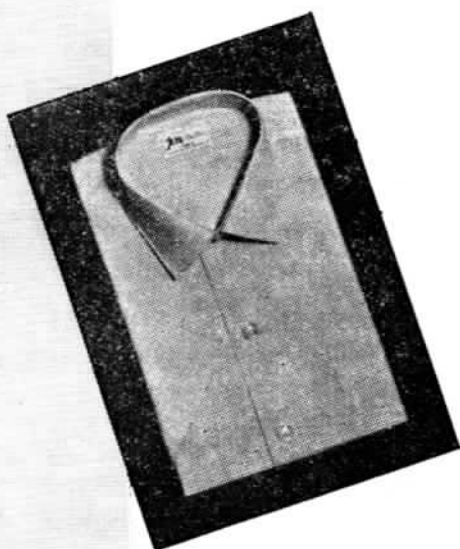
6:30-8:00 p.m.

Sun. 12:00 a.m.-2:00 p.m.

3:00-5:00 p.m.



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