

People's 人民中国 China

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A Mosquito and the Fortress of Peace

American State Secretary Dean Acheson, spokesman of the world camp for war, has recently been unusually talkative and has not lost any chance to impress his audience with his great concern over the Far East. On March 15, he again spoke about "U.S. Policy towards Asia."

This speech, like all his previous ones, is full of slander and hypocrisy. Yet, unexpectedly, we came across one thing in it with which we fully agree. That is, that "actions have always spoken louder than words."

All right, let us judge the American imperialists and their intentions not by what they have said, but by what they have done in China and the rest of Asia.

In his first main point, Acheson tries to make out that the American government is an "old friend" of the Chinese people and that the latter are foolish in brushing aside such an "established friendship." Unfortunately, however, none of the 475,000,000 Chinese people can recall the "friendship" of this "old friend."

To the contrary, what quickly comes to mind is the disastrous picture of the unprecedentedly cruel civil war which the American imperialists thrust upon China in 1946. Thousands upon thousands of Chinese remember well how their families or friends were slaughtered by weapons marked 'Made in U.S.A.' And when Acheson brags about American 'aid' to China, the Chinese are only reminded of the series of traitorous treaties by which Chiang Kai-shek sold their national sovereignty, bit by bit, to Wall Street. It was under the cover of such 'aid' that the Sino-American Co-operation Organization was set up to teach Chiang's gestapo more efficient methods of torturing and murdering Chinese patriots. Even at this very moment, retired Admiral Charles M. Cooke Jr., former commander of the U.S. naval forces in the Western Pacific, and Major General Dennis, of the U.S. Air Force, are personally directing the KMT air assaults on Chinese cities. Hundreds of thousands of Chinese living in coastal cities are constantly reminded of their "old friends" by the hateful sound of American planes overhead and the explosion of American bombs.

These are the American deeds that speak so much louder than Acheson's words. Such acts have proved that the greater the 'aid' the worse for those who receive it. Only by "brushing aside" this sort of friendship, only by taking up arms to rid themselves of its far-reaching tentacles, were the Chinese people finally able to achieve real independence and win the chance to build a new life for themselves.

In his speech of March 15, Acheson also tries in every way to make people believe that the

American government favours national independence for the colonial peoples of Southeast Asia, whereas the "major threat" to such aims comes from the Soviet Union.

But this is also a question of simple fact. Can Mr. Acheson, we wonder, point to any nation in Southeast Asia that belongs to the Soviet Union? What high school student does not know that it is Britain, France, the Netherlands and the United States who have stationed troops throughout the Far East to protect their imperialist interests?

Mr. Acheson said that his government did not want "to take anything from Asia." Well, who seized the Philippines in 1898 as its colony and still controls it politically, economically and militarily? Who is brutally suppressing the people of southern Korea? Who rules Japan today with the iron hand of a dictator?

Acheson declared that the policy of the U.S. towards the Asian nations was to "assist free peoples to work out their own destinies." But, as everybody can see, American 'aid' is going exclusively to Quirino, Bao Dai, Syngman Rhee and such puppets of Wall Street who are playing the same role as Chiang Kai-shek.

In addition to preparing these 'aid' programs, Washington has recently been especially busy strengthening its military position in the Far East. In February, for instance, the American Joint Chiefs of Staff personally inspected U.S. bases in the Pacific and conferred at length with General MacArthur in Tokyo. Only two days prior to Acheson's speech, the U.S. Navy announced that a fourth carrier division would soon be set up in the Pacific. On the day after Acheson's speech, Admiral Berkeley, of the U.S. Seventh Fleet, arrived at Saigon with two of his warships for a 'courtesy visit.' Seventy-one fighter planes from the carrier Boxer added to the 'impressiveness' of the occasion by flying low over Saigon, an act which the *Associated Press* interpreted as "a declaration of U.S. interest in Southeast Asia" that was designed "to bolster the 'face' of Bao Dai's Viet-Nam government." Moreover, according to official announcements, British and American naval units are planning to hold joint manoeuvres off the coast of the Philippines. And Washington is scheduled to turn over 51 fighter planes to the Quirino government before the end of March.

Just what is the purpose of such acts? We wonder if Acheson can explain them in terms of his beautiful-sounding policy to "assist free peoples to work out their own destinies."

Glancing over the world situation today, we find there are some very good reasons why Acheson has been so unusually talkative about the Far East late-

ly and why he is showing such inordinate fondness for telling lies.

The world camp for war, headed by American imperialism, met with a number of crushing defeats in 1949, both on its western and eastern fronts. In the West, its greatest defeat of the year was the establishment of the People's Republic of Germany which, as Stalin said, "together with the existence of the peace-loving Soviet Union, precludes the possibility of new wars in Europe, puts an end to bloodshed in Europe and makes impossible the enslavement of European countries by the world imperialists." In the East, the founding of the People's Republic of China has made it impossible for the American imperialists to use China as a base for aggressive war. These historic events were recently climaxed by the signing of the Sino-Soviet Treaty of Friendship, Alliance and Mutual Assistance, which proclaimed the indestructible unity of 700,000,000 people in their defence of world peace.

We Are Fully Mobilized for Peace

Delegates from more than 50 nations gathered at Stockholm on March 15 for the third session of the Permanent Committee of the World Congress for Peace to hear reports on the great and heroic efforts which the people they represent have made in the defence of peace. Since the Permanent Committee last met at Rome, another 19 countries have convened Peace Congresses. Millions of new recruits have actively joined the world peace camp, making their irresistible force felt from one end of the earth to the other. As Jean Laffitte, General Secretary of the Permanent Committee, said in his report to the Stockholm conference: "Never in the annals of human endeavour has the fervour of any movement attained such heights as the present movement for peace!"

The Stockholm conference crystallizes the sentiments of countless millions the world over and flings at the imperialist war-mongers such a mighty challenge as has never been witnessed before.

The victory of the Chinese people's revolution has dealt a shattering blow to the American imperialists' schemes for aggression and war in the Far East. But up until now, the enemy has shown no signs of admitting defeat. The planes and bombs which are used almost daily to massacre the Chinese people in Shanghai and other coastal cities bear the 'Made in U.S.A.' trade mark beneath their KMT insignia. MacArthur, in defiance of world opinion, is intent on freeing the Japanese war criminals. Large quantities of war materials and many spies are being sent to countries bordering on China — to South Korea, the Philippines, Siam and French-occupied Viet-Nam.

Such world-shaking developments are bound to have immediate repercussions everywhere, and especially in Southeast Asia where strong movements for national independence have grown up. Need one be surprised, under such circumstances, at the sight of the imperialists using every trick in the bag to intimidate and deceive the colonial peoples?

As a matter of fact, it is really hard to imagine what else the harrassed Mr. Acheson can do but bluster, threaten and lie as he has been doing. He hopes by this means to disrupt the great alliance between China and the Soviet Union, to weaken the world's forces for peace and to dupe some credulous people with not much direct experience in dealings with Washington. But, as Premier Chou En-lai pointed out, the laborious efforts of this veteran lawyer only remind one of "a mosquito trying to shatter the fortress of world peace."

These unconcealed acts of aggression on the part of the U.S. imperialists not only threaten the peaceful reconstruction of China, but also seriously menace the entire Far East and the whole world.

In the face of these threats, the Chinese people, through their delegates at the Stockholm conference, have demonstrated their unanimous determination to defend world peace side by side with the people of other countries. The Chinese people stand prepared to mobilize their full strength to combat the heinous acts of aggression which the U.S. expansionists are now committing.

The Chinese people are confident that before long, the PLA will liberate Taiwan, Hainan and Tibet, thus completing the liberation of the whole country. They are confident in their ability to build New Democratic China into a bastion of world peace. They will strive for an early peace settlement with Japan and the withdrawal of America's aggressive forces from all Asian countries, so that Asian affairs may be handled by the Asian people themselves.

These are large and difficult tasks. But in the days when their strength was far from what it is today, the Chinese people were able to throw off the Japanese yoke and that of Chiang Kai-shek's American-supported regime. Now when they have become masters of their own country, when they are allied with and aided by the Soviet Union, and when the world peace camp is more powerful than ever before, nothing can prevent the Chinese people from making these positive, direct and concrete contributions to the cause of world peace.

Foreign Minister Chou En-lai's Statement On Acheson's Speech

Dean Acheson, Secretary of the U.S. State Department, made another long speech about Asia on March 15. The aim of Acheson's incessant speeches and remarks recently is to dupe some people who still lack experience of America's aggressive policy. But in the light of the facts, Acheson's words can be clearly seen to be distortions.

In his March 15 speech Acheson said that America does not "want to take anything" from the Asian peoples and does not "want to deny them any opportunity, any freedom, any right." In reality, America not only acquired the Philippines and numerous strategic Pacific islands fifty years ago and seized control over Japan and South Korea after World War II, but is also attempting to control China, Indonesia, Viet-Nam, Thailand, Burma and India. The whole world knows that the U.S. government, in its attempt to annex China, has supported Chiang Kai-shek in waging large-scale civil war, denying the Chinese people any opportunity, freedom or right to live in independence and peace. Up to this moment the U.S. government is still supplying the Chiang Kai-shek brigands with planes to bomb the mainland of China. Is this not a fact?

The United States is employing similar methods to support the puppets Bao Dai, Syngman Rhee and Quirino in undermining the national independence movements of the Democratic Republic of Viet-Nam, of South Korea and of the Philippines. However, Acheson declares that the United States "supports" the movements for national independence of the Asian peoples. Is this not turning facts upside down?

Acheson says to the Chinese people: Why don't you ask for American "aid"? America wants so much to "aid" you!

But from their personal experience, the Chinese people have realized what American so-called "aid" means. It means death for millions. It means the loss of national free-

dom and rights. Since the Chinese rid themselves of American "aid," things have gone well for China and she has really become independent.

This is a useful lesson for the people of the whole world, especially for the people of the colonies and semi-colonies in Asia who have been selected or are being selected by American imperialism as objects of aggression.

Acheson continued trying to disrupt the great alliance recently contracted between China and the Soviet Union. But anyone with a little common sense knows that his contemptible fabrications and slanders are like a mosquito trying to shatter the fortress of world peace.

Did Acheson not declare on January 12 that the Soviet Union was "detaching" the four great northern areas of China? Why did he not dare to mention it again in his March 15 speech? Only one prospect faces rumour-mongers — utter bankruptcy. Acheson threatens: The signing of an alliance of equality and friendship between the Chinese people and the Soviet Union — brushing aside the "established friendship" of the American aggressors — is "hostile to the interests of the U.S." He also threatens that China must not concern herself with Asian affairs, on pain of violating "not only every tradition and interest of the Chinese people" and "the traditions and interests of their Asian neighbours, of the American people, and — indeed — of all free peoples," but also of violating "the U.N. Charter." I think I must tell Acheson on behalf of the biggest nation in Asia and of her people that these ridiculous threats are already anachronisms. Cool down and look at the map! The affairs of the Asian peoples must be settled by the Asian peoples themselves, and must never be interfered with by such American imperialists as Acheson and company on the other side of the Pacific Ocean!

China's Policy on National Minorities

Weng Tu-chien

The People's Republic of China is a country of multiple nationalities. This is the outgrowth of the historical development of the past several thousand years.

Although 95 per cent of the 475,000,000 Chinese population are the Han people, the national minorities, which comprise only five per cent of the total population, however hold a rather special and significant position. It is because they are numerous in race and living in extensive areas throughout the country.

In Northwest China, there are 13 different races, namely: Uighur, Uzbek, Kazakh, Mongol, Tungan, Tartar, Kirgiz, Tadzhik, Han, Manchu, Hsi-po, Russian, and Solon in Sinkiang province alone; while in Ninghsia, Chinghai and Kansu provinces, there are many Moslem, Mongol and Tibetan peoples. In Southwest China, besides the Tibetans, there are 30 to 40 different national minorities, great and small. The more widely known of these are the Miao, Yi, Lolo and Yao. In the southern and southeastern parts of China, there are the Li people on Hainan Island; the Kaoshan people on Taiwan and the She and Tan peoples in Fukien and Kwangtung provinces. In the northern and northeastern parts of China, there are the Mongol people and many tribes of the Tungus people. Besides, scattered throughout all the inland provinces are many Moslems.

The above is only a simple list of the national minorities. But already one can perceive from it the complex situation arising from the many national minorities. As these nationalities have had their long periods of development, consequently they all have their own histories as well as cultures and traditions of their own.

The inter-relationship among all the nationalities in the past has been none too harmonious. Due to the incorrect national policy of the former ruling classes, the national minorities were often discriminated against and oppressed. Therefore, there was a strong sense of hostility among the nationalities which often displayed itself in very cruel forms.

We need not go far back into history for examples. It is enough to look at the recent hundred years. The Manchu Dynasty repeatedly oppressed and massacred the national minorities in Northeast and Southwest China. After the Revolution of 1911, the reactionary Northern Warlord government and

the KMT regime were no better than the Manchu rulers in their policies and measures towards the national minorities. Their thoughts were dominated by Pan-Hanism and narrow nationalism. Therefore these rulers not only failed to solve the problem of national minorities, but even sharpened the enmity among them.

Increasingly in recent years, the Chinese national minorities have suffered the utmost oppression, both direct and indirect, from the imperialists and their lackeys, the KMT reactionaries. In addition, the labouring people among them were crushed under the feudal practices of their own ruling classes. That was the prevailing situation among the national minorities until very recently.

Today, the liberation of all China has been basically completed. The People's Republic of China has been formally established. The position of the national minorities within the country is entirely different from that of the past. The problem that for so many years was unsolvable has been fundamentally solved.

The Common Program, adopted by the First Plenary Session of the Chinese People's PCC on September 29, 1949, clearly set forth the national policy. In Article 9 of the Common Program it is clearly stated: "All nationalities in the People's Republic of China shall have equal rights and duties."

Premier Chou En-lai summed up the basic spirit and content of these articles in his "Report concerning the Drafting Processes and the Features of the Common Program." He said: "The fundamental spirit of the New Democratic national policy is to transform the People's Republic of China into a large fraternal and co-operative family composed of all its nationalities. The Chinese people must oppose their public enemies at home as well as foreign imperialism. In the big family of all nationalities, they must also constantly oppose the tendencies of Greater Nationalism and chauvinism. Furthermore, the Common Program has provided that the national minorities shall have regional autonomy and the right to arm themselves, and that their religious beliefs shall be respected." At the present stage, the Common Program is the nation's guide to action. This concrete and correct policy regarding the national minorities serves as a foundation upon which the national problem can be thoroughly settled.

This policy is by no means the outcome of arm-chair theorizing. It is the conclusion reached by the Chinese Communist Party and Chairman Mao Tse-tung, with the aid of the universal truth of Marxism-Leninism and the theories on the national question

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so brilliantly developed by Stalin. It is closely linked with the objective conditions in China today, and has evolved from a long period of experience and struggle.

As early as October, 1938, Chairman Mao made a report at the enlarged Sixth Congress of the Chinese Communist Party concerning the need to unite all Chinese nationalities against Japan. He said: "Our united front to resist Japan does not only concern parties, groups and classes, but also concerns all the nationalities in the country. In view of the enemy's scheme to split the national minorities in the country which they have put into effect and are now trying to expand further, the 13th item of our present task is to unite all nationalities and to fight together with them against the Japanese. For this purpose, attention must be paid to the following points: (1) The Mongols, Moslems, Tibetans, Miaos, Yis and Fans have equal rights with the Hans. In the common struggle against Japan, they shall have the right to handle their own affairs and at the same time to unite with the Hans in building a unified country. (2) In areas where the national minorities and the Han people live together, the regional governments should set up committees composed of the peoples of the national minorities as part of the provincial and county governments to attend to affairs concerning them and to adjust the relationships among the various nationalities. Each of the different nationalities shall have a number of posts in the provincial and county governments. (3) The culture, religion and customs of the national minorities shall be respected. They must not be compelled to learn the Han spoken and written language, but shall be helped to develop

their culture and education in their own languages. (4) Existing Pan-Hanism must be corrected. The Han people, in their contact with national minorities, must be encouraged to regard them as equals, and must gradually attain a closer friendship with them. The Han people are strictly forbidden to insult or show contempt for the national minorities by any word or deed. The above policies can be realized on the one hand by the united efforts of the national minorities; and on the other hand, the governments should voluntarily put these policies into effect so that relationships among the various nationalities in our country can be improved and unity against foreign aggression will be achieved. The old methods of deception and oppression will no longer work."

In April, 1945, Chairman Mao in his well-known work *On Coalition Government* reaffirmed his policies in regard to the national minorities. He condemned the KMT's reactionary policy and conduct towards the national minorities. He pointed out the correctness of the policy which Dr. Sun Yat-sen outlined in the Manifesto of the First National Congress of the KMT (1924), namely, that all national minorities in China are equal and must have the right of self-determination; that a free and united Chinese Republic shall be formed with the voluntary consent of the various national minorities.

The Chinese Communist Party has not merely formulated a correct theoretical policy, it has enforced this policy. In 1939, a society for the study of national questions was set up in Yen-an. On August 13, 1940, the North Bureau of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of China promulgated the "Present Administrative Policy in the

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Policy Towards Nationalities

(Chapter VI, Common Program of the People's PCC).

ARTICLE 50 All nationalities within the boundaries of the People's Republic of China are equal. They shall establish unity and mutual aid among themselves, and shall oppose imperialism and their own public enemies, so that the People's Republic of China will become a big fraternal and co-operative family composed of all its nationalities. Greater Nationalism and chauvinism shall be opposed. Acts involving discrimination, oppression and splitting of the unity of the various nationalities shall be prohibited.

ARTICLE 51 Regional autonomy shall be exercised in areas where national minorities are concentrated and various kinds of autonomy organizations of the different nationalities shall be set up according to the size of the respective populations and regions. In places where different nationalities live together and in the

autonomous areas of the national minorities, the different nationalities shall each have an appropriate number of representatives in the local organs of political power.

ARTICLE 52 All national minorities within the boundaries of the People's Republic of China shall have the right to join the People's Liberation Army and to organize local people's public security forces in accordance with the unified military system of the state.

ARTICLE 53 All national minorities shall have freedom to develop their dialects and languages, to preserve or reform their traditions, customs and religious beliefs. The People's Government shall assist the masses of the people of all national minorities to develop their political, economic, cultural and educational construction work.

Northeast China Sets The Pace

Hsu Tsai-tang

Northeast China holds the key to the industrialization of all China. This vast area constitutes a test-tube in which policies and methods for industrialization are being worked out, following which they will be applied extensively throughout the country. In addition, the rest of China looks to Manchuria for the bulk of the machinery, steel and other industrial goods needed to mechanize production during the coming years.

Nature has lavishly endowed Northeast China with all the prerequisites for carrying out its vital role in China's development. In fact, this region — which is about the size of Germany, Italy and Japan combined — has all the potentialities for becoming the Ruhr of Asia and one of the major industrial centres of the world. Here lie rich coal deposits, estimated at 20 billion tons. Proved iron deposits are sufficient to turn out 500 million tons of pig-iron. Beds of gold ore, like the coal seams, are distributed almost everywhere in Manchuria. Tremendous deposits of magnesite, believed to be the largest in the world, are found in southwestern Manchuria. Shale-oil is available in considerable quantity, as well as some petroleum. Preliminary surveys have also disclosed that the area contains lead, zinc, copper, tin, aluminum, platinum, nickel, chrome, manganese, tungsten, molybdenum, phosphorus and many other minerals of great industrial importance.

Before the liberation of Northeast China, the region's gigantic industrial potential had never been rationally harnessed. The Japanese imperialists, who seized full control of the area in 1931, turned Manchuria into a colonial adjunct to Japan's home industry. They were not interested in long-term programs, required for the development of heavy industry, or in large capital investments at relatively low rates of profit. The Japanese capitalists, furthermore, were careful to squash any industrial development that might lead to eventual competition with their domestic industries.

After V-J Day, the KMT army took over most of the industrial sections of Manchuria, hotly followed by hordes of KMT bureaucrats intent solely upon lining their pockets as speedily as possible. These KMT carpet-baggers, sensing the briefness of their days in power, were not even interested in maintaining production at the level established by the Japanese. With no thought in their heads but how to make personal fortunes, the corrupt officials ripped up existing production facilities which came under KMT control and sold them piece-meal for whatever they were offered. Taxes on private industry were levied with the same rapacious hand,

and as a result, whatever industrial plants escaped outright dismantlement were generally taxed into bankruptcy.

Thus, when the people's government took over the task of reviving Manchuria's industry, it found itself confronted with an unevenly-developed colonial type of industrial structure that had been slashed and gutted by the KMT vandals. Industrial production in general had fallen to less than one-half of the 1944 level, the last full year under Japanese management, when industrial production had accounted for 59 per cent of the area's total production.

By 1949 — a little more than a year after the KMT had been expelled from the whole of Manchuria — the people's government had restored industry to the extent that it turned out 35 per cent of the region's total production. Low though this figure may seem, it provides a solid basis for further accelerating the restoration process and is far above the figure for China as a whole, where industrial production occupies only some ten per cent of the national output.

In tackling its Herculean economic tasks, the state fortunately had the advantage of directly controlling about six-sevenths of the area's industrial productive capacity, according to statistics compiled in 1949. This heavy proportion of state-owned industry can again be traced directly to Manchuria's earlier history, since the KMT government had kept most of the confiscated Japanese industry in its own hands, while at the same time ruining private industry with corrupt administrative practices. Therefore the people's government, which took over all the enterprises owned by the KMT government or by KMT bureaucratic capitalists, was in a strong position to guide and channel industrial production along lines of development most beneficial to the nation as a whole.

Here is a brief survey of some of the substantial economic gains which the Northeast People's Government has already achieved as a foundation for the huge task of industrializing the whole of China.

By the end of 1949, prices had become relatively stable; communications had been restored, permitting the resumption of trade between urban and rural areas, as well as between Northeast China and other sections of the nation; land reform had been completed, providing the basis for a sharp jump in agricultural production and increasing the purchasing power of the rural population; the wage system had been rationally adjusted, boosting the workers' purchasing power and giving them a greater incen-

tive to raise their output; the tax system had been revised with the aim of stimulating essential production and curbing production that was not essential to the national interests; and the Northeast government had wiped out its former large budgetary deficit and had balanced its revenues and expenditures.

A compilation of the latest available statistics from Northeast China gives an impressive picture of the rate at which industrial production is being restored. State-operated enterprises have shown the most rapid advances, for here the government's policies can be most thoroughly applied and the workers, realizing they are masters of their factories or mines in the most direct sense of the word, have the greatest incentive for increasing their output.

Coal production, a corner-stone for the whole restoration program, has reached 87 per cent of the peak 1944 output, when 25,300,000 tons were extracted. This figure has been achieved despite the tremendous KMT destruction of mines and the fact that today the coal mines are operating with 50 per cent less equipment than in 1944. To indicate the rapid rate at which the coal industry is forging ahead, it is sufficient to note that in 1948, total coal output was 5,000,000 tons; in 1949, nine state-run mines alone produced 9,000,000 tons, while mines operated by the provincial governments accounted for another 1,500,000 tons.

The iron and steel industry suffered heavily from KMT demolition squads when Chiang's armies faced defeat. Nevertheless, according to unofficial estimates, the 1949 output of pig-iron was 94,000 tons; of steel, including high-grade steel, 82,700 tons; and of steel plates, 89,000 tons.

As a Japanese colony, Manchuria had never been able to develop its own machine-tool industry, for this would have made its industry independent of the Japanese monopolists. After liberation, the people's government set up a Northeast China Machine Industries Control Board, which has prepared detailed blue-prints for developing this vital industry. Foremost emphasis in 1949 was placed on the manufacture of mining equipment and machine tools.

The Japanese capitalists did not develop non-ferrous industries until after the Pacific War broke out. The highest annual output for copper under the Japanese, for instance, has been estimated at 5,000 tons. Although many copper mines were utterly destroyed by the KMT, copper output is expected to reach 3,000 tons in 1950.

Great areas of Northeast China are covered with forests. The volume of standing trees has been estimated at 3,719,000,000 cubic metres. Japan's highest annual output of timber was 5,500,000 cubic metres. Under the Northeast government's control board for regulating the timber industry, the 1949 goal of cutting 3,500,000 cubic metres of timber was achieved. The 1950 program calls for the cutting of 4,090,000 cubic metres.

Private enterprise, as mentioned earlier, accounts for about one-sevenths of the industrial output in Manchuria. However, only a relative handful of the privately-owned factories are run on modern industrial lines. A survey in Mukden made in July, 1949 showed that of 9,727 private factories, 8,850 employed less than ten workers. Another survey made in Harbin revealed that only ten per cent of the private factories could be classed as modern industrial plants, and that these employed 25 per cent of the city's workers. Sixty-one per cent of the factories were handicraft workshops of a transitional nature which employed some machinery, and this category of firm employed 28 per cent of the workers.

In order to lay the groundwork for the introduction of modern production methods among this backward section of industry, the government has adopted various policies to encourage the amalgamation of small private enterprises into larger jointly-operated firms. This program has met with considerable favour among private businessmen, who can easily recognize the limitations of small-scale production. A typical amalgamation took place in Dairen when three private firms, the Ming Yuan Iron Workshop, the Tien Teh Machine Workshop, and the Ta Tung Trading Company, united to form one large jointly-operated corporation.

The government also encourages private firms to form joint enterprises with the government. For instance, the publicly-owned Harbin Enterprise Company interested a number of private leather goods firms in combining to form the Harbin Leather Goods Company, in which the public enterprise also participated. Similar firms under joint public and private management include the Harbin Timber Company, the Harbin Enamel Company and the Harbin Pencil Manufacturing Company.

As a result of steady improvement in production efficiency, the living standards of both the peasants and workers have already shown noticeable improvement. In 1949, a peasant could exchange his *kaoliang* (sorghum) crop for 200 per cent more cloth than in 1947, while the cloth he received was of higher quality than formerly. Workers' real wages have risen 75 per cent since 1947, and the salaries of technicians have increased 100 per cent in the same period. Women workers have obtained their right to equal pay for equal work, as well as adequate maternity leave with pay and other health safeguards.

Since last July when the Labour Insurance Program went into effect in state industrial enterprises, 550,000 workers and 1,500,000 family dependents have benefitted from this comprehensive plan which provides full health protection and retirement pensions. State-owned heavy industries have set aside a sum equal to 8.9 per cent of their total pay roll to cover medical treatment and wages

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First Year of the New Democratic Youth League

Feng Wen-pin

On New Year's Day, 1949, when China's revolution was within sight of nation-wide victory, the Central Committee of the Chinese Communist Party adopted a decision to establish the New Democratic Youth League of China. Preparations were then taken to create an organization that would become the nucleus for mobilizing China's youth, serving as both assistant and reserve strength of the Communist Party.

The first National League Congress was held in Peking in April, 1949. The Congress adopted the League's constitution and working programme, and it also elected its Central Committee. League membership was then roughly 190,000, but by the year's end, it had reached 1,217,075. Within this year, League branches had been established in all parts of China with units in factories, villages, schools and the armed forces.

In 1920, the great revolutionary teacher Lenin gave the Third All-Russian Congress of the Young Communist League the following valuable guidance: "... I must say that the tasks of youth in general, and of the Young Communist League and all other (youth) organizations in particular, may be summed up in one word: learn."

This is also the task of the New Democratic Youth League of China. League members, whether workers, peasants, students or soldiers, are constantly encouraged and helped to raise their political, cultural and technical levels through study.

League members in industry set models for others to follow and frequently establish new production records. In addition, they mobilize their fellow-workers to raise production and fulfil their production plans. They encourage other young workers to take an interest in political study, in raising their cultural level and in becoming highly skilled workers. In technical centres liberated some time ago, like Dairen and Antung in Northeast China, vocational courses set up by the Youth League have been expanded into regular technical schools.

In rural areas, League members help strengthen the production front and take an active part in the land reform movement directed against feudalism. They arouse the peasants' interest in raising their cultural level by, for instance, joining the winter study movement. They also help the peasants understand modern methods of farming.

In the armed forces, League members encourage the troops to raise their political and cultural levels and to master military science.

In the schools, League members have been very instrumental in helping other students reform themselves ideologically. Political instructors find League members helpful in arousing the students' interest in revolutionary theory. They also assist the school authorities in teaching the students how to combine theory and practice. Thus they help other students prepare themselves for the task of constructing a New Democratic China.

Under Youth League guidance, members in factories, mines, rural areas, schools, government offices and the armed forces have demonstrated their boundless loyalty to the people's cause. League members working in railway workshops or as technicians on railway lines have mobilized the workers to repair derelict locomotives in their spare time. Some such re-conditioned locomotives are named "Youth Special." League members at the mines have constantly improved their technique in the course of their work and have established many new production records. It may be noted here that it was a League member, Chao Kuo-yu, whose example gave rise to the New Record Movement. A



mechanic at the Mukden Machine Tool Factory, Chao Kuo-yu established a record of manufacturing a cone pulley in one hour 16 minutes, breaking the former Japanese record of four hours. Other outstanding Youth League members include tractor driver Liang Chun and locomotive driver Tien Kwei-ying — two girls who have pioneered new careers for Chinese women — and Kuo Yu-lan, a peasant woman who has been elected a "Labour Heroine" on several occasions.

League members working in the Tangshan mines joined in the area's flood-prevention work and relief work. In the course of this task, Hsin Pao-chih, a League member, bravely sacrificed his life trying to save some barrels of transformer oil from a flooded river. League members at the Chiangnan Dockyards in Shanghai ignored Chiang Kai-shek's American-made bombers to salvage equipment and materials during air raids. Thousands of the League members in urban centres have devoted their vacations and holidays to voluntary work on national reconstruction projects. The young generation represents a tremendous force in China's reconstruction programme, guaranteeing a brilliant future for a New China.

As it expanded, the Youth League increased the scope of its publicity educational work. Over 50 periodicals are now put out for China's youth in order to train them in Marxist-Leninist principles. *China's Youth*, organ of the Central Committee of the Youth League, is published fortnightly. The League's Central Committee has established a Youth Publishing House to provide other types of reading material for young men and women.

The system of setting aside a regular weekly 'League Day' is being universally adopted. This day is devoted to political study and to the exchange of criticism and encouragement among League members. 'League Day' activities are carried out in accordance with the essential task of a given period while also taking the ideological problems of its members into consideration. The League members are given suitable political education through such varied forms as lectures, songs, recitations, short plays, etc.

In order to provide a large number of young cadres for the youth movement, the League's Central Committee has founded a Central League School which will train cadres to handle the organization's work at all levels above the county. Many provinces and cities have similarly set up League Schools to train junior cadres.

Through the Organization of Pioneers, created by a resolution passed by the League's Central Committee last October, the Youth League helps mobilize and educate young people from nine to 15 years of age. Such Organizations of Pioneers are now being set up by the various League branches. By January,

1950, the Organizations of Pioneers in ten leading cities had a total membership of 100,750. They now have a publication of their own, *China's Children*, put out by the League's Central Committee.

The League is the nucleus around which China's youth are mobilized, and it unites the broad masses through meetings of the Youth Congress, discussion groups and other forms of assembly. The League helps young men and women to study by opening special cultural, vocational and technical schools or training courses and by giving various kinds of lectures. It also expands cultural, artistic, and athletic activities and offers mass entertainment to unite and educate young masses.

To strengthen its work in the cultural sphere, the Central Committee of the Youth League has founded an Arts College for Chinese Youth in Peking. Here the League hopes to train future literary artistic workers who can direct the activities of cultural and artistic troupes in all parts of China.

The New Democratic Youth League of China has united the nation's youth and, under the guidance of the World Federation of Democratic Youth, has actively participated in the anti-imperialist movement for democracy and peace. League representatives were among the delegates sent to attend the World Peace Congress in Europe last April. In August, the Youth League, together with the All-China Federation of Democratic Youth and the All-China Student Federation, sent a Youth Delegation, headed by Hsiao Hua, and a troupe of artistes to attend the Youth Festival which was held in Budapest, Hungary. It was also represented at the Second Congress later visited the U.S.S.R., Rumania, Czechoslovakia and Albania, where they received a warm welcome. All these festivals of international youth have been widely celebrated throughout China by means of rallies, lectures and exhibitions.

The Youth League trains its members and the broad masses of Chinese youth in the spirit of internationalism. A large number of youth have joined the Sino-Soviet Friendship Association and in many schools more than 90 per cent of the students are members of this association. These young people look to the Soviet Union and the People's Democracies for experience in national construction work; they want to understand the life of the people and the youth of the Soviet Union and the People's Democracies. The cadres and members of the New Democratic Youth League of China are eager to follow the example of the Komsomol, to learn from their valuable experiences, and to study their great spirit of patriotism and internationalism. These are the pressing desires of the members of the New Democratic Youth League of China and the broad masses of youth.

Soviet Literature in China

Tsao Ching-hua

Reactionary governments everywhere have always considered Marxist literature as dangerous as a hungry tiger or a rampant flood. The former reactionary governments in China were no exception. From the days of the Northern Warlords' rule down to Chiang Kai-shek's regime, Marxist literature had always been banned.



Lu Shun and Gorky

by Chen Yen-chiao

During the warlord period, all books were outlawed if they contained such forbidden words as Bolshevik, Marx, Lenin, etc. The Police Chief in Peking issued an order at that time stating: "Any book or newspaper with the characters Ma-k'e-size or Ma-erh-k'e-size (the Chinese name for Marx) in it must be prohibited." A subordinate asked him: "But aren't these both the name of the same person?" The Police Chief replied angrily:

"What a fool! Even if you are illiterate, can't you count? Don't you see that one name has three letters, the other has four? How can they be the name of the same person!"

Kuomintang officials were even more ridiculous. Around 1930 they banned all such words as Russia, Soviet, Marx, Lenin, Stalin, class, dialectical method, struggle, etc. They even banned *The Duel* by Chekhov, a story published in Tsarist Russia. According to the censors, if "struggle" was a dangerous word, then so was "duel."

Under the Kuomintang, publishers were prohibited by law from picturing a sickle or an ax on a bookcover. Similarly, it was not allowed to

bind books in red or black-and-red covers. This latter regulation was directed primarily at Lu Hsun, for he liked to have his books bound in these two colours—the red symbolizing revolution and the black representing steel.

As a result of such regulations, progressive Chinese writers and book publishers became adept at using many subterfuges. For instance, they would substitute Karl for Marx, Ilyich or Ulyanov for Lenin, Joseph for Stalin, and so forth. It soon became the standard practice for writers to replace the banned words with some more ambiguous equivalents. They also adopted the device of using symbols resembling the outlawed names. Later the censors simply cut out every single one of them, however cleverly designed.

Lu Hsun has vividly described Kuomintang censorship in letters to his friends. On February 2, 1935, he wrote to me:

"Nowadays, even translations are often suppressed or have parts deleted. Sometimes the illustrations are removed. One is forbidden to criticize either the present Hitler or even the Spanish government of the 19th century. Or else — delete."

On June 24th of the same year, he wrote to me as follows:

"Publishing conditions are very bad here. It is equally difficult to publish translated matter. The Chinese authorities are particularly strict about internal affairs."

In still another letter written that year, on November 26th, he said:

"The censors are terrible. Ever since the end of last year, my writings have been constantly deleted, banned and even seized. It is said that some of the censors are young women with high heels and permanent waves. Naturally, we are apt to be unfortunate."

There were various ways to ban books. The most common of these were to close the bookstores, to confiscate the publications, to cause the author to "disappear voluntarily," to "drown himself," or, using a more direct method, to arrest and execute the writers. Wu Yeh-ping, Ju Shih, Feng K'eng and many others were murdered by those means.

But when murder had become too customary, the Kuomintang began to feel that it was arousing strong popular opposition. These murders were also

TSAO CHING-HUA, Professor of Soviet Literature, National University of Peking, is a well-known translator.

(Continued on page 27)



← The Miao and Yi people in Kweichow present a banner to the PLA at a huge welcome rally. Inscribed in both Chinese and their own language is the slogan: "The PLA is the saviour of the Miaos and Yis."



↑ Miao people in Kweichow prepare food by the roadside for the people's soldiers.

PLA fighters cross a river in freezing weather during their heroic advance to Southwest China. ↓



National Minorities Welcome the PLA

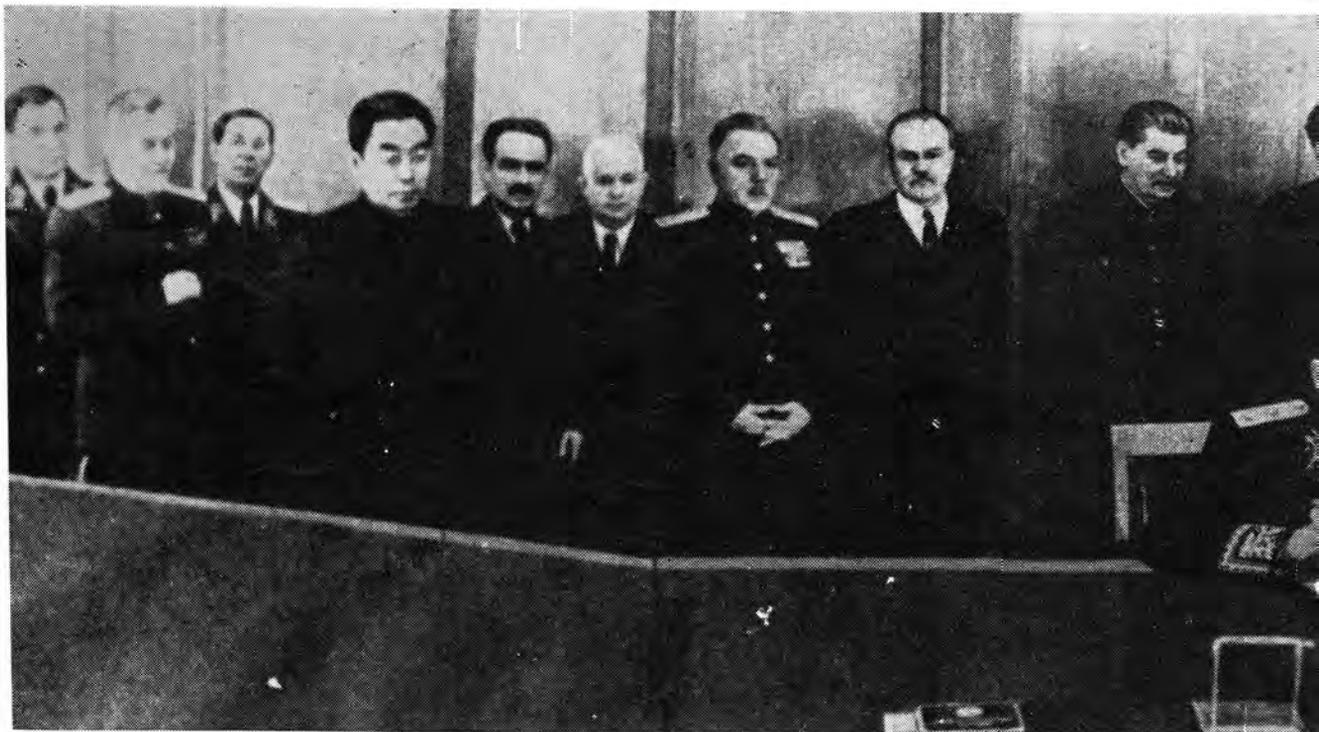
For centuries the national minorities in the rugged mountains of Southwest China suffered feudal exploitation and racial oppression. When the PLA arrived, liberating them from KMT rule, the tribal people welcomed it with open arms. In many areas, the population looked on the PLA as an old friend because they had met its predecessor, the Chinese Red Army, during its famed Long March from Kiangsi to Yen-an in 1934.

The Miao women forget their traditional shyness with strangers when talking to a PLA soldier.



Moslems in Changteh, Hunan Province, present cattle to the PLA.





Chairman Mao Visits U. S. S. R.

Chairman Mao Tse-tung left China for the Soviet Union on Dec. 6 and returned to Peking on March 4. Chairman Mao's ten-week stay in the Soviet Union was climaxed by the signing of the epoch-making Sino-Soviet treaty and agreements.

While on his first trip abroad, Chairman Mao toured a number of cities and districts, collective farms and industrial factories. These visits, as he remarked, confirmed his belief that the Soviet Union's experiences in national construction must be taken as an example for the Chinese People's Republic.

↑

A. Y. Vyshinsky, Soviet Foreign Minister, signing the Sino-Soviet Treaty of Friendship, Alliance and Mutual Assistance in the Kremlin on February 14. Shown in the picture are, from left to right: A. A. Gromyko, N. A. Bulganin, N. V. Roschin, Chou En-lai, A. I. Mikoyan, N. S. Khrushchev, K. E. Voroshilov, V. M. Molotov, J. V. Stalin, Mao Tse-tung, B. F. Podtserob, N. T. Fedorenko, Wang Chia-hsiang, G. M. Malenkov, Chen Po-ta, L. P. Beria, Saifudin and L. M. Kaganovich.



Chairman Mao visits the greenhouse of the Luch Collective Farm in the Krasnogorsk district near Moscow.



Chairman Mao discusses farming problems with the manager and other members of the Luch Collective Farm.



Chairman Mao and his party watch an amateur art group perform at the Palace of Culture of the Stalin Automobile Plant in Moscow.



Chairman Mao inspects an assembly line at the Stalin Automobile Plant.

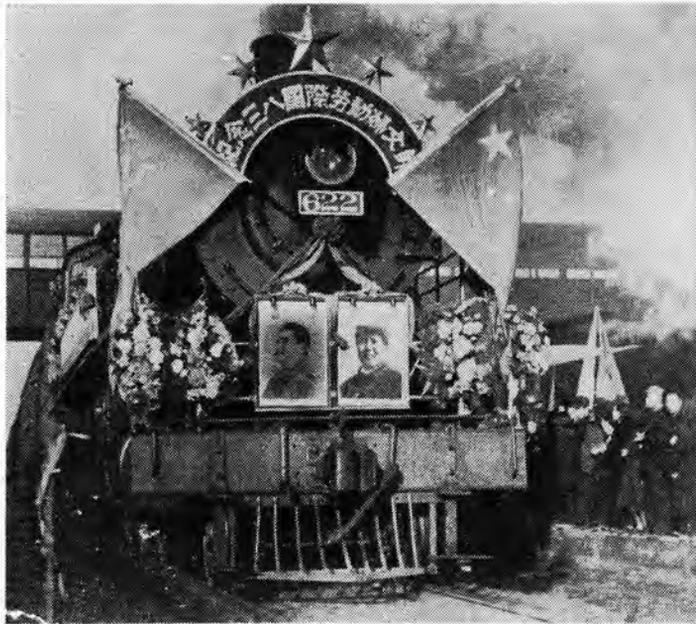


N. M. Shvernik, President of the Presidium of the Supreme Soviet of the U.S.S.R., receives Premier Chou En-lai at the Kremlin. From left to right: Mr. Gorkin, Secretary of the Supreme Soviet of the U.S.S.R., Premier Chou, President Shvernik, and Ambassador Wang Chia-hsiang.



The First Women Locomotive Workers in China

From left to right: Chou Shu-cheng, 22, stoker; Soong Kuei-chin, 19, fireman; Wang Pao-hung, 22, driver; Pi Kwei-ying, 21, driver; Wang Kuei-ching, 21, fireman; Li Wen-yu, 19, fireman; Chen Shu-lan, 19, stoker; Tai Shu-chen, 22, stoker; Tien Kwei-ying, 21, driver.



The first train to be driven by women leaves Dairen station on International Women's Day.



Soviet advisor Lesov, who supervised the girls' training, addresses the Women's Day rally honouring his students.



Tien Kwei-ying, now a licensed driver, takes her place behind the throttle.



2,000 women give a warm send-off to the girls at the Dairen Railway Depot.

Tien Kwei-ying Earns A Licence

NAN TING

As the Dairen-Port Arthur afternoon train pulled out from the station platform, two thousand voices merged in a long undulating cheer that re-echoed across the entire vastness of China.

"Salute the women workers in heavy industry!" the crowd shouted joyously. "Learn from the Soviet women!"

The train gathered momentum and dwindled into the distance. For the first time in China's history, a locomotive operated entirely by women was setting off on a regular scheduled run. The nine girls in the cab of the locomotive were fully conscious of their important role as pioneers in the economic liberation of Chinese women.

Ever since their liberation, Chinese women have been proving themselves in one new field of labour after another. Now, on International Women's Day, they showed the country that women could also drive heavy locomotives.

The story of Tien Kwei-ying, who drove the train out of the station, in many ways typified the struggle of Chinese women to carve out new careers for themselves in spite of tremendous obstacles.

Only a year ago, Tien Kwei-ying's sole aim in life was to find a husband. At that time she was a flighty twenty-year-old girl who sold meal-tickets in the workers' dining hall at the Dairen railway depot. Describing her ideas in those days, which now seem part of another life, she said:

"My only hope was to save up enough money to buy some silk thread so that I could embroider a wedding pillow-case. I felt that once a woman won the favour of her husband, she would be safe for her whole life."



Then came an evening that marked a turning point in her life. She was attending the night school which the Dairen Railway Bureau conducted for its workers. On this fateful evening in February, 1949, the head of the locomotive section gave a political lecture to her study group. This official, an experienced worker named Li, discussed the role of women in the old society and the new. To illustrate his point about women's former status, Comrade Li described the life of his own mother.

"Her life was one of poverty and constant drudgery from the day of her marriage," he said. "She cooked meals, mended clothes, made shoes and gleaned through the cinder heaps for usable bits of coal. Her many children demanded continual attention. She never had a moment to herself, but her only reward was the frequent beatings she received from her husband.

"It is certainly no easier to manage a large household than to hold down a factory job, and yet a housewife was always regarded as a parasite living off the earnings of others. The old society maltreated the workers, and the workers in turn maltreated their

women. Women, therefore, were the most exploited of all beings."

Kwei-ying's mind quickly turned to her own mother's life and the lives of her friends' mothers. What Comrade Li said was true, too horribly and undeniably true. Suddenly, to the astonishment of her fellow-students, she burst into tears. She had always thought of marriage as an escape to a newer and happier life. But it had all been a dream, nothing but a dream of slavery in another form.

"To become really free," she heard Comrade Li continue, "women must take part in social labour. Only when women are economically free can they find true political and social freedom."

These words made a deep impression on Kwei-ying, and she mulled them over for days. As the lectures continued and she began to understand the role of labour in creating society, her whole attitude towards the factory around her changed. She no longer avoided contact with the grease-smearing hands of the workers who bought meal-tickets from her. The roaring and hissing locomotives were not now frightening monsters, but awe-inspiring monuments to Man's ingenuity. Whereas once she would have ridiculed a driver for his coal-blackened face, now she respected his technical skill in forcing the great engine to do what he wanted.

One day Kwei-ying visited an exhibition of Soviet photographs in the railway workers' club. Some pictures of Soviet women caught her eye.

"If only we Chinese women could handle jobs like that!" She exclaimed to some of the other girl workers.

Her remark was overheard by Lesov, a Soviet adviser who had joined the locomotive department a few months earlier. He smiled at Kwei-ying's enthusiasm and said to her:

"In the Soviet Union, women even drive tanks and airplanes. It is not at all strange or rare. Only in capitalist or feudal societies are such things unusual. Once the labouring people become masters of their own country, their sons and daughters can have equal opportunity to learn skilled professions and trades."

Kwei-ying thereupon decided to become a locomotive driver. By May, her superiors had agreed to set up a training program for women locomotive workers.

Kwei-ying ran into her first major obstacle when she told her family of her intention to apply for this training. Her father immediately registered the most vigorous opposition.

"Why should you learn that sort of thing?" he objected. "Remain where you are a little longer and then it will be time to marry you off."

Her father's reaction was duplicated by the men throughout the factory.

"The locomotive section must be making a joke," said the doctor who gave her a physical examination prior to her acceptance for the training course.

The men working in the locomotive section were even more caustic.

"Well, if women can do this work, why should there be men at all?" said an experienced engine driver.

"If you women wait until you break down from exhaustion before you give up this crazy notion, it will be a bit too late then," a stoker said with an air of mock concern.

But Kwei-ying and the five other girls selected for the first training class were not deterred by

such comments. They vowed to each other not to marry or give up their training before they had become locomotive drivers. Kwei-ying voiced the sentiments of all the girls when she said:

"Whatever young men can do, we girls can do also. Now there are so many to help us — the Communist Party, the New Democratic Youth League* and our elder brothers from the Soviet Union — so why should we be afraid to take up this chance of learning?"

The first part of the training course consisted of learning how to stoke an engine. After shoveling coal all day, the girls would return home with pitch-black faces and bodies so tired that they could hardly move. The next morning, however, they would be back on the job without a complaint. They were so determined not to fail that if anyone asked whether they were tired, they assured him: "Oh no, not at all. This job is not a bit hard."

Lesov also watched their progress with great interest and took every opportunity to encourage them.

"It is only with practice and drill that women can become physically strong enough for the job," he would tell them. "But it can be done, and it is up to you to set examples for all the Chinese women to follow."

But at the same time, Lesov carefully pointed out to their superiors that "the girls should be properly looked after, for women workers must not be treated in exactly the same manner as men workers."

Eventually the women became apprentice firemen.

Section Head Li always made sure that an old and experienced driver was in the cab to instruct the girls. He also warned the

instructors that they were held fully responsible for the girls' safety.

The consideration the girls received made some of the old workers somewhat annoyed. As one of them remarked:

"The girls have only been on the locomotives a short time, but they are getting equal treatment with the old hands."

When Lesov began to hear about such remarks, he called a meeting and told the railwaymen sternly:

"If you are indifferent or opposed to women becoming skilled locomotive workers, you just don't know where your own interests lie. Are you better off when you keep the women in your families in idleness and have seven or eight mouths to feed? Of course not. If your women folk work and earn their living, they free both themselves and you."

Li Chin-yun, an engineer hero, then spoke up from the audience.

"Who among us," he said, "was permitted to learn such a high technical skill as locomotive driving under the Japanese? Who taught us the technique of being engine drivers? Was it not the Communists and our elder brothers from the Soviet Union? And now that our women comrades are so eager to learn it is certainly our duty to help them in every possible way."

After this meeting, there was a noticeable difference in the attitude towards the women trainees.

The girls' training program consisted of alternative periods of work on the locomotives and classroom courses. In this way, the girls gradually built up their physical strength without risking the over-exhaustion that might endanger their health. Lesov always placed great stress on this

* Tien Kwei-ying was then a League member, though she subsequently joined the Communist Party.

point. As he once told the group:

"If your health should fail, you will greatly disappoint all the comrades who are helping you. Even more important, you will cause all women to lose faith in their efforts to join the heavy industry front. If you will just learn regularly every day, going step by step as your physical abilities permit, then I guarantee that China will have a number of women locomotive drivers by International Women's Day, next March 8th."

The girls were given a good grounding in technical theory to prepare them for their new work. Experienced locomotive drivers taught them the structure of an engine, the railway signals, and traffic regulations. Lesov personally lectured once a week on the principles of locomotives.

Before starting the last phase of their training as apprentice drivers, the girls had to pass an examination covering all their previous instruction. This was a great event at the Railway Bureau. The director of the bureau attended, as well as the chief engineer and many Soviet specialists. Altogether the number of examiners far surpassed the number being examined, and the girls were intensively questioned on every aspect of a locomotive. When the examination was over, they had surprised everyone by their mastery of the subject. Even Lesov, who always set such high standards for his women students, felt proud of their achievements.

As Lesov had promised, by Women's Day the girls were competent to handle a locomotive themselves. Of the original six trainees, three had qualified for their drivers' licences, while the others were skilful firemen who would soon receive their final promotion. Another three girls who had started their training quite recently were already able stokers.

All of Dairen had followed the progress of the girls' training with intense interest, for it was frequently described in the press.

Before long, the local residents began to look upon these girls as their own daughters. The entire population felt elated each time they successfully passed an examination or advanced to the next stage of their training.

This feeling, in fact, spread throughout Northeast China and the rest of China. Women, in particular, showed a keen interest in their development and thousands were inspired to write letters pledging to show the same diligence in overcoming all handicaps that obstructed women's entrance into heavy industry.

No wonder, then, that on March 8th a tremendous crowd gathered at the Dairen railway depot to see the girls off on their first regular run. Many travellers to Port Arthur purposely arranged their

journeys to coincide with the girls' first trip.

Just before the train's departure, there was a brief ceremony at which Tien Kwei-ying, Wang Pao-hung and Pi Kwei-ying received their drivers' licences. Comrade Wu An-nan, Chairman of the Port Arthur-Dairen Women's Federation, summed up the spirit of the occasion when she told the gathering:

"This is a historic occasion. For the first time in our country's long history, women are able to operate locomotives. This would only be possible in new China, under the leadership of the Communist Party. Now the whole nation can realize that there are no barriers left which can prevent women from entering all fields of production, even in heavy industry."

FOR RADIO LISTENERS

The English language service of the New China News Agency issues a daily news morsecast in English at the following times:—

Call Signal BAB2 14.30 hours GMT (22.30 Peking Time)
Frequency 7496 kilocycles beamed
on America

Call Signal BAB 18.00 hours GMT (02.00 Peking Time)
Frequency 8880 kilocycles beamed
on Europe

Newscasts transmitted on both frequencies can be monitored by countries in Asia and Australasia.

A voicecast news program in English of the Peking New China Broadcasting Station is on the air daily at 13.30 hours GMT (21.30 hours Peking Time) on the following wave lengths and frequencies:—

29.24 metres	10.26 megacycles
30.8 "	9.73 "
33.2 "	9.04 "
40 "	7.5 "
42 "	7.1 "
468.7 "	640 kilocycles

CURRENT CHINA

March 11—25, 1950



On Acheson's Statement

U.S. State Secretary Dean Acheson's speech of March 15 on American policy towards Asia has been widely denounced in China. Foreign Minister Chou En-lai's comment on this speech appears on page 5.

Lo Lung-chi, speaking for the Chinese Democratic League, warned Acheson and other imperialists: "Colonialism is out-of-date and dreams of imperialist domination over Asia will surely go bankrupt. Any attempt by imperialists to hold back the march of time will merely accelerate their own doom. . . . Any aid—military or economic—to the reactionary regimes of Southeast Asia is futile."

Peng Tse-min, as spokesman for the Peasants and Workers' Democratic Party, depicted Acheson's speech as an "Ah-Q type of wailing, the sobbing of the defeated." He added: "It will appeal to none but Quirino, Syngman Rhee and Bao Dai. To all democratic and peace-loving people, Acheson's shamelessness and falsehoods are obvious."

The *People's Daily*, in Peking, said editorially: "The situation is this: after the victory of the Chinese people and the formation of a matchless alliance between China and the Soviet Union, American imperialism faces an insolvable dilemma. If it places its main strength in Europe, the Asian peoples will win even greater victories; if it divides its strength equally between Europe and Asia, both the European and Asian peoples will win. . . . The era of imperialist rule over Asia is doomed."

The *Shanghai Ta Kung Pao* exposed Acheson's lies by publishing a long list of American aggressive acts in China during the past century.

The *Peking Daily Worker*, organ of the All-China Federation of

Labour, declared: "The Chinese people do not need Acheson to tell them who are their friends and who are their enemies."

China and World Peace

As a positive reply of the Chinese people to the aggressive policy of the American imperialists, the China Committee of the World Congress of the Defenders of Peace announced on March 19 its program for 1950. The program includes a great campaign to inform the Chinese people of the growing strength of the world peace camp and the efforts of the imperialists to undermine peace; the establishment of local peace committees in all major cities of China; the exchange of information with peace committees of other countries; the publication of a new monthly journal.

Kuo Mo-jo, Chairman of this committee, protested to the U.S. Congress against the U.S. State Department's refusal to grant visas to the International Delegation of World Peace. He also sent similar protests to the governments of Britain, France and Holland on March 16.

On March 18 Emi Siao, Chinese delegate to the Permanent Committee of the World Peace Congress, told the organization's third session at Stockholm: "We shall compel the war-mongers to stop their preparations for new military adventures."

Jap War Criminals

MacArthur's recent move to parole Japanese war criminals had been regarded in China as a further step in the American imperialists' preparation for a new global war.

Jurist Mei Ju-ao, a member of the International Military Tribunal which passed sentence on the Japanese criminals, declared in a press statement on March 14 that MacArthur's action violates the Potsdam Declaration which says:

"... stern justice shall be meted out to all war criminals including those who have visited cruelties upon our prisoners."

In the statement, Dr. Mei said that the Central People's Government should "reserve the right to re-arrest the Japanese war criminals set free by MacArthur and to re-try other Japanese war criminals."

Diplomatic Activities

Teodor Rudenco, Rumanian Ambassador to China, presented his credentials to Chairman Mao Tse-tung on March 10. He was guest of honour at a banquet given by Chairman Mao on March 14.

A Czechoslovakian trade mission, headed by Dr. Frantisek Adamek, arrived at Peking on March 19.

Members of the Chinese delegation to the festival commemorating the fifth anniversary of the liberation of Hungary left for Budapest on March 13. The 10-member delegation was headed by Major General Pien Chang-wu, Military Attaché of the Chinese Embassy in Moscow.

Chinese Property

Minister Chang Po-chun of the Ministry of Communications declared in a statement on March 18 that all Chinese vessels now in Singapore, Hongkong and other ports belong to the People's Republic of China, and that acts of encroachment, damage, detention, transfer or interference will not be permitted.

Nan Chiau Jit Pao, Chinese paper published in Singapore, reported that on Feb. 16 several Americans and eight Indian thugs hired by the American consulate forced their way on board the S.S. "Hai Hsuan" in an effort to seize ship. Their attempt was frustrated by the crew who had announced allegiance to the Chinese People's Government on Jan. 24.

Having failed to gain control of the vessel by force, the U.S. Government is now taking the case to the Singapore High Court.

French-KMT Collaboration

French colonial authorities in Viet-Nam are employing 3,000 re-armed KMT troops in an attack on liberated Thaibinb, southeast of Hanoi, according to Viet-Nam reports. A Viet-Nam military communique has announced that 4,000 KMT troops were wiped out by the Viet-Nam people's army in the Cao Bang sector within one month. In addition, 430 soldiers of the KMT 100th Army, part of the 17th Army Group, were killed or captured while engaged in a marauding sortie.

The Viet-Nam people's army recently disclosed the capture of secret documents containing detailed plans drawn up by the French military authorities for using the 50,000 KMT refugee troops in Indo-China against the Viet-Nameese people.

In line with this policy, remnants of the KMT Kwangsi troops have been incorporated into the so-called Viet-Nam National Construction Army under the command of Vu Hong Khanh, a top leader of the Nationalist Party which supports Bao Dai. These forces have been concentrated near Langson in northern Indo-China for attacks against the Viet-Nam liberated areas. French planes dropped supplies to these forces on Feb. 13 and 20.

* * *

U.S. Intervention

Retired Admiral Charles M. Cooke Jr., former commander of the U.S. naval forces in the Western Pacific, and Major General Dennis, of the U.S. Air Force, have been named as two of the American military experts helping the KMT conduct their air raids and naval blockade against China's mainland. A NCNA despatch reported on March 25 that Admiral Cooke is spending over 40 days on Taiwan island in order to plan morale-boosting "sorties" against China's coastal areas, the bombing of China's cities and the enforce-

ment of the naval blockade. He recently flew by special plane to the KMT air base on Kinmen Island, off the coast of Fukien. General Dennis is reportedly discussing plans for helping Chiang Kai-shek build two airfields on the Choushan Islands from which heavy bombers can raid the mainland. He has already inspected Chiang's air force installations on Taiwan and the Choushan Islands.

On March 14, American-made KMT bombers attacked Shanghai for the 13th time since the heavy raid on Feb. 6. Twenty-six planes dropped over 50 bombs on the congested city. On the previous day, eight KMT bombers raided Pengpu, a railway centre in northern Anhwei province.

Wen Yi-to's Assassin Caught

The Chungking People's Government has arrested the murderer of Professors Li Kung-po and Wen Yi-to, two Democratic League leaders who were slain in Kunming in July, 1946. Hsiung Fu-kwang, an American-trained KMT gestapo agent who has confessed to this crime, said that he acted on orders from Ho Kwei-chang, then chief of the KMT garrison headquarters in Kunming.

* * *

A photographic exhibition about the notorious concentration camp near Chungking run by the "Sino-American Co-operation Organization" opened in Peking on March 18. The exhibition presents a pictorial record of the horrible massacre on Nov. 27, the eve of Chungking's liberation, when 300 political prisoners and their families were murdered in this camp. Among the victims was General Yang Hu-cheng, who together with Marshal Chang Hsueh-liang had engineered the famous Sian Incident in 1936 which forced Chiang Kai-shek to resist the Japanese invaders.

SACO was originally set up in 1942 to enable the Americans to help train KMT secret service agents. It was formerly headed by the late Tai Li, then head of Chiang Kai-shek's personal gestapo network, and Rear Admiral M. E. Miles, of the U.S. Navy.

1950 Programs

Four hundred million trees will be planted this year, and 300,000 hectares enclosed as forest preserves. These are part of the preliminary steps to be taken by the Ministry of Forestry to preserve existing forests and to afforest the treeless hills and plains of China.

Salt will reach an output of nearly four million tons this year, according to the 1950 plan of the National Salt Administration.

A 15-day conference called by the Ministry of Agriculture worked out a detailed plan for replacing all the present staple crop seed throughout North China by specially selected high-yield, disease-resistant seed.

The Government Administration Council on March 12 announced its plans for highway and navigational improvements in 1950. According to these decisions, over 10,000 kilometres of highway will be repaired or newly built. Many ports including Yingkow, Shanghai, Tientsin, Tsingtao and Foochow will be improved as well as Yangtze River. A school of navigation is to be set up.

State Trade

A new decision was published by the Government Administration Council on March 14, designed to co-ordinate state trade throughout the country under the guidance of the Ministry of Trade.

The aim of this decision is to ensure the fulfilment of the Government's import and export plan, to regulate the home market and the supply and demand of goods all over China, so as to promote the swift rehabilitation and development of production.

* * *

Government stores in Peking in addition to stabilizing market price, saved consumers JMP\$2,000,000,000 in the two months of January and February this year. They sell food, cloth, coal, salt and other daily necessities at seven or eight per cent below market price. Four hundred such stores are now in operation, of which 200 were established in March.

Liberation Comes to the Tibetans of Labrang

by Special Correspondent

Labrang, silhouetted against glistening snows of the surrounding mountain peaks, was basking in the autumn sunlight when I first saw it soon after its liberation. A noted trading centre in the southern part of Kansu province, the city is also famous for its monastery with 5,000 lama priests. Most of Labrang's 53,000 inhabitants are Tibetans. It was thus the first large Tibetan community to have direct contact with the People's Liberation Army and became the focus of attention for the various Tibetan groups scattered throughout Northwest China.

For several decades, the Tibetans in this region had been ruthlessly exploited and oppressed by the notorious Ma brothers — a family that had ruled the area in typical warlord style. Tax collectors and corrupt officials, backed by the Ma brothers' hated cavalry, had plundered the Tibetan people so systematically that the great majority was reduced to a state of degrading poverty.

So it was with high hopes that the Tibetans welcomed the PLA to Labrang in September. A delegation was sent to greet the people's forces when they were still 70 miles away and to urge them to quicken their pace. When the PLA approached Labrang, the highway was lined with singing and cheering people, many of whom had prepared gifts for their liberators. The Tibetans got their first surprise when not a single PLA soldier could be persuaded to accept their offerings.

But while there was general enthusiasm over the arrival of the

PLA, the KMT anti-Communist propaganda had not been entirely without results. Some of the more credulous elements among the population were deceived by it and were therefore somewhat uneasy. One such person was Sierko.

Sierko lived in Sikang province, to the south of Labrang. The people there were very martial, and a gun was considered the yardstick of respectability. But Sierko was so poor that he had never owned a gun of his own. For many years he scrimped and saved to buy a rifle, and when at last he had saved enough and was about to set off for Labrang, where firearms were cheapest, news came that the PLA had entered the city.

Conflicting rumours spread through the region. Some whispered that the PLA was looting the town, just as the KMT troops had done on so many occasions in the past. Others claimed that the PLA had burned down Labrang's famous golden-tiled lama monastery, on the bank of the Hsia River. Still others maintained that the PLA soldiers were well-disciplined and treated the people as if they were members of one family.

Sierko hardly knew what to believe. In the end, the thought of at last owning a good rifle gained the upper hand and he started the long journey north. Nevertheless, when he was still some distance from Labrang, he took the precaution of leaving his valuables with some friends for safe-keeping until he had personally seen what conditions in the trading centre were like.

On reaching Labrang, his spirits rose when he saw the huge monastery towering as usual over the landscape. Still, he thought it wise to avoid the main streets and the market place until he knew more. Slipping into the town through small alleys, he went to the home of his wife's sister, Yumuchi, and her husband, Sanu.

On entering their house, he was astonished to find a man in uniform drinking tea with his relatives. The stranger was introduced to him as Comrade Lotekan, of the Association for the Promotion of Democracy for All Nationalities. Even though this Comrade Lotekan was a fellow Tibetan, Sierko felt so uneasy in his presence that he soon found an excuse to leave. The thought entered his head that perhaps his relatives had been bribed, and he decided to keep away from their house.

A few days later there was a great religious festival in honour of the birthday of Tsongkaba, who had founded the Yellow Sect of Lamaism. The city was filled with pilgrims, and religious ceremonies were held at the big monastery as in former years. When the PLA did nothing to obstruct the festival, Sierko again felt reassured.

As he was returning from a visit to the monastery, Sierko unexpectedly ran into his sister-in-law. She scolded him for his sudden disappearance and told him that Comrade Lotekan was an old and trusted friend. Comrade Lotekan, she said, was eager to talk with him about conditions in Sikang.

Yumuchi was so insistent that Sierko agreed to go back to the house with her. On the way,

Yumuchi told him many things about the new changes taking place in Labrang. She told him about the recent elections, in which she, a woman, had voted for the first time in her life. She told him how the Tibetans now had their own representatives in the government and handled their own local affairs themselves. Both she and her husband had joined a literacy class and were learning to write in Tibetan. As she talked, Sierko began to feel very foolish for having been stupid enough to believe the malicious rumours he had heard.

When Sierko met Comrade Lotekan that afternoon, his last doubts vanished. Comrade Lotekan told about his past life and how he had come to join the Communist Party. He explained general Communist principles and then described Communist policies in regard to national minorities. Yumuchi and her husband also joined in the conversation, telling him how Chairman Mao Tse-tung was the saviour of the Tibetan people.

"The Communists have helped us set up our own government," Yumuchi pointed out. "They

respect our religion and customs. They have driven away the Ma brothers and all the KMT reactionaries who drank our blood. Who but friends would do all this?"

A week later, when Sierko set off on his homeward journey, he was a very happy man. His happiness was not due to the rifle slung over his shoulder, but to the knowledge that his own village would soon be liberated and, like Labrang, could start building a new life.

PLA Discipline in Moslem Areas

Before entering regions inhabited by national minorities, the PLA carefully instructs its troops in the customs and traditions of the people whom they are about to liberate. Thus the PLA is able to maintain its outstanding record of iron discipline and friendly courtesy and to quickly establish warm fraternal relations with peoples of various races and religions.

Here is the set of instructions which the troops received from headquarters before entering Northwest China, which is predominantly populated by Moslems:

1. Protect the mosques and Moslem priests. Do not enter religious places and never put up posters or drawings on the walls of mosques.
2. Never eat pig, horse or mule meat in Moslem homes.
3. Never make advances to young Moslem women nor enter their homes.
4. Do not disturb religious services.
5. Do not use Moslem bath houses.
6. Wash your hands before drawing water from the well of Moslems. Do not pour water back into the well.
7. Address Moslems as *Lao Hsiang* (old fellow-countryman) or *Lao Piao* (old cousin) but never as *Hui Tse* (a rude term for Moslems).
8. Never mention pigs before Moslems. Do not ask them why they don't eat pork or what their mosques are for.
9. Never drink or smoke in Moslem homes.
10. Tell everyone about the Party's policy towards the national minorities.

The Yao People Regain Freedom

by Special Correspondent

The People's Liberation Army which brought liberation to Kwangsi Province has also brought a new life to the Yao people, pygmy dwellers of the bleak heights of Kwangsi's rugged mountains. Many of the Yao inhabitants are only half the height of the average Chinese.

Generations of a semi-starvation diet and back-breaking toil have stunted their bodies but have never broken their rebellious spirit which led their ancestors to flee to the mountain tops rather than live under the oppressive rule of China's feudal lords. There is no soil on the rocky mountain tops. Year in and year out they have had to carry earth from distant places and fill in the hollows which faced the sun. Their Herculean labours were in this way rewarded with patches of soil dotting the mountain sides of the four counties of West Kwangsi where they lived.

The meagre crops which these patches of land yielded barely enabled them to subsist on a diet of gruel. They had to gather wild vegetables which grew on the mountain side to supplement their food.



A Yao Woman

by Tang Ying-wei

In their desire to keep away from their hated oppressors, they seldom ventured down to the plains. They went without salt and used chilli to gulp down their tasteless food. On wintry nights, men and women clad in thin garments huddled round fires to gather a little warmth in their wind-swept thatched huts or caves. Girls married in their teens and took their place in the hard fight for existence.

But even the mountains did not keep out the vicious tentacles of the KMT machine. Corrupt KMT officials located their homes and relentlessly made them pay grain levies and conscripted their men.

In 1929, Yao leader Ho Hsi-feng joined the first Workers and Peasants' Red Army of China. He became the first chairman of the then Kuoteh County Soviet. His example was followed by the Yao people in other districts and bitter Yao men and women took up arms against the KMT. When the Red Army withdrew for the famous long march north to fight the Japanese invaders, they carried on guerrilla fighting against the KMT for two years in their mountainous districts. The stories of this heroic fight have become legendary among the Yao people.

In 1948, when the KMT unleashed civil war after the Japanese surrender, they again took up arms to fight the KMT men whom they called "evil Kuomintang Han men." They distinguished them from the "good Communist Han men." The Han people form the majority of China's multi-national population.

The Yao insurgents set up democratic village governments. When KMT troops came out to suppress them, they fought shoulder to shoulder with the "Communist Han men." Faced by heavy odds, they moved their families and property and retreated deeper into the mountain fastnesses.

Their stubborn fight for freedom at last found its reward and their generations of suffering at last

came to an end. On the morning of January 9 this year, the first spearheads of the PLA reached Kuoteh county. From their mountain strongholds, Yao men and women filed down the mountain paths to greet the people's army men and call them "comrades," a word which they had not used for many years. They gazed with interest at the five-point red star on the caps of the people's fighters. The last time they had seen this insignia was when they had bidden farewell to the Red Army troops who marched north to fight the Japanese invaders.

The new People's Government of Kuoteh County, like the people's governments in other counties, are now helping the Yao people to move down from the barren mountain tops. They will be helped to reclaim wastelands and set up new homes. In a few years, they will have enough to eat and wear and their former manner of living under the KMT will become a nightmare of the past. (*New China News Agency*)

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during periods of disability, while state-owned light industries have similarly allocated the equivalent of 4.5 per cent of their pay roll for this purpose.

On the basis of such great strides already taken in restoring Manchuria's economy, and in view of the workers' tremendous support for their government's economic policies, Vice-Chairman Li Fu-chun, of the Northeast People's government, has confidently announced that within another three years Manchuria's production would be restored to the 1944 level. The people throughout the whole of China are eagerly watching Manchuria's steady progress towards this goal, realizing that this region is blazing the trail for the rest of the nation to follow.

"Fighters in White"



The Northeast Film Studio has released a new feature-length motion picture about front-line medical workers during the War of Liberation. This film portrays the bravery, high political consciousness and organizational abilities of the many thousands of women who joined the PLA and helped win nation-wide victory.

"Fighters in White" tells about Comrade Chuang, captain of a medical corps. The story has been closely patterned on the lives of such Medical Heroes as Li Lan-ting and Chiang Nan-ping, whose heroic exploits are now well-known throughout China.

When the KMT reactionaries launched their assault on the Liberated Area in 1946, Comrade Chuang was ordered to evacuate her field hospital when the PLA made a strategic retreat. The unit had to make long forced marches which brought the entire personnel

to the point of exhaustion. Moreover, the group was constantly harrassed by the KMT's American-created air force. One scene of the film tells the story of how Comrade Chuang broke a rib while rescuing another comrade during an air attack.

Even before she had fully recuperated, Comrade Chuang was back on the battle-line saving the lives of many revolutionary soldiers. When she became so exhausted she could hardly stand, she still refused to stop work as long as there remained a single critically-wounded soldier who needed her care.

Speaking at the pre-view of "Fighters in White," Comrade Teng Ying-chao, Vice-President of the All-China Democratic Women's Federation, commended the people's film industry for turning to the lives of revolutionary women for its themes.

* * *

Visiting Soviet Lecturers

Three Soviet professors have arrived in Peking on the invitation of the Sino-Soviet Friendship Association. They are N. I. Noozhdin, Doctor of Biology, who is Vice-President of the Genetics Institute of the Soviet Academy of Sciences; S. V. Kisehlevy, Doctor of History of the Soviet Academy of Sciences; and M. F. Makarova, who is an economic professor in the State Moscow University.

They plan to remain in China about two months, during which time they will confer with Chinese scholars and deliver a series of lectures on such topics as: "The Struggle between Materialism and Idealism in the Science of Biology," "What are the Fundamental Principles of the Michurin Science of Biology," "The Science of History

and the Teaching of History in the U.S.S.R.," "Lenin and Stalin's Theories concerning the Transition from Capitalism to Socialism" and "The Basic Characteristics and Superior Qualities of the Socialist Economic System."

Prof. Hua Lo-keng

Professor Hua Lo-keng, one of China's foremost mathematicians, known for his discovery of Additive Theory of Number, has recently published an open letter to Chinese students and scientists living in America. Professor Hua has just returned to China after spending four years in the U.S. as a lecturer.

In his letter, Professor Hua described why he had renounced the honours which American scientific circles offered him and had decided

to place his services at the disposal of the Chinese people. Professor Hua went on to urge all Chinese students, scientists and technical experts residing in America to follow his example and return to "the side of brightness, the side where the interests of the majority lie."

After drawing attention to the immigration barriers which America has set up against Chinese nationals and the racial discrimination which Chinese must face in that country, he continued:

"Of course there are some 'extraordinary' individuals who have jumped out of the ring and received special 'favour' permitting them to be 'naturalized.' What disgrace it is for us to accept individual 'favours' while our countrymen are oppressed and despised. And, in truth, the Americans are now planning to make their own use of such 'extraordinary' individuals."

The letter closed with the words: "Till we meet again in our national capital, Peking."

International Book Store

Three months after its founding on December 1, 1949, the International Book Store, Peking, had sold 772,446 books and 601,252 periodicals printed in the U.S.S.R.

This book store is a wholesale agency set up by the Publications Administration of the Central People's Government to serve the nation-wide chain of government-run New China Book Stores as well as other publicly or privately operated book firms. Its stocks come from the Soviet International Book Company, which supplies a wide variety of publications in Chinese, Russian, English, German and French. The International Book Store also handles such newspapers and periodicals as *For a Lasting Peace, for a People's Democracy!*, *Pravda*, *Izvestia*, *New Times*, and *U.S.S.R. in Construction*.

China's Policy on National Minorities

(Continued from page 7)

Shansi-Chahar-Hopei Border Region." Article 20 of this decree stated that "all the different nationalities in the border region should mutually respect each other's life, tradition, religion and customs, and must unite on a basis of equality to resist the enemy. In the democratic elections, the Moslem, Mongol, Manchu and Tibetan peoples should receive special consideration. Those who are poverty-stricken and have no means of living must be given relief." The next year, on January 1, the revised "Election Regulations concerning All Levels of People's Councils in the Shensi-Kansu-Ninghsia Border Region" was passed. The representation of the national minorities in this body has been clearly specified in the 12th article of these regulations. The same year on May 4, the "Proposals concerning the Present Construction in the Shansi-Hopei-Honan Border Region" was published, in which article 15 placed emphasis on equality for all nationalities. Because of the enforcement of such correct policies during the Anti-Japanese War, many members of national minorities joined the guerrilla forces led by the Chinese Communist Party. They thus expressed through action their support for unity among all nationalities.

Now, let us see how the national minorities have been faring under such a national policy.

The Inner Mongolian people have been making great progress under their autonomous government that was formed on May 1, 1947. This government has led the people in undertaking various kinds of construction work. It has organized the people's own armed forces and set up an extensive administrative system with joint Han-Mongol participation at all levels. Land reform has been enforced, with the result that all feudal privileges and feudal land ownership have been abolished throughout the rural areas. The vast numbers of landless peasants and poor peasants have received land, houses, livestock and farm implements. According to incomplete statistics of the two Leagues* (Khingian and Nam-Muron) and nine Banners, more than 2,967,000 *mow* of land have been distributed in the course of the land reform program. The peasants have been effectively mobilized for production, as shown by the fact that grain output in 1949 was almost one-third more than in 1948 despite grave natural disasters. In nomadic areas, the government has put forth the slogan: "Plenty for both the populace and livestock." The herds of livestock are steadily increasing. On the industrial front, the government has been instrumental in restoring or expanding the production of munitions, electric power, pig-iron, timber and processed foods. Production efficiency

* A League is a traditional political division of the Mongols since the Manchu Dynasty. It is composed of a certain number of Banners, varying in different places.

has been raised in all publicly-operated factories, many of which are now being transformed into the most up-to-date enterprises. State-owned trading companies and co-operatives are expanding rapidly, and some have already assumed a leading role in the local economy. In the past two years, the circulation of newspapers in Chinese and Mongolian has risen to 2,000,000 in the above-mentioned two Leagues plus Hulunburr League. More than 200,000 copies of books and magazines have been printed in Mongolian. Today Inner Mongolia has 1,904 primary schools and six middle schools with a total of 106,900 students — twice the number of students in 1944 under the Japanese occupation.

With the liberation of Northwest China, the Han, Moslem, Uighur, Tibetan and Mongolian peoples were freed from the ruthless domination of the KMT reactionaries and the infamous Ma warlords, who had ruled Ninghsia and Kansu provinces for 20 years. When the PLA was advancing on the Ma brothers' domain in three columns, the reactionaries launched an all-out rumour campaign to stir up national feelings and direct them against the liberators. The Moslems, for instance, were told that the PLA would "kill all Moslems and stamp out their religion." The KMT raised the slogan: "Protect property by destroying it and save life by risking it." But the people had been deceived by their former oppressors too often, and the great majority welcomed the PLA with open arms. Once the PLA arrived, the exemplary conduct of the soldiers quickly dispersed any remaining uneasiness among the population.

Sinkiang province once presented the most complex national minority problem of any area in China. Now, only a few months after liberation, the province has a coalition government composed of all racial groups; and these racial groups are proving that they can co-operate for their common welfare if they are united by a correct policy regarding national minorities.

Southwest China was completely liberated by the end of 1949. The national minorities there also heartily welcomed the PLA. As in the Northwest, the various minority groups are, for the first time in history, displaying their capacity for friendly co-operation under Communist Party leadership.

At present only the Tibetans in Tibet, the Lis on Hainan Island and the Kaoshans on Taiwan remain under KMT oppression. But it will not be long before they too will be liberated and can join the rest of China's national minorities in uniting themselves under the leadership of the people's government and marching forward as equal partners in building a new nation.

Since the October Revolution in 1917, the Soviet Union with its multi-national population has become one big family under the leadership of Lenin and Stalin. The People's Republic of China, under the leadership of Mao Tse-tung, is also advancing towards the same goal.

SOVIET LITERATURE IN CHINA

(Continued from page 12)

undermining current Kuomintang publicity about its "meritorious policy" of extending "kindness to people and protection over things." From 1932 onward, the government centred its efforts upon imposing an "economic blockade" against progressive writers and publishers. This meant closing down all progressive publishing houses and banning the works of all progressive writers. In addition, the censors chopped up manuscripts wholesale, sometimes leaving hardly anything but the punctuation marks. When progressive writers could not get their work printed, they were faced with the choice of changing their profession or starving to death. This was the Kuomintang's "economic blockade."

The Flower of Iron and Beauty

Despite all these repressive measures, often much more severe than those of the Tsarist regime, progressive literature was not stifled in China nor did progressive writers abandon their posts. As the Chinese revolution developed and advanced, they too marched forward under the leadership of the Communist Party. As Chairman Mao has said: "Communism is irrepressible."

Lu Hsun, in his comments appended to the Chinese translation of *The Iron Flood*, said that despite all repression, Chinese literary workers would cause Soviet literature to bloom among the Chinese people as "fresh flowers of iron and beauty. . . ." In his article *On The Interchange of Sino-Soviet Letters*, published in 1932, he added:

"The literature of Russia, regarded as uncivilized fifteen years ago by the sophisticates of Western Europe, is now victorious in the world's literary circles. Soviet literature, regarded as diabolical by the imperialists, has become victorious during the past fifteen years. By 'victorious,' I mean that this literature has become outstanding both in content and technique, and that it has been read by a wide range of persons for whom it has done a great deal of good." (Complete Works of Lu Hsun, Vol. V, p. 53.)

Lu Hsun considered Russian literature as our teacher and friend. He wrote on another occasion:

"Throughout the past ten years, regardless of whether diplomatic relations existed between the two countries or not, the interest of our readers in Soviet literature has never dwindled. Whether or not the police allowed translations to circulate, our readers retained their interest. They not only maintained their interest, but broadened it, even when diplomatic relations were broken off with the

Soviet Union and when translations of Soviet literature were banned. This is because our readers have always approached Russian literature unselfishly and without snobbery. The masses of our readers have always known, at times only intuitively, that something would grow out of this great and fertile 'black soil.' Something has indeed grown out of this 'black soil', and we have seen it grow with our naked eyes — endurance, agony, struggle, resistance, fight, revolution, fight, construction, success." (Ibid, p. 58.)

Ch'ü Ch'iu-pai,* another great pioneer in popularizing Soviet literature, shared with Lu Hsun the conviction that one of the main tasks of Chinese proletarian writers was to introduce Soviet literature into China.

Ch'ü once wrote: "To introduce proletarian classics into China — especially Soviet classics, because they have been able to present the heroes of the October Revolution, the Revolutionary War and the Five Year Plan through concrete images — is one of the major tasks of the proletarian literature of China. At present, only you (Lu Hsun — Ed.) and Comrade Z (writer of the present article — Ed.) are ploughing in this field. Yet who can say that this is a matter concerning a few individuals? Who indeed! It is the duty of every revolutionary writer of China to see that such works as *The Iron Flood* and *The Nineteen* are translated into Chinese." (Complete Works of Lu Hsun, Vol. IV, p. 361: *Correspondence concerning Translation*, "Letter from J.K.")

Ever-Quickening Torrent

Through the help and encouragement of such prominent writers as Lu Hsun and Ch'ü Ch'iu-pai, many Soviet works were introduced into China. A partial list of some of the more popular and influential translations include:

M. Gorky's *Mother*; A. Fadeyev's *The Nineteen*; A. Serafimovich's *The Iron Flood*; V. Ivanov's *The Arm-tram*; A. Jacovylev's *October*; B. Gladkov's *Cement*; B. Lavrenev's *The Forty-first*; D. Furmanov's *Chapayev*; Y. Lebedinsky's *One Week Time*; M. A. Sholokhov's *And Quiet Flows the Don* and *Virgil Soil Upturned*; N. Ostrovsky's *How the Steel was Tempered* and *Born in the Storm*; L. Leonov's *Sot*; N. S. Tikhonov's *War*; A. S. Novikov-Priboy's *Tsusima*; A. Tolstoi's *Peter the Great*, *Defend of Tsaritsin* and *Two Sisters*; H. Krymov's *Tanker Derbent*; N. Gusev's *Honour*;

* Ch'ü Ch'iu-pai, late member of the Central Committee of Chinese Communist Party and one of the Party's leading organizers, was killed by the Kuomintang reactionaries in 1935.

B. Katayev's *Onward, Time!, I am a Son of Labour People, Son of the Regiment, Wife and White Sail Alone*; L. Leonov's *Invasion*; I. Ehrenburg's *Second Day, The Fall of Paris* as well as his collections of reportage entitled *June on the Don River* and *Heroic Stalingrad*; V. Grossman's *The People Immortal*; K. Simonov's *Days and Nights, The Russian People and Wait for Me*; A. Fadeyev's *The Young Guard*; W. Vasilevskaya's *Rainbow and Simply for Love*; C. Fedin's *Cities and Years*; V. P. Nekrasov's *In the Trenches of Stalingrad*; V. F. Panova's *Fellow-Travellers*; etc.

During the Anti-Japanese War while in Chungking, Kuo Mo-jo wrote an article about the interchange of Soviet and Chinese culture. In response, a Soviet friend wrote an article in the *Literaturnaya Gazeta* entitled "Torrent and Stream" in which the writer admitted that Soviet literature had flowed into China as a great torrent while Chinese literature in Russia was in comparison only a thin stream. It was true. For instance, Simonov's *The Russian People* and Kornechuk's *The Front* each had three different translations in China. The bulk of Gorky's works has been rendered into Chinese. There are five different translations of his drama *Lower Depth*.

This has made it possible for thousands of Chinese youths to read and become influenced by these great works. In fact, many young Chinese gained their first knowledge of revolution through reading such translations. At a small meeting in Chungking, the late Comrade Wang Jo-fei* who had been in close touch with the thousands of young men gathered in Yen-an from all parts of China laid special emphasis on this point.

Comrade Lin Tsu-han** once told me at a small meeting of artists and writers in Chungking that *The Iron Flood* had become a textbook used in educating cadres at Yen-an, where it had gone through numerous reprints. Few of the veterans of the famous Long March from Kiangsi to Shensi had not read this novel, he said.

The other day, the literary section of the *Tientsin Daily* published an article by Tsung Keng entitled *What Soviet Literature Has Taught Us* in which it said:

"The young revolutionary literature of the Chinese people grew directly under the influence of Soviet literature. This is not only so in the cultivation of the literary art, but also in linking with the

* Wang Jo-fei, late member of the Central Committee of Chinese Communist Party, was killed in an airplane crash in 1946.

** Lin Tsu-han, Secretary-General of the Central People's Government, is a member of the Political Bureau of the Chinese Communist Party.

revolutionary activities of the youth. The generation of young students around the time of the Great Revolution of 1927 mostly approached the revolution through their love of literature. Some had sacrificed their lives on the battlefield for the revolution, some are shouldering important tasks today, while others have become the writers of the people. . . . There is hardly a single people's writer in China who has not been educated by Soviet literature. . . . On the literary landmark after the October Revolution of the Soviet Union is also engraved the landmark of the revolutionary literature of China. *The Iron Flood* by Serafimovich and *The Nineteen* by Fadeyev were the works that exerted most influence on China during that period. The former incited the Chinese youth with a storm of revolutionary action, while the latter taught the Chinese youth about revolutionary practice. . . ."

During the War of Resistance against Japan, many pamphlets were printed by stencil in the guerrilla areas of the Taihang Mountains in North China. Among such make-shift publications were collections of stories from the Soviet Union. In the foreword to a collection of Soviet short stories I translated that was reprinted in 1945 under the title *The Deadly Enemy*, I wrote:

" . . . This collection of short stories has been circulated in the enemy rear. People there copied out four short stories by Ilya Ehrenburg, B. Lavrenev, A. Neverov and Sholokhov on stencil paper in tiny characters and then re-issued them in pamphlet form. The elegance of the writing, the clarity of the printing and the fine binding were indeed astonishing. Even the original illustrations of some of the stories were clearly reproduced by stencil. A few years ago, a friend coming from a long distance brought some of these pamphlets and presented me with one of each kind, saying:

"The fighters in the enemies' rear regarded their guns, books and lives as three inseparable things. When they were in a life-and-death struggle they would give up all other belongings beyond their guns and books, which they would never desert. These things either were preserved intact or perished with the soldiers."

It is perfectly true of the saying: "Wild fire cannot scorch the grass, for when spring winds blow, the grass grows again." Although the Kuomintang reactionaries were as ferocious as a wild fire, they could not eradicate the influence of Soviet literature in China.

After the liberation, in Northeast China alone, there have been many reprints of Soviet literature, and more works are being translated. For under the leadership of Chairman Mao Tse-tung, the "fresh flowers of iron and beauty," so deeply beloved and fervently advocated by Lu Hsun eighteen years ago, are blooming all over China today.