

# People's 人民中国 China

April 16

## THE PEOPLE'S REPRESENTATIVE CONFERENCES

Tung Pi-wu

## BIGGER CROPS PER HECTARE

Mu Chia-chun

## "HEALTH" AGENTS OF THE GERM-WAR CRIMINALS

Lin Keng

## THE U.S.-KMT "EXTORTION LETTER" FRAUD

Ho Hsiang-ning

8

1952

Supplement: *Documents on U.S.  
Germ Warfare*



# People's China

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## ***Stalin Speaks for Peace***

On March 31, J.V. Stalin, Chairman of the Council of Ministers of the U.S.S.R. answered four questions put to him by a group of 50 editors of U.S. provincial newspapers. Questions and answers were:

*Is a third world war closer now than two or three years ago?*

No, it is not.

*Would a meeting of the heads of the Great Powers be helpful?*

Possibly it would be helpful.

*Do you consider the present moment opportune for the unification of Germany?*

Yes, I do.

*On what basis is the co-existence of capitalism and Communism possible?*

Peaceful co-existence of capitalism and Communism is quite possible provided there is a mutual desire to co-operate, readiness to carry out undertaken commitments, observance of the principle of equality and non-interference in the internal affairs of other states.

## ***For World Unity Against Germ War***

The Bureau of the World Peace Council at its latest session in Oslo calls on people throughout the world to unite and stop U.S. bacteriological warfare in Korea and China, to demand the prohibition of bacteriological warfare and to bring the war criminals to justice.

All freedom-loving humanity, outraged by the continued crimes of these American inheritors of the ambitions of the nazis and Japanese fascists, will rally to this call.

Simultaneously with this appeal, the Commission of the International Association of Democratic Lawyers has released its reports *On U.S. Crimes in Korea* and *On the Use of Bacteriological Weapons on Chinese Territory by the Armed Forces of the United States*. The weighty evidence in these reports is a powerful indictment of the vile crimes of the U.S. imperialists.

To make these facts more generally known to the world, the World Peace Council, on the proposal of the China Peace Committee, has decided to form another impartial international commission, composed of eminent figures in

Stalin answered questions regarding the present international situation that are in the minds of millions of human beings at this moment when the U.S. imperialists continue to threaten the peace of the world, have resorted to the most vile weapon of war—bacteriological warfare, and do all they can to fan war hysteria.

Once again, Stalin emphasised the basic principles of the foreign policy of the Soviet Union—the policy of peace and co-operation between peoples. His answers express the firmest confidence in the ability of the world-wide forces of peace of the Soviet Union, the Chinese People's Republic, the other People's Democracies and peace-loving peoples in all countries to frustrate the warmonger's plans.

His words bring new confidence to the peoples of the world who, during the past year, have resolutely followed the road pointed out by Stalin when he said: "Peace will be preserved and consolidated if the peoples take the cause of preserving peace into their own hands and uphold it to the end."

scientific, legal, and religious circles, to investigate all the evidence of U.S. bacteriological warfare in China and Korea. This measure of the World Peace Council representing over 80 nations will be fully endorsed by the world's peace-loving people, including those of the U.S.A.

In like manner, they will support the call to intensify efforts to realise the decisions of the last Vienna session: to bring about a Five-Power Peace Pact, end existing wars, ban weapons of mass destruction, reduce armaments, re-unite Germany, demilitarise Japan, restore the independence of these two states, guaranteed by peace treaties, and withdraw all foreign troops from the countries of Asia, the Near and Middle East.

The Chinese people who, together with their Korean brothers-in-arms stand in the forefront of the world's battle against this atrocious U.S. attempt at mass murder that threatens all peoples, are confident that the solidarity of the world's peace-loving peoples will defeat this and all other U.S. imperialist crimes against humanity.

# Strengthen the Work of the People's Representative Conferences

An Address to the First Conference of Heads of County Administrations of North China, September 23, 1951

Tung Pi-wu

*With glorious achievements made in every field in the last two years, the Chinese people have set themselves the task of completing in 1952 the main preparations for large-scale economic construction for the industrialisation of the country. Among the most important political tasks in that preparation is the establishment of organs of the people's democratic power at all levels. Liu Shao-chi, Vice-Chairman of the Central People's Government, on February 28, 1951 at the People's Representative Conference of Peking, stressed the great importance of the People's Representative Conferences, describing them as "the pivot of the work and activities of the people's governments at all levels" and as the system by which "the whole people will rally round the people's governments at all levels under the leadership of the Central People's Government and, as one great united force, will carry out the urgent tasks of national construction and defence."*

*"Without the democratisation of the country, and without the development of the political power of the New Democracy, it is impossible to ensure the development of the New Democratic economy and the industrialisation of the country," he added. It is clear from this how highly important are the people's representative conferences and how great is the significance of the successes already achieved in their development.*

*The following address by Tung Pi-wu, Vice-Premier of the Government Administration Council, explains many points of key importance in the work of strengthening the people's representative conferences—the basic organisational form of the people's democratic power.*

## I

### Central Tasks of the Conference of County Heads

Present here at this conference are heads of county administrations (or banner chiefs), commissioners (or league chiefs), chairmen and vice-chairmen of provincial people's governments and responsible cadres in civil affairs at various levels in North China. This conference, which may be considered as a conference of responsible administrative cadres above the county level, will play a big role in establishing the people's democratic state power.

In the course of this conference three reports have been made, namely, *Further Strengthen the Work of the County People's Representative Conferences* by Minister Liu Lan-tao, *Seriously Strengthen Welfare Work Among Fighters' Families* by Minister Hsieh Chueh-tsai, *The Problem of Developing Agricultural Production in North China* by Comrade Po Yi-po, and many other necessary tasks put forward by leading comrades of the Central People's Government and of North

China. As the editorial of the *People's Daily* puts it, "this conference will determine the basic tasks in the over-all work of North China". But with respect to the present conditions in North China, the work of strengthening state power, that is to say, of strengthening the people's representative conferences, should be regarded as the key to developing work in all fields. For if the people's representative conferences are successfully convened, the mass of the people will be mobilised on a broader basis to take part in the management of the state and their own affairs; the mass of the people will be enabled actively to carry out together with us the tasks that confront us. At the same time, the mass of the people will be enabled to supervise our work, to criticise the defects in our work, and to correct them in time. This is why we say that the strengthening of the work of the people's representative conferences is the key to the satisfactory fulfilment of the various tasks.

The Soviet Union had this experience: shortly after the October Socialist Revolution, the R.S.F.S.R. convoked in July, 1918 its first all-Russia congress of chairmen of provincial

executive committees and provincial administrative departments and boards, the aim of which was to strive for unity in the carrying out of the Constitution. In like manner, this conference should seek unity in thought and action in the establishment of democratic state power, which, essentially, lies in successfully convening the people's representative conferences.

As to the basic principles and rules of application regarding the establishment of democratic state power, these have been expressly laid down in Chairman Mao Tse-tung's *On People's Democratic Dictatorship*, in Vice-Chairman Liu Shao-chi's *Address to the Third Session of the Peking All-Circles People's Representative Conference*, in the *Common Programme of the People's Political Consultative Conference*, in the *General Rules Governing the Organisation of People's Representative Conferences and the People's Governments at All Levels*, promulgated by the Government Administration Council. These documents form the basis for unity of thought and action. If these are strictly observed, it seems there should be no divergencies. All the same, our cadres are, in fact, at present not all of one mind in the understanding of this problem, and their practical work is therefore not quite in step.

From the *Reference Materials on the Working Conditions of the People's Representative Conferences in North China*, prepared by the Ministry of North China Affairs, it can be seen that various erroneous views regarding the people's representative conferences are still held in several localities in North China. The number of people's representative conferences convened varies from one place to another. In the first months of 1951, people's representative conferences had been convened in a majority of the counties—some several times, but over thirty counties had not convened people's representative conferences at all. While it is true that conditions differ from place to place, the fact that people's representative conferences in some regions in North China had not been convened to proceed with their various tasks shows that not enough importance is attached to the establishment of democratic state power.

Vice-Chairman Liu Shao-chi's *Address to the Third Session of the Peking All-Circles People's Representative Conference* has clari-

fied many questions: for instance, the question that the people's representative conferences at all levels should very soon assume the functions and powers of people's congresses; the question of the mode of electing representatives; the question that the people's representative conferences and people's congresses form the basic system of our country; the question that the New Democratic state power guides and protects the economic construction of the New Democracy. Appropriate criticism is also here given to those who are unwilling to convene people's representative conferences on the pretexts that they are too busy or that there is no business to attend to, or that it is too troublesome.

Some comrades ask: "Why do you say that the people's representative conferences and the people's congresses constitute the basic system of our country?" I think that in order to answer this question we must first deal with the question of power and the organs of state power.

## II

### What Is Power and What Are the Organs of State Power?

Lenin said: "The fundamental question of revolution is the question of power." In his opening speech at the first plenary session of the People's Political Consultative Conference, Chairman Mao said:

Our state system of the people's democratic dictatorship is a powerful weapon for safeguarding the fruits of the people's revolutionary victory and for opposing the plots of the foreign and domestic enemies for their restoration to power. We must firmly grasp this weapon.\*

In such words have our revolutionary teachers expounded the importance of state power. The primary aim of the countless martyrs who laid down their lives for our revolution was to mobilise and organise the people for the seizure of power.

So what is state power? In a class society, state power is the machinery for class rule. Government organs, the army, law courts, prisons, etc. are its most obvious features. In a slave society the slave-owners hold state power and rule over the slaves. In a feudal society the landlords hold state power and rule

\**On People's Democratic Dictatorship* by Mao Tse-tung, p. 43, Foreign Languages Press, Peking, 1951.

over serfs and peasants. In a capitalist society the capitalists hold state power and rule over the workers.

The U.S. today is a state where power is in the hands of the big bourgeoisie and serves the interests of the monopoly capitalists, and especially of the merchants of death. It strives frantically to extend its hegemony, intensifies its armaments drive, instigates wars and suppresses the peace movement. It makes various reactionary laws to oppress the working class in its struggle to safeguard its existence and peace. It has launched an aggressive war in Korea against the wishes of the American people.

The Soviet Union, on the other hand, is a Socialist state with a proletarian dictatorship. The aim of its laws and decrees is to protect the system of the public ownership of property and the democratic rights of the working people. It opposes aggression and strives for lasting peace.

The People's Republic of China is a state with a people's democratic dictatorship. It practices democracy towards the people, but enforces a dictatorship over the reactionary elements. The People's Government firmly suppresses counter-revolutionaries, but encourages and gives aid to the people who are active participants in production; it safeguards the cause of peace, and resolutely opposes aggression. We organised the Chinese people's volunteers to resist the armed aggression of the American imperialists and to aid Korea. Side by side with the Korean People's Army, our volunteers victoriously drove the American imperialists and their satellite armies back from the banks of the Yalu river to the vicinity of the 38th Parallel. The policies, laws, and decrees of our People's Government are identical with the demands of the broad masses of the people.

The reason why revolutionaries regard state power as important is because only after they have seized power, can they begin to put their political aims into practice. The smashing of the old state machine and establishment and consolidation of the new state machine according to the wishes of the revolutionary masses—these are the prerequisites for building a new society.

In Russia, had Lenin and Stalin not led the proletariat and the working people in destroying tsarist rule and in establishing the

dictatorship of the proletariat, the Socialist society of the Soviet Union could not have come into being. In China, had the Chinese Communist Party and Chairman Mao Tse-tung not led the broad masses of the people in destroying the Chiang Kai-shek regime and in establishing the people's democratic dictatorship, we could not have brought into being our New Democratic society from which we will advance to a Socialist society. This proves that we Marxist-Leninists are different from all Utopians. In order to realise our political aims, we must resolutely wage the class struggle together with the revolutionary classes, to seize power, smash the old state machine and establish a new one. Only thus can we bring about the complete liberation of the oppressed and exploited classes.

Though state power can assume various forms, all these forms nevertheless share a common characteristic: the class which holds state power in its own hands compels the other classes to do whatever it wants or abstain from doing what it does not want them to do. That is why we say that the nature of state power is an expression of the character of the class which holds it. State power serves the interests of the class that wields it.

There are mainly three types of states in the world today: capitalist, Socialist and New Democratic, apart from a handful of feudal states. The capitalist state is a bourgeois dictatorship; the feudal state is a dictatorship of the landlord class. The point in common between the two is that in both a small minority rules over and exploits the oppressed majority.

The Socialist state is a proletarian dictatorship; the New Democratic state is a people's democratic dictatorship. The two share a common feature in that here the great majority rules over a small handful of people and compels this minority to reform themselves through labour and become new men.

The two former and two later categories of state power are all dictatorships, but we must note that one basic difference between them.

The People's Republic of China is a New Democratic state with a people's democratic dictatorship. What is meant by a people's democratic dictatorship? Chairman Mao has made it perfectly clear in his work, *On People's Democratic Dictatorship*:

Who are the "people"? At the present stage in China, they are the working class, the peasantry, the petty bourgeoisie and the national bourgeoisie. Under the leadership of the working class and the Communist Party, these classes unite to create their own state and elect their own government, so as to enforce their dictatorship over the henchmen of imperialism—the landlord class and bureaucratic capitalist class, as well as the reactionary clique of the Kuomintang, which represents these classes, and their accomplices. The People's Government will suppress such persons. It will only permit them to behave themselves properly. It will not allow them to speak or act wildly. Should they do so, they will be instantly curbed and punished.\*

At present our four democratic classes have united to enforce a dictatorship over the three counter-revolutionary classes. While our state power differs fundamentally from the bourgeois dictatorship of capitalist countries, it is not exactly the same as the proletarian dictatorship of the Socialist state. Nevertheless, our people's democratic dictatorship is decidedly not something of a hybrid between these two. Our state power is based on the alliance of the four classes, on a united front. The characteristic of our state power is that, based on the alliance of workers and peasants and led by the working class, it unites all democratic classes. That is to say, viewed from several basic points—such as the rule of the majority over the few, leadership of the working class with the worker-peasant alliance as a basis, the People's Congress and Representative Conference system of state power—our state power is close in nature to the state power of the Soviet Union; it is, in fact, of the same type.

In order to build a New Democratic society we must rely on the people's democratic dictatorship. Only by so doing can we guarantee the successful transition from our New Democratic society to a Socialist society.

Our New Democratic state power shows its great superiority—a superiority which has stood many tests—when compared with capitalist state power. During the Second Revolutionary Civil War (the Agrarian Revolution),† by relying on the New Democratic state power, although it was then only in the primary stages of its development, we were victorious in the bitter struggle against the Kuomintang reactionaries. During the War of Resistance against Japan, this New Democratic state

power grew still stronger, and by relying on it, we sustained our war of resistance against Japan and won a great victory. Our democratic state power increased in strength still more during the War of Liberation and, relying on it, we defeated the Kuomintang bandit armies supported by American imperialism and crushed the KMT bandit rule once and for all.

It was only after the establishment of the People's Republic of China that this New Democratic state power became nation-wide in scope. During the past two years, we have been able by relying on this state power to stabilise prices, restore communications, industry, agriculture and commerce; to develop education and culture; to carry out land reform on an unprecedentedly large scale, to suppress the counter-revolutionaries; and to launch the movement to resist American aggression and aid Korea on a nation-wide scale. In the international sphere we have together with the Soviet Union become the bulwark of world peace against aggression.

Such achievements, clear for all to see, are unprecedented in the capitalist world. Are they not ample proof of the superiority of our type of state power? The reason for this superiority of our state power is that it has a direct contact with the hundreds of millions of the people; by concentrating the boundless strength and wisdom of the masses, we are enabled to carry out the revolutionary and creative tasks of state construction.

Our organs of state power are made up of representatives of the great masses of the people. They enjoy the trust of the people. They can therefore develop their initiative and creativeness to a high degree, and lead the masses in accomplishing the tasks set in the various fields of national defence, economics, politics, culture and education. It is only under the leadership of the people's democratic organs of state power that the masses and their representatives can develop their infinite resourcefulness in administering the state and, thereby, their own affairs.

The organs of state power in our country are the people's representative conferences, the people's congresses and the people's governments at all levels. This organisational form of state power is the best, basic form of organisation. It is the most democratic organisational form able to embrace all strata of the masses.

\*Ibid. p. 15-16

†The period between 1927 and 1936—Ed.

(Continued on page 27)

# Bigger Crops Per Hectare

Mu Chia-chun

A recent order by the Ministry of Agriculture of the Central People's Government awarded cash bounties, gold medals and certificates of merit to many peasants, mutual-aid teams, agricultural co-operatives and state farms for having achieved bumper crops in 1951. One hundred peasants were honoured in this first list, which will be followed by others. Far greater numbers received similar distinctions from local governments.

The awards were not made for big harvests alone. The order of the Ministry described those honoured as follows:

"With strong patriotic fervour and productive initiative, they have responded warmly to the call of the Government. They organised others to work ardently and, by improving farming techniques, became standard-bearers for the broad masses of the peasants to follow in increasing production. They have illumined the brilliant future of Chinese agriculture."

Without exception, the crops of these prize-winners in 1951 surpassed the pre-war level of production per hectare of land, a goal not set for the whole country until 1952. Taking the pre-war average as 100, production per hectare on the fields of Li Shun-ta's mutual-aid team in Shansi province in 1951 was equal to 210. Lu Heng-ping's mutual-aid team reached the even higher index of 277. As for actual volume of production, the following table shows the achievements in different crops of seven peasants who were awarded the glorious title of "Model Worker in Agricultural Production of the People's Republic of China" along with prizes from the Central People's Government.

## PRODUCTION PER HECTARE

Producer	Province	Kind of Grain	Quantity (Tons)
Yang Chen-ju	Hopei	rice	12.15
Shih An-fu	Shensi	wheat	6.08
Chu Yao-li	Shansi	cotton	6.84
Yang Feng-cheng	Shantung	corn	9.50
Chang Tu-shu	Pingyuan	millet	7.67
Chiang Chi-fang	Heilungkiang	soy bean	4.30
Chen Erh-hsing	Hopei	sweet potatoes	60.94

These awards and these figures show that China's agriculture is developing at a rapid tempo. Gone are the days when Chinese

peasants, oppressed by imperialism and feudalism, lived in misery and produced low yields under backward conditions. The revolution, led by the working class, drove out imperialism and domestic reaction and established the superior system of New Democracy. The land reform has done away with feudal exploitation in rural areas populated by 310,000,000 people. This year, it will be completed throughout the country, except in a few places inhabited by national minorities. Under the guidance of the People's Government, China's liberated peasants are passing from primitive and unproductive individual farming to mutual-aid, co-operative and collective farming. Instead of digging with hoes at tiny plots leased from the landlords, they are being provided with improved implements, selected seeds, fertilisers, funds and many other types of assistance by the Government and by their own co-operatives.

Large-scale measures undertaken with the strength and resources of the whole country are putting an end to flood and drought that constantly afflicted Chinese agriculture in the past. Great aid is being given to the peasants by state-operated enterprises and particularly by the growing number of state farms and farm-tool stations. The most modern methods of farming as practised in the Soviet Union are being introduced to Chinese agriculture.

These powerful reinforcements, added to the thousands of years of experience by China's industrious peasants and the productive initiative which actuates them now they have become masters of their own soil, guarantee the bright future of Chinese agriculture. Armed with such weapons, our peasants are successfully carrying out the great task of supporting the struggle to resist American aggression and aid Korea and of laying the foundations for the industrialisation of the country.

## Recovery and Advance

The output of Chinese agriculture declined steeply in the twelve years after 1937, as a result of devastation and robbery by the Japanese invaders and the Kuomintang reactionaries. In 1949, the production of grain was

25 per cent below pre-war. The area planted with cotton had declined by 37 per cent.

In 1950, the Central People's Government began its nation-wide three-year drive to restore agricultural production to the highest pre-war levels. In 1950-51, land reform was carried out on a vast scale in the newly liberated areas. Peasants organised mutual-aid teams and productive co-operatives. Extensive use of fertilisers, insect-killers and improved seeds was encouraged and adopted. Positive and successful measures were taken to breed more draught animals. Large-scale water conservancy work (including the great Huai river project) was set under way. A huge number of small-scale conservancy works were also carried through, the aggregate effect of which was tremendous—such as the sinking of hundreds of thousands of wells, the digging of 1.4 million small canals and ditches in 1951.

The task laid down for agriculture was to restore grain production and greatly increase the production of technical crops, such as cotton. By the 1951 harvest, this programme was, in the main, fulfilled and in some respects exceeded. Grain production had reached 92.8 per cent of the pre-war peak. Cotton shot up to 33 per cent above the pre-war high. The planned grain harvest for 1952 will equal or surpass the best pre-war figure. In cotton, the plan calls for a crop 60 per cent above the pre-war record.

### Increased Productivity

Since the amount of extra land in large tracts that can immediately be made productive is limited, the key to the advances already achieved and to be achieved is higher productivity per unit-area.

Before 1937 the average rice crop per hectare was 2.25 tons. During the Anti-Japanese War and the War of Liberation, it declined steeply. No one then could have dreamed of a crop of 7.5 tons per hectare of rice fields in Hunan, Kiangsu, Kwangtung and Hopei provinces. How such successes spread from the individual to the group may be illustrated by one example. Tsou Yu-pin, a peasant near Tientsin, in Hopei province, achieved a



Chen Yung-kang, record-making Kiangsu peasant, examines the Green Smut spore at an agricultural research station. Today science is aiding age-old peasant skills to raise bumper crops

7.5-ton per hectare crop as early as 1950. In 1951, fourteen neighbouring peasant households organised themselves into a mutual-aid team under his leadership, and the whole team reaped 7.5 tons per hectare.

Productive emulation among mutual-aid teams spurred the increase of yields. Last year, important results were achieved in the drive initiated by the famous Li Shun-ta team, which became a nation-wide patriotic movement among the peasants in which over a million mutual-aid teams and agricultural production co-operatives took part. Encouraged by the example of the standard-bearers, all participants revised their original production plans upward, and in most cases achieved or surpassed them. In 1950, eight teams led by model agricultural worker Kao Kuan-tou, in Hopei province, got in a grain crop that was double the pre-war average. In 1951, they registered a further substantial increase in per-hectare yield.

Individual peasants as well as mutual-aid teams and co-operatives joined the emulation drive, made out plans for increased production

and carried these plans out. Here is the story of how peasant Ning Tse-kuei of Hunan province increased the output of his farm, as he told it himself.

### A Peasant's Story

"I come from Tehshou village, Hanshou county. In the past, my forefathers worked the soil for the landlords and never dreamed of increasing their yield. After the liberation, when the People's Government called on us to cultivate more intensively, I did not understand what it meant. I remember asking some of the old men of the village about it, and they, too, were skeptical. They said, 'One flower bears one fruit; one *mou*\* of land yields 150 kilogrammes of rice. It can't be more!'

"Some time afterwards, the People's Government announced that Kao Yu-hsien, a peasant of Changteh county, had cropped 475 kilogrammes of rice per *mou*. Folks in my village didn't believe it. Frankly, they said there had never been such a fellow in existence. Still later, when some comrades from the Changteh State Farm in Hunan province came around and told me about what methods achieved such results, my doubts persisted. But as I sat on the land newly distributed to me, I began to think differently. 'Liberation was only two years ago. Since then we have had reduction of rent, driven out the despots, redistributed the land—all of which seemed impossible before. Doesn't this prove that Chairman Mao's mind is always working for us, that the People's Government never says things that aren't true?' So, last year, I ploughed in the winter and fertilised the land. But I didn't tell anyone else I was aiming for higher output for fear they would laugh at me.

"In the spring of 1951, the Changteh State Farm sponsored a lot of meetings on better methods, and I actually saw Kao Yu-hsien at one of them. So he did exist, after all! After I heard Kao report and drew him off for a personal talk, I believed about the 475 kilogrammes too. So did my fellow villagers, one of whom commented: 'All of us are liberated and so is the land.' We talked about how we could do the same and, right on the spot, twelve of us challenged Kao Yu-hsien: 'You've raised 475 kilogrammes, well, we'll raise 500.'

"Back home again I began to think I'd been rash. When I told the family, they said

I was dreaming. Well, since I couldn't convince them all, I began to push my two brothers. Though they weren't too confident about it, we decided we would give the thing a try on a small 1.6 *mou* test plot—select seeds, plant sprouts, fertilise and irrigate the land exactly as Kao Yu-hsien and the State Farm people had said. We called this plot our '500-kilogramme farm.'

"Spring ploughing began. I thought about the '500-kilogramme farm' all the time and started to plough it 5 to 6 inches deep, so it could be fertilised thoroughly. My father objected. He said 'not to plough deeper than 3 inches' was the way of our ancestors for thousands of years. It was tradition, not to be defied. I searched my mind and found another proverb: 'The best child is of one's own seed; the best rice springs from deep ploughing.' Wasn't this tradition, too, I asked him. Then Father let me plough as I liked.

"After the seeds sprouted, the State Farm comrades advised setting the seedlings less densely, because if there were too many, there would be more stalk than ear. Father stormed, 'You should have eight sprouts here, but you are putting in only three or four. Ignoring the words of an old man, one is bound to suffer.' I told my brothers, 'Ignoring the words of Chairman Mao, one is bound to suffer.'

"At first, my neighbours' fields were green but mine looked awfully sparse. People came to look at the '500-kilogramme farm', and scoffed, 'So the boast is just a boast.' But a few days later our plants looked taller and stronger than any around.

"My brothers and I worked harder than ever, omitting nothing that the State Farm recommended. By harvest time, the '500-kilogramme farm' looked very impressive. Still, few believed that we could reach the target. They even suspected we might add something to the threshed grain, so a few neighbours came to watch us thresh. We weighed the rice. Our 1.6 *mou* had yielded 812.5 kilogrammes, which was 507.5 kilogrammes per *mou*!"

### Record After Record

Ning Tse-kuei was one of thousands of peasants who had achieved such results in the great emulation drive that embraces the whole country. Wherever one went in the autumn of 1951, there were peasants, mutual-aid teams,

\*One *mou* is one-fifteenth of a hectare.

agricultural co-operatives and whole villages with bumper harvests. No one could any longer deny the evidence. Higher crop-yields became the goal of every cultivator.

The general average yield per hectare grew higher, particularly in the older liberated areas. In Shansi, the total value of agricultural production was 16.2 per cent above pre-war, while per unit-area grain yields averaged 2.3 per cent higher for the whole province. The most impressive rise in Shansi was in cotton. The crop was 114.3 per cent above the best one before the war, and per unit-area yield was 53.8 per cent higher.

New records were announced. Ho Kuei-sheng, in Kwangtung province, raised 172.5 tons of sugar cane per hectare. Liu Yun-hsing, of Kiangsi province, grew 8.1 tons of flax per hectare.

To raise the yield per hectare is the basic policy for the development of Chinese agri-

culture this year. Four hundred million peasants are working and gradually organising themselves for this aim. Individual records will be succeeded by area-wide records, successively made and successively broken. Such a process is possible only when new productive forces are in harmony with a new and superior economic and political system. China, with her New Democratic system, possesses this indispensable condition.

Now, in 1952, a new and bigger agricultural production emulation contest is under way. State farms, agricultural co-operatives, mutual-aid teams and individual peasants are making their pledges, with last year's prize-winners acting as standard-bearers. Pledges already made include planned crops of 13.5 tons per hectare for rice, 7.5 tons per hectare for cotton, 6.75 tons per hectare for wheat. Experience shows that these levels can be achieved. The contestants are fully confident that they will reach them.

## The "Health" Agents of the Germ-War Criminals

Lin Keng

In recent weeks, the world has been witness to a nauseating spectacle. The American aggressors—the experts in no-quarter warfare against women and children, the perpetrators of Korean Lidices, the "Anglo-Saxon" colonialists and racists, the exponents of world conquest by human obliteration through napalm, atomic and bacteriological weapons — are sanctimoniously dissembling as "humanitarians" who are "deeply concerned" for the lives of the Korean and Chinese peoples!

Washington's newest tactic is to urge the "impartial" services of a "disinterested international body"—the World Health Organisation—to "aid" the victims of the American crimes. It hopes that the uninformed and unwary will give credence to this sham.

To this end, Washington has suddenly launched a huge promotional campaign to boost the "non-political" virtues and the "humanitarian" record of the W.H.O. and thus to facilitate its use as a propaganda weapon.

What is the World Health Organisation in reality? It is an agency of the United Nations

—the organisation which the U.S. government claims to be one of the belligerent parties in the present war in Korea and whose name has been used as the cover for American aggressive war, war crimes, and crimes against humanity. It is one of the specialised agencies of the U.N. which jumps at the crack of the State Department's whip. Early in the "U.N." war against the Korean people, on October 24, 1950, an American State Department official, Assistant Secretary of State Dean Rusk, put the matter crudely in Portland, Oregon. "We are the U.N.," he said. "There is no great organisation at Lake Success. When we point to the U.N., we point to ourselves."

The W.H.O. was founded in 1946 to perform several fundamental tasks: assistance to war-devastated countries in the rehabilitation of health services, elimination of the effects of war, co-operation in the fight against epidemics, and increased co-operation in the field of science. The United States Government for its own purposes, now seeks to palm off the W.H.O. as a "disinterested" agency which has devoted itself solely to realising these high aims. But

the W.H.O. has long since become an arm of the State Department. Its real tasks have degenerated into espionage and white-washing organisations for the U.S. government and Acheson's sideshow barkers are now playing up imitation wares.

When the Soviet Union withdrew from the organisation in February, 1949, it said, "The tasks connected with international measures for the prevention and control of diseases and with the spread of medical scientific achievements are not being accomplished by the Organisation satisfactorily...the direction taken by the activities of the Organisation does not correspond to those tasks which were set before it in 1946 at the inaugural conference of the Organisation..." The magazine *New Times* said in its March 29, 1950 issue that "all the W.H.O. does in practice is to collect and study information on the public health arrangements and the production of medicinal materials and medical supplies in the various countries. Moreover, the statistical forms and questionnaires it circulates quite obviously contain definitely spying questions."

#### W.H.O.—A U.S. Tool

In the latter connection, the geographical distribution of W.H.O.'s staff is significant. As far back as February, 1949, out of a total staff of 288 which the W.H.O. listed, 177 came from the United States, Britain and Switzerland. Americans filled high-salaried and controlling senior posts and worked behind the scenes getting delegates representing U.S.-dominated countries to make the speeches presenting the U.S. viewpoint and proposals. "Experts" and "health missions" were despatched to various countries for purposes which were hidden under glowing official reports on their operations in the field of "health". Under U.S. dictation, the W.H.O. has studiously ignored the basic social and economic causes of disease.

The course of development in the W.H.O. was exposed by Poland when she withdrew from W.H.O. in August, 1949. Poland charged the United States with "demanding a special status within the Organisation" and "submitting the W.H.O. to its own political ends".

How "impartial" is the W.H.O. attitude towards People's China is well known. Shortly after the U.S. invasion of North Korea began, W.H.O.'s "Epidemiological Intelligence Station" in Singapore on July 18, 1950, falsely declared Amoy to be a bubonic plague port. During

the past 12 months, it has on 4 occasions reported epidemics in China and, without the slightest basis in truth, declared China's coastal cities to be "quarantine ports". During the same period, American imperialism was trying desperately to "blockade" China.

Under its present director-general, Dr. Brock Chisholm, W.H.O. has become a tool peculiarly adapted to the present political ends of the American invaders in Korea. Chisholm, a former major-general in charge of medical services in the Canadian Army who served on the General Staff in Ottawa during the last World War, has a long record of promoting the Pentagon's "bacteriological diplomacy".

On April 3, this "impartial" and "disinterested" personage expressed his "doubts" about the charges of American germ warfare, and the United Press quoted him as saying, "If anybody actually did engage in bacteriological warfare, it would not be the sort of thing now happening. Very large numbers of people would die very suddenly if bacteriological warfare was used in the Korean war. The death of a million people would be nothing..." In effect, Dr. Chisholm was saying, we can't admit that the U.S. government used germ weapons, the slaughter was too small, what the Koreans and Chinese got was only a sample dose! The threat is all too obvious.

Meanwhile, Trygve Lie, Secretary General of the U.N., and another paid performer of the U.S. State Department, showed how dirty was the hand holding out this W.H.O. offer when, in making the W.H.O. proposal, he circulated the fabrication that "reports of epidemics continue to emanate" from the people's governments of Korea and China! (The State Department's U.S.I.S., April 4)

#### A Camouflage Red Cross

The W.H.O. offer is, in fact, a new twist to an old trick. Earlier, Acheson had trotted out another "disinterested international body," the International Committee of the Red Cross, to "investigate" the charges of U.S. germ warfare. It is worth noting briefly the real character of the I.C.R.C. offer to elucidate the strategy of this American intrigue that is an integral part of U.S. germ warfare.

The Committee is often loosely referred to by the American press as the International Red Cross—the name of the world organisation which embraces Soviet, Chinese and other national Red Cross organisations, the Committee

itself, and other agencies. In reality, the Committee is neither "international" nor "non-political". It is a group consisting exclusively of Swiss citizens which has performed many useful services for the U.S. government.

The Committee pays lip service to the Geneva Conventions on the conduct of war, and the treatment of civilians and prisoners of war. Yet it kept silent on U.S. indiscriminate bombing of open, undefended Korean cities, U.S. military orders to shoot and burn everything in sight, U.S. use of poison gas, and other flagrant American atrocities. It kept silent on the inhuman maltreatment of Chinese and Korean prisoners of war in American camps in South Korea. The Associated Press reported brutal bacteriological experiments on these prisoners as far back as May 18 last year, but on December 4, it quoted the Committee as rating the conditions in the American-run camps as "excellent". This was in spite of the Committee's "completely free access to the camps to interview the prisoners of war" (U.S.I.S. statement on December 15). The recent massacres of prisoners of war on Koje Island on February 18 and March 13 this year drew a quick statement from the Committee that it was conducting an on-the-spot "independent" investigation—whose results have never been made known. It was obviously an "investigation" to prevent investigation.

The Committee's servility to the U.S. State Department was shown even more directly when Acheson on March 11 formally invited it to investigate germ warfare in Korea. The very next day, the Committee rushed messages to Commander-in-Chief Kim Il Sung and General Peng Teh-huai asking for an investigation. This was in marked contrast with its attitude last November, when on receiving the report of the Women's International Democratic Federation on U.S. atrocities in Korea, it hemmed and hawed and, by invoking a "working rule" laid down in 1939, denied authority to investigate international law violations.

### Trying the Back Door

It is not surprising to note that the Committee's senior official in Korea was Dr. Otto Lehner, who performed notable service for Hitler during the second World War by issuing a whitewashing report on the notorious Terezin Concentration Camp in Czechoslovakia. Dr. Lehner has had ample experience for the

kind of dirty job the American aggressors would like him to do for them in North Korea. In January this year, he violated the Panmunjom conference area agreement by bursting into it uninvited in an attempt to go behind the Korean and Chinese lines. At the time, he admitted that the Americans had "very kindly put facilities at his disposal". Dr. Lehner is trying the back door now.

Such are the organisations which the American imperialists want to make an "impartial" investigation and give "disinterested aid" to the victims of U.S. germ warfare!

The two "offers" in fact serve the same criminal aim. If either of these agencies can force their way into North Korea and China, they can be made to serve two purposes: obtain intelligence on the effects of U.S. germ weapons, and whitewash American guilt by a false report. If they fail to get in, Washington's propaganda machine can maintain the pretense of "humanitarianism" and smear the people's governments of China and Korea for "inhumaneness" and "fabricated reports".

But this propaganda trick has already backfired. Internationally recognised scientists and a commission of well-known lawyers, equipped to establish the facts beyond any doubt, have already made known their findings to the world. These findings constitute an indictment of the U.S. government for one of the most horrible crimes in human history. World public opinion condemns the American crimes and sees no occasion for American-sponsored expeditions to check up on the results of their crimes.

The Pentagon is frantically seeking military reconnaissance reports in connection with its bacteriological offensive. This is borne out by the confessions of recently captured U.S. agents on germ warfare espionage missions. American proponents of war by disease have indeed long worried over the problem of reconnaissance. Theodor Rosebury and Elvin A. Kabat, who participated in research at the huge germ warfare centre in Camp Detrick, Maryland, in a paper published in the *Journal of Immunology* in May, 1947, wrote: "While the data in this report leaves little doubt that bacterial warfare is feasible, its actual practicability requires experimental verification."

Chapman Pincher, writing in the April, 1951 issue of *Science Digest*, notes: "As with

every weapon, there are operational shortcomings associated with biological warfare... Much must always depend on local wind conditions, temperature, and above all, the susceptibility of the population being attacked."

The people's governments of Korea and China have ensured that American-sponsored agents in the International Committee of the Red Cross and the World Health Organisation will never succeed in their attempt to probe into the "susceptibility" of the peaceful population of Korea and China to U.S. germ weapons. The prosecutors of germ warfare will not be helped to iron out their "operational shortcomings".

### **Brutal Reality of U.S. "Aid"**

Meanwhile, the State Department's fantastic "humanitarian" play-acting can only nauseate millions of people, and not least, the peoples of Asia, who see the symbols of American "aid" in Asia today as the Syngman Rhee, the Bao Dais, the Chiang Kai-sheks and their other jackals seeking to devour their own people. Asia does not forget the 6 billion dollars of the U.S. "aid programme to China" which sent American bullets and bombs into millions of Chinese bodies, in one of the bloodiest imperialist-instigated civil war in history.

Washington affects "abhorrence" for "vile" methods of mass slaughter. But the U.S. and British imperialist press organs gloat over the "effectiveness" of American napalm on Korean and Viet-Nam villages. They report plans for an all-out offensive under American orders against the Malayan people, 5,000 of whom have already been killed in "punitive expeditions" and half a million placed in 335 concentration camps.

Washington protests that as a "civilised western" government, it just couldn't have contemplated genocide against the Asian peoples. But American imperialism has taken over all the old imperialists' racist genocidal policies at home and abroad. Here is testimony in the name of fifteen million Negroes in America, distinguished from other Americans only by a coloured skin: One of their great leaders, William L. Patterson, last December 17, presented a petition to the United Nations Assembly in Paris charging his own government with the crime of genocide. His petition, citing documented cases such as the known murders of 10,000 Negroes, was rejected out of hand by

Trygve Lie and the other "impartial" leaders of the United Nations. One passage of the petition declared, "We Negro petitioners... have noted with peculiar horror that the genocidal doctrines and actions of the American white supremacists have already been exported to the coloured people of Asia. We solemnly warn that a nation which practises genocide against its own nationals may not be long deterred, if it has the power, from genocide elsewhere. White supremacy at home makes for coloured massacres abroad. Both reveal contempt for human life in a coloured skin. Jellied gasoline in Korea and the lyncher's faggot at home are connected in more ways than that both result in death by fire. The lyncher and the atom bomber are related."

### **Killers at Home and Abroad**

Patterson could have written, "The lyncher and the wielder of bacteriological weapons are related." The American white supremacists, the rapists and killers of children in Korea, were not likely to stop at using the weapon of disease. The Chief of the U.S. Army Chemical Corps Research Command, Brigadier-General William E. Creasy, boasted in Washington on January 25 this year that germ weapons make it possible "to reduce an enemy's ability to resist" at a smaller "logistical cost" than any other type of warfare, and "without destruction of his economy." Creasy spells out the value of Chinese and Korean lives in dollars and cents, in the crass tradition of the financial barons of America!

The Chinese and Korean peoples have laboured through the swift post-liberation years to build a land free from disease and poverty. China, on the road to greater prosperity, freed of American "aid", has conquered the menace of epidemics throughout the length and breadth of the country. Not a single cholera case, for example, was recorded for the three post-liberation years.

American imperialism is relying on disease-carrying flies and fleas where its Air Force and Army failed!

That challenge has already been answered with effective measures of prevention and control. The Chinese and Korean peoples, supported by all freedom-loving peoples will bring to fiasco this new crime of the American invaders. No tricks will save these germ-war criminals from the justice of the peoples. They stand in the shadow of a new Nuremberg.

# Lumber from the Northeast

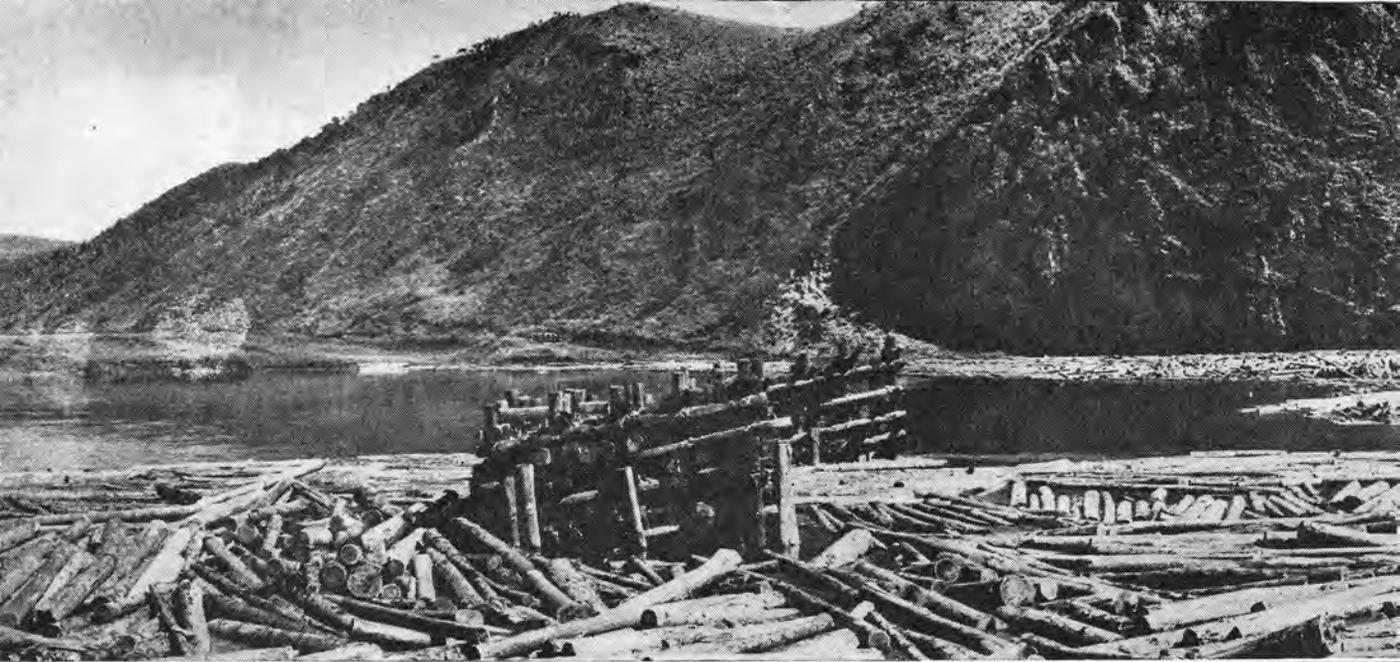
Northeast China with a timber reserve of over 3,000 million cubic metres is New China's most important timber-producing area. Thanks to modern methods of cutting and transport, and the patriotic enthusiasm of the lumber workers, production plans were overfulfilled in the 1951 season



Loading logs on a narrow gauge railway at a Northeast lumber camp

Modern methods, such as the use of the power-driven saw shown in this photograph, have rapidly raised labour productivity





A typical lumber camp scene of the Northeast. Logs piling up on a river before the sluice gates are opened to send them down stream to the industrial centres

## THE NORTHEAST—TIMBER TREASURY OF NEW CHINA

Hauling logs by powerful tractors



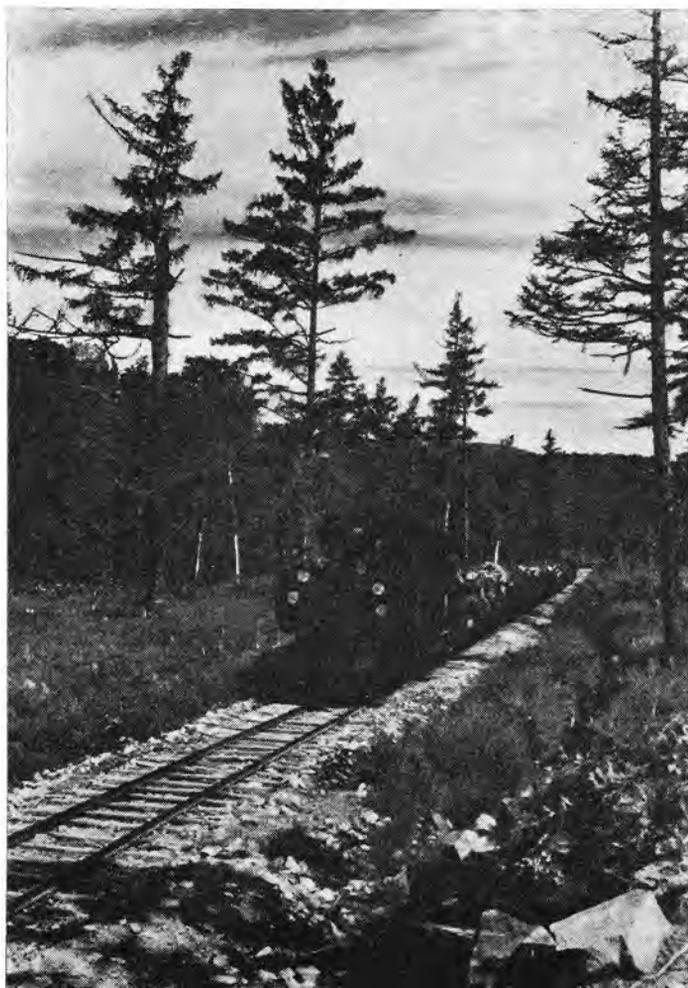


*Upper centre:* An ice chute on a frozen river greatly reduces transportation costs

*Lower centre:* Breaking a log jam



**A new railway takes the logs out for China's construction**



# American Germ Warfare in Korea and China's Northeast



Full view of an unexploded U.S. germ-bomb dropped in Korea



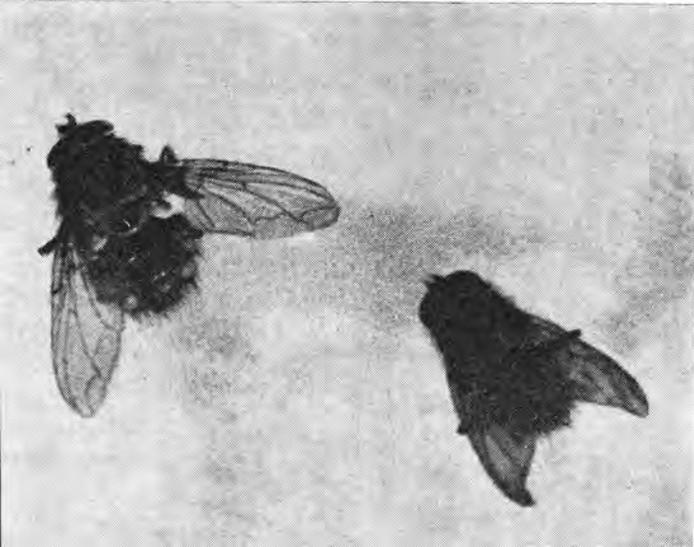
An unexploded germ-bomb dropped by a U.S. plane in Korea. Made to resemble an ordinary explosive bomb in order to conceal its true nature, it is 1.2 metres long, 22 centimetres in diameter and weighs 18 kilogrammes. It contained germ-laden insects including sand flies and fleas

Bacteria - carrying crickets dropped by the U.S. invaders



Another type of germ-carrying insect, a species of fly, scattered by the U.S. invaders

Deadly germ-infested spiders spread in China by the American invaders



# The U.S.-Kuomintang "Extortion Letter" Fraud

Recently, a New Zealand reader wrote a letter to Chairman Mao Tse-tung drawing the attention of the Central People's Government to the fact that some overseas Chinese in New Zealand were receiving faked extortion letters demanding money under pain of their relatives in China being physically tortured.

A reply to this reader has been made by Ho Hsiang-ning, director of the Commission for Overseas Chinese Affairs. The following is an extract from the letter, exposing this fraud perpetrated by U.S.-Kuomintang agents.

Dear friend,

We thank you for your kindness in putting forward your views to the People's Government of New China.

Your letter said: "Chinese living in New Zealand and owning property in China have been receiving letters demanding that money be sent to China as it was the policy of the government to pay back money to Chinese who had worked for property holders under the old order before your government took control" and that "if they refuse to send money to China . . . their wives, children and relatives would be tortured and killed."

Your letter has expressed your disbelief in these lies. As you have said, these slanders are apparently the result of a plot contrived by the reactionaries, with which they intend to damage the prestige of the People's Government of New China and to destroy the love of overseas Chinese for their Motherland.

As you know, the People's Republic of China is a New Democratic state. The People's Government has not abolished private property but protects the rightful privileges of the people by the clear provisions of law. This is explicitly laid down in Article Three of the *Common Programme* adopted by the Chinese People's Political Consultative Conference which reads:

The People's Republic of China must abolish all the prerogatives of imperialist countries in China. It must confiscate bureaucratic capital and put it into the possession of the people's state. It must systematically transform the feudal and semi-feudal land ownership system into a system of peasant land ownership; it must protect the public property of the state and of the co-operatives and must protect the economic interests and private property of workers, peasants, the petty bourgeoisie and the national bourgeoisie. It must develop the people's economy of New Democracy and steadily transform the country from an agricultural into an industrial one.

It is plain from the above that the People's Government of New China will confiscate only the property of the bureaucratic capitalists, such as the property plundered from the Chinese people by the "four big families"—the Chiang, Soong, Kung and Chen families. And, in order to pave the way for the industrialisation of New China, it is necessary that the feudal and semi-feudal land ownership system be transformed into the peasant land ownership system. All land, houses, farm implements,

animals and surplus grains of the landlord class have to be confiscated.

But for the overseas landlords and other strata connected with feudal exploitation, the Central People's Government has, based on the actual conditions of overseas Chinese as regards their land and other property, promulgated the *Regulations Governing the Disposal of Land and Other Property of Overseas Chinese During the Land Reform*. These regulations provide that all the houses of overseas Chinese generally shall be left untouched. Overseas Chinese renting out small portions of land shall not be classified as landlords and shall be allowed to retain such portions of land as are equal to 200 per cent of the per-capita landholding in the locality. For those overseas Chinese who have become landlords after leaving the country, with the exception of their land, the rest of their property shall remain untouched.

Because all the property of the landlord class was procured from feudal exploitation—the result of the blood and sweat of the peasants—and was in turn used for further feudal exploitation, it is perfectly just to confiscate these properties and distribute them among the peasants.

Of course, the remnants of the reactionary elements of Chiang Kai-shek—agents of imperialism, the comprador and landlord classes—will not resign themselves to this policy of the Chinese People's Government. They attempt to violate our policy, make a hue and cry about it and spread all sorts of shameful rumours abroad.

Patriotic overseas Chinese and enlightened international friends do not believe in these shameful slanders. But there is still need to expose and mercilessly deal a blow to these shameful slanders which are calculated to undermine the prestige of the People's Government of New China. In exposing these slanders, the broad masses of overseas Chinese and other people will be able to see clearly the criminal face of the reactionaries and will not be deceived by them any more.

We appreciate the desire expressed in your letter to do something in the way of smashing the schemes of the reactionaries so that you may express your friendship for the peace and unity of the Chinese people. We hope that you will avail yourself of the opportunity of the close contacts you have with the overseas Chinese in New Zealand, as mentioned in your letter, to expose mercilessly and deal serious blows to the slanders and calumnies created by the reactionaries.

Peking,

Ho Hsiang-ning

March 18, 1952.

# P.L.A. Man Finds a Godmother in Tibet

Chang Ping

The sun was about to set. In its glow, the virgin forest that covered the valley appeared like a green mist. The mountain peak, capped with eternal snow, glistened like silver; its cliffs fell steeply to the roaring Lanchang river like the purple folds of a mantle.

Though it was July, the wind was as chilly here in Tibet as it might be in the month of September in the plains of Anhwei province, where I come from. At home the men would be harvesting *kaoliang* at this time, without any shirts on their backs. Different climates in the same season—how vast a country China is!

We had been in this region of southwest China for quite some time. We had worked in the fields and planted trees along the rapid streams, as P.L.A. men always do when they are stationed anywhere for a relatively long period. We had all grown very fond of the trees we had planted. We would go and water them and look at them every day, no matter how busy we were. Young Wu remarked about them: "In ten years' time, these saplings will have grown into trees. If we ever come back here, we'll find people resting in their shade."

We found comfort in having done something lasting into the future. When one of our comrades, Chang Ta-hai, who had been invalidated for a minor injury, returned from the army hospital, his first thought was to go to the river and have a look at the young trees. It was already dark, but he was quite content to feel them with his hands.

"Here I've been away only a couple of weeks," he said wonderingly, "and how much taller they have grown!" His smile was bright like a father's over his children's progress.

We had also built a highway up the mountain. Where there had formerly been a narrow winding path up to the summit, the road was now wide enough to take a dozen or more of us marching abreast. When we went out to gather firewood, we would deliberately avoid the short-cut home and return to headquarters via the new road, even though it meant walking two or three miles more; we liked the road we had built with our own hands that much.

One morning, while our squad was repairing the house we were living in for the owner, young Liu of the signal corps, from his vantage point atop the roof, called to me jokingly:

"Hey, Lieutenant, your godmother is coming to see you!"

And indeed, old Mrs. I-hsi-chih-ma, who lived in the valley below, was coming to pay us another one of her frequent calls.

How the old Tibetan woman came to be called my godmother is worthwhile recounting.

One day a few months earlier in March, the captain of my company told me to take a letter to regimental headquarters on horseback and return the same night.

In my home village, spring would mean budding willow trees. But here in Tibet, the weather was sub-zero, so that if one were not careful, one could get frost-bitten. Snow flurries were drifting down from the mountain.

On my return journey, snow was falling in thick flakes. It was bitterly cold in the whirling whiteness around me. The whole valley was deserted, not even a crow was hopping about.

I was about to climb the mountain when suddenly I caught sight of an old woman carrying a load of grain which must have weighed at least fifty or sixty catties. She was walking or, rather, plodding slowly in the snow, bent over, panting with the effort. The fierce blasts of the wind made her stagger.

As a P.L.A. fighter, educated by Chairman Mao, I dismounted at once, offering my horse to the grey-haired woman. At first, she shook her head in refusal. Finally, I persuaded her, in a mixture of Tibetan and Chinese, that the least I could do would be to carry the load for her. She insisted on leading the horse for me.

But after a few steps, she was falling behind. So I made frantic efforts to explain to her, in a hodgepodge language of my own invention, that she must mount the horse, that moving as slowly as we were doing in a snowstorm at dusk was dangerous. She did understand what I meant, and climbed on the horse.

Laboriously, we made our way through the knee-deep snow to her hut in the valley on the other side of the mountain. She asked me in, but I had to decline her invitation. To her question as to where I was billeted, I replied that we were in a small village across the stream, some distance up the slope.

It was already quite dark by the time I returned to my company. I reported to our captain and the political instructor what had happened on the road, and then had my supper. Somehow, I felt elated and fell quickly and soundly asleep.

In April, when the snow began at last to melt and the mountain valleys turned green, the herdsmen began driving cattle up from the village. Our unit was tilling reclaimed wasteland on the slopes. The land assigned to us was just a little distance from Mrs. I-hsi-chih-ma's house. We saw her trying to till her land, with the help of her twelve-year-old grandson. Quite obviously, the old woman and the young boy were having difficulties, for in several hours' hard work, they had managed to plough a piece of land only about as big as a mattress.

When we saw that, one of the men in our squad suggested to me that we use part of our rest periods to help the old woman. I was glad someone else had made the suggestion even before I could. So we asked our captain and the political instructor for permission, which was readily granted, and we began the ploughing of Mrs. I-hsi-chih-ma's land.

Who in our squad had not ploughed before? I myself, for instance, had had to work for the landlord when I was a mere child. All of us were skilled farmers, so we finished the ploughing and planting for Mrs. I-hsi-chih-ma in no time at all.

From then on, we were on the best of terms with her. When we had occasion to pass by her house on our way to dispatch a message, she would insist that we stop awhile. When we were busy working in the fields, she would bring us tea.

That year, the weather had been good; there was enough sunshine and rainfall too. Mrs. I-hsi-chih-ma said that the Liberation Army had brought good luck to the valley. According to her, the grain was growing much faster and taller than the year before. And as a matter of fact, the grain stalks, firmly grown with their big ears, did look good, swaying softly in the sunshine. Often, Mrs. I-hsi-chih-ma would take her grandson by the hand and lead him to the fields to admire the fine-looking crops. You could hear her say: "Ah Neu\*, look at those fields planted by the Liberation Army!"

One day I slipped and fell, hurting my leg badly so that I could not move. I had to lie flat on my back while the whole company was out cutting grass on the mountain. Young Wu boiled a kettle of drinking water for me and promised to look in on me soon. When they had left, the deep quiet in the deserted house lulled me to sleep.

Suddenly I felt something touching my leg. I thought at first that it might be the nurse come to treat my injury. But when I opened my eyes, I saw to my surprise it was Mrs. I-hsi-chih-ma dabbing at my leg with a piece of cotton soaked in tea.

I was at a loss for words. Her gentle, wrinkled face seemed lovelier to me than a pretty girl's dimples. Had she not worn the usual long, black garment of the Tibetan women, she would have resembled my own mother, with the grey hair playing around her temples. Only the little black mole just below my mother's mouth was lacking to make the resemblance complete.

While we were building the highway up the mountain, I left a hen I had made a pet of in Mrs. I-hsi-chih-ma's care. In the days following, the old woman came to me on the mountain bringing pots of milk or some beef she had cooked for me, despite my endeavours to make her understand that we in the P.L.A. could not accept such gifts from the local people whom we had come to serve. Mrs. I-hsi-chih-ma, however, was not to be thwarted in her purpose. She brought me cigarettes which she insisted I should take as they had been exchanged for eggs my hen had laid!

Each time she came, the old woman made sure I was clad warmly enough by feeling my uniform, or she would turn my hands over to see whether there were any callouses from working too hard. The comrades in my squad began teasing me. "Mrs. I-hsi-chih-ma acts as if she were our lieutenant's godmother." The name stuck, and everytime the old woman called on me after that, someone was sure to say, "Lieutenant, here comes your godmother!"

\*"Ah Neu" means "child" in Tibetan.

When I heard that our unit would be leaving the area, I asked our captain for leave. He laughed. "Going to call on your godmother, are you?"

I admitted I was planning to.

"Better take the language officer along with you, he will help you to make conversation more easily," he said.

During this visit, I asked Mrs. I-hsi-chih-ma to keep my pet hen for good, because we would be leaving soon.

The next day, she came in the early morning and insisted on taking our clothes and socks to be washed and mended. After she had gone, several of my comrades asked, "What sort of souvenir do you think we should give the old lady?"

I found it difficult to decide. But our machine-gunner Chang Teh-fa, who had been a handicraftsman before he joined the army, suggested at once: "Let's weave a basket for her. It'll be useful to carry fire-wood in."

Everybody shouted, "Excellent idea!" and the whole squad went immediately into action. Some cut willow twigs, others peeled them. And since our whole group worked on it, the basket was finished in a very short while.

When Mrs. I-hsi-chih-ma delivered the washed and mended clothes, she was immediately surrounded by the whole squad. Laughing and talking, we sat around her like a big family, after having presented the basket to her. Young Wu, the youngest in the whole company, stood at attention when she handed him his mended socks and shouted smartly: "Salute, Auntie!" Our whole crowd burst into laughter and Mrs. I-hsi-chih-ma laughed so that even more wrinkles lined her gentle face.

Later, she pulled me aside. Taking a handful of money out of her pocket, she smiled at me and tried to slip it into my hand. I had to refuse, but she whispered to me in a tone much as a mother would use when she soothes her child.

"Take it along," she said, "and buy some food with it for all of you on the journey."

I explained again that I could not accept her gift. She seemed very much put out, so I had to get the language officer to explain to her why a P.L.A. fighter could not accept gifts of this kind. The explanation turned into an argument which lasted for hours. It was a long time before my "godmother" comprehended why we could not accept the expression of her love for us in this form.

The incident recalled to my mind another old woman who showed her love for us. It was in 1949, when our unit crossed the Yangtse river and pushed southwards.

In a town in northern Anhwei the crowds had stopped us, showered us with laudatory banners, shot off fire-crackers in our honour, beat drums and gongs and handed us cups of wine to drink. A grey-haired old woman came up to me, holding a child in her arms.

She said to the baby who held a pair of soft shoes in his tiny hands, "Give them to Uncle, Little Shun!"

The child pushed the shoes at me, his bright eyes shining, his small mouth formed the word, "Uncle". I did not want to take the shoes, but the old woman quickly took them from the child and

stuffed them into my pack. She wagged an angry finger at me as she would a naughty boy: "I'll be very upset if you don't wear them."

A wave of emotion swept over me, bringing tears to my eyes. I shall never forget that woman

nor my Tibetan "godmother", just as I can never forget my own mother.

A P.L.A. fighter finds mothers everywhere, even as I found my "godmother" Mrs. I-hsi-chih-ma on a mountain in Tibet, the far southwest of China.

## An Answer to Our Readers on Lin Yu-tang

We have received several letters from our readers requesting information on Lin Yu-tang. One reader from India writes: "...After reading and hearing about the great achievements of your new China I begin to shed the misconceptions I had of your country...misconceptions largely fostered by Lin Yu-tang's book *My Country and My People*. I now realise that the picture the writer painted of China is not true after all...Some explanation is needed why Lin Yu-tang writes like that..."

Another reader writes: "I hope you will make clear the Chinese attitude to Lin Yu-tang. Though I myself can hardly tolerate the smugness and arrogance of his writing, there are others who think that he is a Chinese 'philosopher'. I often wonder whether one can be an authority on his own country after having been away for so many eventful years. Has Lin Yu-tang visited China at all recently and does he maintain contact with the writers of China?"

We have asked Lao Sheh (Lau Shaw), member of the All-China Federation of Writers, the well-known author of the novel *Rickshaw Boy*, the play *The Dragon Beard Ditch* and many other popular works, to answer our readers' queries. His reply is printed below.

Lin Yu-tang is regarded by all patriotic writers of New China as a Kuomintang hack, a man who has turned his back on his country and his people. His writings reveal him as a poseur, a pretender to much more erudition than he actually possesses and an out-and-out reactionary. No artful guise can conceal his real nature as a meretricious apologist for Chiang Kai-shek—the traitor hiding in Taiwan who has sold his birthright as a Chinese for American dollars.

Lin Yu-tang's chief claim to "fame" was his first book published in America, *My Country and My People*, a work that reveals the author's amazing ignorance of both. Written in a cynical vein, the book shows that Lin Yu-tang was spiritually never with the Chinese people, from whom he has now alienated himself completely. He never sought, nor wanted, to understand why the people rose against the tyranny of Kuomintang rule. "Sometimes," he moans, "one wishes that China had remained a monarchy...."

During the hard critical years when the Chinese nation was engaged in war against the Japanese fascists, Lin Yu-tang stood aloof from our mighty struggle against Japanese imperialist aggression. On one occasion he returned, declaring that he would stay with "his country and people" to the end, but only a few months later he hurried back to "safe" America, to go on marketing his "gentlemanly", decadent rubbish. He later put out *Vigil of a Nation*, which purported to describe the liberated areas which he never saw, and was promptly denounced in China as an insult to our people. This book, peddling the most discredited reactionary stories, exposed him completely as a spokesman of the rotten Kuomintang.

In his early journalistic days in China Lin Yu-tang called himself the "Little Critic". It was not until his U.S.-dollar royalties increased that it occurred to him that he was in reality a "Great Philosopher"—the role in which he now publicises himself. Here is a sample of the "depth" of Lin Yu-tang's thinking. In *Vigil of a Nation* he confidently predicted that as the Second World War ended, "the conditions of the Communist areas will be revealed", and the number of Chinese people "claimed to be under their rule will probably become 26,000". The Communist areas, Lin Yu-tang soliloquised, will "vanish from the map". When the time came, what "vanished from the map" was the evil regime of his master Chiang Kai-shek!

Lin Yu-tang's "major" book *My Country and My People* does not contain a single section on the great struggle of the Chinese masses over the centuries for the freedom and independence which they have now won. In this book Lin Yu-tang distorts the meaning of the May 4th Movement of 1919, which was wholly directed against imperialism and feudalism. For him the May 4th Movement was a matter of words, the advance of the *paihua*, or vernacular, over the classical literary style.

Buried in his own mean little world, Lin Yu-tang has been utterly incapable of even sensing the tremendous reality of China today. He is apparently quite content to remain a pedlar of warmed-over bits of sham old "Chinese philosophy" at a few more U.S. dollars for each instalment he puts between covers. As for the Chinese people, they have thrown him on the garbage heap of history long ago.

Peking,  
April 2, 1952

Lao Sheh

## Stalin Prizes for China's Writers

This year for the first time the Soviet Union presented its famed Stalin Prizes to seven foreign writers, four of them—Ting Ling, Chou Li-po, Ho Ching-chih and Ting Yi—well-beloved literary workers of the Chinese people.

These four artists, in their different ways, all tell of the struggles of the peasants to free themselves from the centuries-old yoke of feudalism. The two novels, *Sunshine on the Sangkan River* by Ting Ling and *Hurricane* by Chou Li-po, are vivid pictures of the land reform in the old liberated areas, stories built up from personal experiences. The opera of *The White-Haired Girl*\* jointly written by Ho Ching-chih and Ting Yi, exposes the relentless oppression of the peasants by the feudal landlords and their final overthrow by the people. Though coming from various social backgrounds, the authors have all lived in intimate contact with the masses of the peasants throughout mighty revolutionary struggles for emancipation, and through their art, we hear the authentic voice of the peasants of revolutionary China.

Here is the fruit of the leadership of Chairman Mao Tse-tung in art. Inspired by his call "to serve the people", given at the famous literary discussions in Yen-an in 1942, Chinese literature took a new direction. Writers and artists went to live in the front lines, rural areas and factories. For the first time, Chinese literature and art turned on a broad front to serve the masses of the people instead of the ruling classes. Under these circumstances, Ting Ling and her colleagues created their best works.

*Sunshine on the Sangkan River* is a story of the land reform in the North China area where Ting Ling herself saw it between 1946 and 1948. In this story, in spite of the efforts of the work team sent to aid the reform, many peasants are at first suspicious of the land reform policy, fall victim to the rumours spread by landlords and fail to launch a resolute struggle for the overthrow of the feudal

land system. The novel hinges on how the peasants finally discover the roots of their sufferings and overthrow the landlords.

Born in a feudal landlord family in Hunan, Ting Ling grew to hate the evils of her own class. After the early death of her father, her mother, under the influence of the revolutionary ideas then stirring the country towards the close of the Manchu dynasty, broke with the feudal clan and fled with her daughter to the city. It was on such a background that Ting Ling, while still in her teens, came to a knowledge of Communism at the "Shanghai University" established by Chu Chiu-pai and other comrades.

In 1927, Ting Ling began to write short stories and novels. Since then, *Flood, Mother, When I Was at Hsia Village* and *Sunshine on the Sangkan River* have been translated into several foreign languages. All her writings reflect the struggles against the reactionary regime; all are militant expressions of her revolutionary faith; but in the last mentioned alone we find in addition an approach to true proletarian realism.

*Sunshine on the Sangkan River*, a novel of 400 pages, was first published in 1949. Together with Chou Li-po's *Hurricane*, it serves as a veritable textbook for the work teams aiding the land reform. It has been translated into Russian, Lithuanian, Polish, Czech, Rumanian and Danish. The Russian edition alone has sold 500,000 copies.

*Hurricane*, Chou Li-po's first novel, was an outstanding success as soon as it was published in May, 1949. It tells how in the village of Yuanmaotun, land reform has been carried out by the peasants, aided by a work team under Captain Hsiao. The local landlord tyrant is overthrown, but as soon as the work team departs, Chang, a landlord agent, worms his way

into the Peasant Association, seizes the leadership and all but robs the peasants of the fruits of their victory. The timely return of Captain Hsiao finally enables the peasants to make an end of the reactionaries.

Son of a Hunan peasant, Chou Li-po has a deep knowledge of rural life. He is able to explain the backwardness of the peasants that exists alongside their revolutionary nature. Without the assistance given by the working class represented by Captain Hsiao's team, it is clear the peasants would not be able to consolidate their victory.

For eighteen years since he joined the Chinese Communist Party, Chou Li-po has served the people's cause as editor, lecturer, translator and writer, ringing the knell of the old society and heralding the advent of the new. This is the second time he has received the honour of the Stalin Prize. The first time was for his brilliant collaboration with the Soviet regisseur S. A. Gerasimov in the production of that outstanding documentary, *Liberated China*.

The authors of *The White-Haired Girl* have also made outstanding contributions to the development of our new arts. Ho Ching-chih is now head of the Playwrights' Room of the Central College of Drama in Peking, and Ting Yi is working as an editor in the Cultural Department of the Fourth Field Army.

Vanguard fighters in the struggle for the liberation of mankind, the Soviet people are reminded by these writings of their own experiences of struggles that are past. In these works, they learn through the intimate force of art about an important part of the profound reality of the life of their great allies—the Chinese people. It is in appreciation of this that the Soviet Union has honoured these four writers with the award of the Stalin Prize. It was no wonder that Ting Ling, on receiving the prize, accepted it not for herself, but as she said, "The glory of this belongs to the Chinese people and their great leader Chairman Mao Tse-tung."



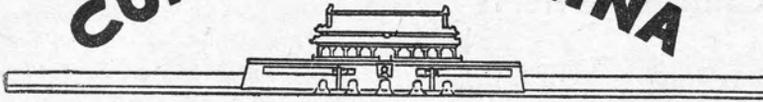
Ting Ling



Chou Li-po

\* See Vol. IV, No. 11 *People's China*.

# CURRENT CHINA



## Second Stage of Huai Project

The second stage of the Huai river water conservancy project is now well under way with more than 1 million peasants working on sites along the entire stretch of more than 1,000 kilometres.

The Huai river cuts across Honan, Anhwei and Kiangsu provinces. The first stage of the project, which was begun in November, 1950 and finished in July, 1951, aimed primarily at flood prevention. The entire river system was readjusted and reservoirs were built in the upper reaches. Begun last November, the second stage of the project emphasises the laying of a firm foundation for water utilisation such as irrigation, navigation and water power.

Work is now on a much greater scale than during the first stage. The volume of earthwork will be doubled moving some 400 million cubic metres, or twice as much as was involved in the building of the Panama Canal. The job in the present stage is to complete work on the dams of the two reservoirs at Paisha and Panchiao in Honan province and the big reservoir at Futseling in north Anhwei. In addition, many lakes and major and minor tributaries of the Huai river will be dredged, and many smaller dams, dykes and canals will be built.

In north Kiangsu province, 800,000 peasants have been working for the past month on the new 170-kilometre main irrigation canal, which will carry sufficient water to irrigate 1½ million hectares.

## New Dam West of Nanking

Five thousand workers are now constructing a 70-metre-high dam across the Pi river, a tributary of the Huai, 170 air-miles west of Nanking. With the completion of the dam in the summer of 1953, a 23-square-kilometre reservoir will be formed having a storage capacity of 470,000,000 cubic metres of water and supplying a generating station with a capacity of 1,100-2,000 kilowatts yearly.

The new dam will put an end to floods along the Pi river and make it navigable for bringing down tea, timber and bamboo produced in the Tapiéh mountain region. Saw mills and paper mills will be built in the vicinity of the dam and run on power from the hydro-electric plant.

## Shelter-Belt for East China

A huge afforestation scheme will in future protect East China from the devastation of typhoons and sea inundations. In the past, in north Kiangsu one-third of the crops along the coast were swept away every year by violent winds blowing in from the Pacific Ocean. Sea water frequently inundated the area and alkalisied the soil. Agricultural production was crippled.

The projected shelter-belt will cover over 500 kilometres. It will start at the mouth of the Yangtse river near Shanghai and cross the mouths of numerous waterways, including the Huai and Yi rivers. It will run about 500 kilometres northward along the sea dykes and finally join the forest on the Yuntai mountains. The new shelter-belt will cover more than 1½ million hectares, nearly one-third of the north Kiangsu plain.

Preparations for this project were made soon after liberation in 1949. Since then teams of experts have been making surveys of the area. Seedlings are now being nurtured on state farms and by peasants in East China.

After this project is completed in 1958 and the Huai river project is also finished, the face of this area will be radically changed. Bumper harvests will be assured on two million hectares of land and output will be increased by almost half.

## 1952 Agricultural Target

Agricultural plans drawn up by administrative areas for the current year indicate that the nation's 1952 plan for an increase of 3% in grain and 20% in cotton crop yields will be fulfilled and possibly surpassed.

Northeast China estimates it will produce 20 million tons of grain this year. This figure exceeds the 1949 harvest by almost 7 million tons.

North China is aiming to increase its grain harvest by 3,900,000 tons, which will make the harvest a record one. The cotton crop will be increased by 86,000 tons.

East China plans a 10% increase in grain crops. This will exceed the peak pre-war level by 5.6%. Cotton and other industrial crops will also be increased.

Central-South China, where land reform has not yet been completed, expects a big increase in agricultural production this year. For example, Kwangtung province has set a target for the rice crop nearly three quarters of a million tons above that of 1951.

These big increases will be achieved through scientific methods of cultivation, mainly by increasing the yield per-hectare, extensive irrigation and the greater use of improved seeds and fertilisers.

## State Stores Cut Prices

Prices in state department stores in Peking were cut on an average 5% (with some cuts as much as 20%) on 560 items as a result of the movement to eliminate corruption, waste and bureaucratism among workers in government organs and public enterprises.

Merchandise in the state department stores is mainly bought from private manufacturers. A small part is manufactured in state-owned factories. The stores usually supply the unfinished goods or raw materials to private manufacturers who contract to process them.

Elimination of corruption and excessive profit-taking by the manufacturers and merchants has made possible the present price cuts. The prices of paper from private manufacturers, for instance, has been cut 20%, matches 8.7%, rubber-soled shoes 10%, toilet articles such as soap, tooth brushes, stationery and other articles of daily use, 10-20%.

In future, before placing a contract with a private manufacturer, the workers in the factory will be consulted so that accurate estimates of the cost of processing and reasonable prices can be fixed, and ways devised of improving the quality of the products.

## Chronicle of Events

March 21

American aircraft in a total of 82 sorties intrude over Tsinguitze, Siuyen, Peichingtze, Antung, Chingyu, Changpai, Tsitsihar and Chiaho, Northeast China, and drop infected objects and insects.

Two Chinese pressmen are arrested in Hongkong on framed-up charges of using "inflammatory" language in the press. Their arrest follows that of seven other pressmen on the previous day.

March 22

On behalf of the government of the Rumanian People's Republic, Ambassador Rudenco presents Chairman Mao Tse-tung with two tractors in honour of the signing of the Sino-Rumanian Agreement on Cultural Co-operation.

The National Committee of the Chinese Textile Workers' Union issues a statement protesting to the Hongkong British Government against its killing of the Chinese textile worker, Chen Ta-yi.

A group of Chinese and foreign pressmen carry out on-the-spot investigations in the suburbs of Fushun, Northeast China, on the American use of germ warfare.

March 23

Premier Chou En-lai holds a reception to welcome a delegation of minority nationalities from Southwest China.

March 24

Chinese and foreign pressmen investigating American germ warfare in Northeast China see two American aircraft drop germ-laden feathers in the area of Liutaokou.

March 25

The Chinese delegation to the International Conference in Defence of Children leaves Peking for Vienna.

Passenger fares on all Chinese railways are unified.

March 26

The Commission of the International Association of Democratic Lawyers arrives in Shenyang (Mukden) to investigate reports of dissemination of bacteria-laden insects in the Northeast by the American imperialists.

March 27

The All-China Federation of Labour, in a message to Leon Strauss, chairman of the New York Provisional United Labour and People's Committee for May Day, calls on the American people to unite with the world's peoples to halt American germ warfare.

March 29

Jose Venturelli, famous Chilean painter, and his wife arrive in Peking.

## International Economic Conference

Business worth 10 million pounds sterling has been negotiated between the Chinese and British Delegations during the International Economic Conference held in Moscow from April 3-12, states Hsinhua News Agency.

Nan Han-chen, Director-general of the People's Bank of China, who heads the Chinese Delegation, addressing the plenary session urged the development of international economic relations on a basis of equality and mutual advantage. Describing New China's brilliant economic achievements, he stated that this land of 500 million diligent and industrious people offers great possibilities to world trade. Outlining the perspectives of China's trade, Lei Jen-min, Vice-Minister of Trade, said, given normal conditions of commerce, China can do trade with private enterprise countries to the value of 15-19,000 million rubles in the next two or three years.

March 31

Li Teh-chuan, Chairman of the Commission to Investigate the American Crime of Germ Warfare, issues a statement on the findings of the Commission.

April 1

Chinese entomologists, in a letter to the Royal Entomological Society of London, urge British entomologists not to participate in preparations for bacteriological warfare.

April 2

The International Association of Democratic Lawyers release their report in Peking giving incontrovertible evidence of American guilt for war crimes and use of bacteriological weapons in Northeast China and Korea.

Hu Cheng-hsiang, president of the Pathological Society of China, appeals to the Pathological Society of Great Britain and Ireland to oppose the waging of bacteriological warfare.

2,000 people gather to greet the Hungarian State People's Ensemble on its arrival in Peking.

# Letters

## U.S.A's Bestiality

BETTWS-Y-CLED, WALES

My wife and I are regular readers of *People's China* and would state that its appearance once a fortnight is like a breath of fresh air, compared with the warmongering propaganda of the capitalist press. All news about the Chinese People's Republic is distorted, always of course with an anti-Socialist bias.

The British people are sympathetic towards the new government of China and "Peace with China" councils are springing up all over the country and are receiving ever-widening support.

The people of this country, like the peoples of all West European countries are becoming more anti-American every day. I believe that if a British government were to join America in an attack on the people's China, the industrial workers of this country would strike and disrupt the national economy to such an extent that a government withdrawal would be inevitable.

We read daily, with horror, accounts of American-committed atrocities and acts of brutality against the civilian population of Korea. The latest use of bacteriological weapons is the U.S.A's final stage of degradation and fascist bestiality.

S. W.

## I Wish You Victory

GERMAN DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC

By chance I saw at a railway kiosk your *People's China* journal dated January 16. I have read with great interest the article by Li Teh-chuan (on public health in China) and also the other articles.

Mao Tse-tung's new year greetings to the people of China expressed what I felt in the innermost depths of my heart. I am sure that by your efforts you will soon be victorious in all the tasks you have set yourselves for the year 1952.

A. Zeiser

## Working People & China

GEORGETOWN, BRITISH GUIANA

Events taking place in the People's Republic of China are closely watched by the working people the world over, particularly in the "backward" areas like British Guiana. *People's China* will serve as an admirable medium for better understanding of the day-to-day events in New China.

C. J.

# A World Campaign Against U. S. Germ Warfare

A People's Commission, headed by Li Teh-chuan, president of the Chinese Red Cross, has completed a 2-week on-the-spot enquiry into American germ warfare in Northeast China. Its report, dated April 4, states that the evidence collected "conclusively establishes" the use of bacteriological warfare by the American aggressors over Northeast China.

In cities throughout China there have been mounting protests against this latest American crime. On March 18, 30,000 people demonstrated in Antung, Northeast China. There followed demonstrations in Harbin (150,000 participants), Kirin (60,000), Anshan (over 10,000), Kiamusze (over 15,000), Chengteh (18,000), Tsingtao (180,000), Chungking (12,000) and Tientsin (180,000).

Chinese entomologists and pathologists have appealed to their colleagues in Britain to oppose the waging of bacteriological warfare.

Democratic world organisations with international affiliations continued to demand strong action to put an end to germ warfare. On March 24, the International Association of Democratic Lawyers addressing Trygve Lie, Secretary General of the United Nations Organisation, urged that the Security Council "take all measures within its power to oppose the continuation of such crimes (germ warfare), to denounce the criminals and put an end to the war of intervention in Korea."

On March 28 the Association's Commission investigating the use of bacteriological weapons in Northeast China in its preliminary report to D.N. Pritt, I.A.D.L. chairman, warned that the American spreading of criminal acts to a country not at war "may have the most grave consequences for the peace of the world".

On March 29, at the World Peace Council's Executive Bureau meeting in Oslo, Kuo Mo-jo, vice-president stated that China would welcome the Council's initiative in organising a broad international commission to investigate American bacteriological warfare in China and Korea.

In the United Nations on March 19, Yakob Malik, Soviet delegate to the U.S. Disarmament Commission, repeated his demand of March 15 that there be an examination of the question of violation of the ban on bacteriological warfare.

The wave of public demonstrations continues to mount against the American crime. Protest rallies were held in cities throughout the Soviet Union. In Budapest, a mass

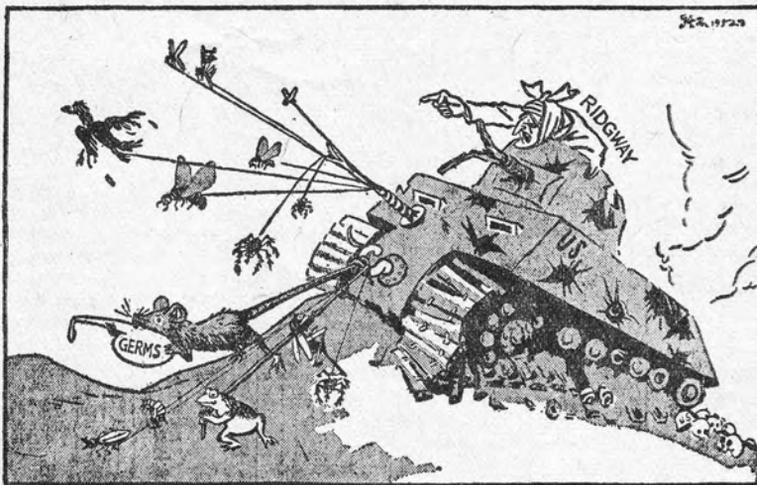
rally on March 19 demanded in the name of the city's 1,600,000 residents that the United Nations hold a public trial of those responsible. In Berlin on March 26 protests came from a mass meeting of 3,000 people. In Czechoslovakia, the faculty members of Charles University and leading scientists of other institutions met on March 25 to express their support for the nation-wide protest movement.

The Grand National Assembly of the Rumanian People's Republic, on behalf of the people of Rumania, at its sitting on March 26 condemned American germ warfare.

From Southeast Asia protests came from people's organisations. The Karachi Peace Committee, Pakistan, supported the March 8 statement of Frederic Joliot-Curie, chairman of the World Peace Council. S. A. Dange, general secretary of the All-India Trade Union Congress issued a statement condemning the barbarous American action. The Central Bureau of the Indonesian Trade Union Federation protested to the United Nations. The Burma Peace Committee appealed to the people to take effective action to stop the crime.

From western Europe protests came from the Britain-China Friendship Association, the British Electrical Trades Union, the Permanent Commission of the National Peace Council in France.

The significance of these actions was pointed out by the Peking *People's Daily* which wrote on April 7: "Determined action by all peace-loving people can prevent the outbreak of the war being prepared by the imperialists which will exterminate humanity."



**THE U.S. WAY OF DEATH**

A Cartoon by Chow Lu-shih from the "People's Daily"

## STRENGTHEN THE WORK OF THE PEOPLE'S REPRESENTATIVE CONFERENCES

(Continued from page 7)

According to the *Common Programme* adopted by the Chinese People's Political Consultative Conference, the organs for the exercise of state power by the people are the people's congresses or the people's representative conferences assuming the functions and powers of people's congresses at all levels; and the people's governments at all levels, which are elected by either of the former two. The people's governments at all levels shall be the organs exercising state power at their respective levels when the people's congresses, or the people's representative conferences which are assuming the functions and powers of people's congresses at all levels, are not in session. This is our state system. Thus we say: "Our country has adopted the People's Representative Conference and People's Congress as our state system."

This system differs in principle from the so-called "democratic," "parliamentary system" of the bourgeoisie. The democracy of the bourgeois parliamentary system is very narrow and restricted. The bourgeoisie imposes many restrictions, open and hidden, to prevent the labouring people from standing for election or from being elected as members of parliament. The parliaments of capitalist states serve only as a disputatious talking shop for the bourgeoisie. The people's representative conferences and the people's congresses are organs through which the masses can most advantageously participate in the management of state affairs. Here "decisions and actions are integrated." They are legislative organs as well as working bodies. In a capitalist state once a parliamentary candidate has been elected on the strength of false promises, he is not bound by the wishes of his electorate. In New China, on the contrary, the electorate can at any time recall a representative who is unfit for his post.

Why do we say that the people's representative conferences and the people's congresses form the basic system of our country? There are two reasons. Firstly, there are many systems in our country, such as the system of marriage, the taxation system, the judicial, military and educational systems, etc. These systems, however, can each present only one aspect of the political life of our country, while the system of the people's representative conferences and the people's congresses expresses the sum total of the political life of our country, and indicates the source of our political power. Thus the people's representative conferences and people's congresses are the basic system of our country.

Secondly, the system of the people's representative conferences and the people's congresses is a direct creation of the people's revolution. It does not derive from any laws of the past. As soon as the system of people's representative conferences and people's congresses is established, it can create other systems and make laws. Any other system will become effective only when ratified by the

people's representative conferences or people's congresses, or organs authorised by them.

In his opening speech to the first plenary session of the Chinese People's Political Consultative Conference, Chairman Mao said:

The Chinese People's Political Consultative Conference announces that it exercises the functions and powers of the All-China People's Congress. The Chinese People's Political Consultative Conference has on its agenda the formulation and adoption of the Organic Law of the Chinese People's Political Consultative Conference, the Organic Law of the Central People's Government of the People's Republic of China, and the *Common Programme* of the Chinese People's Political Consultative Conference.\*

This illustrates the above point. Since we have recognised the people's representative conferences and people's congresses as the basic system of our country, we must understand that, in order to build the state power of our country, we must first of all ensure that the people's representative conferences at all levels and of all circles be convened successfully. If the people's representative conferences are convened successfully, they should very quickly assume the functions and powers of people's congresses. The key problem at present is to see that the people's representative conferences of all circles at the county level are convened successfully. Generally speaking, the people's representative conference at the provincial level have been successfully held, but so far the people's representative conferences at district and *hsiang*† level, because of their vast number, have not received due attention from the leadership at the higher level. Thus if the people's representative conferences at county level are convened successfully, this will set an example to, and give guidance to the successful holding of people's representative conferences at the district or *hsiang* level.

Taking the country as a whole, the number of counties where people's representative conferences of all circles have not yet been convened is extremely small. Of the 2,068 counties in China (excluding Tibet and administrative units of county status in other regions) 2,038 or 98.5 per cent of the total have convoked people's representative conferences. But the number of counties where the people's representative conferences have assumed the functions and powers of people's congresses number only 186. The 331 counties and 17 banners‡ of the whole North China area have convoked people's representative conferences; but there are only 24 counties and one banner where the people's representative conferences have assumed the functions and powers of people's congresses.

I am of the opinion that in those counties where people's representative conferences have not yet assumed the functions and powers of people's congresses, they should do so without delay. The directives of the Government Administration Council lay down certain necessary conditions for the esta-

\*On *People's Democratic Dictatorship* by Mao Tse-tung, p. 41, Foreign Languages Press, Peking, 1951.

†An administrative unit embracing several villages.—Ed.

‡Administrative units in the Inner Mongolian Autonomous Region.—Ed.

ishment of the people's democratic state power, but these conditions are not difficult to meet, provided we have the resolve to create them. For example, where the counter-revolutionary forces have in the main been annihilated; the land reform has been completed; the mass of the people have been organised; the people's representative conferences have been convoked and the representatives can reflect the opinions of the masses to the government, and transmit the policies of the government to the masses, it can be said that conditions are ripe for these representatives to elect the members of the people's governments. It is incorrect by subjectively over-emphasising conditions to deliberately prevent the people's representative conferences from assuming the functions and powers of people's congresses.

It cannot be said that the general conditions in regions inhabited by national minorities are better than those in the old liberated areas, yet national autonomous governments or national democratic coalition governments have been established in not a few of these regions, and these governments are all elected by the representatives of the national minorities or of the people of all the various nationalities there. As soon as they have elected the members of the people's governments, they feel that they are the real masters of their own affairs and that state power is in their hands.

In those counties where the people's representative conferences have assumed the functions and powers of people's congresses and elected county heads and the members of the county people's governments, the people are elated, and their sense of having become their own masters is intensified.

If, however, the people's representative conferences have not yet assumed the functions and powers of people's congresses, then they cannot elect the people's governments and will not be qualified to become organs exercising state power. Prior to being elected, the local people's governments are appointed by the people's governments of a higher level. We certainly cannot and should not say that government personnel appointed by the people's governments of a higher level are not able to safeguard the democratic rights of the people. Nevertheless the method of appointing government personnel cannot give the people so intimate a feeling as the method of elections. The people all over the country have since liberation won liberty and democratic rights that they never enjoyed before, but the real nature of democracy and liberty enjoyed by the people must be consolidated by a form of democratic organisation, otherwise the people's democratic life would be unstable.

The people in Chiyuan county, Pingyuan province celebrated their election of the head of the county administration by decking the county with bright lanterns and decorations and organising "Kua kuan". (A local form of celebration in which the official rides on horseback through the streets to show he has received an official appointment.) Actually, the head of the county was still the same person who had held this post before, but because they had now elected him, the fact of his being elected brought the people closer to him, as their "very

own" official. And when the people have a closer feeling towards their head of the county, this raises the prestige of the government.

Quite recently, when the task of suppressing counter-revolutionaries was discussed in the people's representative conferences in various localities, it was reported that the feeling of the people as masters of the country was becoming stronger. This proves that the people everywhere hope to become the masters of their country, to manage the state and their own affairs through their own elected representatives. If the people's representative conferences are successfully convened in various localities, they will be in a better position to develop their work in many fields, and to correct any bad working methods—such as bureaucratism, commandism, and official arbitrariness. Not a few examples of such things are reported from various localities, but not one place reported that it did not want a people's representative conference. There have been reports which said that some people's representative conferences were not successfully convened, but that does not mean that the system of people's representative conferences is bad in itself; it just means that these people's representative conferences were not successful because we had not done our work well.

The People's Representative Conference is the offspring of the discussion meeting held by all-circles of the people. These discussion meetings were convened after people's governments had been set up in various localities. By widening the scope of the people's all-circles discussion meeting, it becomes a kind of deliberative people's representative conference of all circles. Such a representative conference is easy to convene and to link up with all sections of the mass of the people. But even now there are still some counties where, under the pretext of various difficulties, such conferences have not yet been convoked. This is wrong.

Many counties have convened people's representative conferences, but these are not made to assume the functions and powers of people's congresses although the aforementioned conditions have been met. This is also wrong.

**Some people may say:** "The masses are not (politically) conscious enough." There is absolutely no basis for such a statement. By what criterion do we gauge the (political) consciousness of the masses? We can gauge it only by the attitude of the masses towards revolutionary work. Today, the Government is leading the people in carrying out revolutionary tasks, such as land reform, suppression of counter-revolutionaries, and the movement to resist American aggression and aid Korea. And great victories have been achieved because of the enthusiastic support of the broad masses of the people. Can we say then that the people are not (politically) conscious enough?

**Some people may say:** "It is feared that some undesirable elements may become representatives." It is possible that some individuals of that kind may indeed become representatives; but since there are hundreds of representatives in the county all-circles people's representative conference, a few undesirable elements among them cannot exert much

influence. If our senses are not benumbed, we can expose them in our practical work. Won't that be a good education for the masses? What is there to be afraid of?

**Some people may say: "The cadres are not sufficiently qualified."** Although there is some truth in this, still, if the people's representative conference is successfully convened, many active elements who have real contact with the masses will emerge from among the representatives. So would this not be a good place for the state to train and select its cadres?

**Some people may say: "It is too troublesome."** Of course it takes a bit of trouble to hold a people's representative conference, but it must be understood that conferences are held in order to dispose of still bigger and more "troublesome" questions. To do revolutionary work means, in a sense, to "look for trouble". The revolution itself is a most "troublesome" thing! Countless martyrs have sacrificed their lives for its sake; would they have done it if they had been afraid of inviting "trouble"? The movement to resist American aggression and aid Korea is very "troublesome" indeed, but can we follow a policy of indifference towards American imperialist aggression just because we are afraid of inviting "trouble"? There is absolutely no reason for not holding people's representative conferences on the pretext that they are "troublesome".

**Some people may say: "The people's representative conferences do not play much of a role, so it does not matter whether we have them or not."** This is entirely wrong. The people's representative conferences are the best medium for conveying the policies of the government to the people, for reflecting the opinions of the people to the government, and for mobilising the broad masses of the people to accomplish the tasks of construction in various fields. Facts prove that if they are described as having no role to play, it is because we have not made them useful. The problem is not whether we can or cannot do without the people's representative conferences. They must be convened and cannot go by default. They must be improved every time they are convened. We cannot permit their not being convened at all, or convened only infrequently, because they are the basic system of our country.

**Some people may say: "The people's representative conferences are not as efficient as the cadres' meetings."** It is true that if the cadres' meetings are held successfully they can solve a lot of problems. They are also one of the essential means for pushing ahead our work, but a cadres' meeting cannot take the place of the people's representative conference. For example, a county cadres' meeting can never assume the functions and powers of the people's representative conference and elect the county people's government. What is more, the cadres' meetings cannot represent the basic system of our country as the people's representative conferences can. We say that ours is a country with a state system of people's representative conferences, but we can never say that our country is a "country with a state system of cadres' meetings."

If the meetings of the people's representative conferences are thrown together with the cadres'

meetings, they will become "all mixed-up meetings". This, too, is wrong. The people's representative conferences are organs of state power, through which the people rule as the masters of the country, but the cadres' meetings are only a means for expediting work. So the people's representative conferences and the cadres' meetings cannot be held jointly. Cadres may be invited to attend the people's representative conference when in session, but they have no right to vote as the representatives have. It is also incorrect to consider the people's representative conferences the same as meetings of people's organisations or of representative conferences dealing with special subjects, because these latter can only solve problems pertaining to themselves, and the resolutions they reach need sometimes to be referred to the organs of state power for approval before they become valid. But the people's representative conferences are themselves organs of state power, that is, organs exercising state power. The two are, therefore, entirely different from each other.

**Some people may ask: "Are cadres inferior to representatives?"** To formulate a question like this is incorrect. While the representatives are elected by the masses of the people, cadres are sometimes elected by the people's representative conferences, sometimes appointed from above. Both are servants of the people. From this viewpoint, as servants of the people, they are alike. But whereas representatives have the indisputable right to attend conference sessions, cadres attend only if invited. There is a great difference in the matter of rights between cadres invited to attend and representatives participating in the conference. If the representatives are also responsible for some actual work in the Government, they are at the same time cadres; if the cadres are elected representatives, then they are concurrently representatives. There is a great deal of difference between representatives and cadres. Thus, to make such an abstract comparison is incorrect.

**Some people may say: "The people's representative conferences are only forms of procedure to maintain contact with the masses, mobilising them to accomplish the tasks set by the Government."** This is also not quite correct. The people's representative conferences do play such a role before they assume the functions and powers of people's congresses. But they are definitely not merely that. As soon as the people's representative conferences assume the functions and powers of people's congresses, they become organs exercising state power, and their functions and powers greatly exceed those mentioned above.

**Some people pose the question: "Will the people's representative conferences be responsible to the leading state organs or to the people?"**

In his *On Coalition Government*, Chairman Mao said:

We link ourselves most closely with the largest section of the masses of the people. To serve the people heart and soul without a moment's isolation from the masses, to do everything in the interests of the people and not those of oneself or a small group, and to realise that our responsibility towards the people is consistent with our responsibility towards the leading bodies of the Party—these constitute our starting point.

Our leading organs must also be responsible to the people. To juxtapose responsibility to the leading organs against responsibility to the people is tantamount to saying that our leading organs are divorced from the masses, that the policies adopted by our leading organs are in contradiction to the interests of the people. If we realise that all policies adopted by our leading organs are based on the people's interests, then we will understand that responsibility to the people means responsibility to the leading organs, and *vice versa*.

**Some people pose the question: "Who is the master and who is the servant?"** The correct answer is that the people are the masters and the people's representatives and the government cadres are all their servants. That representatives can become cadres, and cadres can also become representatives, has already been said. But one point must be made clear: only the people's representative conferences or the people's congresses are organs exercising state power on behalf of the people, and represent the people as the masters of the country.

**Some people may say: "Those who fought for power do not wield it; those who wield power did not fight for it."** This way of thinking is entirely wrong. Ideologically, this means isolation from the masses, sitting on top of the masses and going against them. Those who think in this way show that they are concerned only with their own interests, are proud of their own contributions, think too well of themselves and are dissatisfied that the people are the masters of the country.

Everybody knows that it is mainly thanks to the Chinese Communist Party and to the Chinese People's Liberation Army led by the Party that we have won power. The Chinese Communist Party is a revolutionary party representing the working class; the Chinese People's Liberation Army is the revolutionary armed force of the working people. They all struggle for the liberation of the Chinese people, and it is only natural that when the people's revolution has won victory the broad masses of the people should rule the country under the leadership of the working class and the worker-peasant alliance.

Lenin said:

The class which took political power into its hands did so knowing that it took power alone. This is a part of the concept dictatorship of the proletariat.\*

Interpreting Lenin's words, Stalin said:

That does not mean, however, that the power of this one class, the class of the proletarians, which does not and cannot share power with any other class, does not need the support of an alliance with the labouring and exploited masses of other classes for the achievement of its aims.†

This makes it clear that the proletariat must seize power by its own efforts, although this does not mean ruling out the joint efforts of the masses.

At the commemorative meeting of the thirtieth anniversary of the Chinese Communist Party, Comrade Liu Shao-chi specially point out, when referring

\*Problems of Leninism, J. Stalin, p. 133, Foreign Languages Publishing House, Moscow, 1947.

†Ibid. p. 133

to the victory of the revolutionary cause led by the Party, that victory was due to the efforts of the broad masses of the people and the assistance of the various democratic parties, in addition to the leadership of the Party and Chairman Mao Tse-tung and the meritorious efforts of Party members and the P.L.A.

It is decidedly not for personal gain, but for the interests of the people, and mainly of the working people, that we joined the ranks of the revolution. It is in order that the people shall have power (shall be liberated and become the masters of the country) that we go forth with the people to "fight for power" (that is, the revolution).

At present the most urgent task in the building of our state power is the establishment of the system of people's representative conferences which will assume the functions and powers of people's congresses. When the people's representative conferences have assumed the functions and powers of people's congresses, then they will be vested with the right to elect the people's governments, and the main task in the building of the organs of state power will thus be accomplished.

But the people's governments are not merely government councils. Under them, there must be a certain number of working bodies. Take the county, for example. According to Article 6 of the *General Regulations Governing the Organisation of County People's Governments*, there are under the county people's government: (1) sections or bureaux of civil administration, finance, education and public security, etc.; (2) a county people's supervisory committee; (3) a county people's court; (4) an office of the county people's procurator. The county people's government must establish such working bodies in order to develop its work. At present, the administrative and judicial organs at all levels are not fully equipped for their work. We shall not discuss this problem here, but I must draw this to your attention: what if these organisations are not established this year, next year, and the year after next? The county heads and responsible cadres above that level should give thought to these problems.

There is yet another problem to consider—that of the standing committee after the adjournment of the county people's representative conference. Although the standing committee is not an organ exercising state power, it is an organisation of the united front and a deliberative body. There are many advantages in using this body for consultation on problems facing us. It is a very special feature of the democratic system of China to adopt these consultative forms—a brilliant achievement characteristic of the genius of Chairman Mao. Therefore, in building state power in the county, the work of the county standing committee must not be neglected.

### III

#### Relationship Between the Party and Organs of State Power

As the Chinese Communist Party has led the Chinese people in the revolution to seize power and establish the people's democratic dictatorship, it has become the party leading the organs of state power. This leadership rests upon the confidence of hundreds of millions of people. Chairman Mao said:

The Communist Party is a party that strives for the welfare of the nation and the people, it can never cherish any private interests of its own. From the thirty years' revolutionary practice of the Chinese Communist Party the broad masses of the people have found these words to be profoundly true. This is the reason why our Party has been able to gain the confidence of hundreds of millions of people. The *Common Programme* of the People's Political Consultative Conference and the *Organic Law* of the Central People's Government make it clear that state power in our country is under the leadership of the working class. The Chinese Communist Party being the vanguard of the working class, leadership of the working class is manifested through its vanguard.

How does the vanguard of the working class—the Communist Party—lead the organs of state power? The Party manifests its leadership through the work of its members in the organs of state power by getting them to accept the Party policies as state policies. Where there are over three Party members in an organ of state power, they will form a Party fraction which will ensure the leadership of the Party. Without the leadership of the Communist Party, the people's revolution could not have achieved victory, and the state power of the people's democratic dictatorship could not have been established or, even if established, could not be maintained and consolidated.

The Party leads the state power. But that does not in any way mean that the Party directly administers state affairs or that the Party and the state power are one and the same. Comrade Stalin said: "The Party is the core of this power, but it is not and cannot be identified with the state power."\* That is to say, the Party leads the state power, but it does not directly give orders to the organs of state power. The leadership of the Party in those organs at all levels should be interpreted thus: the organs of state power are strengthened by the Party and thus enabled fully to fulfil their functions; while to strengthen the work of the organs of state power, the support of the Party is necessary. With the support of the Party, the state organs will be better enabled to put Party policies into practice.

Lenin said: "All the work of the Party is carried on **through** the Soviets, which embrace the working masses irrespective of occupation."†

Stalin said: "Through the Soviets, all the sundry measures for strengthening the dictatorship and for building Socialism are carried out."‡

In 1928, Chairman Mao criticised as mistaken the Party's direct participation in the work of organs of state power. He said:

The Party enjoys far greater prestige and authority with the masses than the government. This is because the Party for convenience sake often handled matters directly, brushing aside the organs of political power. Such practices are common. In some places there are no Party fractions in the organs of political power. In others they have been established, but are not put to the best use. From now on the Party must carry out the task of guiding the government; but any of the measures proposed by the Party must be carried into effect through government organs. All the Party should do is to make propaganda for

these proposed measures. The Kuomintang's erroneous practice of bluntly issuing orders to the government should be avoided.\*

These directives from Lenin, Stalin and Chairman Mao must be taken as the guiding principles for our Party in leading the work of the Government.

In addition, the Party should in no circumstances ever confuse the functions of Party organs with those of state organs. On the one hand, because of having to lead the organs of state power, the Party should not arbitrarily take upon itself the work of the organs of state power, nor, on the other, because of having to lead the organs of state power, abandon its own functions.

Many excellent examples showing the leadership of the Central Committee of the Chinese Communist Party in the work of the Central People's Government are worth studying by our Party members. Never has the Central Committee of our Party directly issued orders to the Central People's Government. Laws and decrees promulgated by the Central People's Government as well as many important state documents are either first initiated, or drafted, by the Party (in no case has preparation and consideration by the Party been dispensed with) before they are passed to the National Committee of the People's Political Consultative Conference or its Standing Committee for discussions, prior to discussion and approval by the Central People's Government Council or the Government Administration Council. In the course of discussion, many excellent opinions are advanced from various quarters to supplement or improve on the first draft made by our Party so as to make it more perfect. This is the general procedure by which the Central People's Government decides on all important measures. We should adapt this method properly to other places in the country.

The correct relationship between the Party and the organs of state power should be as follows: (1) the Party should give definite guidance to the organs of state power as to the nature and direction of their work; (2) the Party should see to the execution of its policies through the organs of state power and their administrative departments, and supervise their activities; (3) choose and promote faithful, sincere and capable cadres (Party or non-Party) for work in the organs of state power.

It will help a great deal in the work of building state power if Party committees at all levels can arrange discussions on leading the work of organs of state power at their respective level. At the same time, people's governments at various levels should arrange regular sessions to discuss the work of the various departments under them and study the methods of leadership of our Government Administration Council. I hope that, on the basis of Chairman Mao's *On Democratic Dictatorship* and Vice-Chairman Liu Shao-chi's *Address to the Third Plenary Session of the Peking All-Circles People's Representative Conference*, we shall pass from unity of thought to unity of action in the task of building our state power.

\*Mao Tse-tung: *Struggle on Ching Kang Mountain*, Collected Works of Mao Tse-tung, Vol. I (Chinese Edition) p. 77-78. People's Publishing House, Peking, 1951.

\*Ibid. p. 143 †Ibid. p. 143 ‡Ibid. p. 138

## On the March in Korea



*A drawing made by Shao Yu on the Korean front.*

*In his dedication he writes:*

We march to free this lovely land—Korea.  
Before the ruins stands a mother and her children.  
No need to ask them where the father is.  
By their proud bearing we can see that he is a fighter  
of their People's Army.

As they watch us advance with hope and pride and confidence,  
We see in them the stubborn courage of their people.  
No need to ask why we have come from our dear Motherland,  
Each atom of ruins tells us—to resolutely annihilate a bestial  
enemy!