

PEOPLE'S 人民中国 CHINA



PEOPLE WILL TURN THE TIDE

—Soong Ching Ling

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1953

PEOPLE'S CHINA

A FORTNIGHTLY MAGAZINE

Editor: Liu Tsun-chi

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

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

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

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A New Epoch Begins For China

1953 will mark the beginning of a new epoch in the long history of the Chinese people.

The rehabilitation of the Chinese economy after decades of internal and external wars has been completed. Now, energies are being turned to large-scale, planned economic construction which will transform China from an agricultural into an industrial country.

During the three years since they established their own state and government, the liberated Chinese people have engaged in two tasks of tremendous magnitude: helping the Korean people repel the American aggression which has threatened their own borders, and rebuilding the political, economic and cultural life of the country.

Both tasks have been well carried out. In Korea, the aggressors have been pushed back, with vast casualties, to the 38th Parallel. At home, we have completed the agrarian reform among 428 million rural people; reached, and, in certain fields, surpassed pre-war production peaks in both agriculture and industry; balanced the budget, stabilised prices and built new railways, roads, factories, mines and huge water conservancy works. The wages of Chinese workers in various industries have risen between 65 and 120 per cent since 1949, and peasant incomes have improved still more. We are engaged in a great effort to end illiteracy. Education, literature and the arts are flourishing.

The economic consequences of centuries of misrule, however, are not to be completely overcome in the space of three years. Industrially, China is still weak. In order to develop production further and build a still more prosperous, still stronger country, we need many new factories and mines—and we must re-equip existing ones with the latest equipment. First of all, China must develop her heavy industry—the prerequisite to quick industrialisation.

The job ahead is, therefore, of gigantic proportions. But the Chinese people are certain that they can do it, and do it well. Their confidence rests on sure foundations—the rich natural resources of their country, the creative initiative of hundreds of millions of liberated men and women, the superior advantages of the people's democratic system, the wise leadership of the Communist Party headed by Chairman Mao Tse-tung, the selfless help of the Soviet Union, and unity with the entire camp of peace and democracy.

To accomplish the work that lies before them, the Chinese people need peace throughout the world. War brings destruction. Construction requires a peaceful environment. The Chinese people love peace because their hopes for the future are inextricably bound up with it. That is why the Chinese people regard it as their duty to continue to fight for a just and reasonable settlement of the Korean question and to demand an immediate cease-fire as well as to expose the efforts of all those who continue in one way or another to sabotage the Korean armistice talks and to attempt to spread the war further afield.

This is also why the Chinese people take an active part in the defence of peace everywhere, and why they support the decisions of the Congress of the Peoples for Peace which has just concluded in Vienna and rejoice in its great success. The people of China believe that peaceful coexistence between countries having different political and economic systems is not only possible but necessary, and they are ready to trade with other countries on the basis of equality and mutual benefit.

Industrialisation will bring prosperity and happiness to the 475 million Chinese people—one fourth of mankind—and is bound to contribute to the welfare of all humanity and the security and stability of the whole world.

People Will Turn the Tide

Soong Ching Ling

*Leader of the Chinese Delegation to the
Congress of the Peoples for Peace*

Mr. Chairman, Fellow Delegates and Dear Friends:

I bring you the hearty greetings of the peace-loving Chinese people. I bring you their wish that this Congress shall succeed in uniting all who want co-operation to reign in the world. Fresh from the victories achieved by the Peace Conference of the Asian and Pacific Regions, we join you with heightened determination to save the peace.

All of us have come here representing the overwhelming majority of the world's people. We have come here carrying the mandate of that majority. We have, in fact, come here to turn the tide for peace.

We are meeting at a time which can be termed a fork in the road of history. Before us lie two paths—one marked for war and devastation, the other, for peace, progress and the possibility of avoiding war for a prolonged period and perhaps forever.

History has often presented man with such a choice. Particularly in recent times has he frequently stood before two ways between which he has had to decide. Each time he has been forced down the road to war. Each time the decision was made for man, or we should say against him, by a handful of warmakers who ran the corporations and cartels which profited from wholesale destruction.

Today, when we again stand before that fork in the road, this same ruthless minority of mankind would turn us from the saner course, as before. But in this era, such decisions can no longer be made unilaterally without considering the desires of the majority. What is more, such decisions now have to be

made under changing circumstances, when the relationship of forces between the majority and the minority of mankind is undergoing a rapid transformation. World developments have caused a basic shift in the balance between those who demand peace for the earth and those who want war for their personal profit. The world peace movement, with the great Soviet people standing at the forefront, has gained considerably in strength. We have come to a point in our historical development where, for the first time, the majority can break through to a choice which is clearly in its own interest. This time man has the power to choose peace.

The substance of this power is the clear stand of the majority of mankind on the solutions to the present international tension, the universal desire to prevent war and to settle differences by negotiation. The base of this power is the growing realisation that world tranquility can be had if the people go after it with courage and persistence. Each day sees greater numbers of people understanding this power, which lies in their own hands. Each day sees greater numbers of people joining the ranks of those who recognise the threat to their well-being, who see the source of the threat, who see the urgency of the situation and are moved to act for peace. As a consequence, in many lands, bitterness has been expressed by the people against the monopolist perpetrators of the Korean agony. In lands where war-makers control the economy, there are protests and restiveness over the increasing taxes, the diminishing diet, the lack of schools, hospitals and houses. And in many countries which are still enslaved, a vigorous struggle for true national independence is now being waged. This struggle for national independence is closely linked with the fight for world peace.

Of course, we must take the total situation into account. We know how great is the people's will for peace. This magnificent Con-

The full text of the speech made on December 13, 1952, the second day of the Congress of the Peoples for Peace held in Vienna.

gress is an accurate indication of just how broad and immense that will be. But we know, too, that some of the power the people possess is still latent, especially in several sectors of the West. We know also that while our progress is significant, there are still important gaps in our work. And while our faith in the eventual victory of peace over war is steady and unwavering, still we have to go out and get that victory. We have, again and again, to display our courage and prove our sincerity by uniting with anyone who believes in negotiation rather than resort to force.

Thus, we do not under-estimate our strength in the fight for peace. Nor do we underestimate the threat of war. We can see the warmakers' area of influence shrinking. We can read and hear the bemoanings of their own spokesmen that they are losing the goodwill of the whole world. We can observe the process of splitting and isolation setting in as conflicts arise among allies over war policies, and as the aversion to war steadily mounts among the people. But we can also see that the warmakers' influence is still sizable, that they are utilising every kind of propaganda to distort the truth under the guise of "defence of freedom and collective security," and are advocating force and violence. As long as this is the situation, the world, you and I and our loved ones, are threatened by war. We dare not relax our efforts. Rather, we must lift them to new levels.

I come from Asia. The people of Asia are deeply perturbed by the fact that wars are already raging on our continent. They are positive in their demand that these wars, which have been forced on them, must cease — and that all threats of war must be removed. The Peace Conference of the Asian and Pacific Regions has demonstrated the determination of the 1,600 million people who live in these regions, the direction in which they are exerting their efforts.

In the Near East, in the Middle East and in North Africa, the people earnestly desire to achieve independence and freedom and to utilise their rich resources to build a peaceful life. But there are those who want to organise aggressive war blocs in these areas, who do not want to allow them either independence or self-rule.

In Western Europe, the North Atlantic aggressive bloc hangs like an ominous dark cloud over the peoples of Britain, France, Italy, the Netherlands and Northern Europe—and especially over the people of West Germany. These peoples have just emerged from the nightmare of a great war, yet they are again being saddled with a heavy burden of armaments and war preparations. Needless to say, they will not bend their backs docilely to this load. In the last few years, they have been making courageous efforts to throw it off and to secure peace, and today they are making even stronger efforts in this cause.

Peace-loving people throughout the world are hoping that the people of the United States will assume a special responsibility in this vital work. I am not referring to those already acting for peace. We know these friends will continue their work and intensify it, no matter how the repressions increase. I am speaking to those Americans, the majority of Americans, who desire peace in their minds and hearts but have not yet lifted a finger to get it. These do not yet see that their own well-being and future are intimately connected with the napalm raids and saturation bombing and the other murderous acts of the U.S. armed forces in Korea, and with the machinations of U.S. politicians in both Europe and Asia.

In all probability, you are somewhat puzzled by the attitude of the rest of the world towards the United States today. You are wondering why, despite all the sacrifices you felt you have made, the world is not grateful and is even angry at you for it. You must certainly have thought as you paid your taxes, accepted cuts in the purchasing power of your wages and saw your sons put into uniform, that all these things were necessary for some good purpose. But in fact you did not know, nor did you really inquire, where your money was going or how it was being used. You did not dig into the real meaning of the Marshall Plan, the Atlantic Pact, the Mutual Security Act, the "police action" in Korea and so forth. You did not know, perhaps, what the leaders of your own government have to admit today: all those billions and all those precious lives have gone for naught. They have brought only misery both at home and abroad, because they do not

bring what the people need most—food, homes and peace.

The fact is that the direction of the affairs of the American people has been allowed to fall into the hands of warmakers. They make your dollars and your sons work for them and for their purposes only. They build only for war; they spend only so that the money will wind up in their own pockets in the form of corporation profits which amounted to 41.8 billion dollars in 1951. They do all this under the pretence that somebody threatened your way of life, when actually the rest of the world is only interested in living its own life. They try to make the threat look real and to sell you a bill of goods, only so that they can keep the pot of profits boiling. This was the origin of the pacts for aggression, the "defence" communities, the combat divisions, the rearming of West Germany and Japan and the actual war in Korea.

And where has all of this led? As many of your leading businessmen, trade unionists, church leaders and scholars have said, it has put the United States on the road to disaster and threatens the rest of the world as it has never been threatened before. This does not mean the threat cannot and will not be met, and decisively, if the need arises. What it does mean is that the political and military leaders of the United States are attempting to spread havoc which is bound to engulf your own dear homes and loved ones, while you have not done anything to prevent it. They are stock-piling materials and armaments which can do them no good, and which you can neither eat nor wear. They are alienating all of Europe, Asia, Africa, the Middle East, and Latin America. They cannot even get support in West Germany and Japan, where the people and the youth do not want American arms and military training.

Mind you, all of this is being done in your name. Recently you have elected yourself a general to run your country. Of course, your elections are your own affair. We want nothing to do with that. But please remember that this general has said, among other things, that Asians should be used to fight Asians, presumably because he thinks Asian lives are cheaper than American lives. Now,

when the man you elect says things like this, and bases his policy on such ideas, then it becomes our business too. He is talking about our sons and daughters. He is talking about continuing the spoliation of our own lands, resources and cultures. He is talking about continuing the wars in Korea, Viet-Nam and Malaya. Yet, as you should know, all of Asia and the Pacific have recently demanded that these and all wars must stop immediately.

The American people cannot say that they have no responsibility in this matter. It was your votes which put such a person into the highest office of your land. Now he is about to continue the policies of his predecessor, only in a stepped-up and more dangerous way.

This Congress provides the American people, like all the rest of us, with an excellent opportunity to understand the issues which mankind faces today and their responsibilities in regard to these issues. We hope that it will provide the impetus for a widespread search for the truth, and stimulate widespread support for those who have come here to represent the American people. We hope that the American people will put a stop to the war policy of the United States Government and its encroachment on the national independence and national rights of other peoples.

In this struggle, so important to the peace movement, the people of the United States will not be alone. They should always keep in mind that the cause of peace has behind it the decisive mass of mankind, that it is a cause which cannot fail. The American President, Franklin D. Roosevelt, once told his people in a dire moment that they had nothing to fear but fear itself. This was a thought which inspired the whole nation. It should be brought forward once again, so once again it can do its work. It should inspire the people of the United States to rebuff the warmakers, to demand that the factories be turned to peaceful production, to demand that international co-operation be the keynote of foreign policy, to resolutely refuse to fight wars of aggression. If the American people can make this contribution, the world can be assured of peace that much the sooner. By such means all nations with different political systems and ways of life can surely coexist in peace.



Hold High the Banner of Peace!

*A poster dedicated to the Congress
of the Peoples for Peace*

In order to change the present situation, to fortify world peace, we should all positively carry out the following tasks:

We demand that all present wars cease, and particularly the Korean, Viet-Nam and Malayan conflicts. The American people should call Eisenhower to account for the promise which he made to the American people to settle the Korean war, on the strength of which he was elected president. We demand that the settlement be on the basis of a cease-fire, repatriation of all war prisoners, withdrawal of all foreign troops, and allowing the Korean people to settle their own problems; and not the substitution for United States troops by others, under Eisenhower's vicious policy of "Asians to fight Asians."

We demand that all war preparations stop, that armaments be immediately and substantially reduced, that the remilitarisation of West Germany and Japan cease immediately, that money and materials be used to meet the urgent requirements of the various nations and

especially for the welfare of the people. Further, we demand that concerted efforts be made on all sides to reduce all other international tensions and strains, and that these measures include the abolition of trade and cultural barriers.

We demand the conclusion of a Five-Power Peace Pact which is the wish of the Chinese people as well as the common desire of the people of the rest of the world; we demand that the United Nations carry out all the principles embodied in its Charter so as to restore the faith of the people of the world in the United Nations; we demand a strict ban on atomic, bacteriological, chemical and all other weapons of mass destruction.

We demand that there be no meddling by one country in another country's business, no infringement of territory or exertion of political pressure. All relationships must be as between equals.

Dear friends, our tasks are clearly defined. We can see that we have the strength of hundreds of millions behind us. But there are hundreds of millions more who are needed and who can be brought into the peace movement by virtue of the fact that peace is in their minds and hearts. Many are at present inarticulate. Many are as yet unorganised. We must open the way for them to join us and to speak out. Some of them will agree with everything which we advocate. Some will agree with only part or only with one point—that the world must have peace. Let us make and keep close contact with all. We will show them that we practise what we advocate. We will negotiate with them and together decide how we can best co-operate and move the world peace movement forward. United, the people will turn the tide of events towards peace.

Coming from China and knowing what amazing progress our people have made once they created stability in their own country, my vision of the world in peace is truly like that of a heaven on earth. This is a promise held out not only to our children, but it is something that we ourselves can enjoy, having built it in our own time.

Let us move on to peace and that bright new world!

Training The People's Civil Servants

An Tze-wen
Minister of Personnel

With the rapid development of every aspect of work in the People's Republic of China during the past three years and the still more rapid development foreseen in the immediate future, there is a great and growing demand for personnel of all kinds to serve the people's state.

It is the work of the Ministry of Personnel to administer, train, distribute and see to the welfare of the personnel in government organs and enterprises—or, as they are called in New China with pride and affection, the cadres of the people's state.

When the People's Republic of China was founded on October 1, 1949, there were in the whole country only 720,000 cadres, exclusive of military personnel. Now, as of September 20, 1952, there are 3,310,000 civilian cadres, an increase of more than four and a half times. This indicates something of the magnitude of the task faced by the Ministry of Personnel.

Where has this great number of new cadres come from? A very large percentage are politically active workers and peasants who came to the fore during the various great national movements carried out since the liberation of the country—the movement to resist American aggression and aid Korea, the great land reform movement, the patriotic movement of increasing production, the *san fan** and the *wu fan*** movements.

Another source of cadres are the graduates from the universities and vocational secondary schools. These young people are now joining

* The *san fan* movement—On New Year's Day, 1952, Chairman Mao Tse-tung called upon the whole nation to wipe out corruption, waste and bureaucratism among government personnel (abbreviated to the *san fan*, "three-anti movement" in Chinese).

** *Wu fan* means the "five-anti movement" among business circles, i.e. against bribery of government personnel, tax evasion, theft of state property, cheating on government contracts, and stealing economic information for private speculation.—Ed. P. C.

the nation's peaceful construction under a unified state plan of assignment. In the early days of liberation, a great number of students from the colleges and secondary schools were assigned to various government departments and enterprises after short periods of special training. The third reserve of cadres is the large number of intellectuals who received their training in the old society but who have received fresh training in line with the needs of the work.

This very considerable body of cadres now at work has enabled the People's Republic to make its rapid advances in so many spheres of constructive work, but, with a population of 475 million and the prospects of large-scale economic construction in the coming years, the country will need a constant addition of new cadres. The work of drawing these cadres from the ranks of the working class and the peasants, from among the young intellectuals and other social groups, will require careful and long-range planning.

Cadres From Schools and Colleges

One of the main methods of enlisting and training cadres is through the regular schools and colleges. More than 66,000 students graduated from institutions of higher learning in the past three years, and most of them were found suitable for assignment by the state under its unified plan. In the summer of 1951, for example, 99.4 per cent of the graduates took up such assignments mainly in the various economic enterprises and organs and especially in the factories and mines. In the summer of 1952, again, out of the 27,000 graduates, 16,000 were assigned to the enterprises and organs of economic construction, while 12,000 of them went to assist basic construction in factories and mines.

These young people have shown the finest characteristics of China's youth — energy and enthusiasm, eagerness to learn and improve their professional skills, honesty and dedica-

tion to the service of the people. After a period of practical training, most of them have become the junior core of their organisations.

In addition to the regular schools, many government organs have established their own specialised schools and training classes to develop cadres. The Ministries of Railways, Agriculture and Finance and other government departments, trained 11,200 cadres in this way in 1951. These courses are usually short, but the training, which is intensive and closely linked with the actual requirements of the work, has given good results.

Experience has shown that it is an important task to retrain personnel who got their practical experience of work in the old society, and to help them in adjusting their style of work to the needs of today. In order to help cadres to make these adjustments in their outlook, several People's Revolutionary Universities have been established. In the past three years, 100,000 students have graduated from these after acquiring a basic knowledge of social science and the various policies of the People's Government.

Retraining Cadres

In order to provide advanced training for cadres, an entirely new type of regular university has been established—the People's University. This gives training to those cadres who already have a certain amount of practical experience in their particular field of work and who can therefore be quickly given the necessary theoretical and special knowledge which will transform them into the well qualified specialists needed for national construction.

In 1951 and 1952, this university trained more than 2,600 cadres, 95 per cent of whom were cadres employed in various state organs and enterprises. There are now several such universities in various centres. Besides, in the summer of 1952, over 15,300 cadres who had an educational standard equivalent to that of a secondary school graduate were sent to various universities to raise their level of specialised knowledge.

Another method of retraining such cadres is by "rotation training." Temporarily freed from their work, the cadres of a government organ or enterprise in turn pass through short courses in ideological and political education, knowledge of government policies and profes-

sional techniques. This training has been carried out on a very large scale. In the past three years, more than 1,200,000 cadres, including a considerable number of cadres working in rural districts, have taken part in such training. Experience has shown that such courses have raised the level of political consciousness of these cadres and produced a new enthusiasm and spirit of initiative.

Great attention has also been paid to enabling the veteran revolutionary cadres who were workers and peasants under the old regime to get the formal education which they were deprived of in the past. Many special extension schools and short-term worker-peasant secondary schools have been established to give this training, and the number of these will be greatly increased in the near future.

In addition to this, all cadres of government organisations participate in routine reviews and discussions of their work as a means of helping to raise their professional and technical qualifications. Special attention is also paid to their political education. As a general rule, they have a study period of from one and a half to two hours each day. Thus, they are all acquiring a fundamental knowledge of Marxism-Leninism and of the history of the Chinese revolution. The history of the Chinese Communist Party and the *Selected Works of Mao Tse-tung* are also being studied.

These studies are all closely linked with the progress of the great movements previously referred to. Each of these great movements is a test of a cadre's knowledge, organisational ability and moral character. Each has strengthened the cadres in their dedication to the service of the people and the New Democracy. Those who have proved their quality in these movements have become the firm core of actual administrative and production work, and many of them have been promoted to more responsible positions.

Promotion of Cadres

Preliminary statistics from the North, Northeast, Northwest, East, Central-South and Southwest China show that more than 374,500 cadres were promoted to more responsible positions within a few months after the *san fan* movement, and over 24,500 of these were appointed to positions above the county level.

Particular attention has been paid to the promotion of new cadres from the ranks of the working class. As a result of the democratic reforms in industrial enterprises by which the leading role of the workers was consolidated and the other great national movements already referred to, a great number of working class activists were developed, large numbers of whom were promoted to more responsible posts. In the past three years, more than 84,000 such cadres were trained and appointed to leading positions in Northeast China alone.

These new cadres from the working class have a high degree of revolutionary enthusiasm. They are able to maintain close contact with the masses of the workers; they understand the techniques of production; they possess practical knowledge of actual working conditions and know how to develop and rely on the initiative of the masses of the workers in order to solve production problems. Because of these qualities, they have been able to exert a significant influence in carrying through the democratic reforms in the various state enterprises and in developing production. Our experience in the work of promoting cadres has shown us that close links between the leading personnel and the masses must be maintained; the abilities and character of the cadres before they are promoted must be carefully considered; and careful training and active assistance to cadres both before and after promotion must be given.

Re-distribution of Cadres

Great importance attaches to the work of re-distributing and assigning cadres according to the needs of national construction. In 1949, for example, a large number of cadres were transferred from the old liberated areas to the newly liberated cities and rural areas to build up the main structure of the People's Government and to carry out land reform in the newly liberated regions. In the past few years, a yearly number of 300,000 cadres took part in the land reform movement. Furthermore, we have temporarily transferred over 40,000 cadres to take part in the Huai River project and nearly 5,000 in the construction of the Chinkiang Flood Detention Basin on the middle reaches of the Yangtze River.

Beginning with 1951, in order to meet the growing needs of industrial rehabilitation and

reconstruction, large numbers of outstanding cadres were transferred to factories, mines and other state enterprises. Incomplete statistics from October, 1951 to October, 1952 show that more than 54,000 cadres were so transferred.

In addition to these, a large number of young intellectuals also entered the factories, mines and other state enterprises during the period October, 1951 to October, 1952. These numbered 15,000 in the Northeast, Northwest, East, Central-South and Southwest China.

The transfer of veteran revolutionary cadres to the new work of industrial management has produced excellent results. Great credit goes to them for mastering their new work so quickly. Although the vast majority of them had never done such economic work before and were not acquainted with such technical processes, they have a well-rounded outlook, are clear and definite in their views and have a certain theoretical knowledge of Marxism-Leninism. They are accustomed to coping with difficulties; they have organising ability and know how to maintain close contacts with the masses. Thus most of them, after a period of hard study and practical experience, have been able to do their new jobs very satisfactorily. The idea that veteran revolutionary cadres cannot direct a factory and that only the old managerial staffs are qualified to run industrial enterprises has been proved completely wrong.

The rational re-distribution of available technical cadres has greatly helped in solving the problems caused by the lack of technical personnel in the country. In addition to the intensified training of cadres, such re-distribution will continue.

Cadres' Improved Conditions

During the long years of the revolutionary war, the material conditions under which our cadres lived were very hard, and even in the period immediately succeeding the establishment of the Central People's Government, our state finances were still faced with great difficulties. On the one hand, support for the liberation fronts had to be maintained, while on the other, it was necessary to restore the national economy destroyed by the long years of war and invasion. Improvements were made in the material conditions of our cadres after 1949, but their life was still hard. The fur-

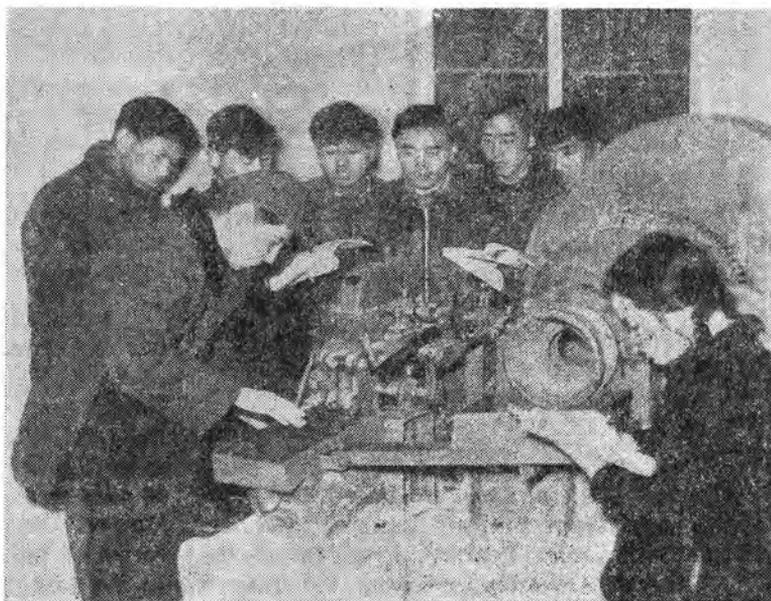
ther improvement of the financial and economic condition of the country as a whole and the raising of the standards of living of the broad masses of the people that has been brought about in the past three years have enabled the People's Government to make substantial increases in the real wages of its cadres.

During 1951 and 1952, all government agencies throughout the country made upward adjustments in cadres' wages in accordance with the unified directives of the Central People's Government. For example, in September, 1951, the wages of cadres in government agencies directly under the Central People's Government were increased on an average by more than 11 per cent. In Northeast China, the adjustment of May, 1951 brought an average increase of 15 per cent, while another adjustment in April, 1952 brought the total rise to 30 per cent.

The standards of subsistence, welfare and subsidiary grants to the families of cadres who are living on the so-called "provision system"* have also been increased. This assures these cadres of an adequate standard of living, and many everyday living problems that inevitably arose in the past have been solved satisfactorily.

In March, 1952, the State Administration Council issued draft regulations for a unified increase of subsidies to personnel working under the "provision system," and in July, it approved and promulgated standard scales of subsidies and wages for all cadres of the Peo-

* Cadres who are paid under this system do not draw a fixed salary. The state provides them and members of their family with foodstuffs, living quarters and other necessities up to a certain standard, as well as subsidies in money for current expenses. This system was one of the remarkable features of the life of the devoted cadres instituted during the early days of the revolutionary movement. It is being gradually replaced by the regular wage system.—Ed. P. C.



New China is training thousands of young cadres for her rapidly developing industry. Our picture shows students having a practical lesson at the newly-established Peking Iron and Steel Institute

ple's Government. These regulations are the foundation for a unified system of material rewards for personnel working in government agencies, and they have also resulted in a further considerable improvement in their standard of living. Cadres' wages will in general be increased from 10 to 30 per cent throughout the country, or by more than 30 per cent in some special areas.

At the same time, on July 1, 1952, the State Administration Council issued a directive for the extension of free medical services to the working personnel of all levels of the People's Government throughout the country, of the various political parties, people's organizations and their various organs and enterprises. In addition, expenditure on welfare services for the cadres has been increasing in the past few years; thus the difficulties of those cadres who have heavy family responsibilities have been fundamentally solved.

The continuous improvement of the standard of living of the broad masses of the people, including the cadres, is one of our fundamental national policies. Although much has been done in this respect, much, as we know, still remains to be done. The economic development of our country is the assurance of further steady improvement.

Stop the Slaughter in Korea!

In the latest of a series of brutal massacres of unarmed prisoners of war, this time in the U.S. stockade at Pongam Island, 87 P.O.W.'s of the Korean and Chinese side were killed and 120 were wounded on December 14, 1952. The prisoners were shot at point-blank range from automatics and machine-guns as they stood singing patriotic songs. This much is admitted by the U.S. camp authorities.

Foreign Minister Chou En-lai on December 21 lodged a stern protest* against this new outrage with Lester Pearson, President of the U.N. General Assembly, pointing out that it followed immediately on the adoption by the General Assembly of the illegal resolution on the Korean question which was based on the Indian draft resolution.

This latest of U.S. crimes has shown up with still greater clarity the loathesome hypocrisy of the American military chiefs who pretend to be holding the prisoners in order to "protect them." China's Foreign Minister demands that an end be put to these bestial

crimes; that those responsible for them be severely punished. He calls again for an end to the war in Korea with all its horrors.

In his reply to Lester Pearson on December 14* rejecting the December 3rd resolution of the U.N. General Assembly as illegal, Chou En-lai pointed out that in fact the resolution fully accepts the U.S. stand for the forcible detention of prisoners of war after the signing of an armistice, in contravention of the Geneva Convention, humanitarian principles and the terms of the Draft Armistice Agreement itself. In the past year, more than 3,000 P.O.W.'s have been killed or wounded by the U.S. forces in pursuance of their object of forcible detention of P.O.W.'s. In these circumstances, the resolution condoned and abetted the bestial violence of the U.S. forces. This was soon made tragically evident.

Even while the seventh session of the General Assembly was meeting, the American army was massacring hundreds of P.O.W.'s for such "crimes" as "communicating with another prisoner," "passing a message to another prisoner," etc. It is only too clear that the

* Printed as a supplement to this issue.

October 13, 14:
Koje. 11 P.O.W's wounded

October 14:
Koje. 15 P.O.W's wounded

October 23:
Pusan. 9 P.O.W's wounded

October 26:
Koje. 76 P.O.W's killed or wounded

October 27:
Yongchon. 5 P.O.W's wounded

October 28, 29, 30:
Koje and Cheju. 180 P.O.W's killed or wounded

November 6:
Pongam. 21 P.O.W's wounded

November 11:
Cheju. 1 P.O.W. killed

November 16:
Koje. 1 P.O.W. killed

November 25:
Koje. 32 P.O.W's wounded

November 29:
Koje. 1 P.O.W. wounded

December 4:
Koje. 11 P.O.W's wounded

December 7:
Koje. 1 P.O.W. killed and 1 wounded

December 10:
Koje. 1 P.O.W. killed and 4 P.O.W's wounded

December 11:
Koje. 2 P.O.W's wounded

December 14:
Pongam. 87 P.O.W's killed and 120 wounded

THE BLACK RECORD

U.S. CRIMES AGAINST KOREAN AND CHINESE P.O.W'S

On October 14, the seventh session of the U.N. General Assembly began.

Pongam mass murder was the result of the direct encouragement given by the adoption of the illegal resolution; it proves once more that what the so-called principle of "voluntary repatriation" or "no forcible repatriation" advocated by the U.S. really means is the use of murder to force prisoners to remain in U.S. custody.

The soldiers of the various nations serving under the U.S. command in Korea are also paying a heavy price for the criminal policies approved by the U.S. satellites. In another vain effort to put "military pressure" on the Korean people, Van Fleet launched an attack in the Sankumryung sector north of Kumhua on October 14, the day the General Assembly opened. More than 25,000 U.S. and satellite troops were killed or wounded, and over 250 planes were shot down or damaged in the one and a half months' fighting which followed and

which resulted in complete defeat for the U.S. forces.

The atrocities against Korean and Chinese P.O.W.'s and the casualties in the Korean war can only be ended by stopping the shooting in Korea. The people of the world demand an immediate end to all fighting in Korea as a first step to a reasonable settlement of the whole Korean question. This was the unanimous demand made by the 1,857 representatives of hundreds of millions of people of all lands, including the United States, who met recently at the great Congress for Peace in Vienna. The U.N. must take heed of this demand. If the illegal resolution is allowed to stand, as Chou En-lai has warned Lester Pearson in his reply, "all those who support the war policies of the ruling clique of the United States must bear the grave responsibility for the consequences of such action."—L.P.C.

What Is Your Decision?

Joan Hinton



It was in Peking's "Forbidden City" that we heard them: Enoch, Quinn, O'Neal, Kniss—four voices, so different, yet so much alike.

"My name is Kenneth L. Enoch, First Lieutenant in the U.S. Air Force...." came the first, a voice so certainly American.

"...I had thirty ordinary missions and two germ-bombing missions...."

Clearly, distinctly, the words filled the room. One by one, they sank echolessly into the huge beams above us, as though their bitter truth were being trapped forever in the depth of this ancient hall. They told of the bacteriological warfare lectures, of the assignments, the secrecy, and then—

"...In the Sariwon area, we let down to 500 feet and at 200 miles per hour airspeed, we dropped the two germ bombs...."

So simple....

Nothing's barred in war, it's all the same...but is it? In spite of themselves, the boys began to think.

With the steadied anger of one who at last realises he's been deceived, Quinn's high, thin voice poured from the moving reel—

"Because I am a soldier I must follow orders....I could not refuse to do this crime. But on the other hand I was the person who did this inhuman crime against the people, by

carrying germ bombs and dropping them where innocent women and children would be the most likely victims."

We sat there in silence, listening, wondering. Yes, we, too, were Americans, ordinary Americans like these boys; and deep in our hearts we all knew, if we had been in their position, trained as they were, we, too, would have done the same.

* * *

As I listened, memories of Los Alamos—the people, the mountains, the laboratories tucked away in canyons—crowded before me.

Why had we been there?

What had we felt? Guilty?—No.

Like the boys when they dropped the bombs, though we were uneasy, we never thought to blame ourselves personally for our share in the destruction of human lives. To them "orders were orders," to us—we were "pure" scientists, seeking the truth, and "the truth has no morals."

But why this "truth"? Why atomic bombs?

Because Nazi Germany was working on it too... "defence"....

But if they could be made—were they to be used? This was never stated. And as O'Neal said of himself, so it was with most of us—"I tried as much as I could not to think about it"—we were pure in our "pure" science, working on an academic question—so we thought. The use of our discoveries—that was up to the government.

We sat in our laboratories, recording the ticks of geiger counters, arguing over "scattering cross sections," lost in a world of atoms. And on Sundays there were the mountains, the fresh rabbit tracks across shimmering fields of white, and the ringing echo of laughing voices in a pile of skis and snow.

Joan Hinton, a nuclear physicist formerly working at the Los Alamos atomic plant in New Mexico, was one of the U.S. delegates to the Peace Conference of the Asian and Pacific Regions. She wrote these reflections while listening to the testimonies of U.S. germ-war airmen. "The eyes of the world are focused on you," she tells U.S. physicists, and asks, "What is your decision?"

Casual talk of the hydrogen bomb....

This was our life—reality to us. Suffering? People dying?—impossible—our calculations were so harmless and our world so beautiful....

That is, until Harry died.

As the voices of the pilots talked on—of typhus, cholera, smallpox, plague—of lectures on atom bombs—one began to wonder. They were briefed on germ warfare, then ordered to drop germ bombs, they were briefed on atomic warfare—and then?

Again I thought of Harry....

The way he rubbed his swollen hand on the way up in the car.

The way he reached in his pocket to hand over his coins.

And that strange intangible feeling, when those nickels were so "hot" that the geiger counter jammed,—when I suddenly realised "Harry's got it bad."

It took him a month to die—his body slowly rotting away. Bit by bit his hair fell out, his teeth loosened, his body swelled into one big blister. Then—peritonitis, insanity, death.... And we sat there and watched, and there was nothing we could do.

But Harry was only one. What about Japan? Our pure science, our preoccupation with our own tiny world, had suddenly come to this—to Harry multiplied 150,000 times.

* * *

And now, seven years later, bacteriological warfare against the Koreans and Chinese, and again pilots are being briefed anew for atomic warfare.... But the scientists still work on! Thinking politics beneath them, they have found themselves gradually caught in an ever tightening noose, until now they are forced to sell their souls if they wish to continue in research. For those with a conscience, for those who speak out, it is beginning to mean their bread.

Yet the majority, like the majority of Americans, are wrapped in a cloak of ignorance. They are told they are working for defence, and they tend to believe it.

But what has "defence" to do with Korea? Who are the Koreans? What menace are they to Americans? Why should we be trying to exterminate them as a people—strafing them, bombing them, burning them with napalm? Secretly, in mad desperation, spread their land with virulent bacteria—a last bitter attempt to wipe them out with plague, cholera, encephalitis?

We? Yes, we, the American people, have let this happen, through our indifference, through our lack of political awareness, through our irresponsibility in allowing such men to gain control.

* * *

And again the voice of O'Neal called out from the moving reel.... "The United States Government knows these facts.... But the people don't know, because the Government doesn't want them to know.... When I think of my future, when I think of some day... when my son asked me what I did in Korea, how can I tell him that I came over here and dropped germ bombs on people...? How can I go back and face my family in a civilised world? ...But when the full realisation of what I had done came to me, the suffering and misery that I've caused, it was enough to split my very soul asunder...."

And later....

"Have you thought...that the very fact of having made this testimony about bacteriological warfare may, could lead to some reprisals against your family in the United States?... I don't know ... whether when you yourself return the military or the authorities might take some action against you," came the voice of Dr. Olivo Oliviero, member of the International Scientific Commission, then questioning Kniss.

"Yes, I did," he answered. "I gave that considerable thought.... If they in any form take reprisals on my wife...my parents, any member of our family, they will only be admitting their guilt to this method of warfare. I have enough faith in the American people.... the average American, that they will not allow anything to happen to my wife. As for myself,

they may try some sort of reprisal. Again, the American people on policy will stand behind me 100 per cent. If they don't, I mean, there are some things a man has got to stand up and fight, I mean, it'll never be conquered laying down or merely accepting it very meekly."

The reel was finished. For a minute, we sat there in the great silent hall, thinking. Four men had stood up. Four men had dared to tell the truth.

* * *

There will be screams of "Fakes!"—but no one who heard these voices will be fooled. Only Americans can speak "American"! And that tinge of southern drawl in O'Neal's "ma-own fam'ly" is more genuine than a thousand documents could ever be. No...these boys are real. Germ warfare is real. And it's time we Americans understood what is being done in our name.

Sitting there, I could not help but think again of you physicists, wherever you may be, at Los Alamos, at Hanford, at Tennessee, at Chicago, you who are still working on atomic bombs—do you ever wonder what it is you are doing with your lives? How much longer can you stand to sell your dignity as human beings, to mutilate science under the cloak of "defence"? Who is it you are working to annihilate? In Pyongyang, Korea, there was an old man by the name of Han Sang Kuk—but he's dead now. He and his two small grandchildren—dead of cholera. Their crime?—Playing with strange flies found in their yard after the circling of U.S. planes.

These are the people you are aiming to kill. These babies, these old people, what threat are they to you?

Today, when the eyes of the world are focused on you, there is this you must understand: it's not through fear that they condemn you; the people know their strength; they have no doubt as to who would win if the U.S. were to start another world war.

No, it is in the name of peace, of life, of the dignity of science and man that they condemn you, that they ask—What Is Your Decision?

Peking's Many Stages

Jack Chen

Kublai Khan in all his magnificence never enjoyed such splendid theatrical shows as the workers of liberated Peking do today. Never in the history of this theatrical capital of China has there been such a variety of plays and styles of presentation. There is an unrivalled collection of acting talent. The staging at its best is superb.

The theatre of Peking today runs the gamut of dramatic production from East to West. It includes masterpieces of deep antiquity and of today, simple folk drama and polished professional productions. The ferment of revolution is inducing deep changes in all these many forms. New theatrical forms are evolving. Some are emerging, as they often have in the past, from the inexhaustible loam of folk art. Others are appearing out of a synthesis of progressive modern and traditional Chinese forms. Yet because of the all pervading surge of revolutionary thought inspired by great common aims and the principles of a New Democratic culture, the general impression in all this astonishing variety is not of confusion, but of a garden in which an expert is raising many varied blossoms and some extremely skilful grafts.

And this is a much frequented garden. This is true not only for the twenty-four large theatre groups playing at the Masses and the Youth Palace Theatre and others but for the more than two dozen little theatres along the Hsitan, at the "Bridge of Heaven," and for the "melody arts" (*chiu yi*) and acrobatic troupes of the markets and fair grounds and of its first Children's Theatre. Four million people visited theatres in Peking last year.

The intense interest of the audience is quite unlike anything in the past. Peking was always a theatre-loving capital. But except for the revolutionary stage developed by the progressive intellectuals, attendance was a haphazard affair. The audience came and went, talked, gossiped and ate during the acts

until some particular star or scene appeared. Not so today. There is too much of new interest now on the stages.

Classical Theatre Most Popular

The classical *ching hsi* (or Peking Opera) still holds pride of place. This rich art, in which Mei Lan-fang and his troupe holds an unchallenged pre-eminence, is undergoing a brilliant renaissance. *Ching hsi* developed at the imperial court as the most refined expression of the classical stage. Now this magnificent heritage has been returned to the people. Peking has 29 troupes in this style with over 1,500 members. They are now undertaking a basic re-assessment of the classical repertoire from a modern outlook.*

The theatre festival recently organised in Peking by the Ministry of Culture gave an unrivalled opportunity of seeing the various types of classical theatre. Theatrical troupes (both state supported and privately promoted) from all over China took part in it; 1,600 dramatic workers presented more than 20 styles of drama in Peking theatres. The *ching hsi* again showed its outstanding role as an example of polished art.

An eminent success was scored by Li Shao-chun in the role of Monkey Sun Wu-kung in heaven. Monkey storms a heaven peopled by beings with superhuman qualities of egotism, cowardice, conceit or frustrated rage—supermen in everything but intellect. They rave and rant, but all go down before Monkey's sharp wits and mighty iron staff. Li Shao-chun evokes the image of Monkey by supple monkeyish gestures, suggestive, pantomimic but never by outright mimicry. This is the typically restrained style of the classic actor. Yet there are some superb moments of "slapstick" comedy. When Monkey steals the Pears of Longevity from heaven, he can't resist appropriat-

* See *The Reform of the Chinese Classical Theatre*, People's China, No. 1, 1951.



A scene from the opera *Wang Kuei and Li Hsiang-Hsiang* produced by the Peking People's Art Theatre. Libretto by Li Po-chao. Li Hsiang-hsiang is saved from a forced marriage to the local landlord tyrant by the timely arrival of her peasant lover, Wang Kuei, and his comrade guerilla fighters

Scenes From Peking's Theatres

Monkey Puts Heaven in Disorder—a Ming Dynasty story produced by the Chinese Drama Research Institute in *ching hsi*, or classical Peking Opera style. Li Shao-chun (seated), a National Theatre Festival laureate, gives an outstanding performance as Monkey



Peking'

The classical thea
modern plays an
make Peking



The Clever Girl Liu,
a Peking Ping Chu
Experimental Troupe
production, is a tale of
modern marriage. Hsin
Feng-hsia (left), Thea-
tre Festival laureate,
in the title role



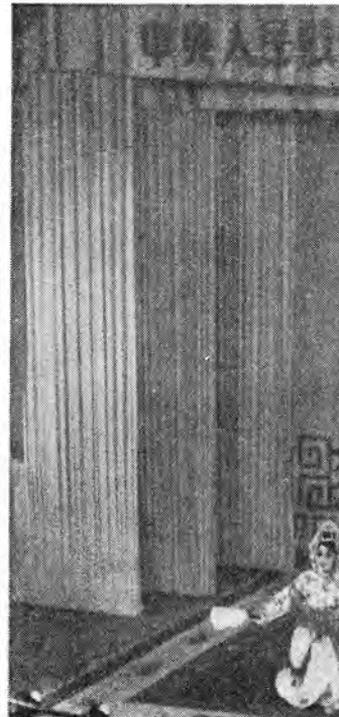
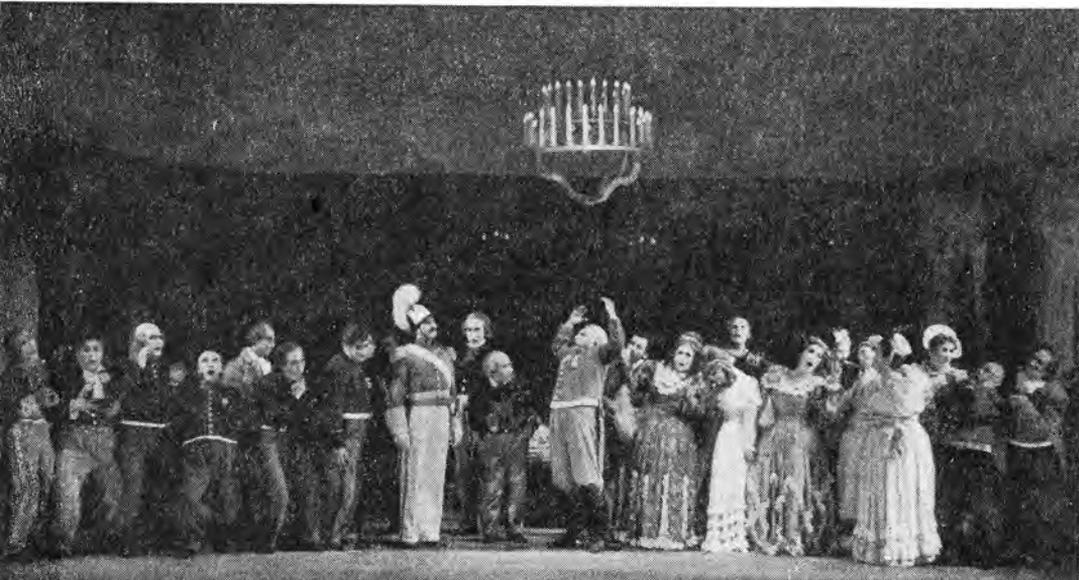
Tsao Tsao's
in the life
the *Romance*
ed in the sty

A gay dance by
the visiting Ru-
manian Army
Song and Dance
Ensemble



Woodcutter Liu and
Drum dance-play pres

The finale of Gogol's *Inspector-General*, a Youth Drama Academy production



Many Stages

...e, masterpieces of the Western stage,
 ...visiting provincial drama troupes
 ...s theatre life rich and varied



Capture and Release, an episode
 of one of the prime ministers in
 of the *Three Kingdoms* dramatis-
 e of the Shansi Province Theatre

The Fairy Fox, a Hunan Province Flower
 acted by a troupe from Central-South China



Theatre Festival lau-
 reates Fang Juei-chuan
 and Fu Chuan-hsiang
 in the title roles of a
 version of the ancient
 romance *Liang Shan-
 po and Chu Ying-tai*,
 presented in Peking by
 the East China Shao-
 hsing Opera Exper-
 imental Troupe



Galina Ulanova, famous Soviet ballerina, and her
 partner, U. G. Kondratov, performing in Peking

A scene from *Not a Cicada*, by a railway wagon repairer, Wei
 Lien-tseng. Produced at the Youth Palace Theatre





Looking up the Kuanting Gorge—the dam which will form the reservoir will be built at its narrow mouth

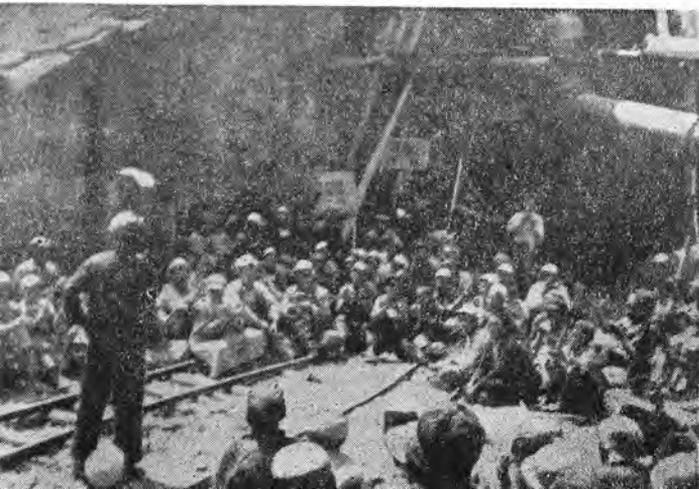
Building the Kuanting Reservoir

Begun in October, 1951, China's biggest man-made lake south of the Great Wall, 220 sq. kms in extent, will, when completed in the autumn of 1953, end floods along the Yungting River and store water for irrigation, navigation and hydroelectric power



A bulldozer and peasant builders co-operate

Celebrating completion of the diversion tunnel



The entrance to the 495-metre long diversion tunnel



ing the dish as well. Li Shao-chun ranks with the finest dancers of any country.

Many Provincial Styles

Most countries have only one or two centres of dramatic art from which theatrical troupes tour the periphery. In China there are a dozen and more theatrical centres in various parts of the country, each of which has developed its own distinctive form of the classical national theatre with differences of make-up, music, interpretation, staging arising out of the particular interests of the local people.

Near Shaohsing, just south of Shanghai in the lower Yangtse valley, for instance, the peasant performances of well-known ballads and folk tales were taken by the professional troupes, amalgamated with elements of the Peking Opera and refined into a distinctive form of its own—Shaohsing Opera. This development has taken place only in the last fifty years. While Peking troupes are traditionally all male—from which stems many necessary conventions in depicting female characters—Shaohsing Opera troupes are all female, which accounts for certain distinctive conventions in treating male roles, and undoubtedly has led to its generally soft and lyrical character.

Peking recently saw *The White Snake*, a typical Shaohsing production based on a folk tale of great age. This, in fantasy form, is the age-old theme of true love thwarted by, but finally triumphant over, reactionary prejudices. Hence its general popularity. But where the Peking *ching hsi* usually presents only the effective battle scene between the rival forces of the White Snake and her enemy, as a grand ballet interlude, Shaohsing Opera gives the whole play, a performance lasting four hours, and bringing out the full character of each role. It is in a realistic style. The make-up is "natural," enhancing the natural lines of the face, for the women of Shaohsing are noted for their beauty. The settings are stylised but make use of the picture frame of the stage to create the illusion of great depth—an unthinkable convention for the classic stage, which has no scenery at all.

Some Peking theatre-goers found the Shaohsing style a trifle "sweet" for their taste,

but there was general acclaim of the artistry shown by these players. Szechuan, Shensi and Han River valley troupes are more directly influenced by the Peking style and closer in dialect to Peking.

The Modern Theatre

At the other end of the theatrical scale, Peking has seen several outstandingly interesting productions in the modern realistic style. *Dawn over Moscow* by the playwright Anatoly Surov is now enjoying a successful run. The *Inspector General* by Gogol was performed by the Youth Drama Academy in honour of the anniversary of the great Russian playwright. Produced by Sung Wei-shih, a talented young theatre worker who studied for some time in Moscow, it was a performance of the Russian classic which showed a grasp of its subject more penetrating than I have ever witnessed outside the U.S.S.R. *How the Steel Was Tempered* was another success of this company.

In a series of operatic interludes, *The Long March* by Li Po-chao and produced by the People's Drama Academy sought to capture the spirit of the Chinese Red Army's great 8,000 miles march in which the authoress herself was a participant. A lively critical discussion surrounded this piece. Thousands of cadres of government and mass organisations, workers and P.L.A. fighters were invited to see it.

Was it an adequate treatment of this immense theme? This was the question discussed between the acts and at discussions held between the actors, composers and public. Some episodes were unanimously applauded. The song of the Yi people has become a popular item of many choral ensembles. But as a whole, considerable improvements were clearly needed, and the producers, strengthened in the help of their audiences, have set about making them.

Except for the language, Western audiences would have little difficulty in apprehending and appreciating this opera. It is cast in the realistic terms that are familiar to them. Sets and costumes are imitations of nature; the acting realistic; the conventions those of the Western stage. The same is also generally true of the operas *The White-Haired Girl* or *Liu Hu-lan*, two stories of heroic girls, the one suffering under landlord oppression, and, with

the help of her fellow villagers and the People's Liberation Army, restored to health, happiness and love; the other a stirring story of one of China's deathless revolutionary martyrs. These operas have proved to be the most significant syntheses of Western forms of staging and Chinese theatrical and musical art. *The White-Haired Girl* remains the most moving and popular production of the modern stage.

Peking, too, has its local drama form—*ping chu*, which, like Shaohsing, is the product of the cultivation by professionals of local folk art drama. In the hands of the fourteen Peking troupes with over 800 members, it has drawn on and absorbed both the elements of the classical theatre and of the realistic Western drama. It produces its own version of *The White-Haired Girl*, and of the mythological folk tale, *The Weaving Girl and the Herdsman*, in a form closely modelled on *ching hsi* but retaining the human directness of the original folk tale. Its biggest successes are, however, the production of typical *ping chu* pieces such as *The Clever Girl Liu* or the *Little Son-in-Law*,* both dealing with the theme of new marriage based on freedom of choice, or the *New Teacher*, showing the battle of the new forces of knowledge against the conservative remnants in the countryside. These productions are like town meeting discussions. They are themes on which everyone has experience and opinions. They are debated and solved in eminently satisfactory ways on the stage. There is a flesh-and-

blood reality about *ping chu* treatment that makes it very much the style of art of the neighbourhood playhouse. But its skilful adaptation of the classical *ching hsi* elements has endeared it to Peking's discriminating audiences. This is the style on which many of Peking's 176 workers' and peasants' amateur theatre troupes are modelled.

A World Stage

Peking has been directly introduced recently to yet another source of theatrical art—that of the Soviet Union and the People's Democracies. This has opened up new horizons. The Hungarian, Rumanian, Polish and Czechoslovak ensembles of national songs and dances have all visited Peking and were received with enormous interest and enthusiasm. At one performance of the Czech Ensemble, 4,000 students crowded the grounds of Peking University; 4,000 voices joined in the choruses of their Chinese rendering of the song of Mao Tse-tung—*The East Shines Red*. This was typical of the intimate relation between such touring troupes and their audiences and any others that ever came to China in the old days. In the bowl of the Peking People's Stadium, 40,000 people watched and cheered the Alexandrov Song and Dance Ensemble of the Soviet Army. That evening in the beautiful Huai Jen Tang, an audience of representatives of the People's Government and the people's mass organisations saw the performances of some of the brightest stars of the Soviet dance, music and vocal art. Galina Ulanova brought to Peking what is probably the most perfect contemporary interpretation of the classical ballet.

Peking is today linked with the deepest springs of theatrical art of its own inventive people and with the cradles of the finest European culture. Under the People's Republic, Peking for the first time appears in the role of a world stage.

* See *Little Son-in-Law*, *People's China*, No. 5, 1952.



Shadow-Theatre in a Village

Woodcut by Shih Lo

China's Co-operative Movement: Largest in the World

C. L. Chao

In the three short years since the founding of the People's Republic of China, the Chinese co-operative movement has grown to be the largest in the world. It now has some 106 million members, organised into 36,482 societies which are united in 1,495 federations on a county, city, provincial and regional scale.

The great majority of the co-operatives in China are rural supply and marketing societies, with 95,460,000 members who comprise 20.14 per cent of the rural population of the country. Next come urban consumers' co-operatives (11 million members), which 23.2 per cent of the people of Peking, Tientsin, Shanghai, Wuhan, Shenyang (Mukden), Canton and Chungking have now joined. Industrial producers' co-operatives in both town and country have 200,000 members. Besides, there are societies of many other types. The number of co-operative workers and employees alone exceeds 420,000.

Factors of Success

The place of co-operatives in our system and the policy with regard to them are clearly defined by the Common Programme of the Chinese People's Political Consultative Conference—which states:

The co-operative economy is an economy of a semi-socialist nature and is an important sector of the people's economy as a whole. The People's Government shall foster its development and accord it preferential treatment.

Giving effect to this provision, the people's governments of all levels have extended correct guidance and substantial help to co-operatives throughout the country. State-trading organisations generally allow the co-operatives a discount of 2 to 6 per cent. Credit is available to co-ops at the People's Bank at interest

rates 10 per cent lower than those charged to state-trading enterprises. Government tax bureaux give co-ops a reduction of 20 per cent on sales taxes and exempt those which are newly established from income tax for their first year of operation. These few examples are sufficient to show why the government's policy of fostering co-operatives has been a motive force in their development.

The second factor is the series of more fundamental steps taken by the People's Government since its inception. The three great movements—resistance to American aggression and aid to Korea, the suppression of counter-revolutionary activities, and the land reform—which have been successfully carried out, and the achievement of stability in national finance and in commodity prices has helped to speed up the recovery and further development of industrial and agricultural production with a resulting growth in the purchasing power of the people. The transport situation is now normal, and the exchange of goods between the cities and the countryside has increased. All this has created a favourable environment for the rapid progress of co-operatives.

Finally, there are the correct business policies and procedures of the co-ops themselves. Chairman Mao Tse-tung in his essay *On Co-operatives* has pointed out that

...service to the masses is the very essence of co-operative societies, that is, the societies must always think of the masses, plan on behalf of the masses and put their interests first, above everything else. Therein lies the fundamental difference between us and the Kuomintang. This is also the starting point as well as the ultimate goal of the Communists in the revolution.

Acting in accordance with Chairman Mao's directions, the National Congress of Co-operative Workers, which met in July, 1950, defined the business policy of co-operatives as follows:

The federations serve the co-operative societies; the co-operative societies serve their members.

This correct policy has been conscientiously carried out, and capitalist ideas of profit-making have been basically overcome. As a result, the members have obtained increased material benefits and support the co-operatives more warmly.

Supply and Marketing Co-ops

At present, the societies under the leadership of the All-China Federation of Co-operatives fall mainly into three categories: rural supply and marketing, urban consumers', and industrial producers' co-operatives. Among them, the rural supply and marketing societies are the most important, being the main component of the movement in China today.

Societies of this type supply their members with both consumers' and producers' goods at prices which are generally lower, and in no case higher, than those on the market. At the same time, they buy the farm and subsidiary products of their members, paying reasonable prices. This double function makes such co-operatives an important factor in the systematic, planned exchange of goods between city and country, and has won them warm acceptance among the peasants. As their activity is carried on in conjunction with state-trading organisations, their policy is to operate at reasonable prices, and they play a significant role in stabilising commodity prices in general.

Under the principle that all trade should serve and promote production, our supply and marketing societies serve agriculture. They provide members with timely marketing facilities, and supply members with seeds, fertilisers, farm implements, insecticides and other production aids in accordance with the season and locality. In 1952 alone, for example, co-operatives throughout the country supplied peasants with 2 million tons of cake-fertiliser and 300,000 tons of chemical fertiliser. Given normal conditions in other respects, this should lead to an increase of crops equivalent to 5

million tons of grain or 950,000 tons of unginned cotton in value.

Another instance is the practice of "relief through production" as adopted by some societies to rehabilitate sufferers in areas affected by natural calamities. Answering a government call made in 1949, co-operatives in North Kiangsu, South Kiangsu, North Anhwei, and Hopei, Pingyuan, Shantung, Chahar, Liaohsi and Chekiang Provinces helped to organise distressed persons for work in more than 200 kinds of handicraft and other occupations, marketing their products to the value of 1 million tons of foodstuffs and enabling 10 million people to maintain themselves for a period of three months. Efforts of this kind did much to raise the prestige of the supply and marketing societies among the peasants, thus laying the mass basis for their further growth. In fact, a number of such co-operatives were established in the course of "relief through production."

The help these societies gave to the peasants in restoring and developing production was not, however, meant mainly to enable them to enrich themselves—but rather to co-ordinate the interests of the individual peasants with those of the state and people as a whole. Among the ways of doing this are "forward purchase contracts," "link contracts" and collective purchasing, i.e., the peasants selling collectively to the co-operatives.

Forward purchase is a method by means of which the state buys up agricultural produce from the peasants through the supply and marketing co-ops. In 1952, the state loaned the co-operatives 1,500,000 million yuan to buy fertilisers and over 400,000 million yuan worth of coal, cloth and foodstuffs to enable them to make forward contracts for the purchase of half a million tons of raw cotton. In some cases, advance payments are made to the peasants to enable them to overcome difficulties in production as well as in their daily life. In other cases, the forward purchase is made on credit, the co-operatives guaranteeing to supply to the peasants various types of goods which are otherwise not easily available. Since forward contracts are generally made with peasants organised into mutual-aid teams

or agricultural producers' co-operatives, or to members of the supply and marketing co-operatives dealing as a group, they have helped consolidate existing organisations and encourage the formation of new ones.

"Link contracts" are another type of agreement made between the supply and marketing co-operative societies on the one hand and peasant mutual-aid teams and agricultural producers' co-operatives on the other. The societies guarantee timely delivery of the principal producers' and consumers' goods required by the peasants, while the mutual-aid teams and agricultural producers' co-operatives grant the societies a priority on the purchase of their farm and subsidiary products at the prevailing market price. Thus the societies are enabled to conduct their business according to plan, while the organised peasants are relieved of worries about marketing and thus enabled to concentrate all their efforts on fulfilling their own plan of production. Clearly, the link contract system helps the consolidation and development of the mutual-aid teams and agricultural producers' co-operatives on the one hand and the supply and marketing co-operatives on the other.

Collective purchase is the procedure by which, after the contract has been made, the peasants sell their produce to the co-operatives collectively instead of individually. This method raises the efficiency of the co-operatives in collecting farm produce and economises the time and labour of the producers. The political work which must be done in the process of organising such sale implants the ideas of collectivism on a mass scale.

It can be seen from all the foregoing that the rural supply and marketing co-operative is not just a place of business but an economic institution which organises the exchange of industrial and agricultural products according to plan. It is also a working example and educational influence in the gradual cultivation of collective thinking and habits among the peasantry, helping to set their feet on the road to collectivisation.

Urban Consumers' Co-operatives

The only duty of the urban consumers' co-operative is to supply its members—workers,

office employees and other wage-earners, students and handicraftsmen—with good quality food and consumers' goods at low prices.

An analysis of goods carried by consumers' co-ops shows that staple and subsidiary food-stuffs brought from the countryside constitute as much as 50 to 70 per cent of their stocks. Consequently, such societies can only be successful if they realise this situation fully and build on it by such methods as buying directly from supply and marketing societies in the producing areas and establishing their retail shops at places near the homes of their members. One example of a proper solution of the problem is the district federation of the Tungssu District of Peking, whose prices on 21 commodities including flour, rice, salt and apples averaged 14.27 per cent lower than the prevailing market prices during the first quarter of 1952, reducing much of the middleman-exploitation which would otherwise fall on the shoulders of the co-operative members. Chang Yu-teh, a worker in this district, bought 500,000 yuan worth of goods at his co-operative during a month in which his wage was 700,000 yuan. If he had gone elsewhere for the same purchases, he would have spent 74,500 yuan more—or over 10 per cent of his month's income. The relationship between the consumers' co-operative and their members is very close; the co-operative, in fact, has become its members' housekeeper.

Industrial Producers' Co-operatives

China has large numbers of handicraft workers whose total production adds up to a large volume, but who are mainly scattered, lacking in funds; therefore, in the past, they were particularly susceptible to middleman-exploitation and the competitive pressure of modern industry. The People's Government has saved these people from poverty and opened new prospects before them by organising them into co-operative enterprises. These co-operatives will educate them and help them where suitable to pass gradually from individual to joint production, then to partially modernised industrial production and finally to fully modernised industrial production.

Industrial producers' co-operatives in China today fall roughly into two categories—handicraft producers' supply and marketing co-operatives and collective producers' co-operatives. The former is the best type of organisation for handicraft producers who work in their homes, because it provides unified allocation of raw materials and unified wages for the product in accordance with output and quality. But it is also a transitional form, which will not permanently remain in its present elementary stage. Given correct leadership, increasing accumulation of common funds and the formation of collective habits among the members, it is possible gradually to pass from it to a collective producers' co-operative. The Kungshen Weavers' Co-operative Society of Weifang, Shantung Province, for instance, was organised among individual weavers three years ago. Today, after continuous education, sound administration and the establishment of welfare services, it has accumulated a fund of over 200 million yuan and installed over twenty power-driven looms for collective production.

It is also generally possible, however, to organise handicraft workers directly into collective production. Take the Kanho Sulphur Producers' Co-operative Society in Yangchuan, Shansi Province as an example. Since its initial organisation in 1947 and its formal re-organisation into a producers' co-operative in 1950, it has replaced its previous antiquated equipment with small blast-furnaces made in the same province, cut its costs 38.6 per cent and increased its production 3.63 times and the average income of its members 7.2 times. Before the liberation, half of the 115 families in Kanho Village lived on bran and tree bark; today none have to worry about food or clothes. The co-operative has established a school with two full-time teachers, and all children of school age are getting an education. Seventy-three per cent of the youth go to the spare-time school. The village also subscribes to several newspapers. This is a striking example of the benefits of the industrial producers' co-operative.

* * *

In the past three years, New China's co-operative economy has developed with great

Sino-Ceylonese Trade

On December 18, 1952, in Peking, China and Ceylon signed a five-year trade agreement on rubber and rice and two contracts for the sale and purchase of the two commodities in 1953.

Expressing his satisfaction at the successful conclusion of the trade talks, Susanta de Fonseka, Leader of the Ceylon Trade Delegation, stated on the eve of his return home:

"We are confident that the Rubber and Rice Agreement, signed yesterday by His Excellency Lei Jen-min (Acting Minister of Foreign Trade—Ed. P. C.) on behalf of the Central People's Government of the People's Republic of China, and myself on behalf of the Government of Ceylon, is to the mutual interest, advantage and benefit of both countries."

Three months ago on October 4, the first trade agreement between the two countries was signed in Peking. Under this agreement, which was also the first of its kind concluded between China and a Southeast Asian nation, China undertook to sell to Ceylon 80,000 tons of rice.

rapidity with the leadership and assistance of the People's Government and the state-operated enterprises. It already plays an extremely important role as one of the five sectors of the New Democratic economic system (the other four are: state-owned economy, state capitalist economy, private capitalist economy, and the individual economy of peasants and handicraftsmen) and its role in the national economy is increasing in importance.

The state (socialist) operated sector of the national economy leads the co-operatives, and, through them, organises the numerous scattered individual producers to work according to the needs of over-all national plans. This gives the state a firm basis on which to carry out planned economic construction, and, after a period, enable it to move the whole country steadily forward towards Socialism. In order to tackle successfully the new, gigantic tasks set by the coming large-scale national construction, it is essential that the socialist outlook of the working class be firmly established as the guiding line of the development of the whole co-operative movement.

Yo Banfa!

Yo Banfa, in Chinese, means, "There is a way." It is the title and keynote of the new book by Rewi Alley, the well-known New Zealander who has lived in China for many years, working first as a factory inspector in the imperialist-dominated former "International Settlement" in Shanghai, and later with Chinese co-operatives both before and since the liberation.

The book is a compilation of entries from the author's diary, rich in observation and written in vivid word-pictures of people and events. The writer never treats any happening in isolation, but draws on a lifetime's acquired knowledge and experience to give it a setting. The result, despite the limitations of the diary form, is to bring home to every reader the depth, multitude and speed of the changes that have taken place in China.

Although a very large part of the book deals with the cruel past in China, the light of the future shines through every page. This is because of the author's constant awareness of and belief in the people. When he writes of apprentices dying of lead-poisoning in the hell-holes of Shanghai's pre-liberation factories, he tells us also of their unconquerable courage and buoyancy of spirit. At every step of his description, one realises that the old imperialist, semi-feudal rulers were marked for extinction even when they seemed strongest and most merciless—that they had no "way" whereas the people did.

Passing from such memories to today's reality, Rewi Alley shows the victory and world-changing achievements of China's workers and peasants in building their country and improving their own lives as the product of the same tenacious, life-asserting strength. Writing

Yo Banfa! by Rewi Alley. China Monthly Review, Shanghai, 1952.

in Santan, a small once-primitive town in the far Northwest in which he headed a co-operative technical school, he sketches their widening horizons, the birth of a new, collective viewpoint:

The people want electricity, they want the new cinema, they want iron and more water. Everywhere they are wanting and everywhere they are taking part in the getting—a revival tied to reality.

When our survey boys go out into the country these days, the peasants are anxious to tell them of mineral deposits, of strange stones, of possibilities. In the past, such secrets were kept by the families nearby, to be used, perhaps, for family profit one day.

Alley's historical approach enables him to bring together a great many mutually illuminating facts, as in his striking parallels between the American bombing of Korea and the mass slaughters perpetrated by nazi and Japanese fascists, and the light he throws on the struggle against counter-revolutionaries and spies by citing his own observations of feudal oppression and imperialist espionage in China over many years. In this way, sometimes, he treats in a single day's entry the outlines of an entire subject, such as the record of foreign missions or so-called "relief" activity in China.

The author's insight is apparent when one compares his biting portraits of gangsters and parasites, foreign and domestic, with those of the few Communists who appear in his pages. He shows how these leaders of the people did not change, in adversity, in victory; how even those who died nameless in the fight are immortal, because their faith and clearness of vision have been multiplied a thousandfold to become the quality of vast millions.

Despite an occasional vagueness in its political formulations, *Yo Banfa* is a book to be recommended to all who want living facts on how the Chinese people fought for and won their freedom and how they are building their new day.

—I. E.

HIGHLIGHTS OF CHINA'S ACHIEVEMENTS

1949-1952

★ INDUSTRY

Industrial production, with few exceptions, has surpassed the highest pre-liberation levels.

GROWTH OF PRODUCTION

(Highest pre-liberation level taken as 100)

	1949	1952 (planned)
Electricity	72	115
Coal	45	90
Petroleum	38	136
Pig-iron	11	104
Steel ingots	16	155
Cement	31	148
Cotton cloth	73	161
Paper	90	234

In preparation for the beginning of basic large-scale construction in 1953, the tempo of development has been higher in *heavy industry* than in *light industry*. In 1949, the ratio between capital and consumer goods was 32.5 to 67.5; in 1952, it was 43.8 to 56.2. The tempo of development of Socialist, i.e. *state-owned enterprises* is higher than that of *private enterprises*, although the total output of private enterprises shows a great increase. In 1949, the ratio between the output of state-owned enterprises and of private enterprises was 43.8 to 56.2; in 1952, it was 67.3 to 32.7. Many formerly imported goods are now made at home.

★ RAILWAYS

Railway milage in operation increased from 12,768 km. in 1948, to 20,932 km. in 1949, to 22,160 km. in 1950, to 23,039 km. in 1951, to 23,785 km. in 1952.

The Chengtu-Chungking (505 km.), Tien-shui-Lanchow (346 km.) and Laiping-Munan-kuan (403 km.) are new lines built since liberation.

In 1952, the planned transport tonnage on the railways was 61% higher than the highest annual tonnage before liberation.

★ AGRICULTURE

Land reform was completed in areas containing 300 million people. Added to the number in the old liberated areas, this brings the total affected by land reform to 428 million, or 90% of the rural population. If the highest pre-liberation annual levels of key agricultural products are taken as 100, the 1952 planned outputs are as follows: foodstuffs 109, cotton 155, hemp 559, tobacco 294, and unrefined sugar 113. More than 40% of China's peasant families are organised in mutual-aid teams. There are over 4,000 agricultural co-operatives, a dozen collective farms, and 52 state farms.

★ WATER CONSERVANCY

In three years of water conservancy work, 1,700 million cubic metres of earthwork were moved, equalling the cutting of ten Panama Canals or twenty-three Suez Canals. The area affected by floods has sharply decreased to 16% of the area flooded in 1949.

The five-year Huai River harnessing project begun in 1950 when completed will release 60 million inhabitants from the menace of flood, provide them with electricity, improved waterways and irrigation.

The formerly dreaded Yellow River has been held in check since 1947. Work on controlling floods along both the Yellow and Yangtse Rivers continues.

★ FORESTRY

During the past three years, 1,350,000 hectares have been afforested compared to the mere 200,000 hectares afforested during the previous twenty-two years.

★ FINANCE AND TRADE

Inflation and speculation were ended and commodity prices have been stabilised since March, 1950. A balanced budget was presented in 1952. The general price index fell about

5% in 1952. Home and foreign trade were expanded.

HOME TRADE EXPANSION
(Total sales in 1950 taken as 100)

	Total Sales 1951	Total Sales 1952 (planned)
Agricultural produce, by-products and handicrafts	138.06	148.61
Foodstuffs	170.21	271.28
Cotton cloth	167.27	245.76
Coal	115.80	141.86
Petroleum	108.90	262.67
Cigarettes	112.06	149.41

FOREIGN TRADE

China's foreign trade in 1951 was double that of 1950. Imports and exports were balanced. The unfavourable balance of foreign trade which had existed for seventy-three years was ended. Trade with the Soviet Union and the People's Democracies steadily increased. In 1950, it was 26% of the total value of foreign trade; in 1951, it rose to 61% and in 1952, it was estimated to rise to 70%.

★ CO-OPERATIVES

In the second quarter of 1952, there were 36,482 co-operatives with over 106 million members.

INCREASE IN CO-OPERATIVE TRADING

	1949	1951
Total retail sales	100	1,600
Purchases of agricultural products	100	2,000

★ RISING LIVING STANDARDS

In 1952, average wage increases for workers and office employees in various areas of the country ranged from 60% to 120% over 1949, reaching or surpassing the levels before the War of Resistance Against Japanese Aggression. Three million and twenty thousand workers and office employees (a total of 10 million including their families) now enjoy the benefits of the Labour Insurance Regulations. In 1951, the purchasing power of the people throughout the country was 25% more than in 1950.

★ PUBLIC HEALTH

Between 1949-1951, 45% of the population were vaccinated against smallpox. Since liberation, not a single cholera case has occurred.

Midwifery stations totalling 32,447 were organised with new and retrained midwives. In 1950-1951, the number of new medical students at medical institutions was 60% above the total number of physicians trained in the past sixty-nine years. The number of hospitals in the cities is 361.2% that of pre-liberation days; the number of beds in those hospitals increased 534.6%. In 1952, the nation-wide patriotic health campaign against flies, mosquitoes and rats has practically wiped out the fly and mosquito menace in the cities and brought the rat problem under control.

★ EDUCATION

The number of students in schools has greatly increased:

	Primary school students	Middle school students	University students
1949	24,391,033	1,271,342	130,058
1952 (approx.)	49,034,081	3,078,826	219,750

The new educational system specially provides for the needs of the workers and peasants. In August, 1952, 3,020,000 workers were studying at spare-time schools. It is estimated that 50 million peasants joined in the winter study groups.

★ CULTURE AND ARTS

FILMS: During the past three years, China has produced a total of 86 feature films, 57 documentary films.

In 1950, cinema audience totalled 146,380,000; in the first six months of 1952, 213,500,000.

Daughters of China, Steeled Fighters, The White-Haired Girl, The People's Fighters and the documentary films *The Great Unity of China's Nationalities, Resist American Aggression and Aid Korea (Part I)* and *Fighting Viet-Nam* received awards at international film festivals.

DRAMA: There are now some 2,000 theatre troupes with approximately 200,000 members, and 250 cultural troupes. Daily theatre audiences total about a million.

PEOPLE'S CULTURAL CENTRES: There are 2,436 cultural centres, over 6,000 cultural points and 20,000 clubs and reading rooms in factories and villages.

On Page 29, under the item "Public Health," the first line should read: "Between 1950-1952, 82.92% of the population were vaccinated against smallpox."

The Taming of the Yungting River

Ke Chia-lung

From time immemorial, the largest river in North China, the Wuting, literally, "The Never Settled," victimised the inhabitants of its valley. It caused so much trouble that the Manchu Emperor Chien Lung (1736-1795), like all his predecessors, incapable of effectively controlling it, tried to do so by the simple expedient of changing its name to the Yungting, "The Forever Settled." This mark of imperial favour failed to pacify the turbulent river.

Yet by the autumn of 1953, only four years after the people of China took power into their own hands, the Yungting will be settled forever in name as well as in fact—it will be harnessed for the use of the people.

The Yungting is more than 700 kilometres long, draining an area of more than 47,000 square kilometres, larger than Switzerland. It is formed by the Yang and Sankan Rivers, which meet at Chukuantun, and then it flows southeastwards to be joined by another main tributary, the Kueisui.

Shortly after this junction, the river near Kuanting Village enters the narrow, rocky gorge which it has cut through the high, precipitous mountains. At Sanchiatien, it flows out into the Hopei plain. Skirting Peking as it passes under the Lukouchiao, or Marco Polo Bridge, it joins the Hai River at Tientsin before emptying its waters into Pohai Bay.

Physical Features of the River

The rainfall on the upper reaches of the Yungting is very unevenly distributed through the year. Most of the time, the river is so shallow that it can be easily waded. In June, 1920, for instance, a minimum flow of one cubic metre per second was recorded. But heavy storms usually come in July and August. In 1939, a maximum flow of 5,960 cubic metres per second swept down its course and over its banks.

At such flood seasons, the torrent rushes through the Kuanting gorge, where for a distance of 110 kilometres, it runs down a sharp incline. Then it breaks into the open, low-lying plain. At full spate, the suddenly released fury has again and again destroyed the dykes along both banks, inundating the fields and sweeping away the inhabitants together with their houses and cattle.

The Yungting is also a great carrier of silt. In this respect, it rivals even the Yellow River, and for this reason, it is often called the "Little Yellow River." The Yungting's silt content has reached up to 38 per cent in the past, and it carries through the Kuanting gorge up to 50 million cubic metres of silt every year. It would take a convoy of 70,000 trucks, each carrying two cubic metres of silt and making one trip a day, one full year to move that amount of silt over the same distance.

A great deal of this silt is deposited on the slower-flowing sections of the river on the Hopei plain as well as in the Hai River. As a result, the river-bed between the dykes has been raised little by little until now it stands much higher than the surrounding areas. Thus, once it has overflowed its banks, its waters cannot drain back into the original channel but remain stagnant or seek a new outlet to the sea. This posed a most difficult problem to the old conservancy workers, since there was a limit to the heightening of the dykes but there was no end to the continuous accumulation of silt.

Constant Menace

The result of this fact is that during the past two thousand years, the Yungting changed its course many times. It was like a giant snake with its tail caught in the gorge, while its head, beyond the control of

man, thrashed in freedom on the plain. Thus, in the autumn, flood is a constant menace to the dwellers in the river's basin, while during the rest of the year, the spectre of drought is ever present.

More than eighty major floods have been recorded. From 1912 to 1949, the dykes were breached seven times, flooding from 300 to 6,000 square kilometres of land each time. The average annual loss in farm produce alone was valued at some 15,000 tons of millet—enough to feed 100,000 people for a whole year.

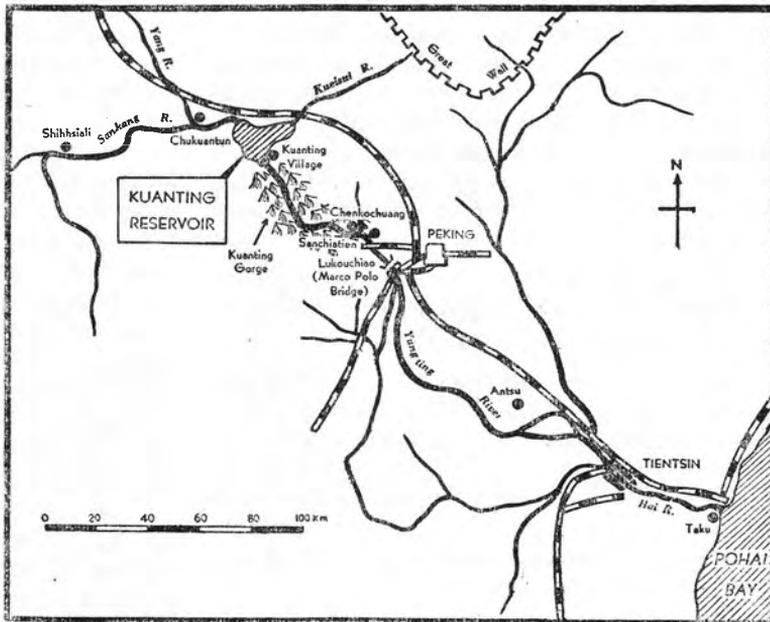
In the past, the people who suffered from it heaped curses on the Yungting. Yet little enough was done by the reactionary rulers to mitigate, much less to conquer, the flood menace. Vast sums were, however, mulcted from the people by these same rulers under the pretence of improving the river. The Emperor Yung Cheng (1723-1735) of the Manchu Dynasty in another futile gesture collected more than 17,000 *taels* of silver for a control project—a magnificent temple to enshrine the river god.

The Manchu Emperors Kang Hsi and Chien Lung (in the seventeenth and eighteenth centuries) both built dykes, it is true, but they took care to erect stone dykes along the eastern bank and earthen ones along the western. They calculated that if a flood had to break out anyway, it would destroy the earthen dykes and leave the eastern securely protecting their capital at Peking.

And the northern warlords, Kuomintang gangsters and Japanese occupationists who followed them were cut in like mould. They all widely publicised their intentions of harnessing the river once and for all, but beyond the levies of money for this purpose and endless investigations and surveys, nothing effective was done. What dyke building was undertaken was done at terrible cost to the people.

When Liberation Came

On October 1, 1949, the Central People's Government was established. The Chinese



Map of the Yungting River and Kuanting Reservoir

people began the work of rehabilitation of their national economy, the surveying of their resources and the mastering of natural scourges: pests, sand storms, drought and flood. The Yungting was soon marked down as an unruly element which must be brought to book.

As early as November of the same year, the People's Government drafted a plan to control the Yungting and develop the water resources in its valley. And this plan is being steadily realised.

On the upper reaches of the river, the key problem is soil conservation. This will reduce the load of soil constantly washed down from the mountains and hillsides and carried by the rain into the river's main tributaries.

A big afforestation programme has been launched at the waterheads of the tributaries; check dams have been built across valley streams; riverlets are being dredged and silt-depositing basins have been created.

Meanwhile, emergency measures have been taken along the lower course of the Yungting. The dykes have been extensively and greatly strengthened, the safety of the Peking-Tientsin Railway being taken especially into account. The river-bed has been dredged. Shelter-belts are being grown criss-crossing a

vast area around Antsu and three other counties. The work will be completed this spring.

A well-organised flood-fighting service has been established. A telephone network furnishes a regular exchange of hydrographic information. At flood seasons, a round-the-clock patrol is maintained along the whole stretch of the dykes to keep watch on the turbulent river below.

Thanks to these measures, the people on the Hopei plain have enjoyed three successive undisturbed and prosperous years.

The permanent mastery of the troublous Yungting, however, lies in the construction of flood detention basins on the middle section of the river. Three such basins have been planned, of which the Kuanting Reservoir is the most important. When completed, it will eliminate the floods downstream caused by high floodwaters on the upper reaches.

The Kuanting Reservoir

This reservoir, sited northwest of Peking, will be formed by building a dam across the Yungting in the neighbourhood of Kuanting Village just where the river enters the gorge. The dam will be 45 metres high. At the present time, the bedrock under the projected dam site is being exposed, dam foundations are being drilled to great depth, and cuts made in the gorge walls for dam abutments.

When completed this year, the dam will impound some 2,100 million cubic metres of water. The biggest man-made lake ever created south of the Great Wall, the reservoir will cover an area of 220 square kilometres, three-fourths the size of the county of London.

A 495-metre long diversion tunnel has already been excavated on the right bank by the dam site. Its cross section is horse-shoe-shaped. It has a main height of 8 metres and is now receiving its finishing touches.

Without it, the river could not be diverted to enable the construction of the dam to proceed unimpeded by its flow. After the dam is built, thus blocking the river's course, the tunnel will be the only regular outlet for the Yungting to flow downstream. The rate of flow will be regulated by an intake tower installed with sluice gates which will be erected at the entrance to the tunnel. Water will normally flow through the tunnel at the rate

of 24 cubic metres per second. This is regarded as sufficient to meet the requirements for irrigation and other purposes downstream. The maximum rate will be 544 cubic metres per second.

Not far from the exit of the tunnel, a stilling basin, now almost completed, will receive the water racing out of the walled passage, thus reducing its velocity and its potential destructive energy.

On the left side of the dam site, construction is going ahead on a concrete-lined inclined spillway. Under exceptional conditions when the Kuanting Reservoir is nearly full as a result of unusually heavy rain storms, water will flow over the spillway, and the crest of the dam will be protected.

The actual construction of the dam and its attendant installations and works commenced in October, 1951. Prior to this, intensive preparations had been made for two years. These included the collection and study of all available data on the Yungting; geological surveys; diamond-drilling in the river channel; designing and drawing; the completion of construction plans; the laying of light-gauge railroads; the building of highways and bridges and a suspension bridge for hydrographic purposes; the laying of transmission lines, etc.

Within the ten months since October, 1951, the once quiet and lonely Kuanting Village grew into a thriving community of office buildings, warehouses, and workers' living quarters totalling more than 9,300 square metres of floor space, with a power plant, many workshops, a post office, a bank branch, a book shop, libraries, reading rooms, clubs, recreation centres and co-operative stores.

A Place to Work and Learn

Over 12,000 workers are now busily at work on the construction site. Most of them are young peasants from nearby villages where they received land during the agrarian reform. They came as volunteers not because they were particularly anxious to make extra money, though their average pay is sufficient for each of them to feed a family of five back home, but because they knew why and for whom they are building this great dam. They knew that, through their own peaceful creative labour, they are helping to bring prosperity to the whole country and to themselves

and their loved ones as well. They are shaping the destiny of their own Motherland.

Working enthusiasm, therefore, is high. New records are constantly made, only to be broken in rapid succession. Red flags are dotted here and there both on the hillside and in the gorge. Those who work under them are members of model teams, distinguished in the emulation drive.

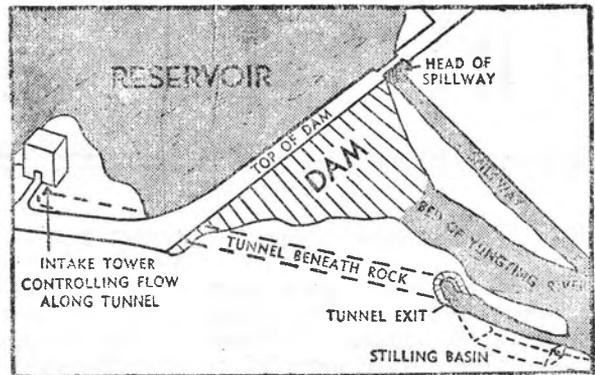
Three eight-hour shifts are being worked. Workers off duty enjoy themselves, after resting with singing, dancing or games and study. They live a richly varied life. Political studies are keenly attended. In the technical training classes, the veterans teach the new hands, the advanced help the less experienced. The whole construction site is a big school where the peasant-workers receive a political and technical education.

They are getting used to the collective way of life, and they like it immensely. Like millions elsewhere throughout the country, they are being turned into an army of trained workers, ready to take a bigger share in the impending large-scale economic construction and industrialisation of New China.

Over the network of highways as far as the eye can see, a stream of trucks bring necessary construction materials—timber from Inner Mongolia, cement from North China, dynamite from East China and machinery from Northeast China. The thousands working on this project know that hundreds of millions of their compatriots stand solidly behind them.

Quiet Flows the Yungting

A magnificent prospect opens out on every side of the summits towering over the Kuanting Reservoir. Today, the surrounding mountains and hills are still mostly barren, the valleys treeless, the fields parched and the scattered tiny villages are of thatched huts with clay walls...below, the shallow, muddy Yungting straggles through the gorge. But soon, a vast lake of emerald green will sparkle under the sunshine. In the not distant future, the nearby mountains will be covered with luxuriant foliage. Orchards will dot the hillsides. Life will be rich; birds and small game will fill the forests; fish will teem in the waters. Climatic conditions will have so improved that no trace of the former aridness will be left.



A Sketch of the Kuanting Reservoir Project

The banks of the reservoir will be a scenic spot with many rest homes and sanatoria for the working people of China. Vacationists will be brought here by a railway to be built starting from Tanku, near Tientsin. In the shady hollows, Young Pioneers will have their summer holiday camps.

The Kuanting Reservoir will then be fulfilling its multiple purposes of flood control, water storage for the purposes of irrigation and navigation, the generation of electrical energy and the supply of drinking water to the cities.

Immediately downstream from the dam will be a powerhouse, which, together with others further downstream, will generate enough electricity to supply the light and power needs of a greater Peking.

The water that would formerly have inundated the land or emptied itself wastefully into the sea will be stored and regulated to irrigate a portion of the farmlands near Peking, resulting in a huge increase in crops. The menace both of flood and of drought will be banished, never to return. There will be an annual saving of 20,000 million yuan a year on dyke maintenance alone.

A portion of the flow will be diverted to supply the growing population of Peking with drinking water and to supply water for industrial use in its suburbs. Another portion of it will be devoted to maintaining the Yungting River navigable all the year round.

Such is the meaning of this great peaceful construction work of the Chinese people—the harnessing of the once demonical Yungting River.

IN THE NEWS

For Vienna Peace Congress

The whole Chinese nation greeted the opening of the Vienna Congress of the Peoples for Peace. Picasso's new dove—dedicated to the Congress—with wings outstretched, soaring upward, was displayed on the front page of the *Peking People's Daily* on December 14, when news of the Congress was featured. The national and local press is carrying extensive reports of the Congress proceedings. Mass organisations of workers, peasants, artists and writers, women and youth, religious groups, businessmen and industrialists have held meetings and sent greetings to the Congress. The working people pledged still better work in peaceful national construction as a concrete support for peace. In their congratulatory telegram to the Congress, the workers of the Anshan Iron and Steel Company reporting their achievements in peaceful labour stated that output of iron in 1952 has been over six times, and of steel, over eight times, that of 1949. Peasants of Li Shun-ta's model agricultural producers' co-operative in Shansi Province stated in their congratulatory telegram: "We shall link up our task in the nation's 1953 large-scale construction plan with the defence of peace." All messages pledged readiness to fulfil greater tasks in the coming year to fortify the forces of peace.

Back From Korea

The Chinese people's delegation, which brought 6,000 tons of presents to the people's forces in Korea, returned to Peking on December 5. They have brought back over 4,000 gifts and more than 30,000 letters written to Chairman Mao Tse-tung and the Chinese people by the Chinese people's volunteers, the Korean People's Army and the

Korean people. Among the gifts are 424 trophies, 907 articles made by the fighters from captured enemy equipment, 549 examples of Korean industrial and agricultural products, and large numbers of books, newspapers, magazines, pictures, photographs and banners.

The cultural troupe of the delegation gave nearly 1,000 performances of more than 250 items during their 40 days in Korea, both at the front and in the rear areas. They received a tremendous welcome.

In Peking, hundreds of thousands attended meetings to hear reports by the delegates. Members of the delegation are now touring the country to tell the people about their experiences in Korea. Groups have already gone to Sian, Hankow, and Shenyang. Others are visiting cities, factory and mine areas in Hopei, Shansi and Suiyuan Provinces and the Inner Mongolian Autonomous Region. Press and radio are carrying full reports of the delegation's activities.

Basic Construction

In preparation for the nationwide start of large-scale basic construction in 1953, **Northeast China** already has 300,000 construction personnel, including 244,000 building workers and 9,000 technicians engaged in new construction projects. Power stations, coal mines, steel works, textile mills and other enterprises are being built. Machines are being installed in many factories. Construction is continuing throughout the winter on some major projects. At a recent meeting of model construction workers in Shenyang, over 50 more efficient working methods were discussed in preparation for expanded construction in 1953. The Civil Engineering Designing Company of the Northeast Industrial Department has drawn up 13 types of

blueprints for a variety of buildings. These standardised designs, with variations to suit different purposes, will speed up construction by utilising pre-fabricated units including windows, doors and plumbing. They will lower construction costs, cut building times and improve the quality of building.

Preparations are also under way in **Southwest China** for large-scale construction in 1953. Thirty thousand additional building workers will be employed here. Already 2,000 administrative personnel have been transferred to construction jobs, and 3,000 are scheduled for transfer. The Southwest Industrial Department has opened short-term technical schools to train building technicians and will organise many training classes for technical personnel for various types of construction work. A group of 70 managers, technicians and trade union workers from various engineering companies in the Southwest is visiting Shenyang and Harbin to learn from the advanced experience of construction in the Northeast.

Preparations are also being made for the forthcoming large-scale basic construction in North, Central-South, Northwest and East China.

New Autonomous Region

A regional autonomous government for the Chuang people—the biggest single national minority of China—and other national minorities of Kwangsi Province was formally established on December 9, 1952, after four days of a conference of the people's representatives in Nanning, capital of Kwangsi Province. Located in the western half of Kwangsi Province, the region has an area of 111,000 square kilometres with a population of over 6,200,000. The Chuangs compose 67% of the population, Hans (Chinese) 22%, and the Yaos, Tungs, Miaos and other peoples form the remaining 11% of the population.

The region, rich in rice and other cereals, is famous for its aniseed, timber, tung oil, mushrooms, hides, bananas and oranges.

It is served by the Hunan-Kwangsi Railway and is well provided with roads and waterways.

The Chuangs are a courageous and industrious nationality. Like other national minorities, they have their own culture and delight in singing and dancing. Women of the Chuangs and Tungs are noted for their weaving; those of the Miaos and Yaos for their embroidery.

These peoples all lived lives of utter misery before liberation. They were treated with contempt, oppressed and exploited by the reactionary regime. Now, three years after liberation, land reform has been carried out in two-thirds of the counties in this region. Trade has become brisk. The people have sufficient salt and oil which they constantly lacked in the past, and cultural amenities are being steadily improved. Large numbers of youth have entered schools, while the older people attend evening classes or join newspaper-reading groups. There are now 500,000 children in primary schools—a 200% increase in three years.

Peasants Get More Fertilisers

Supply and marketing co-operatives throughout the country sold 2,500,000 tons of bean cake and chemical fertilisers to peasants in 1952. This is 188% more than the amount supplied by co-operatives and state-trading companies together in 1951. Timely and sufficient supplies of fertilisers have played a decisive role in enabling peasants fulfil their production targets and raise yields. Chemical fertiliser is being used on a larger scale than ever before. In 1952, 115% more chemical fertiliser was marketed than in 1951.

Chronicle of Events

December 6

Activities of the Sino-Soviet Friendship Month come to an end.

The Ministry of Education and the New Democratic Youth League issue a joint directive concerning the further development of the work of the Young Pioneers.

December 8

The second session of the National Conference of Health Workers opens in Peking.

December 9

The 17th anniversary of the December 9 student movement against

Japanese aggression is marked by students in Peking, Wuhan, Sian and other cities.

December 12

The whole nation greets the Congress of the Peoples for Peace which opens in Vienna. The Chinese Delegation to the Congress is led by Soong Ching Ling; Kuo Mo-jo is deputy-leader.

Hsinhua reports 47 Chinese people were injured by bombs from a U.S. B-26 bomber raiding Antung City on December 8. From November 29 to December 8, 31 groups of American aircraft flew a total of 155 sorties over 7 cities and counties of Liaotung and Kirin Provinces.

The All-China Federation of Labour cables the Pinay Government of France protesting against its order of November 23 to dissolve the Association of the Chinese Volunteer Participants of the First World War, the only legal organisation representing oversea-Chinese workers in France.

An Indian table-tennis team of 8 members, headed by Ranga Ramanujan, arrives in Peking.

December 14

Foreign Minister Chou En-lai sends a telegram to Lester B. Pearson, President of the United Nations General Assembly, replying to his cable which communicated the text of the resolution on Korea based on the draft resolution of the Indian Delegation and adopted by the seventh session of the U.N. General Assembly.

December 15

The new U.S.S.R. Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary to China, Alexander S. Panyushkin, presents his letters of credence to Chairman Mao Tse-tung.

December 16

China's democratic parties issue a joint statement opposing the illegal resolution adopted by the U.N. General Assembly on the Korean question.

December 17

Hsinhua reports that during the month of November, more than 220 engagements were fought on the Korean front, and over 30,000 enemy troops were killed, wounded or taken prisoner, and 685 enemy planes were shot down or damaged.

December 18

A five-year trade agreement and an agreement for 1953 on rubber and rice are signed in Peking between China and Ceylon.

LETTERS

To the Editor

Tell the Truth About Korea

QUEENSLAND, AUSTRALIA

I have read the China Peace Committee's pamphlet "Shall Brothers Be" and the Chinese Red Cross pamphlet "Out of Their Own Mouths." The photos of the horrors that have taken place in Korea can only leave one horrified and bitter and also ashamed and disgusted to think that so soon after the Second World War such barbarism is taken place against a noble people whose only "crime" and "guilt" is that they yearned and desired to have the freedom and economic security that it was claimed that war against fascism was fought for and which the Atlantic Charter and the United Nations were said to guarantee to all peoples.

Our duty is to tell as many people as possible the truth about Korea, the brutal use by America (principally) of napalm bombs, germ warfare, etc. on innocent women and children, babies in arms and some yet unborn.

Let us tell the truth about these human monsters who are murderers of the most monstrous and inhuman kind. In the end, the crimes committed by these beasts in human form will catch up with them, and I doubt if a single one will die with a clear conscience, but instead the cries and agony of those innocent people destroyed and tortured at their command in the interest of world capitalism, will surely torture their last moments.

People's China is doing a great work for peace, life and construction. It is an inspiration to read the articles on construction work being carried out in the new, People's China, of the cultural progress, etc. What is taking place in People's China, the Soviet Union, the People's Democracies, etc. shows that there is another way of life: that instead of the want and poverty accompanied with wars and suffering, there is an alternative world based on peace and happiness, a world without poverty and hunger, with every child born having the opportunity to develop to the full.

Good luck to the Chinese people and to their leader and inspirer, Mao Tse-tung, in their glorious task.

H. N. McElligott

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撲滅戰火，拯救和平！

Stop the War! Save Peace!

A poster by Hsiao Su