

PEOPLE'S CHINA



WE BUILD FOR THE
CHILDREN AND PEACE

— Soong Ching Ling

11
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.

No. 11, 1953

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COVER PICTURE:

Children of the First Kindergarten for Workers' Children in Tsaoyang Village, Shanghai, enjoying their afternoon tea.

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The Hatred of Peace

IN the middle of May the world was treated once more to another example of how warlike elements of the American ruling class hate and fear peace. Certain American senators and publicists filled the news columns with the most scurrilous abuse of leading governmental and public figures in Great Britain and India. The basic cause of this torrent of epithets from the would-be rulers of the world was the fact that everybody except Wall Street now wants a quick end to the Korean war. The immediate cause was the favourable reception given by almost all countries to the eight-point proposal put forward by General Nam Il at Panmunjom on May 7 this year. Briefly, the proposal called for

- 1) immediate, direct repatriation after the armistice of all P.O.W's who insist on repatriation;

- 2) handing over of those P.O.W's not directly repatriated to a neutral nations repatriation commission for custody;

- 3) full freedom and facilities for the sides concerned to make explanations so as to dispel any apprehensions these P.O.W's may have with regard to their return home; and

- 4) the further disposition of P.O.W's who are not repatriated after a four-month period for explanations to be settled by consultation at the political conference.

That General Nam Il's proposal represented a considerable step forward to solving the problem of prisoner repatriation is shown by the fact that practically all shades of world opinion greeted it as providing the long-sought road for a settlement. Most of the comments did not stint their praise of the Korean-Chinese solution. In Britain, Sir Winston Churchill expressed the British Government's approval. In India, Mr. Nehru in giving his support said that the proposal should form the basis for discussion.

But in Washington, alone of all the big capitals, the reaction was very different. Bellicose senators and congressmen like McCarthy, Vorys and Dirksen vented their wrath on statesmen in Britain and India. The Chairman of the Senate Republican Policy Committee, Senator Knowland, made a particularly vicious attack on India, a neutral nation.

This flood of violent language from Washington, at a time when a reasonable attitude is all that is needed for a cease-fire in Korea, shows vividly the hatred of peace that exists in certain quarters in the United States. These quarters are more interested in guns than in butter, in war than in peace. They strive openly to protract the hostilities in Korea by every means in their power. They do not hide their fear that peace will bring the stocks and shares crashing down and dry up the flow of blood from which the colossal profits of many big corporations spring.

Meanwhile, the activities of the U.S. military forces in Korea also give rise to grave misgivings about American intentions at Panmunjom. Since the talks resumed on April 26, the bombing of civilians in Korea has increased in intensity. Even while the Korean-Chinese delegation awaited the reply of the American negotiators to the May 7 proposal, American aircraft committed another act of aggression against the territorial air of China by invading and bombing Antung, a Chinese town on the Yalu River, and causing a number of casualties.

And what of the U.S. Government itself? What kind of reply did it make to the Korean and Chinese proposals? On May 13, after conferring with higher authorities, General Harrison presented its astonishing counter-proposals which in effect cancelled the basis on which talks on the prisoner-of-war question had been resumed.

While the Americans had earlier pressed for the handing of all prisoners not immediately repatriated to a neutral nations commission, General Harrison now reversed this stand by demanding the "freeing on the effective date of the armistice" of some 38,000 Korean prisoners (two-thirds of the total in U.S. camps in South Korea), thus making it impossible for the neutral nations commission to take custody of them and to take them out of U.S. and Syngman Rhee hands as had previously been agreed by both sides. While agreeing to the neutral nations commission consisting of India, Poland, Czechoslovakia, Sweden and Switzerland, the American delegation now sought to paralyse it by restricting its personnel and authority, and by insisting that it could not take decisions by majority vote but only unanimously. A further tactic was to seek to make it impossible for the country concerned to make adequate explanations to their nationals in neutral custody, this being ensured by limiting the personnel to be given access to the camps to one for every thousand prisoners. The fourth major point in Harrison's 26-point proposal amounted to forcible detention. He advocated the "reversion to civilian status" in areas under American control (detention in South Korea) of those who might still remain in the custody of the neutral nations commission after a two-month time limit. The political conference was thus deprived of having any say in the matter of war prisoners at all.

As if to leave no room for doubt as to the American intentions, the new U.S. Chief of Air Staff, General Twining, announced to the American press that discussions were being held as to the use of the atom bomb in Korea! And if the general was not thinking of peace, neither was his air force which began to mass-bomb a Korean reservoir the day Harrison made his counter-proposal, flooding more than twenty-one districts and destroying the crops of thousands of Korean peasants.

The question of prisoners of war is the last remaining issue which stands in the way of an armistice. The prisoners cannot be juggled away; the captured Chinese and Korean personnel are not pawns in a chess game played by U.S. senators or generals. The disposal of these prisoners is of the utmost concern to China

and Korea. They cannot be indifferent to the fate of the men who have been slaughtered and tortured in Koje and other U.S.-run camps to make them renounce their motherlands. The dispatches of the Australian correspondent Wilfred Burchett and the British correspondent Alan Winnington printed in this issue give new testimony of these facts, and of the necessity of getting these men into an atmosphere in which they are no longer at the savage mercies of their captors.

Premier Chou En-lai and Marshal Kim Il Sung at the end of March stated the principles to which their two governments adhere in this matter. They said that both parties to the negotiations should undertake to repatriate immediately after the cessation of hostilities all those prisoners of war in their custody who insist upon repatriation and hand over the remaining prisoners of war to a neutral state so as to ensure a just solution to the question of their repatriation.

It is on the basis of this principle, which the American negotiators have said that they accept, that the Korean and Chinese delegation made a number of concessions in procedure and method after the truce talks resumed. They have met the Americans more than half way to remove the obstacles set up by the American arguments at the conference table. There are very few people anywhere who still do not see that the Chinese-Korean efforts for peace have been consistent and have brought the Korean war to the verge of peace.

Clearly the burden is now on the American side. "A smooth solution to the whole question of prisoners of war should be achieved," Premier Chou En-lai has said, "provided that both sides are prompted by real sincerity to bring about an armistice in Korea in the spirit of mutual compromise." If a different attitude prevails in the circles of decision at Washington, there is no doubt that the efforts for peace made by the Korean and Chinese side, which have won world-wide support will succeed in their aim.

The Korean and Chinese peoples have done their utmost to end the war. They have proved themselves unbeatable on the battlefield. And they have no fear of peace.

We Build for the Children and Peace

Soong Ching Ling

*President of the Chinese People's
National Committee in Defence of Children*

IT is a rule of life, common to every land and people, that the sum total of all work and effort should result in the betterment of the health and welfare of the children. This has been one of the motivating forces that has driven the world forward from time immemorial—to give the children a better standard of living, to give them more joy out of life than their parents could obtain, to provide the base from which they could strike out on their own and make the world fit their needs.

China certainly is no exception to this rule. It has always been one of our deep-rooted traditions to carry out our obligations to the children. But in days gone by it was difficult, if not impossible, for the great majority of the Chinese people to live by that rule. Let alone give their youngsters a start and a lift in life, it was all they could do to sustain life itself. In far too many cases even this was not possible. I think the trials of Chinese children in the past, brought about by war, bad government and the resulting flood, famine and pestilence are quite familiar to the whole world. They are an indelible part of our own memories.



Soong Ching Ling visits a mother and her new-born babe in the International Peace Hospital for Women and Children, founded with her International Stalin Prize "For the Promotion of Peace Among Nations"

It is with great happiness, therefore, that the Chinese people say: "Those days are gone forever!" Today the government of China is firmly in the hands of the great majority, who, with clear consciousness, are doing so much to prevent war, and who rule in their own interests. These are hundreds of millions of capable hands, guided by awakened and striving minds that know how to build and how to pro-

Mother and Child Care

Nearly 30,000 mother and child-care centres, maternity hospitals and children's hospitals have been set up in the big cities and the countryside. More than 269,000 midwives have been given modern training. The decline of maternal and infant mortality is phenomenal. In Peking maternity hospitals, for instance, a drop of maternal mortality from seven per thousand to 0.7 per thousand has been recorded.

In 1952, the Soviet painless childbirth method was introduced in 13 big cities including Peking, Tientsin, and Shanghai and in Hopeh, Shansi, Kiangsu and 19 other provinces. Nearly 90 per cent of the 48,000 mothers who choose the method suffered no pain in delivering their babies. The method will be gradually popularised throughout the country.

More than 21,000 nurses have been trained in child care. In 1952 there were 2,738 nurseries in factories, mines, enterprises, government organisations and schools, an increase of 22 times compared with 1949. In towns 4,346 "street creches" have been set up for the children of working mothers. In the villages creches of many types are rapidly increasing. In 1952 seasonal nurseries numbered 148,200 in rural districts, a tenfold increase over 1951.

Every year around International Children's Day, special medical examinations are made of children in all cities. In 1951 and 1952, 816,300 children were given this all-round check up which greatly helped parents to know the state of health of their children.

protect the gains which labour has wrested from our rich resources. What they build, they are determined to pass on to their children. And they protect not only the new meaning and beauty of their own lives but their children's future.

China, at work on its first five-year plan, is a nation which is throbbing from border to border with peaceful construction. Not a day goes by but that some production record is surpassed; hardly a week or a month but that some new, vast area is forced to serve human needs, some factory, water conservancy project or communication line is commissioned. The sights and sounds of building meet the eye and ear on every turn, and each is a sign of the advance in the livelihood of the builders.

In the midst of this, as an integrated part of it, the task of looking after the well-being of mothers and children receives unprecedented attention. It is part of the fundamental law of our land that we meet our obligations to the

children and those who bring them into the world and are responsible for their early nurturing. It can be said that never have the Chinese people met their obligations so well. Never has our land abounded as it does today in maternity and childcare organisations practising the most modern, scientific methods. Never have we been able to provide an education for so many youngsters as we are doing today, an education steeped in the best of our national and world cultures; an education based on love of our own people and of our fellowmen; based on the love of work, a comradely team spirit and the desire to accomplish great things for the people. Never have the prospects of our country as a whole, and especially those of our children, looked so bright as they do now. This has given rise to optimism and confidence which pervade every atom of our atmosphere.

In our happiness, however, we do not allow ourselves to be oblivious to the sadness that exists elsewhere in the world. We know the cruelty which even at this moment is striking

at parents who have to witness their children facing the trials of a hard life without the least enjoyment of a childhood or youth. We cannot but be deeply moved, having only so recently experienced these same things ourselves. It is impossible for us not to taste the tears of our Korean, Viet-Nam and Malayan sisters, of our other Asian, African and Middle Eastern sisters. Nor can we fail to see that the "arms above all" policy is closing nurseries and reducing the school years of British children, has thrown two million Italian and four million American school-age children on the streets, is forcing millions of small children and teen-agers to factory benches or into back-breaking work such as mining, in Spain, in Bolivia, in the United States and elsewhere, is forcing the Japanese people into the sale of their children, is killing 50 per cent of the newborn in Turkey.

In our recognition, the Chinese people are indignant that such things are allowed to continue in this, the twentieth century. We protest vigorously against the continuation of such suffering; of the criminal stunting of the physical and mental growth of millions, the maiming and killing of other millions of children. We recognise them for the threat they are to all children, to our own accomplishments and those of other people's lands. We denounce them on every occasion for the drag they are on the world's progress.

How else but with peace can these wrongs be righted? How else but with peace can the Chinese people and all peoples carry out their hearts' desire, their plans for the children? In this matter, so intimately involved with all the main problems facing the world today, peace, in which all peoples choose their own way to prosperity and then proceed with the building of it, is the only solution. For this reason, peace is the hope and demand of the common people in every land. It is in these ranks that the Chinese people have marched, are marching and will continue to march.

We will do our utmost to prevent war from spreading, to stop all present wars and to shackle any attempt at future wars. Recent events have once again clearly shown that this is the stand of the Chinese people.

Children's Centre

Shanghai's children have now their own play centre—the first of its kind in the city. Situated in the city's Cultural Square, the former French-owned canidrome for greyhound racing, the Children's Centre is a popular gathering place for thousands of boys and girls who have the free use of a recreation hall, an exhibition room, an experiments room, an athletic field and gardening plots.

The recreation hall has an auditorium and facilities for indoor games. The exhibition room will show pictures and drawings done by children. The experiments room is equipped with carpentry tools, radio and other equipment. For those who prefer drawing and painting, facilities are also provided.

Children's Hospital

In Nanking, the Municipal Government has set up a new children's hospital. It has sixty beds and is also equipped with an out-patient department and a clinic for infectious diseases.

A playroom furnished with toys and picture books, little tables and chairs is set aside for healthy children who come for the regular medical check-ups that the hospital provides.

China will continue apace with the construction of her new life, in co-ordination with all those travelling the same path, in co-operation with all those who wish to be friends. China will continue to make sure that her children are healthy, happy and lack nothing that they need for a full and joyous life. China will continue her unremitting struggle for peace. In this we are doing our duty towards the children of the world—the treasures of its present and the masters of its future.

The Advance of China's Industry

Chia To-fu

*Vice-Chairman of the Committee for
Financial and Economic Affairs*

COMMENCING this year, our country entered its first five-year plan of construction. This large-scale, planned economic development is being carried out on the basis of past achievements, that is to say, past achievements have provided the conditions for new construction.

Tremendous achievements have been made in our industrial economy in the three years and more since liberation, and this has stimulated the development of our agricultural, and other economic, cultural and educational undertakings.

At the end of 1952, the state of economic restoration and development throughout the country was as follows:—

IN INDUSTRY: With the exception of coal, the annual production of all principal industrial products such as pig iron, steel, steel products, electric power, crude oil, electrolytic copper, sodium carbonate, caustic soda, cement, cotton yarn, cotton cloth, paper, sugar had surpassed the previous highest annual output.

When we took over the enterprises of the Kuomintang bureaucratic capitalists, they were broken down or disorganised. Many factories had closed down or were in partial operation. Productive capacity was very low. But the situation was entirely different in 1952. Production had been greatly raised. Output

in 1952 was as follows: pig iron was 7.5, steel 9.4, steel products 8.2, electric power 1.8, coal 2, crude oil 3.1, electrolytic copper 10.2, sodium carbonate 1.9, caustic soda 5.2, cement 3.5, timber 2.2, cotton yarn 2, and cotton cloth 2.3 times that of 1949.

These figures indicate clearly the tremendous achievements in industrial production during the period of economic rehabilitation. These achievements were scored primarily because of the initiative of our working class.

IN AGRICULTURE: The output of food grains throughout the country in 1952 reached 163,750,000 tons, which was a big increase over 1949, and surpassed the highest annual output in our history. The output of cotton in 1952 was 1,290,000 tons, almost double that of 1949 and surpassing the previous highest annual output by about 50 per cent. The output of other industrial crops also increased. These facts show that we have also attained great achievements in agricultural production during the period of economic rehabilitation. These achievements were attained primarily because the Chinese peasants, under the leadership of the working class and its political party, the Communist Party of China, have gone through the great land reform and have developed initiative in production, and because many peasants are already united in mutual-aid and co-operative organisations.

In co-ordination with the rehabilitation and development of industrial and agricultural

An abstract of a report made by the author to the seventh All-China Congress of Trade Unions.

production, our domestic and foreign trade, communications and transport, have also been restored and greatly developed. For instance, in 1952, exports and imports were balanced; the turn-round rate of freight trains was 48 per cent higher than the previous highest level; the state budget was balanced, the market stabilised and prices of commodities reduced according to plan. Wages have been greatly increased and workers' welfare much improved. The purchasing power of the people has risen sharply and their life has been systematically improved. We have successfully fulfilled the call of Chairman Mao Tse-tung to fight for a fundamental turn for the better in the financial and economic situation in China.

Economic rehabilitation and development are inseparable from the consolidation of the people's democratic dictatorship under the leadership of Chairman Mao Tse-tung and the Communist Party. Because this system is led by the working class and has as its foundation the alliance of the workers and peasants, it manifests its great superiority in the economic sphere. In its turn, economic development enhances the consolidation of the people's democratic dictatorship and strengthens the leadership of the working class and the basis of the worker-peasant alliance. We must at the same time point out that the economic rehabilitation and development of our country are also inseparable from the unselfish assistance of the great Soviet Union and the People's Democracies and the support of the international working class.

We achieved the following results in economic restoration and development:

First, our modern industry, that is, mechanised industry, has grown in proportion to the total value of industrial and agricultural production. The proportion of modern industry is an important means whereby to gauge the economic level of a country. Secondly, state-owned industries now constitute some 60 per cent of modern industry in our country. This demonstrates the big growth of the socialist sector in industrial economy. As is well known, the proportion of the socialist sector is the most decisive factor in determining the future of a country. Therefore, the steady growth of the

proportion of both modern industry and the socialist sector is the only correct road to the realisation of China's industrialisation and her gradual transition to Socialism.

New Tasks of Construction

As Chairman Mao Tse-tung has said in his work, *On Coalition Government*, the great goal of the new construction of our country is "changing China from an agricultural into an industrial country," because "without industry there can be no solid national defence, no people's welfare and no national prosperity and power." Therefore, the fundamental task of our first five-year plan is to concentrate our forces on the building of heavy industry so as to lay the foundation for the industrialisation of our country and ensure the steady growth of the socialist sector in the national economy. With this general goal before us, we should advance light industry to the necessary level, energetically develop agriculture and the handicraft industry, and promote step by step their organisation on co-operative lines, correctly let those private enterprises which are beneficial to the national economy and people's livelihood play their proper role, and, on the basis of developing production, raise the material and cultural standards of the people.

Why must the development of heavy industry be taken as the key point in our country's new construction? Because it is only by building and developing the heavy industries—such as the iron and steel, coal, electric power, petroleum, machine-building, non-ferrous metals, basic chemical and other industries—that we can build powerful economic forces and strong national defences. Only by so doing can we ensure the complete economic independence of our country on the basis of expanded reproduction. Only by so doing can we lay the material and technical basis for the collectivisation and fundamental reform of agriculture and give light industry opportunities for development. And only by so doing can we ensure the continuous development and upsurge of our national economy, so as to raise the living standards of our people continuously, and enable our country to march victoriously towards Socialism.

Our industry will develop greatly during the period of the first five-year plan. More iron and steel, coal, electric power, petroleum, non-ferrous metals, machinery, building materials, chemical products, and finished goods from the light industries will be produced to supply the needs of the state and the people. Many new products which have never been manufactured in our country before will now be produced in large quantities.

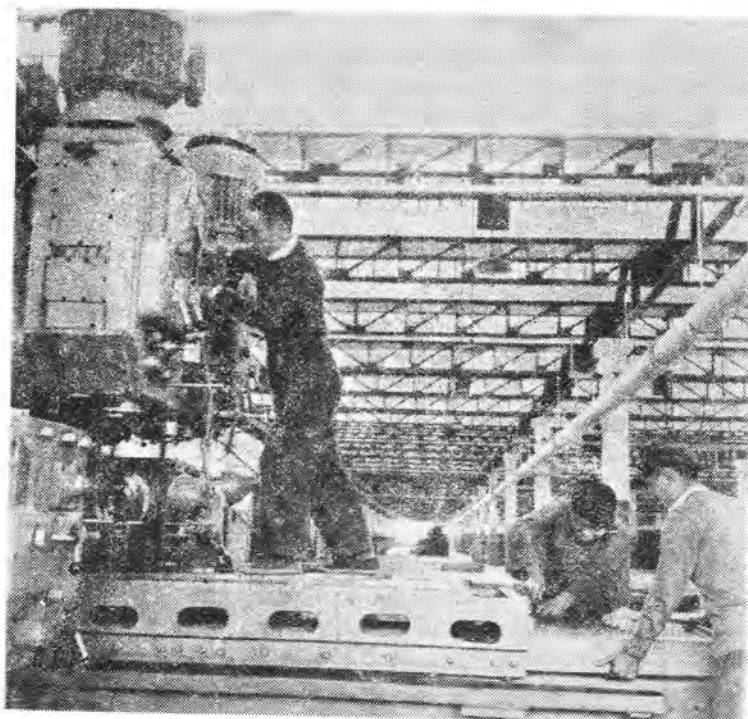
1953 Plan

Taking 1953, the first year of our five-year plan, as an example, the total value of industrial production will be increased by 23 per cent—and that of state-owned industry by 32 per cent—as compared with 1952. The planned percentage increases of several major products as compared with 1952 are as follows:

Pig iron 13.3	Steel ingots 22.1
Steel products 34.8	Copper 28.6
Lead 34.6	Zinc 32
Electric power 18.3	Crude oil 29.1
Machine tools 4.6	Power generators 190.9
Electrical motors (in kilowatts) 41.2	Nitric acid 34.3
Ammonium sulphate 32	Cement 29.7
Cotton yarn 9.4	Cotton cloth 10.5
Paper 7.9	Timber 38

New products planned to be manufactured in 1953 include: seamless steel tubes, silicon steel plates, 6,000-kilowatt steam turbines, power-generators, 20,000 kilo-volt-ampere transformers, 1,450 kilowatt electric motors, Soviet-type planers, Soviet-type vertical lathes, three-metre shears and five-metre screw milling machines.

Total investments in capital construction in the various industries will be increased by 150 per cent as compared with the planned figure of 1952. With regard to heavy industry, the large steel-rolling factory and the



Workers in the heavy machine workshop of the State Chingwei Textile Machinery Works, Shansi Province, assembling a new type of Soviet milling machine

seamless steel tubing factory will be completed within this year in Anshan; the building of the No. 7 blast furnace will begin; and construction of the sheet steel mill will be continued. As for the fuel industry 6 large power stations will be installed, 395 kilometres of super high-voltage transmission lines will be laid; the building of eight pairs of shafts and two open-cast coal mines will be continued; the building of three inclined shafts will be started; drilling of oil wells will amount to a total depth of 48,000 metres, and 15 new oil wells will be sunk.

With regard to the machine-building industry, over ten large factories will be built or reconstructed, including an automobile factory, heavy machine-building plant, electrical machinery factory, measuring instrument and cutting-tool factory, industrial equipment and mining machinery factory, machine-tool factory, pneumatic tool factory, dockyard, locomotive and wagon factory and textile machinery factory.

With regard to the textile and other light industries, four cotton mills and two flax mills

will be built; one paper factory will be built and two others reconstructed; two pharmaceutical factories will be built or enlarged and two rubber factories will be expanded.

Labour productivity in the state-owned industries will be increased by 16 per cent, production costs reduced by 6.4 per cent and the wages of office and factory workers will be further increased.

The above shows that the size of our industrial construction in 1953 is really colossal. The task of fulfilling the state plan of construction falls on the shoulders of the working class. Therefore, to organise all office and factory workers to develop labour emulation, raise labour productivity, fulfil and overfulfil the state plan, and to strive for the raising of the quality of products and the reduction of production costs are the glorious and great tasks of the working class.

In developing industry we are faced with many difficulties. Taken as a whole, the industrial basis of our country is still very weak, and we are technically backward; there is a shortage of prospecting and designing personnel who are necessary for capital construction, and we do not have sufficient statistics regarding our resources; cadres and capital are both insufficient; the readjustment of state-owned industries has not yet been completed. These are our difficulties. If we neglect them, we will commit the mistake of being too impetuous and over-ambitious, which may result in even greater difficulties and damage to the cause of our national construction.

Favourable Factors

But does it mean that because of these difficulties we will be unable to develop our industry in a planned way?

No, this is not the case. Internally and internationally, both from the political and the economic viewpoint, we have many favourable factors which are of fundamental importance.

Internally, we now have in the first place a new social system, the people's democratic system, which is led by the working class, and

based on the alliance of the workers and peasants, and possesses boundless vitality. This system will enable the entire working people to develop unlimited creativeness. Secondly, gigantic social reforms have been carried out in our country. Following the successes gained in the social reforms and the victories in the campaign to resist U.S. aggression and aid Korea, our economy has been restored. The financial situation has been fundamentally changed for the better. The leading position of the socialist sector in the national economy has been strengthened. Both co-operative economy and state capitalist economy have been considerably developed. That is to say, the entire national economy has been in the main restored and developed. This has enabled us to carry out our industrial construction on the basis of a restored economy. We have rich resources and manpower which enable us to build a huge industry and a new agriculture by relying on our own efforts. Above all, we have the correct leadership of Chairman Mao Tse-tung and the Communist Party. Our leader and our Party are armed with the great teachings of Marx, Engels, Lenin and Stalin. They have led, and will lead us, from victory to victory.

Internationally, we have the vigorous support of the peace-loving people of the world and the international working class; we have the unified international market of Socialism, peace and democracy. The aim of the nations embraced by this market is not profit, but mutual economic development and fraternal aid. It will stimulate the development of our national economy. Of special importance is the fact that we have the economic and technical aid of the great socialist Soviet Union, which has helped us with low-priced equipment and superior technique.

All these favourable conditions will ensure that our industrial construction will march forward with great strides.

We have all the conditions to carry out planned industrial construction. We are confident that the working class, together with the entire Chinese people, will courageously overcome all difficulties, and enable our country to march steadily on the road to Socialism.

CHU YUAN,

Ancient China's Patriot-Poet

Kuo Mo-jo

Chu Yuan was a great lyric poet of ancient China. He was also a thinker and statesman of his time. He loved his motherland and his people and stood up fearlessly for freedom and justice. For these reasons, he is loved by the Chinese people, who have honoured him for more than two thousand years.

Chu Yuan was born in 340 B.C., and died in 278 B.C. The year 1953 will mark the 2230th anniversary of his death. To foster cultural exchanges between the peoples, the Standing Committee of the World Peace Council has decided to call on the peoples all over the world to commemorate him this year as an outstanding contributor to the common cultural heritage of mankind.

In honour of the occasion, we publish a sketch of Chu Yuan by Kuo Mo-jo, an authority on the poet, and a selection of his poems.

—Editor.

I

CHU Yuan is a great Chinese poet who lived more than two thousand years ago. He was not simply a poet, but also a thinker and statesman.

Chu Yuan was born in 340 B.C. during the Warring States period (403 B.C.—221 B.C.). The twelve great states of the Spring-and-Autumn period (770 B.C.—403 B.C.) had now been reduced to seven, which were struggling

among themselves trying to achieve the unity of China.

Of the seven states, Chin in the northwest was the most powerful, while Chu in the Yangtse River valley was the largest. The state of Chi in the Shantung peninsula, thanks to its proximity to the sea, had abundance of fish and salt and was the richest. Han, Chao and Wei, having come into being as a result of the partition of Tsin, were sometimes called "the three Tsin states," and occupied the central part of

the Yellow River valley; they were smaller states, thickly populated, in the heart of ancient China. The state of Yen in the northeast had its boundary along the Liaotung peninsula and northern Korea, and was therefore relatively remote from the struggle.

Chu Yuan was a noble of Chu. He was born when the once powerful kingdom of Chu was declining. His failure to win the support of the corrupt king of Chu and the other nobles for his honest and progressive proposals made his life a tragic one.

At first he won the confidence of the king of Chu, and held the high post of "left minister," having constant access to the king, and helping to draft laws and determine foreign policy. In view of the danger threatening Chu from Chin, Chu Yuan proposed reforms in the government and an alliance with Chi to ensure the safety of the state. But the king of Chu was surrounded by self-seekers such as the councillor Tze Chiao (who held the highest position in the Chu government), the knight Chin Shang (Chu Yuan's political opponent), and the king's favourite, Queen Cheng Hsiu. Having accepted bribes from Chin's envoy, Chang Yi, they not only stopped King Huai from taking Chu Yuan's advice, but brought about the latter's estrangement from the king. As a result King Huai was tricked into going to Chin, where he died after three years' captivity.

King Huai's successor, King Chin Hsiang, was even more incompetent than his father. In the twenty-first year of his reign (278 B.C.), General Pai Chi of Chin led troops southward to storm the capital of Chu. The kingdom of Chu never recovered. Fifty-five years later it was finally overthrown.

Most of Chu Yuan's poems were written after his policy was rejected.

When the capital of Chu was sacked by Pai Chi, he wrote a poem of lament. He was then sixty-two. He had lived for more than twenty years in retirement and now,



Chu Yuan

*A portrait by Chen Lao-lien,
an artist of Ming Dynasty*

seeing no future for his country, on the fifth of the fifth month of the lunar calendar he drowned himself in the Milo River in Hunan.

II

Chu Yuan's life was a tragedy. As a political figure he was a failure, but as poet he achieved great success. The people sympathised with him. Not only the people of Chu, but the people of all China for two thousand years and more have sympathised with him. Every year on the fifth of the fifth month of the lunar calendar, the day on which he is believed to have died, people throughout China have dragon-boat races to commemorate him. This ceremony may be considered a representation of how the people of Chu at that time recovered his body. On this day Chinese everywhere eat a special variety of dumpling, made of sticky rice wrapped in leaves, and steamed. And, according to tradition, some of these dumplings

are thrown into the river to feed the dragons and serpents, so that they may not devour Chu Yuan's body. This tradition has spread to Korea, Japan, Viet-Nam and Malaya.

Chu Yuan attracted such great sympathy largely because of his own deep love for his motherland and the people. Although a noble of Chu, he sympathised deeply with the common people. Over two thousand years ago he wrote:

*Long did I sigh, and wipe away my Tears,
To see my People bowed by Grievs and Fears.*

—The Lament

And again:

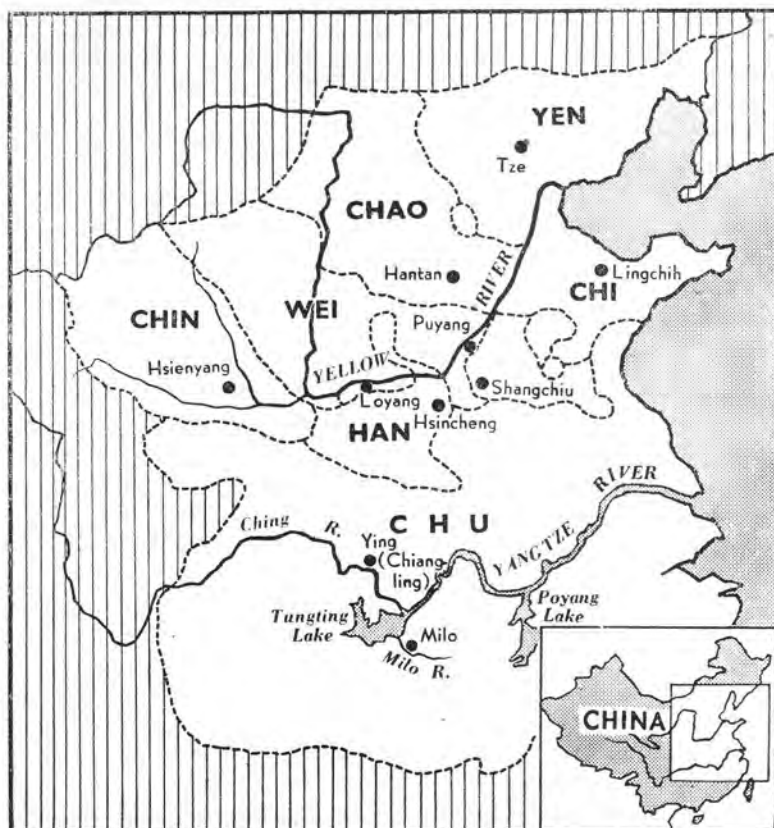
*The People's Sufferings move my Heart,
Our Land I cannot leave.*

—Stray Thoughts

The people will grieve for one who has grieved for them. Chu Yuan's poetry shows great sincerity. And his life proves that he

practised what he preached. He was banished from court for more than twenty years, during which he lived in retirement; yet he never left his motherland. So great was his love for his motherland and his people that he put up with disgrace and finally drowned himself rather than leave the kingdom of Chu. It is easy to understand how such a man must have won the deep sympathy of the people.

His passionate love for his people is also clearly seen in the form of his poetry. There are twenty-five poems attributed to Chu Yuan, most of which we may consider authentic. Some of these poems are odes dedicated to the gods. These were written in the prime of his life, when all was well with him. They are fresh, vigorous, musical and charming, like the soft breeze of spring. But the majority of his poems were written after his hopes had been dashed. These are filled with indignation, pathos, passion and grief, like the prelude to a storm, or like the storm itself.



A Map of the Seven Warring States in Chu Yuan's time (403 B.C. — 221 B.C.)

His poetic forms were derived mainly from folk poetry, and the vocabulary used was that of the common people. He initiated a revolution in ancient Chinese poetry, and his influence has made itself felt on Chinese literature for the last two thousand years. The people love his poetry. Though he lived two thousand years ago, and his language differs considerably from that of today, when translated into modern Chinese or a foreign language it can still move us.

III

Chu Yuan's poetic imagination is unrivalled in Chinese literature. From his *Li Sao* (*The Lament*), the greatest of his poems, we can see that he felt all things in nature possess life and can be shaped to man's purpose. Wind, rain, thunder and lightning, clouds and moon, become his attendants and charioteers. Phoenix and dragon draw his chariot. He gallops to the sky and reaches heaven's gate, then climbs up the roof of the world and wanders to the uttermost parts of the earth. But he found no rest anywhere, and finally took his own life.

Although he liked to give free rein to his imagination to conjure up heaven and hell or various spirits, he did not reverence them. Heaven and hell alike appeared to him as places where the spirit could not dwell. In his poem *Requiem* he exhorts the soul not to go to heaven or hell, nor to the north, south, east or west, for nothing good was to be found there. His native place was best. In *Li Sao* (*The Lament*) he describes how he reached the gate of paradise and called the gatekeeper to open up, but the gatekeeper simply leaned against the door looking at him—probably unwilling to admit him. So finally he sighed and said: "Even in Heaven there are no good People."

His most extraordinary poem is a long one entitled *Tien Wen* (*The Riddles*). In this he asks questions regarding what existed before the universe, the creation of the heavenly bodies and the structure of the earth. He also asks

about myths and legends and historical events. Over one hundred and seventy questions are raised, and none of them answered. These riddles give us some idea of the myths of ancient China, but many of them are unintelligible today because so many ancient legends have been lost.

Most noteworthy, in my opinion, are the questions regarding the structure of the heavenly bodies. Who built the sky? Where does it end? What supports the sky? Why the division into twelve Zodiac Signs? How are the sun, moon and stars held in place so that they do not fall? How many miles does the sun travel in one day? What makes the moon wax and wane? Where does the sun hide before dawn? These are the questions asked, and very rational questions they are too. From them we can see his concern with nature, and the richness of his imagination.

Chinese science in Chu Yuan's time had, in fact, reached great heights. In astronomy, calendar science and mathematics, great advances had been made, while logic was well developed. A southern philosopher named Huang Liao who lived shortly before Chu Yuan, once asked a northern scholar, Hwei Shih, who was a well-known logician, why the heavenly bodies did not fall and what caused the wind and rain, thunder and lightning. And Hwei Shih gave him answers. This shows that the intellectuals of the time were generally interested in problems concerning the structure of the universe.

Chu Yuan lived in the Golden Age of Chinese civilisation. His genius and his position made it easy for him to assimilate current thought and to develop in many directions. But his genius was pre-eminently poetic. His sincerity, imaginative power and brilliance, the wealth of imagery, lyrical qualities and diversity of forms of his poems make him an outstanding figure in the world of lyric poetry.

This poet who so loved his motherland and his people, who loved freedom and justice, will never die.

Poems by Chu Yuan

Leaving the Capital

High Heav'n proves fickle once again,
And show'rs Calamities like Rain.
Homes are destroyed and loved Ones die,
As East in early Spring we fly.

Now we must wander far and wide,
Eastward, the River as our Guide.
I leave the City sad at Heart,
Forced from my Home today to part.

We leave the Capital behind,
And know not where the Stream may wind.
United Oars the Water cleave;
To see the King no more I grieve.

By Forest Glades I sigh again,
And as I gaze Tears fall like Rain.
East moves the Boat, I dream of West,
Far from the Country I love best.

Now sick at Heart, condemned to yearn,
I am uncertain where to turn.
By Wind and Current I am borne,
A Stranger drifting all forlorn.

The Stream flows fast, the Boat is sped,
I do not know what lies ahead.
And still my Heart is wracked with Pain,
My Thoughts are like a tangled Skein.

Now downstream all our Vessels row,
Some to the Lake, some East will go.
Leaving our Homes of Yesterday,
To eastern Realms we make our Way.

But still my Soul longs to return,
For that far distant Land I yearn.
My Thoughts still West, still homeward stray.
Grieved that the Distance grows each Day.

To gaze afar, I climb the Hill,
Hoping my aching Heart to still.
The Landscape here is lovely too,
The Valley boasts good Men and true.

The Peasants ask why we have fled,
They have not heard the Tidings dread.
In Ruins lies our royal Town,
The Eastern Gates have toppled down.

My Heart is torn and wracked with Pain,
And sad Thoughts follow in their Train,
Far, far removed our City lies,
Hid from our Sight, 'neath distant Skies.

I left the Court when I was spurned,
For nine Years I have not returned.
My Woes too many to express,
Lonely, an Heir to all Distress.

They set themselves to charm the King,
But Favour is a fickle Thing.
Loyal, I would approach the Throne,
But then their envious Arts were shown.

The Virtues of sage Kings gone by
Spread their good Influence to the sky.
Yet even they were slandered too,
Maligned as impious or untrue.

Goodness and Worth no Praise secure,
But Flatt'ers of Rewards are sure.
While these approach the King each Day,
Good Ministers are turned away.

Refrain

Exiled, I look back and yearn,
Homeward when shall I return?
To their old Nests Birds will fly,
Foxes face the Hill to die.
Blameless, I was sent away,
Still this rankles, Night and Day.

—The Elegies

Ode to the Orange

Here the Orange Tree is found,
Shedding Beauty all around.
Living in this Southern Grove,



"To gaze afar, I climb the Hill,
Hoping my aching Heart to still."

—Leaving the Capital

From its Fate it will not move;
For as its Roots lie fast and deep,
So its Purpose it will keep.
With green Leaves and Blossoms white,
It brings Beauty and Delight.
Yet Foliage and sharp Thorns abound
To guard the Fruit so ripe and round.
Golden Clusters, Clusters green
Glimmer with a lovely Sheen,
While all within is pure and clear
Like Heart of a Philosopher.
Grace and Splendour here are one,
Beauty all and Blemish none.

Your youthful and impetuous Heart
Sets you from common Men apart,
And well-contented I to see
Your resolute Integrity.
Deep-rooted thus you stand unshaken,
Impartial, by no Fancies taken.
Steadfast you choose your Course alone,
Following no Fashion but your own.
Over your Heart you hold firm Sway,
Nor suffer it to go astray;
No selfish Wishes stain your Worth,

Standing erect 'twixt Heaven and Earth.
Then let not Age divide us Twain;
Your Friend I ever would remain.
Be noble still without Excess,
And stern, but yet with Gentleness.
Though young in Years and in Complexion,
Yet be my Master in Perfection.
Then Po Yi* as your Standard take,
His Virtues as your Model make.

—The Elegies

For Those Fallen for Their Country

We grasp huge Shields, clad in Rhinoceros Hide;
The Chariots clash; the Daggers gashing wide;
Flags shade the Sun, like lowering Clouds the
Foe;

While Arrows fall the Warriors forward go.
They break our Line, our Ranks are overborne;
My left-hand Horse is slain, its Fellow torn;
My Wheels are locked and fast my Steeds
become;

I raise Jade Rods and beat the sounding Drum.
The Heav'n grows wrath: the Gods our Fall
ordain;

And cruelly we perish on the Plain.
Our Men came forth but never shall return;
Through dreary Plain stretches the Way eterne.
We bear long Swords with curved Bows grimly
set;

Though cleft the Skull the Heart knows no
Regret.

Warlike indeed, so resolute and proud,
Undaunted still and by no Peril cow'd;
Their Spirits deathless, though the Body's slain,
Proudly as Kings among the Ghosts shall reign.

—The Odes

Translated by Yang Hsien Yi
and Gladys Yang

*Po Yi was a sage of the Shang Dynasty, who, rather than live under the rule of the King of the Chou Dynasty who conquered the Shangs, went to the Shou Yang Mountain where he starved himself to death.

For the Industrialisation of China

A Review of the Seventh All-China Congress of Trade Unions

Our Correspondent

FROM May 2-11, the delegates of China's over 10 million organised workers met at the seventh All-China Trade Union Congress in Peking to decide on the policy and tasks of the Chinese trade union movement in the new stage of the advance of China to industrialisation, to a planned economy and in the gradual transition to Socialism.

The attention of the whole of the country was centred on this congress. Liu Shao-chi, who brought greetings on behalf of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of China, formulated the historic tasks that today stand before the Chinese people. The fulfilment of these tasks, he said, "depends especially on the Chinese working class who must carry out better organised struggles on a higher level of consciousness."

Louis Saillant, General-Secretary of the World Federation of Trade Unions, greeted the Congress as "an important event in the life not only of China but of the whole international working-class movement."

In honour of the Congress the workers of the country launched special emulation drives producing new records and inventions and valuable innovations. Nearly two thousand messages and gifts poured into the Congress secretariat from all parts of the country and the world.

New Situation

The Chinese trade unions, ever since their founding, have followed the path pointed out by the Communist Party of China. Following their Sixth Congress in Harbin in 1948, they rallied the forces of the working class to carry the War of Liberation to victory. They have completed the quick recovery of the national economy, greatly developed their organisation and raised the political consciousness and material well-being of their members.

China now has 23 national industrial unions under the All-China Federation of Labour, a total of 180,000 trade union branches with 10,200,000 members, over two-thirds of the entire working class of China. They are the firm support of the people's democratic dictatorship.

The Seventh Congress was attended by 813 delegates representing every section of the country's working class and every trade. They came from 28 provinces, 12 major cities, and one autonomous region. There were delegates from 6 national minorities. They included veteran trade unionists, young labour models, men and women workers.

New Tasks

These delegates were gathered to discuss the tasks of the Chinese working class in the new situation of China and the world. This new task, as Liu Shao-chi formulated it, is to complete the work of transforming China's backward economy, inherited from feudalism and imperialism, and carry out the industrialisation of the country, paving the way for the gradual transition to Socialism. (See Supplement.) Lai Jo-yu, Secretary-General of the A.C.F.L., explained this task more fully in his report on the work of the trade unions. The task is the work of uniting and educating the workers and the technical personnel and office employees under the leadership of the Communist Party of China. It is to continuously raise their level of political consciousness and organisation, to consolidate the alliance of the workers and peasants, unite with the people of all other strata and actively fulfil the national plan of construction and, on the basis of developed production, to raise consistently the material and cultural well-being of the working class and the entire working people. It is to fight for the achievement of the industrial and socialist future of the country.



The presidium of the seventh All-China Congress of Trade Unions which convened from May 2-11 in Peking's Huai Jen Tang Hall

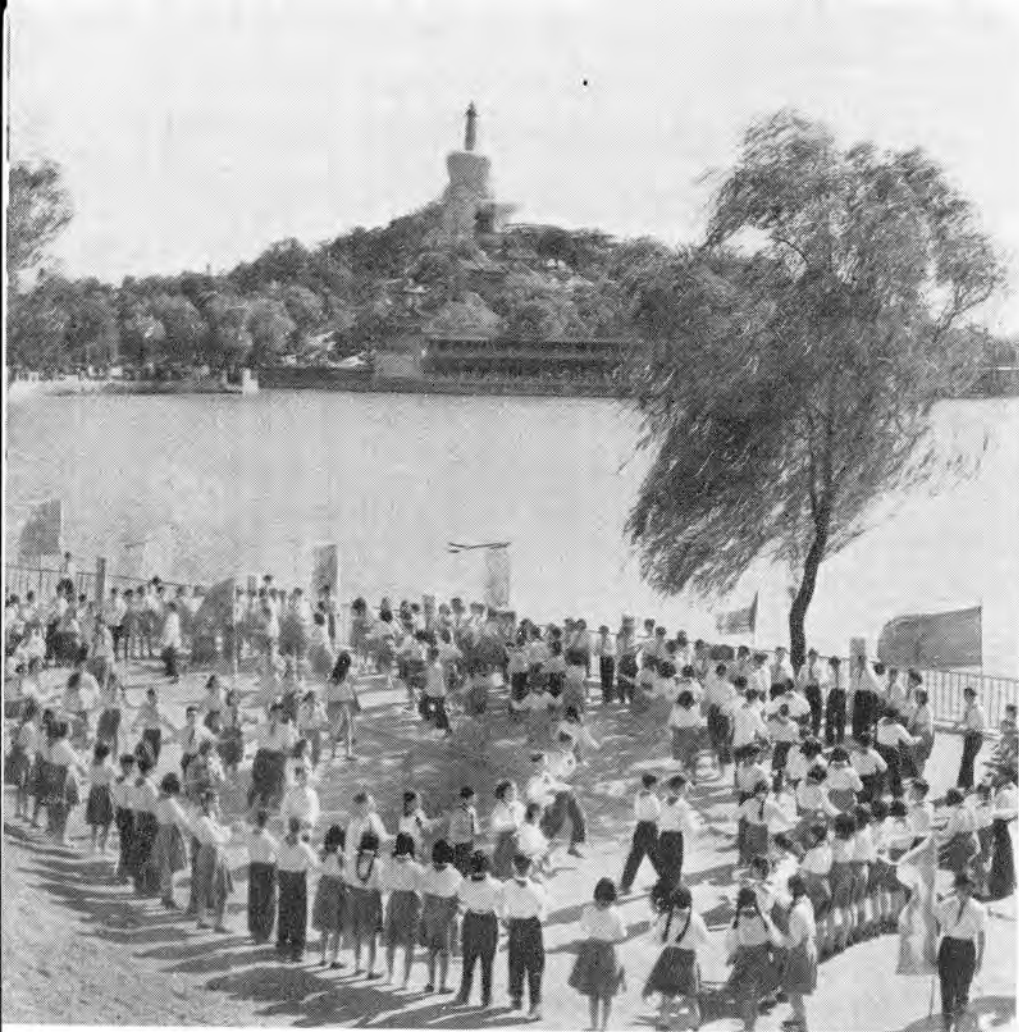
Delegates electing the 7th Executive Committee

The Seventh All-China Congress of Trade Unions



The scene at the opening of the Congress





Young Pioneers dancing in Peihai Park, Peking, as they celebrate International Children's Day



Young modellers in
at T

CHILD IN

New China
giving its yo

Bonny babies in one of Peking's many nurseries



Children's Railway
in Pokotu, North-
east China





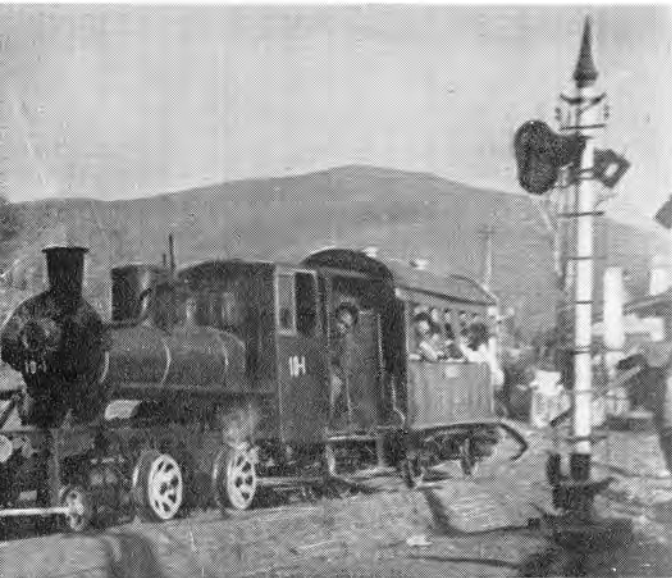
The kindergarten for workers' children
Boyang Village, Shanghai



China's younger generation is keenly interested in
technology

REN'S LIFE CHINA

ays the greatest attention to
ng generation a healthy and
appy start in life



Weighing in at the nursery for railway
workers' children in Tientsin



The young guard cleans up the coach on
the "Peking-Moscow" run



(Above left) A Chinese people's volunteer proudly displays a treasured possession, a national flag preserved throughout captivity despite all risks

(Above) The people of Kaesong give a warm welcome to returning Korean and Chinese P.O.W's



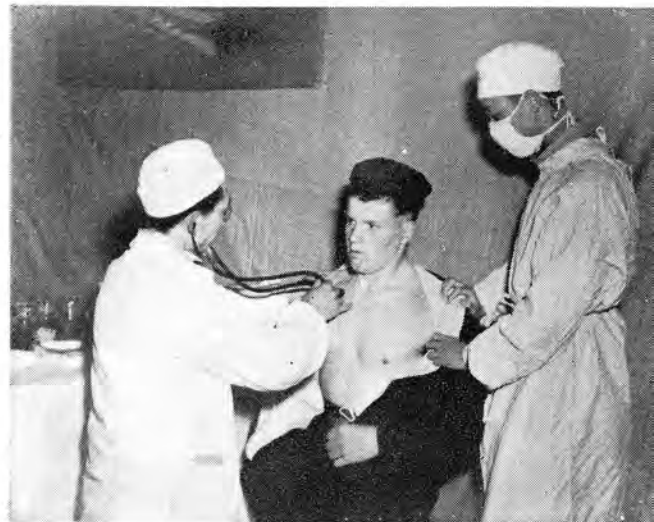
Many of these men of the Korean People's Army had their limbs amputated as a result of the U.S. P.O.W. command's consistent maltreatment

Exchange of Sick and Injured P.O.W's in Korea

A last check-up for a P.O.W. of the U.S. side on the eve of repatriation

(Below) American P.O.W's saying farewell to our personnel expressed deep gratitude for their friendly attitude

(Below right) Repatriated sick and injured personnel of the U.S. side received consistently humanitarian treatment up till the last minute. A farewell party held at a P.O.W. camp on the eve of repatriation



Lai Jo-yu expressed the confidence of the working class in being able to fulfil these tremendous tasks just as it had fulfilled the great tasks of the past. (See Supplement.)

Detailed information on progress in various key branches of work was given by representatives of the various unions and of the women and youth.

The Congress heard of the great progress made in the various administrative areas of China. Chang Wei-chen, Chairman of the Northeast Federation of Trade Unions, reported how Northeast China had already in 1952 raised the value of industrial production from 35 per cent in 1949 to 55.9 per cent of the total output of the Northeast. He described its many new modern automatic plants and highly mechanised mines. Delegations from the other administrative areas brought news of their fellow workers' achievements and expressed their confidence in this work to change the face of China. Representatives of the workers of the national minorities pledged their efforts for national unity and construction.

Renowned labour models described what they have done to raise production and make all possible economies. The Congress heard of the heroic achievements of railwaymen volunteers and other workers with the Chinese people's volunteers in Korea in the front ranks to defend Korea, their country and peace from U.S. aggression. A peasant representative came to thank the workers for making the peasants new types of farm implements. He told the Congress how the peasants look forward to the day when the country will be industrialised and the peasants will march towards mechanisation and collectivisation of agriculture.

The concrete tasks of industrial construction this year were outlined by Chia To-fu, Vice-Chairman of the Committee for Financial and Economic Affairs of the Government Administration Council. Chu Hsueh-fan, Vice-Chairman of the A.C.F.T.U., gave a report on the labour insurance work of the trade unions. He cited the 16,000,000 million yuan the state allocated for that work in 1952.

Decisions

The Congress dealt with several important organisational questions. The new Constitu-

tion of the A.C.F.T.U. was passed. (It was decided henceforth to adopt the name of the All-China Federation of Trade Unions in place of the All-China Federation of Labour.) The Financial Report was accepted. Members of the new Executive Committee of the A.C.F.T.U. were elected, by secret ballot, with Lai Jo-yu as its new president. One place was reserved for the workers' representative from Taiwan. Lai Jo-yu's report calling on workers throughout the country to work for the industrial construction of China was approved.

The Congress celebrated the 135th anniversary of the birth of Karl Marx, on May 5, with an address by Yang Hsien-tsen on the role of Marxism-Leninism in the emancipation of the Chinese workers. This solemn tribute to the founder of the militant theory of the world's working class was an expression of the internationalism that permeated all the work of the Congress.

Present at the Congress were representatives of the World Federation of Trade Unions, and trade union delegations of twenty countries: the Soviet Union, Korea, Viet-Nam, Mongolia, Poland, Czechoslovakia, Germany, Rumania, Hungary, Bulgaria, Burma, India, Indonesia, Ceylon, Japan, Australia, France, Algeria, French Equatorial Africa and Dakar in French West Africa.

When I. V. Goroshkin, leader of the Soviet Trade Union Delegation, spoke, he fired the imagination of the delegates with his picture of the socialist future which is the present life of the Soviet people. Foreign fraternal delegates brought from the workers of their lands the warmest greetings and support to the Chinese workers and expressed their admiration for their great achievements.

Louis Saillant in his address called on all trade union organisations whether affiliated to the W.F.T.U. or not, to prepare for the coming third World Congress of Trade Unions in Vienna this October. He issued a call to make this a united trade union congress of the world. Liu Chang-sheng, Chairman of the Shanghai Federation of Trade Unions, in his reply, called on the Chinese workers to go into action, step up production and strive to realise the new historic tasks which the third World Congress of Trade Unions is being convened to solve, and

FOREIGN MINISTER CHOU EN-LAI PROTESTS AGAINST U.S. PROVOCATION

The U.S. Air Force violated China's territorial air and bombed Lakushao and Antung City in Northeast China on May 10 and 11 when the Korean armistice negotiations had entered into an important stage and people the world over were hoping for an immediate armistice. Two hundred and fifty-seven people in Antung were killed or wounded; more than 1,100 houses were destroyed.

Foreign Minister Chou En-lai issued a statement on May 11 protesting against this serious U.S. provocation. Below we print the full text of his protest:

On May 10 and 11 this year, a total of 25 American planes of F-86, F-84, B-29 and B-26 types of the U.S. Air Force of aggression in Korea, successively intruded thrice into Northeast China's territorial air over Lakushao and Antung, dropping leaflets and carrying out bombing and strafing.

More than 50 bombs were dropped by the American aircraft and over 250 Chinese residents were killed or wounded.

This is a more serious provocation by the United States Government following its violation on many previous occasions of China's territorial air and its crime of killing and wounding Chinese people. The people of the whole of China are most indignant at this crime of aggression by the United States Government. Therefore, I am authorised to lodge a serious protest with the United States Government.

The people throughout the world have been fervently longing for an armistice in Korea. For the settlement of the entire P.O.W. question so as to facilitate a Korean armistice, the Central People's Government of the People's Republic of China and the Government of the Korean Democratic People's Republic made a fair and reasonable proposal in their statements issued on March 30 and 31, 1953, respectively. This proposal has resulted in the resumption of the long-interrupted Korean armistice negotiations. In addition, at the armistice negotiations conferences, the delegation of the Korean People's Army and the Chinese people's volunteers to the armistice negotiations have put forward two constructive plans successively for the settlement of the entire P.O.W. repatriation question. Now, however, when the Korean armistice negotiations are in progress, the United States Government has dispatched its air force, invading Korea to violate China's territorial air and to kill the Chinese citizens. This provocative action of the United States Government is obviously an attempt to influence the Korean armistice negotiations and to challenge the ardent desire of the people all over the world for an armistice in Korea. But it is certain that this attempt of the United States Government is doomed to failure. The firm and strong will of the Chinese and Korean people to struggle for peace is absolutely unshakeable.

May 11, 1953.

first and foremost the task of preserving world peace. A thirty-member delegation was elected to attend the Vienna Congress, including Liu Ning-I and Liu Chang-sheng, Vice-Presidents of the A.C.F.T.U.

The Congress showed the workers of China united as never before in the closest alliance with the peasants and all other democratic classes and with the whole camp of

peace and Socialism headed by the Soviet Union. A message was sent to Chairman Mao Tse-tung, leader of the Communist Party of China, vanguard of the organised workers of China. It said, "The Chinese working class is fully confident that we can achieve the industrialisation of our country, the ideal dreamed of by the Chinese people for the last one hundred years."

“Humanitarianism”

In Koje and Pusan

The Australian and British correspondents, Wilfred Burchett and Alan Winnington, have been interviewing Korean and Chinese sick and wounded repatriates from the Koje and Pusan terror camps. The terrible story the repatriates have to tell is revealed in the dispatches printed below.

Reprisals in Koje

THE best reply to the mouthings of the United States State Department about “humanitarianism” and “integrity and rights of the individual” in their latest apologia for refusing to negotiate a Korean truce comes from the men of the Koje death camps.

For the past three weeks, I interviewed sick and wounded repatriates. The story of the terrible revenge wreaked on prisoners’ delegates who negotiated the release of Camp Commandant Dodd makes one vomit when one hears the American Government pronounce the word “humanitarianism.” And it is only one of scores of similar stories.

My informant is Captain Cho Pyong Yul, Korean People’s Army prisoner, who spent six months in the same hutment as twenty delegates from the Dodd affair—Hutment No. 4 of No. 1 Prison Compound, Koje Island. It should be remembered that Dodd was captured at the risk of the prisoners’ lives in May last year in a desperate move to try to safeguard their rights and the rights of their comrades to repatriation. Dodd and Colson, after the former’s capture, arranged for the delegates from other compounds to come to Compound 76 where Dodd was held and take part in a meeting where grievances were discussed. Dodd and his successor Colson arranged for cars to bring the prisoners’ delegates to the compound.

The Geneva Convention especially bans any reprisals against elected spokesmen of prisoners presenting their comrades’ demands.

Captain Cho Pyong Yul was in the hutment when twenty delegates were brought in early September last year. “They were pale ghosts of men,” he said. “Their faces and bodies were covered with bruises and scars.” He remained with them for six months until March this year when he was sent to hospital and, due to an American mistake, was evacuated with the other sick and wounded. “For three months,” he continued, “the delegates had been held in a special prison about one kilometre east of our compound. They were held in separate cells and each was beaten and tortured two hours daily. The rest of the time they worked at breaking stones. For three months they wore only underpants. No shirts, tunics, trousers or shoes. They slept on the concrete floor with one blanket, half of which was folded under as ground sheet, the other half as cover. They were given two meals of mouldy grain daily.”

I asked what types of torture. Apart from regular beating with bamboo poles, it was of two types. The water torture, in which the delegates were suspended from the rafters of the torture cell by their feet and water was pumped into their nostrils through the nose. The other method was the electric torture.

The twenty delegates were from Compounds 76, 77, 78, 66, 62, 85 and 92. In addition, the delegate of the prisoners on Koje, Colonel Lee Hek, was held in a separate part of a prison and brought to the special hutment No. 8 at prison compound in September, but my informant had no chance to speak to him. Each hutment in the special compound

was surrounded by two rows of electrified barbed-wire and the whole compound was also surrounded by double rows of barbed-wire. The rest of the hutments in the compound contained about 170 elected prisoners' delegates from the compounds who had been denounced by Rhee secret agents as leading the fight for the repatriation of all prisoners.

Captain Cho was able to give exact details of the electric torture performed by these "humanitarians." He had been tortured the same way several times at the U.N. Command Far Eastern Headquarters of the military police at Pusan. He was taken on a lift ride into a sound-proof basement where there were individual torture rooms and a clinic to revive victims when they lost consciousness. He said that, comparing notes with the delegates, he found the methods were virtually the same as those employed at the special prison on Koje.

"I had been beaten with bamboo poles and given the water torture," he said, "and was only half conscious when they started the electric torture. My wrists were tied behind my back and attached to a wire rope high enough so that my feet were off the ground. A heavy bucket of water was then slung round my neck so that my body swung almost parallel to the concrete floor. Electrodes were attached to my left ankle and right wrist. When they pulled the switch on and off, my body was hurled backwards and forwards as if struck by giant sledge hammers. My head and whole body buzzed and felt as if it was swelling so that it would burst. My whole chest, head and body felt on fire inside. When they cut the switch off, the American guards asked me who was the leader of the underground organisation in my compound and similar questions. Then the switch was put on again. When I seemed just about to die, they would suddenly slacken the rope and my body would crash to the floor with the water from the bucket splashing over my face to revive me. Then they would start all over again." He showed a row of otherwise beautiful, typical Korean teeth, all chipped and broken from contact with the rim of the bucket and the concrete floor.

That was the treatment the delegates of the Dodd affair got for three months after their arrest on June 12. "Who is the chief agitator

against screening, against voluntary repatriation in your compound?" the interrogator would ask. "Who ordered you to kidnap Brigadier-General Dodd?" was the question to delegates from Compound 76. "Who are the activists in your compound." But in three months, they got no answers from these men of steel, so they threw them in with others classified as "war criminals" in Prison Compound No. 1.

The actual torture was done by American military police with Rhee agents on hand only as translators for the interrogators. This is the real authentic definition of American "humanitarianism."

Panmunjom
May 17

—Wilfred Burchett

Screening in Pusan

The value of American humanitarianism is being daily exposed here in interviews I am having with literally hundreds of returned Korean and Chinese prisoners. From the great mass of information, the simple story of what happened in No. 3 hospital compound in Pusan during the screening shows what the Americans mean by "non-forcible repatriation"—subtly changed to "non-forced repatriation." The No. 3 contained 1,700 crippled Korean and Chinese prisoners—about 540 of them Chinese. Among them were at least 30 known secret agents mostly disguised as kitchen workers. The prisoners organised against these agents and finally held a mass meeting against them. The known agents were then withdrawn. On April 15 last year, while the Americans were supposed to be "checking the lists" and broadcasting the declaration of Kim Il Sung and Peng Teh-huai welcoming all prisoners back, the hospital authorities broadcast that "tomorrow you will be screened in accordance with the agreement at Panmunjom that all prisoners are to be screened." The prisoners immediately saw through this lie and refused screening in a petition handed to the chief of military police, U.S. Lieutenant Tallmann (note: this name is transliterated from Korean phonetic characters). In their efforts to break the determination of the prisoners, M.P.'s invaded the compound and Tallmann personally strangled compound barber Chang Kyi Sop. On the next

day, April 17, a company of American troops broke in with an armoured car, but in a swift manoeuvre, the prisoners surrounded the car and with crutches and artificial limbs took control of it. Negotiations followed with the leader of the U.S. 14th field hospital during which he promised among other things that there would be no more forced screening and that Tallmann would be court-martialled. Next day, on the pretext that it was not safe for the United Nations personnel to enter, medical treatment was cut off and food and water reduced by half. This continued until May 10 when all food and water was cut off entirely. After demonstrations in which the prisoners demanded treatment according to the Geneva Convention, two representatives of the International Committee of the Red Cross turned up and pretended great surprise to hear of the murder of the barber and bad treatment. They promised to take the matter up and return the next day. On May 17 they returned. "You have demands and so have the Americans," the I.C.R.C. representative said. "If you accept screening, everything can be settled." When the prisoners protested that screening was illegal, the reply was: "That is beyond our duty, because it's a political question."

During these days, several prisoners died of hunger, thirst and lack of medical care. On May 19, an I.C.R.C. man again arrived and told the prisoners' spokesmen, "You must accept the American demands, otherwise something very unpleasant is going to happen." On May 20 at 5 A.M., there was firing all round the camp and machine-gun bullets began ripping through the tents. Filing out, the prisoners found tanks breaking the twin barbed-wire fences and troops in masks pouring through the breaches. The prisoners gathered in the centre of the compound and one tank fired three shells among them, killing two and wounding several. The crippled prisoners then resisted with crutches and artificial limbs, fighting at close range for more than one hour. By 8 A.M., the compound was a shambles—three dead, 80 seriously and 100 lightly wounded. Then the prisoners were rounded into groups of 50 and severely beaten if they showed any objection. They were squatted in groups with hands clasped behind their necks, forbidden to glance at their neighbours or talk. Ringed with

prodding bayonets, they were told: "There are two roads. Straight ahead is the road to freedom. If you take the crooked road, then you go to the slavery of Communism. Now choose." Group by group, bloody and limping, they took the "crooked road"—voted to return home. Only three old men whose homes were in South Korea shuffled through the gate to "freedom."

This is the real story behind the reports that shocked the world last year after Dodd's arrest when the Americans issued a statement quoted by Reuter of May 20 saying that one prisoner was killed and 85 wounded at this camp because of trouble caused by "agitators who were part of the group of non-patients." Reuter went on: "All the prisoners in the compound were told to move into an open area to avoid possible disturbances.... Only three obeyed."

This battle of limbless cripples against a battalion of combat troops was the subject of a mild protest by I.C.R.C. which effectively helped to cloak the fact that the cause of the struggle was forced screening. An I.C.R.C. report to Mark Clark on May 24 complained of "withholding food and water from three hospital compounds" as a violation of the Geneva Convention and mentioned the death of one and injury of several prisoners by the use of concussion grenades. The first official American reports said that the cause of the unrest was "a fanatical handful of prisoners resisting proper medical treatment." They never gave any tangible reason for the massacre if only for the reason that this camp was on the mainland and the Americans were then claiming that the only prisoners on the mainland were those who did not want to go home. This is only one tiny facet of the screening. The whole of the misery and individual hell that lies behind the American policy of detaining prisoners for the "humanitarian" motive of preventing the armistice will have to wait for space to tell it. The No. 3 will stand for the time being as the classic example of non-forcible repatriation, which, in simple English means ghastly brutalities enacted against prisoners in pursuit of a means to maintain the global cold war.

Panmunjom
May 18

—Alan Winnington

Embassies of Art and Culture

Our Correspondent

CHINA is establishing far-flung cultural relations with other nations of the world. In the Working People's Palace of Culture or the Huai Jen Tang Hall, Peking audiences are seeing the arts of many countries, often for the first time. In the months of April and May there were no less than four art and two cultural delegations visiting China from the Mongolian People's Republic, the Korean Democratic People's Republic, Poland, Czechoslovakia, Sweden and Finland. Such exchanges are bringing first-rate entertainment and new understanding and strengthened friendship between the countries.

The Mongolian People's Art Delegation presented a popular programme of music, songs and excellent circus acts. During the thirty-two years of existence of People's Mongolia, the rich folk arts of that country have been carefully developed. Here are the traditional folk songs and dances of Mongolia, both ancient and modern, beautifully costumed and produced with impeccable taste. Grave or gay, they have the stamp of the innate dignity of the people. But there are other songs and dances that show even more vividly the new fresh streams that have entered the people's life with their liberation and their march to Socialism. One of the outstanding items was the *Song of Choibalsan* sung by a chorus of thirty-eight men and women to the accompaniment of a 36-piece orchestra conducted by B. Damdinsurun.

This 127-member delegation headed by Ouyun, famous Mongolian actress, performed

for 100,000 people in its first ten days in the capital. The delegation's tour, which will be extended to many cities, is being made under the recent Sino-Mongolian Cultural Agreement.

Mutual Interests

While the artists of Peking were carrying on discussions with the Mongolian artists, the famous Mazowsze State Folk Song and Dance Ensemble of Poland headed by Andrej Panufnik arrived in the capital on April 28. Their performances of the folk music and dances of the Polish villages aroused the keenest interest especially because the Peking National Folk Song and Dance Festival had only just ended and the discussions on the path of advance of the folk arts was at its height. The famous Polish ensemble showed how well the "rough nuggets" of folk art can be polished so as to make them shine on the concert platform and still retain their charming simplicity, originality and natural feeling. Chinese artists are today especially eager to study the development of folk arts of other lands in their advance to Socialism. They themselves give special performances of their arts for their interested visitors.

Meanwhile the Railway Art Troupe of the Korean Democratic People's Republic, which had concluded its performances in Peking, was making a tour of the Northeast. This 131-member troupe with its large repertoire of songs and dances after many public shows gave a special performance for wounded Chinese people's volunteers at the Youth Palace, per-

Young Pioneers give a warm welcome to Mrs. Sylvi Kekkonen, leader of the visiting Finnish Cultural Delegation



forming with all the finesse and verve that Peking audiences have come to expect from the amateur and professional artists of Korea. Through the medium of folk arts which have been well adapted to deal with modern themes, they expressed their warm friendship and comradeship-in-arms with the Chinese people.

During the Czechoslovak Film Week from April 15-24, audiences in Peking and all the major cities of China have been enjoying a festival of eight outstanding Czechoslovak films including the memorable *On the Barricades* and *Arise New Fighters* on the life of the pioneer of the working class movement in Czechoslovakia, Ladislav Zapotocky Budecky. On April 12, the Chinese people were able to welcome in person some of the artists responsible for these fine films when the Czechoslovak Film Workers' Delegation arrived in Peking. They toured China on the invitation of the Ministry of Culture.

Cultural Delegations

Cultural ties are also being forged in new directions. At the invitation of the Chinese People's Institute of Foreign Affairs, the first Finnish Cultural Delegation arrived in Peking on April 21. This 17-member delegation is headed by Mrs. Sylvi Kekkonen, the well-known author and wife of the Premier of

Finland, and includes Finnish professors, writers, artists and others. In meetings with their Chinese colleagues, several fruitful discussions have been held to introduce the delegation to various aspects of the life of the Chinese people. During a dinner party given by Chang Hsi-jo, President of the Chinese People's Institute of Foreign Affairs, Mrs. Kekkonen said: "We have come from Finland to extend the hand of friendship to the peace-loving Chinese people and their great leader, Chairman Mao Tse-tung."

And just a week later, the first Swedish Cultural Delegation headed by Karl-Erik Mellqvist arrived by air. This first cultural delegation from Scandinavia was given an enthusiastic welcome by the Chinese people.

Both delegations are now visiting the leading cities of China.

The Chinese press and radio has devoted considerable space to reviews of the performances of these cultural guests and the arts of the countries they come from. Such visits and exchanges have today become an integral part of the cultural life of New China. They are a new source from which the artists of the country are drawing inspiration and experience, a new source of strength for peace and friendship between the peoples.

Peking Mayor's Reception Room

Sun Chan-ko

“YOU see, the Mayor is our old friend,” a twenty-eight-year-old engineering student named Sheng told me with pride in the reception room of the Municipal People's Government of Peking. “If we have anything to say,” he continued, “we think of telling our Mayor—whether it is a personal or public matter, whether we want to commend, criticise or suggest something. If necessary we come in person. Otherwise we write. The Mayor values our opinions and replies to every letter within a few days.”

Sheng came to Mayor Peng Chen this time to complain about a job done by the Municipal Construction Bureau. He had noticed that a number of new trees planted around Shih Cha Lake, one of Peking's scenic spots, had been carelessly placed so near a railing that they would knock it over as they grew. He had noticed the error when boating on the lake the previous Sunday.

From events in their every-day life, the two million citizens of Peking have long come to understand that the People's Government is really theirs, that it protects the well-being they are enjoying today and is leading them in building a better future. That is why they support it and believe in it. That is why they bring so many suggestions and ideas to the office of their Mayor. The People's Government fosters and welcomes this sense of political responsibility, which has become so widespread. It is this constant interchange of opinion which links the government so intimately with the people that gives it a basis for the formulation of policies and for the improvement of its work.

As early as 1950, the Municipal People's Government of Peking appointed staff members to deal with letters and visits from the people.

In 1952 a Correspondence Section was set up to handle the increasing volume of letters on behalf of the Mayor. A people's reception room was also opened.

In the Correspondence Section, I met seventy-year-old Shih Fu-hsin, who is a retired worker. He had made more than ten proposals to the Mayor for the improvement of work. Once when he noticed some mosquito larvae in stagnant water in a back street, he wrote the Mayor criticising the local government department for negligence. He also suggested the removal of a neglected garbage dump and the location where a new public lavatory should be placed. It is through the keen eyes and initiative of many such active citizens that the sanitation work in Peking has become so good as to surprise our friends from abroad.

A member of the Correspondence Section introduced me to sixty-year-old Feng Kai, who is one of their constant visitors. This old man, deeply inspired by having lived to see the healthy regeneration of the people's Peking and the people's China, has decided to dedicate the rest of his life to the city's reconstruction work. Though it is a long way from his home to the Mayor's, he makes the trip often. On one occasion he proposed that a certain road should be widened because of excessive congestion and the frequent traffic accidents occurring there. On another, seeing a number of peasants driving their carts ahead without paying attention to the red light at a traffic intersection, he proposed a campaign to carry knowledge of traffic regulations to peasants in the villages near Peking.

Old man Feng laughs happily whenever one of his proposals is approved. Once he said: “During my life in the old

society, I saw or personally met with many things that made me boil with indignation. But those were times when the honest man always lost and the rascals always won. Who had the courage to voice his opinion publicly? But now, the Mayor is eager to hear any of my criticisms if things are done wrong."

Because the People's Government regards the people's letters and visits as a most important method of discovering the defects in its work, it studies all criticisms from the people with keen attention and takes whatever action is necessary. Once Mayor Peng Chen received a letter from Chiang Kuei-ying, a nurse of the Western Suburb Rest Home attached to the Civil Affairs Bureau. The letter exposed the bureaucratic work of the leading personnel there, which had actually held up the recovery of convalescent patients. As soon as he read the letter, Mayor Peng sent out a twenty-man team headed by the director of the bureau, to make a thorough on-the-spot investigation. When investigation established that most of the charges made in nurse Chiang's letter were true, and that democratic life there had indeed been stifled, the administration of the rest home was thoroughly reorganised.

Acting on information contained in the people's letters, the Municipal People's Government obtained the reversal of unjustified decisions made by the civil courts. On the other hand, it was as a result of letters that it commended two workers in the Estate and Housing Bureau who risked their lives to save some residential buildings from collapse in a torrential rain. Many more such examples could be cited.

In many cases, the people also ask for help in solving difficulties encountered in their daily lives. They do this because they are confident that the Mayor, their friend, is concerned about their interests. This faith has never



Kuo Shen of the Correspondence Section, on behalf of Mayor Peng Chen, receives sixty-year-old Feng Kai, who is a regular visitor

proved misplaced. Every reasonable demand is satisfied. The really needy are given relief without exception. Persons suffering from severe illnesses and unable to pay medical expenses receive free treatment. Fifteen-year-old Huang Yun-hui suffered from a serious nervous disease, which compelled him to discontinue his studies. When he wrote for help, Mayor Peng immediately instructed the departments concerned to issue a certificate qualifying Huang for free medical service and giving him a monthly subsidy of 150,000 yuan. Huang soon recovered and returned to school. In 1952 alone, the Municipal People's Government spent a large sum of 2,400 million yuan from a special fund set aside for dealing with such problems.

Mayor Peng Chen and Deputy-Mayors Chang Yu-yu and Wu Han give personal attention to important incoming letters of the people. Sometimes they receive the visitors in person and write replies in their own hand. They regularly check the work of the Correspondence Section and give instructions on improving it.

Speaking with enthusiasm, the chief of the Correspondence Section, Shih Kan, outlined its work to me. He said that, reading the letters and seeing the people who came each day, he and his colleagues feel as

though they were getting mail or greeting a visitor from their own homes. They feel most happy when matters brought up in a letter are settled properly, or when a visitor leaves the reception room with a smiling face. When Comrade Shih Kan said, "We all love our work," one could see that he meant every word of it.

The Section has set up a system which ensures that "every case is dealt with and every matter is attended to with dispatch." In ordinary affairs which are easily settled, replies are made to letters or visitors, in the name of the Mayor on the same or, at the latest, the following day. If a case is important, the Mayor

or deputy mayor is asked to give instructions on the same day, or the matter is brought before a joint office meeting of the responsible personnel of different departments for decision. Some cases are passed on to the appropriate departments to be dealt with while others are handled by the Correspondence Section itself which sends out people to make thorough investigation before action is taken.

The number of letters received in 1952 was more than double that in 1951, and the number of visits grew elevenfold. This intimate means of contact between people and government is being strengthened day by day.

Talking About Tea

Wang Ming-yuan

THE earliest historical records show that the Chinese first began to drink tea more than two thousand years ago. The world's first systematic treatise on tea was the *Cha Ching*—The Book of Tea, written by the famous Chinese scholar Lu Yu in A.D. 780. It shows that the Chinese people at that date had already developed to a high level the art of cultivating the tea plant and preparing the drink that is today one of the world's prime favourites.

Over many centuries tea for the guest has been an essential ingredient of Chinese hospitality. Many families keep elaborate tea sets for this purpose. Tea is drunk not only to quench thirst; it has a gamut of pleasurable tastes for the discerning palate. In China most of the parks, scenic resorts, towns or villages have tea houses where friends can chat to their hearts' content over a pot of tea. Tea is regarded as indispensable among the nomad national minorities in Tibet, Sinkiang, Inner Mongolia and other regions. Living chiefly on meat,

milk and other livestock products, they need it as an aid to digestion.

Many Varieties

The tea-producing areas of China are very extensive. They lie in areas south of the Huai River and spread over the valleys of the Yangtze, Chekiang, Min Kiang and Pearl Rivers. There are several hundred varieties of Chinese tea. But they may be roughly classified, according to basic characteristics, into five categories: black tea, green tea, "Oolong" tea, scented tea and compressed tea.

Black tea is tea which has gone through a process of fermentation. The newly-gathered leaves are first allowed to dry slightly and lose some moisture. Then they are rolled to break the cells and to allow the juice to come to the surface of the leaves. Next comes the stage of fermentation when the oxidising enzyme contained in the leaves continues to oxidise and produce an aromatic flavour. The leaves

are then baked to stop the fermentation and to make them very dry. Sifting and blending completes the process. The "Keemun," "Yunnan" and "Ichang" teas are particularly sweet to the taste and each has its own distinctively fascinating flavour.

In the manufacture of green tea, the primary object is to preserve the natural colour of the leaves; this is done by heating in cast-iron pans which destroys the oxidising enzyme and prevents fermentation. The leaves are then rolled and baked until the whole process is completed. The main characteristic of green tea is its rich content of Vitamin C.

The ability of green tea to cool and to refresh makes it a favourite in countries where the climate is very hot. The best known of the great many varieties of green tea are the "Tunki," "Shucheng" and "Pingsuey" teas.

The people of Fukien and Kwangtung are exceedingly fond of "Oolong" tea. It is an aromatic, semi-fermented tea, standing between the black and the green. "Oolong" leaves are thick and big but very tender, and they have the merits of both the green and black teas. Lovers of "Oolong" tea praise its refreshing and invigorating qualities. Besides the "Oolong" there are other well-known aromatic teas such as the "Tiehkuanyin," "Narcissus" and "Chichung."

Scented tea commands a wide market in China and is greatly liked by the people of Europe and America. It is made by scenting the leaves with roses, jasmine or other fragrant flowers. This process adds the delicate scent of flowers to the original flavour of the tea.

Compressed or brick tea is made by steaming and firing the leaves and then placing them in moulds to be compressed. The blocks are made in many shapes according to the preference of the customer and are obtainable in the form of a ball, cube, brick, bowl, fish, heart, pillow or column. Compressed tea is cheap to transport and is largely sold in the minority areas lying deep in the interior of the country.

Decline and Recovery

In old China the tea-growers, like other peasants, were mercilessly exploited and op-



Picking tea in the Shihfeng tea-garden in the famous tea-producing area near Hangchow, Chekiang Province

pressed by feudal landlords who took the major portion of their produce. Particularly during the more than twenty years of Kuomintang rule, when the tax burden was at its heaviest, many tea-growers found it almost impossible to keep their tea gardens going. Many tea gardens lay neglected. In 1948, the year before liberation, the output of Chinese tea had dropped to one-fourth of the highest annual level.

In trade with the national minorities the reactionary rulers made exorbitant profits by monopolising the sale of tea and salt, both indispensable to the minority peoples. In the past, the import of tea into Tibet was a key item in trade between Hans ("Chinese") and Tibetans. The Kuomintang, in order to exploit the Tibetans, enormously raised the price of tea in relation to the prices of local Tibetan products. It also made sure this profiteering would continue by forbidding the Tibetan people to plant tea and banning the shipment of tea seeds into the Tibetan areas.

After the liberation, the situation was rapidly changed. The gradual improvement

of the people's life opened up a favourable domestic market for tea. Production and sales increased with each passing year. Taking sales in 1950 as 100, they reached 300 in 1951 and 450 in 1952.

Like other peasants, tea-growers received their shares of land during the land reform, the plantations or tea groves of the landlords being divided up to provide shares for landless or landpoor peasants. Ruinous taxation and rents were ended. They received large credits from the People's Government to help them rehabilitate production. A network of co-operatives now buys tea at reasonable prices, ensuring the growers a good income.

Experimental farms and modern processing factories have been established one after another by the government to improve the quality of tea.

Under Chairman Mao Tse-tung's national policy, the livelihood of the national minorities has been greatly improved. The People's Government has not only reduced the price of tea in terms of local products in Tibetan and other minority areas but has also sent large quantities of tea seed and specialists to help Tibetans and other minority peoples to grow tea for their needs.

Liberation has saved the tea industry from decline, and, output and quality are steadily rising. Taking production in 1950 as 100, it was 110 in 1951, and rose to 122 in 1952. This is an extraordinary recovery considering that the tea shrub, a perennial, takes four years to grow before its leaves can be picked. Because of government encouragement, old plantations have been restored and a good number of new ones are being cultivated.

An increasing number of state-owned processing plants are being mechanised. In 1951, they were using over seven times as much machinery as in 1949. Processed tea is now systematically and strictly graded so as to ensure consistently high quality.

Exports

The export of tea from China goes a long way back in history. During the Tang Dynasty

1,300 years ago, tea was sent to the northern areas now inhabited by the Mongolians in exchange for the prized horses of the area. About the same time, the first junks loaded with tea sailed for Japan. In 1606, during the Ming Dynasty, the Dutch began to ship Chinese tea from Macao to Batavia (now Djakarta). In 1664, in the early Ching Dynasty, the British East India Company began its purchase of Chinese tea both for consumption in England and sale in other countries. At the same time Russian traders were bringing tea by camel caravans to the Russian cities along the 16,500-kilometre route from Tientsin to St. Petersburg. In the nineteenth century, the demand for Chinese tea grew to immense proportions. By 1886, exports to Europe, America and Africa had reached 1,340,000 quintals.

In recent years, exports dropped sharply. In 1948, they had dwindled to only 13 per cent of the highest previous annual figure. The sale of tea on the home market had also declined on account of the poverty of the people.

But after liberation, as production increased and quality improved, exports began to pick up again. If the export of tea in 1950 is taken as 100, the 1951 figure stood at 238, and the 1952 figure at 313.

China's exports of tea now go mainly to the Soviet Union and the People's Democracies where trade is flourishing on a rising market unhampered by suicidal policies of embargo, blockade and cut-throat competition. In the mutually-beneficial trade agreements which are concluded each year between China, the Soviet Union and the People's Democracies, Chinese tea is playing a useful role. It is usually one of the products which this country undertakes to supply in return for machinery for its industrialisation.

After long years of damage from foreign invasions and civil war, China's tea industry has been fully restored. Not only are supplies ample enough for the needs of the home market; tea of the highest quality is now once more available to lovers of this beverage all over the world. And the demand is growing.

Sketches of Labour Models

At the 7th All-China
Congress of Trade Unions

Jen Tai-hsu

The delegates to the seventh All-China Congress of Trade Unions included such veteran leaders of the working class as Liu Shao-chi, Jao Shu-shih, Liu Chang-sheng and Liu Ning-I. But there were many faces and names new to the working-class movement. These were the heroes of great campaigns for the rehabilitation of China's industry, and for increased production. Here are sketches of four of the 203 model workers who were delegates to the Congress, four of the 223,000 labour models who have emerged in the nation-wide labour emulation campaigns. These are men and women who have established new records and advanced many of the 489,000 rationalisation proposals which have been adopted in industry and which are playing so great a role in advancing the country swiftly along the road to industrialisation.

Good Worker, Good Comrade

DELEGATE Chang Shao-ju is a worker in an engineering plant on the south bank of the Kialing River at Chungking. Popular among the rank-and-file, a good comrade, ever ready to lend a helping hand, he was elected a team leader after liberation. He is meticulous in his own work and patient in explanations and help for others. He has a real talent for rallying and uniting his fellow workers for concerted effort.

In 1950, the team he led was elected "model team" of the factory. They had pledged to cut down scrap. In the past, scrap was weighed by the kilogramme; at the end of the patriotic emulation campaign, scrap was weighed by the gramme.

In 1952, Chang Shao-ju visited the Soviet Union. On his return he found that his factory was trying to manufacture a new product

based on a Soviet model. The process was delicate and complex; the tolerance had to be exact to within 40 micromillimeters. Weeks of trial had brought only failure. The old tools were not fitted for the new job. Chang Shao-ju was immediately assigned to the experimental group. He found that morale had suffered under the stress of continued failure. Tempers were frayed. Some were over-confident; others were almost ready to call the whole thing off. Chang brought fresh spirit to the job, and restored a spirit of confidence and co-operation. A veteran worker drew up a new blueprint to adapt the old machines to the new job, and veteran engineers checked it and improved on it. The whole team co-operated as one man to carry out the plans agreed on. The test succeeded after fifteen days of experiment.

Chang Shao-ju was invited as an observer to the third session of the National Committee of the Chinese People's Political Consultative Conference. On his return, in response to Chairman Mao's call to increase production and practise economy, he led his team comrades to pledge the creation of extra wealth to the value of 400 million yuan. At the end of 1952, they had overfulfilled this plan by 48 per cent.

This year he was unanimously elected to attend the Trade Union Congress. He left Chungking for Peking at the height of the new red banner emulation campaign for increased production. During the Congress he received word from his factory, saying that, in the great production effort in support of the Congress, his team had once again won the red banner of honour.

A Revolutionary, An Inventor

PENG Yang-chin, now aged fifty-two, was just an ordinary worker four years ago in the Chitsi Water Supply and Power Company in

the province of Hupeh. He is now deputy-director of the Wuhan (Wuchang-Hankow) Power Bureau. When the People's Liberation Army was drawing near, the Kuomintang reactionaries laid hundreds of mines in the Chitsi plant. To protect the plant, Peng, an underground member of the Communist Party, immediately mobilised the workers and engineers to arm themselves with home-made weapons. They seized the plant and removed all the mines. The plant was saved.

In 1950, there was a shortage of spare parts, and the Chitsi works was threatened with a shut-down. In the past, all equipment and spare parts had to be imported from imperialist countries and now the imperialists had cut off supplies in the hope of stifling China's economy. At that time, the people's China was still only beginning the task of industrial rehabilitation. But Peng found a way out. After many experiments, he succeeded in producing piston rings in the plant's own repair shop. Other workers followed suit, and by collective effort, they succeeded in making all needed replacements out of home produced materials. The plant continued working without a stop. In October, 1950, Peng Yang-chin was appointed director of the Chitsi works.

At that time production costs were high. The average rate of coal consumption was 1.85 kilogrammes per kilowatt-hour. Peng Yang-chin called a series of meetings at which workers, technicians and engineers worked out ways and means to lower costs. By their united efforts, the rate of coal consumption was reduced to 0.68 kilogrammes per kilowatt-hour. The power plant came out of the red and began to make a profit.

In recognition of these services, the People's Government appointed Peng deputy-director of the Wuhan Power Bureau early this year.

Mongolian Girl

DELEGATE Sa Yen is a young Mongolian girl of twenty-three who began to tend cattle at a landlord's at the age of nine. She lived for years on wheat chaff and wild vegetables and was the constant butt of oppression. Liberated by the revolution, she came to work

in the city of Ulanhoteh and later joined the China New Democratic Youth League.

In July, 1950, Sa Yen was selected by the People's Government of the Inner Mongolian Autonomous Region to learn tractor-driving in Northeast China. Since she had never before had the opportunity to study, she found many more difficulties in learning than the average student, and had to put in extra effort to overcome them. On hot summer days when other people were taking a noon-day nap, Sa Yen would be sitting by her tractor attentively reviewing her lessons. Late at night, when the others had gone to sleep, Sa Yen was still at her studies. Finally she mastered her tractor and the advanced Soviet method of sowing. Soon after she began her regular work, she registered a national record of sowing 4.63 hectares per hour, raising efficiency by 13 per cent.

A Master Combine-Operator

SUNG Chi-wu, a worker of the Shuang Ya Shan Coal Mine in the Northeast, was the first one there to learn to operate the new Soviet-made Donbas coal-cutting combine which cuts, excavates and loads the coal in one operation. He was also chief of the combine drivers.

Sung had only attended school for four years in his childhood, so the mastering of the complex machinery was no easy task for him. Nevertheless, he succeeded by dint of hard work, the help of his comrades and of a patient Soviet expert, and became chairman of the training class. Twice he was elected a model student. As a result of his excellent organisational work, the combine drivers registered the record of excavating 558 tons of coal a day.

Sung was appointed instructor to two groups of young workers selected to learn combine-operating. Under his able guidance, many acquired the mastery of the machine within the short time of two to three months.

As their welcome to the seventh All-China Congress of Trade Unions, the Shuang Ya Shan miners undertook to double the output planned for the month of April. After the fulfilment of this pledge, they elected as delegate to the Congress Sung Chi-wu, the best worker among them.

The Children's Railway

Tai Yen-nien

CHINA'S Children's Railway boasts a miniature locomotive four metres long which pulls a little coach seating ten passengers. Running at 10 km. per hour on a 400-metre track laid in a stadium near the Pokotu Station on the Harbin Railway, the railway is operated entirely by children, acting as conductors, engineers and stokers.

The railway is complete in every detail, including three stations, telephones and signals. "Peking Station" has a picture of Tien An Men on its roof as a symbol of the capital of China. The other terminus is "Moscow," with a reproduction of the Kremlin, and Pokotu is in the middle.

It was on an evening in May, 1951, that the idea of this railway for children was born. S. G. Vashakidze, a Soviet expert attached to the then Chinese Changchun Railway, was chatting with several workers' children at Pokotu Station. He asked them what they would like to do when they grew up. One boy said:

"My father is a locomotive engineer. That's a very important job. Without the engineer, trains would stop running, and no goods could be carried from one end of the country to the other for national construction. When I grow up, I want to be an engineer, too."

All the other children had the same ambition—railroading was in their blood. In this they showed themselves typical of the new society in which labour is respected, and is a source of pride. This pride is understandably great among China's railwaymen who can glory in a long, revolutionary tradition.

Comrade Vashakidze recalled the Children's Railways built in Moscow, Leningrad and other centres and suggested to the parents of the

children the idea of building a children's railway as a training-ground for future railroaders. His suggestion drew an enthusiastic response from the workers as well as the management. It was decided that the children should have their own railway.

Fathers, relatives and friends of the children began hunting for scrap and discarded odds and ends to build the engine and coach during their spare time, before or after their shifts.

Gradually the more than one hundred parts needed for the little locomotive were all collected from scrap heaps, polished and assembled. Wheels were made from those of tanks and automobiles discarded by the Japanese after the surrender.

Though most of the work was done by adults, the children also helped to lay the road-bed and tracks, assemble the engine and coach. Three hundred of them, all pupils at the Pokotu School for railway workers' children, excitedly looked forward to the completion of their railway. Some were selected to receive training as station personnel and train crew.

At last, on International Children's Day, June, 1, 1952, the railway was ready, and its first train puffed out of "Peking Station." Since then, every day after school, the children crowd for seats on the Children's Railway. The efficient conductors, engineers and stokers are kept busy the rest of the afternoon.

Watching them at play, old engine-driver Kan Yu-tsiang said: "In the old days I worked eighteen years as a stoker before I became a driver. Now these youngsters can learn to run an engine in a month! That's what comes of being born in the time of Chairman Mao Tse-tung!"

IN THE NEWS

New Houses for Workers

Workers' housing projects are under construction throughout China. These include new living quarters, primary schools and nurseries, clinics, hospitals, sanatoria, co-operative stores, clubs, theatres and parks.

In Shanghai, more than 4,000 new homes for workers, part of China's first workers' village at Tsao yang in the western suburb, were completed in early April. Altogether 20,000 such modern homes will be completed this summer.

In Central-South China, coal miners in Pinghsiang are moving into new houses. Nearly half of the total of 100,000 square metres of dwelling space have already been completed. Over 30,000 Wuhan workers have recently received new flats and building continues on a large scale. In Canton, 26,000 workers are moving into new homes located in the most beautiful parts of the city.

In Chungking, thousands of new houses for workers have been completed by the Kialing River, and more are being built in other suburbs. Last month, 1,000 transport workers there moved into new flats. Sixteen workers' apartment houses to accommodate 512 workers' families are being built in the suburbs of Chengtu, northwest of Chungking.

In Northwest China, 14,000 square metres of dwelling space will be built this year for workers of the Yumen Oil Field. The first sanatorium for workers in the Northwest was opened in Lanchow in early May.

In Northeast China, there are now 335 workers' hospitals, sanatoria and homes for the aged and the disabled. In Shenyang, dozens of three-storey buildings will accommodate 80,000 workers when completed. Twenty-six thousand workers of the Anshan Iron and

Steel Company, some with and some without families, moved into new homes last year. A workers' housing project called the Peace Estate is being built with 220,000 square metres of floor space. Most of this will be completed this year.

Construction Briefs

Many new industrial projects report rapid progress in construction.

A big modern power plant is taking shape in Northwest China. When in full operation in October, it will increase by half the total present electric power output of Northwest China. The biggest power plant in Southwest China is also being built.

China's first big electrical machinery factory and a new automatic precision tool factory are under construction in Harbin. A new pongee silk mill started last year in Liaotung Province will be completed this year.

China's first plastic factory, situated in Chungking, was commissioned on May 3.

A paper mill entirely equipped with Chinese-made machinery was recently completed in Wuhan. Another paper mill which will be entirely automatic is being built in Huainan County, Anhwei Province, and will be finished by the end of this year.

Construction of the No. 1 State Cotton Mill of Shihchiachuang, Hopeh Province's cotton-growing region, is well under way.

A big sugar refinery is under construction in Tsenai, the rich sugar cane producing area in Kwangtung Province.

Soviet Methods in Industry

Chinese workers in almost every field are applying Soviet methods in their work.

Workers in the pig iron industry have successfully adopted the Soviet full blast and fast charging method. This was a big factor in

raising China's pig iron output in 1952 by 40% over that of 1951.

Over 30% of the lathes in China's main machine-building factories are using the Soviet high-speed metal-cutting method, thus greatly increasing labour productivity.

Last year 75-80% of the coal turned out by the state-owned mines was extracted by Soviet methods and the rate of extraction has been greatly raised. Previously, for example, only 30-40% of the coal seam of the Hungshan Colliery in Shantung Province was extracted. Now the rate is over 90%.

Building workers and technicians on every construction site are widely applying the parallel conveyor system. A Northeast civil engineer, Wang Sun-chih, has developed a new building method based on Soviet practice which has raised efficiency threefold.

Huai River Project

Work on the third stage of the Huai River project is swiftly progressing. The completion of the new 7.5-kilometre long channel to the Hungtse Lake, which is being cut to provide an extra outlet for the Huai during the high water season, will safeguard over 84,000 hectares of farmland from flood.

Extensive work is being made to renovate the drainage system of the Pehfei River, one of the Huai's biggest tributaries on its middle reaches. When completed within three years, it will enable tens of thousands of hectares of land in the Huai River basin to be irrigated.

Over 40 factories in Shanghai are supplying equipment to the workers on the project. This includes the 63 steel gates already completed for the movable dam at Sanho, the biggest dam of its kind on the Huai, at the mouth of the Hungtse Lake.

Farm Technicians

The August First Agricultural Institute in Tihua, Sinkiang Province, is training 969 technicians and administrative personnel from among the Uighur, Kazakh, Han and other nationalities. More than 180 students have graduated from the institute since its establishment

Islamic Association Inaugurated

The Islamic Association of China was established on May 11 in Peking after a three-day meeting attended by 111 representatives. Coming from every part of the country, the representatives included many noted Akhuns and Mullahs of ten nationalities—Hui, Uighur, Kazakh, Uzbek, Tartar, Khalkhas, Tadjik, Tunghsiang, Sala and Paoan.

Burhan, Chairman of the Preparatory Committee of the Islamic Association, reported to the meeting on the preparatory work carried out and moved a resolution on the tasks of the Association. The report was fully discussed and then adopted. The constitution of the Association was passed and its tasks laid down.

During sessions, representatives described the political, economic and cultural development of the Muslims in People's China, and the freedom of religious belief and observance of their traditions and customs enjoyed since liberation. They expressed their firm support for the People's Government's policy of full equality among the nationalities and voiced their determination to rally with all other nationalities to build the motherland and defend world peace.

The meeting unanimously endorsed messages of greeting to Chairman Mao Tse-tung, to the Chinese People's Liberation Army and to the Chinese people's volunteers in Korea.

on August 1, last year, People's Liberation Army Day. The Institute has departments of agronomy, forestry, water conservancy and animal husbandry.

New Archaeological Discoveries

Rich archaeological material is being unearthed as China digs foundations and surveys her natural resources for her large-scale construction. Special groups have been detailed to protect all relics discovered.

During the construction of a highway in Lih sien and Hsienchow, Szechuan Province, over 50 stone utensils and some coloured pottery of the New Stone Age were recently discovered. They provide valuable data for the study of the history of the Tibetans and Chiangs living in that area.

Over 60 ancient tombs, more than 700 well-preserved articles and over 200 other objects were found during the construction of the Tien-shui-Chengt'u Railway. These included 27 bricks of the Han Dynasty (206 B.C.—A.D. 220) with pictures of buildings, carts, horses, banquets, dances and acrobatics. Porcelains of the Chin (265-419), Tang (618-907) and Sung (960-1279) Dynasties were found.

CHRONICLE OF EVENTS

May 7

General Nam Il makes an 8-point proposal for a solution of the entire P.O.W. question.

A Sino-Czechoslovak agreement on radio co-operation is signed in Prague.

A Sino-Czechoslovak goods exchange and payments agreement for 1953 is signed in Peking.

May 8

A Chinese Red Cross delegation leaves Peking for Geneva to attend the meeting of the Executive Committee of the 22nd Board of Governors of the League of Red Cross Societies scheduled to open on May 19.

May 9

The Hsinhua News Agency refutes the fabrication of a "tripartite agreement between China, the U.S.S.R. and the Viet-Nam Democratic Republic" concocted by Wellington Koo, the agent of the Kuomintang gang in the U.S., as reported by the *New York Herald Tribune*.

May 11

Foreign Minister Chou En-lai protests against the violation of China's territorial air over Laku-

shao and Antung and the killing or wounding of 257 Chinese people by U.S. aircraft on May 10 and 11.

May 13

The people's forces in Korea put out of action 14,462 enemy troops (4,894 American, 761 British, 35 Belgian and 8,772 Syngmen Rhee troops); shot down 104 and damaged 218 enemy planes during April, reports Hsinhua.

A 16-member delegation of Chinese medical specialists leaves Peking for Austria to attend the International Medical Conference scheduled to open in the latter part of May.

May 14

General Nam Il rejects U.S. counter-proposal of May 13, pointing out that the basic principle contained in that proposal is for the sole purpose of forcibly detaining P.O.W's.

May 19

The A.A. units of the people's forces brought down five U.S. aircraft during the bombing of three reservoirs in North Korea on May 13, 14, 15 and 16 by U.S. aircraft, reports Hsinhua.

A Chinese women's delegation leaves Peking for Copenhagen to attend the World Congress of Women scheduled to open on June 5.

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