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THE 'ANTS GNAW AT A BONE' METHOD

- Small Machines Process Big Parts

A "skyward looking ant" planes a large steel flat plate at the Chien-sheh Machinery Plant in Shanghai.

By the "ants gnaw a bone" method workers use small machines to process large rolling-mill equipment at the Shanghai Printing Machinery Plant.
THE method of work known as "ants gnawing a bone" has become an important means enabling China's machine industry to produce many kinds of large equipment without heavy expenditures for plant and machinery installations. Pioneers in this method are the workers at the Chiensheh Machinery Plant in Shanghai. They have found many ways to use small and simple machines designed and made by themselves to process large and complicated machine parts.

It all began in 1958 during the Big Leap Forward when the whole country engaged in a mass movement for making steel, under the guidance of the General Line put forward by Chairman Mao: "Go all out, aim high and achieve greater, faster, better and more economical results in building socialism." A Shanghai steel plant urgently needed two draft rings. Each of these parts for Bessemer converters weighs 11 tons and measures 4.6 meters long and 3.6 meters wide. Such huge items are usually processed on a 32-ton boring machine and a 70-ton planer. No such equipment was available for the job in Shanghai at the time. To buy even one such machine would entail an invest-
ment of 600,000 yuan by the state and three years before it could be put into production.

When the workers at the Chiensheh Machinery Plant learned this, they volunteered to have a go at the task of processing the rings. Theirs was a small plant which had been formed in 1956 by the amalgamation of six blacksmith shops and small repair works. There was not one technician among its 200 workers. Their workshop was a shed of reed mats in a vacant lot, and their only weight-lifting equipment was a three-ton hand hoist. Most of their machines were lathes several decades old, capable only of repair work. When the two castings for the rings arrived, they were too big to pass through the gate and a wall had to be broken down to get them in. Placing them on even the plant's largest lathe was out of the question: the workpiece would simply have crushed it.

The workers raked their brains and came up with something new. How about putting the lathe on top of the ring? Three days and nights of intense work gave them a double-headed lathe with one head for milling flat surfaces and the other for boring holes. Operating with it on top of the rings, they processed the two huge parts quickly and well in 18 days. The method soon caught on all across the country. It was an important technological creation for China's machinery industry.

A Variety of 'Ant'-Machines

The Chiensheh Machinery Plant has changed a great deal in the last 13 years. New buildings have risen beside the old shop and the number of workers has tripled. The workers very quickly developed other equipment of the "ant" type, able to do more and more things. The original single "ant" became a whole series of "ants", a production line for standard parts. Now there are also several special types of "ants" for machining special non-standard products. These include the "ant looking skyward" which operates underneath the workpiece with its cutter going upwards; the "swallowed ant" which works inside the part being processed; the "multiple-jawed ant" which can drill eight to sixteen holes at once; the "long-legged ant" which can bore a hole five meters deep; the "long-jawed ant" which drills small, deep holes; the "revolving ant" which moves around a workpiece—altogether more than 20 kinds of small machines for processing large pieces. Almost all of these operate with the workpiece stationary on the ground. Several of them can be concentrated on one piece at the same time, and perform some most unusual tasks. Though the plant has gone from work on 10-ton parts to some weighing nearly 100 tons, the "ants"—machines have become lighter and easier to handle.

Developed Through Struggle

The "ants gnawing a bone" method did not come into being without a fierce struggle. The Shanghai henchmen of the renegade Liu Shao-chi and some of the bourgeois technical "authorities" could appreciate only large modern equipment. They were against the bold creations the workers began to make when they followed Chairman Mao's policy of self-reliance and arduous struggle. They looked down on the "ants"—machines and said that using them was "unscientific... it did not pay", trying to strangle the new method at its birth. Comrade Ko Ching-shih, first secretary of the Shanghai Party committee, however, gave firm support to the new idea, and this was a great encouragement to them. They kept right on doing and inventing. In 1958 they processed such important parts as a 6.5-meter-diameter turn-table for an ingot-casting machine, and complicated pieces for a 1,500-ton hydraulic press.

Liu Shao-chi's agents in Shanghai used the temporary difficulties in the national economy during 1959-1961 to further undercut the "ants gnawing a bone" idea and refused to give the Chiensheh plant any big jobs. In spite of this the workers carried on. At one point they decided to undertake the processing of a type of coal-gas gate valve necessary in the production of rail-tires. These were wanted within three months. It was a difficult technical battle. After dozens of experiments they produced several new kinds of "ant"—machines and finally delivered the gas valves ahead of time.

In the Great Proletarian Cultural Revolution initiated and led by Chairman Mao, Liu Shao-chi and his gang were overthrown. The struggles in the course of it heightened the political consciousness of the Chiensheh workers. They determined to develop the "ants gnawing a bone" method further.

In the subsequent years the Chiensheh plant has done a great deal of machining by the new method, including some which could not have been done on the equipment China had at the time. It has been proved in practice that the "ant" method, far from being "unscientific", can do many kinds of machining very well, quickly and with a comparatively small investment.

In June 1969 two stainless steel tubes had to be processed within 12 days. Each valued at 200,000 yuan, these were the main parts of an advanced precision product. A very deep hole with rigid specifications for smoothness had to be made in extremely hard steel. Some larger plants, lacking the proper equipment, had felt unable to take on the job. It was decided that the tubes be sent to the Chiensheh plant in the hope that they could do it their way. The workers accepted the challenge.

Sixty-year-old Jen Yueh-ching undertook the main responsibility for processing the tubes. He and other workers designed and made a horizontal boring machine, but its speed was too low. Then the workers pooled their wisdom and efforts to improve the cutters and their handling of the machine so
that the speed was increased by five times. They finished the job on the two tubes in 10 days and met the requirements for quality.

The ‘Ants’ Eat an ‘Elephant’

In 1970 when Shanghai shipbuilders were working on several 10,000-ton ships, the Chiansheh plant was asked to process the base for a large eleven-roller machine for straightening steel plates used in the ships. The base, weighing 40 tons, was shaped like an elephant, and was soon known by this name. It was a difficult task entailing 42 holes of various sizes and several dozen flat surfaces. Chen Hsing-ho, an old Communist, organized the other workers to turn the piece belly-up. Five “ant”-lathes “attacked” from the top, the underside, inside the piece and from the sides. They worked this way for two months, doing an excellent job on the “elephant”.

Last year the Chiansheh plant received an assignment to process a machine base weighing nearly 80 tons. With the support of the plant leaders and masses, Cheng Shun-fu, a worker who had become an engineer, studied the good points of all the “ant”-machines so far in use and also those of the best boring machines of foreign make. He brought these together in an ingenious vertical feed rod-boring machine without a bed. When the machine was first put to work on the huge base, an iron flat plate was used as a bed. After the central hole had been made in the workpiece, the machine was fitted inside the hole and the workpiece itself served as the bed for the rest of the job. Thus a four-ton homemade boring machine processed a machine frame twenty times its weight.

The workers at the Chiansheh plant say: “Our ‘ants’ are very versatile. No matter how long the workpiece is, they can crawl along it. No matter how tall it is, they can fly up to the top. If the workpiece is large, heavy and complicated, an army of our ‘ants’ can surround and conquer it.”
Chao Pu-yu (center) and his comrades sing "The East Is Red" with formerly deaf-mute children.
THE MUTES REGAIN THEIR SPEECH

Withered for a thousand years,
the wisteria has new sprouts,
After ten thousand years the
iron tree bursts into flower.
Thanks to our great leader
Chairman Mao,
Today deaf-mutes regain their
speaking power.

TODAY in a school for deaf-
mutes in Liaoyuan, Kirin prov-
ince, children who were once
both deaf and mute can be heard
singing this song.

"The iron tree bursts into flow-
er, mutes regain their speaking
power" is a Chinese metaphor
for the impossible. But in the Great
Proletarian Cultural Revolution
this actually came to pass — new
medical discoveries have had good
results in enabling former deaf-
mutes to speak. This was largely
the work done under the guidance
of Mao Tsetung Thought by a med-
ical orderly named Chao Pu-yu
and his co-workers in a unit of the
People's Liberation Army under
the Shenyang command.

To Serve the People

Before Chao Pu-yu joined the
People's Liberation Army in the
spring of 1966, he had had only
four years of schooling off and on.
Soon after his enlistment he be-
came a medical orderly in a P.L.A.
hospital. In 1967 during the cultur-
al revolution, Chao and his com-
rades formed a medical team to
spread Mao Tsetung Thought.
Soon, in a section of the city of
Liaoyuan where many workers
lived, they set up a medical station
and began going around visiting
patients. His work in treatment
and prevention of illness among
the workers and members of
nearby people's communes made
Chao realize with great force the
harmful effects of the counter-
revolutionary line for medical and
health work promoted by Liu
Shao-chi. Under this line medical
care served only a small minority
of the population. Many workers
and peasants suffered and were
unable to take part in production
because they could not get proper
treatment.

Chao was deeply stirred by
what he heard at mass meetings
criticizing this policy of Liu Shao-
chi and his followers. "I am the
son of a poor peasant," he thought,
"and a proletarian medical and
health worker. My duty is to re-
lieve the suffering of the laboring
people. But what can I do with
my little skill?"

"What I cannot do, I shall
learn," he answered himself.
"What I don't understand, I'll ask.
True knowledge comes from prac-
tice. If I serve the people whole-
heartedly and am determined about
making revolution, I can improve
my skill and get results."

He began by learning the
techniques of acupuncture from
experienced doctors and older
medical orderlies. This is a tradi-
tional method of treating various
illnesses by inserting a needle into
key points on the body. As soon
as Chao Pu-yu learned a new
acupuncture point, he would locate
it on his own body and test the ef-
effect with his needle. Then he
would make a note of the position
and describe the sensation. He
practised on himself wherever he
went. If he inserted the needle in-
correctly and it bent, he would
simply withdraw it, straighten it
and try again. If his body became
swollen at one point, he would
practise on a different point. After
a period of diligent study he
gradually mastered the technique
of insertion into several dozen
points in order to treat a number
of illnesses.

One of his first successes after
learning acupuncture was to treat
an old worker named Wang
Kuei, who had suffered from
arthritis in the legs for ten years.
At the good results Chao Pu-yu
was greatly encouraged and the
old man was moved to tears. Chao
continued to study and sum up his
experience as he treated patients,
learning a little with each new
type of case. Before long he had
mastered the needle treatment for
most ordinary illnesses and also
for some more difficult cases.

Into the 'Prohibited Area'

In March 1968 the medical prop-
aganda team was ordered to go to
the school for deaf-mutes in Lia-
oyuan to see what success they
would have in treating its pupils
with acupuncture. The minute the
team entered the gate, it was sur-
rrounded by the children. A girl
named Wang Ya-chin tugged Chao
Pu-yu's hand. She pointed to
Chairman Mao's portrait hanging
on the wall and then to her own
lips. She wanted to tell him that
she would like to shout: "Long live
Chairman Mao". But the only
sound that could come from her
lips was a strained "Ah... ah." She
pointed to the Chairman Mao
badge on Chao Pu-yu's chest and
touched her own ears, trying to
express her wish to hear the voice
of Chairman Mao. Tears flowed
down her cheeks and Chao Pu-yu's
own eyes were wet. In their hearts
he and his comrades vowed to do
everything to enable these chil-
dren to hear and give expression
to their feeling.

The news spread quickly
throughout the city that the P.L.A.
men were giving treatment to the
deaf-mutes. From some conserva-
tive thinkers in the medical world
were heard remarks like, "I've
A discussion on the acupuncture points of the body.

studied medicine for decades, but never heard that needle treatment could enable mutes to speak.”

Chao Pu-yu and his comrades decided that the best way to refute this kind of thinking was through their own practice. First they made an investigation. Chao went to the home of Wang Ya-chin. Her father, Wang Yu-hai, was a miner who had suffered much from the ruthless oppression of the old society. He could not afford to get married until he was over forty and Ya-chin was his only child. She had become deaf at three, after a serious illness. Wang Yu-hai had taken the girl to many hospitals but always got the same answer: nothing could be done to restore her speech and hearing.

In several days of house-to-house visits, Chao Pu-yu found many deaf-mute children with experiences similar to that of Wang Ya-chin, yet in the local hospital he could not find one case history of a deaf-mute who had received treatment. He recalled Chairman Mao’s teaching, “The people with real personal knowledge are those engaged in practice the wide world over.” Wasn’t it the truth? But some so-called “authorities” without ever examining specific cases had simply pronounced this illness “incurable”. This showed only their ignorance and pretentiousness. These “incurable cases” should rightly be called “cases refused treatment”, Chao thought. When he told his views to his comrades, it strengthened their confidence that they would be able to do something in this field, so long viewed as a “prohibited area”.

To prevent even one wrong insertion of the needle on the patients, Chao and his comrades practised inserting the needles in themselves at the points the acupuncture books said provide stimulus for hearing and speech. He inserted the needle on himself hundreds of times. When he finally mastered the technique he began treating the children. One day some time later he clapped his hands behind Wang Ya-chin’s back. She turned, nodded, smiled and touched her ears. She had heard! Overjoyed, Chao Pu-yu and his comrades continued with the same treatment on the other pupils with the result that most of them regained their hearing.

They could hear, but still could not speak. What was the key that would unlock their speech? Chao Pu-yu reviewed what had been done so far and noted that they had only had good results with deafness when the needle was inserted rather deeply at the appropriate point near the ear. And that when the needle was not inserted so deeply, the patient did not feel the effect much. Old books said that insertion of the acupuncture needle into a point near the base of the skull provided a stimulus which helped the patient gain his powers of speech. The team tried this but without much effect. Chao thought that perhaps this was because the needle was not inserted deep enough.

He sought verification for his idea in reference material, but all he could find in both ancient and modern books was the rule that the needle should not be inserted into this point deeper than 5 fen.* According to one source, the needle at the depth of 1 cun* would damage a normal person’s powers of speech, and at 1 cun and 5 fen would endanger his life.

Was 5 fen really the limit? Chao turned the question over and over in his mind. When the medical propaganda team discussed the matter, he made a severe criticism of the static and pessimistic thinking that would accept such a verdict without question. He argued that in the past it had truly been dangerous to exceed this depth. But earlier

* fen and cun are measurements in acupuncture treatment.
generations had been limited by the level of scientific development of their time. They did not find the real cause for failure by drawing lessons from it in a scientific way, therefore did not create a new body of practice. “We proletarian revolutionaries want to relieve our class brothers of their suffering,” he said. “We must go forward. We must not be stopped by the belief that 5 fen is the ultimate limit.”

Late that night as Chao walked back to the clinic after the discussion, a million thoughts crowded through his brain. Workers and peasants suffering from this affliction and hoping to be cured, the faces of children longing to shout and sing seemed to pass before his eyes. He decided he would wait no longer but would try out his theory on himself.

Back in his room he took his needle and inserted it into the proper point at the base of the skull. When it was 5 fen deep, he did not feel much; at 1 cm, the sensation was stronger. When it had penetrated to 1 cm and 5 fen, the stimulus was so powerful that his hands became numb and he found it hard to twist the needle. Should he stop there, or should he go on? He knew that if he inserted the needle further the stimulus might be greater, but he might also endanger his life. Chao Pu-yu thought: If I lose my powers of speech or my life, it will be in a worthy cause. I will be serving the people wholeheartedly, carrying out Chairman Mao’s line for medical and health work. Revolutionary fighters who stand with Chairman Mao have always been fearless.

Then he wrote in his notebook the name of the acupuncture point and his sensation at each depth of insertion. “I shall continue to penetrate deeper,” he wrote to his comrades. “If I die, draw lessons from my failure. If we persist in learning from practice we will conquer this prohibited zone.”

With the aid of a mirror he inserted the needle deeper and deeper. He noticed a feeling of congestion in the neck. His throat burned and his limbs went numb as if an electric current had been passed through his body. In other cases, when acupuncture created this effect, it had proven successful in treatment. He withdrew the needle and found that it had penetrated 2 cm and 5 fen. He jumped for joy. He tried several more times, with the same effect. Thus, with fearless revolutionary spirit, he proved in scientific practice that the limits set by his predecessors could be exceeded.

Early the next morning he reported his experience to the army leaders and obtained their support. The other members of the medical team also practised the new technique on themselves until they mastered it. Chao Pu-yu used it on Wang Ya-chin that very day. Three days later, after 15 years of silence, she could form words and begin to speak.

After a concerted campaign of treatment by the medical team, 157 of the school’s 168 pupils regained their faculty of hearing. Then after a period of practice and further treatment, 149 were able to speak. Their once “silent world” began to ring with voices and song.

New Worlds to Conquer

Since the breakthrough in treating deaf-mutes three years ago, this new treatment has been used widely throughout the country.

Once when he was on a mission in the city of Shenyang, a woman teacher named Wang Chiao-hsia came to visit him. She was suffering from a condition known as gastropitis—the downward displacement of the stomach—which had led to prolapse of the uterus and high blood pressure. She had been to many doctors, without much success. She asked Chao to treat her, hoping that even if he could not completely cure the illness perhaps he could relieve her of some of the pain. Chao had never treated this ailment and did not know how to, but he thought, “As a revolutionary medical worker I should not shirk my duty. That would be just like a soldier running away as he goes into battle.” He agreed to try.

But after several days of investigation, he still had no feasible method.

A few “authorities” in the medical field said to him, “Comrade Chao, you’re not the same now as when you were an unknown medical orderly. You should watch your step.”

As soon as they spoke, Chao felt something was very wrong. “They say I’m different from what I was,” he mused. “Actually, the difference is nothing but the honor the Party and the people have accorded me. These men are suggesting I’d better not risk my reputation to treat this difficult case!” Chao realized that whether or not he
dared to treat Wang Chiao-hsia's illness was really a struggle over whether he put self-interest or the people's interest in first place. He determined to fight this disease in the spirit of serving the people wholeheartedly, as he had done in the past.

Following Chairman Mao's teaching on grasping the principal contradiction, he decided to treat the gastrophtosis first. He began by giving Wang Chiao-hsia acupuncture as he would for other ailments of the stomach. Several trials had no effect. Then he began to think that the condition was caused by lack of tension in the stomach muscles. Thinking of the way a drawstring bag goes together when the string is pulled, he decided to try getting the stomach muscles to contract and pull the stomach up. Experimenting on himself, he inserted the needle at a point 4 cun above the navel. As the needle progressed from a depth of 1 to 3 cun, he felt a heaviness in the abdomen. Then he reinserted the needle towards the left and then the right. The result was a violent abdominal contraction. This was what he wanted.

When he administered this treatment to Wang Chiao-hsia, the first time she felt a peristaltic movement of her stomach and intestines. With the second treatment she felt some relief. After twenty days of such treatment her stomach assumed its normal position. Chao Pu-yu continued to use acupuncture for her prolapsed uterus and high blood pressure, and finally her health was restored.

Looking back over the path he has travelled, Chao Pu-yu says, "The road of revolution is long and the search for truth endless. I will continue striving to approach all my medical work with the thoroughgoing spirit of fearing neither hardship nor death."

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**Former Deaf-Mute**

**Now a P.L.A. Soldier**

At a meeting to welcome new comrades-in-arms held by a unit of the People's Liberation Army, a young man in new uniform stepped briskly onto the platform and spoke briefly on how happy and proud he was to be in the people's army. He was smiling broadly and delivered his words with moving force.

He was 19-year-old Tsung Chin-kuang, who only two years ago had been a student at a school for deaf-mutes. Son of a construction worker, Tsung Chin-kuang lost his hearing after a severe illness when he was five years old. His father took him to one big hospital after another, hoping something could be done. But at the time Liu Shao-chi's revisionist line in medicine had much influence over medical thinking, and often the conclusions of bourgeois authorities were worshipped blindly. The worker was told his son's trouble was incurable. The best he could do was to send his son to the Peking No. 3 Deaf-Mute School.

After the success of Chao Pu-yu and his colleagues in restoring the hearing of deaf-mutes with acupuncture treatment, the Workers' and P.L.A. Mao Ts utung Thought Propaganda Team at the Peking school sent a medical team to Chao Pu-yu's unit to learn about it.

When the team came back Tsung Chin-kuang was one of the students given treatment. Eleven treatments restored his hearing and enabled him to begin to learn to speak.

Once again living in a world of sound, Tsung Chin-kuang could not forget how the P.L.A. comrades had devoted their time and energy to treating him, how they had visited the home of every deaf-mute student to learn in detail how each lost his hearing. He had seen comrades of the medical team testing their knowledge of acupuncture points by inserting the needles into themselves. Some had got swollen necks. Others had found their jaw muscles so sore that they could hardly eat. Moved by the P.L.A. men's wholehearted devotion to the people, young Tsung repeatedly asked to join the army.

His dream came true one day in December 1970. The whole school rejoiced at the news and even workers in the neighborhood came over to express their good wishes. To Chin-kuang's father, the news
summoned up recollections of the working people's bitter life in the old society, how hundreds of thousands of them were disabled through oppression and exploitation by landlords and capitalists.

"We working people owe everything to Chairman Mao," he said. "It is Chairman Mao who has given my son a new life."

As a new enlisted man Tsung Chin-kuang made strict demands on himself, determined to dedicate his all to building up his socialist motherland. Although he was now able to speak, his pronunciation was not clear. He mastered it word by word and sentence by sentence. When he heard a new word he would often go to several people to find out its exact meaning. His comrades gave him warm help and the Party branch appointed another soldier, a Party member with advanced schooling, to give him special assistance.

Tsung also worked hard at military training and after three months became a good marksman. Four months after he enlisted he became an aviation mechanic.

Tsung Chin-kuang (left) learns to do repair work inside an engine cowling.

Tsung Chin-kuang learning to sing an air from a modern Peking opera at the grade school he attended after his speech and hearing were restored.
Meeting of Solid
ALL the players and representatives of the sports world participating in the Afro-Asian Table Tennis Friendship Invitational Tournament held in Peking last November agreed that it was an unforgettable gathering. Played by more than 600 entrants from 51 countries and regions, the tournament was a landmark in the solidarity and friendship of the peoples on the two continents.

The tournament was sponsored jointly by the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Egypt, Japan, Mauritius, Nepal and the People's Republic of China. The aim was to enhance friendship among the peoples and players of the Afro-Asian countries and promote the game of table tennis.

The invitations were widely acclaimed and eagerly received by table tennis players and sports figures. With a desire to increase mutual understanding and establish closer friendship, players crossed mountains and oceans to gather in Peking for the 13-day meet from November 2 to 14.

Speaking of the basis of the gathering, H. M. O. Clemens, head of the Tanzanian delegation, said, "The people of Asia and Africa have a common experience in history and face a common struggle today. This is the foundation of friendship between us and the foundation of our meeting today."

From table tennis players of Laos (Laotian Patriotic Front): "We've come from the front lines of fighting to this invitational tournament not to win a place but to strengthen friendship and unity between the peoples of Asia and Africa."

JEN CHUNG
From Said Nimer Molid Sabe, head of the Palestinian delegation: "Fighting Palestine sends its table tennis players to the tournament in order to promote friendship between the people of China and Palestine and between the peoples of the Asian and African countries. Our players were scattered in the various Arab countries, but with revolutionary will we overcame all kinds of difficulties and are here for this gathering of friendship. We will do our utmost to contribute to this tournament."

From Gaston Gassal-Morero, head of the delegation of the People's Republic of the Congo: "We are as much a friendship delegation as a sports delegation because we did not come solely for sports competition but even more to strengthen the friendly ties of the Asian and African peoples."

The Chinese people and players, as hosts, gave the warmest welcome to the Asian and African friends. They looked upon the fact that the tournament was held in Peking as an expression of encouragement and trust in them and took this opportunity to learn from the Asian and African peoples.

**New Spirit**

The tournament set a precedent in international competitions when players from different countries practised together before the actual contests. On practice courts, by the dark green tables, players in uniforms of different colors learned one another's strong points and helped one another with weak points. Some practised cutting drives from far off the table with nimble movements, others launched a flurry of strong and fast attacks close to the table, still others experimented with a variety of services. Near tables or in corners, players in twos or threes from different countries exchanged techniques and pointers.

Korea's Pak Sin Il and China's Liang Ke-liang practised at the same table for nearly an hour, after which they discussed each other's merits and shortcomings and encouraged each other.

At joint warm-up sessions, players from Viet Nam, Laos and Cambodia taught one another the skills each excelled in. Players from Guinea, the People's Republic of the Congo, Morocco, Ghana, Kenya and Sierra Leone had to travel long distances to come to Peking. But when they arrived they wasted no time in joining the practice sessions. Although Chuang Tse-tung, vice-leader of the Chinese delegation, did not take part in the tournament, he took time out to practise with the Africans. Shigeo Ito, coach of the Japanese men's team, gave much of his time to coaching Nepalese players and the Chinese junior players.

The tournament, which took place in the 18,000-seat Capital Stadium, offered ten events: men's team, women's team, men's singles, women's singles, men's doubles, women's doubles, mixed doubles, boys' singles, girls' singles and veterans' singles. Forty-three countries and regions took part in the men's team event and 30 countries and regions in the women's team event.

The Capital Stadium arena was a site where friends were made.
At one table, players of two opposing teams, new friends made in competition, exchanged pennants. At another table, players just finishing a match embraced each other and raised joined hands in solidarity. When the Vietnamese team returned to the dressing room after a match, the Egyptian players came over to congratulate them on good sportsmanship and a game well played. Then they sang songs to express their friendship.

The women’s teams of Dahomey and the Sudan were to meet in the second round of the team event on the night of November 5. But one of the Dahomian players, A. Mensah, suddenly became ill. According to the rules, failure to appear at the match meant waiving the right to play. The Sudanese women immediately suggested that the match be postponed to the next day. M. Alhag Abubakr, head of the Sudanese delegation, and several players visited their sick friend.

A game which left a deep impression on the spectators was between M. M. Warsame and Sh. M. M. Farah of Somalia and F. M. Othman and S. Selenga of Tanzania in the doubles of the women’s team event. Othman was taking part in an international competition for the first time and was a bit tense. Her Somalian opponents encouraged her, “Don’t worry about winning or losing. Friendship is the aim of our contest.” Warmed by the words, Othman relaxed and played an offensive game, smashing the ball whenever she had the chance. Every hit scored brought shouts of “Good shot!” from her opponents. Othman led for a while in the first set but in the end ceded the game because of inexperience. When the match was over, Othman ran over and congratulated Farah and Warsame and expressed a wish to learn from them.

“That was a game of friendship,” said Farah. “We all showed fighting will. There’s always a winner
and a loser in a game, but the more important thing is friendship. This game has brought us closer together.”

Winning or losing, the players of many countries always congratulated each other for forging closer friendship.

**New Progress**

The tournament showed new progress and a general rise in the table tennis skill of Asians and Africans. Outstanding was the team of the Democratic People’s Republic of Korea which took second place in both the men’s and women’s team events.

More than 20 African countries participated in the tournament and made good marks. The Nigerians placed sixth in the men’s team event; Egypt placed eighth in both the men’s and women’s team events and Ghana came in ninth in both the men’s and women’s team events. Togo’s 17-year-old M.F. Lawson won over China’s Tiao Wen-yuan 2 to 1 in the men’s team event. All this showed that the Africans are a rising force in international table tennis.

The boys’ and girls’ singles in which 19 countries took part were a big attraction. All under 16 and using either the handshake or penholder grip, they demonstrated a general trend for an offensive game. Even the choppers would frequently come up with strong attacks. The daring and dynamic spirit of the young players promised greater future developments in the table tennis game.

The tournament owed its success not only to the efforts of the contestants but also the encouragement and support given by the leaders of the International Table Tennis Federation, the Supreme Council for Sport in Africa, the Table Tennis Confederation of South America and table tennis guest delegations from some Latin American countries.

Leaders of the delegations adopted a resolution to enlarge the next friendship invitational tournament to include the Latin American countries and to hold it in the near future. It was also decided to increase the number of sponsor nations from six to ten, adding Chile, Ecuador, Nigeria and Tanzania. A preparatory committee would soon begin preparations for the next tournament.

The traditional friendship between the Asian and African countries is born of common experience in the long years of suffering under imperialist and colonialist aggression and oppression. In the fight against imperialism and colonialism to win national liberation and defend national independence and sovereignty, these countries have consistently given one another sympathy and support. As a medium of friendship and stronger solidarity, the tournament wrote a new chapter in Afro-Asian friendship. At the closing ceremony, each representative of the participating countries received a Friendship Cup, symbol of solidarity and friendship.

A Moroccan player, holding the cup close to him, spoke for all the Asian and African players and people when he said, “I made a great many friends at this tournament. We will be saying goodbye to each other soon, but our hearts will always be linked together. Our friendship will live on no matter how far the distance or how long the time that separates us.”

The tournament left the deep impression that the Afro-Asian peoples’ desire for solidarity and friendship is the irresistible trend of history.
First round of the team events.
Players of Cambodia and Uganda cheer their friendship after a match.

Representatives of the sponsor nations, left to right: Korea, Egypt, Japan, Mauritius, Nepal and China.
Togo’s junior player O. D. d’Almeida makes friends with China’s junior player Li Yung.

Players from Viet Nam and Palestine watch a game.

Women’s doubles between China and Japan.
Guinean friends give a performance at a gathering of players.

Players of Syria and Dahomey greet each other.

T. Adele (left) of Nigeria and N. Nader of Lebanon exchange souvenir badges.

Women's singles between the Sudan and Lebanon.
Learning from the Afro-Asian Players

Chinese Table Tennis Players Li Ching-kuang, Tiao Wen-yuan and Cheng Huai-ying

In the brief period of the table tennis tournament, we deepened our friendship with players from the two continents and learned much from their fighting spirit, sportsmanship and experience.

The first thing our Korean comrades did after getting off the plane was to ask about their old acquaintances. When they learned that Cheng Ming-chih, our woman player, was in the hospital, coach Baik Ok Hi and two Korean women players went to see her with flowers and candy. Cheng was deeply moved and said the visit gave her new encouragement to fight her illness.

During the first round of the men’s singles, Palestine’s S.D. Kurdi was to play China’s Tiao Wen-yuan. Kurdi was not feeling well and the doctor urged him to rest. But he would not miss the match. “It’s a good chance to learn,” he said. As the set tied at one-all, Tiao noticed that Kurdi was perspiring unusually hard and tried to persuade him to rest. But Kurdi insisted on playing out the set. He lost the deciding game but played earnestly and at the end warmly embraced Tiao Wen-yuan. “Winning or losing is secondary,” he said. “The important thing is to increase friendship between Palestine and China.” We were all inspired by his fighting spirit.

Comrades from Indochina also demonstrated a stubborn will power. In a life of intense work and fighting, the young players of Laos (Laotian Patriotic Front) had had little time to play table tennis. But they practised hard just before the tournament and improved a lot. In his final set against Guinea’s A. Ly, Bounheuang Sengbandith of Laos, though trailing, played coolly, returning shots with steady chopped balls. His tenacity won warm applause from the Vietnamese and Cambodians. In practice sessions and conversations, the players of the three Indochinese countries showed their desire to learn
from each other and advance together.

Shigeo Ito, coach of the Japanese team and former world champion, practised with China's Tiao Li-li of the junior team and found that she used only one kind of service. "You have a good service," he said, "but you need greater variety. You are only fourteen. Aim at more varied services and in a few years you'll be a very sharp player."

The Japanese friends not only passed on their experience sincerely, but when playing weaker teams, created every opportunity for their opponents to give full play to their strong points. This both helped them improve each other's skill and promoted friendship between them.

During the first round of the men's team event, Togo's 17-year-old M.F. Lawson was pitted against China's Li Ching-kuang. Lawson sent over high lobbing balls while Li Ching-kuang returned with flat hits. Receiving a high ball, Li Ching-kuang jumped up and smashed hard, sending the ball spinning past the fence on Lawson's right. Lawson could have retrieved it but photographers outside the fence blocked him. Li Ching-kuang suggested that the umpire ask Lawson if he wished to re-play the shot. Lawson shook his head and said, "That was a good shot. China should get a point." It was good sportsmanship.

Later Lawson met Tiao Wen-yuan. Though he dropped the first set, Lawson kept up his attacks, smashing whenever he could and combining long drives with drop shots. Finally he came up from behind to take the match. We congratulated him on his coolness in setbacks and modesty in victory.

In another men's team event, Tunisia's G. Salah sent a hard smash to G. Ezz of Egypt. The umpire indicated a point for Ezz and the scoreboards flashed it. Ezz immediately raised his right hand and said the hit was an edge ball and the point should go to Salah. The spectators broke into warm applause. The tournament, in fact, saw frequent examples of such sportsmanship. Amin Abou Heif, Honorary President of the Egyptian Table Tennis Federation, spoke for us all when he said at the tournament's opening ceremony, "First is friendship, second is friendship, and the last is still friendship."
To celebrate the opening of the Afro-Asian Table Tennis Friendship Invitational Tournament in Peking on November 3, 1971, the Ministry of Communications of the People's Republic of China issued a set of four stamps on that date.

Stamp 1, 43 fen, the tournament badge against an emerald background. The white badge has a bat of apple-green in the center and is bordered in gold. The gold AA on the bat stands for Africa and Asia. Gold letters beneath the bat read: "Peking" and "1971". Across the bottom of the stamp is a decorative ribbon of yellow-orange.

Stamp 2, 8 fen, a worker, peasant, student and player, bouquets in hand, welcome friends from Asian and African countries. In the background is the Capital Stadium, site of the tournament. Magenta, light blue, yellow and green.

Stamp 3, 8 fen, table tennis players from Asia and Africa learning from each other. Light lemon, orange-red, light blue and deep bluish green.

Stamp 4, 8 fen, a young Asian woman and a young African woman standing with arms about each other's shoulders.

The background is in emerald, with a picture of Tien An Men at top left. The stamp symbolizes the friendship between the peoples of Asia and Africa meeting in Peking. Magenta, yellow-orange, brown and light blue.

Across the top of stamps 1-3 and on the right side of stamp 4 are the words: "Afro-Asian Table Tennis Friendship Invitational Tournament".

All the stamps measure 38.5 x 31 mm. Perf. 11 1/2. Photogravured. Serial numbers 21-24.
With players at the Summer Palace are Wang Meng and Yu Fu-hsueh, chairman and vice-chairman of the organizing committee of the tournament, and leaders of delegations from Nepal, Mauritius and Uganda.

Iraqi players sing a folk song at a party.

After a football match between Tunisian and Moroccan ping-pong players and students of the Peking Physical Culture Institute.
Vietnamese players shake hands with young Chinese dancers at a Summer Palace party.

Zambian friends with Chinese children.

A Mauritianian representative answers questions for reporters.

Friends from Equatorial Guinea chat with Chinese players.
Warm welcome to the Korean delegation at a party in the Summer Palace.
Chinese children greet the head of the Laolian delegation.

Welcoming friends from Tanzania.
Algerian friends sample food at the workers' dining room of the Peking No. 3 Cotton Mill.

Kuwait players at the Palace Museum.

Libyan players at the Palace Museum.

Ceylonese friends see medicinal herbs planted at a clinic of the Huangtukang People's Commune on the outskirts of Peking.

Burmese and Malaysian players visit the horse stud farm of the China-Korea Friendship People's Commune.
Malian friends learn about treatment of bone fractures at the Chishuiian Hospital in Peking.

Members of the South Yemeni delegation at the Peking Printing and Dyeing Mill.
Head of the Pakistani delegation hails the friendship between Pakistan and China by holding high the national flags of both countries.

Swapping playing experience.

Ethiopian delegation visits the Palace Museum.
A Somalian player (right) and players from Palestine (background) watch a demonstration of military skills given by the Chinese People's Liberation Army.
Players from Sierra Leone look at a program-control machine tool built by the teachers and students of Tsinghua University.

Indian players at the Shihchahai Junior Spare-time Sports School.

Cameroon friends at a party.

Liberian friends call at the kindergarten of the Peking No. 3 Cotton Mill.

Members of the Singapore delegation learn about production at the Peking No. 3 Cotton Mill.
Welcoming Friends from Asia and Africa

GYMNASIUM WORKERS’ WARM SUPPORT

PEKING’S many practice courts underwent a thorough re-vamping in preparation for the arrival of the players coming for the invitational tournament. Gymnasium workers put in long hours improving conditions and equipment as their welcome to their Asian and African friends.

More than two months before the tournament, the workers of the Shihchahai Gymnasium relaid the 1,500-square-meter wooden floor to provide it with the necessary bounce and gave it a non-slip surface. The entire hall was painted and the 12 tables arranged in correct order. Since most of the players would be coming from warm and hot climates into the autumn cold of Peking, the workers made a special check of the central heating system and fired the boiler before the usual date.

Over at the circular Peking Workers’ Gymnasium on the east side of the city, the workers improved the layout of the lighting. With the Peking Municipal Building Design Institute and other organizations, they enlarged the center circle of lights and installed 288 iodine-tungsten lamps in order to give all tables in the arena an equal and glareless light.

At the Capital Stadium built in 1968 on the western edge of the city, where the tournament was to be held, workers changed the side-ventilation system to ceiling ventilation, bringing the speed of air flow down to 0.2 meters per second, as required for a competition site. They improved the lighting, making the 18,000-seat indoor stadium better than ever.

PRESENTS TO THE TOURNAMENT

WORKERS and engineers of Kirin, Shanghai and Peking presented the tournament with new and more rapid D.C. electric scoreboards which give a soft but easily readable light. The score keeper presses a button and instantly the fluorescent screen of the board flashes game and point scores. The former scoreboards were hand-turned.

The task of making the outside parts of the scoreboards was given to the ironwork shop of a factory run by family members of personnel of the Peking Workers’ Stadium. In a spirit of great friendship for the invited players from Asia and Africa, they thought of many ways to improve their machines and raise efficiency in order to contribute to the tournament. Other factories sent skilled workmen to help them. The scoreboards were finished and brought to the Capital Stadium ahead of time.

MAKING FRIENDS FEEL AT HOME

BEFORE the players arrived, the staff of the Nationalities Hotel and the Chienmen Hotel studied ways of serving them well. They rearranged and redecorated the rooms according to the different national customs and special needs of their guests. Each room was tested to see that it would be warm enough. Both Chinese and western cooks helped each other learn the different dishes that would please their friends from many countries. When the first Asian and African players arrived, the cooks went to the dining rooms to get their preferences, suggestions and criticisms.

A VETERAN WORKER CONTRIBUTES

IN the Capital Stadium is a ping-pong bat repair shop. Chang Shih-chung, a veteran worker, came to Peking from the Ping-Pong Bat Factory in Tientsin to spend all his time during the tour-
Tanzanian friends and Chinese attendants sing a song together.

**FINAL PLACING OF INDIVIDUAL EVENTS**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Event</th>
<th>Winner</th>
<th>Second</th>
<th>Third</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Men's Singles:</td>
<td>Nobuhiko Hasegawa (Japan)</td>
<td>Mitsuru Kohno (Japan)</td>
<td>Hsi En-ting (China)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Pak Sin II (Korea)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Men's Doubles:</td>
<td>Li Ching-kuang,</td>
<td>Hsi En-ting, Liang Ke-liang</td>
<td>M.K. Ali, D.R. Saxena (India)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Tiao Wen-yuan (China)</td>
<td>(China)</td>
<td>Pak Kil Du, Kim Kwang Bai (Korea)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Women's Singles:</td>
<td>Cheng Huai-ying (China)</td>
<td>Pak Yeung Ok (Korea)</td>
<td>Cha Kyung Mi (Korea)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Women's Doubles:</td>
<td>Yukie Ozeki, Yasuko Kanno</td>
<td>Yukiko Kawamorita, Yukiko Onuma</td>
<td>O Yeung Suk (Korea)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>(Japan)</td>
<td>(Japan)</td>
<td>Kim Chang Ai, O Yeung Suk (Korea)</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Pak Yeung Ok (Korea), Cheng Huai-ying (China)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mixed Doubles:</td>
<td>Pak Sin II, Pak Yeung Ok</td>
<td>Mitsuru Kohno, Mieko Fukuno</td>
<td>Hsi En-ting, Cheng Huai-ying</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>(Korea)</td>
<td>(Japan)</td>
<td>(China), Tetsuo Inoue, Yoko Koshinaka (Japan)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Boys' Singles:</td>
<td>Yun Chul (Korea)</td>
<td>Nguyen The Kim (Viet Nam)</td>
<td>Nguyen Dinh Phien (Viet Nam)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Girls' Singles:</td>
<td>Kim Chang Ai (Korea)</td>
<td>N. Kamal (Egypt)</td>
<td>Nguyen Ngoc Luong (Viet Nam)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Veterans' Singles:</td>
<td>Kim Jung Sun (Korea)</td>
<td>Kok Kwai Seng (Malaysia)</td>
<td>Tiao Li-li (China), M. Mowlia (India)</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Tetsuo Nakata (Japan), C.H.L. Yiptong (Mauritius)</td>
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</tbody>
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player could compete the next day with his own bat.

**FRIENDSHIP CUPS**

Peking handicraft workers took on the job of designing and making the trophy cups for the tournament. Many designs were drawn up and submitted to a wide circle of opinions before the final drafts were chosen. The delicately beautiful trophy cups were made in cloisonné, a traditional Peking art 500 years old. The design shows ping-pong balls and bats and bright ribbons surrounded by many-colored flowers, symbolizing the friendship between the Asian and African peoples linked by tournament play. The base is decorated with a Chinese evergreen design, symbolizing the immortality of the friendship and unity of the Asian and African peoples.

**ETERNAL FRIENDSHIP**

At noon on the last day of the tournament, Asian and African friends gathered on the grounds of the northern entrance of the Capital Stadium. Here the heads of different delegations took turns digging up the earth and planting six pine trees. This had been a proposal of Koji Goto, head of the Japanese delegation, on behalf of the delegations of the sponsor nations — friendship trees to commemorate the success of the tournament.

Yu Pu-hsueh, head of the Chinese delegation, said, "We Chinese people will tend these pines well so that they will take deep root and grow tall and strong. Let us call them 'Afro-Asian Unity and Friendship Trees.'"
Players from the People's Republic of the Congo and Senegal.

Men's doubles between Afghanistan and Burma.

Iranian players taking down competition results.

Players of Gambia and the Arab Republic of Yemen cheer friendship after a match.
Finals of men's and women's doubles on November 11.

Chinese players and coaches congratulate players of Egypt, Nigeria and Ghana, award winners in the team events.
Closing ceremony of the tournament.
Guest delegation from Chile watching a match.

Friends from Ecuador and Uruguay look at an electronic computer made by Tsinghua University.

Friends from Colombia and Ecuador on the Great Wall.

Mexican friends in the Palace Museum.
The Story of Chang Szu-teh

Comrade Chang Szu-teh* often told the fighters in his squad, "You should see farther, see the future. Our revolutionary cause is developing daily, and we'll get to communism. In the future the revolution will require us to do more work. We must seize the time to study, if we don't study we'll fall behind."

This was his advice to others, and he made the same demand of himself. Whether he was making charcoal or opening up wasteland in the mountains, or on duty at his home base, no matter how tired he was, if he had free time he would study or read the paper. When he was out working, during the breaks he would pick up a stick and practise writing on the ground.

When he was little, Chang Szu-teh worked for a landlord and the old society deprived him of the right to go to school. When he joined the Eighth Route Army he couldn't read a word. Trained by the Communist Party, he studied hard, and before long could read the paper and write letters.

Explanatory Notes

1. - is pronounced in different tones in different contexts. When standing by itself, or at the units or tens of numbers, - is pronounced in the 1st tone: Nà shì yī shí yī - (That is one), erbāi yī shí yī - (two hundred eleven).

When - precedes a 4th tone or a neutral tone changed from a 4th tone, it is pronounced in the 2nd tone: yìng - (certain), yī yī - (one).

- is pronounced in the 4th tone when followed by other tones: yīniānlù - (day by day), yíliào - (a strip), yīběn - (a volume).

As an ordinal number, - is always pronounced in the first tone: yuè - (January).

2. 木 is usually pronounced in the 4th tone: bǎo (doesn't go through), bǎo bǎo (doesn't recognize), bǎo bǎo (not long after). But when it is followed by another 4th tone or a neutral tone changed from a 4th tone, it is changed into the 2nd tone: bǎo bǎo (doesn't know), bǎo bǎo (is not).

3. In Chinese, the verb does not change with the number or person of its subject: wǒ shū shu (I say), tā shū shu (he says), tāmen shū shu (they say).

The verb shū shu (say) remains the same.

4. In Chinese, the verb does not change with the tense: xiǎnzài tā xuéxi (now he studies), qián nán tā xuéxi (he studied), miànliàng tā xuéxi (next year he will study).

The verb xuéxi (study) remains the same.

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* Chang Szu-teh is the revolutionary soldier praised by Chairman Mao in his article Serve the People.
'FOR A NEW CHINA, CHARGE ON!' — Tung Tsun-jui, a Hero of the Chinese Revolution

IT has been 23 years since my comrade-in-arms Tung Tsun-jui, then 19, gave his life for the people. His revolutionary spirit has ever been an inspiration to me. The thought of him gave me courage in the battles of the war years. Later, it gave me the strength to overcome great difficulties in socialist revolution and construction.

Tung Tsun-jui was my first squad leader in the People’s Liberation Army. The War of Liberation, in which the people, led by Chairman Mao, overthrew the U.S.-backed Kuomintang reactionaries, began in 1946. Towards the end of September 1947, after the P.L.A. had gone over from strategic defensive to countrywide offensive, it liberated my home village. A poverty-stricken carpenter from a poor peasant family, I came to realize that it was Chairman Mao and the Communist Party that had brought us emancipation. I enlisted in the P.L.A. in order to help liberate the whole country.

I was assigned to the Sixth Squad of the Sixth Company of a unit of the Northeast Field Army. The first person I saw when I walked into the barracks was a young man of about 18 or 19 cleaning his rifle. He was of medium height, with a square face and large, lively eyes. He was the squad leader, Tung Tsun-jui. Greeting me warmly, he asked me about myself, assigned me the best bunk and helped me settle down.

Then he took a good look at me. My clothes were practically in shreds and my toes were sticking out of my cloth shoes. The times were hard and there were no uniforms ready. Tung smiled, opened his knapsack, took out his spare uniform and a pair of shoes, and placed them in my hands. I saw he had on a clean uniform, but it was much patched. I suddenly felt warm all over. There was a long pause before I managed to ask, “Don’t you want your new uniform?”

“What I’ve got on is fine,” he smiled again. “Hard work and plain living. That’s our tradition.”

As time went on I got to know Tung Tsun-jui better. He was born in a poor peasant family in a village in Hopei province. His father hired himself out to landlords but could hardly provide the family with the barest necessities. Before he was ten, Tung Tsun-jui had to
go with his father to do back-breaking farm labor, getting almost daily beatings and abuse from the landlords. Thus from very early on he bore a deep hatred for the exploiting classes.

In 1940 the Chinese people were in the midst of the anti-Japanese war. A unit of the Communist-led Eighth Route Army, predecessor to the P.L.A., came to Tung Tsim-jui’s home village, Nanshan. A new life began for the poor working people. One night an Eighth Route Army man by the name of Wang told Tung Tsim-jui stories of the revolution—how Chairman Mao had led the Workers’ and Peasants’ Red Army on the Long March in 1934 and 1935.

Wang pointed to the North Star, “Chairman Mao is our North Star. As long as we poor people take up arms and follow him in making revolution, we will win our liberation.”

Young Tung was deeply attracted to these new ideas. He often sought out Wang for more stories. He wanted very much to carry a rifle and make revolution. Soon Nanshan village set up an Anti-Japanese Children’s Corps and Tung Tsim-jui became its first leader. He and the other children were very enthusiastic about their new tasks. Carrying their red-tasselled spears, they helped the Eighth Route Army patrol, stand guard, deliver messages and ferret out traitors.

TUNG Tsim-jui’s dream came true in July 1945. He became a soldier in the Eighth Route Army. He was just 16 and not very tall, but quickly proved himself a brave fighter. By the time I met him, he had been cited seven times, three of them for exceptionally meritorious action. He was awarded three Medals for Bravery and one Mao Tsetung Medal. He was admitted into the Chinese Communist Party. But none of these honors turned his head. Many a time he said to me, “Without Chairman Mao’s guidance and the help of the army leaders and comrades, I would have understood nothing.”

What he understood he earnestly put into practice. Chairman Mao said that “the army must become one with the people so that they see it as their own army. Such an army will be invincible”. In everything he did Tung Tsim-jui put the interests of the people before all else. Once while bedding down in a village, we used up some firewood belonging to the local residents to heat up the brick beds. Tung heard of it and called a squad meeting that evening. He led us in study of the Three Main Rules of Discipline and the Eight Points for Attention* which Chairman Mao had laid down for the army.

“We are the people’s army,” Tung Tsim-jui said. “We cannot survive without the people just as fish cannot survive without water. We must put the interests of the people in first place at all times.”

The next day he took the squad into the hills to cut firewood to repay the villagers.

Another time while pursuing the enemy we saw a village enveloped in fire and smoke. We learned that fleeing Kuomintang troops after looting the village had set it on fire. Tung Tsim-jui immediately ordered our squad to the village. He himself was the first to race into the billowing smoke.

We grabbed buckets and basins, filled them with water and threw it onto the fire. Suddenly we heard a woman crying for help. Tung rushed over and learned that her child was still in the burning house. The roof was about to cave in. Tung dashed into the house and groped about for the child. By the time he found it, the fire had blocked the windows and doors. Holding the child close to him, with all his might he kicked open the flaming window frame and leaped out. With a tremendous crash the roof collapsed. The woman took the child from Tung’s arms and looked at him with tear-filled eyes. Tung smiled at her and rushed off again.

Life during the war was hard. Sometimes we had to march or fight on an empty stomach. Tung Tsim-jui looked after us like a big brother. On the march he always insisted on carrying an extra rifle or knapsack and sang marching songs to keep up our spirits. His revolutionary optimism infected the whole squad. We were confident that with the leadership of the Party Central Committee and Chairman Mao and strong support from the people, we would overcome all difficulties and defeat the enemy.

One snowy day we started out from Fengning county in Hopei province to attack enemy troops in another county. Just before we left, several peasant women came up and presented us with eggs, walnuts and big red dates. They had come 15 kilometers to see us off.

“Strike the enemy hard,” they said to us, “and liberate the country as soon as you can.” To know that the people placed their hopes in us gave us new strength.

IN the spring of 1948 the People’s Liberation Army, led by Chairman Mao, started large-scale counterattacks against the Kuomintang reactionaries. Under our hammering blows, the Kuomintang troops retreated steadily and finally dug themselves in at several isolated strongholds. Our outfit

*The Three Main Rules of Discipline are:
(1) Obey orders in all your actions.
(2) Don’t take a single needle or piece of thread from the masses.
(3) Turn in everything captured.
The Eight Points for Attention are:
(1) Speak politely.
(2) Pay fairly for what you buy.
(3) Return everything you borrow.
(4) Pay for anything you damage.
(5) Don’t hit or swear at people.
(6) Don’t damage crops.
(7) Don’t take liberties with women.
(8) Don’t ill-treat captives.
was to attack the county town of Lunghua in northeastern Hopei province. As we marched we saw villages ravaged by the Kuomintang troops, ruined blackened houses and deserted streets. Hatred for the reactionaries burned in our hearts.

One day at a meeting held by our battalion to condemn the reactionaries' crimes, an elderly peasant woman told how the Kuomintang soldiers had buried her husband alive and seized her son. We smoldered with rage. Tung Tsun-jui jumped up and said, "We must avenge this woman and all the oppressed working people of China!" He turned to the political director. "What is our task?"

"Comrades," the political director said, "the enemy boasts that the town of Lunghua is so well guarded that not even a bird can fly across it. Are we going to stand for such arrogance?"

"No!" The reply was a roar of anger. I looked at Tung Tsun-jui who was sitting beside me. He was biting his lips. His fingernails were blue from clenching his rifle so hard.

"Liberate Lunghua!" rang through the air.

After marching all night we arrived on the outskirts of Lunghua. The enemy had turned the town into a sinister fortress. Blockhouses were built around the town wall; more blockhouses connected by a network of unseen trenches surrounded the Lunghua Middle School where the enemy had its headquarters.

The first few days we held mobilization meetings in the daytime and built fortifications at night. Tung Tsun-jui always took the lead in the hardest jobs. As soon as we had completed one assignment, he would grab me by the arm and we would run to company headquarters to ask for more work, the hardest and most dangerous.

In the afternoon of May 24, 1948 the company held a mobilization meeting. To open the way for the attack, it was decided a demolition team should blow up the enemy blockhouses. Every one of the men wanted to be on the team. Finally the company Party branch decided that Tung Tsun-jui would lead the demolition team and I the shock team which was to cover it.

At dawn on May 25, signal flares lit up the sky and the attack on Lunghua began. Under cover of fire we started out. I threw hand grenades to open the way for Tung Tsun-jui who darted forward with the packages of explosives under his arms. He agilely picked his way through the thick smoke, now running, now hitting the ground, and was soon at the base of a gun tower. Quickly he set up the package, pulled the fuse and dived for cover. The gun tower went up into the sky with a boom. I threw out more hand grenades while he blew up a second, third and fourth tower and five bunkers. We had completed our task.

Our men charged up. Suddenly from a blockhouse on a bridge outside the northeast corner of the middle school compound came the rattle of machine-gun fire. The blockhouse had to be blasted or our troops could not move forward.

Furious that we were being stopped, Tung Tsun-jui volunteered to blow it up. The company commander felt that he had just completed a hard task and should take a rest. "My task will not be completed until Lunghua is liberated," insisted Tung. "I can't rest now!" His insistence won him the assignment. I got permission to go with him.

Enemy machine guns sputtered in a frenzy. Bullets whizzed past
our ears. We made our way forward, quickly under our own fire cover. As we neared the bridge I tossed out several grenades and shattered the barbed wire in front of it. Tung bounced forward. All the machine-gun fire seemed to zero in on him. Suddenly he swayed and fell. I saw blood flowing from his leg. He quickly got to his feet and ran towards the bridge. I furiously threw one grenade after another. Under cover of the smoke, Tung reached the dry ditch under the bridge. He looked around for a place to put the package of explosives. The arch of the bridge was taller than a man, so explosion from the ground would not be effective. The arch was of smooth stone without any seam or crack. There was no place to set up the package of explosives.

The bugle for all-out charge sounded behind us. Our troops rushed up in waves. Bullets continued to rain from all six firing holes of the blockhouse. Our vanguard unit was badly hit.

I saw Tung Tsun-jui stride to the middle of the arch. With his left hand he held the explosive high above his head. Then, with his right hand he pulled the fuse. Over the hiss of the fuse he shouted, “For a new China, charge on!” There was a deafening roar. A cloud of smoke rose to the sky.

“For a new China, charge on!” I leaped across the ditch with my pack and blasted a big opening in the wall surrounding the middle school.

“For a new China, charge on!” The men behind me rushed into the school.

Lunghua was liberated. Our squad leader Tung Tsun-jui had given his young life for the birth of a new China. He was posthumously cited a Column Combat Hero and a Model Communist Party Member. Our squad was named the Tung Tsun-jui Squad. At the 1950 National Meeting of Combat Heroes and Labor Models, Tung Tsun-jui was posthumously cited a National Combat Hero.

Chairman Mao has said, “Thousands upon thousands of martyrs have heroically laid down their lives for the people; let us hold their banner high and march ahead along the path crimson with their blood.”

This we Chinese people have striven to do, inspired by the memory of men like Tung Tsun-jui.
Rising Output

SOME time ago a Chinese who had been living abroad for 30 years returned to Peking for a visit. The department stores astonished him, for they displayed a wide choice of commodities, all made in China. Someone told him that even in the remote border regions people could get all the everyday consumer goods they needed. "I feel like Rip Van Winkle," he said, "waking up in a different world."

In the days when imperialism, feudalism and bureaucrat-capitalism ruled China, the stores were crammed with American surplus goods, even cosmetics, toothpaste, toothbrushes and toilet paper. The handful of light industries run by Chinese capitalists were so squeezed by the competition of foreign capital that they were on the verge of bankruptcy. Since liberation, however, China has very rapidly built an independent system of light industry—a system rationally distributed throughout.

Bicycles are a universal means of transport.
and Better Consumer Goods

the country. Its output and variety have steadily increased. Output of major light industrial products such as cotton yarn and cloth, paper, sugar, salt, cigarettes and light bulbs has risen; the 1970 figure for some of these was 30 times that for 1949. Production of bicycles, today a universal means of transport in Chinese town and country, was 260 times over 1949.

Before liberation, China's light industry was distributed mainly in a few coastal cities. Planned development after liberation gradually changed this irrational picture. The pace accelerated after the cultural revolution began in 1966. Regions where the foundation for light industry was weak drew up plans to meet their own needs in consumer goods by setting up their own industries and exploiting local resources. Mainly through local strength, with help from other parts of the country, these regions have gradually increased self-sufficiency in light industrial goods.

Chinghai province, traditionally an agricultural and livestock region, is an example. Though some factories were set up by the central government, the province started many small and medium-size ones, adding 103 in 1970 and 1971 alone. Today Chinghai produces 530 kinds of consumer goods for local use, 89 percent higher than before the cultural revolution.

Production also made fast progress in regions where light industry is more developed. Shanghai, for example, produces over 11 times more light industrial goods than it did just after liberation. Quality of many thousands of products has greatly improved and variety multiplied up to hundreds of times.

Unified planning and the careful balance between agriculture, heavy and light industry is a primary reason for this great change. While China develops her agriculture and heavy industry, at the same time it pays ample attention to light industry. The relationship is this: agriculture supplies raw materials to light industry, light industry accumulates capital for the state and supplies heavy industry with the products it needs, and heavy industry in turn supplies light industry and agriculture with equipment. The three branches of the economy support and promote one another and thus advance together.

New Lines

Today, consumer goods which old China could not manufacture are produced in quantity. Synthetic fabrics, for example, have joined the traditional cotton, wool, silk and linen. More and more workers and peasants wear China-made watches. Many families in town and country own sewing machines. Detergents and plastic products are available in abundance. Production of these items in 1970 was double that of 1966.

The Shanghai Watch Factory was set up in 1968 by clock work-
ers and watch repairmen to fill a blank in China's light industry. Starting with a few outmoded machines, they expanded their buildings, built and installed precision equipment and modernized production. Today the factory turns out 2,500,000 watches a year.

The Kwangchow Bicycle Factory was formed in 1960 from more than 100 small handicraft co-ops. The factory made its own equipment and today has a productive capacity of 300,000 bicycles a year.

Old China only had two small antiquated viscose mills. Now there are large modern synthetic textile mills in Shanghai, Nanking, Tantung in the northeast and Hsinhsiang in north China. Since the cultural revolution began, the production of synthetic fabrics has risen rapidly in a constantly increasing variety. China now also makes the equipment necessary for producing synthetic textiles — the foundation for even more rapid progress.

**Quality and Variety**

The aim of socialist production is not profit but service to the people. In China, the quality and design of consumer goods is determined by the needs and tastes of the working people. Factories and stores hold joint exhibits of products in order to get the opinions of the customers. Plants send representatives to serve behind store counters to get direct consumer opinion. New products are often sold at a special counter before they are mass produced to test public reaction. Workers and peasants like the practice and offer their comments eagerly. Light industry departments now regularly send representatives to factories, mines, rural communes and minority areas to find out what the working people need and like.

The encouragement and criticism of the masses of the people is transformed into better production and higher quality. Last year, 104 of Shanghai's 140 major light industrial goods topped the highest quality targets in history. In the first half of 1971, over 3,500 new kinds and varieties of textiles were produced.

China's experience has shown that as the ideological and political level of the workers rises, production accelerates. The Hangchow Scissors Factory, a concern with a 300-year-old history, is one example. Not too long ago, praise for its products made the factory self-satisfied and complacent. Its production stood still and little attempt was made at improvement. Last year the factory leaders organized the workers in a wide and thoroughgoing discussion of the idea of serving the people which Chairman Mao advocates. A deeper understanding of this brought changes in production. Workers and staff put up an exhibit, comparing their own products with those of other factories, and invited everyone to look for shortcomings and improvements. They also established a better system of quality inspection. Scissors produced in 1971 showed marked improvement and output was 25 percent more than in 1966, the previous high year.
Wider Sources of Raw Materials

INCREASING the sources of raw materials is another important factor in faster development. It is also vitally related to carrying out the policy of economy, thrift and diligence in building up the country.

One way of expanding the source of agricultural raw materials is for factories to cooperate closely with the communes. The Chinchow Sugar Factory in the Kwangsi Chuang Autonomous Region has helped 14 neighboring production brigades triple their sugarcane production by giving them technical guidance and producing a special insecticide for them.

The Shuangcheng Dairy Products Plant in Heilungkiang province helps the communes raise more and better cows by running a small breeding farm and giving advice on better methods of stock raising. Even more important, it sends propaganda teams of factory workers to discuss with the peasants the importance of agriculture providing the raw material for industry and the importance of the peasants' role in building socialism. The number of dairy cows in Shuangcheng county grew from 650 in 1966 to 2,100 in 1970. Purchases of fresh milk by the plant rose from 1,700 tons in 1966 to 2,380 tons in 1969. Output of powdered milk in 1970 was 310 tons, an increase of 43 percent over 1966.

A special feature in the development of China's light industry is to make full use of local resources to fill local needs. The mountainous Kanchow area in Kiangsi province, for example, used to import a great number of light industrial goods from other places. During the cultural revolution, however, the local people, under unified state planning, set up some 300 enterprises to convert local bamboo, timber, palm leaves, leather, hides, clay and wild plants into 2,300 kinds of consumer goods, including bamboo and wood ware, pottery, porcelain and knitwear.

"Waste" products are not omitted as a source of raw materials. Around important petroleum plants and coal mines, factories have been set up to use gases, liquids and other waste products as raw material for making plastics, synthetic textiles and many other items.

The Chiangmen Cane Sugar-Chemical Factory in Kwangtung province, besides producing sugar, also manufactures paper, synthetic fibers, alcohol and yeast. The output value of these is twice that of the sugar it produces.

These industries are proving Chairman Mao's words that "the masses...can organize themselves and concentrate on places and branches of work where they can give full play to their energy; they can concentrate on production in breadth and depth and create more and more undertakings for their own well-being".
People's Livelihood Guaranteed

As the Party and the government have led the nation in building socialism, they have always paid much attention not only to relieving the people's burden by appropriate tax policies, but to the living conditions and standards of the masses, ensuring their security and raising the level of their material and cultural life. Back in the Second Revolutionary Civil War period (1927-1936), Chairman Mao said, "Pay close attention to the well-being of the masses, from the problems of land and labor to those of fuel, rice, cooking oil and salt... All such problems concerning the well-being of the masses should be placed on our agenda." China has firmly carried out this directive ever since the People's Republic was founded.

Prices have always been steady in new China. The price of grain, cloth, coal and salt have been stable. Most other daily necessities and commodities have been basically stable. Rent, water, electricity, postage, transportation and other items closely connected with the people's life are cheap and have remained so. Industrial, professional and government workers all enjoy free medical care and labor insurance.

The wide price gap between industrial and agricultural products which existed in old China had to be closed if the worker-peasant alliance which is the base of China's socialist state was to be strengthened. Gradually and in a planned way the state raised its buying price for agricultural and rural sideline products such as grain, cotton, oil crops, bast fibers, silkworm cocoons, tea, sugar cane and pigs. On the other hand, it gradually lowered the selling price of agricultural machinery, farm implements, chemical fertilizers, insecticides, diesel oil, kerosene, medicine and medical instruments. This narrowed the difference between the prices of industrial and agricultural products by 40 percent, compared to those of 1950.

At the same time the government took measures to guarantee work to people in the cities and towns so that the number of employed has grown with the years. In China, the government assigns jobs to all secondary school and university graduates. The situation in old China where "graduation means unemployment" has disappeared. Today all who can work have the opportunity to take part in productive social labor.

Since local industries have been developed in a big way, many communes and city neighborhoods have set up factories which provide more jobs and give housewives a chance to take part in building up the country. Pre-school children in the cities can be sent to kindergartens run by the factories, government organizations or educational institutes. Hence the number of working couples among our city and town dwellers has increased rapidly, resulting in a marked rise in their family incomes. Workers in all fields enjoy labor insurance after retirement, drawing their pension monthly from the local government.

China has only made the first step in economic prosperity and improvement of the people's livelihood. That is why the wage level is still relatively low. But the basic needs of the people are guaranteed. Universal employment, low prices, low house rent, no personal income tax and a low and stable cost of living guarantee a living standard which is gradually being raised.

The ever increasing income does not cause the worker or peasant to forget diligence and thrift. He puts his savings in the bank. By the end of June 1971 total savings deposits in cities and towns were 33.8 percent over 1965. This was 4.7 times the 1953 figure, a record high since the founding of the People's Republic.
China's mountain ranges criss-cross the country in a complex pattern. They may be divided into the following three groups according to the direction in which they run.

East-West Ranges

China's most important ranges all run in this direction. This group includes nearly all the magnificent high ranges of western China — the Altai, Tienshan, Kunlun, Karakoram, Kangkar Tesi, Himalaya, Chiling and Nan-ling ranges.

The Altai Mountains, crossing the northern tip of the Sinkiang Uighur Autonomous Region, are generally over 3,000 meters above sea level. They gradually decrease in height as they run southeast to the People's Republic of Mongolia.

The Tienshan Mountains run across the middle of Sinkiang and divide it into the Dzungarian and Tarim basins. Between 250 and 300 km. wide from north to south and 3,000-5,000 m. in height, the parallel ranges of cloud-enveloped peaks enclose some depressed basins such as the well-known Ili Valley in the west and the famous Turfan Depression in the east, 154 m. below sea level. The peaks are around 7,000 m. in the west and gradually become lower as the range runs eastward. Continuing east past Urumchi, it gradually disappears into the desert. Because of the influence of air currents from the Arctic Ocean, the northern slopes of the Tienshan range are moister than the southern ones. The Tienshan Mountains are the major pastoral area in Sinkiang.

The Kunlun Mountains: Starting from the Pamirs in the west, they extend eastward to the western edge of the Szechuan Basin. Their relatively flat tops are generally over 5,000 m., and quite a few are 7,000 m. There are many glaciers in the western section. The eastern section, being

FEBRUARY 1972
THE HIMALAYA MOUNTAINS: Standing along the southern rim of the Chinghai-Tibet plateau, they form an arc protruding southward. The main part of the range lies in China. "Himalaya" means "Abode of Snow" in Tibetan. The average height of these mountains is more than 6,000 m. West of the town of Yatung there is a string of peaks over 8,000 m., among them the world's highest, 8,882-m. Jolmo Lungma, located on the China-Nepal border. The Yalutangpo River flows from west to east along their northern foothills and at 95 degrees east longitude turns south and passes through the Himalayas, where it has cut magnificent gorges.

The string of lofty Himalayan peaks blocks the moist air currents blowing up from the Indian Ocean. As a result, the southern slopes of the range have abundant rainfall and a lush covering of vegetation while the northern slopes, in sharp contrast, are dry with sparse vegetation. As the mountains increase in height the natural panorama keeps changing in a series of belts of differing vegetation. Because the mountains here are especially high, these belts are unusually pronounced.

When one ascends from a river valley at 2,000 m. to a peak of over 8,000 m., the natural panorama changes rapidly although one covers a horizontal distance of only a few dozen kilometers. In the warm moist lowlands broadleaf evergreen trees thrive, forming a forest belt. With increasing altitude, the warmth-loving broadleaf trees become fewer and disappear, while the hardy needle types gradually appear and become dominant, forming another forest belt. Further up, because of insufficient warmth, the trees are replaced by brush. Still higher this gives way first to meadows

deep inland, has an extremely dry climate.

As it extends eastward the Kunlun range splits into three branches. The northern branch is the Altyn range, which further east becomes the Chilien Mountains. These two make up the northern rim of the Chinghai-Tibet plateau. The Chilien Mountains, located south of the Kansu corridor, are generally over 4,000 m. The central branch of the Kunlun is the Chimen Tag range, which together with the Altyn range surrounds the Tsaidam Basin, a depression in the Chinghai-Tibet plateau. The southern branch is the Kokoshili range, which further east becomes the Bayan Kara range, the watershed between the Yangtze and the Yellow rivers.

THE KARAKORAM MOUNTAINS: Starting in southwestern Sinkiang, they extend eastward into northern Tibet where they run southeast. The snowclad peaks average over 6,000 m., with massive glaciers in between.

THE KANGKAR TESI MOUNTAINS: Situated north of the Yalutangpo River, they are the watershed between the continental plateau drainage system and the Indian Ocean drainage system. The peaks are around 7,000 m.
and then a belt of lichen. The highest region is one of permanent snow. The changes in scenery one sees in ascending the mountain are the same as those one would see if one were to travel from warm south China to the frigid North Pole.

THE CHINLING MOUNTAINS extend for about 1,500 km. across central China from southern Kansu to the lower reaches of the Huai and Yangtze rivers, and separate these two. These mountains are the watershed between the Yellow and Yangtze river valleys. The stretch in Shensi is typical, their height averaging between 2,000 and 3,600 m. The northern slopes are steep, the southern slopes more gentle. While making it difficult for moist ocean air currents to penetrate deep into the northwest, they also keep the cold northern air from descending further south, so that southern Shensi and Szechuan are hit less often by fierce cold waves. The Chinling Mountains thus form a natural dividing line between China’s temperate and subtropical zones. The rivers on the southern slopes are long, while those on the northern slopes are mostly short and small.

THE NANLING MOUNTAINS: Running from northern Kwangsi through Hunan and Kwangtung to southern Kiangsi, they separate the valleys of the Yangtze and Pearl rivers. The main watershed is unusually crooked. Generally over 1,000 m., they reach 1,800 m.

The soaring peaks of the Huangshan Mountains in east China abound in medicinal herbs.
at the highest point. Among the granite mountains are many passes and basins which are both low and level. Many of these have become vital passages for north-south communication. The Hsiangan Canal built in the northwest corner of Kwangsi over 2,000 years ago during the Chin dynasty cut through these valleys to connect the drainage systems of the Yangtze and Pearl rivers. Today’s Hunan-Kwangsi railroad also follows this path. Though not very high, the Nanling Mountains block northern cold waves to a certain extent, so that to the south the climate is warm and the fields are green all year round.

Northeast-Southwest Ranges

These are found mainly in two chains located in the eastern part of China. The eastern chain includes the Changpai Mountains in the northeast as well as the ranges which extend through the Liaoning and Shantung peninsulas to Chekiang and Fukien provinces. The range in Fukien which runs parallel with the seacoast is most typical. The highest range in the chain, the Changpai Mountains have peaks reaching over 2,700 m, but they are generally around 1,000 m.

The western chain extends south from the Greater Khingan range in the northeast through north China’s Taihang Mountains and the mountains of the Yangtze gorges to the Hsueh-feng Mountains in Hunan. This series of ranges forms the eastern rim of the Inner Mongolian, loess, and Yunnan-Kweichow plateaus.

These northeast-southwest ranges stand squarely in the path of the southeastern monsoon, weakening its inland penetration. Thus they, especially the western chain, are the basic dividing line between the moist east and the arid west. The Greater Khingan range is the most typical in this respect.

THE GREATER KHINGAN MOUNTAINS: Located in the northern part of northeast China, they extend 800 km. from north to south and 200-300 km. from east to west. The ridges are generally 1,100-1,400 m. high. These mountains are rounded, the slopes rarely over 20 degrees. The eastern slopes are much steeper than the western, which are relatively gradual. The whole northern part is covered with forests. From a distance the mountains look like gently rolling green waves.

North-South Ranges

These ranges are mainly distributed in western Szechuan and Yunnan in the southwest and in eastern Taiwan province.

THE HENGTUAN MOUNTAINS: A series of parallel north-south ranges run from the southward turn of the Yalu-tangpo River to western Szechuan and Yunnan. Among these are the Ta-sueh, Nushan and Kao-lung mountains. High and with deep valleys, they are a block to east-west travel, hence their name — Hengtuan — which means “cut across” in Chinese. They are between 4,500 and 5,000 m. in the northern stretch and gradually decrease in height towards the south. In Yunnan, they are less than 3,000 m. high.

Though the Hengtuan Mountains are not far from the sea, because they rise abruptly the rain-bearing southeastern monsoon from the Pacific and southwestern monsoon from the Indian Ocean do not penetrate their interior. The valleys therefore are generally arid.

The mountain range in eastern Taiwan province also runs roughly from north to south, and includes the highest peak in southeast China — 3,950-m. Yushan Mountain.
Lao Liu of the Limin Tailor Shop in Tientsin arrived early for the morning shift. As he was sweeping up after cleaning the sewing machines, he found a length of pale yellow thread on the floor. This seemed to him rather unusual, since yellow thread was rarely used in their shop. Perhaps someone on the night shift had worked on a yellow blouse, he thought. Lao Liu was a Communist Party member and very conscientious. The matter still troubled him. When he finished sweeping he looked through the garments sewn the night before. Nothing with pale yellow thread. But there was half a spool of yellow thread in the drawer of one of the machines, which meant that it had been used the night before.

Could it be that under the electric light someone had taken the yellow thread for white? Lao Liu went through the order book and found that one garment—a white shirt—had been sewn the night before and taken away immediately. The name of the customer was Chang Kuo-tung and he lived at the Tungfeng Apartments. Liu took the matter to Old Chao, the director of the shop. “We should be responsible to our customers,” Chao said. “If this is what happened we should get the shirt back and redo it with white thread.” The other workers, who had gathered around, agreed.

Liu got on his bicycle and was soon pedalling among the green trees and rows of red brick build-

ings of the Tungfeng Apartments. He found the number, but before he could knock, the door was opened by a woman of about thirty, obviously in a very upset state.

“Does Comrade Chang Kuo-tung live here? I’ve come about a shirt...”

“Oh, do come in. I was worried about how to get it to him. It’s so good of you to take it.”

Lao Liu was a bit confused. Then he learned that in two days her husband Chang Kuo-tung, a seaman, was to leave on a Chinese freighter bound for Africa. Need-

ing a new shirt he had gone to the Limin Shop, which is open day and night. In view of his immediate departure, the staff had given him especially fast service; in less than two hours the shirt was ready and he took it away. Chang had left for the port immediately, but in his hurry had forgotten to take the shirt.

“Are you leaving on the same ship?” his wife asked.

“Er...no. I’m from the Limin Tailor Shop. We made this shirt for him, but we think we used the wrong thread, yellow thread. If we did, I’ll take it back and resew it with white thread.”

“Oh, I thought Kuo-tung had asked you to come for it,” Chang’s wife laughed. “I really admire your spirit of serving the people wholeheartedly.” She opened the shirt. It was indeed sewn with yellow thread. “I don’t suppose this matters very much,” she said. “If you don’t look closely you won’t even notice it. Anyway, there’s not time. He sails tomorrow.”

“I can learn a lot from your strong sense of responsibility.”
Lao Liu was firm. "We'll do everything we can to get it to him before he leaves."

Back at the shop Liu and Chao carefully took out all the yellow thread and rewove the shirt with white thread so neatly that it didn't even look like it had been redone. At six o'clock in the evening they finally finished. Liu wrapped up the shirt and left on the run for the railway station.

It was three o'clock the next morning when he got off at the port station. The buses were not running so he had an hour's walk to the seamen's lodgings near the docks. As he approached he could see the ships of many colors anchored in the harbor, and in the distance the red flag flying atop a brightly-lit Chinese-made freighter being loaded by cranes, ready for departure.

When Lao Liu found Chang Kuo-tung, the seaman was just about to leave.

"I've brought your shirt," panted Liu.

"Why, what a surprise!" said Chang. "How is it that you brought it? Are you shipping out today too?"

Liu had to explain that he was from the tailor shop, and told the whole story.

"You really do put Chairman Mao's teachings into practice," said Chang, grasping the other man's hand. "I can learn a lot from your strong sense of responsibility."

Lao Liu saw the seaman aboard. With a long whistle, the ship pulled out just at sunrise. It was a good start for the day.

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**The Way of Friendship**

I do not wish to leave China without expressing my boundless admiration for the Chinese people, their discipline, courtesy and great hospitality; and above all for the great work of reconstruction at present under way. Visits to historical sites of Chinese civilization and works accomplished after the liberation leave me unable to say which I most admire!

But one thing of which I am sure is that the way of friendship between all peoples which China has initiated is also an encouragement to all to do for their own countries what the Chinese are doing for China.

I wish to express to the great Chinese people, who are united as one, my heartfelt thanks for the warm welcome and good care accorded us ever since we arrived. I would also like to offer my sincerest wishes for greater success in all fields under the guidance of Chairman Mao, your very gifted leader.

MRS. T. HELAL

Peking, China

(Mrs. Helal wrote this letter to China Reconstructs after visiting China with her husband, Mr. T. Helal, President of the Egyptian Table Tennis Federation and head of the delegation of the Arab Republic of Egypt to the Afro-Asian Table Tennis Friendship Invitational Tournament.)

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**Unity Is Strength**

We revolutionary black men have genuine friends in our aspirations for the consolidation of our independence and in our just struggle against the common foe—imperialism—enemy of peace and progress. Revolutionary Africa is strongly attached to the Chinese, for it is aware that only united action on the part of the progressive social world can bring about the downfall of imperialism.

A.O.

Nnewi, Nigeria

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**Understanding Dispels Fear**

I've learned how hard working and friendly the people of China are. I was brought up to consider them my enemies and I thought them backward. Now I realize how advanced (in culture and science) they are. I feel if we were allowed to learn more of China, the fear of communism in this country would become non-existent.

D.H.

Edinburgh, U.K.

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**A Meaning for Today**

The picture which I loved most was "A P.L.A. unit marches in the Tahang Mountains" (back cover August 1971 issue) because it seemed to express in photography what Chairman Mao has taught on art about keeping the best of the old culture and adapting it to present needs. The beauty of the mountains with the minute figures moving below is like a Chinese traditional painting but the red flag gives it today's meaning—small people if they unite behind Mao Taetung's teaching can go through difficulties and dangers big as mountains.

J.J.

London, U.K.