Democratic Reform for a New Tibet

Full text of Panchen Erdeni's speech at the meeting of the Preparatory Committee for the Autonomous Region of Tibet (p. 6).

Latin America Against Yankee Domination

A survey of the recent anti-imperialist upsurge in Latin America (p. 11).

Nanking, Yesterday and Today

The transformation of a historical city on the Yangtse (p. 14).

Studying While Building the "Mountain Canal"

An example of China's "Work-While-You-Study" programme in action (p. 16).

A Flourishing Garden

Round the Week, Chinese Press Opinion and Other Features
PEOPLE'S CHINA

PEOPLE'S CHINA, a monthly now published in three languages, is the best reading material for Japanese, Indonesian and French speaking readers abroad who are interested in China. Each issue contains more than 70 pages of articles on political, economic and cultural developments in New China and China's views on major international events, features describing the Chinese people's life and work in building socialism and material providing background knowledge of China's history, geography, cultural heritage and traditions. Its regular columns include "Cultural Life," "Sports," "General News" and a "Miscellany" of Chinese fables, humour, cooking, popular art, etc. There is always a 4-page pictorial, and a full-page reproduction of a Chinese painting. Readers interested in literature will find one short story in every issue. Current numbers contain instalments of a serialized account of Chairman Mao's life in Yenan. Documents on major international and domestic events published as supplements provide readers with valuable source material for research and a deepened understanding of China.

Don't miss the JULY issue of

CHINESE LITERATURE

A literary monthly in English

Read:

△ "Brides Galore," an amusing and thought-provoking Szechuan opera with a plot that, fantastic in the extreme, yet gives a truthful reflection of reality. There is also a valuable article by the art critic Wang Chao-wen on Szechuan opera, one of the oldest types of opera in China.

△ "The White Snake," a Ming dynasty tale about the legendary white snake who, as a woman, defends her true love against feudal conventions. This is a tale that has won the sympathy of Chinese throughout the ages.

△ "Yenan People," a story of two generations of the staunch people who fought for the liberation of China and are now building the country with the same selflessness and boundless energy. Written by Tu Peng-cheng, one of China's most promising young writers.

This issue also contains:

Three Tibetan folk tales
Poems by Tsang Keh-chia, Wang Shu-huai and Keh Pi-chou
Notes on literature and art
Three plates in colour including Flowers and Butterfly by Wen Shu, a woman artist of the Ming dynasty.

Distributed by: GUOZI SHUDIAN Importers and Exporters of Books and Periodicals
P. O. Box 399, Peking, China.
A Flourishing Garden

THERE is great animation in the cultural life of Peking. There is no less in other parts of the country. The theatre arts are symptomatic. In addition to the many and varied regular programmes, Peking has recently enjoyed two rich theatrical festivals. Both showed marked advances in content and artistry. In this and previous issues of Peking Review, we have reported some of these events. Meanwhile, lively discussions and debates are taking place in China's academic circles.

This vitality in the fields of culture is an unmistakable sign of the vigour and prosperity of national life in general. As their livelihood steadily improves, people today are reading more, going to school in greater numbers and visiting theatres, cinemas and exhibitions more frequently. More of them are taking to writing, painting, acting or scientific studies, either as professionals or amateur enthusiasts. Pay a visit to Peking's parks or Working People's Palace of Culture on any weekend in these summer days and you will see, in the open-air theatres or colourfully-lit cypress groves, how many people are enjoying themselves at various cultural and recreational activities, accumulating fresh energy and drawing inspiration for still better work in these heroic days of socialist construction.

The vigour and vitality of our cultural life are also an indication of the success of the Chinese Communist Party's policy for the arts and sciences —  "let a hundred flowers blossom and a hundred schools of thought contend" on the basis of serving the cause of socialism. "This policy," as Premier Chou En-lai said in his report to the National People's Congress last April, "has pointed the way to a flourishing development for our science and culture; it has given tremendous inspiration to all scientific and cultural circles."

Our art and literature have a common aim: to serve the workers, peasants and soldiers and serve socialist construction. But their forms and styles vary greatly and their subject matter is highly diversified. On Peking's stages, for instance, you will find Chinese plays portraying present-day life as well as dramas reviving age-old stories. You will see plays, operas and ballets by foreign masters, both classical and contemporary. In every type of operatic and theatrical art, different schools, troupes and individual artists are encouraged to give full play to their own originality and creativeness. They vie with and learn from one another, and "weed through the old to bring out the new" in their art. Altogether they present a panorama of colour and beauty, of a garden filled with flowers.

In the various fields of culture and science, writers, artists and scholars, both old and young, are debating on a wide range of subjects. In a common endeavour to further the cause of socialism, they fully and freely air their often conflicting views, explore academic problems and engage in comradely mutual criticism in specialized journals as well as in the popular press. Such friendly give and take is a fertile loam for the growth of science and culture.

These are encouraging signs in China's cultural life. They mark the dawn of a great era of cultural growth that is just beginning to unfold.
Round the Week

Democratic Reform in Tibet

Democratic reform is on the lips of everybody in Tibet. The Second Plenary Meeting of the Preparatory Committee for the Autonomous Region of Tibet which opened in Lhasa on June 26 is discussing its implementation.

It will be carried out gradually in two stages. First, mobilization of the masses to root out the rebellion thoroughly and carry out a san fan (3 anti's) and shuang jian (2 reductions) campaign. The second stage will be distribution of land. The 3 anti's are anti-rebellion, anti-ula system and anti-slavery. The two reductions are reduction of rents and reduction of interests.

In presenting this proposal to the meeting for its deliberation, Chang Kuo-hua, Deputy-Secretary of the Working Committee of the Communist Party in Tibet and a vice-chairman of the Preparatory Committee for the Autonomous Region of Tibet, told the meeting that the measures embodied in the proposal had been formulated by the Working Committee of the Communist Party in Tibet after consultation with various circles.

Panchen Erdeni Presides. The meeting was convened in the Lhasa Auditorium with Panchen Erdeni, the Acting Chairman of the Preparatory Committee, presiding. Present were Chang Ching-wu, representative of the Central People’s Government and Secretary of the Working Committee of the Communist Party in Tibet, and Wang Feng, Deputy-Chairman of the Nationality Affairs Commission under the State Council and Deputy-Director of the United Front Work Department of the Communist Party’s Central Committee. Others who took part in the deliberations by invitation included leading members of the Working Committee of the Communist Party in Tibet, the Preparatory Committee, the Tibet Military Area Command, the people’s organizations in Lhasa, representatives from various quarters of life, from the religious circles and trades. All told, the attendance exceeded 600—the biggest gathering since the Preparatory Committee was formed in 1956.

Working People Invited. More than a hundred who were there by invitation were Tibetan working people—artisans, peasants, herdsmen, house slaves and serfs, people who were branded by the reactionary upper classes as “scum,” fit only for the stables, kicked around and abused. But today they took their place, with other sections of the population, at the session and were given their first opportunity to appreciate the meaning of democracy. With their invitation badges prominently pinned to their chests, these working people had made history in Tibet when they entered the hall to take part in the discussion of a matter very close to their hearts.

The Agenda. Ngapo Ngawang-Jigme, one of the vice-chairmen of the Preparatory Committee and concurrently its Secretary General, delivered the opening address. Announcing the agenda of the meeting, he said that the current session of the Preparatory Committee is of great historic significance: it will discuss measures for the democratic reform and decide on the tasks related to the clearing up of the rebellion and work in the rural and pastoral areas.

Next, Panchen Erdeni made a report-back speech on the First Session of the Second National People’s Congress and the National Committee of the Chinese People’s Political Consultative Conference, both of which he attended in Peking last April (the full text of the speech is published in this issue on p. 6). Panchen Erdeni’s address and Chang Kuo-hua’s report, the latter delivered at the afternoon session, on the question of introducing the democratic reform urgently demanded by the Tibetan people, were the major speeches of the opening day. In the following days group discussions of the two speeches were held.

Hands of Imperialism and Foreign Interventionists Behind the Rebellion. Chang Kuo-hua, who made an extended visit to the Loka area from May 15 to June 3, opened his report with an account of the conditions in this part of Tibet. It was clear from the facts that have come to his attention, he said, that the former local government of Tibet and the reactionary elements of the upper strata worked hand in glove with imperialism and the foreign interventionists to initiate the rebellion. All the evidence goes to prove that the schemes for the rebellion were hatched over a long period and that the rebellion was actually first launched in the Loka area.

Peasant Associations Formed. Chang Kuo-hua spoke at length on the policy and steps to be taken in regard to the democratic reform. He made a class analysis of the Loka area, which was a stronghold of the rebellion, and discussed how much the serfs, the peasants and herdsmen will gain from the reform.

Loka is a rich area, long known as the granary of Tibet, but for hundreds of years the feudal serf-owners have held sway. Poverty-stricken peasants make up about 70 per cent of the population, peasants of the middle category constitute 23 to 26 per cent, while serf-owners only 4 to 5 per cent. The wealth of the area was concentrated in the hands of three kinds of feudal estate-holders or serf-owners, namely, the monasteries, nobles and the former local government of Tibet.

The masses hated this unjust social system and demanded an end to it. They demanded distribution of the land, abolition of the ula (coree) system, abolition of unpaid menial services, abolition of usury and abolition of the extra special privileges of the monasteries. Unless this dark, backward, cruel and savage order of things comes to an end, it is impossible for Tibet to speak of developing its economy and culture and for the Tibetan people to live a bright and happy life. All these demands of the Tibetan people, the lamas and the laymen, are therefore entirely reasonable and just, said Chang Kuo-hua, and we must give them all our sympathy and support to turn these demands into reality.

Chang Kuo-hua said that in view of the situation in the Loka area and in response to the demands of the masses, apart from pressing ahead with the campaign to mop up the remnants of the rebels and enforcing the policy of allowing serfs to reap what they had sown on the land of the rebels, the san fan and shuang jian campaign will be launched and step will be taken to set up new local organs of state power and safeguard production. These words were greeted with stormy applause by all present.

Then Chang Kuo-hua went on to define the two stages of the democratic reform and the measures to implement it on which he had had a full exchange of views with Panchen Erdeni, Pebala Choliehnajme, Ngapo Ngawang-Jigme and others. He said that the important thing at present is to arouse the masses to action to abolish the ula system and the bonds that tie them to the serf-owners, and reduce the rents and interests of the estate-holders who had taken no part in the rebellion. The old regime in the countryside will be abolished and new peasant associations will be organized which will carry out the reform and exercise the functions and powers of the primary level of government during the reform.

In the distribution of land, he said, all those who did not take part in the rebellion will enjoy compensation similar to the redemption policy adopted towards the bourgeoisie in other parts of China.
in regard to their land, extra houses, draught animals, and farm tools.

Trade. He said that a policy of protecting trade would be adopted and law-abiding foreign merchants would also be protected. Handicrafts will be promoted, too.

Religious Freedom Assured. Chang Kuo-hua declared that the policy of the Communist Party in the province to safeguard freedom of religious belief will be firmly adhered to. All the patriotic and law-abiding lamas, and the holy places, shrines and historic sites will be protected while the campaign against the rebellion, exploitation and extra special privileges will be carried out in the monasteries.

China Adopts the Metric System

China has joined the majority of the countries of the world in adopting the international metric system, according to an order issued by the State Council. This will be the beginning of a unified system of weights and measures in the country.

While the international metric system is being introduced, the variants of weights and measures based on the metric system now in general use in China, such as the jin (catty) which is equivalent to half a kilogramme, the li, equivalent to half a kilometre, and the sheng, equivalent to a litre, may remain in use in deference to time-honoured habits of the people. But the jin subdivided into 16 liang will be changed to a jin subdivided into only 10 liang to facilitate calculation. This will take effect, however, only as the local administrations see fit, that is to say, when the people's councils of the province, the autonomous region and the municipalities directly under the central authorities (i.e. Peking and Shanghai) have worked out the time and steps for its enforcement.

To avoid possible mistakes, the order makes it clear that the jin with the liang and chien subdivisions may continue in use for prescribing traditional Chinese medicine.

In the national minority and remote areas the traditional systems of weights and measures that have been in use for centuries will not be affected for the time being. The international metric system will be introduced steadily, in order to avoid any inconveniences to the local markets.

The nautical mile (knot) will continue to be used since it is internationally accepted, the order also stipulates.

At the time of liberation there were various systems of weights and measures in operation side by side with the Chinese system—the international metric system, the British system, the Japanese system—making for great confusion. Since 1919 much has been done to popularize the metric system. Its introduction now, based on the research and proposals of the Scientific and Technological Commission of the State Council, is the fruit of this effort.

Kwangtung Triumphs

For the people of the south China province of Kwangtung the fight against the worst flood menace within living memory has ended in victory. The great sustained struggle waged under the dynamic leadership of the Provincial Communist Party Committee has succeeded in saving the rich fields of the Pearl River Delta and preserving Canton, the province capital, intact. The raging waters of the main rivers have drained into the South China Seas and the once dangerously swollen rivers are fast subsiding. While the Pearl River is still being closely watched, the bulk of the flood fighters and patrols have been withdrawn to turn their attention to pressing farm jobs—the summer cultivation and summer harvest which were delayed by the emergency flood fight, the draining of flood waters in the East River valleys, the replanting of crops, and a heavy programme of rehabilitation work.

We'll wrest from Nature what it took from us, said Tao Chu, the First Secretary of the Kwangtung Provincial Committee of the Communist Party, when he was interviewed by a Hsinhua News Agency correspondent last week. A major effort is being made to replant the farmlands with new crops. The people's communes are striving for an extra rich harvest of late rice to recoup the losses. Tao Chu listed the following losses incurred in the worst flood in a century, notwithstanding the great fight put up against it: 187 people killed, 29 missing, 204 people injured, 2 million people affected, 200,000 houses destroyed, more than 310,000 hectares of land sown to early rice and 72,000 hectares sown to other crops submerged.

If anything like such losses had occurred in Kuomintang days it would have meant begging for very many, the break-up of thousands of families, parents compelled to sell their children in order to keep body and soul together. And it would take years and years for normalcy to return to the region. But today everything is being done to prevent hardships, to build new homes and undo the damage of the flood right after the autumn harvest. To help Kwangtung tide over its temporary difficulties, the State Council has appropriated 10 million yuan and 25,000 tons of rice for relief and further appropriations have been earmarked for rehabilitation.

In some of the worst hit areas along the East River, the provincial authorities, together with the communes, are helping the peasants put up temporary housing for the summer. Plans are also under consideration to rebuild more permanent dwelling places, with the government bearing the entire cost for materials, after the autumn harvest. Tao Chu told Hsinhua that it is the set policy of the government to see to it that every family has a roof over their heads and regular supplies of food grains in the weeks ahead.

Meanwhile, rapid repair work has been going on to expedite the resumption of traffic on the highways wrecked by the floods. By now practically all the affected highways are back in service again. The Canton-Shumchun Railway line which connects the provincial capital of Kwangtung with Hongkong by rail is running again after an interruption of 16 days. Kwangtung is erasing the marks of the flood.

National Sports Prelude

For sports fans the country over the qualifying rounds of the football, volleyball, handball, baseball and softball tournaments, which ended last week, were the hors d'oeuvres preceding the banquet of the grand national sports meet that will take place in Peking's specially built new stadium in September. Held zonally in twenty different cities during May and June, these preliminaries attracted large crowds who came to watch 3,000 men and women athletes competing for the honour of playing in the finals in the capital as part of the celebrations to mark the 19th anniversary of People's China.

At these tournaments basketball held its place as China's top sport with more entrants than any other event. Next in popularity was volleyball, now played in the interior as much as in the coastal provinces. The spectators were treated to some fine playing of newly introduced games—handball (men's and women's), baseball and women's softball—which have become popular only lately.

There was a host of new talents among these 3,000 competitors from 20 or so of China's nationalities, and many of them took part in these nationwide ball games for the first time. Upsets and surprises were reported from quite a few zones where "dark horses" compelled the well-established teams to fight hard for their places in the finals, a fact which spoke eloquently for the rise of the level of the games in the past few years. The People's Liberation Army teams, always formidable, figured prominently in both the men's and women's sections.

July 7, 1959
Democratic Reform for a New Tibet

by PANCHEN ERDENI

Following is the full text of the speech by Panchen Erdeni, Acting Chairman of the Preparatory Committee for the Autonomous Region of Tibet, delivered on June 28 at the Second Plenary Meeting of the Preparatory Committee held in Lhasa. It was published in “Renmin Ribao” under the title “Carry Out Democratic Reform Thoroughly and Strive for the Building of a Democratic and Socialist New Tibet.” — Ed.

MEMBERS of the Committee, Comrades:

I left for Peking in mid-April together with Ngapo Ngawang-Jigme, Shirou Dungchhu, Chantung Jijigme, Pomda-tobgyal, Ngawang-jinpa, Kalzang-wangdui, Tsirtsenchoga and others to attend the First Session of the Second National People's Congress and the First Session of the Third National Committee of the Chinese People's Political Consultative Conference as representatives of the Tibetan people. After the sessions, we saw for ourselves the capital's great achievements in industrial and agricultural production and construction. Ngapo Ngawang-Jigme and other deputies returned to Tibet before I did. I availed myself of the opportunity of my journey back to Tibet to visit Sian, Lanchow, Chinghai and other places, and spent two months on the way. On behalf of the deputies and committee members who attended the above-mentioned sessions, I want to communicate to you the spirit of the sessions and invite your comment on my speech.

During the sessions and our visits, we were warmly welcomed and cordially received by the local organizations of the Communist Party, people's governments and armed forces, and by compatriots of all nationalities and circles wherever we went. We deeply felt the warmth and happiness of living in the big family of solidarity and friendship of the people of all nationalities of the motherland. After the rebellion took place in Tibet, people of all fraternal nationalities throughout the country, in cities and in the countryside, in factories and mines, in government organizations and the armed forces, in schools and people's communes, indignantly denounced, as one, the monstrous crime of the Tibetan rebel elements and foreign interventionists in sabotaging the sacred unity of our great motherland and the close unity of the people of all nationalities. The will of 650 million people shall always triumph brilliantly! For this, allow me, on behalf of the Tibetan people and in my own name, to express heartfelt thanks and lofty respects to the people of the fraternal nationalities of the motherland for their deep concern for us, the Tibetan people, living on the southwestern borders of the motherland.

During the sessions and our visits, we were constantly informed of the continued victory in the quelling of the rebellion and the remarkable successes in various fields of work achieved by the Tibetan people under the brilliant leadership of the Central Committee of the Communist Party and the direct leadership of the Working Committee of the Communist Party in Tibet and the Preparatory Committee for the Autonomous Region of Tibet. All this greatly inspired our confidence and strengthened our will to work. Now, with the unstinted support of the broad masses of the people, lamas and laymen, the People's Liberation Army and administrative personnel have put down the rebellion in the main, controlled all the remote areas in which the rebel bandits were formerly entrenched, taken over the administrative organs of the former local government of Tibet on the dzong* and zhi** levels, abolished the reactionary political power of the cruel feudal serv-owners, established people's governments of various levels, and proclaimed the policy of “the harvest to those who till” on the land that belonged to the rebel elements. Wherever they went, the People's Liberation Army and administrative personnel forrested the remnant rebel bandits, stabilized social order, visited the poor and the distressed, issued interest-free agricultural loans, relieved the poor, helped the masses in production, and did some preparatory work in the way of propaganda, mobilization and organization of the masses for the realization of the democratic reform earnestly demanded by the broad masses of the people. I am very satisfied with the rapid progress and remarkable success in all this work. Undoubtedly, today, when the Tibetan people are freeing themselves from the yoke of the criminal rule of serfdom and have taken the road to a new life, they will march forward vauntantly towards democracy and socialism in heroic strides, like the people of the other nationalities of the motherland. Allow me, on behalf of the Preparatory Committee for the Autonomous Region of Tibet, to send our warm greetings and salute to all the officers and men of the People's Liberation Army, all the working personnel who fought heroically in the quelling of the rebellion and worked hard in all fields of endeavour; and to the broad masses of the people, lamas and laymen, who gave wholehearted and active support in the quelling of the rebellion and in all fields of work.

THE last session of the National People's Congress was one of unity and the leap forward. Delegates of all nationalities of the country — heroes, model workers and outstanding people from all the fronts of socialist construction as well as patriotic progressives, met and jointly discussed and decided upon important matters of state, elected the new leading personnel of the state and adopted the 1959 plan for national economic development. The

* County. — Ed.
** Township. — Ed.
Congress fully manifested the unified leadership of our great multi-national country, the right of all nationalities to be masters of the country and the true national equality and great, close unity of all the nationalities. The Congress made an overall summary of the brilliant achievements and rich experiences of the great leap forward in socialist construction carried out by all the nationalities of our country. It further inspired the people of all nationalities in the ranks of the overall, big leap forward, to make more outstanding and even greater contributions to the cause of the socialist construction of the motherland, socialist transformation and the democratic reforms in the region of Tibet, under the guiding light of the Communist Party’s general line and the wise leadership of the Central Committee of the Party, Chairman Mao and the new leading personnel of the state.

In the First Session of the Third National Committee of the Chinese People’s Political Consultative Conference, representatives of all nationalities and members of the Committee seriously discussed the major problems in the political life of the country and made important decisions relating to them. The session of the National People’s Congress adopted a resolution on the question of Tibet. This resolution is in complete accord with the actual situation in Tibet and the interests of the masses of people, lamas and laymen alike. The broad masses of lamas and laymen in Tibet warmly support this resolution and will resolutely struggle for its thorough implementation.

At both of these sessions, the deputies and members representing all nationalities solemnly condemned the heinous crimes of the reactionary clique of the upper social strata in Tibet which betrayed the motherland and the people, and refuted the shameless slanders of imperialism and foreign interventionists who exploited the rebellion in Tibet to interfere in the internal affairs of our country. The former local government of Tibet and the reactionary clique of the upper social strata colluded with the imperialists and foreign interventionists. They tore up the 17-article agreement on the peaceful liberation of Tibet. They embarked upon armed rebellion to betray the motherland, undermine its unification and national unity, and ravage the Tibetan people. They plotted to bring about the so-called “independence of Tibet” demanded by the imperialists and foreign interventionists. All this is absolutely intolerable to the people of all nationalities in the country and is against the law of the land. The question of Tibet is an internal affair of our country and no foreign intervention is allowed. Our great victory in putting down the rebellion in Tibet has further consolidated the unity of our great motherland and the unity of all nationalities, and ensured smooth progress in the work of introducing national regional autonomy and social reforms in Tibet. The Congress expressed its high appreciation of the services of the heroic People’s Liberation Army units that were instructed to put down the rebel clique, and of the broad masses of lamas and laymen who actively helped quell the rebellion.

From the reports and speeches by delegates of the National People’s Congress and members of the National Committee of the Chinese People’s Political Consultative Conference and from our visits to various places, we understand clearly: After land reform, the suppression of counter-revolutionaries, san fan* and wu fan,** the socialist transformation of agriculture, handicrafts and capitalist industry and commerce, the rectification campaign and the struggle against the bourgeois rightists by the whole people—the series of great revolutionary movements—our country has scored the decisive victory of socialist revolution on the economic, ideological and political fronts; class oppression and the exploitation of the majority by the few exists no more. The old system that hampered the development of productive forces has been eliminated. With the great emancipation of the people from material and spiritual bondage, a new situation of the overall big leap in socialist construction was brought about. The 650 million industrious and courageous people of all nationalities on the vast territory of 9.6 million square kilometres are changing the face of the motherland, of its rivers and mountains, cities and villages in a heroic spirit that can move mountains and drain seas. Now, our motherland has built many branches of industry including iron and steel, engineering, chemicals and power engines; not only can we manufacture large numbers of motor vehicles, big and small, airplanes, jet planes, tanks, artillery, locomotives and ships that could not be made before, but new achievements have been made with many kinds of heavy machines, precision instruments and the most advanced science and techniques. We also visited our country’s first experimental atomic reactor. All this shows that our motherland is marching in big strides to become a great, socialist power with modern industry, modern agriculture and modern science and culture.

Since the peaceful liberation of Tibet, the Central People’s Government, the People’s Liberation Army units and the personnel sent to work in Tibet have consistently adhered to the 17-article agreement on the peaceful liberation of Tibet. They have adhered to the policy of the unification of the motherland, national unity, national equality and the gradual realization of national regional autonomy and democratic reform. They have adhered to the policy of freedom of religious belief. They have also taken all the necessary measures, and overcome all sorts of difficulties, to promote the political, economic and cultural progress of the Tibetan people. In 1956 the Preparatory Committee for the Autonomous Region of Tibet was set up.

In the past few years, the Tibetan people of all social strata, under the leadership of the Central People’s Government, have scored successes never known before in agriculture, animal husbandry, communications and transport, culture, education and health service and industrial construction, and have begun to effect a change in the face of Tibet with its poverty and backwardness. In pre-liberation days, there was not a single highway in

*The movement against corruption, waste and bureaucracy among government personnel. — Ed.

**The movement in business circles against bribery of government personnel, tax evasion, theft of state property, cheating on government contracts and stealing economic information for private speculation. — Ed.

July 7, 1959
Tibet. Since liberation, the People's Liberation Army units and working personnel of the Han nationality in Tibet, together with the Tibetan people, have built highways totalling more than 7,000 kilometres in length. The three famous highways on the Tibetan plateau—the Sikang-Tibet, Chinghai-Tibet and Sinkiang-Tibet Highways—have established broad economic and cultural contacts between the Tibetan people and the various brother nationalities in the interior and have facilitated the flow of goods in various parts of Tibet. The state trading companies have transported more than 30 million jin of brick tea and two* tea and sold it to the Tibetan people at a reasonable price. The opening of the airline between Peking and Lhasa has further increased the communication facilities between Tibet and the interior. Power plants have been built in Lhasa, Shigatse and Chamdo. The Lhasa hydro-electric power plant, the biggest of its kind in Tibet, is under construction. Small iron works, brick and tile works, wood-working factories and borax plants have been constructed and gone into production in some areas. These small factories and mines have laid a foundation for the Tibetan people to build their own industry step by step.

In the past eight years, to help the Tibetan people develop production, the Working Committee of the Chinese Communist Party in Tibet and the Tibet Military Area Command have granted poor peasants and herdsmen interest-free loans amounting to 1,553,000 yuan and supplied them with one million yuan worth of tools for farming and livestock-raising free of charge.

There was not a single medical institution in Tibet in the past, and the Tibetan people suffered illness, pain and death without medical aid. After the People's Liberation Army and the medical workers of Han nationality entered Tibet, three fairly large general hospitals were established in Lhasa, Shigatse and Chamdo. Health centres and clinics were established in various places and mobile medical teams were sent out to give free medical treatment to the Tibetan people.

The working personnel in Tibet have also established dozens of veterinary centres in big towns and pastoral areas. They have given injections and treatments to millions of head of livestock a year and have saved the lives of tens of thousands of sheep and cattle.

In the past, not a single regular school existed in Tibet and the children of the masses of labouring people had no opportunity for education. Now various kinds of schools have been set up and thousands of Tibetan children are able to acquire cultural and scientific knowledge. Large numbers of Tibetan cadres have been trained at the Central Institute of Nationalities, School for Tibetans and other schools and through practical work in administrative organizations. All these have given the Tibetan people, lamas and laymen, a deep understanding of the prospects of prosperity and happiness provided by the big family of the unified motherland and the united nationalities. That is why they ardently love the Communist Party, Chairman Mao, the People's Liberation Army, the working personnel of Han nationality in Tibet. Many songs singing their praise are widespread among the Tibetan people.

But the reactionary elements of the upper social strata in Tibet, who hoped to maintain their reactionary rule of serfdom for ever, were afraid of the awakening of the masses of the people and of the adoption of any progressive measure in Tibet. They were constantly opposed to the Central People's Government and consistently obstructed the carrying out of the 17-article agreement on the peaceful liberation of Tibet.

The 17-article agreement stipulated that the Tibetan army should be reorganized and that the social system in Tibet, that is, the serf system, should be reformed in accordance with the wishes of the people. Neither of these two essential tasks was fulfilled because of obstruction by the reactionary elements. All sorts of work suffered great losses and were impeded as a result of the obstruction and sabotage by the reactionary clique. But for their consistent obstruction and sabotage, there would undoubtedly have been much greater progress and achievements in the work in Tibet. In order to wait for the reactionary elements of the upper social strata to see reason, the Central People's Government allowed them to remain in their posts, and many of them held leading positions of the state and in Tibet. It tried patiently to unite with them and educate them. It also permitted a postponement for some time of the reform of the backward social system in Tibet. With regard to all work and reforms, the Central People's Government always persisted in consulting with the upper social strata and in jointly carrying them out after they agreed. When the reactionary clique of the upper social strata had for years played double-dealing tricks and engaged in a series of traitorous activities, the Central People's Government still warned them time and again and adopted an attitude of utmost magnanimity and tolerance. But the former local government of Tibet and the reactionary clique of the upper social strata always regarded the patience and magnanimity displayed by the Central People's Government as signs of weakness. Thus, they continued to collude with imperialism and foreign interventionists and tried to rely on their backing to wreck the unity of the motherland and its nationalities, preserve the influence of the foreign interventionists in Tibet and maintain the darkest, most reactionary, cruel serf system in Tibet. The reactionary clique of the upper social strata, which committed these monstrous crimes, at last openly and shamelessly tore up the 17-article agreement and fraudulently launched an all-out armed rebellion. Everywhere they engaged in arson, plunder, murder and rape. They destroyed temples, disrupted highways, persecuted the patriotic progressives, murdered the people and carried out all kinds of criminal activities to ravage the people and betray the motherland. These criminal activities against our country and people seriously damaged the interests of the Tibetan people and of the people of all nationalities. They are the renegades of the motherland, the despicable elements of the nation, the sworn enemies of religion and the common enemy of the people of all nationalities. They have therefore been unanimously condemned by the people of all nationalities, including the Tibetan people. Victory always belongs to the people and the enemies of the people have finally taken the path of self-destruction.

* A kind of compressed tea.—Ed.
Tibet is an integral part of our great motherland. The quelling of the rebellion and the carrying out of all work in Tibet is the internal affair of our country, in which no foreign intervention is allowed. Imperialism and foreign interventionists seek to exploit the quelling of the rebellion to undermine the friendly relations between our country and India, our neighbour, and other Asian countries, and wreck the unity of our motherland. These designs have already encountered shameful defeat. Now, with the putting down of the rebellion, a new page has been opened in the history of Tibet. Contrary to the wishes of imperialism and the reactionary forces of Tibet, the rebellion they launched has not led to a split of the motherland and the stagnation in Tibet, but instead has served to educate the broad masses of the people and has helped to further strengthen the unity of the motherland, accelerate the doom of the reactionary forces of Tibet, push forward democratization in Tibet and bring about the rebirth of the Tibetan people. From now on, the Tibetan people have entered a new epoch — the epoch of democracy and socialism.

WHAT is the urgent task now confronting the people of the various social strata in Tibet? It is to carry out the democratic reform, which, as was pointed out in the resolution of the First Session of the Second National People's Congress, has been long awaited and urgently demanded by the Tibetan people. Let us not avoid talking about practical questions and let us look at the facts. The existing society in Tibet is still a serf society of monastic estates, which has remained intact. The monarchical overlords are serf-owners. Every serf-owner has in his possession a certain amount of land and livestock and a certain number of serfs. These make up his manor and he lives by exploiting the fruits of the labour of the serfs. All the serfs have no land of their own and most of the herdsmen have no cattle of their own, and can only work for the serf-owners. These serfs, including their children and children's children, all belong to the serf-owners. There are three types of serf-owners in Tibet. Together they own all the land and livestock in Tibet. The feudal government of Tibet accounts for some 30.9 per cent of all land in Tibet; the monasteries account for some 39.5 per cent of the land; and the nobles, for some 29.6 per cent of the land. Together these three types of serf-owners constitute only about 4 to 5 per cent of the total population in Tibet, that is, about 50,000 out of a population of 1,200,000. Among these there are some two to three hundred families of Tibetan nobles, over a score of big serf-owning families of which seven or eight are the biggest. These serf-owners exploit the serfs by means of their ownership of the chief means of production such as land and cattle. They set aside about 70 per cent of their best land under their own management. Under the whips of the bailiffs, the serfs have to cultivate the land for the lords without compensation. The inferior land that is left is allotted to the serfs. The serfs also have to do all kinds of corvee for the nobles, the monasteries and the feudal government. Thus, more than 70 per cent or even all the working time of the serfs is taken up with toil for the serf-owners. They have little or no time to work on the inferior land allocated to them. This is a most brutal type of feudal exploitation. To live a man needs to feed and dress himself. The means of livelihood are procured through labour. But nearly all the fruits of the labour of the masses of serfs and herdsmen have been grabbed by the serf-owners in various ways. We may ask: How can the serfs and herdsmen keep body and soul together? Burdened by such heavy exploitation, the serfs find it difficult to eke out a subsistence. So they have to resort to borrowing. Nearly 90 per cent of the families are in debt, some incurring debts to the amount of tens of thousands or even hundreds of thousands of jin of grain. Such heavy debts are the result of the accumulation of interest for generations. The serfs are living tools in the hands of the serf-owners. They have no freedom of person. The serf-owners can make a gift of the serfs together with the land, use them as mortgages or give them away as dowries.

If serfs attempted to run away or offered any resistance, they were subjected to the most brutal and inhuman punishment. Such tortures as gouging out eyes, pulling out tendons, skinning, and cutting off hands and feet are truly shocking. We may ask: Can we let such a dark, corrupt, brutal and backward social system go on without reform? I think the answer is absolutely no. The masses of the people urgently demand speedy reform of the feudal serf system.

The reform Tibet will soon witness is a necessary process in its historical development. It is a continuation in Tibet of the great people's revolution that swept over the Chinese mainland around 1949. It cannot be halted by anybody.

Democratic reform is a serious and sharp revolutionary struggle although the reform to be carried out following the quelling of the rebellion will be a peaceful one, that is, a bloodless reform. In the course of the reform, we shall, under the brilliant leadership of the Central People's Government and with its correct policy as our guide, adopt a policy of redemption towards those of the upper class in Tibet who did not join the rebellion. That is to say, we shall adopt a policy of peaceful reform towards them. This will be in the interest of the emancipation and freeing of the broad masses of working people. It will also be in the interest of the members of the upper class. It is a good method which suits both sides. All the members of the upper social strata who support, approve and take an active part in the reform will not only have their livelihood secured but their political status guaranteed. They will thus also win greater support among the people. They will have a bright future working for the people and for the state. The situation is very clear: Reform must be carried out in Tibet. During the reform, there are, on the one hand, the interests of the fifty to sixty thousand members of the serf-owning families (the exploiting class) out of Tibet's population of 1,200,000. There are, on the other hand, the interests of the more than 1,100,000 working people. Whose interests should we look after? As a general rule we should look after the interests of the majority. But now the Central People's Government has given special consideration to Tibet, and the fraternal nationalities all over the country who have embarked on the road of socialism are showing the utmost consideration for Tibet and giving us their.
vigorously support. Hence, in the course of the reform, the interests of both sides will be given due consideration. While the interests of the 1,100,000-odd working people will be looked after, the interests of the several tens of thousands of members of the upper social strata will also be taken into consideration and a policy of redemption will be pursued towards them.

For centuries the exploiters have used land and other means to exploit the broad masses of people. They thus owe the people huge debts. It stands to reason that their land should be given back to the people without compensation and that the land they possess should be confiscated and distributed to the people. But in the reform a policy of redemption will be carried out towards those members of the upper social strata who did not join the rebellion. The people will in general let bygones be bygones and will be lenient towards them, taking the initiative to unite with them and giving them a way out both for their livelihood and their political status. For this, all the members of the upper social strata should deeply appreciate and be grateful to the state and the people. When the state and the people are so magnanimous and lenient, if there are still persons who refuse to end their arrogance and refuse to behave themselves honestly or even resist stubbornly and engage in sabotage, then they themselves will have to assume full responsibility for all the consequences of their evil deeds.

R

E

L

E

G

I

O

S

U

R

O

O

D

S

 a

R

E

M

I

O

A

N

E

S

 will inevitably be involved in the course of the reform. That is because the monasteries and certain lamas of the higher orders in the monasteries also have their own manors and are serf-owners themselves. Feudal exploitation and oppression by the monastery cannot be allowed to continue after reform has been carried out in society as a whole. This is just impossible. It will do religion itself no good if the serfs under the nobility and the feudal government are liberated while those under the lamasery remain in bondage. No stigma of the serf system must be allowed to go on staining religion which is pure and benevolent. The many systems of feudal oppression and exploitation existing in the lamaseries, therefore, must also be reformed. The first things that will be reformed, along with the reforms among the nobility, are feudal exploitation by means of land and money-lending, etc., similar to the practices of the nobility. During the reform, those who took part in the rebellion and those who did not will be dealt with differently. The government and people shall deal with the lamaseries according to the Constitution. Anyone of age in the monastery is entitled to the rights of a citizen. He may become a people’s deputy, hold a government post, work in a government office, take part in social activities and in productive labour and so on and so forth. In the past, however, the Constitution had never been enforced in the monasteries which did not do things in accordance with the Constitution and had their own laws in contravention of the Constitution of the state. Now the monasteries must open their doors to the Constitution and the lamas must be given freedom of person, and they, too, must be recognized as citizens and, like the people in general, should enjoy all the rights and fulfill the duties of citizens as prescribed by the Constitution. Lamas may go to school, read newspapers, study, attend meetings, take up a job, take part in labour and serve the state and people. Things keep changing and developing. Some irrational systems in the religion must also be subjected to constant reform. In our history, His Holiness Tson-kha-pa himself was a noted religious reformer. The teaching of our religion is to deliver all living creatures. By all living creatures we mean the mass of the common people. The handful of rebels harmed the masses of people, committed arson, murder, rape and robbery. For the sake of protecting the safety and happiness of the masses, we must deal with this handful of bad elements according to law in the light of the crimes they committed. In the case of those who are hated most by the people and deserve capital punishment in the opinion of the general public, we may also try to persuade the people to spare them and give them a chance to begin their life anew and redeem their crimes, if they have admitted their mistakes and are determined to turn over a new leaf. We must draw a clearcut line between good and evil, right and wrong. What kind of deliverance of all living creatures would it be if the handful of bad elements were allowed to harm the masses freely? Anything that brings harm to the masses, therefore, can and should be reformed according to religious teachings. I say all this because I love our religious teachings from the bottom of my heart and because I want to take the interest of the masses of people in Tibet into consideration. Anyone with a sense of justice, I believe, will understand these principles of eternal truth. We must realize that democratic reform on the one hand and the protection of freedom of religious belief and the preservation of cultural relics and monasteries are two different things. The government has time and again made it clear that the policy of the freedom of religious belief has not been changed and will never be changed. This has also been borne out time and again in real life. Religious belief is a private matter, a question of ideology and faith. Believing in religion or not is entirely the personal freedom of an individual which no one is allowed to interfere with. And the government will always protect this freedom. And only this can be described as truly implementing the policy of protecting freedom of religious belief, and giving the masses their full rights to enjoy the freedom of religious belief. If, in the course of the democratic reform, some people, particularly some of the religious circles, should resist the democratic reform in the name of religion, it would be very wrong and harmful. The democratic reform is to do away with all systems of feudal exploitation and oppression in society, including those existing in the religious orders and monasteries. It is to free the more than one million working people from the bondage of the three kinds of serf-owners. It is, therefore, a social question. Shall we carry out the reform and build up a progressive, prosperous, happy, democratic, and socialist new Tibet? Or shall we have no reform and for ever keep this cruel, dark and backward serf system intact? The inevitable law of the development of history is a change from the latter to the former, not from the former to the latter. Socialism has been realized among the other nationalities of the motherland. Democratic reform in Tibet, in the eight years after the peaceful liberation, has been delayed due to the constant obstructions and sabotage of the former local government of Tibet. Today, we are
glad to see the Tibetan people setting out along the brilliant road to democracy and socialism, now that the armed rebellion staged by the reactionary clique of the upper social strata in Tibet in collusion with imperialism, the Chiang Kai-shek gang and foreign interventionists has met utter defeat.

THE carrying out of democratic reform is absolutely indispensable to the development and prosperity of the people of all nationalities in our country. Our Constitution provides that “the People’s Republic of China, by relying on the organs of state and the social forces, and by means of socialist industrialization and social transformation, ensures the gradual abolition of systems of exploitation and the building of a socialist society.” This is the fundamental wish of all the nationalities of our country. The system of national oppression practised by the successive reactionary governments in China has been done away with since liberation, and a policy of unity providing equality to all the nationalities has been put into practice. But if the old systems that have prevailed among the Tibetans in the area of Tibet are not reformed, and if thorough, democratic reforms are not carried out in the region of Tibet, then the social productive forces cannot be completely liberated, and the backwardness and sad plight prevalent among the Tibetans in the past cannot be changed, and the various nationalities of the country cannot attain common prosperity economically and culturally. The carrying out of democratic and social reforms in Tibet, therefore, is the great historical task which the Tibetan people must accomplish if they are to achieve complete liberation. Let us be closely united and, under the leadership of the Communist Party, with the great help of the state and the other brother nationalities, and in the favourable circumstances obtained by the thorough quelling of the rebellion, let us mobilize the masses fully and on a large scale, rally and educate the lamas and laymen of all social strata, resolutely and energetically carry through the democratic reform, and march forward shoulder to shoulder with the people of the whole country to a prosperous and happy socialist society.

**Anti-imperialist Uprising**

**Latin America Against Yankee Domination**

*by SU MIN*

THE tide of opposition to the military dictatorships south of the Rio Grande backed by the United States and U.S. domination in Latin America continues to mount. In recent weeks the news from Latin America has spelt out a picture of armed uprisings against the military dictatorships, strikes, mass rallies and demonstrations. The Big Business press of the United States writes of Latin American developments in panic and fear. *The New York Times* (June 7) shrieked: “Like a fire control board flashing with red warning lights, the map of Latin America became alive with danger signs of deep unrest.”

**New Crest**

In Nicaragua the Somoza dictatorship has declared a state of siege in the wake of an armed uprising and the joint declaration of several political parties calling on the people to sweep out the dictatorial regime and set up a popular provisional government. Fighting is still in progress despite government propaganda that it has been “extinguished.” In mid-June, a new large-scale revolt broke out in a mountainous region in the northern part of the country. The anti-Somoza forces have seized two cities northwest of Managua, the Nicaraguan capital. Many guerrillas and peasants have joined the revolt and are equipped with captured arms. In Managua itself, a general strike lasted for nearly a week, with workers, clerks, businessmen, shop-keepers, and even bankers, taking an active part.

Armed revolts erupted almost simultaneously in the Dominican Republic. They are led by the Dominican Liberation Movement which unites all exiled Dominican groups opposed to the Trujillo tyranny. The DLM recently published a revolutionary programme which, among other things, calls for the establishment of a democratic government, extensive land reform and the development of national industry. Fighting is now raging in the northern, central and western parts of the country. The anti-Trujillo forces have already occupied a vast area including Santiago de los Caballeros, the country’s second biggest city, which is only 85 miles away from Ciudad Trujillo, the Dominican capital. Many government troops are reported to have joined the insurgents during the fighting.

South of the equator, in Paraguay, another of Washington’s “strongmen,” Alfredo Stroesser, is also trying desperately to beat down a new crest of popular opposition. Mass demonstrations, rallies and strikes were reported from there at the end of May and the beginning of June. Stroesser retaliated with police brutalities and tear gas shells. Even his own rubber-stamp Congress voted 26 to 23 to condemn the “police methods.” Stroesser then dissolved Congress, and arrested leaders of his
own party. A state of siege was proclaimed and the army and police were ordered out to suppress public demonstrations.

**Cuba Resists U.S. Interference**

In Cuba, a new wave of strong anti-imperialist protests has countered U.S. efforts to intervene against the land reform law. Since the promulgation of the Cuban agrarian reform law in mid-May, the U.S. press has raised a hue and cry against it, repeatedly threatening Cuba with another “Guatemalan event.” Interference became more open when the U.S. Government, in an official note to Cuba on June 11, expressed “serious concern” over the agrarian reform law and urged “further exchange of views on the effects of the law” between the two governments. Cuba rejected U.S. interference by answering that it will accept no instruction or proposal which impairs its national sovereignty and dignity. Mass rallies were held in many parts of the country pledging resolute action in the case of an invasion. Premier Castro declared that Cuba “would not change a single comma in the land reform law,” noting that although the land reform has aroused opposition “the enemy has stimulated the revolution to march on.”

At a press conference in Washington on July 1, U.S. President Eisenhower slandered and attacked Premier Castro and the Cuban Government, blamed them for the recent developments in the Caribbean area and threatened Cuba with further U.S. intervention through the OAS. This only poured oil on the flames of popular wrath in Cuba and public opinion there reacted to the challenge vigorously. Havana newspapers pointed out that the so-called danger in the Caribbean region was created by U.S. imperialism, that Eisenhower could not speak in the name of peace when the United States is still supplying arms to people who are ready to launch a war. El Comité urged that all patriots in the Caribbean states should mobilize under the common slogan: “Down with foreign intervention! Respect the Cuban revolution!”

The United States also met with strong resistance when it tried to intervene in the Nicaraguan affair through the Organization of American States. Under U.S. manipulations, the OAS sent out a special commission to 13 countries in the Caribbean area to investigate whether the current developments in Nicaragua “constituted a threat to the peace of the hemisphere.” This has aroused wide indignation among the people in many Latin American countries. The parliaments of Venezuela, Salvador and Costa Rica passed special resolutions in support of the anti-dictatorial struggles in Nicaragua and against interference of the OAS in the internal affairs of that country. In Tegucigalpa, the capital of Honduras, the hotel headquarters of the OAS commission was showered with eggs, tomatoes and avocados in a demonstration of the Honduran people on June 16.

On the next day, angry shouts against U.S. imperialism were also heard in the streets of Rio de Janeiro, capital of Brazil. Some 2,000 workers and students held a demonstration and then gathered in the garden of Brazil’s presidential palace to cheer the government’s opposition to the policies of the U.S.-controlled International Monetary Fund. The loan talks with the IMF were called off because as a condition of its loans to Latin America the IMF insists that the governments accepting such loans institute economic programmes worked out in Washington.

*The New York Times* (June 15) noted with alarm: “The rebellion against the policies of the International Monetary Fund began last week by Brazil may have far-reaching effects on all the organization’s relationships in Latin America. Peru also is in the midst of a crisis in her relations with the Fund and in at least four other South American Republics powerful resentment is building up against what is called the ‘dictatorship of the Fund.’”

At the same time the effects of the economic policy dictated by the IMF as the string attached to its loan to Argentina, which included clauses to freeze wages, devalue the currency and reduce the number of government employees, are now becoming more and more evident to Latin America. The Argentine newspaper *Noticias Gráficas* recently ran the headline: “Disaster Hits Argentine Table.” The price of bread has doubled, vegetables, fruits have trebled in price, electricity and transportation costs have soared. As a result of the runaway prices, beef consumption in Argentina is down 40 per cent; attendance at movies 20 per cent; even the rate of marriages has fallen 13 per cent because of the greater expenses involved in setting up a household.

**The Driving Force**

Economic mass misery, resulting from the U.S. fetters binding the economies of Latin America, and the desire for independence from the Yankee imperialist vise are the driving force behind the rising national liberation movements.

To mislead world opinion and manufacture pretexts for further U.S. interference, Washington has again resorted to the outworn device of dragging the red herring.
Recently, ten U.S. ambassadors to South American countries held a meeting in Santiago, Chile, and issued a statement warning against an alleged “intensified effort by international Communism to undermine the unity of the hemisphere.” The same false cry was echoed at the recent U.S. stage-managed conference in Guatemala of the Home Ministers of five Central American countries, where the so-called problem of “Communist infiltration” was discussed at length.

Deriding such phony arguments, Nocedal, one of the biggest Mexican bourgeois newspapers, recently observed that the present movement in Latin America is not the result of so-called Communist intrigues, but is a “national revolution” in which all sections of the people are participating. “It is a revolution against the old feudal system…a revolution against militarism… and firstly and primarily a revolution against colonial chains which enslave and oppress the great majority of the people through political and economic measures.”

This struggle against colonial rule in Latin America started nearly 150 years ago, when the people rose against Spanish domination. The present movement is mainly directed against U.S. imperialism and its reactionary allies at home.

**Massive Scale**

The unprecedented massive scale and the participation of broad sections of the people are the most prominent feature of Latin America’s current national liberation movements. Mass rallies, demonstrations and strikes are daily occurrences and they become potent weapons as more and more people join the ranks. In Venezuela, not only workers, peasants, and students participated in the anti-Jimenez struggles, but religious circles, women, businessmen and other sections of the people as well. In the general strike of January 1958 in Caracas that helped to topple the Jimenez regime, virtually the entire employed population of the city walked out as the church bells tolled, signalling for action. Last September, about one million people took part in another general strike in Caracas, organized by the Central Trade Union Council against an attempted U.S.-engineered military coup.

In May last year, Panama witnessed a student-sponsored general strike against pro-American policies and for the immediate resignation of some of the most reactionary ministers. This strike forced President de la Guardia to remove the Ministers of Education, Foreign Affairs and Public Health one week later.

In Argentina, the petroleum workers held a strike last November, supported by 62 trade unions representing a total membership of 4 million, which succeeded in preventing the Argentine Government from signing a petroleum agreement with U.S. monopoly capital which would have damaged the nation’s interests. More and bigger strikes have been reported from Argentina this year. There were 77 strikes embracing 1,900,000 workers in the month of May alone. These were mainly caused by the sky-rocketing prices we have already cited and the reactionary labour policy of the government, brought about by the Washington-dictated conditions of the IMF which the Frondizi government in Argentina accepted.

In countries where U.S.-backed caudillos held sway, strikes, demonstrations and other forms of mass actions were coupled with armed struggles. Such armed struggles, once kindled, spread like wildfire. The number of armed peasants in Colombia rising against the tyranny of Gustavo Rojas Pinilla rose to 100,000 in 1957. In Cuba, Fidel Castro’s original group of 81 grew into an armed force of more than 10,000 in a couple of years. It was through such mass struggles in various forms that twelve Washington-sponsored dictators were knocked out one after another in recent years.

**Broad United Fronts**

The present movement in Latin America is also characterized by the emergence of a broad national united front in quite a number of countries. Such united fronts, based on the alliance of workers, peasants and the petty bourgeoisie, with the national bourgeoisie also playing an important part, have become the leading force in the people’s fight. The National Parliamentary Front of Brazil has been joined by 180 M.P.s of various political parties, other noted persons, workers and employees, students, and other sections of the people. The protection of the nation’s resources, the limitation of foreign investments, and the development of national industries are part of its programme. It has time and again criticized the Brazilian Government for its vacillations in its dealings with the United States.

In Chile, too, a Popular Action Front including many political parties has been established. The Front, which has thousands of committees throughout the country, has advanced the following four-point programme: extension of democracy, improvement of public welfare, economic development and the consolidation of national independence. Last September, the Popular Action Front candidate, the socialist Senator Salvador Allende, came within 30,000 votes of winning the presidency.

The Junta Patriotica in Venezuela, a united front organization formed by the Democratic Action Party, the Republican Democratic Union, the Communist Party and the Social Christian Party, played a decisive role in overthrowing the Jimenez regime in 1958.

In Argentina, Mexico, Colombia, Cuba and several other countries, although no united front organizations exist so far, the various democratic forces, including political parties of the bourgeoisie as well as the Communist Parties, have in fact co-operated on many occasions, either in elections or in various other struggles.

Also indicative of the great impact of the present movement is the emerging trend among a number of the governments in Latin America to turn away from the United States. In their own economic defence, a number of countries have nationalized certain key factories, mines and other enterprises as well as landed properties formerly owned by foreign capital; prescribed maximum proportions of foreign capital in other enterprises. A number of Latin American countries have also adopted measures to reduce their reliance on the United States in the field of foreign trade.

Recently the Venezuelan Government rejected a U.S. loan of 290 million dollars because of the harsh conditions attached to it. Last December, it enacted a new legislation which stipulates that at least 60 per cent of foreign petroleum profits should go to the Venezuelan exchequer (instead of 50 per cent in the past). In Uruguay, a law
was adopted by Parliament last year to buy out the meat-packing plants owned by the U.S. monopolists. Despite U.S. pressure, Uruguay has established diplomatic relations with many socialist countries and developed trade with them.

Latin American dissatisfaction with the United States was also made very plain at a recent conference in Buenos Aires of the Pan-American Economic Committee of Twenty-One. At the closing session, several delegations, including those of Mexico, Cuba and Uruguay, refused to sign the final declaration because the conference resolutions were imposed by the United States.

The United States is also meeting with strong resistance in its efforts to tighten its military control over many Latin American countries. It has not succeeded in transforming the OAS into a military bloc of the NATO or SEATO type. Nor has the initiative taken by NATO leaders in trying to establish contact with the OAS made any progress.

The U.S. Senate recently adopted a decision to appropriate 29.5 million dollars for the establishment of a Latin American international “police” force. Through the Guatemalan Home Minister Salazar Gatica, this proposal was put before the conference of the Home Ministers of five Central American countries held in June in Guatemala. Though the U.S. succeeded in making the conference adopt several anti-Communist resolutions, it failed to push through the international “police” scheme in the face of unanimous opposition. Finally even Guatemala voted against it.

History Runs Against U.S.

The Latin American peoples have already scored a series of victories in their struggles against U.S. imperialism. This can be safely said in view of the fact that only a handful of U.S.-sponsored dictatorships still survive, and that the pro-American policies of the governments of many Latin American countries have been modified to a greater or lesser extent.

At present, the U.S. imperialists are trying their best to exercise their long-vested influence and power in this area in an effort to hang onto and recover lost ground. They are applying economic and political pressure, military threat and every possible trick in the hope of trying to stem the tide of national liberation. But the tide of history is running against them.

The Chinese people know from their own experiences with imperialism what the Latin American peoples are fighting for. That is why the Chinese public follows developments in Latin America with such interest and extends its sympathy and support to all the forces in Latin America fighting for their national independence. The Chinese people are convinced that the Latin American peoples will eventually be able to smash the U.S. colonial fetters.

City Development

Nanking, Yesterday and Today

by PENG CHUNG

NANKING, one of China’s historical cities on the Yangtse, has all the natural makings of a beautiful city. It fronts a wide expanse of the river, is surrounded by hills and mountains, embraces lakes and other rivers. The historical sites of this city, which can trace its origins 2,400 years back, are well known.

The present city wall of Nanking was built in the late 14th century during the early years of the Ming dynasty. The tomb of the first Ming emperor is located here and it was the capital of China under a number of dynasties. In the 19th century it was the capital of the Taiping Revolution. In more modern times the reactionary Kuomintang government made its capital here. But when the city was liberated on April 24, 1949, it was a tired, run-down place, sordid and mean for most of its inhabitants. During its years as the Kuomintang capital, it failed to fulfill its natural promise of becoming a modern city of real beauty.

In the Kuomintang Days

Corruption and graft made a mockery of municipal construction in those days. The Kuomintang bureaucrats and comprador class were the main beneficiaries of the little work that was done. Except for a few thoroughfares, the modern roads were concentrated in the areas of the government offices and the residential districts of high officials. Take the residential district around Shansi Road, for instance. This part of the city had the best roads, cement pavements, a modern sewage system and a large proportion of the total street lights of the city. Every effort was made to keep it neat and clean. Just because Chiang Kai-shek and many Kuomintang bureaucrats wanted to take baths at Tangshan, a 28-kilometre asphalt road was built.

But the great majority of the population in Nanking were denied any such modern facilities. They lived in crowded districts where the roads, if any, were in poor condition. The maintenance of some of the major roads was also seriously neglected and many of the surfaces were so rough and bumpy that Nanking residents said it was like “walking on knives.” The distant streets and lanes of the city were almost pitch dark at night.

“Uneven roads, dim street lights and inefficient telephones,” is how Nanking people described the public works and utilities before liberation. And it was only after 1949 that for the first time the needs and welfare of the common people became the pivot of city planning.
Most of the bridges in the city were arch stone and brick ones built during the Ming or Ching dynasty and badly in need of repair. These small, narrow bridges chronically lagged behind local needs and traffic accidents were frequent. But the Kuomintang city government with all its ballyhoo about the “new Nanking” did little to build new bridges or repair the old ones.

It remained for the people's government to tackle the long-neglected job of rebuilding large numbers of bridges and changing some into reinforced concrete ones to facilitate city traffic. It also had to build and rebuild more than 600 kilometres of roads which are now reasonably distributed to serve the working people.

In a river city like Nanking, a proper drainage system is a matter of people's welfare. Sewer repairs were long overdue in the Kuomintang days. At the time of liberation more than half of the sewers were built during the Ming and Ching dynasties. Many had become useless merely because of failure to make repairs. The two rivers (the Chinhui and the Chinchuan) on which Nanking depended for water drainage were nearly silted up. During the summer, rain water could not be carried off and dirty water overflowed the banks. After a big rain, water would cover as much as one-seventh of the urban city and rain water would be knee-high even in the central part of the city. Some districts were waterlogged several months out of the year. All this may sound strange for a modern capital which has been described by the American specialist on China John K. Fairbank as "a fitting symbol of the Kuomintang government's power as well as a focus of the modern national spirit," but it is the naked truth.

Transformation

Since liberation Nanking has built some 300 kilometres of sewers, twice the total of pre-liberation days, and old sewers were repaired. Many open sewers have been replaced by underground ones or dredged and lined with bricks. Large numbers of filthy ditches and ponds were filled up. Thorough dredging was carried out on the Chinchuan and Chinhui Rivers. The Chinhui is no longer the dirty and stagnant river that it used to be. It now flows smoothly in its neat channel and its banks are lined with trees. The city's rivers are all connected and rain water is under full control. Thanks to the big improvements in sanitary conditions, flies and mosquitoes have only a narrow chance to exist.

Since 1949 much has been done to transform Nanking and make it a comfortable place to live in. New housing and the reconstruction of old houses during the past decade totalled more than 4 million square metres, equivalent to more than one-third the total in old Nanking. The number of street lights has trebled, many new public transport routes have been opened and the number of vehicles has doubled. Practically all urban households now use running water.

In pre-liberation days, Nanking had 232 slum areas of varying sizes, where the inhabitants lived in mud and straw huts. Dirt, flies and mosquitoes were everywhere. The roads became muddy pools after a downpour. These districts are unrecognizable today. The Hanfu Hsintsun, for instance, is one of the notorious slum areas that has changed its face completely. The dirty ponds and ditches have been filled, old hovels given way to brick and tile rooms. Fifteen small gardens have been created. Grape vines, tea and cherry trees, and flowering plants have been planted and pavilions, fish ponds, and seedling nurseries have been built.

Scenic spots and historical sites have been repaired, enlarged or well preserved. Both Lake Mochou and Lake Hsuanwu have been dredged and cleared of weeds. With the building of new dykes, roads and bridges and the planting of trees and flowers, Lake Hsuanwu is now one of the popular gardens in the city. The Sun Yat-sen Mausoleum is well maintained. Yuhuatai (Flower-Rain Bed), the grounds where revolutionaries were executed in the Kuomintang days, now has a memorial where the people pay their respects to the revolutionary martyrs. The "bed" itself is a small hill of over 100 metres with newly built pavilions and roads and a memorial hall with two exhibition rooms. Chairman Mao Tse-tung wrote the characters inscribed on a stone tablet in memory of the martyrs who lost their lives there for the cause of the Chinese people. In addition to the large parks, hundreds of small gardens have been opened for the people of the city to stroll in and enjoy.

The heart of the city, it is planned, will become a garden district. As a result of the expansion of Drum Tower Square, East Peking Road and the building of another road, Drum Tower Park has been combined with the nearby historical spots—Tachung Pavillon, Peichi Hall, Chiming Temple and Chiuhua Hill—to form one entity. When the high buildings around the square are completed, the district will attain its full new majesty.

The Nanking people no longer live in a much better environment but enjoy greatly improved standards of living. Before liberation, its working people were constantly on the verge of starvation and the unemployed accounted for more than one-fourth of the population.

Production Spurs Income

The inherited problem of unemployment has been solved and the working people have been freed from this menace. The rising living standard of the workers and employees in the city can be gauged by increases in wages as well as in the number of persons working in a family. The changes are clearly illustrated by a detailed survey of 27 households at Piotachiao. Before liberation, only 4 persons in 4 households had permanent jobs, 7 in 7 households held temporary jobs, 43 in 18 households were unemployed. All but the four households led a hard life. Now, 64 persons in these households are working and the average monthly per capita income of all members of the 27 households increased sixfold.

Nanking has made big advances in other fields, too. In the past decade more than 600 million yuan have been invested in capital construction in industry, education, culture, housing, etc.

Industry in the city has been going ahead at a very fast clip. Compared with 1949, the number of industrial workers and employees increased 13-fold last year while the total value of industrial output increased 38-fold or at a progressive rate of growth of 50 per cent per year.

There was very little industry to speak of in the bad old days of Nanking. On the eve of liberation, many of
the thirty-odd industrial enterprises run by bureaucrat capital had almost reached a standstill. The chemical works which was in preparation for more than three years never got started. The plants that managed to work were really assembly shops using parts and supplies imported from the United States.

Private factories were all small and scattered. Only 36 of them, some 4 per cent of the total, employed more than 30 workers. They were all badly hit by the flooding of the Chinese market with U.S. goods, inflation and shortages of raw materials. Most of them had to cut production. It is on such poor foundation that Nanking had to start its industrial construction.

Now Nanking is becoming an industrial city. It turns out many large products such as lorries, tractors, 1,500-kw. steam generators, 10-metre planers and 400-millimetre rolling mills. The construction of a medium-sized iron and steel works has already started. Light industry has also expanded greatly in the city.

Similar progress is also evident in education and public health. Since liberation many new institutions of higher learning have been established in Nanking. They include industrial, agricultural, medical, pharmaceutical and teachers’ colleges. The number of students in the city’s universities and colleges at the end of last year was almost ten times as great as in the early days of liberation. Schools of all levels had a total enrolment of about half a million last year, nearly four times as high as the time of liberation. Practically all school-age children are in the primary schools while in 1946, 58 per cent were not going to school.

When Nanking was the capital of the Kuomintang government, it had only a little over 900 beds in hospitals and other health centres—a fairly good index of how little the Chiang Kai-shek government cared about the people’s health. At the end of last year it had nearly 7,500. Thanks to the increase in the numbers of hospital beds and public health personnel as well as the popular public health campaigns, the rate of contagious diseases has dropped rapidly.

Nanking is a good example of the changes that the past ten years have brought to China’s cities.

---

**Spare-time Education**

**Studying While Building the "Mountain Canal"**

**by LIANG NIEN**

STUDY-WHILE-YOU-WORK is the practice in China today. In factories and on construction sites all over the country you find workers participating in after-work classes to advance their general education, elevate their technical knowledge and deepen their political consciousness. For an example of how this spare-time educational movement is developing we take you to Kansu Province, in the northwest, where the canal “to lead the Tao River to the mountains” is under construction. It is one of the big canal projects in China (see Peking Review, No. 24, 1958) and when completed it will be more than eight times longer than the Suez Canal. At present more than 190,000 peasants and 2,000 cadres are working on the project and no less than 143,000 are attending spare-time classes.

First, a few words about the project itself which is spoken of locally as “comparable to the historic Great Wall.” The Tao River originates in southern Kansu, flows northward and falls into the Yellow River. Now a huge dam is being built to divert the flow of the river eastwards to Tunghsihyuan in Chingyang County. It is called the “mountain canal” because after completion it will flow across mountain ranges averaging 1,700 metres above sea level and will irrigate the dry mountainous regions of central and southern Kansu. It will be 1,400 kilometres long, 40 metres wide on the surface, 16 metres wide at the bottom, and 6 metres deep. It is planned to be completed in 1960. By that time the canal and its tributaries will transform some 20 million mu of land into paddyfields, 100 small and medium hydro-electric stations will supply 500,000 kilowatts of electricity, and ships of 20 to 100 tons will navigate its waters.

Construction began in the middle of June last year. More than 42 per cent of a 600-kilometre stretch has already been completed. The rapid progress during the past year reflects the interest and enthusiasm of the peasants in pushing forward this unusual project. Eager to irrigate their dry regions the peasants’ slogan is “We won’t go down before the water comes up.”

From the very beginning, the Kansu Provincial Committee of the Communist Party decided that “the Tao River engineering site must at the same time be a great school for cultivating the new type of working people in the Communist style.” Peasants who have seized this opportunity for an education now say proudly: “I came here ‘letter-blind,’ but will return literate.”

**The Job Needs Educated Men**

Last June, when the work began, there were only 16 engineers, 422 intermediate and junior technical personnel, and 1,217 workers with a smattering of knowledge of water conservancy and technical know-how. The overwhelming majority of the people working on the project were unskilled rural labourers from the province. Illiteracy was still rampant. About 51 per cent of them...
were "letter-blind." It was clear that the labouring force was not adequately equipped to finish such a vast and complex project in two years. Setting one eye on the engineering work and the other on education, the Engineering Bureau in charge of the project immediately went into action to cope with the problem.

The guiding principle had already been mapped out by the Communist Party Committee—education in the service of the engineering work. As soon as work started, the leadership lost no time organizing lectures on the significance and prospects of the project as well as lectures on the general line for socialist construction, the domestic and international situation, and so forth. This political education enabled the peasants to see what this war against nature would mean to the people and to future generations.

Simultaneously measures were taken to wipe out illiteracy. Spare-time schools were set up to provide the peasants and cadres with regular political, technical and cultural schooling. The high tide in spare-time education was marked last September when each engineering district, regiment, brigade and work team began to set up their own spare-time schools and classes. The number of students kept on growing. Recent statistics showed that a total of 1,211 were studying in the 13 schools run by the districts, 10,478 in training courses run by the brigades, and 131,323 in study groups organized by the work teams. In addition, 14 public health schools are attached to the 14 big and small hospitals of the construction site to help train spare-time medical and public health workers.

A Big Problem: Getting Teachers

The problem of finding the necessary number of teachers was a great one. Altogether there were only 144 full-time teachers. The peasants themselves were enlisted to help so that those who knew more could share their knowledge with those who knew less. A series of methods known as "letting the capable ones teach," "teaching what you've just learnt," "passing the knowledge from the upper to the lower grade," and "roving coaches" was worked out. The most successful students were selected from the district-run schools to teach in the brigade-run classes, while good students from the latter were assigned to teach in the groups organized by the work teams. In this way, more than 5,000 spare-time teachers went into action. They proved to be very patient teachers. Having just finished the difficult course of study themselves, they understood the concrete difficulties of their fellow workers and were able to help train them. The new teachers benefited too. They say they found teaching the best method to consolidate what they had learnt.

With the problem of teaching staff solved, another big question left was to see if it that teaching and studying continued uninterrupted. Here, the practice of one-hour classroom instruction every day is strictly observed. In addition, every opportunity offered by the process of production itself to raise the political, cultural, and technical level of the peasants is utilized. For instance, all the stages of work, from the simple to the more complicated, such as the reading of blueprints, etc., are described in textbooks compiled for the technical training of the peasants. They are written in such a way that they can be easily grasped and remembered. There are also on-the-job lectures, teaching by practical demonstrations in the course of work and immediate practical applications of classroom theory. The peasants say: "Science and technique are not so terribly difficult, a villager can also learn geometry." Persistent study helps the peasants raise their cultural and technical level steadily. This is a great help in solving the problem of a shortage of technical personnel.

Spare-time education is closely co-ordinated with production. The peasants always carry their textbooks along. The teachers follow the students, and classrooms move with their working sites. The teaching materials are closely linked with production. When a big class cannot be organized, smaller classes are formed. If a one-hour lecture cannot be given at a single stretch, it is broken into shorter periods.

Some schools copy out the lessons and school work for the day and post them at the construction sites, roadsides, dining-rooms, and dormitories so that the workers can study at any place and at any time. The problem of classrooms can always be easily solved. The peasant-students have no difficulty at all in levelling out a piece of ground at any construction site and improvising a classroom complete with a board blackened by soot.

In the same simple way, peasants on the job of leading the Tao River to the mountains built their libraries. They dug shallow caves in the locu slopes, spread out the books, magazines and newspapers and had a library. Altogether, these libraries now have a total of 180,000 books. In addition, there are 68 cultural centres, 149 clubs and 494 smaller clubs, 14 film projecting teams, and 190 amateur drama groups. They also have their newspaper-reading groups.

Technical Innovations

Technical innovations are a very important result of the education of the peasants. At the beginning, spades, picks, poles and baskets were the only tools they used. Towards the end of last July, semi-mechanized indigenous tools, such as various types of carts to move earth and stones, began to make their appearances. By September, labour-saving tools to load and unload earth and stones, gliding boats and many other mechanized indigenous devices were created. Improved methods of work were introduced. Efficiency shot up quickly.

The spare-time schools pay great attention to technical training which is based on the close integration of theory and practice. Peasants welcome this method highly. They say: "Doing one time is more useful than seeing ten times. Doing alone without a lecture can't raise your level. A lecture alone without doing cannot be remembered. Work-while-you-study is the best; hoary with age you still won't forget." During the past year, the spare-time schools, short-term training courses and tutor-apprentice method together have trained some 4,000 peasant technicians. This new technical force has greatly spurred the progress of the "mountain canal."

Reports from other parts of the country show that serious efforts are being made in the field of workers' and peasants' spare-time education. What is happening on the mountain canal project is a good indication of how China's working people are determinedly "charging the fortress of culture" as the popular saying goes.
P.L.A. Festival

The second and largest theatre arts festival ever staged by the People’s Liberation Army brought together in Peking cultural troupes from P.L.A. units stationed in various parts of the country. It started on June 1 with the singing of revolutionary songs by a chorus of a hundred generals (see Peking Review, No. 23, 1959) and will carry on till the latter half of this month. The first part of the festival ended after sixteen days of performances which included 216 items. Most of these were new works produced in the past twelve months. The plays, dances and music reflected many aspects of the revolutionary struggles of the past and the many-sided life the men of the P.L.A. are leading today.

Providing recreation, inspiring the fighting men and carrying the revolutionary message forward, cultural activity is part of the great tradition of the P.L.A. Even in the most difficult years of the war against domestic reaction and foreign invaders, the cultural troupes went with the fighting units through thick and thin, serving not only the army but the people at large, giving performances in the open air or on improvised stages, in the trenches or in liberated towns. Since liberation there has naturally been a vast improvement in the technique and artistic level of these troupes. They are putting on shows today—concerts, full-length dance-dramas, plays and epic dramas with all the resources of the modern stage—that would have been unthinkable under old war-time conditions. The more ambitious attempts make pretty stiff demands on the troupes. There have been some outstanding successes. Two of the best modern Chinese plays since liberation were performances of The Long March and Steele in Battle produced by army units. Song of the South China Sea, staged at the present festival by the Canton contingent, received warm and general approval. It tells the story of the liberation of Hainan Island in 1950 by the P.L.A. crossing Hainan Strait in wooden junks and storming ashore in face of strong Kuomintang opposition from modern warships and planes.

A feature of the dances, songs and musical items brought by the troupes to Peking this time is their rich local colour. The P.L.A. artists have naturally and wisely delved into the art of the various places where they are stationed. This gives an extraordinarily wide range to their art, dealing with life and activities on the Fukien front, the practical work of socialist construction that P.L.A. units have taken upon themselves in so many areas, new problems of the modern army, and dances and songs of the national minorities.

Apart from the plays, it was the dance-dramas that attracted the most attention. Two deserve special mention: The Immortals and Red Clouds. The first is based on a poem of the same title which Chairman Mao wrote in 1937 in memory of two comrades-in-arms, Liu Chih-hsun and Yang Kai-hui, who died more than twenty years ago fighting for the revolution. It is a lyrical poem filled at once with deep affection for its hero and heroine, deep sorrow and revolutionary optimism.

The dance-drama adaptation takes us back to 1927. The peasants of Hunan have risen against the Kuomintang regime. Among them are Liu Chih-hsun and Yang Kai-hui. They victoriously storm a Kuomintang county government; in the course of the struggle Yang and Liu are killed.

The next scene shows Chang Ngo, Goddess of the Moon, dancing gracefully for these two brave souls. News comes that the Chiang Kai-shek regime has been overthrown and the revolution has triumphed. There is rejoicing on earth and in the Heavens.

The sentiments expressed in the poem are projected on the stage in dancing and pantomime to music on traditional Chinese instruments. The first scenes—the rescue and storming of the Kuomintang county seat—are full of action and vividly danced and mimed. But what in the poem is lyrical and evocative becomes in the moon scene far too literal and sweet; it does not combine easily with what precedes it or the gaiety of the last scene, which is a colourful mass dance before the Tien An Men celebrating the triumph of the revolution.

Red Clouds is better built together stylistically by the use of folk dances and songs of the Li nationality. It, too, is full of action, fast moving and forceful. It tells how the Li people on Hainan Island suffered under Kuomintang oppression and how they gained their freedom. They had a saying that when the red clouds over Wuchih Mountain descended, happiness would come to them. This hope buoyed them up. The action of the dance-drama starts when Kuomintang terrorism has finally driven them to armed revolt. It follows them through success and defeat when they are driven to take refuge in the mountains and to final victory when they establish contact with the Communist guerrillas who help them drive their oppressors out.

It is the group that is the collective hero and heroine in this drama, but attention is effectively concentrated on Ko Ying, a Li girl, whose sufferings typify those of her people. Her husband is killed in cold blood, her home destroyed. It is then that the general rising starts.

The choreographers of Red Clouds have successfully used folk dances of the Li people and introduced many touches of local colour that give vivid glimpses into the daily life of the Lis, their customs and habits, and authenticate the action. Particularly good are the girls’ work dances, the joyous dancing and drinking round the bonfire in celebration of their victory, the taking of the oath before the uprising and the dance to the beat of drums calling the clans to rise and resist the enemy.

The dance-drama running for two hours, using pantomime and dancing, costumes and full stage effects and musical accompaniment to tell a complete story, is still a relative newcomer to the Chinese stage. Cultural workers in army units only started to use this form about two years ago. The best so far created, such as The Immortals and Red Clouds, produced respectively by the cultural troupes from the Shenyang and Canton units of the P.L.A. may still suffer from shortcomings in composition, taste or staging, but there seems to be general agreement that a theatrical form has been evolved that is distinctively national in character and that has considerable possibilities for development.

—SHA FU

From The Immortals Sketch by Li Ke-yu
ART

Ming and Ching Portraits

The exhibition of Ming and Ching dynasty portrait paintings, held during the latter half of last month at the gallery of the Union of Chinese Artists, gathered together about ninety paintings from various museums and private collections. They added up to a revealing glimpse into the traditions and techniques of this branch of Chinese art.

Portrait painting in China has a long history. Though stone carvings and other arts give some idea of the earlier traditions, the earliest actual examples known to us unfortunately date back only to the fourth century. The written descriptions, original paintings or at least excellent copies of the work of Ku Kai-chih and several other portrait painters, who emerged during the Eastern Ts'in dynasty (417-439 A.D.), show that these were superb artists, with a mature and sophisticated tradition of painting; but it appears that for the most part they painted imaginary portraits of well-known historical personages and seldom did finished portraits of living persons.

By the Southern Chi dynasty (479-502), however, portrait painting had spread among the people and was no longer confined to the upper classes. Many more painters worked in this field and a wealth of tradition and techniques had been developed. Hsieh Heh, who won renown specifically as a portrait painter, worked at this time. His paintings and writings—he was one of the most articulate of Chinese painters—marked a turning point in the history of portrait painting. The six principles in which he summed up the experience of himself and the classical masters have served since as a guide to generation after generation of Chinese painters, and were adapted to the genre of landscape which developed later. First and foremost he called on the artist to project the "rhythmic vitality," the very spirit and inner feeling of the subject painted. His other principles were: use of the brush to form anatomical structure, conforming with the subject depicted to represent it truthfully, and in its appropriate colours, proper design and composition, and, finally, transmission of classical models by study and imitation. He stressed the importance of keen observation and a good memory—the ability to make a good portrait from a "quick, but unforgettable impression."

Hsieh Heh, said to have surpassed all his predecessors in technical accomplishment, produced living portraits of his contemporaries. This opened up new vistas for portrait painting and gave it a new style. In spite of the opposition he encountered from the conservatives, who harked back to archaic forms, his influence spread. In time, every artist paid at least lip service to his six canons.

Portrait painting flourished and reached its golden age during the prosperous Tang dynasty (618-907) which was adorned by such artists as Yen Li-pen, Wu Tao-tzu and Chou Fang, all of them masters of portrait painting, as well as figures and landscapes. They used a meticulous, dry, yet sensitive line, brilliant colours and rich compositions.

In the Sung dynasty (960-1279) landscape, flowers and birds came into vogue at the imperial court and interest in portraiture declined. It never lost its popularity among the people, however, as it was to the cult of the ancestors, and almost every succeeding dynasty had its outstanding portraitists, like Wang Yi of the Yuan dynasty, Tseng Chihung of the Ming dynasty and Ku Chiang-lung, Yu Chih-ting, Fei Hsiao-lou and Jen Po-nien of the Ching dynasty.

The Ming and Ching artists whose works were gathered at the Artists' Union gallery exhibition also essayed to uphold Hsieh Heh's canons of good painting. They were in two parts. In the lower hall, there were twenty ceremonial life-size, full-length portraits of men and women in the red and blue official gowns of the Ming and Ching dynasties. Their creators, while striving to hold fast to the principles of Hsieh Heh, were obliged also to conform to the canons of official portrait painting prevalent since Tang and Sung times. The official portrait, whatever the individual painter might wish, had to be cast in a strictly defined mode. Some of the restrictions were onerous in the extreme for a creative artist. The artist painting a high official or noble was not permitted to scrutinize him too long under pain of lesse majeste. In painting an emperor he was obliged to kneel humbly while making his preliminary sketches. This was one potent reason why Hsieh Heh called for cultivation of a quick-acting photographic memory. That hazard overcome, the artist was expected, as a matter of course, to make his noble subject look august, upright and intelligent or at least distinguished, no matter what sort of man he was. In slightly different terms, that is, he was up against much the same problem posed to the portrait painter of Egypt's Pharaohs or the society painter in Britain commissioned to make a presentation portrait of a city board chairman, a duke or a beer baron.

The paintings in the lower hall were all on fan. This was not so common in the Tang dynasty, in view of the restrictions placed on the artist. But in the Sung dynasty, a court artist named Mou Ku for the first time succeeded in painting a direct frontal portrait of the Emperor Tai Tsung, and this "tour de force" in subsequent years set a tradition. As with the principle of the front-view in classical Egyptian sculpture, it certainly creates an imposing impression. With gradual mastery of the techniques required, more and more such portraits were painted, and by the Ming dynasty a definite formula had been evolved. It must also be remembered that many of the extant portraits of this period were based not on the artist's actual observation but on the recollections of relatives and friends and painted after their "subject" had died. In view of all this, it is extraordinary that artists nevertheless succeeded in making such impressive likenesses of men and women. It is somewhat as in classical Chinese poetry when the poet takes a form that is extremely strictly governed as to rhyme and metre and yet is able to pour his very soul into it. So here meticulous skill is displayed in the treatment of the ceremonial robes of rich brocade, embroidery and furs. The life is poured into the faces; these are drawn in pure line delicately shaded. There is a restraint and austerity of treatment in the best of these paintings that show that every brushstroke was under perfect control. The best of the faces are extraordinarily alive and sculpturally traced as if the
brush were a divining rod of character. The nearest Western analogy is perhaps a Holbein portrait.

The portraits shown in the upper hall were also works of the Ming and Ching dynasties, but in an entirely different style. Here the figures were in leisurely poses, resting in a bamboo grove or enjoying a quiet evening at home. Artists like Chen Lao-jien, Chien Nung, Min Chen and Jen Po-nien whose works were exhibited, were not only good at portraiture but at landscape and flowers and birds too. It was this that gave their paintings a richness and diversity hardly attainable by other artists. The self-portrait by Chien Nung was unique among these paintings. It shows the artist in profile in his old age. The figure, holding a long walking stick, is done in a few simple strokes with remarkable freedom, sensitivity and insight. It illustrates the way the arsenal of brushstrokes evolved by artists in various genres of painting—landscape and still-life—being applied more and more to portraiture. This opened a whole new range of expressive possibilities in this branch of art.

In general, however, the Ming and Ching dynasty portrait painters, in contrast to the rich colouring and long, well-drawn figures of T'ang paintings, carried on the tradition of the style set in the Sung dynasty of using light, rapid brushstrokes in Chinese ink and monochrome washes. The light and air washes, Jen Po-nien and Hsu Pei-hung, who belonged to the last years of the Ching dynasty and the beginnings of the modern period, carried this new departure in portraiture a step further, particularly the latter who was among the first to combine Western and Chinese traditional portrait techniques with great skill. The possibilities of the free use of traditional Chinese brushwork in portraiture still remain to be fully explored.

It was interesting to see a totally unexpected work here by Chi Pai-shih done in his early apprentice days. The clothing of his noble sitter is painted with all the meticulousness of the most stylized Ching portraitist; the face looks like a photograph, so painstakingly naturalistic is it. It is a yardstick of the extraordinary measure of expressive freedom that this master achieved in later life.

This must be one of the first occasions on which portraits even of two dynasties have been gathered together. It certainly whets one's appetite for a more extended collection and opportunity to explore some of the fascinating avenues of study it suggests. It is unfortunate that many of the extant masterpieces of earlier periods were either stolen and sold abroad or taken to Taiwan by the Kuomintang reactionaries when they fled from the mainland.

—YI KUNG

Gala Summer Parties. The Five-Dragon Pavilions with their upturned eaves emerged from the night as the flares of fireworks lit up Beihai Park, Peking's popular pleasure ground. On the waters of the lake glided ten thousand "Lotus Lanterns" of red, yellow, green. . . A gentle breeze sent wisps of smoke from the fireworks adrift over the waters like mist over a moonlit garden. Throughout the park thousands of people gathered round open-air cinemas and stages where new films, opera, variety shows, puppet shows, acrobatics and magic were performed. Restaurants and lakeside teahouses were full. Beneath the towering White Dagoba, an open-air dance floor was packed. Thousands more out on row-boats, on the hills and lake sides watched fireworks weaving magic in the night. This was a big gala party given by Beihai Park last week for Peking citizens. Since the start of summer, the big parks in Peking including the Summer Palace, the Zhongshan Park, the Beihai, and the Tao Tan Ting have been taking turns as hosts to such evening parties every weekend, with variations in the entertainment. Many top theatrical groups give some of their best numbers here. Not long ago, the cultural troupe of the Chinese youth delegation to the World Festival of Youth and Students in Vienna gave a preview of some of its outstanding numbers at one of these parties.

Roadside Hostels for Truck-Driver. More than a hundred modern hostels for truck-drivers have been set up along the highways in Kweichow Province, southwest China, by transport departments of the province. The drivers can stop at any of these places to get quick hot meals and baths, take short rests or stay overnight. At the clubrooms they can listen in to the radio, swing a bat at the pingpong table, play a quiet game of chess, or just relax and read. These hostels are really appreciated by the drivers, since most of the highways in Kweichow run through mountainous areas where there's hardly a soul for miles around.

Museum in Honour of 1st Party Congress. A revolutionary museum in honour of the First Congress of the Chinese Communist Party is being built on the South Lake in Kashi County, Chekiang Province. It will open on October 1, National Day, this year. It was on a large barge here on the South Lake that a dozen delegates, including Mao Tse-tung and Tung Pi-wu, representing only 57 Communists throughout the nation, met 38 years ago on the concluding day of the First Party Congress. For the first four days the Congress, which opened on July 1, met in Shanghai. Because of the secret police and spies of the reactionary government then, the delegates moved on to this new site. It was at this Congress that the Communist Party of China was founded. The museum will include an exhibition hall of revolutionary relics, a lakeside park on the northern banks, and a replica of the historic barge.

New Chemical Plant in National Minority Region. The first chemical plant producing sulphuric acid, oxalic acid and bacterial fertilizers has recently gone into production in Tuyen, capital of the Autonomous Chou of the Puyi and Miao Peoples in southern Kweichow Province. The amount of sulphuric acid produced here will satisfy all the autonomous chou's industrial and agricultural needs. Formerly, it had to be brought in from other provinces.

In the Family. The score stood at 2 games each as mother and daughter faced each other for the final game. Excitement mounted among the big crowd of spectators. This was the most dramatic moment in the women's table-tennis championships in Fukien's recent provincial sports meet. Ouyang Chin, the mother, finally went on to win the game by six points, thus clinching fourth place in the championships. 32-year-old Ouyang Chin, a member of the Fukien team since 1955 and winner of both the province's women's singles and doubles in 1957, is a hospital nurse and the mother of three children. The whole family are table-tennis enthusiasts. Lin Hao-jen, her husband, a doctor by profession, is a member of the Fouchow Municipal Table-Tennis Team, and 15-year-old Lin Hsi-ming, her opponent in the championships, has been Fukien's junior women's champ since 1956. A younger son is already showing promise at the game. Table-tennis is their favourite sport, and matches at home are contested as hotly as they are at the championships.

The Lamp That Sheds New Light on History. A relic of the period of the Warring States (475-221 B.C.) has been unearthed in Shantung, and will be on display at the Historical Museum inside Tien An Men in Peking. It is a bronze lamp of remarkable craftsmanship 23.2 centimetres high. The lamp stand is a bronze figure standing on the back of a fabulous squatting animal, holding two cylindrical studs in both hands with two movable oil plates in which wicks can be fixed. Similar lead or bronze figures were unearthed before in Honan Province but until this recent discovery nobody could tell what they were used for.
Sino-Soviet Friendship

Liu Hsiao, Chinese Ambassador to the U.S.S.R., gave a banquet in Moscow on June 26 to Soviet educational authorities, professors and principals of educational and scientific institutes to express thanks for Soviet assistance in the training of Chinese students in the Soviet Union.

In his speech at the banquet, Ambassador Liu Hsiao recalled that since its liberation, China had sent many students to the Soviet Union to study Soviet science and technology and learn Soviet experience in socialist construction. The more than 1,300 Chinese students who graduated this year in the Soviet Union would be of great value to China, he said. They will devote their energies to the building of a socialist China and the consolidation of Sino-Soviet friendship.

V. P. Elyutin, Soviet Minister of Higher and Middle Special Education, and A. N. Nesmeyanov, President of the Soviet Academy of Sciences, also spoke at the banquet. They expressed their confidence that the Chinese graduates would make a worthy contribution to China's socialist construction.

Representatives of the Chinese students spoke of the solicitous care of their Soviet instructors. They pledged themselves to work for still closer friendship between the Chinese and Soviet peoples.

A 15-member delegation of the Sino-Soviet Friendship Association has just concluded a 2-week visit to the Soviet Union. The delegation toured Moscow, Leningrad and Stalingrad. Members of the delegation were received by N. S. Khrushchov on June 25.

The new edition of the Russian textbook, History of the Communist Party of the Soviet Union, is now on sale in bookshops in Peking and other major Chinese cities. It is being translated into Chinese by the Editing and Translating Bureau for the Works of Marx, Engels, Lenin and Stalin of the Central Committee of the Chinese Communist Party and other relevant organizations.

Between China and Viet-nam

A protocol on a joint survey in the Gulf of Pei Pu (formerly the Gulf of Tangkin) was signed in Hanoi on June 27 between the Governments of China and the Viet-nam Democratic Republic. This survey will contribute greatly to the joint exploitation of the resources of Pei Pu Gulf by the two countries.

A week earlier, an agreement on currency exchange rates and non-commercial payments was signed in Hanoi between the two countries.

There have been many exchanges of visits between China and Viet-nam during the past few weeks. On June 25, a trade union delegation, a delegation to study China's news photo services and a railway delegation. During the same period, several Chinese delegations, including an educationists' delegation, a delegation of China's Scientific and Technological Commission and a medical group, have visited the Viet-nam Democratic Republic.

Chinese Dockers Support Baltic Sea Week

More than 1,000 dockers gathered at the new harbour in Tientsin, north China's biggest port city, on June 26 to express support for the Baltic Sea Peace Week held in Rostock in the German Democratic Republic from the end of June to the beginning of July.

Seamen from the G.D.R. ship Erfurt then in port at Tientsin received an ovation when they arrived at the rally.

Speaking on behalf of the Tientsin dockers, Chang Kao-feng, Vice-Chairman of the Tientsin Trade Union Council, expressed firm support for the peoples of the G.D.R. and other Baltic countries in their efforts to safeguard peace in the Baltic and the world.

Chang Kao-feng stressed that the Chinese people resolutely oppose the scheme of the Western powers headed by U.S. imperialism to split Germany and revive West German militarism. He declared that the Chinese people firmly support the proposals put forward by the Soviet Union and the G.D.R. for a peaceful solution of the German question.

On June 28, the people of Tientsin gave a party in honour of the seamen of the Erfurt and to demonstrate their support for the Baltic Sea Peace Week.

Delegation to Afghanistan

A Chinese cultural delegation has just concluded a 2-week visit to Afghanistan on the invitation of its government. The delegation was given a warm welcome on June 24 by the Afghan Prime Minister, Sardar Mohammed Daoud Khan, and Sardar Mohammed Naim Khan, Second Deputy Prime Minister and Foreign Minister. It visited educational institutions, construction projects and historical sites in Kabul, Kandahar and Herat.

For More Chilean-Chinese Contacts

In an interview with a Hsinhua correspondent on July 2, Guillermo del Pedregal, a former Vice-President of Chile who is now in China with his wife, stated that he believed his visit would result in a genuine start in trade between Chile and China. He said, it was the main purpose of his visit. He noted that "the prospects of trade between Chile and China are very broad."

Senor del Pedregal is also eager to promote Chilean-Chinese cultural exchanges. He urged, among other things, that more exchanges of students to strengthen contacts between the youth of the two countries.

Giving his impressions of China, Senor del Pedregal said he had personally sensed the spirit of optimism of the Chinese people, their complete trust in their leaders and confidence in the future.

The del Pedregals are in China on the invitation of the Chinese People's Institute of Foreign Affairs.

Other Chilean guests who recently visited China include Rudecindo Ortega, former Minister of Education, Mrs. Ortega, Agustin Alvarez, member of the Central Committee of the Chilean Socialist Party, Mrs. Alvarez and Marcos Ramirez, former Mayor of Concepcion.

Women from Eight Countries

Women delegates from Chile, Denmark, Finland, Iraq, Norway, Sweden, Uruguay and Venezuela have recently visited China. They toured Peking, ShanghAI, Hangchow, T'ai-pan, Shenyang and Anshan. On June 25 they were received by Chu Teh, Chairman of the Standing Committee of the National People's Congress, and Premier Chou En-lai.

U.S. Air Intrusions

A patrol plane of the U.S. Navy intruded into China's territorial air space over Yungshing, Pei and Shi Islands of the Hsisha Islands, Kwangtung Province, at 10:00 hours on June 26.

At 12:37 hours on June 27, a U.S. naval patrol plane intruded over Tung Island of the Hsisha Islands.

A spokesman of the Chinese Foreign Ministry has been authorized to give the fifty-second serious warning against these military provocations by U.S. military aircraft.

On July 1, China issued its fifty-third warning when in a further provocation a U.S. patrol plane intruded into China's territorial air space over Yungshing Island on June 30.
Major Step to Fulfil Soviet Seven-Year Plan

Remin Ribao devotes its July 3 editorial to the recent plenary session of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of the Soviet Union, which adopted resolutions on the accelerated renovation of technical equipment so as to fulfil the seven-year plan ahead of time, and called for a nationwide socialist emulation drive for this purpose. It writes: "This significant meeting opened a new page in the renovation of technical equipment in the Soviet Union; it took an important step forward to the goal of fulfilling the seven-year plan ahead of schedule."

The editorial greets the successes scored by the Soviet working people at the very outset of their drive to fulfill the seven-year plan as a great inspiration to the peoples of all the socialist lands, as well as to the peace-loving peoples the world over.

In working for successful fulfillment of the seven-year plan ahead of schedule, the Soviet people attach special importance to the adoption of the latest techniques, the editorial continues. As was emphasized in the resolution of the 21st Congress of the C.P.S.U., one of the decisive conditions for successful fulfillment of the seven-year plan and the laying of the material and technical groundwork of communism is the extensive use of the latest techniques, and the comprehensive mechanization and automation of production processes. The recent session of the Central Committee of the C.P.S.U. has directed particular attention to this question of comprehensive mechanization and automation; it decided that the Party and people shall concentrate their efforts on the tasks in these fields put forward by the 21st Congress of the C.P.S.U.

Since the 20th Congress of the C.P.S.U. in 1956, the editorial recalls, the Soviet Union has taken a giant step forward in technical renovation in the various branches of its national economy. The efforts made by the Soviet Party and people in bringing this campaign to fruition will greatly shorten the time needed for the fulfillment of the seven-year plan, and speed up communist construction so that the level of per capita production in the Soviet Union will surpass that of the U.S. earlier than expected. That means, the editorial stresses, that the moment of a decisive victory for the socialist system in its peaceful competition with the capitalist system will also come sooner.

The efforts made by the Soviet Communist Party in technical renovation, especially in introducing comprehensive mechanization and automation to production processes, have fully manifested the superiority of the socialist system and the great care which the Communist Party shows for the people's livelihood and welfare. As everyone knows, in capitalist countries, automation in production only brings new profits to the capitalists; as far as the workers are concerned it means unemployment and an increase in the intensity of exploitation. In the socialist countries, automation in production means the raising of the people's living standard, lighter work and a shorter work-day and work-week, thus providing the working people with favourable conditions for study. As pointed out by the message of the plenary session to all the Soviet working people, the editorial notes, the steps taken by the Central Committee of the C.P.S.U. on comprehensive mechanization and automation of production processes in all branches of the Soviet national economy are for the purpose of improving the livelihood of the people, increasing their material and spiritual wealth and further strengthening the might of the Soviet Union.

The working people of the Soviet Union have responded to the call of their Communist Party and launched an extensive socialist emulation drive for technical renovation. This is a sign of the monolithic solidarity of the Soviet Party and people and a manifestation of the determination and confidence of the Soviet Party and people in realizing the magnificent programme of communist construction—the seven-year plan— ahead of schedule, the editorial declares.

Geneva Prospects

The Chinese press has closely followed each phase of the development of the Geneva Foreign Ministers' Conference. Remin Ribao's Commentator (July 1) expresses full support for Soviet Foreign Minister Andrei Gromyko's June 28 statement on the conference.

The incontrovertible facts cited in that statement, Commentator declares, completely shattered all Western and especially U.S. attempts to distort the truth concerning the first phase of the Geneva Conference. The Western countries have tried to make out that it was they who wanted a settlement and alleged that it was the Soviet Union which had failed the wishes of the peoples, Commentator says. But the record shows that in the first phase of the conference which was primarily to discuss a peace treaty with Germany and the West Berlin question, all Soviet efforts to get a settlement were rejected by the West. The Western countries first put forward their so-called "package plan" which even in the opinion of the West is impracticable, and then persisted in their demand to perpetuate

THE PASSING SHOW

A Question of Pigs

The battle to keep the animals properly segregated continues in the United States with unmitigated fervour. Now The Three Little Pigs are under fire.

An insistent Miami segregationist has demanded that this book be banned from public library shelves in Florida because in some editions the little pig that is smart enough to outwit the wolf is black, while the one that gets eaten is white.

More Cops, More Crime

The more money the American secret police agency, the Federal Bureau of Investigation, gets, the more crime there is in the United States, it seems.

The budget for Mr. J. Edgar Hoover's outfit rose from $43 million in 1948 to $100 million last year. It has the impressive total of 141 million fingerprints on its files and the number of jail inmates has gone up 225 per cent in the last ten years. But in 1938 alone the number of major crimes of murder, rape, robbery, etc., went up from 2 to 14 per cent and, according to the U.S. Attorney General Rogers, crime is now costing U.S. citizens $20 billion a year. From 1946 to 1957 the increase in major crimes was three times as fast as the increase in population.

Both busy
their occupation rights in West Berlin, thus demonstrating that they had no sincere desire to get agreement on either question.

But, "What is most important now," Commentator points out, "is the attitude of the participants towards the next phase of the conference. Recent statements by Western leaders cannot fail to alert public attention. Their declared intention to continue to hang on to West Berlin shows that they have no intention of changing their position when the Geneva Conference resumes. Their allegations about Soviet insincerity foreshadows their future efforts to sabotage the next phase of the conference."

What deserves particular attention is the fact that West Germany, obviously with U.S. British and French approval, decided to hold its presidential elections in West Berlin. Commentator continues, "This was a glaring provocation. The U.S., Britain and France allowed West Germany to hold its presidential elections at a place to which they do not claim and at precisely the time when the West Berlin question is on the agenda of the Geneva Conference. This can only be regarded as an act of the Western countries designed to create a tense atmosphere for the conference."

There are still a dozen days before the Geneva Conference resumes; the Western countries still have time to reconsider the grave consequences which will ensue if they wreck the conference. Soviet Foreign Minister Gromyko has expressed the sincere hope that the Western governments will use the conference's recess to give a more reasonable appraisal to the Soviet proposals, to give up their unrealistic attempts to obstruct agreement and to prepare on their part to reach agreement so as to pave the way for the normalization of the Berlin situation and the conclusion of a peace treaty with Germany. "This wish of the Soviet Government is shared by all peoples desirous to see positive achievements at the Geneva Conference," Commentator concludes.

WHAT'S ON IN PEKING

Programmes are subject to change. Where times are not listed consult theatre or daily press.

PEKING OPERA

A YANG YEN-HUI VISITS HIS MOTHER

A famous traditional opera. Yang Yen-hui, a general of the Sanga dynasty, is defeated and captured by the Liao invaders. He marries a Liao princess. For fifteen years he lives in the Liao court until one day he learns that his mother and brothers have come to fight against his adopted country. With the help of his wife, the princess, he has a dramatic interview with his mother. Produced by the Mei Lan-fang Peking Opera Troop.

July 7, 7:30 p.m. Ji Xiang Theatre

MODERN OPERA

A THE RED ROCK

Set in 1935, this opera describes the indomitable struggle waged by the people in the revolutionary base on the Szechuan-Shenfu border. Despite white terror and incredible difficulties, they keep the red flag flying. Produced by the Central Experimental Opera Theatre.

July 11 & 12, 7:30 p.m. Music Hall in Zhongshan Park

CONCERT

Joint performances by the Central Philharmonic Symphony Orchestra and Chorus and the Central Radio Symphony Orchestra and Chorus.

Conductor: Wang Lian-hao

Chorus: Su Chin

Director: Li Teh-fan

July 12, 10:00 a.m. Shouda Theatre

THEATRE

A TSAL WEN-CHI

Kuo Mo-o's latest historical play. Two Tao, PrimeMinister of the Han Kingdom, sends two envoys to ask Tsai Wen-chi, who is married to a Hun noble, to return home and continue his scholarly father's work. One envoy threatens the Huns; the other accomplishes Tao's aim by winning their friendship. On their return his life is saved by Wen-chi who has been falsely accused by the other of treachery. On the death of her husband, Wen-chi marries the loyal envoy and is happily reunited with her children. Produced by the Peking People's Art Theatre.

July 7-10, 7:30 p.m. Renmin Theatre

A AESOP

A play by the Brazilian playwright, Guillermo Torres. Based on the life story of Aesop, the slave and clever teller of tales of ancient Greece. It reflects the struggle between slaves and slave-owners, and the determination of the slaves to die for freedom rather than live for the life of slaves. Produced by the Peking People's Art Theatre.

July 7-12, 7:30 p.m. Shouda Theatre

A THE LAST ACT

A play about the life, work and struggles of a group of progressive theatre workers and how they face the Kuomintang's white terror on the eve of liberation. Produced by the China Youth Art Theatre.

July 7-14, 7:30 p.m. China Youth Art Theatre

A THE TEMPEST

The famous play by William Shakespeare, produced in Chinese by the Experimental Theatre of the Central Drama School.

July 7-9, 7:30 p.m. Peking Workers' Club

A A SERVANT OF TWO MASTERS

Goldoni's famous comedy produced in Chinese by the Experimental Theatre of the Central Drama School.

July 10-12, 7:30 p.m. Peking Workers' Club

A TRIP THROUGH THE STARS

A delightful fantasy for children produced by the China Children's Theatre about a trip to the moon by some Young Pioneers and their many adventures in space.

July 10-12, 7:30 p.m. Peking Theatre

FIILMS

A THE DWELLERS ON THE MOUNTAIN

This new film produced by the Peking Film Studio describes the spirit and tenacity of the inhabitants of an isolated mountain area who battle through many difficulties to get a vital railway built.

July 10-12, Daxue, Jiao Daou, Kuo, Erting

A THE CUCKOO SINGS AGAIN

A colour film produced by the Tienna Film Studio. A country girl finds out that the young man with whom she falls in love is just going to marry a Korean girl, narrow-minded fellow; he wants her to be his "lame" wife and tries to prevent her from becoming a tractor driver, so she...

July 11-12, Xiang Jiu Kuo, Peking Exhibition Centre Cinema, Shouda Cinema

A THE STORY OF SIM CHUNG

A colour film version of a Korean opera adapted from an ancient folk tale. Sim Chung, daughter of a poor blind old man, sells herself to pay for an offering to the gods to return her father's sight. Her blind lover moves the King of the Sea, who helps her. She becomes the queen of Korea and is reunited with her father.

July 9-12, Shengji, Xi Dan Theatre

A CITY OF LIBERTY

A Chinese adaptation of German play. Written by Richard Kuhn, produced by the Experimental Theatre of the Central Drama School.

July 9-14, Da Han, Jiao Dao Kuo, Erting

EXHIBITION

A Peking's Fifth Exhibition of Traditional Chinese Paintings. Over 300 pictures by Peking artists. Sponsored by the Peking Research Society of Chinese Painting. Open daily (except Mon.) 9:00-12:00 a.m., 2:30-5:30 p.m.

At Bethal Park

SPORTS

The Hungarian State Men's Basketball Team, the Cambridge University Basketball Team and a football team from Czechoslovakia will shortly visit Peking and compete with Chinese teams. Watch for dates and places!

SWIMMING

A The outdoor swimming pools

The Tao Tan Fun Swimming Pools Daily: 9:00-11:00 a.m., 2:30-5:30 p.m.

The Shi Cha Hai Swimming Pools Daily: 9:00-11:00 a.m., 2:30-5:30 p.m.

The Summer Palace Daily: 9:00 a.m.-6:30 p.m.

July 7, 1959
Dolls from China

Your kiddy will love one of these cute dolls.
They’re lively and lifelike.

SHANGHAI TOYS IMPORT & EXPORT CORPORATION
128 Hu Chiu Road, Shanghai, China
Cable Address: "CHINATOYS" Shanghai

Orders and enquiries welcomed

CHINA NATIONAL SILK CORPORATION
HEAD OFFICE: Foreign Trade Building, Tung Chang An Street, Peking
Cable Address: CHISICORP PEKING
SHANGHAI BRANCH: 17 Chungshan Road E1, Shanghai
Cable Address: CHISICORP SHANGHAI