Premier Chou En-lai Replies to Prime Minister Nehru

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Taming the Yellow River

China's First Passenger Car

Li Ko-jan's Paintings
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by LU HSUN

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Halt the Anti-Chinese Campaign in Indonesia!

The campaign of discrimination against Chinese in Indonesia has aroused deep-felt indignation and widespread protests in our country. The Chinese people demand that it be stopped immediately. They firmly support Foreign Minister Chen Yi's proposals for an overall settlement of the question of overseas Chinese in Indonesia.

Foreign Minister Chen Yi's proposals are specific and constructive, proceeding from a sincere desire to safeguard the friendly relations between the two countries. The Chinese Government has worked consistently for a reasonable settlement of the overseas Chinese question which is inherited from historical developments over a long period of time. As far back as in 1955, a treaty concerning the question of dual nationality was concluded with Indonesia. Now Foreign Minister Chen Yi has proposed an immediate exchange of instruments of ratification of this treaty so that it may be implemented speedily and facilitate the satisfactory settlement of the overseas Chinese question in Indonesia.

For generations the overseas Chinese have laboured together with the Indonesian people to open up the country's resources and they have contributed considerably to its economic and cultural development. They joined hands with the local population in the struggle to win and safeguard Indonesia's national independence, against Dutch colonialists, Japanese invaders and U.S.-instigated rebellion.

The economic life of the overseas Chinese has become a component part of Indonesia's national economy and has always played a positive role in the growth of that economy. Take, for example, the small Chinese traders, who are being persecuted now. The business activities of these labouring people in small towns and villages are definitely beneficial to Indonesia's economic life, particularly its rural-urban trade. It is a distortion of elementary truth to smear these small traders as "remnants of the colonialist economy." There is no justification whatsoever for discrimination against Chinese residents in Indonesia, not to speak of inhuman persecution directed against them.

On the basis of these undeniable realities, Foreign Minister Chen Yi has proposed that the Indonesian Government give effective protection to those overseas Chinese in Indonesia who choose to retain Chinese nationality or whose choice of Indonesian nationality is not approved.

As for those overseas Chinese who have become homeless or who do not wish to remain in Indonesia, the Chinese Government is prepared to arrange for their return to China. Building socialism at a high speed and in a vast land, People's China still feels a shortage of manpower even with a population of 650 million and opens wide her arms to welcome all overseas Chinese who wish to return home to take part in socialist construction.

The Chinese proposals are clearly fair and reasonable. It is hoped that the Indonesian Government will cherish Sino-Indonesian friendship and the solidarity of the Asian and African countries and adopt a co-operative attitude in bringing about a reasonable settlement of the question, leaving no room for the activities of those forces seeking to undermine Sino-Indonesian friendship.
**Round the Week**

**Full Support for Government Stand on Overseas Chinese Question**

Full support has been voiced throughout China for the stand taken by the Government on the question of overseas Chinese in Indonesia set forth in Foreign Minister Chen Yi's letter to Indonesian Foreign Minister Subandrio. Forums and meetings have been held by returned overseas Chinese to discuss the situation. The press is publishing a number of articles and letters from readers on the subject. All condemn the current anti-Chinese campaign whipped up in Indonesia because it imperils the strong bonds of friendship between the peoples of the two countries which have existed for 1,500 years. In their speeches, men and women, people living in retirement and young students, workers and cadres, have given unanimous and unqualified endorsement to the protest lodged by Foreign Minister Chen Yi against the waves of anti-Chinese activities in Indonesia and to his 3-point proposal for an overall settlement of the question of overseas Chinese in Indonesia.

**Meeting in Shanghai**

The 4th plenary session (enlarged) of the First Committee of the All-China Federation of Returned Overseas Chinese which opened in Shanghai on December 16 heard a major speech from Tan Kah Kee, the Chairman of the Federation (full text published on p. 9). Many leading overseas Chinese from Indonesia took advantage of the opportunity presented by the preparatory meeting to discuss the situation there.

Yu Yang-chu (Joe Jong Tsao), Vice-Chairman of the Federation and a deputy of the National People's Congress, declared that the proposals put forward by Foreign Minister Chen Yi provided the best way to achieve a fair and reasonable overall settlement of the overseas Chinese question. If the Government of Indonesia really wishes to safeguard the friendly relations between our two countries and if it sets store by the principles of humanitariam and justice, instead of resorting to one-sided and violent actions, he said, it should agree to the reasonable proposals put forward by the Chinese Government.

Yu Yang-chu said a section of the reactionary forces hostile to Sino-Indonesian friendship got a shopworn theme from one of the drawers in the Pentagon and slandered the overseas Chinese as a "fifth column," using it as a pretext to let loose an anti-Chinese campaign. But it is crystal clear from Foreign Minister Chen Yi's proposals, he pointed out, that the Chinese people never dreamt of using their compatriots abroad to harm any country, nor will they ever do so. China has a population of 650 million and has room for still more people to join in building a great socialist country with modern industry, agriculture, science and culture.

Wang Yuan-hsing (Ong Goan Hlin), Vice-Chairman of the Federation and a deputy of the National People's Congress, said the economic life of the overseas Chinese has long been an inseparable part of the Indonesian economy. Most of the overseas Chinese community consists of labouring people and, like the Indonesian people, they have always been victims of colonialist exploitation. The overseas Chinese small retailers have always played a role beneficial to trade between the urban and rural areas in Indonesia. As a part of the economy of the country in which they reside, the economic life of the overseas Chinese is entirely different from the colonialist economy. Much of the economic power in Indonesia is in the hands of the imperialists. Foreign oil companies have plundered superprofits from the land each year to an amount almost equivalent to the total revenue of Indonesia's state budget. If Indonesia decides to develop her national economy, she should struggle against the stranglehold of imperialist monopoly capital, instead of gunning for the small overseas Chinese retailers.

Wu Yi-hsiu (Go Ik Sioe), Vice-Chairman of the Peking Overseas Chinese Association, a deputy of the National People's Congress, and an overseas Chinese physician who lived in Indonesia formerly, said that when the Indonesian people were fighting against the Dutch colonialists many years ago Chinese took up arms and fought shoulder to shoulder with their Indonesian friends. He recalled instances which speak volumes for the close ties between the overseas Chinese and Indonesian people who have shared times of happiness and adversity together.

"It has always been my belief," Dr. Wu said, "that the broad masses of the Indonesian people are sympathetic and friendly towards us overseas Chinese. The anti-Chinese activities in Indonesia have been whipped up by only a handful of reactionaries, groomed and propped up by the imperialists, whose interests they are serving. But their actions are already causing disquiet and concern among just-minded persons and the great mass of good-hearted people of Indonesia."

Huang Chieh, Vice-Chairman of the Kwangtung Association of Overseas Chinese and deputy of the National People's Congress, said that the Government and people of China have always been friendly towards Indonesia. When Indonesia was confronted with economic difficulties, the Chinese people extended a helping hand. When Indonesia waged a struggle to quell the rebellion in the country, the Chinese Government and people furnished resolute support and material aid. But since last May large-scale hostilities and discrimination against overseas Chinese have taken place in Indonesia. The overseas Chinese have suffered tremendous losses and their personal safety is seriously menaced. Some Indonesian newspapers have gone all out to attack and slander China, to stir up anti-Chinese feeling among the Indonesian people, and have even openly insulted the beloved leaders of the Chinese people. Huang Chieh voiced the feeling of all when he strongly condemned these vicious acts of hostility which, in effect, have repaid kindness with malice.

Many others who spoke at the meeting pointed out that the frenzied acts of discrimination against the Chinese in Indonesia initiated by the reactionary forces in that country would only harm friends and please the common enemy. The facts prove that by driving away the friends of Indonesia the door has been opened to let in the foe. The reactionary forces are hoisting a rock which can only crush their own feet, they said.

**Overseas Chinese Sheet-Anchor**

In Shanghai, Peking, Canton and elsewhere, a strong strand runs through all the speeches: that China is not the China of old. Today she is a strong country which can and does look after the proper rights and interests of her nationals abroad. Chinese residing abroad no longer need feel they are "overseas orphans," they have a mighty motherland which they can rely upon. They realize that with growing prosperity and a vast programme of socialist
construction which can do with extra pairs of hands, the China led by the Communist Party and Chairman Mao Tse-tung welcomes the return of overseas Chinese and provides for their participation in building the new China.

As a matter of fact, during the past ten years the People’s Government has taken care of 300,000 overseas Chinese who have returned to the motherland since liberation. From the moment they set foot on the soil of their homeland they were given every attention. Those who were persecuted abroad and were short of money received free board and lodging, warm clothing, quilts and other necessities and fares to return to their native places. Work was found for them. Technicians, doctors, scientists and others with special training or experience in cultivating tropical and sub-tropical crops were given priority employment by the departments concerned to suit their special qualifications. Large state farms were set up in the coastal provinces of Kwangtung and Fukien and neighbouring Kwangsi, the autonomous region for the Chuang people, to help those impoverished returned overseas Chinese who have no relatives at home.

**Friendship Must Be Upheld**

While the overseas Chinese look upon the motherland as their sheet-anchor and the People’s Government has spared no efforts to provide for returning overseas Chinese, this must not be taken as an excuse for anti-Chinese activities. The profound friendship between the peoples of China and Indonesia must be safeguarded — this is the theme of an article written by Hu Yu-chih, Vice-President of the China-Indonesia Friendship Association which appeared in *Rennen Ribao* on December 16. The writer who lived in Sumatra for some years pointed out that the overseas Chinese in Indonesia have lived and worked closely together for many a long year and have fought shoulder to shoulder for the national independence of Indonesia. They are true friends.

It should not be forgotten, Hu Yu-chih pointed out, that not so long ago U.S. imperialism, the common enemy of the Chinese and Indonesian peoples, had tried by every means to encourage and support the rebels in Indonesia in their attempt to overthrow the Indonesian Government and turn the country into a U.S. colony. The U.S. imperialists provided pilots and aircraft to help the rebels. Since the failure of these manoeuvres they have resorted to sowing discord and scheming to create bad blood between our two countries, waiting for the chance to fish in troubled waters. The question now, Hu Yu-chih said, is not just a matter which concerns several hundred thousand overseas Chinese small retail traders, although their plight deserves our full sympathy and the problems arising from this situation will eventually be solved. It also concerns the destiny of the peoples of the two countries and even peace in Asia and the world. The friends of the two countries must work hard to expose the plots of imperialism aimed at driving the peoples of China and Indonesia apart, and to bring about a settlement of the overseas Chinese question along the principles proposed by Foreign Minister Chen Yi and strive to safeguard and further the traditional friendship between the peoples of the two countries, the Vice-President of the China-Indonesia Friendship Association concluded.

**Kwangsi’s Steel City**

No one thought it likely or possible a year and a half ago. But there it is, a new steel city on the beautiful, meandering Lo-ching River in South China, today an important centre of the metallurgical industry of the Kwangsi Chuang Autonomous Region. Blast furnaces and clusters of smokestacks rise over what was once a desolate area overgrown with brambles and thorns. The booming prosperity of fast-growing industry has dispelled the wilderness quiet. Luchai (Deer’s Village), the name of this new steel city, has grown so fast that it already produces some 70 per cent of all the cast iron used by the engineering industry in the region. It indicates the scope of the big leap forward of 1958.

Luchai was born in the breath-taking expansion of the national economy last year. Last summer, when the whole nation plunged into the steel drive, the peasants in these parts, with rakes, shovels, knives and hachets in hand, came to this place, a stretch of wild country known for the richness of its iron ores and coal deposits. They began to make iron and steel — from scratch. In less than four months they startled the country: in the twenty-four hours ending 2 p.m. October 18, 1958, the peasants-turned-steel makers had produced 207,423 tons of iron, an unparalleled record in the history of the iron and steel industry of China. In a single day Luchai turned out enough good quality iron to fulfil the annual quota of iron output for the entire autonomous region of Kwangsi.

The first flow of iron and steel from Luchai last year opened a new era for Kwangsi. From its native-style blast furnaces an iron and steel complex run on modern lines has been created to give the autonomous region the first sinews of a metallurgical industry. The development of Luchai is typical of the many iron and steel works that have evolved into fine modern enterprises since coming into being during the big leap of 1958.

**Shanghai-Foochow by Train**

Until very recently the easiest connection between Foochow, capital of Fukien Province, and Shanghai, was by boat, and that was a matter of days. Now the distance can be covered by express train in less than 28 hours, thanks to the full operation of the recently built Nanping-Foocow railway line.

The 167-kilometre Nanping-Foocow Railway is the second trunk line built after liberation in this coastal province which, like neighbouring Kwangtung, is known as a home of overseas Chinese. It runs along the Min River and links Foochow with other parts of the country through the 732-kilometre Yingtan-Anmyow Railway, the province’s first line built in 1957. Now that the Nanping-Foocow Railway has been fully commissioned, Fukien’s famous products, such as its exquisite lacquerware, tea, and tangerines are more accessible to other parts of the country.

**New Wheat Harvester**

Taiku in the North China province of Shanxi has won fame with a new wheat harvester which was invented there and is named Taiku. A simple and efficient animal-drawn machine which can reap a hectare of wheat in a little over four hours, it does the work of six men — a very handy machine in these days of intensified technical innovations in the people’s communes. It cuts and reaps clean and piles the wheat neatly on the fields, weighs 173 kilogrammes and can be made at low cost. It was first designed and manufactured by a local farm workshop in accordance with the experience of the peasants. The Taiku harvester is being popularized in all the wheat-producing areas of the country, preparatory to general use in the summer harvest next year.

**History of Tibetan Literature**

A 200,000-word history of Tibetan literature compiled by the Chinese Department of the Chinghai Institute of Nationalities, in Northwest China, has gone to press. Divided into three parts — ancient, modern and contemporary — the history concentrates on folk literature but also deals with other branches of the literature of the Tibetan people over a period of a thousand years.

**December 22, 1959**
Sino-Indian Boundary Question

Premier Chou En-lai’s Letter to Indian Prime Minister Nehru

Peking, December 17, 1959

His Excellency Mr. Jawaharlal Nehru,
Prime Minister of the Republic of India
New Delhi

Dear Mr. Prime Minister,

Thank you for your letter of November 16, 1959. Although the Indian Government’s opinions regarding the prevention of border clashes are still a certain distance away from the Chinese Government’s proposal of November 7 and part of them obviously lack fairness, it is heartening that in your letter you have indicated the desire of trying to avoid all border clashes and to settle the boundary disputes between the two countries by peaceful methods.

The Chinese Government’s proposal of November 7 for the withdrawal of the armed forces of the two countries 20 kilometres respectively along the entire border is aimed at thoroughly eliminating the risk of border clashes not wholly foreseeable, completely changing the present tense situation on the border where the two countries are facing each other in arms, and creating a favourable atmosphere of mutual confidence between the two countries. These aims are unattainable by other provisional measures. Furthermore, the adoption of this measure pending the delimitation of the boundary will in no way prejudice the advancing by each side of its claims when negotiations for the settlement of the boundary question take place. Therefore, the Chinese Government still earnestly hopes that we can reach agreement on such a measure for the sake of friendship between our two countries in the past and for hundreds of years to come. As to how far the armed forces of each country should withdraw, the Chinese Government is entirely willing to decide on a distance which will be deemed appropriate by both sides through consultation with the Indian Government.

Pending the above-mentioned agreement, the Chinese Government, in a conciliatory spirit and out of the desire to move towards the withdrawal of armed forces along the entire border, is prepared to agree first to reach a partial solution by applying the proposal you have made in your letter for the non-stationing of the armed forces of both sides at Longju to the other disputed places on the border as well. In the eastern sector of the Sino-Indian border, armed Indian personnel once occupied Longju and are now still in occupation of Khinzheman. In the western sector of the Sino-Indian border, armed Indian personnel are up to now in occupation of Shipki Pass, Parigas, Sang, Tsungsha, Puling-Sumdo, Chvua, Chuje, Sangcha and Lapthal. Most of these places which definitely belong to China were occupied successively by armed Indian personnel after the signing of the 1954 Agreement on Trade and Intercourse Between China and India in which China and India for the first time put forward the Five Principles of Peaceful Coexistence. Among them Puling-Sumdo is one of the ten places where the Chinese Government agreed to open as markets for trade in the Aria area of the Tibet Region of China as specified in Article II, Section 2 of the 1954 Agreement. Now since the Indian Government holds a different opinion on the ownership of these places, the Chinese Government proposes that no armed personnel of either side be stationed at any of them.

Pending a further agreement between the two sides, the Chinese Government also welcomes the Indian Government’s proposal for the frontier outposts of the two sides to stop sending out patrols. The Chinese Government has, in fact, instructed the Chinese frontier guards to stop sending out patrols from all their outposts on the Sino-Indian border after the Kongka Pass incident. Now that the Indian side has also taken the same step, this is of course a happy progress in safeguarding the tranquility of the border between the two countries. But the Chinese Government would like to ask for clarification on one point, that is: the proposal to stop patrolling should apply to the entire Sino-Indian border, and no different measure should be adopted in the sector of the border within China and India’s Ladakh.

The Chinese Government is very much perplexed by the fact that Your Excellency put forward a separate proposal for the prevention of clashes in the sector of the border between China and India’s Ladakh. The Chinese Government deems it necessary to point out the following: (1) There is no reason to treat this sector of the border as a special case. The line up to which each side exercises actual control in this sector is very clear, just as it is in the other sectors of the Sino-Indian border. As a matter of fact, the Chinese map published in 1956, to which Your Excellency referred, correctly shows the traditional boundary between the two countries in this sector. Except for the Parigas area by the Shangtangspu River, India has not occupied any Chinese territory east of this section of the traditional boundary. (2) This proposal of Your Excellency’s represents a big step backward from the principle agreed upon earlier by the two countries of maintaining for the time being the status quo actually existing on the border. To demand a great change in this state as a pre-condition for the elimination of border clashes is not to diminish but to widen the dispute. (3) Your Excellency’s proposal is unfair. Your Excellency proposes that in this sector Chinese personnel withdraw to the east of the boundary as shown on Indian maps and
Indian personnel withdraw to the west of the boundary as shown on Chinese maps. This proposal may appear "equitable" to those who are ignorant about the truth. But even the most anti-Chinese part of the Indian press pointed out immediately that, under this proposal, India's "concession" would only be theoretical, because, to begin with, the area concerned does not belong to India and India has no personnel there to withdraw, while China would have to withdraw from a territory of above 33,000 square kilometres, which has long belonged to it, its military personnel guarding the frontiers and its civil administrative personnel of the Hoten County, the Sinkiang Uighur Autonomous Region, and of Rudok Dzong in the Ari area of the Tibet Autonomous Region respectively.

(4) This area has long been under Chinese jurisdiction and is of great importance to China. Since the Ching Dynasty, this area has been the traffic artery linking up the vast regions of Sinkiang and western Tibet. As far back as in the latter half of 1950, it was along the traditional route in this area that units of the Chinese People's Liberation Army entered the Ari area of Tibet from Sinkiang to guard the frontiers. In the nine years since then, they have been making regular and busy use of this route to bring supplies. On the basis of this route, the motor-road over 1,200 kilometres long from Yelcheng in southwestern Sinkiang to Gartok in southwestern Tibet was built by Chinese frontier guard units together with more than 3,000 civilian builders working under extremely difficult natural conditions from March 1956 to October 1957, cutting across high mountains, throwing bridges and building culverts. For up to eight or nine years since the peaceful liberation of Sinkiang and Tibet when units of the Chinese People's Liberation Army began to be stationed in and patrol this area till September 1958 when the intrusion of the area by armed Indian personnel occurred, so many activities were carried out by the Chinese side in this area under its jurisdiction, and yet the Indian side was utterly unaware of them. This is eloquent proof that this area has indeed always been under Chinese jurisdiction and not under Indian jurisdiction. Now the Indian Government asserts that this area has all along been under Indian jurisdiction. This is absolutely unconvincing.

If the Indian Government, after being acquainted with the above viewpoints of the Chinese Government, should still insist that its demand in regard to this area is proper, then the Chinese Government would like to know whether the Indian Government is prepared to apply the same principle equally to the eastern sector of the border, that is to say, to require both the Chinese and Indian sides to withdraw all their personnel from the area between the so-called McMahon Line and the eastern section of the Sino-Indian boundary as shown on Chinese maps (and on Indian maps too during a long period of time). The Chinese Government has not up to now made any demand in regard to the area south of the so-called McMahon Line as a pre-condition or interim measure, and what I find difficult to understand is why the Indian Government should demand that the Chinese side withdraw one-sidedly from its western frontier area.

Your Excellency and the Indian Government have repeatedly referred to the historical data concerning the Sino-Indian boundary as produced by the Indian side. The Chinese side had meant to give its detailed reply to Your Excellency's letter of September 26 and the Note of the Indian Ministry of External Affairs of November 4 in the forthcoming talks between the Prime Ministers of the two countries, and thought it more appropriate to do so. Since the talks between the two Prime Ministers have not yet taken place, however, the Chinese Ministry of Foreign Affairs will give a reply in the near future. I do not wish to go here into the details of the matter. I would only point out again the simple fact that, according to objective history, the entire boundary between our two countries has indeed never been delimited, and it is impossible to deny this. I have noticed that the Indian side has, in its account of the boundary between the two countries, purposely left out many obvious basic facts. For example, it does not mention the fact that on the official maps compiled by the Survey of India in the past, up to the 1938 edition, the delineation of the eastern section of the Sino-Indian boundary still corresponded to that on Chinese maps, while the western section of the Sino-Indian boundary was not drawn at all; even in its 1950, 1951 and 1952 editions published after the founding of the People's Republic of China, both the eastern and western sections of the Sino-Indian boundary, though incorrectly drawn, were clearly indicated as undelimited. The Chinese Government cannot see on what ground the Indian Government began suddenly in recent years to change the undelimited boundary in both the eastern and western sectors on its maps into delimited boundary. I have made a detailed study of the heap of data cited in Your Excellency's letter of September 26, still I cannot find any satisfactory answer.

The Chinese Government has pointed out many times that the boundary between China and India is very long and has never been delimited by the two Governments, that there are discrepancies between the maps of the two countries, and that therefore it is natural that the two countries should hold different opinions regarding the boundary. A reasonable settlement of this outstanding historical issue should not be difficult at all to achieve provided it is sought through friendly consultations. The People's Republic of China is a socialist country of the working people, where the exploiting classes and pro-imperialist forces who attempted to profit by outward expansion and provocations against other countries have long lost for good their footing for carrying out their activities. The People's Republic of China is consistently faithful to the Five Principles of Peaceful Coexistence; it absolutely does not allow itself to take an attitude of big-nation chauvinism towards other countries, let alone encroach one inch upon foreign territory. Further, China has such a vast expanse of territory, more than half of which, moreover, is sparsely populated and will take great efforts to develop. It would be extremely ludicrous to think that such a country would still want to seek trouble in some desolate areas of a neighbouring country. Therefore, although there are some undelimited sections in the boundaries between China and some of its neighbouring countries in south Asia (whether they are big or small, friendly or unfriendly towards China), China has not taken and will never take advantage of this situation to make any change in the state actually existing on the border.

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by resorting to unilateral action. China is moreover prepared, even after the settlement of the outstanding boundary issues, to work in union and co-operation with all its neighbouring countries for the creation of a most peaceful, secure and friendly boundary. Your Excellency is aware that the so-called McMahon Line in the eastern sector of the Sino-Indian border has never been recognized by past Chinese governments, nor by the Government of the People's Republic of China, yet the Government of the People's Republic of China has strictly abided by its statement of absolutely not allowing its armed personnel to cross this line in waiting for a friendly settlement of the boundary question. It is quite obvious that China, which has not even stepped into the vast area south of the so-called McMahon Line which, not long ago, was still under the jurisdiction of the local government of the Tibet Region of China (part of the area up to 1951), would of course not think of stepping onto Indian territory at any place along the western sector of the Sino-Indian border. The Chinese military and civil administrative personnel over there, just as in other areas along the border, are only stationed on and guarding their own territory. However, the Indian Government has not only taken an unreasonable attitude of refusing to discuss the eastern sector of the border, but also laid territorial claim to an area in the western sector of the border, which has never been under Indian rule. This has indeed greatly surprised the Chinese Government and people. In the interest of upholding Sino-Indian friendship, the Chinese Government has always exercised the utmost self-restraint in the hope of settling these disputes with the Indian Government through friendly negotiations. Even after armed Indian personnel intruded into Chinese territory and provoked successively the incidents in the areas south of Mi-giyun and south of the Kongka Pass, the Chinese Government still maintained a conciliatory spirit, avoided aggravation of the situation, and dealt in a friendly manner with the armed Indian personnel captured in the Kongka Pass incident. Yet the Indian side, disregarding the objective facts, arbitrarily asserted that both incidents were provoked by China, that China maltreated the captured Indian personnel, and even unscrupulously abused China as aggressor, imperialism, etc. I must say that both our people and Government feel extreme regret at such a serious state of affairs.

Dear Mr. Prime Minister! Both our countries are still very backward economically and culturally. We urgently need to engross ourselves in long-term peaceful construction at home so as to free ourselves step by step from the present state of backwardness. We have no need to create tension between our two friendly nations or between us and any other country, thus dissipating and diverting our people's attention from domestic matters. The peoples of our two countries and the overwhelming majority of the people of the world are inspired by the fact that the world situation is developing in a direction favourable to peace. But unfortunately there are still not a few influential groups in the world who obstinately oppose this trend; they are trying to poison the international atmosphere, continuing the cold war and creating tension to place barriers in the way of East-West talks; they are slandering the peace policy of the socialist countries and inciting discord between the Asian-African countries and the socialist countries, so that they may profit thereby. At present, they are obviously exerting their utmost to sow discord between China and India. Under these circumstances, the speedy holding of talks between the two Prime Ministers is our unshirkable responsibility not only to our two peoples but also to world peace.

With high respects,

(Signed) Chou En-lai
Premier of the State Council of the People's Republic of China

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Opening Address at the Returned Overseas Chinese Federation Session

by TAN KAH KEE

Following is the opening speech of Tan Kah Kee, Chairman of the All-China Federation of Returned Overseas Chinese, delivered at the enlarged Fourth Plenary Session of the First Committee of the Federation in Shanghai on December 16. — Ed.

THE enlarged Fourth Plenary Session of the First Committee of the All-China Federation of Returned Overseas Chinese is now open. Among those present are leading comrades of the relevant departments of the Shanghai Municipal Committee of the Chinese Communist Party and Government. We are greatly encouraged by their presence and the guidance they will give us. I hereby convey warm welcome and heartfelt thanks to them on behalf of all the committee members and the delegates present.

A few days before our meeting convened, we read the letter sent by Foreign Minister Chen Yi to Indonesian Foreign Minister Subandrio on an overall solution of the question of overseas Chinese in Indonesia. The letter fully expresses our Government’s sincerity in upholding friendship between China and Indonesia and its consistent stand in protecting the proper rights and interests of the overseas Chinese. The letter solemnly condemns and protests against the anti-Chinese activities and discrimination in Indonesia, puts forward three reasonable proposals for an overall solution of the overseas Chinese question, and expresses the hope that the Indonesian Government will immediately appoint representatives to hold consultations with the representatives of our Government for the solution of the overseas Chinese question.

In addition to suggesting that the Governments of both countries settle, as quickly as possible, the question of dual nationality of overseas Chinese and urging the Indonesian Government effectively protect the proper rights and interests of the overseas Chinese, the letter of Foreign Minister Chen Yi especially mentions that the Chinese Government is prepared, as regards those overseas Chinese who have become homeless and lost their means of livelihood or who do not wish to remain in Indonesia, to make arrangements, in accordance with their desire, for their return to China to take part in construction. It expresses the hope that the Indonesian Government will in a fair and reasonable spirit, send them back to China by stages and in groups. This has not only expressed the boundless concern of the 650 million Chinese people for the overseas Chinese, but also fully reflected the desire and sentiments of the broad masses of overseas Chinese abroad. All of us returned overseas Chinese enthusiastically endorse and firmly support the proposals put forward by Foreign Minister Chen Yi on behalf of our Government.

An adverse trend of discrimination against the Chinese and anti-Chinese activities has been apparent in Indonesia since last May. This adverse trend has not lessened since the publication of the Joint Communiqué of Foreign Minister Chen Yi and Foreign Minister Subandrio on the safeguarding and development of friendly relations between the two countries and on a reasonable solution of the overseas Chinese question. On the contrary, it has grown. Certain forces hostile to Sino-Indonesian friendship, making use of the regulation banning small and retail trade activities of an alien nature outside of the capitals of autonomous districts of first and second ranks and of residencies, are concentrating their attacks on the overseas Chinese, forcing them to move from their original places of residence, seriously impairing the proper rights and interests of the overseas Chinese and causing serious violations of their personal safety. Large numbers of overseas Chinese have become homeless and have lost their means of livelihood. What arouses particular indignation is that, in forcing overseas Chinese to move out, things have gone so far that police and armed forces and shooting were employed. The pregnant and the sick were ruthlessly thrown into lorries, many overseas Chinese were beaten and insulted and the wounded were not permitted hospitalization. Serious cases of bloodshed were caused. Recently, overseas Chinese have been arrested arbitrarily and they have suffered inhuman maltreatment.

In order to maintain their existence, the overseas Chinese there have repeatedly appealed to the local governments, asking for protection and an end to the persecution, but to no avail. With a view to protecting the proper rights and interests of the overseas Chinese, the Chinese Government has more than once called the attention of the Indonesian Government to the situation. The Chinese Embassy and consulates in Indonesia have also made repeated representations and protests with the Indonesian Government. But the Indonesian authorities have turned a deaf ear to all this. On the contrary, they have, in violation of international practice, unreasonably restricted the legitimate activities of the personnel of the Chinese Embassy and consulates. Besides, some newspapers and magazines in Indonesia, in order to instigate anti-Chinese sentiments, in co-ordination with the discriminatory activities against the Chinese have also spread slanders and calumnies against our country on a large scale. They even went so far as to insult the beloved leaders of our people, gravely hurting the feelings of the Chinese people. The anti-Chinese activities and discrimination against overseas Chinese in Indonesia, which are seriously detrimental to the friendship between the two countries, are not only intolerable to the Chinese people, but have also caused uneasiness and dissatisfaction among fair-minded public figures and the broad masses in Indonesia.

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THE overseas Chinese have resided in Indonesia for more than 1,500 years. For a long time, the overseas Chinese have lived in close friendship with the Indonesian people. With their industrious labour the overseas Chinese have made indelible contributions to the development of the economy and culture of Indonesia. Together with the Indonesian people, they have blazed new trails and opened up the rich plantations, farms and mines in Indonesia. They stimulated local trade and promoted the exchange of goods between the rural and urban areas. In step with Indonesian national economic development, the economic life of the overseas Chinese has become an integral part of it. The masses of overseas Chinese have not only closely identified with the Indonesian people in social and economic life but have consistently fought shoulder to shoulder with them for Indonesian national independence, and in resisting the aggression of the Dutch and Japanese imperialists. Thousands of overseas Chinese laid down their lives in the struggle against the Japanese imperialists.

As examples of the heroes who shed their lifeblood on Indonesian soil in the fight against Japanese aggression, there were Chou Pin, Chen Shu-hsi, Huo Ching-ya, Chen Chi-hai, Wu Hua-wo, Li Chin-yung of Sumatra and Shen Wang-chin of Java. During the Indonesian people's struggle against Dutch colonial rule in 1945, many overseas Chinese broke through the Dutch blockade and delivered munitions and other supplies for the Indonesian army. Others directly joined the Indonesian people's armed forces or formed 'wartime service corps' to rescue wounded soldiers and refugees in the war zones.

Since the successive independence of China and Indonesia, especially since the Bandung Conference, the friendship between our two countries has progressed further and the overseas Chinese and local people have established ever closer relations. On the advice of the Chinese Government, the mass of overseas Chinese have abided by the laws of the Indonesian Government and have not taken part in local political activities. They have taken a more active part than ever in economic and cultural undertakings beneficial to the Indonesian people. In the Indonesian people's struggle against imperialist intervention and in suppression of the rebel cliques particularly, our Government and people and the masses of overseas Chinese have resolutely sided with the Indonesian people and extended the greatest possible support to them. These historical facts demonstrate fully that the overseas Chinese and the Indonesian people have become tried and tested friends in their common life and their common struggles over a long period. What distresses us, however, is the fact that certain Indonesian forces, for ulterior motives, have returned evil for good, openly slandering the overseas Chinese as a "fifth column" and alleging that "overseas Chinese economy is a survival of colonialist economy." The overseas Chinese are being treated as nationals of an enemy country and subjected to inhuman persecution. This betrayal of one's friends and treating them like foes will undoubtedly be welcomed by enemies and cause pain to friends.

Everyone knows that the overseas Chinese question is one inherited from the development of history over a long period of time. It is not hard through friendly negotiations by the two sides on the basis of the principles of the Bandung Conference, to eliminate certain phenomena which are rather unreasonable. In fact, as early as 1955, the Chinese Government and the Indonesian Government signed the treaty concerning the settlement of the question of dual nationality of overseas Chinese and afterward notes were exchanged between the Prime Ministers of the two countries.

As to how to channel more overseas Chinese investments into industry, the Chinese Government has given the overseas Chinese advice and suggested that the Indonesian Government adopt appropriate steps to absorb overseas Chinese capital for the development of its own national industry. The Joint Communiqué of the Foreign Ministers of the two countries, signed in October this year, clearly stated that in dealing with the economic status of the overseas Chinese, the principle should be one that benefits the development of the Indonesian economy and at the same time respects the proper rights and interests of the overseas Chinese. On August 17, 1959, President Sukarno declared in his political manifesto that non-native forces and funds would obtain an appropriate place and opportunity in the efforts to increase production in the fields of industry and agriculture in Indonesia.

But, regrettably, the implementation of the dual nationality treaty has long been delayed and the principles laid down in the Joint Communiqué of the Foreign Ministers of the two countries and in the political manifesto of President Sukarno have also not been observed. Instead, crude attacks on overseas Chinese have taken place in Indonesia. Some Indonesian forces, for ulterior motives, have even seized the chance to launch a large-scale wave of anti-Chinese activities and discrimination against the Chinese.

WE cannot help asking this question: if their real purpose is for the development of the Indonesian national economy, why do they not dare touch imperialist monopoly capital, but concentrate their strength on attacking the small Chinese traders? If they are really in earnest about settling the overseas Chinese question, why do they discard the agreement reached long ago by the Governments of the two countries and adopt crude measures against the overseas Chinese? It is not hard to see that certain forces, for ulterior motives, do not really want to develop Indonesia's national economy and have no sincere desire to settle the overseas Chinese question. They are simply using this as a pretext deliberately to undermine the friendship between China and Indonesia and fan national chauvinist sentiments, to divert the Indonesian people from their goal in their national and democratic struggles and to attack the patriotic and democratic forces of Indonesia, thus opening the back door to the aggressive forces of U.S. imperialism and Japanese militarism. If such conspiracies succeed, not only will damage be done to the overseas Chinese and
the friendship between China and Indonesia, but above all, to the cause of Indonesia's national independence.

The birth of New China brought fundamental changes to the status of overseas Chinese. Our Government and people have boundless concern for the overseas Chinese and do everything possible to protect their proper rights and interests. We returned overseas Chinese in particular, who have lived abroad for a long period feel this deeply. In the old China days of internal disturbance, foreign invasion and economic bankruptcy, the many overseas Chinese who were compelled to leave their native villages and earn a living abroad were subjected to discrimination, persecution, oppression and exploitation by the imperialists and the reactionary forces in the countries in which they resided. They had nowhere to turn to with their complaints against their bitter sufferings and, though they had a motherland, it was not easy to return to it. They were in the miserable state of living under other people's roofs, devoid of support. But this state of affairs was a thing of the past.

TODAY our great motherland is growing more powerful and more prosperous with each passing day. Our Government and people will never passively watch the willful persecution and bullying of overseas Chinese. If the countries in which they reside discriminate against them and they have difficulties in earning a living, they can return to the motherland at any time and join in national construction. During the past ten years, more than 300,000 overseas Chinese have returned to the motherland. They have been given every consideration by their motherland and appropriate arrangements have been made for their work and life. This shows that our great motherland is a most powerful support for the overseas Chinese. The Government and people of our country have particular concern for the overseas Chinese in Indonesia who are now suffering inhuman treatment. Foreign Minister Chen Yi, on behalf of the Government of our country, has formally proposed that with regard to those overseas Chinese who have been rendered homeless, lost their means of livelihood or are unwilling to remain in Indonesia, the Chinese Government is prepared to arrange for them, in accordance with their own wishes, to take up life at home and provide them with the opportunity of taking part in the socialist construction of the motherland. We wholeheartedly support this step taken by our Government and offer a warm welcome to all compatriots abroad who wish to return to the bosom of the motherland. This reasonable proposal of our Government, however, should never be used as a pretext for further persecution and discrimination against overseas Chinese. The four principles regarding arrangements for the return of overseas Chinese, as laid down by Foreign Minister Chen Yi in his letter, are reasonable and completely in accord with international practice. The Government of our country has always observed these principles in evacuating foreign nationals who wish to go back home. In the case of Japanese nationals, for example, though China has not yet signed a peace treaty or established diplomatic relations with Japan, the Chinese Government observed these principles when evacuating the Japanese nationals to their homeland. We therefore hope that the Indonesian Government will accept the proposal of the Chinese Government so that the return of the overseas Chinese will proceed smoothly.

Comrades, delegates: The situation in our country is extremely good. We are building our socialist motherland at top speed. All our construction is shooting ahead and our motherland is quickly changing its appearance and becoming prosperous. Since last year, the people throughout our country, under the inspiring leadership of the Chinese Communist Party and Chairman Mao Tsetung and the beacon light of the general line for building socialism, have made an unprecedented leap forward in socialist construction and set up people's communes throughout the countryside. Now the people as a whole are in the midst of a vigorous new upsurge in production and construction in response to the great call for a campaign against right deviations, for high enthusiasm at work and for increasing production and practising economy, put forward by the Eighth Plenary Session of the Eighth Central Committee of the Chinese Communist Party.

Following the check-up, our people's communes have been greatly consolidated and have taken the path of sound development, more and more fully displaying their superiority. This has been the most important guarantee this year enabling us to defeat the exceptional natural calamities and gather bumper harvests.

Thanks to the common efforts of the people throughout the country, all the production targets for 1959 will certainly be exceeded; the fulfilment of the Second Five-Year Plan three years ahead of time will soon become a reality. Our people will raise the red banner of the general line still higher and, travelling along the successful road of big leaps forward opened up in 1958, will struggle heroically to continue the leap forward in the future, to catch up with Britain in the production of major industrial products within ten years, and to build our country rapidly into a great socialist state with modern industry, modern agriculture and modern science and culture.

WE are glad to see that by their initiative, the masses of returned overseas Chinese have made splendid contributions to the socialist construction of our motherland. From their ranks have come many pace-setters and outstanding workers on various fronts. For example, all but one of the 17 returned overseas Chinese in the No. 1 Motor Works in Changchun are model or outstanding workers. A returned overseas Chinese, Lin Teh-shih, a grinder in the Tientsin No. 1 Machine-Building Plant, has been elected a model worker in the industries in Tientsin for his outstanding work for more than five years running without any rejects. Among the outstanding workers and groups present at the National Conference of Labour Heroes in Peking in October of this year, eleven represented returned overseas Chinese. Fifty thousand returned overseas Chinese students are living in close unity with other students and are studying well. Many of them have become outstanding students who support socialism, love labour, show concern for collective interests, and have made outstanding achievements in study. For instance, among the 500 returned overseas Chinese students in Hangchow, 105 have been commend- ed as good students from the point of view of ideology, study and physical labour in the past term and more than one hundred have been accepted as members of the Chinese Communist Youth League. Many returned overseas Chinese graduates have applied their abilities at their

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posts of work and become a force in the socialist construction of the motherland. Among the delegates at today's meeting are people who are outstanding and model workers in various fields. They include Wang Yin-hsiang, who is a member of an overseas Chinese family, a model militiaman from the coastal front in Fukien and a merited flood fighter; Wu Hua-ching, deputy head of a production brigade of the Chinghung Farm in Hisiuhuangpanna in Yunnan Province, who is a returned overseas Chinese from Indonesia; Huang Chun-hai, an outstanding sales clerk in the Sammen Gorge, who is a returned overseas Chinese from Thailand; Wang Chi-chang, a medical worker from the northern range of the Tienshan Mountains in Sinkiang; and Chen Jui-tu, a returned overseas Chinese from Indonesia who successfully trial-produced a semiconductor automatic control electric bulb and an automatic control device for electrostatic spinning. All this shows vividly that the motherland has rich soil everywhere for the rearing of heroes. All overseas Chinese who return to the motherland will find suitable jobs, under the care of the Government, be able to display their abilities and be given the opportunity to perform deeds of glory for the motherland and for the generations that will follow.

The socialist construction of our country is thriving. This has helped it solve the employment problem fundamentally throughout the country. We do not now feel any over-population. On the contrary, a shortage of labour is widely felt.

China possesses vast territory and abundant natural resources. Everywhere resources remain to be exploited! Every day new undertakings are launched. Even when we bring about the industrialization and the mechanization of agriculture of a high degree we shall not worry about over-population but rather about the shortage of people. As time goes on, the socialist construction of the motherland will need the return of more and more overseas Chinese to take part in production. This fact shatters the infamous slander spread by imperialism and the reactionaries abroad that China will use its "surplus" population for "expansion" and utilize overseas Chinese to carry out "subversion."

We offer a welcome home not only to all overseas Chinese in Indonesia who have been rendered homeless and lost their means of livelihood or are unwilling to remain there, but to all overseas Chinese abroad who desire to return because of difficulties encountered or because of other reasons. The All-China Federation of Returned Overseas Chinese will help the Government make appropriate arrangements for their life and work, in accordance with the needs of work and their own wishes, so that they can work happily along with all the other people at home for the building of our great socialist motherland.

Comrades and delegates: The main task of the All-China Federation of Returned Overseas Chinese is to handle satisfactorily the affairs of the returned overseas Chinese, under the leadership of the Chinese Communist Party and the Government, and in co-ordination with the departments concerned, so as to unite them, their families and returned overseas Chinese students and bring their initiative into full play in the service of the socialist construction of our country, and, at the same time, to develop closer contacts with the overseas Chinese abroad, strengthen their great patriotic unity and promote friendship between the overseas Chinese and the local people of the countries of their residence.

We have made great achievements in our past work. Our current meeting is to discuss how to improve our work further in all respects in the coming year so as to make a still bigger contribution to the socialist construction of our motherland. I am convinced that our present conference will undoubtedly be a success. We will certainly achieve still greater success.

Long live the great, socialist motherland! Long live the Chinese Communist Party! Long live Chairman Mao Tse-tung, the great leader of the Chinese people!

The Common Interests of Overseas Chinese and Indonesians

In an interview with the Hsinhua News Agency in Peking on December 12, Chang Kuo-chi, people's deputy to the National People's Congress and a returned overseas Chinese who lived for very many years in Indonesia, warmly supported Foreign Minister Chen Yi's proposals for a comprehensive settlement of the question of the overseas Chinese in Indonesia.

The Chinese Government has in mind first of all the safeguarding of the friendship between China and Indonesia and protection of the proper rights and interests of overseas Chinese in Indonesia, Chang Kuo-chi said. Its proposals are just and reasonable; they completely accord with the five principles of peaceful coexistence and the spirit of the Bandung Conference. There is no doubt that they will have the support of the broad masses of Chinese and Indonesians.

Chang Kuo-chi expressed great indignation at recent acts of discrimination against Chinese residents in Indonesia. Overseas Chinese and Indonesians have lived in friendship for hundreds of years, he noted. Overseas Chinese have made considerable contribution to the economic development of Indonesia and have always supported the anti-colonialist struggle of the Indonesian people. Whenever Indonesia has encountered difficulties, the Chinese Government has done its best to help. Yet the overseas Chinese are now being treated by Indonesia as if they were na-
tional of a hostile country; and they are being ruthlessly persecuted and discriminated against. This offends against justice and right. The 650 million Chinese people resolutely oppose it. The broad masses of the Indonesian people will not tolerate it either.

Contributions to Indonesia’s Economy

Giving a detailed account of the history of how the overseas Chinese got to Indonesia and the contributions they have made to that country, Chang Kuo-chi underlined the differences between the overseas Chinese and nationals of the colonialist powers in Indonesia. The latter went to Indonesia backed by gunboats with the set purpose of exploiting the local people, whereas the overseas Chinese were in Indonesia as labouring people to make a living there.

Overseas Chinese were moving to Indonesia as far back as 1,500 years ago; but it was only in modern times did this migration take on big dimensions. Following their invasion of Indonesia, between the beginning of the 17th and the middle of the 18th century, the Dutch colonialists brought in large numbers of Chinese workers to open up their new colony. These were from the Chinese coastal areas and were simply abducted and deceived into going to Indonesia as “contract labourers.” Over the last century and more, imperialist aggression against old China and the corrupt rule of the reactionaries brought bankruptcy to ever wider areas of the Chinese countryside and a mounting number of unemployed. Large numbers of poor peasants from China’s coastal provinces, especially in Kwangtung and Fukien, went overseas to earn a living in Indonesia.

For hundreds of years, these overseas Chinese working people laboured together with the Indonesian people and shared their fate, Chang Kuo-chi pointed out. They worked hard and made no small contribution to the opening up of local resources and development of the Indonesian economy. History records that as early as 942 A.D. there were many Chinese in Sumatra engaged in farming and they introduced Chinese farm implements and agricultural techniques. Tea culture was also introduced into Indonesia by overseas Chinese. The Java sugar industry, known throughout the world, grew in scale after the overseas Chinese introduced their advanced experience in sugar-cane cultivation and sugar-refining technique. Most of the tobacco plantations along the eastern coast of Sumatra, the pepper plantations in the Bangka and Belitung Islands, the fishing industry in Bagan Siapiapi and the lumbering industry in Sulawesi and Kalimantan were opened up and developed thanks to the hard work put in by the overseas Chinese workers. In the suburbs of Indonesian cities you will find overseas Chinese market gardeners growing vegetables and fruits, breeding livestock and raising poultry for the local people. An even larger number of overseas Chinese work on the rubber and tobacco plantations, in the tin and gold mines and oilfields run by the Western colonialists. Indonesia is the second biggest tin-producing country in the world, but until now most of the workers employed in its biggest tin mine, the Bangka-Belitung tin mines (formerly owned by the Dutch) are Chinese. Overseas Chinese have also contributed hard work to the building and expansion of Djakarta, Medan and other big cities in Indonesia.

Referring to the nature and role of the overseas Chinese economy, Chang Kuo-chi said that ever since the Western colonialists invaded Indonesia, there has been a quickening pace of development of a commodity economy and the class polarization in society. Among the overseas Chinese, a small number gradually became capitalists, but the majority have remained labouring people. Among the overseas Chinese labourers there are urban workers, farm labourers, shop assistants, small traders, peddlars and others. Small Chinese traders and peddlars are individual labourers in trade. They rely on their own labour for a living. Although a section of them do exploit other working people to a slight extent, they themselves suffer even greater exploitation by foreign monopoly capitalists and local capitalists. Most of these small traders and peddlars live in villages, and many of them have been settled there for generations. With their relatively rich experiences in the field of distribution, they play an active and useful role in promoting urban-rural trade and in serving the local people. Therefore, to ban these small traders without making adequate preparations to provide them with a new means of livelihood and before replacing them with new distribution agencies will not only harm the proper rights and interests of these overseas Chinese but also bring difficulties to Indonesia’s national economy.

Overseas Chinese capitalists only constitute about 10 per cent of the overseas Chinese population, Chang Kuo-chi said. The small and medium enterprises run by them, just like those run by the Indonesian national capitalists, play an active role in developing Indonesia’s economy. The profits they reap are reinvested in local economic enterprises. As to the extremely small number of overseas Chinese capitalists who have engaged in some improper dealings, they are opposed by the broad masses of overseas Chinese who approve the banning of these improper economic activities by the Indonesian Government.

It can be seen, therefore, that the overseas Chinese economic activities are a component part of Indonesia’s national economy and have always played an active role in that economy. The wild charge made by certain persons that these overseas Chinese economic activities constitute the “remnants of a colonial economy” is a sheer distortion of the facts made with ulterior motives.

Chinese Shed Blood for Indonesia

Chang Kuo-chi cited many facts showing that the overseas Chinese have always supported the Indonesian people’s struggle against colonialism and for national independence. Ever since Western colonialist forces penetrated Indonesia, the overseas Chinese have suffered the same plunder, persecution and repression by the colonial rulers as the Indonesian people. It is this community of interests which made them strengthen their solidarity and struggle undauntedly against the colonialists. In the “Angkee” Incident in 1740, for example, the overseas Chinese fought heroically shoulder to shoulder with the Indonesian people against the Dutch colonialist rulers. The blood of the Chinese and Indonesian peoples has been shed on the same beautiful land of Indonesia.

During the occupation of Indonesia by the Japanese imperialists, many Chinese residents took joint action with the Indonesian people in the resistance movement. As a rule, the Chinese residents adopted a non-en-operative attitude towards the Japanese army. When Indonesia declared its independence in 1945, the broad masses of the overseas Chinese warmly welcomed and supported the
national independence struggle of the Indonesian people. Many Chinese residents personally took part in the armed struggle against the aggressive British and Dutch forces. During the U.S.-instigated rebellion in 1958, the overseas Chinese actively supported the Indonesian people in the struggle against U.S. imperialist intervention, both in their public utterances and in practical action. They helped the Indonesian Government in maintaining social order and stabilizing prices. The Indonesian Government once expressed its appreciation to the Chinese residents in these words: "You are really sincere in assisting us in our work and struggle."

A Close Friendship Has Been Forged

Besides giving support in the common struggle against the colonists, the Chinese residents, throwing in their lot with the Indonesians, have developed mutual help, cultural, social welfare and other friendly activities with them, such as relief to victims of natural calamities and contributions by the Chinese residents for the building of local schools. Thus, a close friendship had been forged between the Chinese residents and the Indonesian people through long years of living together and struggling side by side.

Since the founding of the People's Republic of China, Chang Kuo-chi continued, in accordance with the peaceful foreign policy of their home country and following the guidance of their motherland, the overseas Chinese have consistently supported the Indonesian struggle for national independence, helped the Indonesian people in their economic development, respected Indonesian laws and customs, refrained from taking part in local politics and have always lived together in friendship with the Indonesian people. They are China's envoys of peace and friendship and have played a useful role in furthering the development of friendly relations between China and Indonesia and their economic co-operation and cultural exchange. As for the handful of overseas Chinese, mainly elements of the Chiang Kai-shek clique, who acted in a way detrimental to the cause of the national independence of Indonesia, they have always been firmly opposed by the broad masses of Chinese residents. The imperialists and the Indonesian anti-Chinese elements, in slandering the overseas Chinese as a "fifth column," are deliberately sowing discord between the Indonesian and Chinese peoples and covering up the aggressive and subversive activities of the imperialists against Indonesia.

Concluding, Chang Kuo-chi expressed the hope that the Indonesian Government will respect the wishes of the broad masses of the Indonesian people and value the friendship between China and Indonesia, and that it will take immediate measures to put a stop to all discriminatory activities against Chinese residents and accept the proposal of Foreign Minister Chen Yi that the Governments of the two countries appoint representatives to negotiate for an overall settlement of the question of the overseas Chinese in Indonesia through friendly consultation.

Water Conservancy

Taming the Yellow River

by WANG HUA-YUN

Chairman of the Yellow River Water Conservancy Commission,
Ministry of Water Conservancy and Electric Power

THE Yellow River basin was the "cradle of Chinese civilization" but the river is probably more widely known as "China's Sorrow." It is an unruly stream, notorious for the huge amount of silt it carries and its extremely uneven flow. On its lower reaches, where it flows in a broad, shallow channel over the plain, it is only held to its course by a system of massive dykes. A constant struggle had to be waged against it during the annual summer and autumn flood seasons, yet in some 3,000 years, for which we have records, it broke its dykes more than 1,500 times and changed its lower course 26 times. Each of these events brought death and destruction to the people who lived in its basin.

The corrupt Kuomintang government did little to control the river. The usual tragedies continued to be enacted. In 1933 alone, the dykes were breached in 72 places, and vast areas were flooded. In 1938 in a futile gesture against the Japanese invaders, the Chiang Kai-shek clique blew up the dyke at Huayuankou near Chengchow, Honan Province, causing the river to change its course again. This man-made calamity flooded an area of 54,000 square kilometres; 890,000 men, women and children were drowned or died later of starvation or disease.

Yellow River's New History Begins

Following the victory of the Chinese people's revolution and the founding of the People's Republic in 1949, the turbulent Yellow River began its new history. First it was curbed; now it is being tamed and harnessed to serve socialist construction.

Large areas along the lower reaches of the river were liberated several years before the revolution was victorious throughout the country. As early as 1946, the Chinese Communist Party began to lead the people of these areas in the task of curbing the river. It was then that Chiang Kai-shek hatched his malicious plot to drown these liberated areas by closing the Huayuankou breach and turning the river back to its pre-1938 course, where the dykes had not been repaired for almost ten years.

This scheme failed. The river was diverted back into its old channel in 1947, but the people had performed the fantastic feat of restoring the dykes within a fairly
short period. It is thanks to this type of spirit and organization, to the collective efforts of the people under the Communist Party's leadership that there has not been a single breach of the dykes since 1947. This 13-year safety record is a miracle unknown in all the previous history of the Yellow River.

The progress of socialist construction has made it possible to go on with the task of harnessing the river and making use of its resources. In 1955 the National People's Congress approved the multiple-purpose plan for permanently controlling the Yellow River and exploiting its water resources. Its main feature is a series of dams on the main stream forming reservoirs to prevent floods, store water for irrigation, operate power stations and facilitate navigation. The plan divides the middle reaches of the river into four sections, each of which will be utilized in keeping with its special characteristics. It also calls for extensive water and soil conservation work on the upper as well as middle reaches.

Conquering Floods

Since liberation outstanding progress has been made in curbing the river. In the past ten years, the people have completed more than 160 million cubic metres of earthwork and 3.5 million cubic metres of stonework to strengthen and raise the Yellow River dykes on its lower reaches and supplement them with new protective works. No less than 270,000 holes inside the dykes, potential trouble spots, were discovered and filled. To check erosion by the river's waves or rain, trees and grass have been planted along 1,800 kilometres of the main dykes.

The dykes now stand a bit higher than the highest water level that occurs only about once in a century; they are about 10 metres wide at the top. Powerful stone breakwaters have been erected to protect sections especially subject to attack by the river's swirling waters. Like a pair of parallel Great Walls, the big dykes now hold the torrent to its course.

Other anti-flood measures include the provision of detention basins, enlarging the river's discharge capacity and, above all, the organization of a mass flood-prevention army that, when necessary, can quickly muster one or two million flood-fighters. This organization gave a brilliant account of itself in July last year, when the river's flow at Huayuankou rose to 22,300 cubic metres per second. This indicated that another once-a-century flood crest had come. Lower down, the river rose above the safety mark on many sections of the dykes.

The battle was joined. Even before the arrival of the crests, some 2 million people were manning the dykes 24 hours a day. Leaders of provincial and local Party organizations and people's governments in both Honan and Shantung were constantly at the "front" gauging the situation and directing the fight. In Shantung, flood-fighters heightened 600 kilometres of dykes by one metre in a single day and night. This was only one of the many magnificent efforts made by the people. After 10 days and nights of struggle, their victory was complete: the river had been held throughout its length to its normal channel to the sea.

Building the Sanmen Gorge Dam

A comparison with the flood of 1933 gives an inkling of what would have happened if China had not been the liberated land she is. Then, though the volume of flow at Huayuankou was only 20,600 cubic metres per second (much less than the 1958 peak flow) the river burst its dykes at 72 points and flooded 12,000 square kilometres of land, in 67 counties of five provinces. It left 3 million people homeless; there was a heavy loss of life; crops, draught animals and other property were washed away.

Multiple-Purpose Exploitation

Preparatory works to exploit the resources of the Yellow River for national construction were undertaken soon after the founding of the People's Republic. The government departments concerned mustered a considerable force of technicians and specialists to make a comprehensive geological and hydrological survey of its entire basin. The rich data they gathered over the course of several years was used to draw up the comprehensive plan for the permanent control and use of the river.

In April 1957, work started on its first key project — the huge multiple-purpose water conservancy scheme at the Sanmen Gorge, Honan Province. This will include a reservoir with a capacity of 35,000 million cubic metres of water, and a dam about 100 metres high. The cascade here will run a 1,100,000-kilowatt power station that will also be built at this site. When completed, the dam will be able to retain enormous amounts of water in the reservoir above it. Even the maximum flow of 37,000 cubic metres per second, that usually occurs only once in 1,000
years, will be reduced to 6,000 cubic metres per second below the dam. This means a virtual end to the threat of serious floods on the lower Yellow River. The possibility provided by the dam of regulating the flow means that the needs of irrigation and navigation can be ensured even at times of low water.

Thanks to the Party’s leadership, and the support which the project has received from the whole nation, the work at Sannen Gorge is going ahead at a fast clip. Soviet experts, with their fund of experience gained on similar great projects in the U.S.S.R., are giving invaluable help. By October 1958, the builders had blasted away one islet in the channel and half of another, excavated over 300,000 cubic metres of rock and poured 200,000 cubic metres of concrete. In November last year, the cofferdam was closed. This was done against a stream running at a rate of 2,000 cubic metres per second.

By the summer of this year, the main dam was already high enough to hold back part of the flood waters. The builders are also aiming to get a certain amount of electric power generated here by the end of 1960.

The industrial and agricultural leap forward currently under way in China makes it necessary to speed up the rate at which the Yellow River’s resources are put at the service of the country. Since 1958, therefore, work has started on other big units of the control plan. These include the Liuchia Gorge project and Yenkuo Hydro-Electric Power Station, both in Kansu Province; and the multiple-purpose water conservancy projects at Chingtung Gorge in the Ningxia Hui Autonomous Region, Sanshenggung in the Inner Mongolian Autonomous Region, and Weishan in Shantung.

The Liuchia Gorge Dam will form a 5,700 million cu. m. reservoir that will store water for irrigation and navigation along the river down to the Chingtung Gorge. This will lessen the flood threat to Lanchow, capital of Kansu. A 1,050,000-kw. hydro-power station is being built at Liuchia Gorge. The main purpose of the Yenkuo Gorge project is to generate hydro-electric power. The Chingtung Gorge and Sanshenggung schemes will each ensure irrigation to some 10 million mu of farmland and supply power to the surrounding areas. The Weishan water conservancy work will serve three purposes — it will prevent floods in Shantung Province, provide irrigation in both Shantung and Hopei, and keep the Grand Canal open to navigation.

Over 20 large or medium-sized reservoirs have been or are being built along the tributaries of the Yellow River. Several of these are fairly large, with a significant irrigation, flood prevention and power potential. Two major works are being built along the tributaries; these are the mountain canal to change the course of the Tao River in Kansu to irrigate new areas and the canal to link the Tatung River with the Huang River in Chingshai. A very large number of small reservoirs have already been built on the tributaries.

**Irrigating the Lower Reaches**

The completion of the People’s Victory Canal in 1953 was the first big new triumph in using Yellow River water for farm irrigation along its lower reaches. It helps irrigate a million mu of land in an area of the Honan plain which in the past suffered seriously from the ravages of the river. It also supplies water to the Wei River, so that there is now a constant and lively traffic along the 900-kilometre stretch of the waterway between Tientsin and Hsinhsiang.

Many peasants once had a superstitious fear of using the Yellow River for irrigation. The success of the People’s Victory Canal has broken this down. The upsurge of agricultural co-operation in 1956 spurred further progress in this field. In a little more than 12 months, the peasants built no less than 30 siphon projects capable of irrigating several million mu. It was also in 1956, that the first small hydro-electric power station moved by the waters of the Yellow River began operating in these areas.

The campaign to build irrigation projects surged up again in 1958 and several projects — each with a take-in flow of between 300 and 600 cubic metres per second and irrigating from 5 to 10 million mu of land — were basically completed along the Yellow River in the short space of six months.

One of the biggest is the People’s “Leap Forward” Canal which taps the Yellow River in Lankao County, Honan. This has a network of channels and ditches with a total length of 23,000 kilometres and is able to irrigate between 14 million and 20 million mu. To build it, 150 million cubic metres of earthwork and stonework had to be done. Such was the spirit of its builders that it was basically completed in four and a half months.

As a result of such projects the Yellow River now irrigates on its lower reaches over 81 million mu of farmland, some 70 million mu of which were brought under irrigation after 1958. This was of great importance in fighting the drought last summer and ensuring this year’s big harvest.

**Water and Soil Conservation**

Water and soil conservation along the upper and middle reaches of the Yellow River is not only vital to production in mountain areas there, but a key link in the permanent control scheme. After a period of surveying and experiments, this work started on a large scale in 1956 following the nationwide switch to farm co-ops and the adoption of the overall plan to control the Yellow River. By the end of 1956, water and soil losses had been initially checked on some 50,000 square kilometres.

In 1958 a tremendous campaign for water and soil conservation got going, in many cases, several townships or counties combining their efforts to undertake major projects. These included the terracing of slopes, the building of earth dams to trap silt in the gullies, the planting of trees and digging of irrigation canals in mountain areas. These were undertaken on a huge scale in 430,000 square kilometres of the Yellow River basin which are particularly subject to loss of water and soil erosion. In that year alone, such losses were checked in a preliminary way on about 100,000 square kilometres; this was one-fourth again as large as the area so treated in the previous eight years. By June 1959, water and soil losses had been initially checked on a total of 190,000 square kilometres. Since October this year nearly 10 million people have been taking part in a new wave of this campaign.
Such work has radically changed the face of many former poverty-stricken districts. Eight years ago, Tongchuanpo in Wushan County, Kansu Province, started systematic work on soil and water conservation. Since then its per mu yield of grain has risen steadily from 80 jin to 310 jin. Its bigger output and income have enabled it to build new houses, schools, health centres, and industrial workshops and much else to improve its people’s livelihood.

Such water and soil conservation work has resulted in big reductions in floods and silt. A convincing example is what happened to the Wuting River, the most silt-laden of the Yellow River’s tributaries. It is calculated that in the absence of the conservation measures already taken the 1958 rainfall would have sent 1,720 million cubic metres of flood water and 360 million tons of silt pouring into the Yellow River. The amount of water and silt which the Wuting actually carried down to the main stream was 8 per cent and 25 per cent less respectively than the above figures.

Such are some of the salient features of the work which is now being done under the guidance of the Communist Party to harness the Yellow River.

Product of Mass Movement in Industry

"Hongqi"—China’s First Passenger Car

by CHEN PO-SAN

THE "Hongqi" (Red Flag) is the first *de luxe* limousine ever to be made in China. It has been in serial production at the No. 1 Motor Works, Changchun, since August 1959. An excellent car, it can stand comparison with any foreign model. Long, low and beautifully streamlined, it introduces elements of traditional Chinese art into modern automobile design, as for example in the palace lantern motif of its rear lights. Inside, it is spacious and comfortable, complete with air-conditioning and other modern equipment. It has a powerful engine with noise and vibration kept at a minimum. Start and acceleration are very rapid. At as low a speed as 7 kilometres per hour, the car still runs smoothly; and its top speed is 160 kilometres per hour.

The "Hongqi" has been designed to meet the needs and road and fuel conditions of China. With very high performance, it can yet burn low-octane petrol. Although valuable foreign experience has been incorporated, all the major specifications of the "Hongqi" are its own.

To design, trial manufacture and prepare for serial production of an entirely new model of such a *de luxe* vehicle, three years are generally required even in countries with a well-established automobile industry. Yet in China, with its first big motor works only three years old and practically no experience in the manufacture of sedans, a prototype was made in a single month at the height of the big leap forward last year. Based on it, the designing began in November 1958. Trial manufacture, try-outs and finalization of design followed early this year. By July, everything was ready and in August, less than ten months after designing started, serial production began.

Potency of the Mass Movement

The No. 1 Motor Works, built with Soviet help and commissioned in 1956, is well equipped and modern, with a designed capacity of 30,000 vehicles a year (50 per shift). It was originally intended for the efficient production of one type of vehicle—the "Liberation" lorry. Machinery and production lines were specially made and arranged for this model. Hence it was thought very difficult to turn out anything else in this place.

But the rectification campaign that started in 1957 brought a change of view. It cemented the close ties between the administration and rank and file workers and brought the enthusiasm of both to a high pitch. Together, they began to change the character of the plant by doubling output (to 100 vehicles per shift) and starting trial manufacture of a new sedan—the "Dongfeng" (East Wind). A fresh upsurge came in mid-1958, after the announcement of the Chinese Communist Party’s general line for building socialism and Chairman Mao Tse-tung’s call to the nation to topple superstitions, emancipate minds, and think, speak and act boldly. The workers then proposed to push output gradually to 250 vehicles per shift (150,000 a year) and to scale the heights of quality by trial production of a *de luxe* limousine.

This daring initiative aroused different reactions. The administration and Communist Party organization of the plant were firmly behind the revolutionary drive of the workers and staff. A decision was taken to start on the "Hongqi" immediately. But a handful of people disagreed. They said: "To make a *de luxe* limousine is no simple matter and we should go slow." They were far outnumbered by those who were convinced that no one ever learns to swim without getting into the water. Determined to learn by doing, the men of the plant put forward the slogan: "turn out a prototype in one single month by our mass effort."

Draft blueprints and sample parts for the prototype were quickly prepared. Many "three-in-one teams" (composed of leading cadres, technical personnel and workers

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in close co-operation) were formed to tackle research, design and production—all at the same time.

The parts for a new limousine were so numerous that it seemed the making of billets, processing, heat treatment, re-processing and assembling would take at least several months. But the workers pledged not to let any part lie idle for a minute and co-ordinated their efforts in such a way that thousands flowed in an unceasing stream. Workers of a succeeding process often lent a hand to those on the one before, helping them solve technical problems, and do auxiliary jobs, and even bringing them drinking water.

Most difficult was the trial manufacture of technically more complex units, such as the hydraulic transmission. But this did not daunt the collective. By combining the technicians’ knowledge of the basic principles with the actual experience of the more skilled workers (mainly in repairs), and above all through the unstinted enthusiasm of all concerned, the 500-odd parts of the hydraulic transmission were ready in time for the general assembly.

Working in this way and ignoring the “normal” sequence of steps, a prototype was turned out in one month—as promised.

This was a sort of reconnaissance in force. Its success greatly inspired the workers. By November 1958, they started on the independent designing of a new de luxe limousine.

**Solving Quality Problems**

Two more prototypes were made on the new basis. They worked, but still had many defects. To improve them some complicated problems would have to be tackled. The bushing is one example. As the powerful engine of the “Hongqi” revolves at a maximum speed of 4,400 r.p.m., the bushing used on the “Liberation” lorry was unsuitable. A new type had to be made and four different materials were tested. After 18 failures, a promising alloy was finally found. But when even this did not bear out hopes, some people were discouraged. They said it was impossible to solve the problem in a really thorough way—no one else had yet done so. But the workers, particularly members of the shock brigade—a “three-in-one” group formed to tackle bottlenecks—persevered in their experiments. They analysed several types of engines, made 483 tests and came up with a 100 per cent answer. Other technical “hard nuts”—including the making of hydraulic push rods, noiseless gears, precision casting and forgings—were cracked in a similar way. Forty-two scientific papers and monographs were written in the process. The one on the hydraulic push rod was highly praised in scientific circles.

To get ready for formal serial production involved a huge amount of additional work. Designing and trial manufacture of a comparable car generally takes a year or two in the highly industrialized countries. And the retooling for an entirely new model might ordinarily take 16 months, with another year for the final “tuning-up” of equipment and approval of all parts. These schedules too were upset—by working through the mass movements.

From the outset, large numbers of workers were drawn into designing—something hardly thinkable in the capitalist countries where this is generally the province of engineers. In fact, the entire works was involved and the men on each production line served as a designing team with some special job to tackle. Small groups were formed to deal with the minor questions. Major problems of design were debated at big meetings which administrators, engineers and workers all attended. For instance, three big debates were held to decide between two alternative modern designs for the high pressure pump for the steering mechanism. Opinions were divided. The workers made excellent contributions out of their intimate knowledge of the actual production. It was they who proceeded to make prototypes for comparison and tests and helped to pick the one most suited to the “Hongqi.”

Having taken part in the designing of the product, the workers, alongside the administrative and technical personnel, designed as well as made the required equipment. Earlier, less experienced designers had shied away from work on large and medium-sized dies. But at the No. 1 Motor Works, a single small “three-in-one” team completed in ten days the designs for 174 sets of dies—which would generally take a team of 17 professional designers 35 days.

The manufacture of the dies once again showed convincingly how mass initiative can break through all the technical barriers. The die shop had manpower and equipment for 60,000 work hours a month. Now it was called on to complete tasks ordinarily calling for 450,000 work hours. By remodelling a contour milling machine—a piece of equipment that used to be regarded as so complicated that nothing could be done to raise its efficiency—and devising another of a new type, the die-workers forged ahead of the most optimistic estimates. The whole plant, with nearly 10,000 workers and staff exercising their full ingenuity, finished tooling-up in four months, and serial production began exactly as planned.

The rapid, successful birth of the “Hongqi” showed that the method of the mass movement not only can be applied to industry, but that it is also the most reliable way of mastering the most advanced modern technology.

The significance of organizing mass movements in modern industry goes beyond the immediate results it produces. It is communism in embryo. Since the rank and file workers take an active part in designing as well as manufacture and join in the effort to solve complex technical problems, a road is opened along which they will gradually become engineers and the essential difference between mental and manual labour will gradually be eliminated.

The story of this fine limousine is one more demonstration that mass initiative can only be brought into full play when led by the Communist Party. For the initiative of the broadest masses of the people into full play, for greater, faster, better and more economical results is the core of the Chinese Communist Party’s general line for building socialism in China.

All over the country, people are talking of “the ‘Hongqi’ way.” The workers say that with this—the mass way—there is no production problem that cannot be solved quickly.

Peking Review
ART

Li Ko-jan's Paintings

There are few Chinese painters in the traditional style who have not been inspired by the fast-changing reality of today to take up their brushes and try to paint the new landscapes or cityscapes, the new people and new things of the new society, or express the uplifted spirit of the times in genre subjects or still life. They quickly find, however, that the adaptation of traditional techniques to modern subject matter is no easy task. Traditional artists using the Chinese brush, ink and water colours have a rich vocabulary of strokes, washes and compositional means developed to represent the many aspects of old China, but the application of these to modern subjects immediately exposes acute formal and ideological contradictions and problems which have to be solved.

Chinese traditional technique has a convention, an imagery, a formal stroke or series of strokes for representing, say, a wood or plaster structure; but it has no ready-made brush stroke “word” or imagery to represent the steel and concrete structure of a modern factory or the exceptional dynamics of the age of the internal combustion engine. This is only one of the many problems that crop up in a modern cityscape. It has a rich vocabulary of images for the old peasant or craftsman, the philosopher or the warrior, but no ready-made image of the industrial worker or the aviator. To depict these new figures adequately, the artist must not only know them, but devise proper representational means to project his conception of them.

Many artists are grappling with the problem of the application of traditional techniques to new themes. There has been no spectacular “break through.” The search has only just begun; much remains to be done, but in sum it cannot be denied that a new trend in traditional painting is shaping up. In the realm of landscape painting Li Ko-jan is one of those who stand in the very forefront of this advance. He has struck out in a new direction with an originality that makes his paintings immediately recognizable at any exhibition.

Li Ko-jan has the advantage of being well versed in the traditional techniques and modern Western painting techniques as well: the use of chiaroscuro, linear and aerial perspective, etc. His recent one-man exhibition held at the gallery of the Chinese Artists’ Union and the album of his Landscapes Sketches, published by the People’s Fine Arts Press of Peking, give abundant proof of this. These are the results of two trips which he made along the Yangtse River from Szechuan in the west to Chekiang on the eastern coast; he produced over a hundred sketches of the magnificent scenery along the banks of the river. Shih Tao, the famous landscape painter of the Ching Dynasty, said: “Go, search out all the wondrous peaks and sketch them.” This is exactly what Li Ko-jan has done in preparation for bigger creative efforts. These sketches show the zeal with which he has sought out the beauty that lies in the mountains and rivers of his motherland, and the passion with which he has re-created what inspired him and appealed to his innermost self. He has written that he began his travels with Chairman Mao Tse-tung’s lines in mind:

Such great beauty like this in all our landscape
Has caused unnumbered heroes to bow in homage.

His simple aim has been the reproduction of this beauty in his paintings, but he is opposed to naturalism. He never allows himself to make mere “photographic” reproductions of the landscape. When he takes up his brush, he never forgets that “what is important is courage” in painting and that “the essence is to bring out the spirit” of the thing painted. What he means is that, while striving to carry on the grand tradition of Chinese paintings, he constantly reminds himself that he should be bold when he feels it necessary to break through conventions which may restrict his creative work. He well understands that a powerful pictorial poetic imagery is the result of a combination of the artist’s feelings and thoughts and the scenery he paints. It is this combination of boldness and respect for the tradition that gives his works their great popular appeal.

Pictorial Poetic Imagery

It is often said of a Chinese painting that it is like a “poem without words,” or that “there is poetry in the painting of it.” It is a way of saying that it is the poetic imagery a landscape painting evokes that gives it life and vitality and its power of attraction and conviction. There is always “poetry” in Li Ko-jan’s landscapes, whether it is a fishing village half hidden in mist, a city by the riverside, or a sheer, towering peak. The Landscapes Sketches take you with the artist in his viewing and feeling of many aspects and moods of places in the Yangtse basin. Mount Omei in Autumn, in austere strokes of red ochre and black, gives one a sense of its vast serenity. Lake Chienhua is done in washes and dappled strokes of evanescent light green, yellow and black; the few boats on the water make one feel the charm and tranquility of this placid lake in a little village in Chekiang. Rain over West Lake gets its effects of luminosity and mist in masterly fashion by the use of splotty washes and broken lines in Chinese ink. It inevitably recalls the famous lines of the poet Su Tung-po (1036-1101):

Shimmering, sparkling, sun-drenched Lake,
All beauty to the view;
Far hills, mist-shrouded, glimpsed through showers,
Are as enchanting, too.

His love and admiration for the famous Yangtse Gorges are well illustrated in quite a few of his sketches, such as The Washan Ferry, Morning Mist over a Riverside City, The Hundred Steps Up Washan and The Overlapping Mountains. The last, in particular, is an unorthodox work in bold strokes, depicting with great force the sheer mountains that rise one above the other over the waters of the river flowing swiftly through the gorge, bearing a crowd of little sailing boats with them.

Chinese landscape painting first took shape in the Tang Dynasty (618-907 A.D.). At the apex of Tang power, there was widespread economic prosperity and the arts—painting and poetry, music and dancing alike—flourished. There were quite a number of outstanding landscape painters such as Ching Hao, Tung Yuan, Chu Jan, Li Cheng and others, during the Five Dynasties (907-960) and the Sung Dynasty (960-1279). The Yuan Dynasty (1279-1368) that followed produced the “Four Masters”—Huang Kung-wang, Wang Meng, Ni Tsan and Wu Chen—and landscape painting reached its height. After that, it stagnated; most of the artists were content to imitate and plagiarize the work of past masters. But there were artists, like Shih Tao and Pa Ta Shan Jen who refused to serve the Ching rulers, who opposed national oppression, and whose protest took the form of breaking away from academic conformism. These men produced some great paintings that carried on the national tradition and yet were distinctive in style.

Indebtedness to Past Masters

Li Ko-jan, too, follows the finest traditions of Chinese painting in creating a distinctive style of his own. The roots of his art can be traced all the way back to the “Four Masters” of the Yuan Dynasty. But he is particularly indebted to Chi Pai-shih and Huang Pin-hung, the two great modern masters of traditional Chinese painting, who were his teachers. Chi Pai-shih excelled in painting flowers, birds and insects, and painted relatively few landscapes. These, however, invariably bear the imprint of his genius. Chi Pai-shih was tireless in his artistic
interests. Even in his last days he continued to search for new solutions, ceaselessly experimenting, always looking back to take another look at nature. It was this that gave his work an endless freshness and a unique style that distinguished it in any exhibition. His paintings are characterized by a great simplicity in composition and economy of strokes, but they are immensely rich in imagination.

Huang Pin-hung, a great landscape painter who has not been as widely appreciated as Chi Pai-shih, painted in a completely different style. He delineated a mountain mass, for instance, with powerful strokes, hatching and cross-hatching, making a web of strokes that gives a unique style to his paintings. When viewed at close range, it may seem to be nothing more than a crude mass of black; but at the proper distance, it appears as a complex form of folds and gullies, protuberances and hollows, part of a beautiful and impressive landscape. Li Ko-jan has learnt much from these two masters, both from their techniques as well as their dedicated approach to the achievement of artistic truth. His art is a creative synthesis of the art of his two predecessors, with a distinctive style and freshness all his own.

Chi Pai-shih's greatness is now almost universally acknowledged: in the years just before and after his death, his art has won such popularity as falls to the lot of few artists. On the other hand, the study of Huang Pin-hung's paintings has hardly begun; as yet, not many people understand and appreciate his talent. Li Ko-jan's paintings are being received with mixed feelings, too. Some who take exception to his work say that his paintings are "too full." Very often filling up a whole sheet of paper, they leave little or no blank space at all — this, they say, is against conventional precepts of design and composition. Others complain that his paintings are "too black" — too often a massed web of black ink and dark colours. Time will judge of the validity of these objections, and decide whether these features are defects or assets. There are, however, who admire and support his originality. Like Chi Pai-shih and Huang Pin-hung, Li Ko-jan does not allow himself to be bound by conventions, but strives pertinaciously to bring out creatively the inner spirit of what he paints. He once remarked: "In composition and design, it is comparatively easy to extend the painting upwards or downwards and towards the two sides; what is difficult, however, is to project it inwards, to give it real depth." He certainly appreciates the difficulty of the latter task, but perhaps he has underestimated the difficulties of the first task. However that may be, he combines traditional with modern techniques to tackle both these tasks in a fresh and often successful way. The many original solutions for the problems of pictorial representation that he has already discovered can serve as rich examples for others seeking to learn from the classical tradition and carry it forward in line with contemporary social demands. In all he does, he shows the greatest respect for the realist school of traditional Chinese painting, and a keen awareness of the need for a penetrating study of nature and life today. Without these, it is certain no artist can successfully evolve an original style of painting which enriches traditional Chinese painting and stimulates its advance to a new stage of growth. — WU PIN

SPORTS

China Wins Scandinavian Titles

China's National (B) Men's and Women's Table Tennis Teams returned to Peking last week after a successful tour of Hungary, England and Sweden. In Sweden they took part in the Scandinavia International Table Tennis Championships held in Boras early in the month. Fifteen countries sent teams to the competitions, including Hungary, Czechoslovakia, Romania, Sweden and other European countries. The Chinese players were in top form; they captured three titles and took second place in two other events.

In the contest for the men's team title, China eliminated the strong Hungarian team in the semi-finals and went on to defeat Czechoslovakia in the finals to win the title in this event. In the individual events, the two young Chinese players — Chuang Tse-tung and Li Fu-jung — showed their mettle. Chuang Tse-tung, an eighteen-year-old schoolboy, won the men's singles title by first eliminating the European champion Z. Berezk of Hungary in the semi-finals and defeating L. Stipek of Czechoslovakia 3:1 in the final. Chuang's excellent performance in Boras won him popular acclaim. He scored two spectacular victories over the No. 1 seeded player Berezk, once in the match for the team title, and again in the semi-finals of the men's singles. Their match in the men's singles was hotly contested, Chuang played his usual hard-hitting attacking game despite the super-spin returns of Berezk, and won the match with a score of 3:1. In the men's doubles finals, Chuang and his seventeen-year-old partner, Li Fu-jung, also scored an impressive 3:1 victory over Stipek and Vhmanovsky of Czechoslovakia, the runner-up pair at the Dortmund World Championships this year.

The Chinese women players Hu Keming and Pang Hsiien qualified for the finals in the women's doubles, but they lost to Kocian and Mathe of Hungary who carried off the title. The mixed doubles title was won by the Rumanian pair Cohnizan and Golepenta, with China's Chuang Tse-tung and Hu Koming finishing second. The women's singles championship was carried off by Kocian of Hungary who defeated A. Simon of the Netherlands.
New Mask for Old U.S. Policy

Commenting on U.S. policy in Latin America, a Hsinhua News Agency commentary (Dec. 15) recalls that the victory of the Cuban people's revolution in January this year opened a new page in the campaign against U.S. imperialism in Latin America. In the wake of the Cuban revolution, the tidal waves of the anti-U.S. struggle have irresistibly swept the entire Latin American continent.

How to cope with this situation is worrying Washington deeply, a National Advisory Committee on Inter-American Affairs, with U.S. Secretary of State Herter as its chairman, has been set up with the task of "readjusting" U.S. policy towards Latin America. The so-called "readjustment" is nothing but an attractive new garb for the policy of enslavement and aggression.

It is noteworthy that the U.S. has done its utmost recently to show a "smiling face" to some of the Latin American countries. In August Herter spoke at length about the principle of "non-intervention" in the internal affairs of the American countries at the American Foreign Ministers' Conference. But the U.S. Government has actually spearheaded intervention against Cuba.

In the course of the vigorous anti-U.S. demonstrations of the Panamanian people, the U.S. issued a statement expressing its readiness "to seek mutually satisfactory solutions of outstanding problems." But precisely in its "friendly talks" with Panama, the U.S. flagrantly endeavoured to intimidate Panama by warning it not to take action against U.S. occupation of the Canal Zone.

The U.S., which has been consistently fostering dictatorial regimes in Latin America, recently professed a desire for "representative democracy." But it is a fact that the U.S. is continuing to prop up the remnant Batista-type dictators to the best of its ability.

The U.S. is continuously strengthening its economic "aid," a sugar-coated cannon ball, to the Latin American countries. This increase in "aid" means tightening the grip of exploitation and control. The adoption of the U.S.-sponsored "economic stabilization programme" by Argentina, for instance, has resulted in currency devaluation, the freezing of wages, skyrocketing commodity prices, unbridled penetration by U.S. economic and political influence and the aggravation of the country's internal economic and political crises.

In the face of the surging campaign launched by the peoples of Latin America against the U.S.-imposed military bases and for a reduction of the heavy burden of armament expansion, the U.S. State Department declared hypocritically at the end of November that the U.S. "supported" the restriction of armaments in Latin America. But it is common knowledge that the U.S. has been stepping up its war preparations in Latin America for years. This year, it has built a number of new bases in Argentina and other countries.

It should be noted in particular that the statement issued by the U.S. State Department on "supporting armaments restriction" touched on the "strengthening of the inter-American system of collective security." Behind this is the plot to organize an "international police force" in an attempt to overthrow the Cuban Government and to suppress the national movements in other countries.

It is quite obvious, the commentary concludes, that all the high-sounding talk of the U.S. ruling clique is nothing but masquerades. All this is aimed at covering up the intensified U.S. efforts to suppress the national and democratic movements in Latin America and to step up its economic plunder there.

NATO Meeting in Paris

Commenting on the NATO Council Ministerial Meeting which ended on December 17, Guangming Ribao's commentator observes that its convocation points to the fact that the United States is actively working to carry on its scheme of arms expansion and war preparations. U.S. Secretary of State Herter, who attended the meeting, made cold war utterances the moment he arrived in Paris.

Under U.S. manipulation, the meeting of the NATO bloc adopted its ten-year plan as suggested by the United States. It calls for the maintenance of "a strong military system" with "general war deterrence" and "sufficient flexible vitality" for "local hostile actions." Through this plan the United States requires its allies to place more men and more money at its disposal to serve its new policy of war.

But it appears that not everything at the meeting went as smoothly as the United States had hoped. Some of the NATO countries, such as Greece and Turkey, complained about their heavy military burdens while the United States and France quarrelled over the question of the unified command of the NATO troops and the stockpiling of U.S. nuclear weapons in West Europe. The struggle among Britain, France and West Germany for hegemony also disrupted the "unity" of the NATO bloc and thus greatly weakened this tool of aggression.

The war clamour by the representatives of the U.S. ruling clique in Paris synchronized with U.S. President Eisenhower's visit to various countries in the disguise of a "messenger of peace." The U.S. President tried to sell precisely the same thing that was peddled by the U.S. officials in Paris, namely to tighten the U.S. grip over the various military blocs and harness more countries to the U.S. war chariot.

The NATO Paris meeting closed with the adoption of a long-term plan for arms expansion and war preparations. This reveals the real aims underlying the recent busy activities of the head of the U.S. Government and its civil and military officials. They are not after "peace" at all but merely want to gain time and augment their strength in preparation for a new war of aggression.
Joint Sino-Soviet Survey of Heilunghiang

For centuries, the Heilunghiang (Amur) has run its 2,850-kilometre course, untamed and unexploited. The greater part of its length forms part of the boundary between China and the Soviet Union; its vast basin is shared by Northeast China and Siberia. Now, Chinese and Soviet joint efforts have completed a field survey of the natural resources of the river and its basin and scientists of the two countries are drawing up a joint report which will be submitted to the Chinese and Soviet Governments for the exploitation of its riches.

The survey work was carried out under the direction of the Chinese and U.S.S.R. Academies of Sciences, with the assistance of other institutions of the two countries. Each side organized multiple-purpose survey teams for work on its own territories with scientists of the other country participating as advisers, while a joint team worked in the border areas. The survey expedition on the Chinese side started work in 1956, with as many as 300 Chinese scientific workers and 130 Soviet specialists participating.

These efforts over the past three years have given rich results:

The water resources of the Heilunghiang have been ascertained. Sites suitable for building hydro-electric power stations have been marked out and a preliminary programme for a series of "staircase" dams to exploit its abundant water power has been drawn up. When built, these will not only end the menace of flood along the river's banks but also produce large quantities of low cost electric power.

The geological structure, mineral resources and laws of mineral formation in the Heilunghiang basin have been ascertained. This provides a guide to future survey and prospecting work in the basin.

The climate, hydrology, geographical features, soil, forestry, animal husbandry and fishery in the basin have been studied. Discussions have been held on ways of increasing the per unit yield of crops, on reclamation of wasteland and extension of arable land. The area's forestry resources have been surveyed. Four large areas have been found to be suitable for developing agriculture and animal husbandry.

Plans have been discussed for a transport network in the Heilunghiang basin, linking water and land, river and ocean transportation.

A comprehensive study has been made of the natural and economic resources of the Heilunghiang basin, and a scientific preliminary programme for the long-term development and distribution of ferrous and non-ferrous metallurgical, power, fuel, chemical and timber industries has been drawn up.

Canal on Sino-Vietnamese Border

From China's southern borders comes another piece of heartening news. Joining their efforts, the Chinese and Viet-namese peoples on the border have completed a 17-kilometre-long international canal. Undertaken by Tsingsi County of the Kwanhsi Chuang Autonomous Region in China and Trungkhann County of Baoding Province in Viet-nam, the canal helps to drain off the surplus water of the Potou River to protect some 1,400 hectares of land in two Chinese people's communes from flooding. At the same time it carries water to irrigate 180 hectares of land belonging to two agricultural co-ops in Viet-nam which have long suffered from drought. Cutting across rocky mountains, the canal passes through areas where the Chinese and Viet-namese peoples have fought shoulder to shoulder against the French and Japanese aggressors. Completion of the canal involved cutting three rock tunnels with a total length of 660 metres and building two reinforced concrete aqueducts and many sluice gates, culverts and bridges.

When the canal was opened on December 12, its builders and users held a three-day celebration on the borderlands.

China at World Agricultural Fair

The Chinese pavilion is one of the leading attractions at the current World Agricultural Fair in New Delhi. In the first three days since its public opening on December 12, more than 60,000 Indian peasants, workers and people of other professions visited it. Many wrote in the visitors' book warmly congratulating China on her achievements and expressing the hope that the pavilion will help strengthen Sino-Indian friendship.

The Chinese pavilion is one of the biggest at the fair, covering an area of more than 70,000 square feet. It highlights, with the help of charts, models and actual products, China's achievements in the field of agriculture and the tremendous economic developments in the Chinese countryside, particularly following the setting up of the people's communes.

One section of the pavilion depicts the development of Chinese agriculture through the stages of land reform, agricultural co-ops and on to the present people's communes. Models of several typical communes are shown, with special attention to the measures they have introduced to increase production—such as deep ploughing, use of fertilizer, seed selection and soil improvement.

In the agricultural construction section, models of huge water conservancy and irrigation projects are displayed side by side with projects undertaken by the people's communes. The central feature of the farm implements section are the more than forty large and medium-size Chinese-made farm machines, including tractors and rice-transplanting machines. Other sections show the speedy growth of commune-run industries and achievements in the fields of forestry, animal husbandry, and fishery.

A Chinese delegation, composed of specialists in livestock breeding and wheat and rice cultivation, model workers and directors of people's communes, is attending the fair.

Foreign Envoys Tour China

The Chinese Foreign Ministry arranged several sight-seeing tours this year for members of the diplomatic corps. The itinerary of one of the latest through Hopei and Honan Provinces included many industrial plants, people's communes and historic sites.

In a reception given to thank the Chinese Foreign Ministry for arranging the trip, the Swedish Ambassador Klas Krock, speaking on behalf of the diplomatic corps, said that the diplomats were received with warm hospitality by the local authorities and people wherever they went. He added: "The tour has given us valuable knowledge about China's industries, agriculture and cultural life and its ancient history. What particularly struck us are the measures taken by the Chinese Government to preserve the artistic heritage of the country. Following these visits to many heavy industrial enterprises, consumer goods enterprises, water conservancy projects, hydroelectric power stations and people's communes, we have been left with a deep impression of China's latest achievements and the tremendous work it is doing to develop the country's economy rapidly. It is impossible to single out any one of the many places we have visited but we want to express our special admiration for the Loyang No. 1 Tractor Plant and the gigantic Sammen Gorge project the Chinese people are building. In sum, we admire the dedicated labour and resolute efforts the Chinese people are making to improve their economy and life. We consider the recent tour has
helped promote understanding and friendship between China and the countries we represent and therefore, it has also helped promote the peaceful relations among states.

Vice-Premier Chen Yi speaking at the reception thanked Ambassador Book for his warm praise of China's achievements. He said: 'Our people, in order to get ourselves out of the state of poverty and blankness, are displaying a high degree of political enthusiasm under the leadership of the Communist Party and Government, and undertaking immense creative tasks so as to build socialism with greater speed. We have achieved some preliminary results, but to enable such a big and populous country as China to catch up with and overtake those countries which have a high level of industrial and agricultural production, we will have to go on making tremendous efforts. The achievements of the Chinese people are inseparable from the selfless help given by the socialist countries, particularly by the Soviet Union, and from the support of other friendly countries and their peoples. We should like to take this opportunity to express our gratitude.'

Chinese Red Cross Donations

The Chinese Red Cross Society recently sent its Indonesian counterpart a gift of 30,000 yuan for the relief of refugees who had suffered from Indonesian rebel activity in the hill regions in the interior of Sulawesi, and had fled to the coast.

The Chinese Red Cross Society recently sent 15,000 yuan to the Moroccan Red Crescent Society to help the victims of a recent incident which involved the poisoning of thousands of people. U.S. authorities at an air base near Casablanca sold "surplus" motor oil to local merchants who mixed it with olive oil and sold it as cooking oil to the public; thousands of unsuspecting people were poisoned and many were paralysed.

WHAT'S ON IN PEKING

Highlights of Current Entertainment, Exhibitions, etc.

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

PEKING OPERA

▲ THREE ATTACKS ON CHU VILLAGE An episode from the Chinese classic "Brothers and Sisters in the Mountains" in which Sun Chiang, the leader of a peasant rebellion, cleverly wins over his opponents in Chu Village. Produced by the China Peking Opera Theatre.
Dec. 22, 12:30 p.m. Tianqiao Theatre

▲ FIFTEEN STRINGS OF CASH Based on a Sung Dynasty story. Su Shu-chuan, running away from herstepfather, meets a young merchant on the road. In the meantime her stepfather is murdered and fifteen strings of cash are subsequently stolen by the pursuers to be carrying fifteen strings of cash, the two are suspected of the murder and theft. They are condemned to death by a callous, self-appointed magistrate. Luckily, a protégé re-examines the case, discovers the real culprit and justice triumphs. Produced by the China Peking Opera Theatre.
Dec. 23, 7:30 p.m. Guang He Theatre

SHAOHsing OPERA

▲ PRINCESS WEN CHENG A historical opera newly revised by the visiting Taiwanese Shaoxing Opera Troupe. The German Tsung Tsiou of the Tsung Dynasty marries Princess Wen Cheng to the Tibetan King Song-Tsan. His mother Queen Nuong unionizes through the friendship between the two nationalities.
Dec. 24 & 25, 7:30 p.m. Chien Ching Theatre

PINGJU OPERA

▲ GREEN JADE GARDEN Duke Ning of the Ming Dynasty wishes to build a pleasure garden after gaining wealth and position, tries to murder his wife and children, obstacles to a new and advantageous marriage; his brother in law is brought to justice by Pao Cheng, a just magistrate.
Dec. 23, 7:30 p.m. Peking Workers' Club Theatre

▲ BY THE KINSHA RIVER An episode from the famous Long March. It tells how the Red Army exposes a Kuomintang plot and unites in friendship with the Tibetans as it crosses the Tibetan region by the Kinha River.
Dec. 23-25, 7:30 p.m. Peking Workers' Club Theatre
Dec. 28 & 29, 7:30 p.m. Da Zhong Theatre

▲ ANG MAR-LI YUAN HSIAO PAI-TSAI A drama based on a well-known modern case of the Ching Dynasty.
Dec. 23, 7:30 p.m. Da Zhong Theatre (The above operas are produced by the China Pingju Opera Theatre.)

MODERN OPERA

▲ SPRING THUNDER The story of a heroine in the peasant uprising in Hunan during the First Revolutionary Civil War. With Kuo Lung-yung, one of China's foremost singers. Produced by the Central Experimental Opera Theatre.
Dec. 22-23, 7:30 p.m. Tianqiao Theatre

▲ THE CLOTH SELLER (Arshin Mal Alan) A comic opera by the famous Azerbaijan playwright, Uzer Gadjibeiko, produced in Chinese by the Central Experimental Opera Theatre. A wealthy Azerbaijani youth who wants to choose his own bride, disguises himself as a wandering cloth seller, and meets a beautiful girl. They fall in love. The girl's rich father refuses to let his daughter marry the Cloth Seller, until the help of a friend, all ends happily.
Dec. 26, 7:30 p.m. Dec. 27, 1:30 p.m. Tianqiao Theatre

CHINESE BALLET

▲ THE MAGIC LOTUS LANTERN A modern Chinese ballet based on an ancient Chinese folk tale. Angered because the nymph of Mt. Huashan has fallen in love with a mortal scholar who guards a precious drum, her brother imprisons her. Later her child, grown to be a brave warrior, defeats his uncle and sets her free. Produced by the Central Experimental Opera Theatre.
Dec. 22 & 23, 7:30 p.m. Tianqiao Theatre

SONG AND DANCE

A programme of songs and dances presented by the Central Experimental Opera Theatre.
Dec. 21, 7:30 p.m. Tianqiao Theatre

THEATRE

▲ TSAI WEN-CHI Kuo Mo-jo's latest historical play. Tsao Tiao, Prime Minister of the Kuo Tiao court, asks Tsao Wen-chi, married to a Hun noble, to return home and continue her scholarship. To see her, he is brought to justice by Pao Cheng, a just magistrate.
Dec. 22 & 23, 7:30 p.m. Shoudou Theatre

▲ TAMING DRAGONS AND TIGERS A new play about the heroism of the Korean people. Produced by the China Youth Art Theatre. It describes how villagers brave dangers to save their fellow villagers in last year's drive for steel.
Dec. 22 & 23, 7:30 p.m. China Youth Art Theatre

▲ LONG LIVE THE HEROES! A new play produced by the Peking People's Art Theatre describing how the Chinese People's Volunteers' Army followed the Korean front and fought against the American aggressors.
Dec. 24-28, 7:30 p.m. Shoudou Theatre

▲ CARAL AND LOVE Schiller's masterpiece staged in Chinese. Produced by the China Youth Art Theatre.
Dec. 24-31, 7:30 p.m. China Youth Art Theatre

EXHIBITIONS

▲ NATIONAL EXHIBITION OF INDUSTRY AND COMMUNICATIONS Open daily (except Mon.) 8:30 a.m.-4:30 p.m.
Dec. 28, Peking Exhibition Centre Cinema
Dec. 29-30, Peking Exhibition Centre Cinema

▲ NATIONAL AGRICULTURAL EXHIBITION Open daily (except Mon.) 8:30 a.m.-4:30 p.m.
At Agricultural Exhibition Centre

▲ ART EXHIBITION OF THE KOREAN DEMOCRATIC PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC Open daily 9:30 a.m.-5:30 p.m.
At the Weon Huan Hall in Palace Museum

▲ ART EXHIBITION OF THE MONGOLIAN PEOPLES' REPUBLIC Open daily 9:30 a.m.-5:30 p.m.
At the Chuan Hsin Hall in Palace Museum

December 22, 1959
DRAGON-FLY AND LOTUS

Painted in Chinese water-colours by the great Chi Pai-shih (1863-1957) in his seventies. Fine effects of light and colour in this scroll give life to the opening leaves and the strong stalks supporting the seed pods of the lotus. The parallel composition of the leaves and stalks is unexampled in classical Chinese painting. This is one of those unorthodox and unexpected touches that are so characteristic of Chi Pai-shih. The dragon-fly is diving towards leaves whose withering colours forecast the coming of autumn.

Another superb example of reproduction by the woodblock engraving method made famous by our veteran artisans. Measuring 35 × 70 cm., the same size as the original, it is as perfect a facsimile as human ingenuity can contrive.

WHEN POETS MEET

This outstanding figure painting by Han Huang (723-789 A.D.), statesman and painter of middle-Tang times, is now in the keeping of the Peking Palace Museum. The artist has caught the mood of the poets lost in thought, searching for the proper words for their verses while their servitor prepares their ink.

To make a faithful reproduction of this masterpiece, 104 blocks were engraved and printed over 300 times. The facsimile is the same size as the original, 58.5 × 37.5 cm.