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Pen Probes, Cinema and Other Features
## RADIO Peking's English Language Transmissions

*(New Schedule Beginning October 30, 1961)*

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### Tune in to Radio Peking's Regular Features:

- **Tuesday:** China in Construction
- **Wednesday:** Culture in China
- **Thursday:** In the People's Communes
- **Friday:** In the Socialist Countries
- **Saturday:** Opinion in Peking
- **Sunday:** Listeners' Letter Box
- **Monday:** Music from China
- **Tuesday:** Quiz
- **Wednesday:** Greeting Africa
- **Thursday:** Sunday Concert

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Panchen Erdeni Condemns U.S. Plot at U.N. Assembly

Panchen Erdeni, Acting Chairman of the Preparatory Committee for the Tibet Autonomous Region, has delivered a scathing condemnation of the new schemes which U.S. imperialism is so busy cooking up against China at the current U.N. General Assembly session.

In the course of his report on work in Tibet, Panchen Erdeni noted that U.S. imperialism is continuing to obstruct the restoration to China of her lawful rights in the U.N., it has also directed its followers to raise the so-called “Tibetan question” in the U.N. and manipulated its U.N. voting machine to get this “question” included on the agenda. Expressing the general indignation of the Tibetan people against such U.S. intrigues, he pointed out: “Tibet is Chinese territory. Our suppression of the rebellion and our carrying out of democratic reform in Tibet are purely our country’s internal affairs, in which neither the U.N. nor any other international organization or international conference has any right whatsoever to interfere.” “Discussion of the so-called ‘Tibetan question,’ ” he declared, “no matter under what pretext, is a crude interference in the internal affairs of China and a malicious slander against the Chinese people.”

Refuting the lies spread by U.S. imperialism and its followers about the use of “repressive measures” and violation of “fundamental human rights and freedom” in Tibet, Panchen Erdeni declared that those who had used repressive measures against the Tibetan people and violated the Tibetan people’s fundamental human rights and freedom were none other than “imperialism which had engaged in aggression against Tibet and oppression of its people” and “the Tibetan reaction which had colluded and collaborated with the foreign reactionaries.” “Since the liberation of Tibet,” he continued, “we have quelled the counter-revolutionary rebellion supported by imperialism and foreign reactionaries, achieved a great victory in democratic reform and have thus brought about great and earth-shaking changes in Tibet. The imperialist forces have been driven out, feudal serfdom has been smashed, and the one million serfs who were oppressed for generations have stood up and become the masters of Tibet. For the first time they are working on their own land and are enjoying all the fruits of their labour as well as full democratic rights including the right of freedom of religious belief.”

He said that all these are iron-clad facts and that the imperialist slanders and vilification are in vain.

Panchen Erdeni declared in conclusion: “The Tibetan people are marching forward unwaveringly along the road of democracy and socialism. The will of the Tibetan people can never be obstructed by any imperialism or foreign reactionaries.”

On pages 9-11 of this issue readers will find further excerpts from Panchen Erdeni’s report.

Small Coalmines Spruce Up

Though still only in its early stages, the technical transformation of the small coalmines in Paotow has already doubled their aggregate annual capacity. This convincingly demonstrates the wisdom of the policy being followed in developing a considerable number of industrial enterprises in New China — starting on a small scale with the use of indigenous methods of production, then enlarging and modernizing in a planned way.

Paotow on the Inner Mongolian steppe is marked out as one of China’s steel bases. As it grows, its demands for coal are also increasing. In and around Paotow, there are, in addition to big state-owned collieries, some two score small ones owned and operated by the local government or the people’s communes. Some of these have large and easily accessible deposits of good coal, but their rather primitive equipment made productivity low. Planned technical trans-
formation got under way in mid-June this year, priority going to those in which the quickest results could be achieved with the smallest investments. In seven small mines of the first group to be modernized, mechanical winches, and drainage and ventilating equipment have already been installed and power lines set up. This has ended stoppages due to flooding in the rainy season and ensures regular production. In one mine, a power winch operated by one man with an assistant is doing work which formerly required 24 men when coal was lifted manually from the pit bottom.

The results of these technical reforms were immediate. Output from Paotow's small mines has risen steadily since June. Average daily output in September was 48 per cent higher than the figure for July and August.

Rolling Across the Yangtse

Rain or shine, day or night, traffic flows across the great bridge spanning the Yangtse at Wuhan. Since this 1,100-metre bridge was commissioned in October 1957, countless trains, lorries, cars and pedestrians have crossed without a single accident. The smooth flow of vehicles on this key communication link between north and south China has never been ruffled.

This fine record is the result, firstly, of the superb quality of the engineering put in by the builders, but honour must also go to the maintenance crew for their excellent work. Twice a year, they make a detailed examination of every section of the double-deck bridge and do all that is necessary to keep it in tip-top shape. Every three months they give it a thorough clean-up in addition to the daily sweeping it gets to keep it always spick and span.

Many devices have been built into the bridge to offset the effects of expansion and contraction of its steel structure under changing temperatures. These are daily inspected and adjusted whenever necessary. Regular checks have found the girders to be in perfect condition.

The maintenance team pays particular attention to the 7,000 railway sleepers on the bridge. Ingenious methods have been devised to prolong their life and these appear to be fairly effective. Measures taken to reduce vibration to a minimum when a train makes a crossing have won praise from passengers.

New Double-Decker Train

Last week, a new double-decker train made its first run from Peking to Shenyang. It is the first of its kind to go into regular service. Cadres and engineers from the plant which made it went on the trip to check up on its actual performance and get travellers' comments and suggestions. They learnt that passengers were more than satisfied with the excellent appointments and comfort of the new coaches.

The new train is made by the Szufang Rolling Stock Works of Tsingtao which back in 1952 produced the first Chinese-made locomotive. Its designed top speed is 140 kilometres per hour and its trial run proved it to be up to state standards.

The new train has 12 coaches. Jointly designed by the Szufang works, the Szufang Research Institute of the Ministry of Railways and Chiaotung University in Shanghai, the new coaches are not much longer or wider than ordinary passenger coaches, but each of them can seat 60 more passengers. Equipped with lavatories, telephones, storage space, electric boilers, mechanical ventilators and lighting adjusters, they make travelling more comfortable. They have particular advantages for sightseers since the upper decks offer a better view than from the windows of ordinary railway carriages.

Four prototype double-decker coaches were made in the big leap year of 1958 and shown to the public. The new train incorporates suggestions received since then by the Szufang works from both railway experts and the public.

More Tractors on Northern Farms

The People's Government has given special attention this year to the speeding up of farm mechanization in a selected number of provinces in the cotton and wheat belt of north and northeast China. This effort has shown particularly satisfactory results this autumn, a busy time when the ploughing and winter wheat sowing comes hard on the heels of or overlaps the harvesting. The large number of tractors which the farms have been able to put into the fields this year have been decisive in getting the work done faster and better.

This year, the fertile plains along the Liaoho River in Liaoning Province in the northeast got about 1,000 new tractors (in terms of 15 h.p. units). This was a boost of one-third in the number of tractors in this major agricultural area of 18 counties.

Shantung Province didn't have a single tractor on its farms in the old days. Today it has 1,600 "iron bulls" at work in its fields. By the middle of October they had ploughed 2 million mu of land.

Hopei Province, another leading cotton and wheat area, now has nearly two and a half times as many tractors as in 1957. It is planning to plough a quarter of all its cultivated land by tractor this autumn, more than in any previous year.
Most of the people’s communes in the Peking area have acquired tractors, and they are making good use of them in the autumn ploughing as well as winter wheat sowing. By early October, ploughing was finished on 60 per cent of the wheat fields scheduled to be machine ploughed.

In addition to ploughing, many communes are using their tractors to reclaim wasteland for a bigger area of crops next spring.

**When a Commune Mechanizes**

The experience of the Wugong People’s Commune in Hopei Province is typical of what such mechanization means to the Chinese peasant. It all began with co-operation. Mechanization was impossible for the mass of Chinese peasants with their small holdings and the subsistence level of their economy.

As far back as 1943 Chairman Mao Tse-tung pointed out that the only way for the Chinese peasants to free themselves from perpetual poverty is gradual collectivization, and the only way to bring about collectivization is through co-operatives. A few months later, in Jaoyang County, in a revolutionary base area in southern Hopei, four poor peasants organized a simple farm co-op. By pooling their land and labour, they managed to tide over the difficulties caused by the ravages of the Japanese invaders and drought. The co-op grew slowly but steadily and in 1956 developed into a co-op of a fully socialist type.

Three years ago, this co-op, one of the earliest of its kind in China, joined with other neighbouring co-ops to form the Wugong People’s Commune. Keng Chang-so, its leader, was elected the commune’s chairman. Since then Wugong has won fame for its work in farm mechanization and irrigation.

In 1944 the members of Keng Chang-so’s co-op did not even have a single draught animal, let alone a tractor. Now, it is one of the production brigades of Wugong, which has the use of quite a big machine-tractor park: 53 tractors and more than 200 other machines and large farm implements. Nowadays 90 per cent of its farmland is ploughed by tractor and nearly half that sown by machine. Part of its harvesting and threshing work is also mechanized.

Thanks to the saving of labour which tractor ploughing gives, more manpower can be diverted to developing other aspects of the commune’s many-sided economy and to more intensive farming. Last year the machines did work equivalent to 3.6 million labour days and a similar number of draught animal workdays. Mechanization has boosted yields in other ways too.

Drought has been a constant threat to this area “nine years out of ten” as the peasants put it. Before liberation it kept farm output here at a very low level. Properly watered, the soil here could give much better yields. But few plots were irrigated.

Today 70 per cent of the commune’s crop land is well protected against drought and waterlogging. This is the outcome of years of water conservancy work, especially in the past three years. A network of channels takes water from widely distributed deep wells and a tributary of the Haiho, the river which passes through Tientsin to Pohai Bay. Wugong now has 79 diesel, steam, gas and gasoline engines to pump water into its fields.

With these aids Wugong holds drought at bay. Last year the commune suffered a drought lasting 200 days, followed by heavy rains and the threat of waterlogging. According to the older peasants, such a drought hadn’t been seen for sixty years. The wheat crop was affected, but per mu yields of grain still showed a substantial increase compared with 1959 and the commune was able to sell several hundred thousand jin of surplus grain to the state.

Keng Chang-so is one of the original four peasants who set up the co-op in Wugong Village. Now he is a deputy to the National People’s Congress. When asked about his opinion of things at Wugong now, he answered, taking the long view: “A good beginning for our future!”

**Books-for-Children Contest**

Nine thousand five hundred people responded to the eye-catching ad which appeared in China’s major dailies in March 1959. It announced a contest for books for children to help bring up “the 120 million children of China as socialist-minded, cultured and educated working people.” The contest entries ranged from fairy tales to science fiction, plays, poems, fables and picture-books by both professional and amateur writers. Now the final results and a prize-winning list of entries have been published by the contest sponsors, the Children’s Publishing Houses of Peking and Shanghai.

The prize-winning entries comprised a total of 35 works. The writers include men and women of worker or peasant origin, veteran revolutionaries, school teachers and office workers. On Weishan Lake, a novel by Chiu Hsun, is an exciting tale of three small boys in a former anti-Japanese guerrilla base. Campfire in the Woods, by the Tibetan author Ngagwang Sdarzhen, describes the adventures of young hunters deep in the mountains. The Little Servant, by Yeh Chun-chien, well-known Chinese translator of Andersen’s fairy tales, is a collection of short stories about children today in other parts of the world. Ears of Wheat, a collection of poems on children in the countryside, is written by the popular peasant-poet Wang Lao-chiu. Let Us Count, a nursery picture-book contributed by Peking nursery teacher Mao Yen-yi, is also on the list.

There is a fair sprinkling of prize-winning articles on science for the young. These include “A Closer Look at the Earth” by geologist Li Su-kuang; “The Centennial Anniversary of China’s National Day” by mathematician Hua Lo-keng and “Railways of Tomorrow” by Mao Yi-sheng, the bridge engineer; all three are among the most distinguished names in their fields.

The public was widely drawn into the task of picking the prize-winners. The Writers’ Union, the Women’s Federation, the Communist Youth League, among others, were asked for their opinions. Libraries and primary schools also held discussions and canvassed opinions directly from young readers. One prize-winning novel, Children on the Coastal Front, was serially broadcast over the radio and listeners were asked to send in their views.

Awards have been given the authors of these works and all have now been published by the Children’s Publishing Houses either separately or in collections.
Chou En-lai’s Speech at the 22nd Congress of The Communist Party of the Soviet Union

A delegation of the Chinese Communist Party is now in Moscow attending the 22nd Congress of the Communist Party of the Soviet Union. On October 19, Comrade Chou En-lai, Vice-Chairman of the Central Committee of the Chinese Communist Party and head of the delegation, addressed the congress and read out the message of greetings signed by Comrade Mao Tse-tung, Chairman of the Central Committee of the Chinese Communist Party.

While in Moscow, Comrade Chou En-lai and members of the delegation laid wreaths at the Lenin-Stalin Mausoleum. One bore the words: “To V.I. Lenin, great leader and teacher of the proletarian revolution.” The other was inscribed: “To J.V. Stalin, great Marxist-Leninist.”

Comrade Chou En-lai has now returned to Peking. When he left Moscow he was seen off at the airport by Comrades N.S. Khrushchov, F.R. Kozlov, N.V. Podgorny and others, and by members of the Chinese Communist Party delegation. He was welcomed at Peking airport by Comrades Mao Tse-tung, Liu Shao-chi, Chu Teh, Teng Hsiao-ping and others.

Following is the text of Comrade Chou En-lai’s speech as delivered at the congress. — Ed.

Dear Comrades!

We, the delegation of the Communist Party of China, feel greatly honoured to attend the 22nd Congress of the Communist Party of the Soviet Union at the invitation of the Central Committee of the C.P.S.U. Please allow me, as entrusted by the Central Committee of the Communist Party of China, to present, on behalf of all the members of the Chinese Communist Party and all the Chinese people, our warm fraternal greetings and high respects to your Party congress and, through this congress, to the great Communist Party of the Soviet Union and the great Soviet people. (Warm applause.)

We sincerely wish every success to the 22nd Congress of your Party.

Since the 21st Congress of the Communist Party of the Soviet Union, the Soviet people, under the leadership of the Central Committee of the C.P.S.U. headed by Comrade Khrushchov, have gained brilliant victories in their struggle for the extensive building of communism. (Applause.)

We rejoice to see that the national economy of the Soviet Union is continuously surging ahead. In the first two and a half years of the Seven-Year Plan, Soviet industry and agriculture have developed tremendously and the people’s living standards, material and cultural, are higher than ever before.

The gross value of the Soviet Union’s industrial output during this period is equal to that of the entire Fifth Five-Year Plan period. In 1959 and 1960, more than 2,000 giant new industrial enterprises, with the most up-to-date technical equipment, were put into operation. Steel output in 1961 is expected to exceed 70 million tons. In agriculture, thanks to the many measures taken for its development, the total area sown to crops in 1961 has increased to 204 million hectares. The emulation drive for the honoured titles of communist labour collectives and shock workers is spreading extensively. Filled with a great enthusiasm for labour, the great Soviet people are working hard to lay the material and technical foundations of communism.

On two occasions this year the Soviet Union has successfully launched into the cosmos manned spacecrafts which circled the earth and returned triumphantly. This new feat in man’s conquest of the universe has provided even more convincing evidence that the Soviet Union has left the United States of America farther and farther behind in the important fields of science and technology. It is a vivid demonstration of the incomparable superiority of the socialist system over the capitalist system. (Warm applause.)

The Soviet people’s brilliant achievements in the extensive building of communism have greatly augmented the might of the Soviet Union and the entire socialist camp and inspired the people of the whole world in their great struggle for world peace, national liberation, democracy and socialism. Please allow me here to express heartfelt congratulations to the Communist Party of the Soviet Union and the Soviet people. (Applause.)

This congress of your Party will adopt a new programme which sets forth for the Soviet people a grand plan for building communism under the leadership of the Communist Party of the Soviet Union. This programme stipulates that within 20 years there will be not less than a sixfold increase in gross industrial output; industrial labour productivity will rise four to four and a half times, gross agricultural output three and a half times, agricultural labour productivity five to six times, gross national income around five times, and real per capita income more than three and a half times. This brilliant prospect is a powerful inspiration to all the peoples in their struggles. The Chinese Communists and all the Chinese people are sure that the Soviet people under the leadership of the Communist Party of the Soviet Union will achieve great new victories in their struggle to fulfil this grand plan of building communism. (Applause.)

The Soviet people, together with the people of the other socialist countries, are exerting tremendous efforts to safeguard world peace, ease international tension, attain general disarmament, secure peaceful coexistence among countries with different social systems, and support the national and democratic movements in Asia, Africa and Latin America. Recently, the Soviet Government has put forward proposals for the conclusion of a German peace treaty and, on that basis, the normalization of the West Berlin situation. To cope with the serious situation created by the United States in speeding up its...
Message of Greetings

Dear Comrades,

The Central Committee of the Communist Party of China, on behalf of all the members of the Chinese Communist Party and all the Chinese people, extends warm, fraternal greetings to the 22nd Congress of the Communist Party of the Soviet Union, and its heartfelt respects to the great Communist Party of the Soviet Union and the Soviet people. (Applause.)

Since the 21st Congress of the Communist Party of the Soviet Union, the Soviet people, under the leadership of the Central Committee of the C.P.S.U. headed by Comrade Khrushchev, have achieved brilliant successes in the extensive building of communism. (Applause.)

Industry and agriculture in the Soviet Union have developed tremendously. The living standards of the Soviet people, material and cultural, have risen constantly. Soviet manned spaceships have on two occasions travelled through outer space and successfully returned to earth, thereby contributing brilliantly to man’s conquest of the universe. The great achievements of the Soviet people in communist construction have indisputably shown the unparalleled superiority of the socialist system over the capitalist system.

The new programme which is to be adopted at this congress of your Party sets forth the Soviet people’s grand plan of building communism. We are sure that the Soviet people, under the leadership of the Communist Party of the Soviet Union, will achieve ever greater victories in the struggle to build communism. (Warm applause.)

The Soviet people have made outstanding contributions to the preservation of world peace, the relaxation of international tension, the fight for general disarmament, the realization of peaceful coexistence among countries with different social systems, the support for the liberation struggles of the various oppressed nations and peoples and the strengthening of the might of the socialist camp. (Applause.)

All the achievements that have already been gained and will be gained by the Soviet people under the leadership of the Communist Party of the Soviet Union are a source of incalculable inspiration to the people of the whole world who are striving for world peace, national liberation, democracy and socialism. (Applause.)

Close unity and friendship have always existed between the Chinese and Soviet Peoples and peoples. This unity and friendship between our two Parties and peoples, based on Marxism-Leninism and proletarian internationalism, are of the utmost importance for the victory of the common cause of the people throughout the world in opposing imperialism, defending world peace and fighting for human progress. The unity and friendship between our two Parties and peoples are eternal, long tested and indestructible. (Warm applause.)

We wholeheartedly wish the 22nd Congress of the C.P.S.U. every success. May the Soviet people, under the leadership of the Communist Party of the Soviet Union, achieve great new successes in the struggle to build communism, defend world peace and promote human progress. (Warm applause.)

Long live the great Soviet people! (Warm applause.)

Long live the great and glorious Communist Party of the Soviet Union! (Warm applause.)

Long live the eternal and indestructible unity and friendship between the Chinese and Soviet peoples! (Warm applause.)

Long live the great unity of the socialist camp! (Warm applause.)

Long live the great unity of the people of the world! (Warm applause.)

Long live Marxism-Leninism! (Prolonged warm applause.)

(Signed) MAO TSE-TUNG
Chairman of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of China

October 14, 1961

arms expansion and war preparations, in sabotaging the conference on the discontinuance of nuclear weapons tests and in its refusal to carry out disarmament, the Soviet Union has been compelled to resume nuclear weapons testing and take other important measures. These proposals and measures are vital steps in defence of world peace and the security of the socialist camp and in checking the military adventures of the imperialists; they conform fully to the interests of the people throughout the world. The Chinese people express full support for all these vital steps which the Soviet Union has taken in defence of world peace. (Warm applause.)

The present development of the international situation completely bears out the scientific Marxist-Leninist analysis contained in the Statement of the Meeting of Representatives of the Communist and Workers’ Parties held in 1960. The might of the socialist camp and its international influence are growing rapidly. The successes achieved by the countries in the socialist camp in construction are strengthening world peace and the positions of socialism. With the support of the socialist camp, the surging national and democratic movements in Asia, Africa and Latin America have grown into a great force against the new and old colonialism and against the reactionaries in the respective countries. The class struggle in the capitalist world is growing daily sharper, the capitalist system is going downhill and decaying still more, and day by day the imperialist camp headed by the United States is sliding further to its disintegration. This means that in the world arena today, the forces of socialism are ever more markedly surpassing the forces of imperialism, and the forces of peace are ever more

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markedly surpassing those of war. The balance of world forces creates an excellent situation favourable to the struggle of the people in all lands for world peace, national liberation, democracy and socialism. (Warm applause.)

Today, the revolutionary struggles and construction engaged in by the people in the socialist countries, the revolutionary struggles of the people in the capitalist countries, the liberation movements of the oppressed nations, the movement for democracy in general and the mass struggle for world peace are all converging into a mighty torrent that is battering and destroying the imperialist system. The Cuban revolution is advancing in big strides, successfully resisting the U.S. schemes of invasion and intervention. The Laotian people, in defiance of U.S. intervention, have won important victories in defence of their independence and neutrality. The people in the southern parts of Viet Nam and Korea are struggling perseveringly for the peaceful unification of their respective countries. The Algerian people are growing stronger as they fight heroically for national independence. The people in the Congo, Angola, Kamerun and other parts of Africa subjected to oppression by the new and old colonialists are struggling fiercely to break their colonial shackles. In Japan, in Brazil and in all other places to which the tentacles of U.S. imperialism extend, the patriotic struggle of the people against U.S. imperialism and in defence of their national independence is surging forward continually. In the principal capitalist countries, the broad masses of the workers and peasants are fighting against oppression, fighting to win and safeguard democratic rights and to improve their living standards. The mass struggle in defence of world peace is spreading far and wide to every corner of the world. No matter how unbridled the imperialists and the reactionaries of various countries may become, no matter how tortuous the path of struggle may be, the oppressed nations and oppressed people, with the support of the socialist camp, will surely defeat imperialism; the forces of peace, with the socialist camp and the international working class as their core, will surely defeat the forces of war. Doom awaits imperialism and all reactionaries. (Warm applause.)

However, as the Statement of the Moscow Conference pointed out, so long as imperialism exists there is soil for wars of aggression. U.S. imperialism is the most vicious enemy of peace. It is the bulwark of modern colonialism and international reaction, the main force of aggression and war at the present time. The whole world now perceives that the Kennedy Administration is more deceptive and adventurist. Outwardly, it is decorating itself with “olive branches” and is prating about “peace,” “progress” and “human welfare,” but in fact, behind the mask of “peace,” it is pressing ahead ever more frantically with arms expansion and war preparations. It is this very government which directly organized the invasion of Cuba, which created the civil war in Laos and which is obstructing agreement at the Geneva Conference. It is this very government which has been using the so-called Berlin crisis to whip up a clamour for war and to threaten war, and which is incessantly carrying out military provocations in Berlin, Cuba, Laos, south Viet Nam, south Korea and in China’s territory of Taiwan. It is this very government which has the biggest military expenditure in peace time and is stepping up preparations for local wars and nuclear war against the peoples of various countries. U.S. imperialism now stands revealed in all its nakedness as the common enemy of all the peoples of the world.

All the activities of U.S. imperialism show that we are still confronted with the danger of war and the people of all countries must heighten their vigilance. To oppose imperialist aggression and to defend world peace continues to be the pressing, militant tasks of the people of all countries. By rallying together, forming a united front against the policies of aggression and war pursued by the imperialist bloc headed by the United States and persisting in their struggles, the socialist camp, the international working class, the national-liberation movement and all peace-loving peoples and countries will certainly be able to preserve world peace. (Applause.)

China has consistently safeguarded its unity with the Soviet Union and the other socialist countries and, together with them, has consistently waged an unmitting struggle in defence of world peace and in the cause of human progress. We actively support the struggles of the oppressed nations and peoples for their liberation and firmly oppose the policies of aggression and war pursued by the imperialist bloc headed by the United States. We have all along stood for the realization of peaceful coexistence among countries with different social systems on the basis of the Five Principles and made tremendous efforts to this end. In the past few years, China has concluded treaties of friendship or treaties of friendship and mutual non-aggression with many Asian and African countries, including Yemen, Burma, Nepal, Afghanistan, Guinea, Cambodia, Indonesia and Ghana. The conclusion of these treaties has not only consolidated and developed friendly relations between China and these countries, but has also made a useful contribution to the cause of defending world peace.

Led by the Central Committee of the Chinese Communist Party headed by Comrade Mao Tse-tung and holding high the three red banners of the general line, the big leap forward and the people’s commune, the Chinese people are striving to build China into a socialist country with a modern industry, modern agriculture and modern science and culture. We are aware that there will be no lack of difficulties as we go forward. In the past three years, we have encountered serious natural calamities in agriculture. But no difficulties whatever can dismay the united and long-tempered Chinese people. We are convinced that by relying on our own hard work, we will certainly be able to overcome our difficulties and attain our great goal. (Warm applause.)

The Moscow Meetings of Representatives of the Communist and Workers’ Parties held in 1957 and 1960 are meetings of great historic significance in the international communist movement. The Declaration of 1957 and the Statement of 1960 are programmes of common action for all the Communist and Workers’ Parties. Both the Declaration and the Statement point out that the unity of the socialist camp, the unity of the international communist movement, is the guarantee of victory in the struggle of the people throughout the world for world peace, national liberation, democracy and socialism. To safeguard this great unity is our internationalist obligation as Communists. (Applause.)

The Declaration and the Statement point out that the unity of the socialist camp, the unity of the international
The imperialist bloc headed by the United States is now engaged in aggressive and expansionist activities under cover of anti-communism. U.S. imperialism and the revisionist clique of Yugoslavia are trying by every means to sow dissension and disrupt the unity of the progressive forces throughout the world. At such a time, the unity and solidarity of the entire socialist camp, the unity and solidarity of the entire international communist movement, is of the utmost importance. Unity is strength, unity will triumph over all. In the face of the unity of the forces of socialism throughout the world, the unity of the oppressed nations and oppressed people throughout the world, the unity of the peace-loving peoples and countries throughout the world, the imperialists and their followers will suffer complete defeat in all their wild schemes. (Warm applause.)

Profound friendship has long existed between the Chinese and Soviet peoples. Both in revolution and in construction, the Chinese people have enjoyed support and assistance from the Soviet people and the Communist Party of the Soviet Union. For this, we again express our heartfelt gratitude. (Applause.) In the cause of building socialism and communism, opposing imperialist aggression and defending world peace, the people of our two countries, together with the people of the other socialist countries, have always helped and co-operated with one another, fighting a common struggle and marching forward shoulder to shoulder. This great unity and friendship of the people of our two countries will flow on eternally like the Yangtze and the Volga. (Warm applause.)

Please allow me now to read the message of greetings signed by Comrade Mao Tse-tung, Chairman of the Central Committee of the Chinese Communist Party. (Applause and standing ovation following the reading of Chairman Mao's message of greetings.)

Tibet Forges Ahead

by PANCHEN ERDENI

Panchen Erdeni Chiju-Gelseng (Panchen Lama), Vice-Chairman of the Standing Committee of the National People's Congress and Acting Chairman of the Preparatory Committee for the Tibet Autonomous Region, delivered a report on Tibet at a meeting of the Standing Committee of the N.P.C. on October 17, 1961. He described the excellent situation created in Tibet today two and a half years after the quelling of the rebellion staged by the reactionary clique of the upper social strata. Following is a summary of this report.—Ed.

Agriculture

Everywhere in Tibet today one can witness joyous scenes of the people bringing home a good harvest of qingke barley — the staple crop on the plateau — and this, despite the adverse weather that prevailed in some areas. This is the third bumper harvest in Tibet since 1959, the year the democratic reform started. There is nothing fortuitous about this. Democratic reform has basically been completed throughout Tibet and the mass of former serfs are now masters of the land they till. Naturally they show exceptional enthusiasm in their work. Furthermore, over 90 per cent of the peasant households in Tibet's rural areas are now in mutual-aid teams organized on a voluntary basis according to the principle of mutual benefit. This, plus government aid in the form of loans of seed and food grain, has brought about a most encouraging situation in the Tibetan countryside.

The "Eight-Point Charter" for agricultural production, which has had such good results in other parts of China, is also being applied by the Tibetan peasants in accordance with specific local conditions. More and more of them are opening up wasteland and building irrigation projects. As a result, the area under crops this year exceeded that of last year by 7 per cent. Panam County gives a good example of how water conservancy work is being developed. Last winter and spring, the people of this county repaired 1,198 old ditches, ponds and dams and built 358 new ones, thus extending the area under

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irrigation by 17,769 mu, or 21 per cent of all cultivated land in the county.

This year, more than 100,000 farm tools were sent to Tibet from other parts of the country. The farm implement plants in Lhasa, Chamdo and Shigatse manufactured and repaired 210,000 farm tools of various kinds. In addition, local blacksmiths and carpenters made a large number of small tools. A certain amount of practical work has been done in various places to reform and improve farm tools. The peasants in some areas are now using new-type ploughs; in others, wooden ploughshares have been replaced by iron ploughshares.

Guided by the Communist Party and the People’s Government, qingke barley has been successfully planted in areas where temperatures are low and at high altitudes such as at Phari, 4,300 metres above sea-level. The yield is generally four or five times the amount of seed used; in certain cases it is a dozen times as high. In Lhasa, Chamdo, Loka and Gyantse, trial planting of winter wheat and winter qingke barley has also proved successful. The yield is generally 7 or 8 times or even 15 times the amount of seed used.

Improvements have been introduced in tillng techniques and field management too and more fertilizer has been put onto the fields than ever before.

Stock-Breeding

Feudal relations of slavery have been abolished, thanks to the implementation of the policy of benefits for both herdsmen and herd-owners.* This has heightened the political consciousness of the herdsmen and their enthusiasm in tending the livestock. Furthermore, since the legitimate interests of the herd-owners are protected and they take part in the work of the committees for patriotic production and animal protection, they too display greater enthusiasm in livestock raising. In the pastoral areas, several effective measures have been introduced by the Communist Party and the People’s Government; these include timely fattening, mating, storing of fodder and the prevention and cure of diseases. All these have helped to reduce the death rate and increase the number of livestock.

*In the pastoral areas, the “three antis” (opposition to: rebellion, unpaid ula — corvee — and chattel slavery) campaign has been carried out and the relation of feudal slavery between the herd-owners and herdsmen serfs has been changed into one of hired labour. There has been no distribution of flocks and herds, no differentiation of classes and no struggle against the herd-owners. — Ed.

Industry, transport and communications have all shown a corresponding development. The management of enterprises has improved.

People’s Livelihood Improved

The people’s livelihood has improved with the growth of agriculture and livestock breeding. With their enhanced purchasing power, the people are buying more capital and consumer goods. More and more people are building new houses, and buying salt and tea — two important items on the Tibetan plateau — cloth and other consumer goods as well as draught animals and farm implements. Statistics compiled in early August show that this year the people in Lhunze County, Loka Special Administrative Region, built 522 new houses and repaired over 1,200 old ones; they also acquired or repaired 2,400 farm implements. The people of three districts in that county bought 190 draught yaks, 61 donkeys, 39 horses, 23 milk yaks and 22 goats. One old peasant there has said that he wished he were much younger, for most of his 62 years were spent in wretched poverty, and now he sees a new life just beginning after the democratic reforms. Like everyone else, he is eagerly looking forward to still happier days to come.

A brisk trade is carried on between town and countryside and between the agricultural and pastoral areas. Nearly every district now has its own supply and marketing co-op functioning under the guidance of the state trading companies set up in the urban centres. Taglung County, in Gyantse Special Administrative Region, has a population of less than 10,000, but the turnover at the fair held there between August 10 and 16 amounted to 170,000 yuan. More than 80 per cent of the goods sold were produced by local farmers, herdsmen and handicraftsmen. This gives some idea of the buoyancy of the economy.

Culture and Education

Political and economic emancipation gives the broad mass of peasants and herdsmen a strong urge to get an education and achieve their cultural emancipation as well. As a result, culture and education are making swift progress. There was not a single regular school in the whole of Tibet in the past. Today, in addition to the schools established by the People’s Government, the people themselves have set up a large number of regular schools and night schools. Incomplete statistics give the following picture for all Tibet:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Type of School</th>
<th>Number of Schools</th>
<th>Enrolment</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Middle and normal schools</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>678</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Primary schools established by the government</td>
<td>40</td>
<td>58,299</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Primary schools established by the people</td>
<td>1,896</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

These schools do more than give the people a general education; they also help to explain the Communist Party’s policies and enhance the people’s political consciousness.

Song and dance troupes, both professional and amateur, are active in Tibet. The number of mobile cinema teams has increased to 99. Now every county in Tibet has its own mobile cinema team. They gave 17,494 showings to audiences totalling over 10 million in the past year and a half. (This means that on an average every person in Tibet saw 10 shows. — Ed.)

New medical institutions have given a big boost to the people’s health. There are 157 such institutions today.
and the great majority of them—117—were newly built during the past year. Every one of the special administrative regions has a hospital and most counties have clinics. These hospitals and clinics send out medical groups to make routine circuits of the villages, pastures, factories and mines, bringing medical service to the doorsteps of the people. So far 560 professional medical workers and 643 spare-time health workers have been trained from among the Tibetan people. Western style doctors cooperate closely with practitioners in traditional Tibetan medicine. A large number of the latter have been trained. With their professional skills and equipment improved, they are playing an important role in caring for the people's health.

**People's Democratic State Power**

The task of strengthening and perfecting the people's democratic state power is high on this year's agenda. To perfect the people's democratic state power at all levels and strengthen the people's democratic dictatorship, the Preparatory Committee for the Tibet Autonomous Region in the first half of this year organized local elections in various places in different parts of the region as an experimental step for the holding of general local elections throughout Tibet. Preparations are being made to hold democratic elections gradually in areas where conditions are ripe; these elections will establish people's congresses [organs of government authority] and people's councils [executive organs of the people's congresses at corresponding levels] at the township and county levels, and thus create conditions for the convening of the regional people's congress and the formal establishment of the Tibet Autonomous Region in the future. The experiment has shown that the setting up of people's congresses and people's councils through general democratic elections is an important step for carrying to completion the democratic reforms and consolidating the people's democratic dictatorship.

The training of cadres, particularly from among the Tibetan people, is important for staffing and perfecting state organs at all levels to meet the requirements of rapidly growing production and construction. This work has always received a great deal of attention. Long before democratic reform began, large numbers of young Tibetans were sent to study at the central and local institutes for nationalities, the Tibetan Institute and other specialized schools. Many activists came forward during the implementing of the democratic reforms. They came from families of the oppressed and exploited classes and are politically steadfast. All kinds of training classes have been established for them since last winter. Many new cadres working at the grassroots level are fast getting a firm grasp of their jobs. Today, the overwhelming majority of cadres at levels below the county are Tibetans who have just come forward from the ranks in the localities where they serve. In the Lhasa area, for example, 90 out of 106 county heads, deputy county heads, district heads and deputy district heads, that is, 85 per cent, are Tibetans. Cadres of Han and other nationalities maintain close contact with the Tibetan people and serve them faithfully. They have made splendid contributions to the cause of liberation of the Tibetan people, and are making great contributions to the building of a new Tibet.

**Redemption Policy in Action**

During the carrying out of the democratic reforms, the Communist Party and the People's Government implemented the policy of redemption in the case of those manorial lords who had not taken part in the rebellion. This process of buying out (redemption) has now been completed; they have been issued certificates of payment and the first year's instalments have already been paid.

Proper arrangements have been made for the patriotic and progressive members of the upper social strata. Many of them are working in the local governments at various levels, the local committees of the Chinese People's Political Consultative Conference and popular organizations. Many hold leading positions. The livelihood of members of the upper strata is properly looked after. Their political understanding is being enhanced by studying the current situation and the Party's policies with the help of the Communist Party and the People's Government. In a word, the people's democratic united front in Tibet has been further consolidated and enlarged, and the unity of the nationalities further strengthened.

As a result of the implementation of the policy of freedom of religion, the broad masses of people today enjoy the right of freedom of religious belief. Monks and nuns have enhanced their political understanding as a result of the democratic reforms, and democratic management of the monasteries is a reliable guarantee of their political rights and freedom of religious belief. Proper arrangements have been made for their religious activities, political study, productive labour and material life under the leadership of the democratic management committees. The Preparatory Committee for the Tibet Autonomous Region has also decided to organize a group of learned lamas for research into the Buddhist scriptures. Preparations for this are already under way.

The tremendous achievements of the past year have been made under the leadership of the Communist Party with the unstinted support of the fraternal nationalities in other parts of the country, by the joint efforts of the masses of the Tibetan people, and the cadres and People's Liberation Army men stationed in Tibet.
New U.S. Aggressive Designs in South Viet Nam

SPEAKING at a press conference for both Chinese and foreign correspondents in Peking, Tran Tu Binh, Ambassador of the Democratic Republic of Viet Nam to China, declared that the situation in south Viet Nam today was most dangerous and more tense than at any time in the past. Following the inauguration of the Kennedy Administration, U.S. imperialist aggression and intervention in south Viet Nam has grown particularly serious; U.S. imperialism and the Ngo Dinh Diem clique are frantically piling up arms and intensifying their preparations to start a war in Indo-China and Southeast Asia. The ambassador warned that peace in that region is being directly threatened.

Plan to Send U.S. Troops

A review of the latest activities and statements of leading figures in the United States shows that Ambassador Tran Tu Binh’s warning is fully justified. For days on end, Kennedy has been holding secret meetings with his Secretary of State, Secretary of Defense and the Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff. A meeting of the National Security Council, one of the highest policy-making organs of the U.S. Government, was also called to study the question of committing U.S. troops to south Viet Nam. The New York Times, mouthpiece of the U.S. State Department, disclosed that the United States has in the main decided to send troops to Viet Nam. Both the commander of the U.S. Seventh Fleet and the commandant of the U.S. Marine Corps have talked about being ready to march into south Viet Nam at a moment’s notice. On October 18, Maxwell Taylor, advocate of “limited war” and Kennedy’s special military adviser, went to Saigon on the instructions of the U.S. President to study measures for an extension of U.S. aggression in south Viet Nam, and especially to look into the question of directly employing U.S. troops for armed intervention there.

Not only that. The United States is also stepping up its plan to expand its intervention in south Viet Nam through the SEATO bloc. According to an AP news dispatch, the “emergency plan” for intervention in south Viet Nam drawn up at the Bangkok conference of the military advisers of that aggressive bloc contemplates using SEATO troops “when necessary.”

It is clear that the U.S. Government is planning to push its intervention in south Viet Nam to a more dangerous stage. The people of Southeast Asia and the peace-loving people of the whole world must exercise the utmost vigilance in this matter.

The Staley Plan

In mid-June this year, a mission headed by Eugene Staley, Research Director of the Stanford Research Institute of California, was sent by U.S. President Kennedy to south Viet Nam. On its return, this mission submitted to the U.S. Government a fanciful plan, the so-called “Staley Plan,” designed “to wipe out” the patriotic forces in south Viet Nam within 18 months. According to this plan, the United States will press through a series of measures to strengthen its control and intervention in south Viet Nam, and step up suppression of the patriotic struggle of the people there against the U.S.-Diem bloc. It demands that the Ngo Dinh Diem clique increase its puppet forces to around 500,000 men envisaging not only the strengthening of the regular army of the Diem clique, but also the beefing up of irregular detachments including local reactionary armed units. It also suggests that more villages in south Viet Nam should be merged together so that more millions of people will be moved into huge concentration camps. The plan also demands that the Diem clique carry out a number of economic "reforms," and proposes a number of measures giving the United States overall control in matters of finance, economic, educational and social affairs. The U.S. Government is energetically implementing this “Staley Plan.”

Long-Planned Aggression and Intervention

The U.S. Government has been hatching its plans for aggression and intervention in south Viet Nam for a long time. Since Kennedy assumed the U.S. presidency, the prosecution of these plans has been stepped up. Last May, Kennedy sent his vice-president Johnson to south Viet Nam and a bilateral military alliance by way of a Johnson-Ngo Dinh Diem joint communique was formed. In June, another delegation headed by Staley was sent to south Viet Nam and a so-called “Staley Plan” was worked out. In the last four months, no less than 29 delegations, most of them composed of high-ranking U.S. military personnel, have travelled to south Viet Nam to implement this new U.S. military plan. The United States has also sent groups of so-called “specialists on counter-guerrilla warfare” to south Viet Nam to train puppet troops there for use in suppressing the just and patriotic struggle of the people of south Viet Nam against the U.S.-Diem bloc. Weapons and war material are being shipped openly from the United States and Malaya into south Viet Nam. It should be noted especially that the United States has also shipped a number of new weapons of mass destruction to south Viet Nam.

With this enhanced support from the United States, the Ngo Dinh Diem clique has been encouraged to suppress the people under its control in a still more ruthless way.
Between mid-May and the end of last August, the U.S.-Diem bloc launched more than 300 “mopping up operations,” large and small, against the Vietnamese patriots.

The Lie That Fools No One

To cover up its new schemes of bigger scale military intervention in South Viet Nam, the United States has recently launched a widespread propaganda campaign alleging that the present tension in South Viet Nam has been caused by the “subversive activities” of the northern part of Viet Nam. Addressing the U.N. General Assembly last month, Kennedy declared that “South Viet Nam is already under attack.” The struggle of the people in South Viet Nam against the U.S.-Diem bloc, he said, was not a “war of liberation” but “aggression.” He evidently didn’t stop to ask himself how on earth a people can “commit aggression” against their own country.

What then is the root cause of the present tension in South Viet Nam? As Nguyen Co Thach, deputy head of the delegation of the Democratic Republic of Viet Nam to the enlarged Geneva Conference, told a Hsinhua correspondent in Geneva on October 19, it is the wrecking of the Geneva agreements by the United States. The struggle of the people in South Viet Nam is a patriotic, just struggle; they oppose the turning of their land into a U.S. military base and an American colony; they are opposed to the corrupt and brutal dictatorial regime run by the Ngo Dinh Diem family — a regime the United States has fostered so as to carry out its policies of war and aggression in Indo-China and Southeast Asia. The people in South Viet Nam demand the peaceful reunification of their homeland according to the Geneva agreements; their struggle has won the support of the people of the whole of Viet Nam and of all the progressive forces of the world. That is why they are invincible and their struggle can never be suppressed. The U.S.-Diem bloc is foredoomed to failure; their frenzied repressions will not save them; their shameless slanders against the people of Viet Nam will not help them.

More Dangerous Designs

The United States has recently fabricated a myth about the so-called invasion of south Viet Nam by north Vietnamese troops moving through Laos. This is aimed at creating a pretext not only for sending U.S. troops to south Viet Nam but also for continuing intervention and aggression against Laos. At the enlarged Geneva Conference which is now more than five months old, Washington has done its best to place Laos by hook or by crook under an international trusteeship operating through an omnipotent international commission. The United States failed in this scheme because of the objections of the majority of the countries attending the conference, but even quite recently, it has still been making trouble on this score. The current ballyhoo about the so-called invasion of south Viet Nam by north Vietnamese troops through Laos is another U.S. stratagem to support its absurd demand for an unlimited extension of the powers of the international commission and the imposition of an international trusteeship on Laos. At the same time, it should also be noted that while it is openly meddling in the talks of the three Laotian princes in vain attempt to secure a majority for the rebel group in the future coalition government and so turn it into a tool serving U.S. interests, the United States is also energetically preparing to rekindle the war in Laos so as to carry out its aggressive schemes by force of arms.

These preparations to launch fresh armed intervention in south Viet Nam and create further tension in Southeast Asia are a complex move by U.S. imperialism: it is designed to blackmail and intimidate the patriotic forces of Laos, to turn south Viet Nam into a spring-board for continued armed intervention against Laos and so realize the aim of converting Laos into a U.S. military base.

The Chinese People’s Stand

The U.S. Government’s scheme to extend military aggression in south Viet Nam is not only a serious provocation against the people of south Viet Nam but also a grave threat to peace in Indo-China and Southeast Asia. In view of this, the Vietnamese Foreign Minister Ung Van Khiem recently requested the two Co-Chairmen of the Geneva Conference to ask the U.S. Government to stop its intervention in south Viet Nam, to check the Ngo Dinh Diem authorities’ policy of arms expansion and war preparations, of barbarous terror and repression and halt all military activities both large and small against the people in south Viet Nam. On October 19, Renmin Ribao declared editorially that the Chinese people give their full support to these proposals of Foreign Minister Ung Van Khiem. To preserve the Geneva agreements and peace in Indo-China and Southeast Asia, it is necessary to put an immediate stop to the military provocations of the United States.

Pen Probes

The Ugly American Will Out

When the U.S. Peace Corps was officially formed early this year, The New York Times stated editorially that there would be no “ugly Americans” among its members. That was evidently the rumbling of an uneasy conscience. It gave the game away. This Kennedy brain-child was clearly a try at the soft-sell approach so commonly practised in the U.S. advertising world when customer resistance grows too tough. Yankee imperialism, hated by millions throughout the world, has no sales appeal, so give it another name, make it sound humanitarian — “people-to-people,” as the current saying goes.

Before the socialist camp began providing selfless aid to the Asian-African countries, the imperialists seldom bothered themselves about such new-fangled ideas. Now they say: “When you need technicians and technical knowhow, just dial Washington and call in the Peace Corps.” But those who have had some experience of U.S. imperialist ways are quick to point out that however problematical may be the contribution of these technicians and their knowhow, one thing is certain: they will peddle the American way of life; they will do their best to poison the minds of the young and do the dirty work of the Central Intelligence Agency. “Peace Corps” means “penetration corps,” as one young African leader remarked.

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And so there would be no "ugly Americans" in the Peace Corps? Too good to be true, as the experience of one of the very first contingents of the Peace Corps to go overseas showed in Nigeria this month.

Some 45 men and women of the corps arrived at Ibadan’s University College in September for four months’ "orientation" before going to teach in secondary schools in Eastern Nigeria. But it was not long before Ibadan and all Nigeria was in an uproar. A woman member of the group, Margery Michelmore by name, proceeded to write and send an open postcard diluting upon the "squalor and absolute primitive conditions rampant both in the cities and the bush" and describing the Nigerian demonstrations against the murder of the Congolese patriot Lumumba as "riots."

These insults naturally aroused the intense indignation of the Nigerian people. The Nigerian Tribune in an editorial entitled "Sack Them!" declared: "Miss Michelmore’s letter is a great insult to Nigeria. The Peace Corps has now been exposed. Are they more than enemies of peace, champions of falsehood and tendentious propagandists?" More than 1,000 Nigerian students and teachers of Ibadan University College held a rally demanding immediate deportation of the "peace" corps. They passed a resolution denouncing it as "inspired espionage" and its members as "agents of imperialism."

Dapo Falase, President of the Ibadan Students Union, charged at the rally that the real intention of the Peace Corps was to spread American imperialist propaganda in Africa and to spy on the Africans. Other Nigerian papers and political parties called for an official apology from the United States and expulsion of the "Peace Corps."

Was Washington dismayed? Why should Margery suffer for blabbing abroad what her mentors in the State Department think? Peace Corps Director R. Sargent Shriver said, "Such trouble should not interrupt the mission or obscure the purpose of the Peace Corps." Little Margery will be reassigned to another project after her return to the corps’ training centre in Puerto Rico.

Behind the Beautiful Cover

Cartoon by Chiang Fan

Flickering Lights on the New Frontier

The present United States Ambassador in Tokyo, Edwin Reischauer, was brought up there; he was a student of the Imperial University, Tokyo, and speaks Japanese fluently. His wife is the grand-daughter of Matsukata Masayoshi, who played a leading role in the Meiji Era and whose family is one of the pillars of the imperial aristocracy. He also studied in Peking for a time and is supposed to be an "expert" on Chinese, Korean and Far Eastern affairs in general, in addition to knowing all about Japan. So endowed, he was handpicked by President Kennedy for the very special role that a U.S. envoy in Japan is slated to play by the "new men" in Washington. Reischauer indeed seemed to be one of the very brightest of the lights on Kennedy’s diplomatic "new frontier."

The American eagle, said Kennedy in a message to Congress, symbolically holds arrows in one talon and an olive branch in the other. In the vast intrigue designed to keep Japan within the U.S. imperialist orbit, U.S. missiles, planes, submarines, military bases, artillery ranges, troops, spies and so on, do for the "arrows" while Reischauer evidently has to make do for the olive branch. But that is a particularly important role in Japan. The Japanese people have shown that they are undismayed by U.S. military paraphernalia and puppets like Kishi, so it is particularly important to find some means of misleading, covering up and duping Japanese anti-imperialist public opinion. This is where Reischauer comes in. Kennedy at least learnt one thing from the experience of the Eisenhower regime. Ike handed out diplomatic posts with a lavish hand to "deserving" businessmen who had contributed to the election fund of the Republican Party. One result of this was the appointment of such an ignominy and nonentity as the U.S. ambassador who didn’t even know the name of the prime minister of the country to which he was accredited. So Kennedy picked a "scholar" for the Tokyo post. Reischauer himself noted in his Broken Dialogue with Japan that the "growing gap between their thinking [that of the bulk of Japan’s intellectuals and college students] and that of Americans is a truly frightening phenomenon." So Reischauer was appointed to "correct" the image of the U.S. in Japanese minds and to bridge that "gap."

His appointment as U.S. Ambassador to Japan was for a while favourably commented on by much of the Japanese bourgeois press and some cultural and academic circles. He succeeded in deceiving a certain number of the people particularly among the intellectuals. But not for long. There were warning notes from the progressive elements. As Nakaya Kenichi, a professor of Tokyo University who knows his American history, noted: "This Harvard professor who was born in Tokyo is not a pro-Japanese American, but rather an old hand in dealing with Japan." The truth of this analysis was soon borne out by Reischauer’s activities in Japan.
On May 10 this year, when representatives of the "Association of Victims of Foreign Troops Stationed in Japan" went to see him at the embassy to request compensation for these victims, he turned them down flat, adding injury to insult by saying that these people were themselves to blame for their troubles. On June 10, it was at the insistence of this "friend of Japan" that Japan was forced to sign an agreement recognizing that the postwar "aid" and "relief" given by the U.S. to Japan and amounting to U.S.$490 million was a "debt" owed by Japan to the United States.

People's Communes

How Dengji Beat the Floods

by CHANG FU-NIEN

WHEN the Dengji Commune farmers looked out this summer on their fields inundated for the second time in two years they might well have been excused for feeling a bit fed up. But they didn't need to be excused. They upped hoes and shovels, dug new channels and set to draining off the water with the same dogged determination that had carried them through last year. Latest news is that they will win through, and more than win through, again.

Dengji lies in the southwestern part of Shantung Province south of the Yellow River, in the Hotse area which is famous for its peonies. Its soil is fertile and good for wheat, sorghum, maize and millet. However frequent floods from the Yellow River silted up many of its rivers, and drainage and irrigation channels; poverty and other social calamities led to the further deterioration of its waterways and channels and it was in pretty sad shape by the time liberation came.

After liberation, the People's Government reinforced the dykes along the Yellow River and helped the Dengji area put its water conservancy facilities in order. This and the work of the farm co-ops got Dengji well onto its feet. When the people's communes were formed in 1958 things were going well. The 16,000 farmers of the Dengji Commune felt they were firmly set on the way to prosperity. Then last year a terrific cloudburst such as the place hadn't known in decades hit Dengji.

When the Downpour Came

It was in July 1960; the autumn crops were coming on nicely. The sorghum was earing; the maize was already putting out its cobs and the soya stalks had passed the one-foot mark. Everything looked fine. Then came torrential rains lasting, with only short intervals, for three weeks. Over 800 mm. of rain fell, somewhere around 150 mm. more than normally falls in a whole year there. This was more than even the good drainage arrangements of the farms could handle. Thirty of the commune's 45 villages were marooned and three-quarters of its 47,000 mu of cultivated land were under water. The worst hit were the four basin areas of the commune. Even in normal times they could be waterlogged "if the frogs all pissed together" as the farmers put it. Now they were properly flooded.

It was no wonder then that on October 17, when Reischauer went to give a lecture at Kyushu University, a popular demonstration there greeted him with the familiar cries of "Yankees, Go Home!" and "Return Okinawa to Japan!" and a meeting against him scheduled to take place on the university campus had to be banned by the police.

Cuba, Laos, Japan . . . one by one the bright lights on Kennedy's new frontier go out and the future of U.S. diplomacy looks darker than ever.

October 27, 1961
One of the biggest joint efforts of the brigades was on the four basin areas which account for the greater part of the commune’s farmland. Here timely planting of the winter wheat is vital to a good summer crop the following year. “Timely” here means ploughing and sowing immediately after the waters have been drained off in the autumn, otherwise the silted soil gets baked hard as slate in a few days. This posed quite a problem for those brigades which suffered from heavy waterlogging and lacked manpower and draught animals.

By pooling efforts Dengji not only ploughed and sowed the four basins in time but even enlarged its total sown area. The brigades from the higher lands in the commune, which now later, sent help in the form of 1,200 men and women and 200 draught animals. Then the basin brigades returned the help. This mutual aid was governed by the principle of equivalent exchange.

Thanks to these efforts the commune sowed 29,000 mu of wheat land, which was 4,000 mu more than the previous year. Spring drought forced some losses in these fields but all in all, considering the difficulties they had overcome, the harvest last summer was more satisfactory.

Then this summer Nature hit again. Within a week in late June, three downpours added another 280 mm. to the year’s rainfall. This concentration waterlogged the lands once again. This time more than half the arable area was under water. Using the experience gained last year the commune succeeded in draining the flooded area within a fortnight. The crops on 7,000 mu were saved. Those on another 12,000 mu were damaged beyond repair, but by July the whole of this area had been replanted to late autumn crops and vegetables. So Dengji will pull through again.

Now and Then

I visited Dengji last May. The wheat harvest was not yet in and it was a time which the peasants describe in the saying: “the new crops are ripening while the granaries are emptying”—one of the hardest times of the year in the old days. The commune members however were cheery and well, going busily about their tasks. There were few traces left by the floods of last year. In the Jianglou Brigade’s home of respect for the aged were 45 old men and women who had neither children nor close kin to look after them. They were living comfortably there and being provided with adequate food, clothing and housing out of the brigade’s welfare fund. Jianglou was one of the brigades worst hit in the recent floods. I couldn’t help wondering what would have been the situation here in the old days after a year of such weather.

When I asked this question of Kao Kuang-chien, leader of the Kaoho Village Production Team, he answered it simply by telling me about what had actually happened in 1942. Hoist at that time was overrun by the Japanese invading army and Chinese traitors. There was the usual plundering of the peasants by the landlords, soldiers and puppet government. The summer harvest had not been so bad but drought in the following months had reduced the sorghum and maize crops, and the soya bean crop was almost wiped out. This was enough to make famine inevitable. When grain and grain chaff gave out, the peasants took to tree bark and leaves. One desperate Kaoho farmer took his title deeds on two and a half mu of good land to a landlord and begged for a loan of 100 jin of grain. The landlord turned him down. A measure of sorghum borrowed then meant a return of four measures of wheat the next year, a terribly high rate of interest. In Kaoho alone more than 20 people starved to death.

Kao Teh-sheng, another villager in Kaoho, told me about what he experienced in that famine. Kao himself was only 13 years of age then. His father took him to the northeast leaving his mother and younger brother on the farm. The ruthless exploitation of the people that went on in Fushun under the Japanese invaders killed his father. When Kao got home he found his mother and brother dead too.

The weather in 1960 had been much worse than in 1942 and the waterloggings this year were nearly as bad. Anyone can see the difference for himself between the then and the now by just walking through Kaoho.

The children of Kaoho may not be able to make this comparison from their own experience but their elders take good care to tell them of those old days. Dengji members know that it is the co-ops yesterday and the commune of today that has enabled them, if not to eliminate natural calamities, then at least to hold their effects within manageable limits. That is for now. But they are realistically planning still better water conservancy and other arrangements so as to go further than this in dealing with floods and drought and then completely put them under control step by step. The stubborn fight they waged and won against floods over the past two years gives them the confidence that they can do it. These are new days in China; days full of new hopes never dreamt of before.
Support for Tunisian People

Peking's Mayor Peng Chen sent a cable on October 19 to Dr. Rachid Terras, Chairman of the Bizerta Municipal Office, expressing resolute support for the just struggle waged by the Tunisian people and citizens of Bizerta against French colonial aggression. The message informs Dr. Terras that a gift of medical equipment and medicine worth 60,000 yuan has been sent to Bizerta for the relief of victims of the French attack.

Earlier, Mayor Peng Chen received a letter from Dr. Terras and an appeal from the Municipal Council of Bizerta, calling for material and moral support for the Tunisian people's struggle.

C.P.V. Anniversary

The fraternal and militant friendship between the Chinese and Korean peoples was once again demonstrated during the commemorative activities on the eleventh anniversary of the entry of the Chinese People's Volunteers into Korea to fight U.S. aggression. At the reception given in Peking by Ma Dong San, the Charge d'Affaires ad interim of the Korean Embassy, both hosts and Chinese guests toasted the unbreakable friendship between the two peoples. In Pyongyang, Hao Teh-ching, Chinese Ambassador to Korea, in his speech at a commemorative meeting, stressed that in face of the intensified war preparations of the imperialists, headed by the U.S., the unity of the people of the whole world and the unity of the twelve socialist countries in particular, is of all the greater significance. Unity is strength, unity can conquer all, said the Chinese Ambassador.

Belgian Queen's Impressions Of China

Queen Elisabeth of Belgium ended her successful visit to China and left Peking for home on October 19. During her visit, she many times expressed her profound friendship and love for the Chinese people, and her support for the restoration of China's legitimate rights in the United Nations.

What greatly impressed her, as she told the Hsinhua News Agency before her departure from Peking, was the Chinese people's confidence in their leaders, their physical and moral health and their enthusiasm and love for their country. "Your country," she said, "has magnificent scenery and relics of the past. It is no surprise to find that your country which has produced so many artists has leaders at the head of the government today who themselves are great artists."

The Belgian Queen said: "I wish to thank the Chinese women who invited me to China and gave me the opportunity to stay among their people who today are happy because of the great wisdom of their leaders, Mao Tse-tung in particular."

Chinese Women in Tirana

The Chinese Women's Delegation headed by Yang Yun-yu, Deputy to the National People's Congress and Member of the Secretariat of the National Women's Federation, attended the 5th Congress of the Women's Union of Albania held on October 18-17 in Tirana.

Addressing the congress, Yang Yun-yu paid tribute to the role played by Albanian women in socialist construction and hailed the indestructible friendship between the Chinese and Albanian peoples based on the principles of Marxism-Leninism and proletarian internationalism.

During its stay in Tirana, the Chinese Women's Delegation visited the Museum of the National Liberation Struggle and the Stalin Textile Combine where they had friendly talks with Albanian textile workers.

China-Iraq Trade Agreement

A trade agreement between the People's Republic of China and the Republic of Iraq was signed in Baghdad on October 18 after friendly trade talks between representatives of the trade delegations of the two countries. In the coming year, China will export to Iraq various commodities including industrial equipment, electrical appliances, silk and cotton piece-goods, steel, timber and other goods; while Iraq will export to China dates, crude oil, oil products, wool and other products.

Chinese-Cuban Post and Telecommunications Agreements

Post and telecommunications agreements between the Chinese and Cuban Governments were signed in Havana on October 21. They were signed by the head of the Chinese Posts and Telecommunications Delegation Shen Kuang and the Cuban Minister of Communications Raul Curbelo Morales.

The two agreements provide for regular direct exchange and transit services of correspondence and parcels and the establishment of a direct radio telegraph service.

CULTURAL NEWS

A joint statement on cultural exchanges between the Chinese and Japanese peoples has been signed in Peking by Chu Tu-nan, President of the Chinese People's Association for Cultural Relations with Foreign Countries, and Kenzo Nakajima, Chairman of the Council of the Japan-China Cultural Exchange Association. The statement stressed that in the struggle against U.S. imperialism — the common enemy of the two peoples — and its followers, and in strengthening the solidarity between the two peoples, the important contributions made by carrying out the agreements concluded in the two previous joint statements on cultural exchange had already promoted the friendship and solidarity between the two peoples. Now, it said, the Chinese and Japanese peoples have established a militant friendship between them which cannot be destroyed by any force.

The exhibition of works by Dullah, painter to the Indonesian Presidential Palace, closed in Peking on October 20. During the 10-day show, it drew a total attendance of more than 16,000 people. Among them were Vice-Premier Chen Yi and many prominent figures in art and other cultural circles. Many appreciative comments were written in the visitors' book. The Peking press carried reviews and reproductions of several of the works displayed.
French Anti-Algerian Outrages

The French Government continues its brutal massacres and persecutions of the peaceful Algerian people. In Paris and other French cities, calling out its armed gendarmes, it has bloodily suppressed the demonstrations held by tens of thousands of Algerians residing in France against the French colonial system. "Renmin Ribao's Commentator (October 24) says that these outrageous acts of the de Gaulle government constitute an open challenge to the Algerian people; such brutality and flagrant disregard of human rights and justice cannot but anger the Chinese people and all other peoples of the world, Commentator writes.

Everyone can see that this was a plain massacre, Commentator points out. The French Government obviously resorted to this for fear of the increasing awakening of the Algerian people, led by the Provisional Government of the Algerian Republic, and the growing strength of their indomitable struggle against the French colonialists. The demonstrations organized on an unprecedented scale by the Algerian people in France in response to the call of the Provisional Government of the Algerian Republic, and their firmness and militant spirit following repressions by the French Government are the index of their awakening. Because of its defeat in the colonial war against Algeria the de Gaulle government is now in the throes of a host of crises. The Algerian people's demonstrations dealt another heavy blow to it. Still intent on preserving their tottering colonial rule in Algeria, the French ruling circles are vainly hoping to curb the fighting will of the Algerian people by these displays of ruthless fascist repression.

However, these attempts of the French Government are doomed to fail, says Commentator. Events in the colonial war against Algeria in the last seven years have shown that the Algerian people are indomitable and invincible. The French colonialists with their bayonets and guns have failed in the past to subjugate the heroic Algerians. Today when the Algerian people are more united and awakened, brutal massacres by the French authorities will certainly not break their determination to fight against colonial domination and to win national independence. On the contrary, it will prompt them to hit back even more resolutely. The Algerian people will assuredly persevere in their struggle, and march forward bravely until they have completely smashed their colonial shackles, Commentator concludes.

Strange Bedfellows

The recent Vienna meeting of finance ministers and directors of state banks representing 73 countries was a meeting where the U.S. dollar and the pound sterling beggared the mark and the franc and other West European currencies for help. Washington and London, looking ahead, were hoping to so arrange things that when the next dollar or sterling crisis breaks out, they will be able to secure through the International Monetary Fund loans in marks and francs from Bonn and Paris promptly and in large amounts.

An article in "Renmin Ribao (October 19) dealing with the International Monetary Conference in Vienna goes into the background of this situation. It recalls that the representatives of the various countries present at the conference expressed their willingness to provide loans to support the I.M.F. and so save the U.S. dollar and pound sterling—the two chief currencies of the capitalist world—from collapse, but they insisted on certain conditions. The financial tyrants of the West European countries refused to toe the U.S. line and offer loans unconditionally and automatically to an international organization which is actually under U.S. control. The French and West German representatives set forth conditions for the use of loans made by their countries, and the representative of the Netherlands, supporting his French and West German colleagues, expressed the view that their taxpayers' money should not be used as "fuel to feed the machine of inflation of other countries," that is, to pour into the bottomless pit caused by the continuing devaluation of the dollar and pound sterling. In face of the tough attitude taken by France and West Germany, the U.S. and Britain failed in their attempts to secure use of the funds of the West European countries to prop up their own sagging currencies.

It is not difficult to understand, the article says, why the West European countries insisted on conditions. Unconditional "aid" has never existed among the imperialist countries. And in this case there are special reasons for them to attach strings to their loans. It is to their interest to have the dollar and pound sterling weak but not so weak as to be heading for a complete collapse. This helps them not only to seize juicy financial positions the easy way but to exact political and economic advantages from the U.S. and Britain as a quid pro quo for "aid."

On the other hand, the financial magnates of Wall Street and the City of London, who despite the decline in their strength, still hold the reins of financial power in the capitalist world, argue that the firmness of the mark and franc owe much to their exploitation of the weakness of the dollar and sterling. The reason why the dollar and sterling are weak is because they are called upon to bear a heavy burden in the defence of the "free world." They are needed for the arms drive and war preparations the world over; for the provision of "aid" to the underdeveloped countries and for making investments in many parts of the world. So they maintain that in order to "share out obligations equally," those countries in the capitalist world with a surplus in the balance of international payments should naturally help those who have incurred deficits. The West European countries are asked not only to support the dollar and sterling unconditionally and on a large scale but also to help close the gap in the U.S. and British balance of international payments. These proposals,
of course, cannot be accepted by the other side.

Although the participants of the Vienna meeting expressed grave anxiety about the financial structure built on the basis of the dollar and sterling, "interdependence" is an impossible thing among the imperialist gangsters even though they face a common disaster. That is why at a meeting designed to save the leading currencies of the capitalist world through a common effort, the Western imperialist countries proved themselves to be strange bedfellows, each trying to outdo and outwit the others.

Feeble Upturn in U.S. Economy

The upturn in the U.S. economy since last March is analysed in a recent article in Hongqi (No. 20, 1961). This upturn, says the article, is extraordinarily weak. Depending mainly on the stimulation given by government spending, it is like a morphine shot in the arm: it gives a momentary effect but can do nothing to save the U.S. economy from its inevitable decline.

The weakness of this upturn, the article points out, is shown first of all in the fact that the output of many important industrial products is still much below the level reached in January last year (on the eve of the fourth postwar U.S. economic crisis). The upturn in the steel, automobile and building industries—the three so-called pillars of U.S. industry—is quite insignificant. In July, steel output was only 67 per cent of the output in January last year; automobile output was only 57.9 per cent while, although the building industry has picked up fairly quickly, the number of houses built had not yet reached the level of February last year. Other important industrial products such as coal, rubber, timber and textiles also failed to reach the level of January last year.

The weakness of the upturn is also expressed in the large amount of "surplus" productive capacity in enterprises. Always a sore spot in U.S. industry, this has remained a serious problem even following the current upturn. In August, U.S. industry as a whole operated at only about 70 per cent of capacity. The steel industry used only 66 per cent of its capacity and the machine-tool building industry only 55 to 60 per cent.

Despite the economic upturn, unemployment remains a serious problem. The index for industrial production in July surpassed the highest level reached before the crisis, yet the number of unemployed still stood at more than 5 million. There was a slight drop in August for seasonal reasons, but even the greatly minimized official figures still put the number of unemployed at more than 4.5 million.

Analysing the impulse behind the upturn, the article points out that it came from the Kennedy Administration's bloated programme of government spending. The purchasing power of the American people has failed to rally in these months of the upturn. Retail sales of consumer commodities have failed to keep pace with the pick-up in production. In the second quarter of this year they were $1,500 million less than in the same period of last year.

The big burst of government spending has created a special market for the monopoly capitalists and especially for those engaged in military production. The monopoly capitalists can rake in much higher profits from this market than on the ordinary market.

At a time of economic crisis, the U.S. Government tries its best to expand this market as a means of temporarily easing the contradictions between the growth of productive capacity and the relative contraction of consumer demand among the broad masses of the people, hoping by this means to bring about a swift pick-up in production. But this can only play a temporary role as a prop to the economy. The "bold spending" of the Kennedy Administration cannot but lead to a huge financial deficit.

Successive U.S. governments have all resorted to increased taxation as a major means of covering their financial deficits. This is particularly true of the Kennedy Administration. This means that an increased burden of taxation will be imposed on the working people. So, the bigger the amount of government spending, the smaller the real income of the working people and the sharper the contradictions between production and consumption, the quicker crises recur and the faster the economic situation worsens.

The article concludes that it will be sometime before the big U.S. government spending begins to lose its impact as a stimulant to the economy, but sooner or later all the symptoms of crisis in the U.S. economy will come to a head again, and things will be more serious than ever before.
A Peasant Meteorologist. The canny farmer can often tell tomorrow’s weather with just a glance at the sky and by reading nature’s other homely weather signs. The provincial and county meteorological stations predict weather changes accurately for a wide area. But in order to give guidance for immediate action, these forecasts often have to be supplemented by observations made by commune weather stations.

Tuan Chun-tso, whose job it is to report to his people’s commune on the daily weather forecasts, has found a way of combining “indigenous and modern” methods to get more accurate short-term, local forecasts. He corrects and adjusts the forecasts broadcast from the provincial and county meteorological stations with the aid of observations made by his own station where he uses many time-tested methods of local farmers as well as modern meteorological instruments.

Raised in the countryside, 22-year-old Tuan Chun-tso has managed to collect and study nearly all the signs which help the farmers in his locality to predict the weather. He has a list of 500 verified clues that tip off the observant whether it will rain, shine or blow. Nature gives many hints of changing weather conditions: the amounts and kinds of clouds, the reactions of various plants and animals and so on. These he reads. When the bull frog’s croaks sound hoarser, for instance, and alternates long and short, this generally means rain is imminent. Using these clues and forecasts from surrounding meteorological stations to supplement their own station’s observations, Tuan and his assistants get a fairly complete picture of what the next day’s weather is likely to be. The production brigades of his commune are very well satisfied with his daily weather reports.

Tuan has now passed on his experience as a weatherman in a book and his methods are also being recorded in a documentary film. Meanwhile he is still working to improve on the fairly reliable forecasts he has already achieved over the last three years.

Model Planes... There were several unique features about the national remote-control model aircraft contests held in the second half of last month in Peking. Attracting entries from 27 clubs from all over China, the usual tests for speed, general performance and altitude flying were supplemented this year with new events: aerial photography, aerial spraying, seeding clouds to make rain and the making of aerial meteorological surveys.

And Boats. In the remote-control model boat contests, 21 clubs took part, not including the many P.L.A. club entries. Prizes of tool kits and model-making apparatus were awarded for speed, general design, manoeuvrability, engine performance and construction. The models, ranging from 1 to 5 metres overall length, were for the most part well-designed and constructed. One entry designed for hydrological work had instruments which measured the speed of the current, depth and silt content of the water passed over.

Model aircraft and model ship-building are both relatively new hobbies in China, especially the remote-control variety. They have developed particularly fast with the spread of industrialization through the country. The lively public interest shown in the two recent national contests held in Peking promises well for the future.

Peonies for Beauty and Health. The finest peonies are found in Loyang, that rising industrial city in Honan Province, to which, so runs the legend, they were banished over a thousand years ago for refusing to obey the whim of an emperor that they bloom in winter. But farmers around Hotse, a town on the Shantung Peninsula, grow several that rival the famed Loyang blooms. Hotse farmers have been cultivating peonies as a cash crop for over 400 years but this autumn they raised their best and biggest crop of this “King of Flowers.” Most of the Hotse people’s communes grow peonies as a regular crop. They send thousands of plants of over 120 varieties of tree peonies and 50 of the herbaceous variety every year to towns and cities all over China. Those lovely early summer displays of peonies you see in Peking parks and gardens mostly come from Hotse.

Peonies are not only grown for decorative purposes. It is only after the blossoms fade and the leaves wilt and die that this second peony crop is ripe. Then it is time for the peony-growing communes to dig up the plants to cut off the roughly quilled bark of the roots. This is dried, processed and sent to pharmacies all over China as fapai, an efficacious herbal remedy used in traditional Chinese medicine. Two crops of peony root-bark are gathered each year: in spring and autumn. The second crop is more valuable as it keeps better and has a higher concentration of curative ingredients.

Tea and Coffee. Coffee is being grown in more and more places in China, and this beverage is finding its way into restaurants which used to serve tea. Even the tea-shops of tea-famous Szechuan Province have begun serving coffee as well as tea. The coffee they serve is locally grown by the people’s communes about that city. Not many people there knew what a coffee plant looked like a few years back but coffee now features on many a local communes’ list of crops. Other coffee-producing provinces are Kwangtung, Yunnan and Kwangsi where a lot has been done in the last few years to develop tropical and subtropical crops of economic value.

Tea is not losing its popularity; nor is it likely to. But an increasing number of people seem to be developing a liking for the taste of coffee. Coffee-flavoured iced lollies are much liked in Peking these days. In the shops are coffee cakes, coffee toffees and other coffee-flavoured pastries.


**ART**

**Paintings by Yee Bon**

The national press gave appreciative reviews when a retrospective exhibition of the work of the well-known artist Yu Pen (better known abroad as Yee Bon) was held in Canton some time ago. Now, at the Gallery of the Artists' Union, art lovers in Peking have an opportunity to see many of the works exhibited then as well as many of his more recent paintings.

They make up a collection of 80 paintings and 60 sketches in oils. The sketches were made during the artist's travels in various parts of the country in recent years and the whole gives a very full idea of the artist's creative development. The change in his artistic conceptions during recent years is particularly impressive. This is vividly reflected in the change in his palette from the sombre "Academic" browns of his earlier work to a rich gamut of full-toned tints in his more recent paintings.

Yu Pen is best known for his portraits, landscapes and still life. The downstairs hall of the gallery contains his earlier works such as Music from the Bitterness of Life, Waiting to Be Hired, Two Sisters, Mending Nets and others painted when abroad or in Hongkong. What he pictures here is the life of the labouring people under the deplorable conditions of an unjust social system. Yu Pen recalls that in those days, he was earning his way through art school in Canada and later living in Hongkong as a professional painter. It was a melancholy and depressing prospect he saw about him. The people portrayed in these paintings could be met with everywhere. Social injustice was glaring and it pained him that there was so little he could do about it. He painted the Bitterness of Life in 1930 in a dim-lit basement room in the house of his Canadian art teacher. In deep browns and muted yellows, it shows an over-}

sea Chinese bending low in sorrow as he plays his hugin (a Chinese stringed instrument). This same sad air is seen also in the faces of his Two Sisters and Portrait of a Woman. This was life as Yu Pen saw it and he painted his sympathy for these people. Few of those who had the where-withal to buy his pictures at that time, however, were interested in such pieces. It was with a frequent sense of frustration that he was forced to turn to the type of paintings that pleased buyers.

The work that he has done in the last five years shows a sharp contrast. Here the artist has explored a whole new world of feeling, themes and subjects, colour and form. Landscapes like Sails on the Pearl River, In a New Village of Returned Overseas Chinese and Building on the White Cloud Mountains have a new freshness of colour and outlook. There is a deep serenity in Chairman Mao's Old Home; a sense of impressive grandeur in The Pearl River Bridge, a heartening mood in Return from a Bumper Harvest. He portrays new people in his figure paintings. The sombre girl of Portrait of a Young Girl (1948) gives place to a beaming, rosy-cheeked lass in A Young Fishing Girl.

In 1956, Yu Pen came from Hongkong to visit China. He was deeply impressed by the socialist construction that was in full swing and the remarkable progress the country had made. With the help of the People's Government, he and his family have settled down comfortably in Canton, and he now devotes himself entirely to painting. Since 1957, he has been making frequent visits to the countryside, to factories and fishing grounds and areas inhabited by various national minorities. These have been most rewarding tours. On each occasion he has returned with a wealth of material for future work. "All the places I have visited are seething with activity," he says. "Real life has instilled new feelings in me and it is only natural that my painting should reflect these changes." Just returned from a tour of China's northeast with a group of other artists, he has included the sketches he made in the current exhibition. They show a further development of his art, a further broadening of his range of theme and subject matter, and experiments and research into new compositional solutions and colour harmonies. There are scenes from China's northern taiga, different from her southern landscapes; sketches in the lumber camps, the vast rolling fields and wide prospects of the northeast state farms, characteristic cityscapes of Harbin and other cities. He has been commissioned to paint a series of pictures for public buildings in the northeast on the basis of these sketches.

As a child — he was born in 1905 — Yu Pen early had a love for art, but living then in Canada, circumstances dictated that he had to start work for a living very
early in life. It was only as a youth that he was able to work his way through art school. His work shows him to be a diligent student of past masters, both Chinese and foreign. He had a solid academic training and this deeply influenced his early work. But he has clearly also studied such masters as Millet and the Impressionists and Post-Impressionists and these latter have helped him in his search for a brighter, more colourful palette. As his technical skill has increased and his knowledge of Chinese life and culture broadened, he has gradually developed his own style that is a versatile instrument for the vigorous exploration and portrayal of today's reality. One awaits his further work with deep interest.

**CINEMA**

**Features About Minority Peoples**

There is always an eager audience for feature films about our various national minorities and an exceptional number have recently been made. Many were released this year. Around the Party's birthday on July 1, there were Daughters of the Tai People and Menglungsha, both about the Tais in Yunnan and set in the early 1950s, and Tachi and Her Fathers, a story of the Yis of Szechuan. All three are still being shown and by the look of things have a long run ahead of them. More recently, around National Day time, came Red Sun over Koshan, about the liberation of Tibet, Third Sister Liu, based on the Chuang legend of the intrepid girl ballad-singer of Kwangsi, and Chin Nyang-mei, a film version of a traditional opera in a newly revived, much-discussed operatic style evolved by the Tung people in multi-national Kweichow Province.

Daughters of the Tai People begins dramatically with a scene on the banks of the Lantsang River in southern Yunnan. While the moon struggles through heavy clouds, a frightened woman stealthily approaches a slumbering Tai village. She is Mihan, a beautiful and upright Tai woman. Because she has refused the advances of Laopa, a local chieftain, he has maliciously accused her of being a disease-spreading “ghost” and caused her to be driven out into the jungle. Mihan steals back home to feed her baby but is caught by Laopa. Still unyielding, under the “law” invoked by the chieftain, she is burnt to death before the eyes of her desperate husband and the weeping villagers.

Eighteen years later, her baby, Yilaihan, has grown to be as pretty as her mother, and as pure and sweet. Liberation has come to this area, but feudal ideas and superstition have not yet loosened their grip. Yilaihan nearly meets with the same fate as her mother, but times have changed; she is saved by a People's Liberation Army unit and later becomes the first modern Tai physician.

Chin Yi, one of China's leading film actresses, takes the roles of both mother and daughter and her appealing performance plays no small part in the success of the film.

The story sounds incredible, but the realities on which it is based are even more incredible. It is just such “incredible” things as the mother's death that happened in the bloody tyrannies of the past, and just such miracles as the rescue of her daughter that happen when a people's revolution overturns the old order. A report in Guangming Ribao (May 19, 1961) signed by three correspondents, actually describes Tai men and women who had been proclaimed “ghosts” by the old rulers and were only able to resume their lives as equal members of human society after liberation.

A recent article in Gongren Ribao (Workers' Daily) describes the post-liberation discovery of a village deep in the forest inhabited by twenty or so families of such “ghosts.” It also cites the case of Chang Ching-chi, a meteorological worker of Nani nationality in Yunnan. Eighteen years ago, for an offence against the feudal rulers, Chang's grandmother was declared a “ghost.” “Although she was fortunate enough not to be burnt to death,” Chang told the Gongren Ribao reporter, “she led a ghost-like existence of constant fear. The death of a neighbour's child, an epidemic, might at any moment lead to her being dragged out to her death. . . .”

As a child, Chang herself lived through many of the experiences related of Yilaihan in the film.

Tachi and Her Fathers tells the story of a little Han girl carried off by a slave-owner of Yi nationality in the Taliang Mountains where slave-owning was still the accepted order of things right up to the liberation.

Tachi's “father,” now chairman of a people's commune on Mt. Taliang, is a former slave. Himself a victim of his owner's barbarity he risked his life to save Tachi, condemned by his owner, and also hers, to be left out to die in a snowstorm. Together they live to see the liberation.

Then her real father, a former mason and now an engineer, comes to Mt. Taliang to help on a water conservancy project. Tachi's zest for work and her lovely character more than once remind him of his own little girl whom he lost 13 years previously, and finally he gets proof that Tachi really is his own child. Not without pain, however, he realizes that he cannot reveal this secret to Tachi, nor to his good-hearted old Yi friend.

The truth, however, comes to Tachi's Yi stepfather. In a no less noble spirit of self-sacrifice he decides to tell Tachi and even persuades her to go back to her own father. But all ends happily as the engineer moves his luggage to the house of his Yi brother and announces that it will be his home as well as Tachi's.

The film, based on a popular short story of the same title by Kao Ying, has touched off a lively discussion as to the comparative merits of the original story and the film adaptation. It was the opinion of some that in treating this story about the heart, the director has not been bold enough in exploring the emotions of his characters. In places, the tears of the audience are checked because the characters unnaturally refrain from a show of feeling. . . . But there are many who have lauded the film treatment and the discussion has indeed shown that Tachi has been generally accepted as a successful film.

These and other films with themes drawn from minority life, folklore and legend, naturally enjoy a particularly wide popularity among the minority peoples. A score or so of the minorities can now see stories of their life on the screen. This number will soon be added to as the film studios being set up in most of the multi-national provinces get into their creative stride. Some of these are already strong enough to produce features, notably
the ones in Sinkiang and in Inner Mongolia. All have been established, of course, after the liberation.

SHORT NOTES

Liszt Anniversary. Peking marked the 150th anniversary of the birth of Franz Liszt, the great Hungarian musician, with varied activities. On October 22, the capital’s cultural and musical circles held a commemorative meeting at which the main speaker was Chiang Ting-hsien, member of the secretariat of the Union of Chinese Musicians and Vice-President of the Central Conservatory of Music. He reviewed Liszt’s life and work and noted particularly the courageous revolutionary and democratic spirit displayed in his compositions. Szegedi Karoly, Counsellor of the Hungarian Embassy in China, also spoke at the meeting.

The speeches were followed by a special concert of Liszt’s works: songs, choral and orchestral works and piano pieces The Central Philharmonic Symphony Orchestra, conducted by Han Chung-chieh, gave a polished performance of the symphonic poem Les Préludes, and Wu Lo-yi’s brilliant rendering of the First Piano Concerto, ably supported by the Central Symphony, delighted a packed hall. The applause left no doubt of how popular Liszt’s works are with the Chinese people.

Earlier on the same day, Radio Peking broadcast a programme of Liszt’s music performed by Chinese and foreign artists. The press featured commemorative articles.

WHAT’S ON IN PEKING

The following programme is scheduled for the coming week. It is subject to change.

PEKING OPERA

A LI KUEI VISITS HIS MOTHER Brave, brusque Li Kuei, outlaw hero of the Water Margin, is a fillip. Among the many adventures he risks on a visit home to his old mother is an encounter with a scoundrel who impersonates him. China Peking Opera Theatre.

FIGHT ON THE MELON PATCH A Five Dynasties (907-960) comedy. A Chinese proverb says a man can’t become good friends unless he’s fought each other. In this case the young oil vendor who appropriates a melon not only becomes good friends with the melon’s owner after a fight but also his best friend. On the same programme HUNG NANG, about the vivacious slave-maid who played an all-important part in uniting the scholar and the lady in The West Chamber, the classical Yuan play. Hsuan Hui-sheng one of the “Four Famous Tanz of Peking opera” Peking Opera Company.

AT THE CROSSROADS Three conspirators meet in the darkened room of an inn and get into one of the finest of Peking opera acrobatic fights before a light is brought in and they discover they are all of one party. Also TESTING THE BRIDEGROOM Learned Su Hsiao-chen, sister of famous Su Tung-po, tests her bridgroom’s literary prowess—and his patience—over a cup of green tea. China Peking Opera Theatre.

BREAKING THE SIEGE At Meiheng town well-loved General Kuan Yu of the Romance of the Three Kingdoms meets his tragic end. Also 100 LI OF ENCAMPMENTS Liu Pei, head of the Kingdom of Shu, suffers a big setback when the enemy uses fire against his troops encamped over a length of 700 li. Chu Kuo-ping comes to the rescue. China Peking Opera Theatre.

PINGIU OPERA

A THE JADE GARDEN A Ming noble determines to drive a poor but stubborn scholar from his homestead to take the land for a pleasure garden. The scholar is jailed on a false charge, but later cleared—and the noble duly punished—with the help of a plucky maiden-pedlar. This is a representative and popular work of the Ching period. Chu Pei-chun.

A THE COURTESAN’S JEWEL BOX The lovely courtesan Tu Shih-ning gives her love to Li Chia and returns home with him to become the bride. On the way a merchant offers to buy her and avaricious Li Chia, managing an imperial bribe, heartbroken, throws into the river before the eyes of the bride’s father. The king’s reason in jewels from her jewel box, then leaps into the water. (All China Pingju Opera Company productions.)

KUNQU OPERA

A A THORN HAIRPIN A rich girl accepts a thorn hairpin as a pledge of betrothal to a poor scholar. Their marriage is broken up by a second wife. The truth triumphs and they are reunited. North Kunqu Opera Theatre.

MODERN OPERA

A RED GUARDS OF LAKE HUNGHU The dramatic story of a Red Guards detachment led by a woman Communist in the fight against reactionary forces during the Second Revolutionary Civil War. With songs that all Peking is humming. Central Opera and Dance Drama Theatre.

BALLET

A GISSELLE The classic by the French composer Adam. Experimental Ballet Troupe of the Peking School of Dancing.

SONG AND DANCE

The Cultural Troupe of the General Political Department of the P.L.A. * Presents Two Recitals *

- Folk dances of the Tais, Uighurs, Koreans, Hans and other nationalities.
- One-act dance drama: The Immortal Fighter.
- Soldier’s dance of ancient China: Dance of the Han Emperor.
- And other dances.

- Chinese vocal and instrument music.

MODERN DRAMA


FILMS

A THE HURRICANE Adapted from Chou Li-po’s famous novel about agrarian reform in China’s northeast. A new production of the Peking Studio.

A THE WHITE-HAIRED GIRL Retelling of an ever popular film. The fate of a young peasant girl under landlord tyranny and her return to the world of man after liberation.

- DAUGHTERS OF THE TAI PEOPLE In colour, Hsienyen Studio. Mother and daughter are both victims of the Japanese occupation but, thanks to the new society, their stories end very differently. Much local colour of the Tai people.

- MAXIM’S YOUTH Soviet feature film, in Chinese. Maxim, son of the Russian working class, becomes a steelworker revolutionary fighter in the pregnant days before the October Revolution.

- SONG OF THE SAILORS G.D.R. film depicting the life of Chinese and underclothed German sailors rise against their rulers at the Port of Kiel in 1917.

- ADDRESS UNKNOWN Real-life stories from present-day France.

- IN RUSSIAN –

- OTHELLO and RUSSIAN BALLET – the latter shows excerpts from famous ballets, including Swan Lake with Ulanova.

- LAUGHTER IN PARADISE A British comedy of an inheritance and a strange will.

SPORTS

A VISITING HUNGARIAN MEN’S VOLLEYBALL TEAM vs. CHINESE “AUGUST 1” TEAM on Oct. 28 and vs. NATIONAL TEAM on Oct. 29, 7:30 p.m., Peking Gymnasium (outside Changwenmian Gate).

SIGHT-SEEING

- RED MAPLE LEAVES

See Hsiangshan (Flamehill) in its lovely red and underclothed autumn maple leaves. This sight the poets write about lasts only two more weeks. See also Shuangching Villa, Hsiangshan Temple, Spectacles Lake and Tea House Pavilion. Hotel accommodation for weekend visits; phone for reservations: 815-241.

EXHIBITIONS

A LU HSUN MUSEUM 9:00 a.m.-5:00 p.m. Just inside Fuchengmen Gate.

- CENTRAL NATURAL HISTORY MUSEUM 9:00 a.m.-4:30 p.m. Outside Chienmen Gate.

- PEKING ARTS SOCIETY (1915) Till Oct. 29, 9:00 a.m.-4:30 p.m. On the Central Meridian Gate (Wu Men) in Palace Museum.

- GEOLOGICAL MUSEUM 1:00-4:30 p.m. Near Hsien, Chihli Province.

- PALACE MUSEUM 9:00 a.m.-3:30 p.m.

- ART EXHIBITION OF THE DANISH “CORNER” GROUP 9:00 a.m.-4:30 p.m. At Weihua Hall in Palace Museum. (All above exhibitions closed on Mondays.)

PLANETARIUM

Follow Gagarin and Titov into space—see the new programme at the Planetarium:

“Triumphant Song of the Cosmic Space”

Also: “Flying to the Moon” “Surveying the Stars” and other programmes.

October 27, 1961

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