

China Reconstructs

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CONTENTS

CITY PLANNING FOR THE CAPITAL	2
CHANGES I HAVE SEEN IN PEKING	
YESTERDAY AND TODAY IN OUR PLANT <i>Wang Yu-tien</i>	7
OUR STREET <i>Wu Teh-shan</i>	9
43 YEARS OF TEACHING <i>Chou Pei-yuan</i>	12
PEKING TO ME <i>Yang Mo</i>	15
EXHIBITION IN PEKING: NEW ART WORKS <i>Ying Tao</i>	17
THE FORMER IMPERIAL PALACE	24
ON THE CAPITAL'S STAGE	26
PEKING INDUSTRY MOVES AHEAD <i>Szu Yuan</i>	30
LANGUAGE CORNER	34
LESSON 4: IN A RESTAURANT	
LESSON 5: EXCURSION TO FRAGRANT HILL	
IN THE NEW SOCIETY: SCHOOLCHILDREN FIGHT A 'YELLOW TIGER'	36
ACROSS THE LAND: SEEKING TREASURE IN THE KUNLUN MOUNTAINS	37
FISH AT DIFFERENT DEPTHS INCREASES PRO- DUCTION <i>Heng Hsuan</i>	38
GEOGRAPHY OF CHINA: VEGETATION	40
OUR POSTBAG	44
STAMPS OF NEW CHINA: MORE HISTORIC REVOLUTIONARY SITES	44
PHOTO SUPPLEMENT: PEKING	

COVER PICTURES:

Front: Children in the Pei-hai Park Kindergarten learn to draw Tien An Men.

Inside front: Middle school students do daily broadcast exercises before the Peking Workers' Stadium.

Back: Dance of the Korean nationality in China.

Inside back: Raising fry at a fish farm in Yuyao county, Chekiang province.

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New office and apartment buildings outside Fuhsing Gate in Peking.

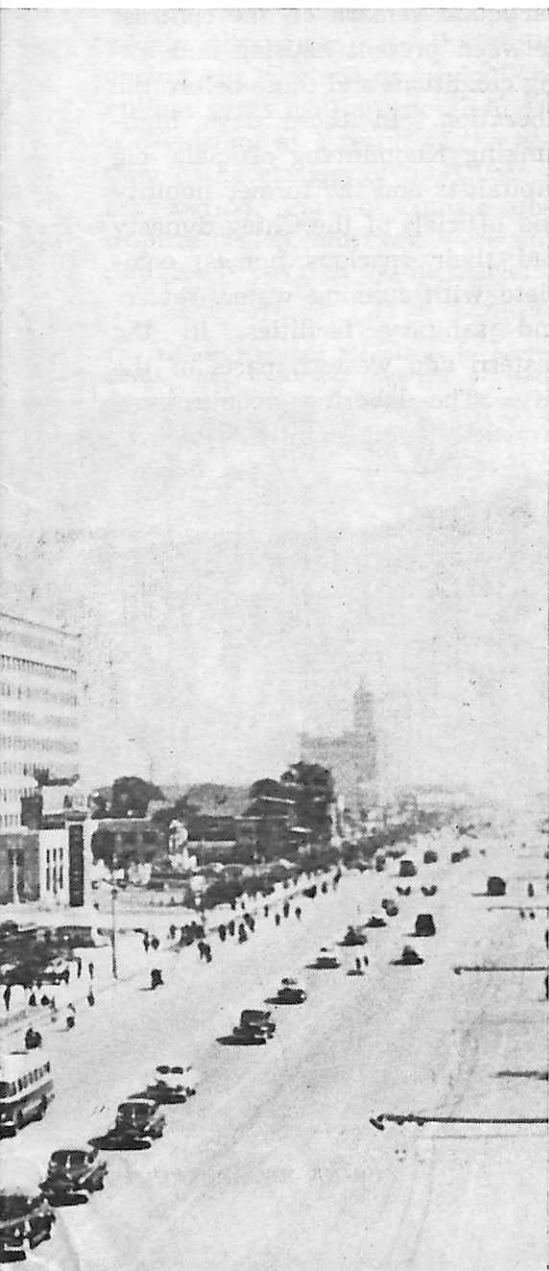
CITY PLANNING FOR

Changan Avenue





THE CAPITAL



THE scientifically-arranged new construction, the checkerboard pattern of streets, the green belts and big thoroughfares leading from the city which were once only lines on the city planners' master plan for Peking, are gradually becoming reality. The total floor space of Peking construction of all kinds has reached 50 million square meters. This is 2.5 times as much floor space as existed in 1949; since liberation, from the point of view of buildings, two and one-half 1949-size Pekings have been built.

The city layout of old Peking and many of its larger ancient structures, built during eight centuries as capital of feudal dynasties, are aesthetic expression of a high order, a credit to the laboring people who built them. On the other hand, such layout and architecture carry heavy overtones of the feudal era. The magnificent palaces and princes' mansions and their vast courtyards were a sharp contrast to the huts and cramped courtyards where the



Apartment blocks being built on the eastern outskirts of the city.

laboring people lived huddled together.

Kuomintang reactionaries, during their rule, did nothing about industrial and civic construction. Liberation found Peking a semi-feudal, semi-colonial consumer city.

After liberation industry gradually developed, turning the capital into a producer city. The

city planning department began reconstruction and building under the principle of serving proletarian politics, production and the working people.

Layout for Living

The system of socialist ownership makes it possible to build our cities in a rational and planned way. According to plan, Peking is expanding in all four directions from the old city in the center. Since the main direction of the wind is from north and northwest, the new industrial districts are located on the east and south so as to cut down air pollution in the city. The only exception to this are the metallurgical plants located fairly far west of the city, where this industry had existed before liberation. Only relatively pollution-free industries such as manufacture of clocks, precision instruments, foodstuffs and clothing and special art crafts are located inside the city. The municipal construction department stipulates that any new factory producing harmful waste liquids, residues or gases must include installations for recovering and treating them and recycling them back into production.

Towns rising in the outlying districts will help prevent unlimited expansion and overconcentra-

tion of population in Peking itself. One such town is that growing up around the Peking General Petrochemical Works.

The old city was built around the Imperial Palace. The square facing it on the south was once a forbidding place pervaded with a feudal atmosphere. Reconstruction completed so far has thoroughly done away with that atmosphere and turned the greatly enlarged square into a place where the people hold mass meetings. Flanking the square's two sides now stand the Great Hall of the People and the Museums of the Chinese Revolution and Chinese History in the symmetrical arrangement of traditional Chinese architecture. The square's broad vista is in keeping with the open-ended prospects of a developing socialist China.

The old Peking had only a few tall structures such as the Tibetan-style Buddhist dagoba atop the island-hill in Peihai Park. Since liberation and especially since the big leap forward of 1958, many tall modern buildings have been added. A new skyline is formed with the clock towers of the Peking Railway Station, the spire of the Television Building, the tower of the Cultural Palace of the Nationalities, the golden glazed-tile roof of the National Art

Gallery, the huge red star atop the Military Museum of the Chinese People's Revolution and the octagonal tower of the Agricultural Exhibition Center.

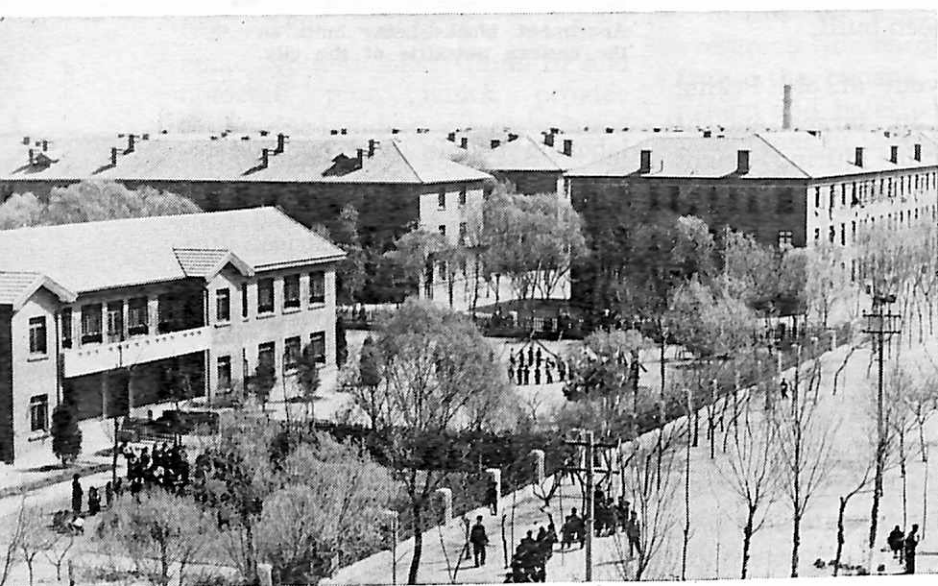
Housing

Along with the development of production, new residential areas have been built around the old city. Deteriorating houses are either being renovated or torn down and rebuilt.

Each residential area has its own stores, schools, clinics and kindergartens. There are also a number of larger centers with big department stores, hospitals, theaters and repair and service centers. They are scattered throughout the city for the convenience of the working people and to cut down the burden on the city transport system.

Middle-aged and older people in particular remark on the contrast between present housing and living conditions and those before the liberation. In those days high-ranking Kuomintang officials, big capitalists and the former nobility and officials of the Ching dynasty had their spacious homes, complete with running water, sewers and sanitary facilities, in the eastern and western parts of the city. The laboring people lived crowded together in the narrow,

A section of the residential area near the Peking No. 3 Cotton Mill.





Bird's-eye view of Sanlho Avenue.

filthy lanes in the northern and southern parts of Peking, where there was no water or sewerage system. One of the worst slums was the Dragon Beard Ditch and the smaller ditches around it on the south. Garbage piled like hills around the place and flies and mosquitoes swarmed everywhere. During a heavy rain the stinking water would overflow the ditches and flood the hut-homes, some of which would simply collapse.

The first thing the People's Government did in the area was to cart away the mountains of rubbish which had accumulated over the years. Within a few months the ditch had been turned into a sewer over which a broad avenue was paved.

In the last two decades Peking has added 20 million square meters of housing, 1.5 times the dwelling area in old Peking. Neat rows of apartment buildings have taken

the place of neglected grave mounds, reed-choked ponds and stinking pools.

Streets and Roads

The streets of old Peking ran mainly in a north-south, east-west pattern, but few of them were broad and many were not connected to others. A far greater number were narrow lanes. The walls of the old city which divided it from the expanding city were an

Purple Bamboo Park created since liberation.



obstruction to traffic. Without breaking up the traditional checkerboard pattern, the city has torn down the old walls, widened some of the streets and linked them up with new ones. The larger of these connect to form several broad transport channels in a round-the-city pattern concentric to the walls of the old palace. These are again linked with a dozen new arterials which radiate from the city district to the outlying areas and highways leading to other provinces. A complete communications network is taking shape.

After 800 years as a feudal capital, Peking had only 214 kilometers of hard-surfaced roads. Roads built by feudal emperors and the Kuomintang reactionary government were for the use of the ruling class. The western suburbs got their first hard-surfaced road in 1906 to take the Empress Dowager Tsu Hsi on her frequent pleasure trips to the Summer Palace. The Kuomintang government paved asphalt streets for the

cars of the rich and the big officials, but left the paths for the people rough and unfinished. The big warlord Sung Che-yuan got the street-pavers to surface the lane that led to his house right up to his door. No wonder the saying, "Where there are officials there are roads."

Today Peking has nearly 2,000 kilometers of streets (not including lanes). The east-west main thoroughfare, Changan Avenue, used to end at the old city walls. Since liberation it has been widened and leads to Tunghsien county in the east and Shihchingshan in the west, 40 kilometers long from end to end.

In the past few years, for safer traffic, some of the main streets have been divided, with the lanes in the center for the faster-moving motor vehicles and those on either side for bicycles. Sometimes these are separated by belts of trees. The number of public transport vehicles has risen from 164 before liberation to 2,200, a 13-fold increase.

Turning Peking Green

As one looks out over Peking from the Pavilion of Ten Thousand Springs atop Chingshan Hill, it looks like an ocean of luxuriant green. On some streets the branches of the trees on either side reach out to touch each other to form a green canopy sheltering passing vehicles and pedestrians from the sun. Tree-planting has been going on since liberation. Every spring and autumn landscape gardeners are joined by workers, cadres, students and other city dwellers in planting trees around factories, offices, schools and residential areas, and along the roads, rivers and lakes. About a million are set out every year.

Former imperial gardens, renovated from year to year after liberation, are now public parks. New parks, many of which were built on the sites of stagnant ponds, are found in every district of the city.

The people's capital is undergoing a great transformation on the road of socialism.

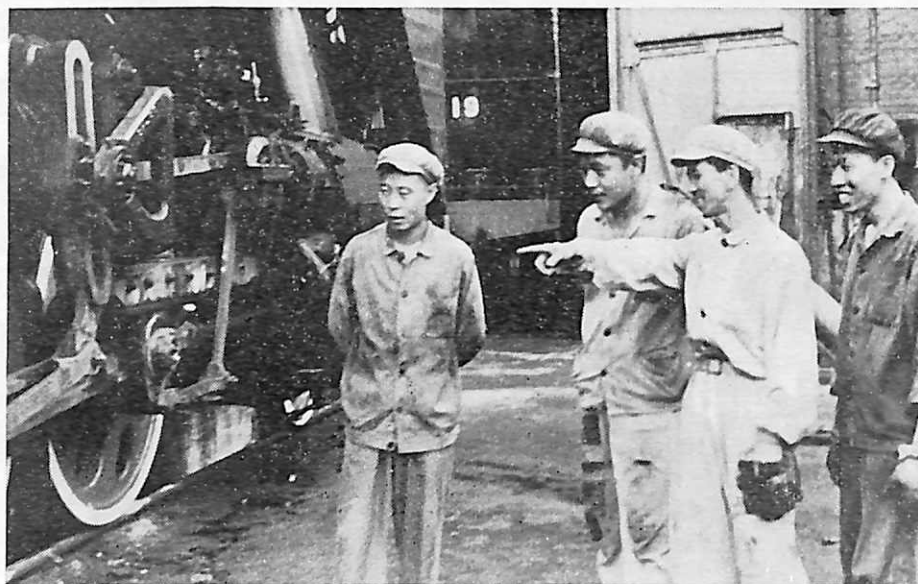
A station for treating the city's waste water built in the suburbs.



CHANGES I HAVE SEEN IN PEKING

YESTERDAY AND TODAY IN OUR PLANT

WANG YU-TIEN, bench worker



Wang Yu-tien (second right) with his workmates.

OUR February 7 Rolling Stock Plant, located at Changhsintien outside Peking, has a glorious history of revolutionary struggle. It was built in 1901 as the Changhsintien Railway Plant, mainly to repair steam engines and freight cars. After the liberation the name was changed to the present one in memory of the famous strike which reached its climax on February 7, 1923.

On February 1 of that year, when workers on the Peking-Hankow railway line had scheduled the inauguration of a general trade union for their line in the city of Chengchow, Honan province, the warlord Wu Pei-fu had sent troops and police to occupy the headquarters of the new union and drive out the delegates. In protest, workers on the entire line, led by the Communist Party, struck on February 4, under slogans demanding freedom and human rights. On February 7 Wu Pei-fu launched a bloody suppression of the strike, which became known as the February 7 Massacre.

I myself have been a bench worker in the plant for thirty years. As one who has known it in both the old society and in the

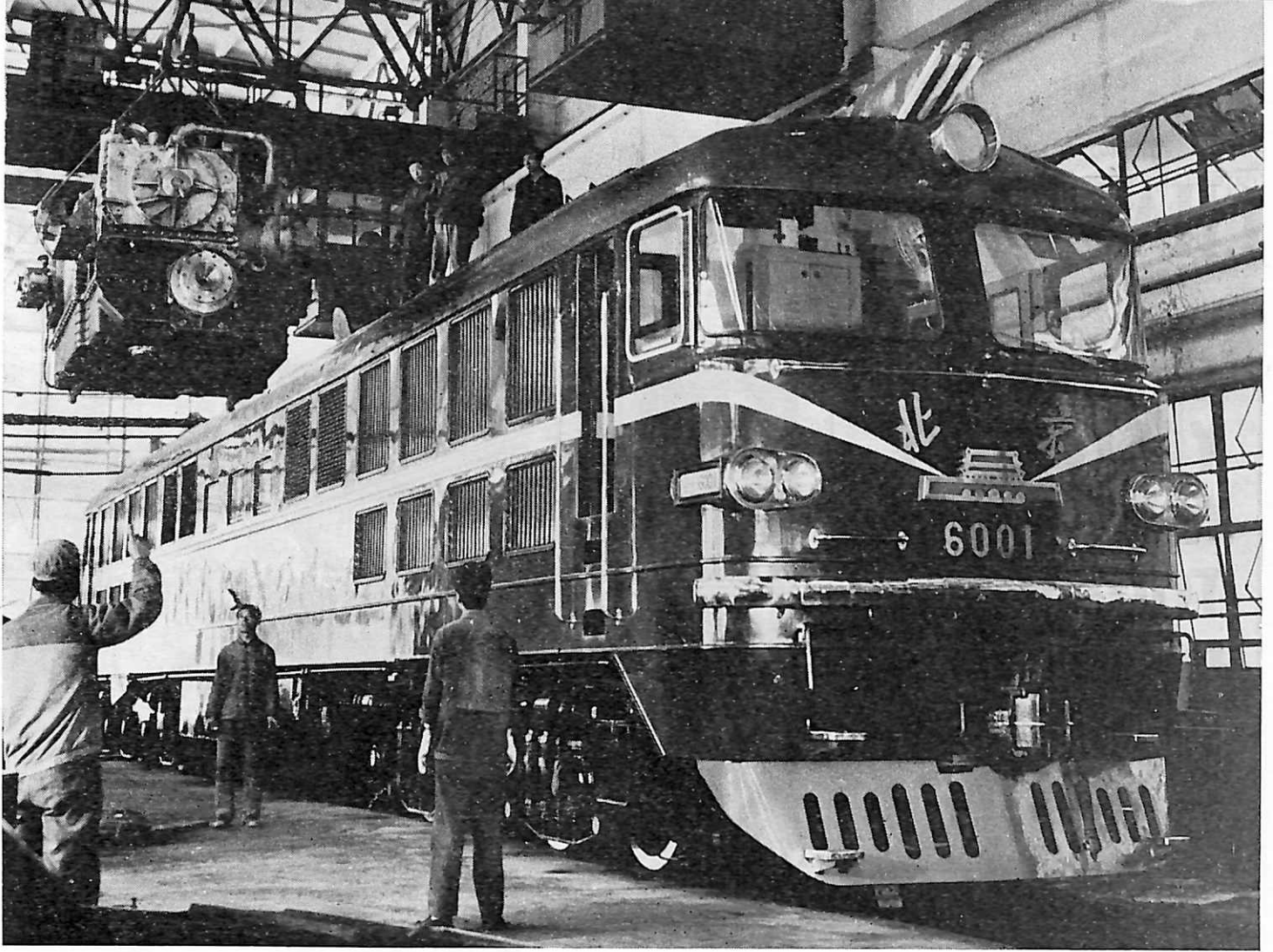
new, I have witnessed many changes there.

I came to the plant from my home village near Changhsintien. It had many people and little land, and on top of this, the ruthless exploitation of the landlords made it almost impossible to get enough to live on. In 1942, after begging a lot of people, my father finally got somebody to give me a job in the plant. My first impression was that it didn't look like a factory at all but more like hell on earth. The shops were small and cramped and the equipment dilapidated. The repair shop where I was assigned had one small drill press, a few broken-down work benches and nothing else. Most of the work was done by manual labor. In the forging shop it was even worse: one furnace right next to another in a small space and the air thick with coal gas. The shop was simply one big steam kettle in summer. For the engine assemblers, on the other hand, it was a different story. They had to work all year round in the open because they didn't even have a shed. We had to toil in these conditions eleven or twelve hours a day, and often overtime on all sorts of pretexts.

IN such a situation, and lacking safety devices, workers were frequently injured. Once an old man lost one arm while operating a lathe. The foreman rushed right up, not to take him to the hospital but to scream, "Don't damage the machine! It doesn't matter if an old fellow like you dies, but take care of the machine!"

There were all kinds of rules and regulations to keep the workers down. Going on and off shift we had to pass through a small gate where we were subjected to a body search. We worked in teams, each under a straw boss. These fellows would curse a worker or even beat him if they thought he was not submissive enough. I can still remember one such incident. A new man in our shop lost the key for his tool kit and was looking about for a piece of scrap to make a new one. One of the bosses found him at it and insisted that he had been planning to open the door of the warehouse to steal something. The man was sent to the plant guards and given a stiff flogging.

Five out of the nine members of our family were working at that time but still all our wages put together were not enough to feed us



The 6,000-h.p. diesel-hydraulic locomotive being assembled at the February 7 Rolling Stock Plant.

adequately. Soup made of small potatoes boiled with elm leaves was our daily fare. When inflation caused prices to soar, the workers' families used to go to the plant early in the morning on payday and wait outside the gate. As soon as he got his pay the man would pass it out through a crack in the door, so that his family could rush off and buy food grain before the price rose any higher. An instant's delay might mean that they would be able to buy only half as much. That's the way it was with all the working people in the old society.

Where there is oppression there is resistance. We Changhsintien workers never stopped struggling against the capitalists and bosses, not just in the February 7 strike, but at all other times. Even during the white terror of that period we still went out in the middle of the night to paste up revolutionary slogans like "Down with the blood-sucking capitalists!" and "Oppose the yellow trade unions — the running dogs of the Kuomintang reactionaries!" We also carried on struggle in the shops by

means of slowdowns. When the boss came around we'd look like we were busy, but as soon as he left we'd stop.

I still remember clearly the time in 1948 when the Kuomintang reactionaries held up our pay. After waiting two weeks the workers began talking about a strike. "We must strike or we'll starve to death," they said. "What have we got to lose?" We arranged that when a certain bell rang this would be our signal. At its sound all the machines stopped, the boilers were damped, the workers downed their tools and sat on the ground. Finally the plant authorities were forced to agree to pay us a portion of our wages right away and the rest soon afterward. We had won our battle.

Although our plant was Peking's largest railway repair shop and had been in existence 48 years, at the time of the liberation it was still repairing only a few locomotives a month. All the main parts were imported from abroad.

In December 1948 Changhsintien was liberated by the P.L.A. led by the Chinese Communist Party, and

the plant was returned to the people. The People's Government showed great concern for us. It sent people to help with our work. And I'll never forget those carloads of golden millet that were brought in as relief. We were very moved and threw ourselves with everything we had into efforts for the liberation of the whole country. We repaired twice as many locomotives and freight cars that first year as we had in 1948.

Since then our plant has undergone tremendous changes. The present factory buildings are high and spacious. Most of the equipment is modern, and the old pieces have been improved through technical innovation. Every shop has central heating for winter. Ventilating equipment and cold drinks provided for us help keep us cool in summer.

To meet growing needs in transport, the old plant has been expanded and a new branch factory has been built especially for repairing freight cars. Total floor space is now five times what it was before liberation. Today we are

repairing twice as many locomotives and freight cars as before the cultural revolution and eleven times as many as before liberation. It should be pointed out that for all tasks the plant leaders rely directly on the workers, on their initiative, and in their work the latter show that they feel they are the masters of the plant.

THERE was a time when we could do only repair jobs and had never made an engine. In 1958 we took the big step and made our first steam locomotive, one of the *Chiensheh* type, and two 600-h.p. diesel engines patterned on a model from abroad. After that we set up a shop for producing diesel locomotives, and were going to try making one of greater horsepower. This met with opposition from a person in authority promoting Liu Shao-chi's counter-revolutionary revisionist line in our plant. Out of one side of his mouth he said that this revolutionary pioneering spirit of the workers was "trying to get to heaven in one jump" — that they wanted to do something all out of their reach. Out of the other side he asked several technicians to draw up some designs behind

closed doors. Nothing happened. Of course, working in this way without the masses and without relation to actual conditions could not lead to success.

Then came the cultural revolution, and we workers broke through one obstacle after another to work together with the cadres and technicians. At the end of 1968 we began designing a 6,000-h.p. diesel-hydraulic locomotive, the first of this kind to be made in China. The pilot model was completed a year and nine months later. Much of the equipment in it is of a fairly advanced level. During the past year this engine has stood up well through 10,000 kilometers of trial runs.

As the amount of work our plant turns out continues to rise, so does the workers' standard of living. A residential area with 110,000 square meters of housing has been built. Families who before liberation made their homes in dilapidated temples or in lean-tos under the eaves of larger structures now live in fine buildings of brick and tile. During their off hours they can go to the library to read magazines and newspapers or to see films or

theatricals at the club. There are three kindergartens, a primary school and a middle school right at the plant for our children to attend. Workers are given medical treatment free of charge. Those who work in high temperatures have regular checkups and receive a subsidy for additional nutrition.

Even more important is the change in our political status. In the old society the capitalists called us lowly coolies, but now it is we who have the say-so in our plant. There are spare-time classes for those who want to improve their education. Many have been promoted to be cadres, engineers or technicians. They want to always stay close to the workers, to keep thinking and feeling the way they do, so, though these people take part in plant administration, they also continue to spend a portion of their time in production. Quite a few workers have joined the Party, the vanguard of the proletariat.

The whole plant is working with redoubled efforts to do more for our country's railway transport and to serve it better.

OUR STREET

WU TEH-SHAN
old resident of Peking



Wu Teh-shan helps neighborhood children study after school.

TASHALAR is a famous old shopping street just outside Chien Men, Peking's "front gate". As a boy many years ago I started my working life here as an apprentice kitchen helper in a restaurant,

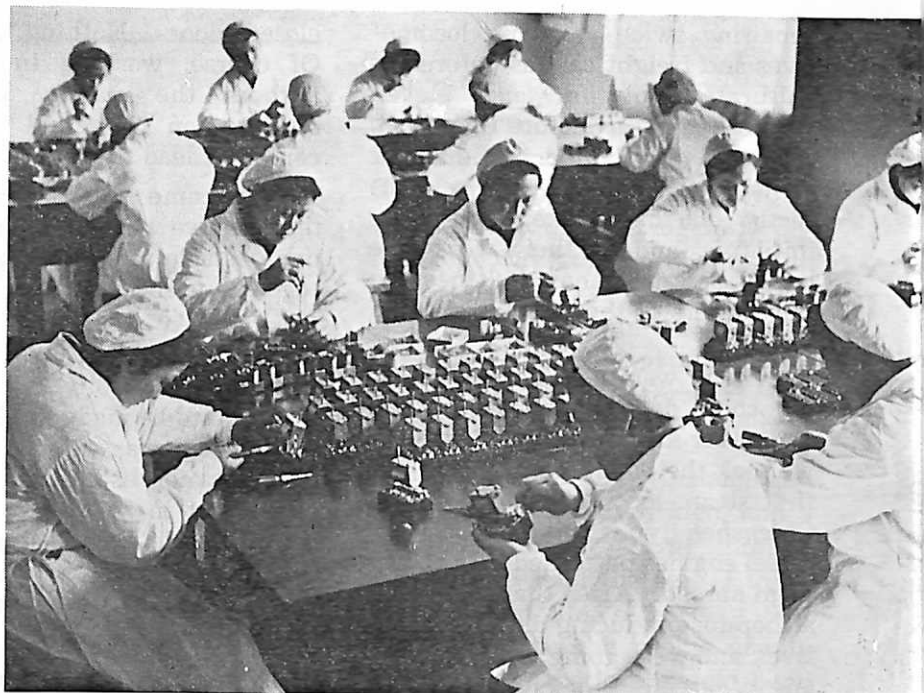
and now, retired in my old age, I still live in a lane off this street.

This area had long been known as a "prosperous business center". Its fancy shops full of imported goods were for the rich and power-

ful; the laboring people never had money to buy anything there. What lay behind this "prosperity" and what its "thriving business" was in those days was no secret to anyone who knew Peking.



A crowd of shoppers on Tashalar Street.



A factory for making electrical relays set up by housewives in the Tashalar neighborhood.

Eight big lanes running off Tashalar were one huge flesh market with more than 90 brothels. Ten of the 50 houses on Paishun (Hundred Obedience) Lane were brothels in which some 300 women suffered the humiliations of prostitution. Opium dens and gambling houses lined Palm Street, West Lane and Second and Third Langfang lanes. Although signs reading "Opium, Gambling and Prostitution Forbidden" were plastered all over the streets by the reactionary Kuomintang government, nine out of ten who frequented the brothels, indulged in opium smoking and mah-jong gambling were government officials, landlords, capitalists or members of the Kuomintang secret service. With the backing of these men of position and influence, the local gangsters also contributed their share of crimes against the people.

WHILE all these wallowed in pleasure, the laboring people living around Tashalar, ground down by unbelievable poverty and suffering, had nowhere to turn. As inflation sent prices soaring and unemployment became more and more widespread, many families were reduced to picking over the dumps for cinders to burn and bits of rubbish which they tried to sell. Even their usual staple — called "mixed flour" but actually a tiny

bit of grain mixed with ground acorns, the residue of beans after oil was extracted and seeds of wild plants — was often beyond their reach, and they had to go hungry.

The rickshaw pullers, cobblers and ballad singers who sought to make a few coppers on the street were never sure where their next meal was coming from. Some families had no other way but to go begging. The bodies of those who had died of hunger, cold or exhaustion were frequently found in the street.

I remember Chao Pi's grandfather, who lived in Houhoyen (Along-the-Back-Moat). He was found dead of starvation beside one of the arches in the street, still trying to sustain life by chewing on a piece of sweet potato peel. A man known as Ironhead who lived all alone drowned himself in the moat because he was ill and had no money to buy medicine.

I myself was an apprentice in the restaurant called Pancake Chou's. I slaved for 12 to 13 hours a day doing household chores for the owner's family and chopping meat for filling in the pancakes. The leftovers were my food and my clothing was nothing but rags. Beatings and abuse were a matter of course. My daily wage was only enough to buy half a kilogram of cornmeal, and this was far from

sufficient to feed my family. Later I was fired altogether on the pretext that I was "making trouble" after I had had an argument with one of the bosses in the restaurant. After that I had to go all over the place begging relatives and friends to try and find me a job. I had my share of suffering in that man-eat-man society.

WITH the liberation in 1949, Peking became capital of the country. The dirt of the old society — opium dens, brothels, gambling houses, debasing pleasure grounds — were quickly cleaned out. A woman known as Huang Wan Shih, owner of a house of prostitution, who by her buying of young girls into slavery had earned for herself the deepest popular indignation, was punished by law. Bad elements engaged in unlawful occupations were rounded up by the government for re-education and reform.

After it closed down the brothels the government held rehabilitation classes for the former prostitutes. They were helped to understand that the root of their miseries lay in the social system which was now overthrown. They were given treatment for their diseases and encouraged to begin life anew. Those who had homes were enabled to go back to join their families. Many were given jobs. The government confiscated the property of the

brothels and used the funds as relief for the former prostitutes.

AS part of its plan for restoring the national economy and developing social production, the government began to set up factories outside the city. These provided the way to a new life not only for the former prostitutes, but also for many people who were unemployed, without a steady job or had resorted to unlawful occupations.

Take the case of Chen Pao-hua, who lives in Houhoyen. Before liberation there were seven members in her family. Her father and husband pulled rickshaws and carts by way of work; two other members of the family left home to wander about as beggars. Three of the seven died of starvation or illness, and one has never been heard from again.

Today four of the present eight members of her family have jobs. Her husband works in a chemical plant in the eastern suburbs, and she in a factory in the neighborhood. Her second daughter is a machinist and her third daughter works in an electrical relay plant. Of the younger children, one is in university and three are in middle school. Life is good for the whole family.

NOW the laboring people in our street, like those throughout the country, take part in managing state affairs, because, led by the Communist Party and Chairman Mao, they have become masters of the country. Take Comrade Kao Lan, for instance. As secretary of the Party committee of the Tashalar area, he is responsible for everything that goes on in our street, and has represented the Party members of Tashalar at a Municipal Party Congress. He is a mason by trade, who made his living by doing odd jobs before the liberation.

Another example is Tien Tzu-ying, who like many poor women in the old society, did not even have a name of her own. In recent years she has been elected a deputy to the Peking Hsuanwu District People's

Congress and is vice-chairman of the Ta-anlanying residents' committee, one of many under the Tashalar Street residents' committee. She joined the Communist Party after the liberation.

Today the scene on Tashalar is one of *real* prosperity. There are seven theaters in the vicinity, including the Red Film Theater, the New China Film Theater and the Red Guard Theater, all recreation centers where the laboring people can see revolutionary Peking Opera, acrobatic performances and film shows.

Located in close proximity are shops like the Jungchang Cloth Store, the Chien Men Clothing Store, the Puying Shoe Store, the Tungsheng Hat Store and the No. 1 Department Store. These socialist shops are well stocked with goods of many varieties to serve the people's everyday needs. Not bureaucrats or capitalists, but the broad masses of the laboring people are their customers. The shop assistants, trying to serve the people wholeheartedly, do everything they can for the customers. Gone is the kind of trickery that used to be practised before the liberation, such as inflated prices, short weight, mixing inferior material in with goods sold at high-quality prices, and substituting fakes for famous brands. Old people or children no longer need to worry about being cheated.

The shop assistants sometimes bring their goods right to the customers. Last winter in the cold and windy weather a dozen young shop assistants brought around pedicarts of Chinese cabbage, peddling it from door to door.

AS the street has changed, so has the social atmosphere. No more do we see the well-to-do loafers with nothing more to do than idle their hours away taking their pet birds out for an airing. Labor is held as honorable and everybody, with the exception of the aged, the weak, sick or disabled, works to build socialism.

In the past there was little opportunity for married women to get regular jobs; they spent the whole

day around the kitchen stove. In 1958 during the big leap forward the residents of the Tashalar area set up a number of factories themselves, in which many of the women went to work. These now produce machine parts and do sewing for clothing factories. Since the cultural revolution, every residents' group in the area has set up shops to do things like shoe and bicycle repairs, and service stations that for a small fee help other working people with laundry, sewing, mending, and taking apart, washing and remaking of cotton-padded clothes. Whatever is needed, they find ways to do. One of the women put it this way: "We work because we want to do our part in building socialism; it's not like working to support our families, as before the liberation. Now we do as much as we can."

There is a new relationship between people. We do not see much of the attitude expressed in the old saying "Each sweeps only the snow in front of his own door". I could go on all day telling about how the people in our street take care of each other and consider it a pleasure to help others. This is the attitude to which people are educated in the new society, and the residents' committees make it their business to organize people to give help to others who need it.

Grandpa Sun Yu-lung is over 80 and lives in Yenchia Lane. He worked hard all his life. As he has no children or other relatives to take care of him he gets a monthly payment from the state, which also provides for his clothing and medical care. The lane residents' committee and people in his courtyard take care of him as though he were an elderly member of their own family. Some time ago when he fell ill, Hsieh Shu-chin, chairman of the committee, herself accompanied him to the clinic maintained by the Tashalar Street Residents' Committee. Chao Shu-fen, one of the medical assistants, went to the medicine shop to get the ingredients for herbal medicine he needed. Chiao Kai-hsiang, a member of the committee, brewed the medicine, took it to his home and helped him while he drank it.

Aunt Li, mother of an army man who lives in the same courtyard, made it a point to cook the kind of food he needed, millet porridge and soft noodle soup. When his cotton padded clothing and bedding need washing, she and Aunt Chen, another neighbor, and others take them apart and do it for him. While he was ill Yu Ya-ping and Liu Lien-ying, two junior high school girls, took it upon themselves to wash his clothes. Others who could not give a hand said, "If you won't let me do the washing, at least use my soap."

Surrounded by such warmth, Grandpa Sun never tires of saying, "It's the Party and Chairman Mao I have to thank for such happiness! Though I have no family my class sisters and brothers look after me. They're even closer than kinfolk."

There are many like Grandpa Sun in our neighborhood who, though alone in their old age, enjoy a happy life.

NOW about myself. Immediately after liberation the government placed me as a cook in the dining room of a government office. Educated by the Communist Party, I became a Party member in 1956. I could have retired on pension at 60, but stayed on and retired when I turned 65 in 1970. Even though I am retired, the leading comrades in the place where I used to work come to visit me to see how I am and whether I have any problems.

The life of my family today is like eating sugarcane — sweet in every section. We are six — my wife and myself, our daughter and son-in-law and two grandchildren.

My wife is head of the residents' group in our lane. Our son-in-law is a salesman at the grocery and our daughter works at the bicycle parking ground. Our granddaughter, now grown, is a worker in a machinery plant. With my pension of 43 yuan a month, which is 70 percent of my original wage, and the wages of the three of them, the family income amounts to a little over 200 yuan a month. Food, clothing and articles of daily use are not expensive, and prices stay the same, so we live very well without having to spend much. We put money in the bank every month.

The fact is, in the years under the People's Government the whole of Peking has changed and our street has changed beyond recognition.

43 YEARS OF TEACHING

CHOU PEI-YUAN
educator and physicist



Chou Pei-yuan (left) discusses questions in the reform of teaching with Peking University teachers and students.

I CAME to Peking from south China to study in 1919. Ten years later I began teaching in Tsinghua University. Today I occupy a leading position at Peking University. I have been in education work in this city of ancient culture for 43 years, but only in the last 23 years has my work for the country and the people been meaningful.

As a young man I saw how imperialism subjected my country to every kind of humiliation, how the masses of the people struggled for a bare existence in a land ravaged

by fighting between the warlords year in and year out. Like many other young intellectuals with just and patriotic feelings, I was concerned for my country, where distress and suffering were seen on every side, and, like them, I could see no way out for it. I longed to see China strong and prosperous, but I thought, wrongly, that she was backward because her education, science and industry were backward. So I shut myself up in my study and buried myself in teaching and scientific research. I would have nothing to do with

politics. I had no contact with the masses. I labored under the delusion that China could be saved by training qualified personnel who would develop industry.

But when they came up against ruthless reality all my illusions of saving China through education and science burst like soap bubbles one after another.

In the 1930s in Peking there were four government-financed universities, two missionary universities and several private colleges, each with from a few hundred to a thousand students. A



The main building of the Peking Institute of Iron and Steel Technology.

student's annual tuition, room and board was equivalent to what three or four urban workers made in a whole year. This was in a government university, and in a private university the cost was at least double. These were schools for the rich. The working people could not even fill their stomachs or cover their bodies with rags, how could they think of sending their children to a university?

Even those who went to college did not know whether they would find a job after graduation. Only a small number of my students had no worries about future employment because their families had connections or pull with the reactionary government. The rest were always in fear for their future, so they could not devote themselves to their studies with an easy mind.

In the two decades from 1929 to 1949 I taught a good number of students, but only a very few were able to make any contribution to society. In poor and backward China, with practically no industry or scientific research, they had no way of putting their knowledge and talents to use.

IN 1919 when I was still a student the May 4th Movement directed against imperialism and feudalism

began in Peking, and soon afterwards the Chinese Communist Party was born. From then on the Party gave the people leadership in carrying on their struggle against the reactionary forces. But, indif-

ferent as I was to politics, I did not understand that the people's revolution always has to go through a long hard struggle and face many setbacks before it succeeds. From the dim future of my students, I

Students at Tsinghua University chosen from among the workers, peasants and soldiers.



saw only that the road I had chosen of saving China through education and science was really a blind alley. It could not save the old China which was going from bad to worse. And with imperialism stretching its claws into China and Chiang Kai-shek's reactionary rule causing social unrest everywhere, I found it hard to maintain a quiet environment for my teaching and research.

Even as I was groping for an answer in my deeply troubled mind, the People's Liberation Army led by the Communist Party was advancing from victory to victory. The liberation of north China was close at hand.

I had always been inclined towards the Communist Party. In my student days three of my close friends were Party members. From them and the writings of the American reporter Edgar Snow and others, I had learned about the Long March and other heroic struggles carried on by the Communist Party. These stories had aroused my respect and admiration, but I was not sure that revolution led by the Party could overthrow the Chiang Kai-shek regime, which seemed so formidable.

Facts educated me. People's revolutionary war has immense power, and the moment of its victory was drawing near. On January 31, 1949, with my heart full of hope I bicycled through the cold all the way from Tsinghua to Chien Men Gate to welcome the People's Liberation Army troops as they entered the city. From that day, a new life began for me. I began finding the answer to the question that had been troubling my mind for twenty years: the way to save China is the socialist road pointed out by Chairman Mao.

IN the past 23 years, under the leadership of Chairman Mao and the Communist Party, semi-colonial and semi-feudal China has been transformed into a new China with initial prosperity. Gone forever are the days when the Chinese nation could be bullied by imperialism. The hope of my youthful dreams is being realized.

The Party and the People's Government give great attention to

education. To meet the needs of socialist revolution and construction, in addition to re-orienting the existing institutes of higher education, the state has built many new colleges which are closely oriented to the needs of industry, such as the Peking Institute of Iron and Steel Technology and the Peking Chemical Engineering Institute.

In the 20 years from 1927 to 1947 the country produced a total of only 185,000 college graduates. In the past 23 years the higher institutes in Peking alone have trained 330,000 specialized personnel who are playing an important part in industry, agriculture, culture and education, science and technology and medicine. Some of them have taken part in such important work as the production of synthetic crystalline insulin and the launching of China's first earth satellite.

PEKING University, where I am now, has a history of 74 years. A revolution in education was begun during the cultural revolution. Although the work is still going on, through constantly summing up experience and making improvements, we have already achieved some good results.

First, we understand more clearly the meaning of the principle that **"education must serve proletarian politics and be combined with productive labor"** as taught by Chairman Mao. Guided by it, we aim at training workers with both socialist consciousness and culture, who are well developed morally, intellectually and physically. In the past two years we have chosen a great many students from among the workers and peasants. Besides having deep proletarian feeling for Chairman Mao and the Communist Party, these students have had a lot of practical experience in class struggle and production. They know that they are studying in order to be successors to carry on the cause of the proletariat, that a great deal of work for the revolution awaits them on graduation. Therefore they are eager to learn and confident that they can do it.

Their tuition, room and board and medical care are paid by the government, and they receive a

monthly subsidy for miscellaneous expenses. Worker-students who had been on the job for five years or more receive their full wage during their period of schooling. They are thus able to give full attention to their studies, both the study of Marxism-Leninism and Mao Tsetung Thought, and research in the cultural and scientific fields.

In the past students came to school purely to gain book knowledge. The old educational system kept them shut up in the schoolrooms and kept them cut off from proletarian politics, from the workers and peasants and from productive labor. Our revolution in education is changing all that. In addition to lectures and laboratory experiments, the students and teachers frequently go to factories outside the school to carry on study and teaching amid practical realities. The school itself runs more than a dozen factories and shops for manufacturing medicine, high polymers, radios and other products, as well as an experimental farm.

In the liberal arts, the old scholastic method of teaching has been thoroughly discarded. Teachers and students take society as their classroom and go to factories, mines, rural areas and army units to conduct social investigations and learn from the workers, peasants and soldiers. This has improved their ability to analyze and solve problems. Economics students have studied industrial economics at the Taching oilfield and agricultural economics at the Tachai brigade. After absorbing this living experience they have taken their findings and raised them to the theoretical level.

When I see the advantages enjoyed by the young people of today, and when I see their energy, ideals and purposefulness, I cannot help but note the contrast with my own experience in my youth and that of my students in the old society. Indeed, when the social system changes, when the system of man exploiting man and man oppressing man is overthrown, when the prospects for our socialist China are becoming ever brighter, the road ahead for the young people becomes ever broader.

PEKING TO ME

YANG MO, writer



Yang Mo at her home in the western suburbs.

PEKING. Here I lived in my childhood and early youth, here I have worked since the liberation, and now, in the bosom of its splendors I spend my later years.

In my memory the old Peking is like a place covered with festering sores, disaster-ridden, and my own prospects in it were dim and uncertain. The only heritage the old Peking left me was pain, indignation and despair.

I was born into the family of an intellectual of the upper strata. In my early years my father was a professor and president of a private university. When I was 12 the university was closed down and my father lost his job. He became dependent and went into a decline. Life became harder and harder for my family.

Ever since I had been a little girl I had liked to read and had developed a deep love for literature. In my teens I dreamed of writing. I hoped to help save our deep-suffering motherland through literature. My dreams were shattered by the cold realities of life.

One day as the summer vacation was approaching, my parents sent for me to come home from the Hot Springs Middle School in Peking where I was boarding. They had found me a rich man, they said, and wanted me to marry him as soon as possible. I had already been much influenced by the idea of individual emancipation as expressed

in the writings of the 18th-century European authors advocating bourgeois democracy, and also by the anti-feudal ideas spread by the May 4th Movement in China. I refused. They tried to force me to obey by threatening to stop my tuition, but still I refused. Finally I broke with my family.

I took this course because, on the one hand, I still clung to my ideal of what my life should be. I was not willing to become the plaything of a rich man. On the other hand, I had the warning of the tragedies of two of my companions. One was my schoolmate Yu Wen, who, like myself, loved literature and writing. We often read foreign classics together and talked of our dreams for the future. Carrying out the wishes of her parents, she had become a concubine of a Kuomintang officer. The life of pleasure-seeking and luxury destroyed her as a person. The other was my cousin, who was also well-grounded in literature. She and I had often read and written poetry together and shared the happiness of our dreams for a bright future. She had been deceived by a man who took her away and later sold her into a house of prostitution. When her parents redeemed her and brought her home, she felt so humiliated and crushed in mind and body that she committed suicide.

I GRIEVED over the sad end of my two companions, but I did not understand the social reason for

it. To free myself from the bonds of my family, after much hesitation and mental struggle, I finally ran away from home. I went to a village in Hsiangho county, Hopei province, where a schoolmate helped me to get a temporary position as a primary school teacher. This job lasted only a few months, and when the original teacher came back I had to go. All I could do was watch the newspaper want-ads for family tutors. I ran all over the place asking people to help me find work. In that society, where we used to say "graduation means unemployment", even university graduates had a hard time getting a job, let alone a person like me who had not even finished junior middle school. I did get a few positions as primary school teacher, assistant in a bookshop and family tutor, but none of them lasted long. I was always out of a job and down to my last cent. When I was sick I didn't have the money to go to the doctor. In such circumstances I didn't dare to think of trying to write.

JUST when I felt I could no longer struggle to keep from drowning in this sea of bitterness that was the old society, I found new hope in the revolution led by the Communist Party. In 1935 the December 9 patriotic student movement began in the ancient city of Peking. Masses of young intellectuals, unwilling to put up with

Japanese imperialist aggression and oppression at the hands of the reactionary Kuomintang, held rallies and demonstrations before Tien An Men.

I was then living in a little hostel near Peking University where I had got to know some Communists and progressive young people. They taught me the truths of Marxism-Leninism, and helped me to understand that by merely trying myself to be pure and good and struggling individually I would accomplish nothing; that the idea of individual emancipation was nothing but an illusion unless the whole of Chinese society were liberated. This was what started me on the revolutionary road.

After the Japanese invasion, I left Peking and went to the anti-Japanese base area in north China and joined in the armed struggle of the army and people there against the aggressors. Participating in this struggle with the masses, I felt like a drop of water which had finally found its way to the mighty ocean to be united with it.

In 1949 Peking was finally liberated and I returned to her embrace after 12 years' absence. What I have seen with my own eyes since then, the new life of Peking, has warmed and strengthened my heart so that now I love Peking more each day.

Soon after the liberation I took part in some very meaningful social work with the municipal Women's Federation: in coordination with the People's Government, helping former prostitutes, enabling them to live as human beings again.

Problems long unsolved in the old society became possible to solve under the socialist system of the New China. This realization touched me deeply, and called to mind the tragic death of my cousin. Had she lived in the new society she would never have died with her heart full of the bitterness of having been wronged; she would have led the full life that the millions of women in China live today.

IT WAS in Peking, in 1950, that I began to take up writing, my dream of many years. During the war I had written some short stories, but under the circumstances it was difficult to write a novel. After I settled down in the city, the Party made it possible for me to devote my time to writing. I wrote the preliminary draft for my first novel during a long illness in 1950-51. If it had been in the old society, being unable to work, I would have lost my job if I'd had one, but here I was writing a novel. In the new society unemployment is not a problem, even when we are ill, our livelihood is guaranteed and we are given free medical care. This is what enabled

me to write, revise and publish my first novel.

On the eve of National Day 1965 I had the honor to join friends from all over the world at the state banquet presided over by Premier Chou En-lai in celebration of the 16th anniversary of the founding of the People's Republic. As I came out of the Great Hall of the People and stood on the marble steps gazing at the grandeur of Tien An Men Gate glowing in the reflection of a myriad of lights, a flood of memories welled up within me. Before me seemed to appear throngs of young men and women in dusty clothes passionately addressing crowds at Tien An Men and shouting slogans urging them to join the battle to save the motherland from imperialist aggression.

Today, I thought, our country has stood up and is gradually becoming strong and prosperous under the leadership of Chairman Mao and the Communist Party. And I, an intellectual who had been deprived of a chance to finish school or get a steady job, who would have sunk into nothingness in the old society, am today given such honor by the Party and the people for my small contribution to the revolution. The profound difference between the two systems and their treatment of intellectuals made an impression on me that filled my heart for long, long after.

What I felt, though rising from my own personal experience, is part of the tempo of the times. The facts are that with the downfall of Chiang Kai-shek's regime and the birth of the socialist New China, the social position and role of intellectuals have changed immensely. The number of middle school, college and university students is much greater than before the liberation. Young people have a good opportunity to get an education, and there is no longer the problem of unemployment after graduation as in the old society. Three of my four children are university graduates and one is a high school graduate. All of them are working in the service of the people.

(Continued on p. 36)

CHINA RECONSTRUCTS

The People's Liberation Army is warmly welcomed as it enters the city on January 31, 1949.



EXHIBITION IN PEKING: NEW ART WORKS

YING TAO

POLITICAL significance and national style were two prominent characteristics of the 300 works displayed in the National Art Exhibition held recently in Peking. The exhibition included traditional-style paintings, oils, graphic art, New Year pictures, posters, picture stories, gouaches and papercuts selected from thousands of pieces submitted by the provinces, municipalities and autonomous regions. The two-month show, which was held in commemoration of the 30th anniversary of the publication of Chairman Mao's *Talks at the Yanan Forum on Literature and Art*, attracted over 500,000 viewers.

The display covers a wide range of subject matter. A number of works portray the activities of Chairman Mao, the great leader of the Chinese people, during various periods of the revolution. "Day-break", an oil painting showing him at the National Institute of the Peasant Movement in the 1920s, suggests that his revolutionary efforts of those early years were the morning star, which was followed by the light of dawn. Others, also oils, such as "Chairman Mao Inspects the Fushun Coal Mine" and "Chairman Mao Is of One Heart with Us" reflect, through different aspects of life, the people's love for their leader and his deep feeling for the people. They strike a responsive chord in the viewers.

Even more works, in a variety of styles and moods, depict China's socialist construction in all its vigor and grandeur. Often this is done through portraying heroic figures of workers, peasants and soldiers at their posts: workers making every minute count in production, peasants "rearranging" mountains and rivers, P.L.A. soldiers guarding the frontiers. We see "barefoot doctors" bringing medical care to the poor and lower-middle peasants, school



The exhibition was held in the National Art Gallery.

graduates maturing in the vast countryside, a young girl of a minority nationality being sent off to college, and a family thrilling to their first sight of a train steaming through their border region. Inspiring indeed is the march of the times as reflected in these works.

Amateurs to the Fore

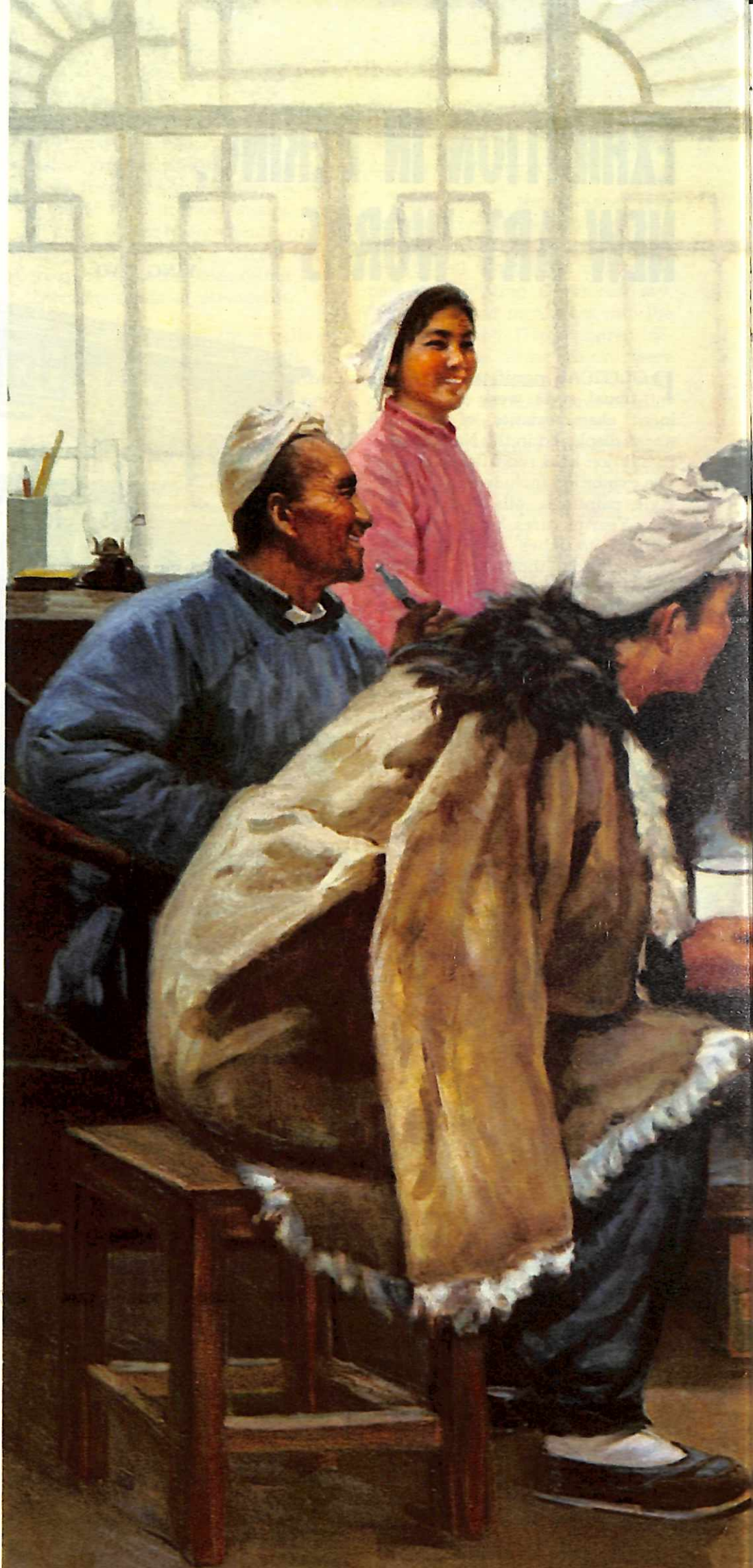
More than half the exhibits are by amateurs — workers, peasants, P.L.A. men, shop assistants, medical workers, teachers and students. These artists, taking as their subject things they are most familiar with and which impress them most, raise these to the level of art and present them in emotion-filled brush strokes.

In "Motive Force", an oil painting, locomotive driver Kung Chung-li expresses his understanding that in order to do a good job of work, workers must study revolutionary theory, as the railwaymen are doing in the painting. Two

workers, Chin Chien-ming and Yao Yu-chi, collaborated to produce the traditional-style painting "New Look", a bird's-eye view of their own factory. They are extremely successful at using the Chinese traditional form to re-create the pulsating energy of modern production. In line and color as well as composition this work is fresh and unusual.

"I Am a Seagull", an oil painting by P.L.A. man Pan Chia-chun, shows a P.L.A. telephone lineswoman inspecting wires in midair during a storm. The artist knew only the rudiments of drawing and had never painted with oils, but what he had seen in real life so moved him that he developed a deep urge to put it on canvas. With help from others, because he was familiar with the hardships and heroism of the linesmen's life, he was able to express their spirit. The background of wind and rain heightens the effect.

**Paintings
from the
National Art
Exhibition**



**Chairman Mao Is of
One Heart with Us (oil)**
by Chin Wen-mei





Patrol (colored woodcut) by Tseng Chao-hsin

As early as 1958 in the big leap forward, the peasants of Huhsien county, Shensi province, began to paint as a move towards taking over the ideological and cultural fields in the countryside. In their spare time, to commend outstanding deeds and criticize un-socialist conduct, they drew posters to be put up in the fields and at work-sites or made paintings on the walls along the village streets. Among the amateur painters were Party secretaries, production team leaders, accountants, ordinary commune members, militia men and women and country school teachers. After 14 years, they have a corps of close to 500 amateurs. Between them they have created some 38,000 works that serve to spur revolution and production.

Last year the county's Kuang-ming commune had an excellent cotton crop. In "Cotton Harvest", done in New Year picture style, Li Feng-lan, a woman commune member, has captured the scene of women striving to outdo each other at picking cotton and of the cart-and wagon-loads of cotton on the way to the state purchasing station. This lively representation of the countryside since the peasants began to learn from Tachai is one of the most warmly acclaimed pieces at the exhibition.

Party organizations at different levels did everything they could to encourage and help the amateurs

place art in the service of the revolution, providing them with ideological guidance as well as time off for short training courses.

Collective Creation

Quite a number of the exhibits are the work of professionals and amateurs working together, or of young artists and veterans. Others have been revised or improved after suggestions from the masses. Such cooperation helps the artists overcome their weak points by learning from others' strong points, not just technically, but also politically and in life experience. It is a good way to make full use of collective wisdom.

This method was used in the creation of the woodcut series "Slaves Who Made History". Three woodcuts on this theme had originally been made by art workers in Szechuan province's Liangshan Yi Autonomous *Chou*. In conception and composition these were rather simple, and the technical execution was rough. After seeing them, several experienced artists from Chungking went to the Liangshan Mountains to work with the local artists. Together they made more visits and investigations among the Yi people.

At the same time the Party committee of the autonomous *chou* sent cadres who were most familiar with the Yi people's class struggle

in throwing off the yoke of slavery and moving to socialism to advise on that aspect. A creative group was formed with professional and amateur artists of the Yi, Tibetan and Han nationalities. With their themes clearly in mind, they discussed the conception and composition of each woodcut projected in the series. Artists most suited to handling certain themes were assigned to do sketches illustrating them. These were then passed around for opinions and improved on the basis of collective discussion. The final product is a series of ten woodcuts far superior in ideological content and artistic effect than the first three pictures. The series was among the works attracting the most comment at the exhibition.

Unity of Politics and Art

Since the proletarian cultural revolution began both professional and amateur artists have been making critical examinations of the revisionist line in literature and art and studying the works of Marx, Engels, Lenin and Stalin and the writings of Chairman Mao. This has helped them understand better that there is no such thing as art for art's sake or art that stands above classes. Proletarian literature and art, as Lenin said, are cogs and wheels in the whole revolutionary machine, and must serve the proletarian cause. In their creation, therefore, the artists tried

to do as Chairman Mao says, to go into the thick of life, to live among workers, peasants and soldiers and try to think and feel as they do, and thus to remold their own outlook on life. The result has been art works which are good both ideologically and artistically.

"Educating the Next Generation", a painting in traditional style by Kang Tso-tien, a teacher in Shansi province, shows a peasant woman telling a classroom of children about her bitter experience in the old society and her happiness today. From his own observations as a rural school teacher, the painter has portrayed with extraordinary vividness the figure of the peasant woman filled with love for the new society, Chairman Mao and the Communist Party, the roomful of children made aware of their good fortune and the young teachers listening attentively to the talk.

"Woman Committee Member", an oil by the young artist Tang Hsiao-ming, is the portrait of a young woman cadre, just back from a fact-finding trip to a work site, telling her ideas to other leaders. The picture captures the essence of the type of grass-roots leader that is today maturing in revolutionary struggle — a sincere, hardworking and unpretentious cadre who stays

close to the people and productive labor.*

The woodcuts "Patrol" by P.L.A. man Tseng Chao-hsin and "Fishing Family" by Ou Huan-chang, picture the life of island fishing folk in crisp lines and pleasantly bright colors. Smelting high-quality steel and tempering the younger generation is the double theme of the oil painting "Tempering Steel", by art worker Chang Hung-wen and Liu Jung-jen, a worker. The intensity of the production scene is captured in the expression of taut concentration on the faces of the steel makers, old and young.

To portray the fast-changing realities of today, veteran traditional-style painters Kuan Shan-yueh, Chien Sung-yen and Wang Ching-huai have travelled to factories, communes, forest areas, seaports and the water country of east China. They found fresh conceptions and moods which they are conveying to the brush with new-found power. Some notable results are "Oil City in the South", "Land of Fish and Rice" and "Dawn in the Forest".

Artists from the Shanghai Academy of Traditional Painting

*This painting was reproduced on the cover of *China Reconstructs* No. 3, 1972.

spent six months in a shipyard where, living and working with the shipbuilders, they learned to speak their language and share their thoughts and feelings. With a deeper understanding of the workers' desire to make their country strong, they produced a series of paintings that depict the inner world of the Chinese working class — their proud sense of responsibility and enthusiasm for production.

Many artists are experimenting with new ways of expression in order to make technique better serve revolutionary political content. In "New Miner", Yang Chih-kuang has departed from the usual technique of traditional-style portraiture and incorporated the western use of light and shade to bring out the young woman's happiness at her new job. In "Another Bumper Year", artists Ku Pan and Pan Hung-hai deftly combine the forms of expression of oil painting and the New Year picture in a portrait of a rural accountant weighing up a bumper crop of grain. Her look of satisfaction and the feeling of sunny well-being that infuses the painting are a tribute to the successive good harvests over the last decade and the collective economy that has made them possible.

Tempering Steel (oil) by Chang Hung-wen and Liu Jung-jen





Educating the Next Generation (Chinese traditional style)

by Kang Tso-tien

Dawn in the Forest (Chinese traditional style)



**Paintings
from the
National Art
Exhibition**

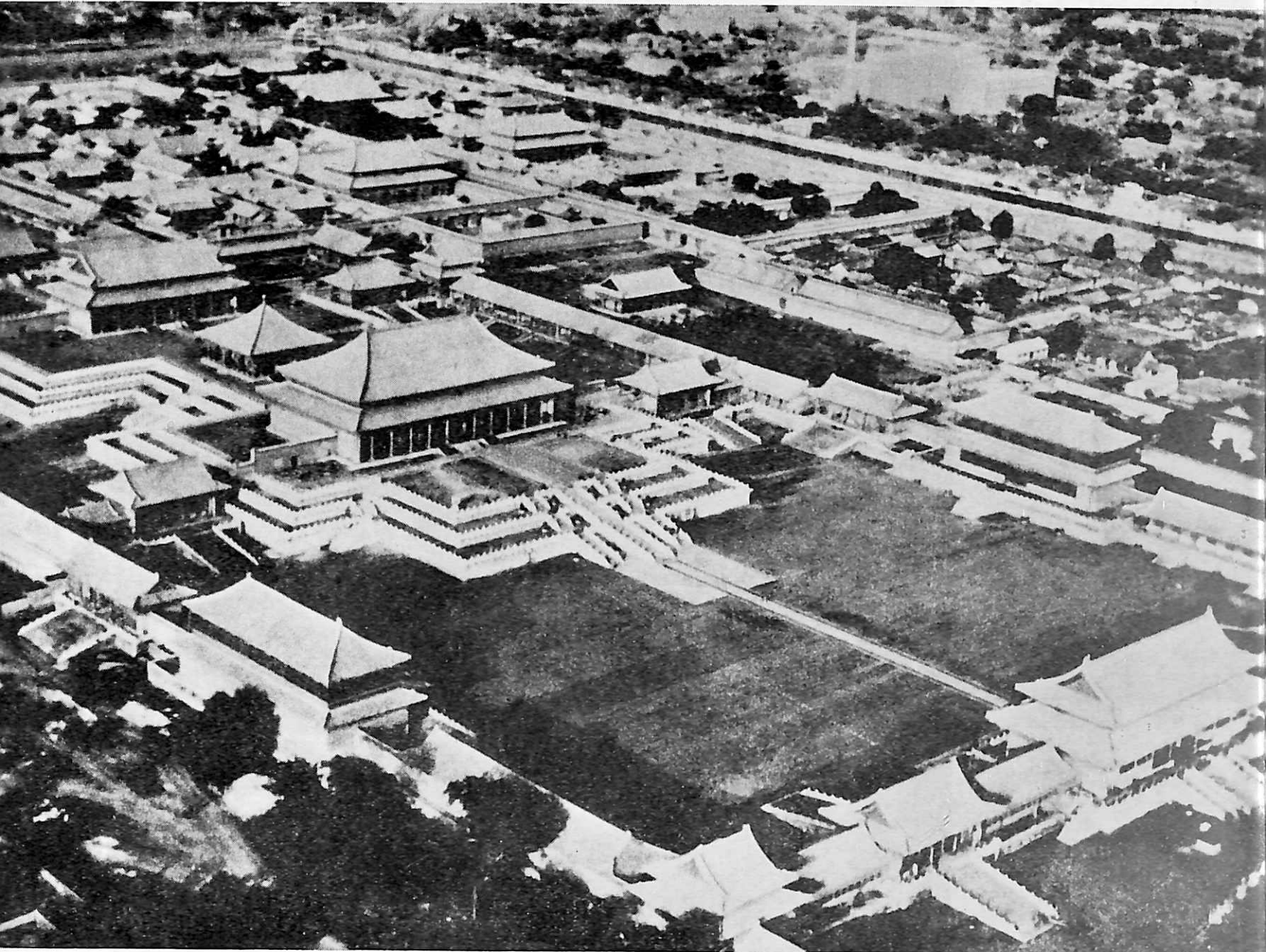
by Wang Ching-huai



A New Channel Winds Through the Mountains (Chinese traditional style)

by Chen Chung-yi

The Former Imperial Palace



Bird's-eye view of the former Imperial Palace.

THE Imperial Palace, located some distance behind Tien An Men at the center of Peking, is the largest and most complete of China's existing ancient palaces. Close to 10,000 visitors a day from all parts of the country and the world go through its grounds to view the palatial halls, some with the original furnishings, and the priceless collections of ancient bronzes, pottery and porcelain,

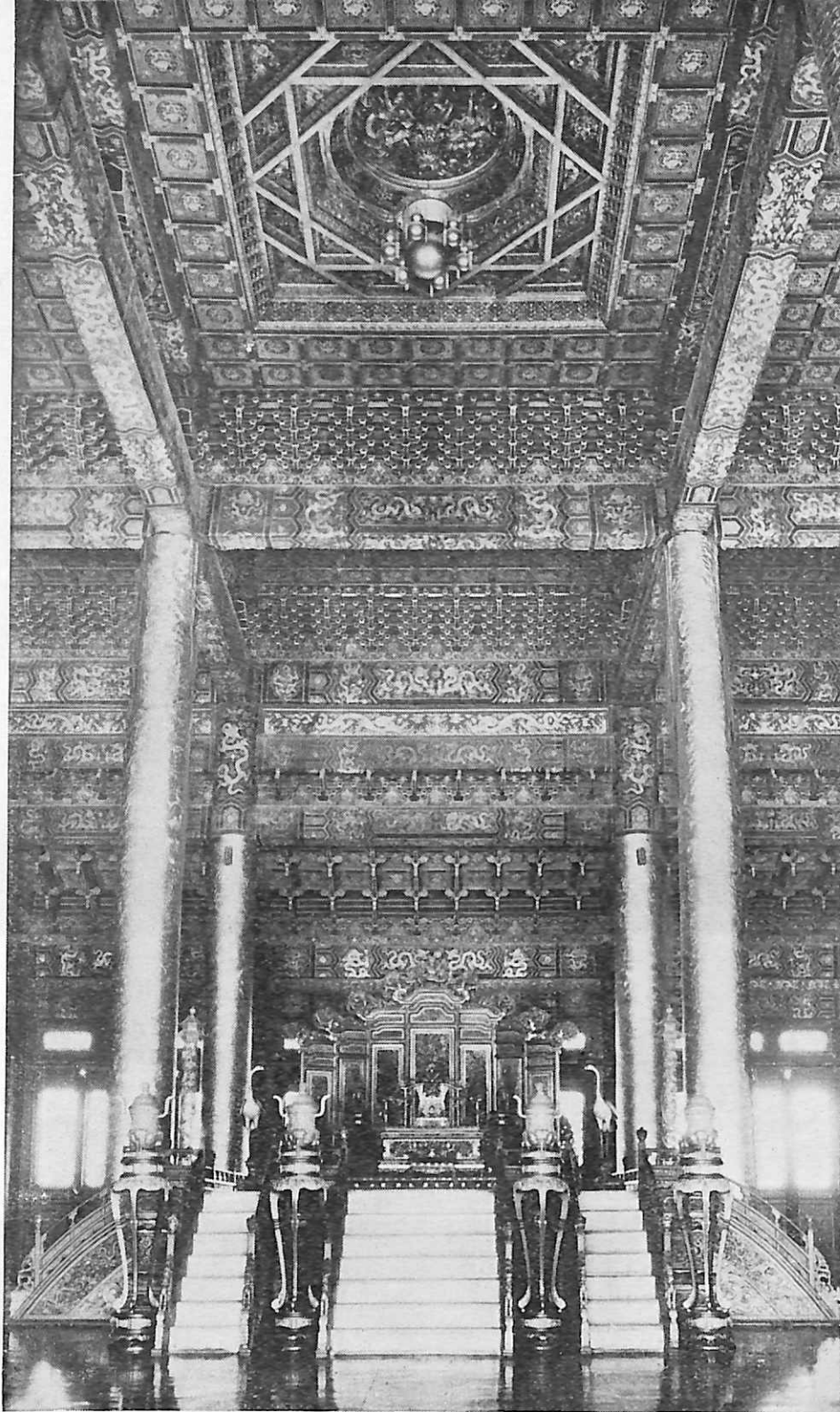
paintings, precious jewels and other objects of art in its museum.

Residence of 24 emperors of the Ming (1368-1644) and Ching (1644-1911) dynasties, the palace was begun in 1406 and expanded over the centuries. The grounds cover an area of 720,000 square meters, and the buildings total more than 9,000 rooms. The entire palace is surrounded by walls 10 meters high

and a moat 52 meters wide. At each of the four corners of the wall stands a tower with a multi-eaved, multi-ridged roof covered with yellow glazed tiles.

Architectural Masterpiece

The palace, a harmonious assemblage of many groups of buildings, brings together all the best characteristics of ancient Chinese architecture: majesty of style, flawless



The throne in the Hall of Supreme Harmony.

construction, fine coordination of the part and the whole.

The main entrance to the palace proper is the imposing Meridian Gate. Passing through the 8-meter-high, 35-meter-deep archway, one comes out into a vast courtyard. A waterway in the shape of an arc crosses the width of the courtyard and is spanned by five bridges of white marble. At the far end of the courtyard is the next

gate, Tai Ho Men, guarded by a pair of bronze lions.

Behind Tai Ho Men are the three principal halls of the outer palace, Tai Ho Tien (Hall of Supreme Harmony), Chung Ho Tien (Hall of Complete Harmony) and Pao Ho Tien (Hall of Preserving Harmony). The halls stand on three-tiered terraces of white marble seven meters high. Each tier is surrounded by a white marble balustrade

carved with dragon, phoenix and cloud designs. At regular intervals along the base of the balustrades are marble waterspouts carved in the shape of dragons' heads. During a heavy rain the terraces are a magnificent sight with the thousands of dragons spouting water.

Tai Ho Tien, nine storeys high and covering an area of 2,300 square meters, is China's biggest existing palatial hall constructed of wood. It presents an outstanding example of the brilliant color for which Chinese architecture is noted. Contrasts which are striking yet harmonious are found in the bright yellow of the glazed-tile roof viewed against a blue sky, in the elaborately painted beams, the gold chain-pattern decoration on the door panels and the vermilion columns set atop the gleaming white terrace.

In the center of the hall is the throne mounted on a two-meter-high platform and decorated with openwork carving. It is flanked by six columns entwined with dragons painted in gold. High above the throne is a coffered ceiling with gilded designs of dragons playing

(Continued on p. 28)

In the museum's Hall of Pottery and Porcelain are displayed some of the finest specimens from every age.





Mongolian dance: "Women Militia on the Grassland"

ON THE CAPITAL'S STAGE

— New Songs and Dances on the Life of China's Minority Nationalities

Accompanists for an Uighur dance



Uighur dance: "Jolly Sinkiang Herdsmen"





Tibetan dance: "Emancipated Serfs Sing of Their New Life"

Korean dance: "The Yenpian People Love Chairman Mao"



The Former Imperial Palace

(Continued from p. 25)

with pearls. For its intricate art work this hall has been called the "gold imperial throne hall". It is the place where the emperors proclaimed their accession and held important ceremonies.

For a grand ceremony, the kilometer-long "imperial road" leading from Tien An Men to Tai Ho Tien was lined with imperial insignias, flags and banners. Civilian and military officials knelt in rows in Tai Ho Tien's vast courtyard, which could accommodate as many as 90,000 people. When the emperor ascended the throne, gongs and chimes of jade set up in the gallery were sounded amidst the smoke of incense rising from the bronze cranes and tortoises and other censers and tripods on the terrace. The aura of immense majesty created by the imposing architecture was meant to keep the "son of heaven's" subjects in awe of him and his tyrannical rule.

Behind Tai Ho Tien is the square and somewhat smaller hall, Chung Ho Tien, where the emperors rehearsed for the ceremonies, and further back is the Pao Ho Tien, the hall where candidates for the rank of scholar took the imperial examinations.

These three big halls are flanked by towers, wing gates and walls arranged symmetrically on both east and west. Beyond the walls on either side are more halls also in symmetrical arrangement. With the principal buildings, these form one of the palace's architectural groupings.

Proceeding north from Pao Ho Tien one enters the inner palace, where the Ming and Ching emperors lived and conducted their daily activities of rule and where the empresses had their state bed-chamber.

On the east and west of the main line of buildings of the inner palace are 12 courtyards, six on each side,

with vermilion walls and gateways of glazed tile. The palatial halls inside are furnished with sumptuous furniture, exquisitely carved or inlaid with precious stones, and all kinds of costly ornaments. Amid this cheerless luxury lived hundreds of imperial concubines and their thousands of attendants.

Most important of these halls is the Yang Hsin Tien, or Hall of Mental Cultivation, where after 1723 the Ching emperors held private audiences, read memorials and reports and made official replies. There is a throne in the center room. In the eastern chamber are two thrones, one behind the other. The first was for the emperor. From the second, behind a screen because women were not supposed to be seen, the Empress Dowager Tzu Hsi actually ruled the country from 1861 to the last days of the feudal monarchy. This was the hall where many of the real decisions of the tyrannical regime were made, including those that sold out the country. From this hall were issued the imperial edicts authorizing the signing of a series of unequal treaties which foreign imperialist powers forced upon China after the Opium War of 1840 to reduce her to a semi-colony.

Built by the People

The history of the construction of the Imperial Palace is one fraught with the blood, sweat and tears of the working people.

Nanking had been the capital of the first Ming emperor and his grandson who succeeded him. In the early 15th century the Prince of Yen, a son of the first Ming emperor, who had been garrisoning Peking, drove away his nephew, usurped the throne and made Peking the capital. In 1406 he ordered the construction of the palace. A hundred thousand artisans and a million workmen toiled for 14 years on the principal and some of the auxiliary buildings, but only a handful of the names of the carpenters, bricklayers and stonemasons are to be found in the historical records. One chronicle records that the original architects of the

three principal halls in the outer palace were a man named Kuai Fu and four other carpenters.

Timber for the palace was brought from the virgin forests in the north. About the workmen sent to fell the timber and transport it, the *Ming Chronicles* say, "One thousand men went into the mountains and five hundred returned." The stone blocks were quarried in the mountains of Fangshan county several scores of kilometers southwest of Peking. One block often weighed over five tons. To transport them, every half kilometer along the way wells were dug, and water drawn from them was poured over the roads to freeze. The stones were moved on flat-bottomed boats pulled over the ice. The 16-meter-long, 200-ton stone slab carved with cloud and dragon designs that is part of the staircase at the back of Pao Ho Tien is one of those brought by such monumental labor. Countless workmen died or were injured in the course of the work.

The completed palace was closely guarded. Ordinary citizens were forbidden even to come near the walls and look at it, hence the name "The Forbidden City". Inside, the emperors and their families lived a life of idleness, extravagance and debauchery, dressing themselves in silks and satins and eating delicacies of every kind off dishes of gold, silver and jade. The Empress Dowager Tzu Hsi's every meal consisted of more than 100 dishes; its cost was enough for a day's food (three meals) for 5,000 peasants. During a famine in the first year of the reign of Emperor Kuang Hsu, second to the last of the Ching rulers, 1,300,000 peasants in the north starved to death, yet expenditures for Kuang Hsu's wedding could have bought 600 million *jin* of rice, enough to feed 3 million peasants for a whole year.

This money was wrung from the people. Imperial taxes during the reign of Kuang Hsu amounted to 280 million taels of silver a year. The emperor was the country's biggest landlord, collecting rents from 4 million *mu* of land.



The east chamber in the Hall of Mental Cultivation.

Witness to People's Struggle

At the rear of the Forbidden City is Chingshan Hill, the imperial park thickly covered with trees and bushes. Near its base is a leaning locust tree. The legend beside it reads: "The place where Chu Yu-chien (Emperor Chung Chen) committed suicide."

Chung Chen was the last emperor of the Ming dynasty. In the final days of his rule, exorbitant taxes had so impoverished the people that everywhere peasants rose in rebellion. One such rebellion, led by Li Tzu-cheng under the standard "tax exemption and equal distribution of land", began in 1628. With a disciplined peasant army supported by the people, in 1644 he stormed into Peking and occupied the palace. Emperor Chung Chen fled to Chingshan and hanged himself from the locust tree. Li Tzu-cheng set up a peasants' regime in Wu Ying Tien (Hall of Military Eminence) but soon the government of the country was seized by the Manchus who came down from the northeast.

The peasant uprisings did not cease. Arrowheads shot from the bows of uprising peasants who broke into the palace in 1813 can still be seen on a side gate and a column outside the wall of the Hall of Mental Cultivation.

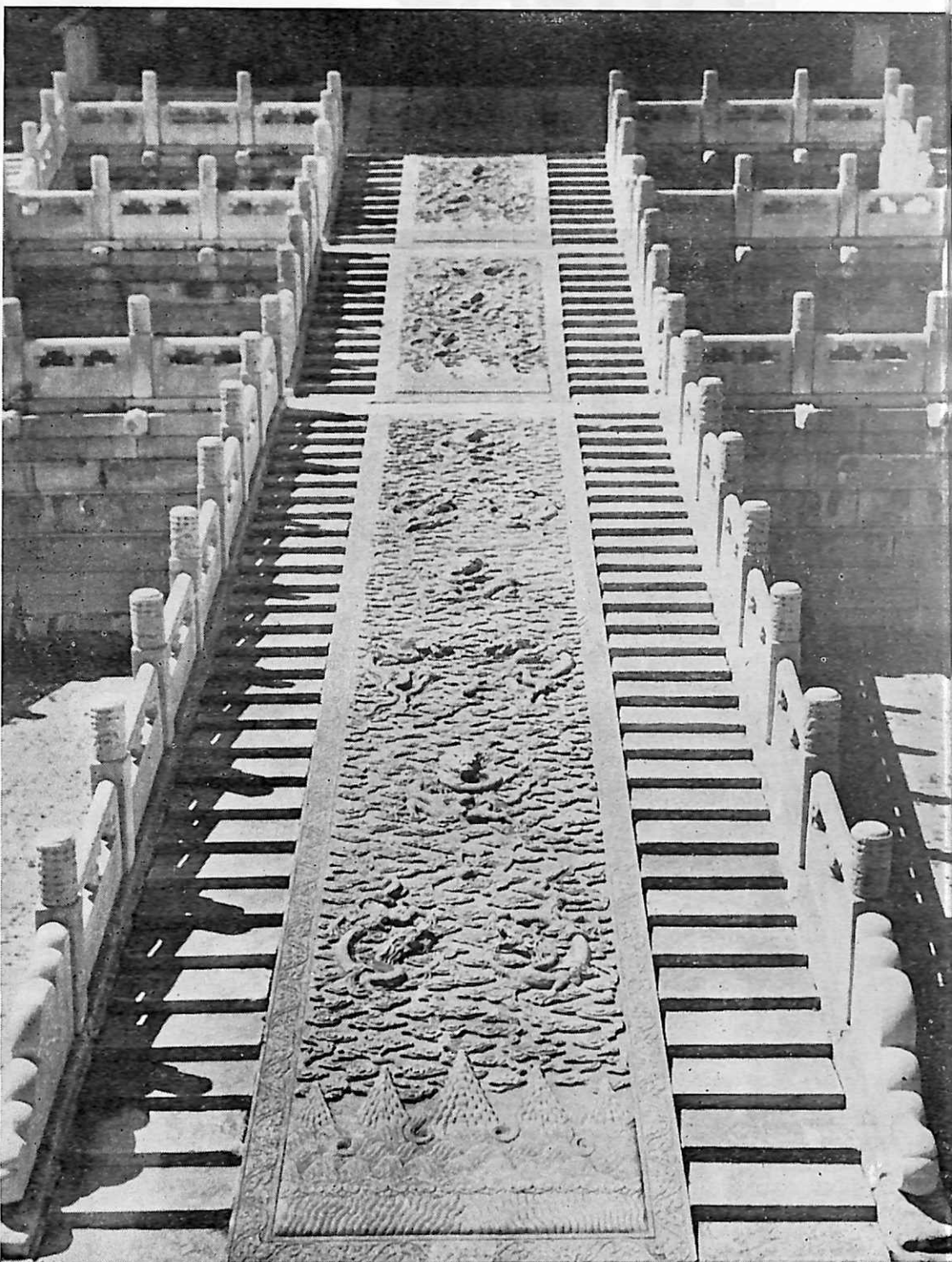
The Ching dynasty was overthrown by the Revolution of 1911 led by the Chinese bourgeoisie. Signing of the mandate of abdic-

tion took place in the Hall of Mental Cultivation. The former emperor continued to live on in the palace for 13 years more, under the protection of the reactionary warlord forces who soon assumed control of the government.

During the rule of the Chiang Kai-shek reactionaries following 1927, the Imperial Palace was left to neglect and fell into disrepair. The grounds became overgrown with weeds and piled with mountains of rubbish.

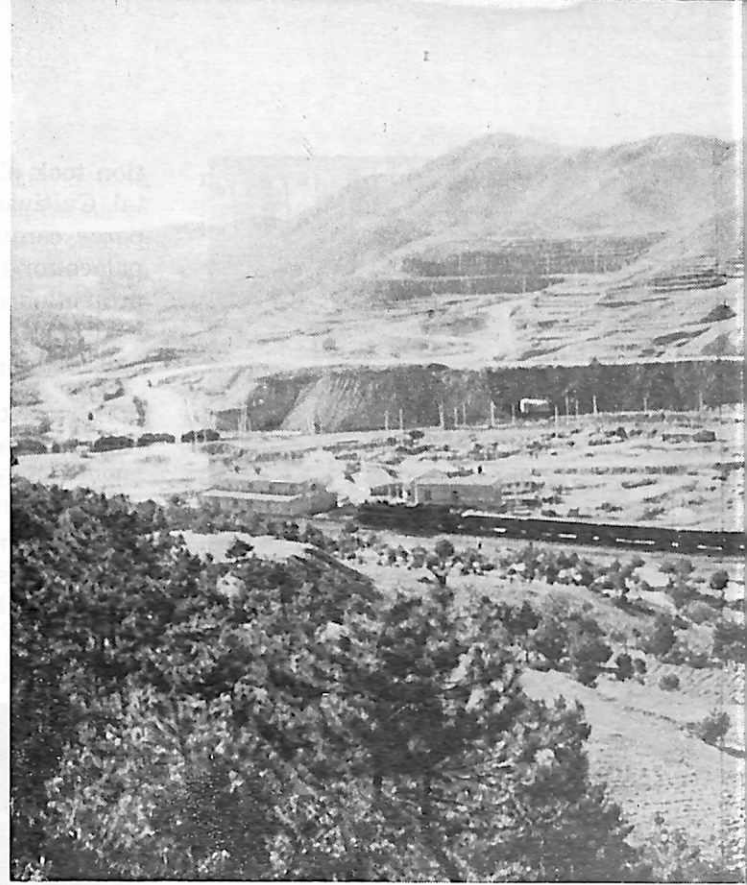
After liberation the People's Government appropriated a large sum of money for extensive restoration. Great efforts were made to collect cultural and art objects and, after painstaking research in order to identify and catalogue them, they were put on display. Today the former Imperial Palace is a center for the study of ancient history and art which provides a significant look into the class struggles of the past.

The 200-ton carved stone slab in the staircase behind the Hall of Preserving Harmony.

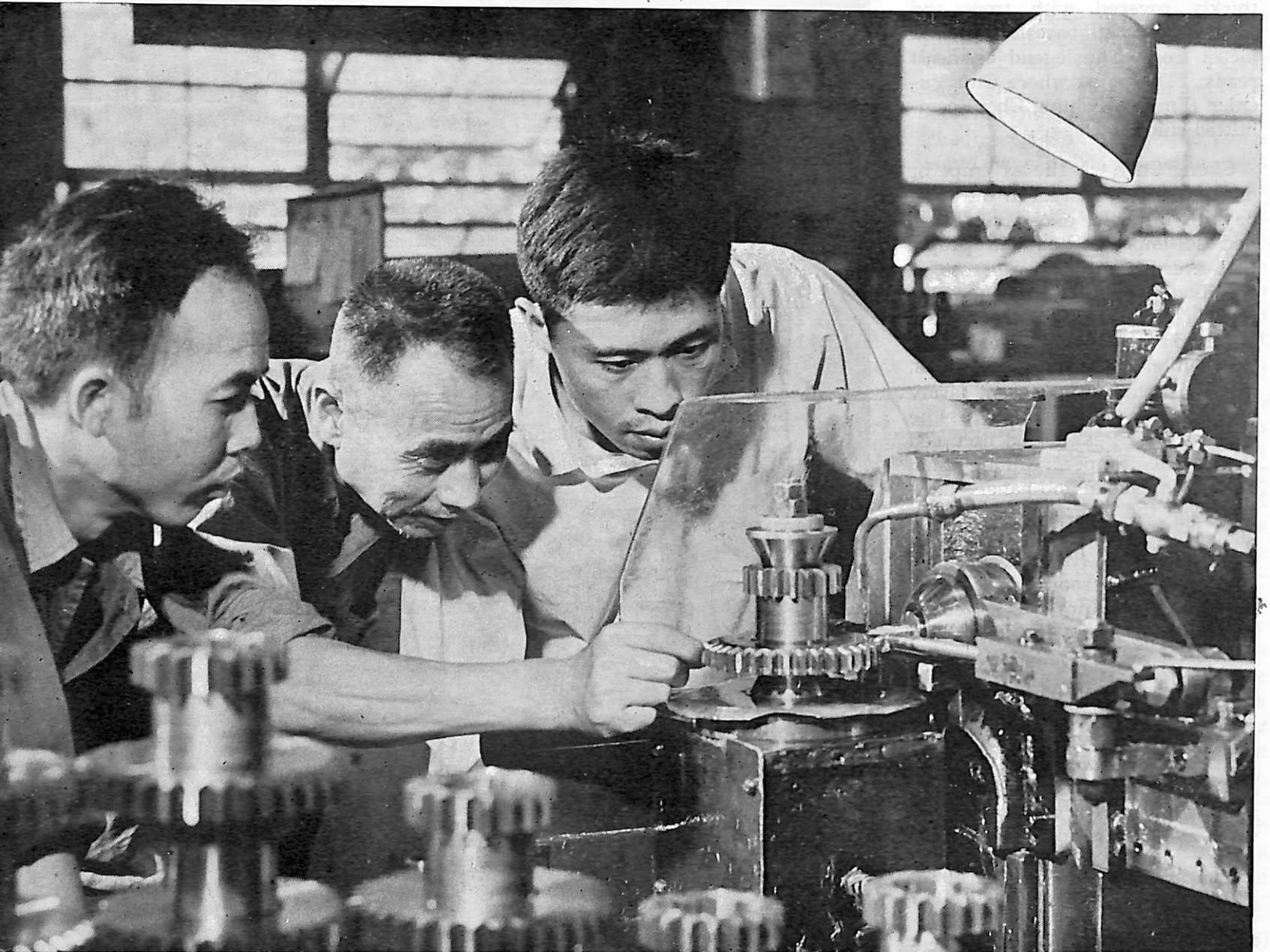


PEKING INDUSTRY MOVES AHEAD

SZU YUAN

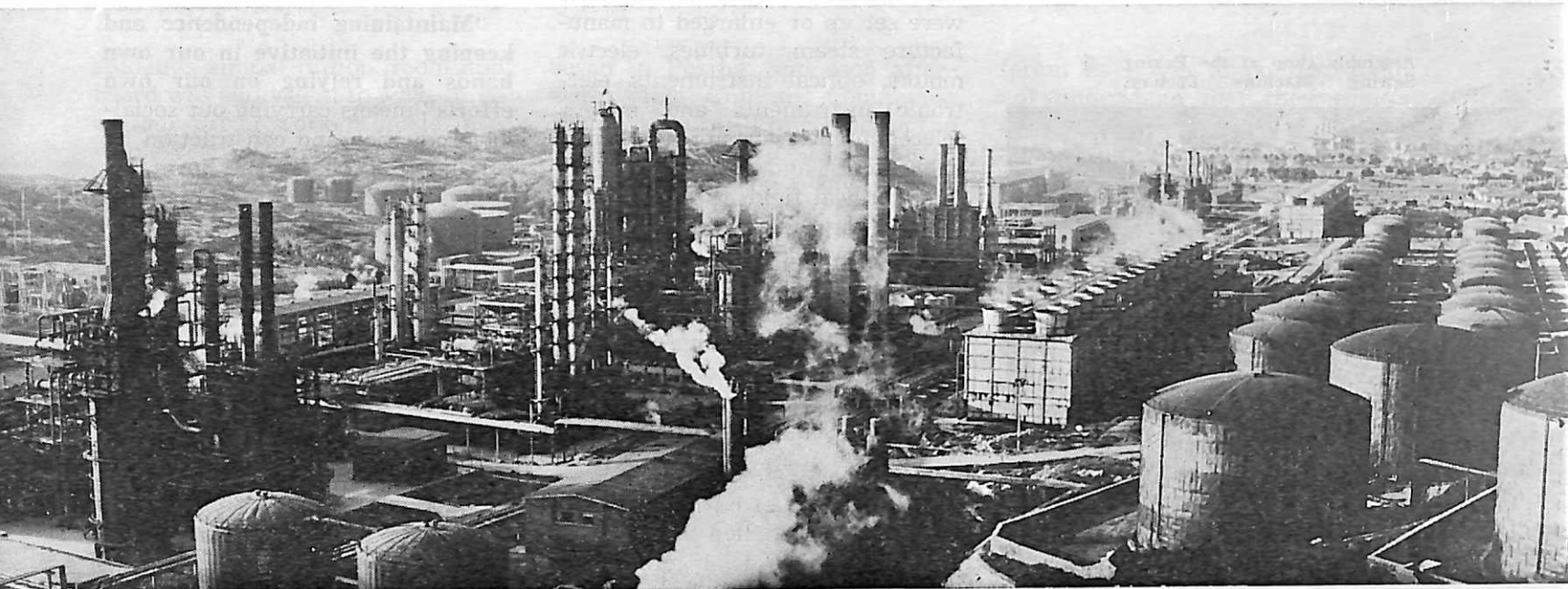


Testing a technical innovation at the Peking No. 1 Machine Tool Plant.





New ore-dressing plant at the Capital Iron and Steel Company.



Refining installations at the Peking General Petrochemical Plant.

AMONG the forest of factories on the eastern outskirts of Peking is the big and modern General Internal Combustion Engine Plant. Diesel and gasoline engines from its production lines supply the auto and tractor plants in Peking, Tientsin, Kaifeng of Honan province and some other places.

Peking started manufacturing diesel and gasoline engines only in the last decade. The General Internal Combustion Engine Plant was begun out of an ordnance re-

pair shop left over from the Kuomintang days — about 70 workers operating 40 pieces of rundown equipment in less than 2,000 square meters of shop space. After liberation the People's Government turned it into a farm machinery plant which in 1956-58 put out an improved two-wheeled double-share animal-drawn plow widely used in the country. In 1960 the plant began to experiment with manufacture of diesel and gasoline engines. By 1965 these items had

become its main products, so the name was changed to the present one. Today it has over 7,000 workers, 3,500 pieces of machinery and equipment and 150,000 square meters of shop space.

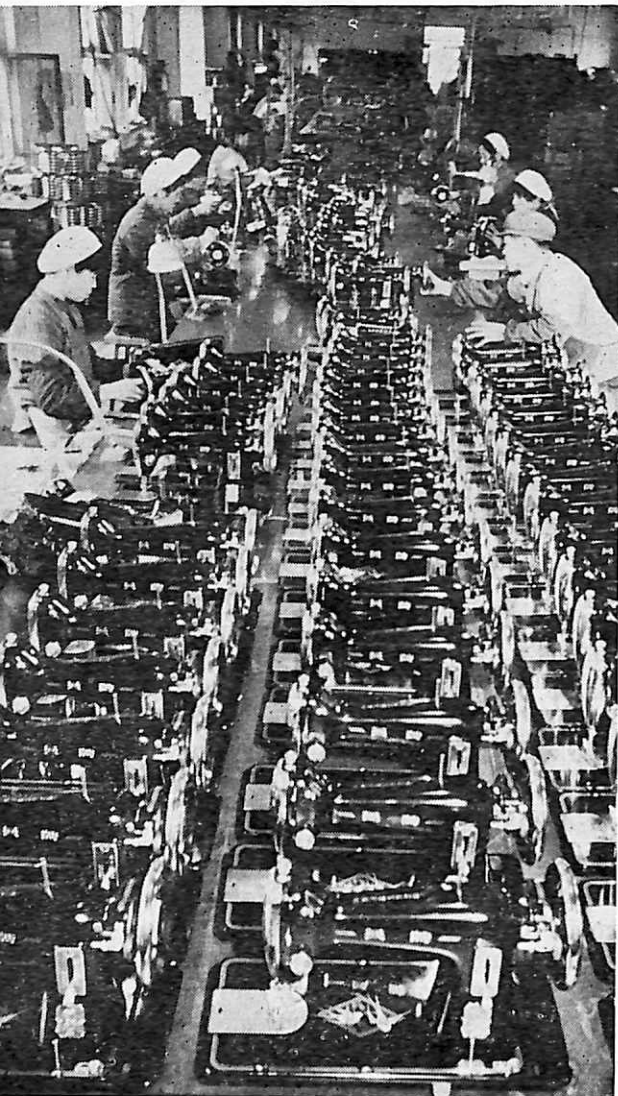
The quick growth of this plant is typical of the industrial development of Peking as a whole. Capital of a number of feudal dynasties, Peking was long known for its splendid palaces and other ancient architecture, its scenic spots and art crafts such as ivory and jade

carving and cloisonné. But under neither feudalism nor bureaucrat-capitalism and imperialism could it manufacture its own machines, chemicals, steel or cotton yarn. Most consumer goods were imported, or made in Tientsin and Shanghai. At the time of liberation in 1949 modern industry accounted for only 20 percent of the total value of the city's industrial and handicraft production. The majority of these were small factories operating on outdated technology. Only a few had more than 100 workers. Old Peking was a typical consumer city.

From Consumer to Producer

On the eve of liberation Chairman Mao said, **"Only when production in the cities is restored and developed, when consumer cities are transformed into producer**

Assembly shop at the Peking Sewing Machine Factory.



cities, can the people's political power be consolidated." He called for socialist industrialization. Immediately after liberation the working class and other people of the capital began work on this task, with leadership from Chairman Mao and the Communist Party.

Following a period of economic rehabilitation, the foundation for Peking's industrialization was laid with construction done during the First Five-Year Plan (1953-57). In 1958, inspired by the Party's General Line for Socialist Construction to "go all out, aim high and achieve greater, faster, better and more economical results in building socialism", the working class and the masses of the people achieved a big leap forward in industry and agriculture. Peking constructed a number of backbone enterprises. In the machine building industry, modern factories were set up or enlarged to manufacture steam turbines, electric motors, optical instruments, electronic instruments and meters, telecommunications apparatus, machine tools and boilers. In the metallurgical field, there were the new Peking Steel Works, the Special Steel Works and a steel plant for the Shihchingshan Iron and Steel Company as well as a number of small plants making iron and steel. In chemicals emphasis was laid on production of such basics as caustic soda, carbide and synthetic ammonia.

The proletarian cultural revolution further propelled the development of the social productive forces. In the last few years marked increases were made in Peking's production of iron ore, steel, machine tools, electric generators, diesel and gasoline engines, motor vehicles, radio and semiconductor components, medicine, paper, cotton yarn and fabrics, woollen goods and other consumer products. Quality and labor productivity, too, rose. Efforts toward greater variety of light industrial products resulted in more than 300 new items in the past year, including goat-hair polyester blend and ultra-high-pressure xenon lamps. The capital's total value of industrial output for 1971 was 2.6

times that for 1965, the year before the cultural revolution, and 93 times that for 1949.

Today, after 20 years of construction, Peking is a producer city with factories and mines on its eastern, southern and western outskirts producing steel, coal, power, machinery, instruments, chemicals, textiles and other light industrial goods.

Self-Reliance

These achievements are the result of carrying out Chairman Mao's revolutionary line in industry. Specifically, it means the policies of **"maintaining independence and keeping the initiative in our own hands and relying on our own efforts"**, making steel the key link in industrial development, and simultaneously developing small, medium and large enterprises.

"Maintaining independence and keeping the initiative in our own hands and relying on our own efforts" means carrying out socialist production and construction by relying chiefly on the initiative and creativity of the working class and the broad masses of the people. In actual practice it means following a line which Chairman Mao has always advocated, that of "having faith in the masses and relying on them" and "freely arousing the masses and launching mass movements in a big way". Liu Shao-chi tried in every way to sabotage the following of this line. During the cultural revolution workers in industry criticized and repudiated Liu's revisionist line and went on to make greater progress.

A model of self-reliance and hard work is the construction, entirely by China's own efforts, of the Peking General Petrochemical Plant. The plant's first-stage construction — three major refining installations processing 2,500,000 tons of crude oil annually — took less than a year. This was possible because more than a hundred construction units and factories in the city worked in close cooperation, and because they got help from several hundred more factories in different parts of the country. Now the plant

has completed 15 refining and chemical installations turning out gasoline, kerosene, diesel oil, lubricants, synthetic rubber, polystyrene and acetone.*

Broadly-based movements for technical innovation throughout the city in the last three years have yielded 50,000 innovations, proof that when Chairman Mao's revolutionary line is followed the worker masses are able to translate their strength and wisdom into fruitful results.

The No. 1 Machine Tool Plant is a modern enterprise built up during the First Five-Year Plan, turning out 2,400 milling machines a year. Before the cultural revolution, under the influence of Liu Shao-chi's revisionist line, the factory was run by a small number of specialists and management personnel and little attention was paid to bringing the workers' initiative into play. For a long time production fell short of the designed capacity.

In 1969 innovations by ordinary workers enabled the plant's output to exceed designed capacity for the first time. The workers went right on to propose an over-all technical reform aimed to double output. The plant's revolutionary committee backed the proposal and innovation groups composed of workers, leaders and technicians were formed in all shops and sections.

In the past two years the workers, while continuing to rebuild existing equipment, made more special-purpose equipment and extended the use of improved cutting tools and techniques of high-speed cutting. They also began milling many faces or drilling many holes in a single operation, and widely adopted such technologies as powder metallurgy and precision casting. The result — productive capacity in the major shops doubled, tripled or increased several-fold. Output of milling machines shot up to more than 5,000 for 1970 and 6,200 for 1971.

Peking's machine-building industry as a whole made rapid prog-

ress. Production of machine tools for 1971 was 4 times that for 1965, the year before the cultural revolution, and many of these were large, high-precision products. New items turned out for the first time during the cultural revolution include large mining equipment, rolling mills for processing medium steel plate, large forging equipment, large thermo-electric generating equipment and motor vehicles.

Steel

Chairman Mao said that steel should be the key link in industrialization, as it is the basis for the expansion of all other industries. Working in line with this policy, Peking has now set up a number of enterprises covering operations from mining to rolling. It has also developed a nonferrous metals industry.

Peking's steel industry has had its ups and downs. Before the cultural revolution Liu Shao-chi and his agents in this field concentrated only on erecting blast and steel furnaces. Though iron resources were available nearby, they did little about mines because, taking longer to build and to go into operation, these would take longer to bring a return on investment — that is, bring profits. Therefore the steel industry did not develop as fast as it should have. During the cultural revolution the capital's metallurgical workers rejected this revisionist line and shifted the emphasis to mine construction in order to guarantee the supply of raw material.

Because of this lack of emphasis on mine construction, the Capital Iron and Steel Company, formerly known as the Shihchingshan Iron and Steel Company, had to get its ore from distant provinces, both when it produced only iron before 1958, and even after expansion with a steel plant and rolling mill in that year. In 1969, with help from other units, the company began construction of its own mine and ore dressing plant. With these, which went into operation last year, and a number of smaller mines nearby, also opened in 1971, the company has begun to

supply itself with both raw and finished ore. As a result, its 1971 production of pig iron, steel and rolled steel registered record highs. Capital Steel is today among China's important steel producers.

Neighborhood Industry

Proceeding from the actual situation in China, Chairman Mao worked out a series of policies around the idea of "walking on two legs" — simultaneous development of small and medium as well as large enterprises, simultaneous development of both national and local enterprises and simultaneous use of modern and improvised methods of production.

By acting on these policies, the Peking industrial departments brought the masses' initiative into full play and accelerated socialist industrialization.

An important result are the hundreds of small factories run by city neighborhoods and the county- or commune-run enterprises on the outskirts. Though small and lacking in modern equipment, these factories play a vital role in producing parts for the big factories and manufacture consumer goods and even some products for export.

The city neighborhood industries were started by housewives in the big leap forward of 1958. At first doing only things like sewing, weaving, embroidering, pasting cardboard boxes and binding books, these factories are now turning out farm machinery, chemical fertilizers, cement, chemicals, radio and semiconductor components, electro-mechanical apparatus and processed rare metals.

The Tachailu Medical Instrument Factory began as a shop making water buckets and later moved on to manufacture blood-pressure gauges. Last year its workers built 18 pieces of equipment and went into the production of miniature bearings.

With the growth of neighborhood industry, almost all of Peking's residents who have the ability to work are enabled to participate in productive labor and contribute to the building of socialism.

*For the story of the petrochemical plant see *China Reconstructs* No. 3, 1972.

Lesson 4

在饭馆

Zài Fànguǎn

In a Restaurant

A: 这儿有人吗?
Zhèr yǒu rén ma?
Here is someone?

B: 这儿的客人已经吃完了。请坐吧。
Zhèr de kèren yǐjīng chīwán le. Qǐng zuò ba.
Here guest already eating finished. Please sit.

A: 今天有什么菜? 请介绍几样好菜吧。
Jīntiān yǒu shénme cài? Qǐng jièshào jǐyàng hǎo cài ba.
Today have what dishes? Please recommend several kinds (of) good dishes.

B: 您喜欢吃鱼, 还是喜欢吃肉?
Nín xǐhuan chī yú, háishi xǐhuan chī ròu?
You like (to) eat fish, or like (to) eat meat?

今天有红烧鱼, 有肉片炒
Jīntiān yǒu hóngshāo yú, yǒu ròupiàn chǎo
Today have braised fish, have meat slices fried (with)

黄瓜, 还有炸大虾, 西红柿炒
huángguā, hái yǒu zhá dà xiā, xīhóngshì chǎo
cucumbers, also have fried big shrimp, tomatoes fried (with)

鸡蛋, ...
jīdàn, ...
eggs, ...

A: 听说你们这儿的米粉肉很好,
Tīngshuō nimen zhèr de mǐfēnròu hěn hǎo,
(I) hear tell you here rice-flour meat quite good,

有米粉肉吗?
yǒu mǐfēnròu ma?
have (you) rice-flour meat?

B: 有, 可是还没有蒸熟, 您得等一会儿。
Yǒu, kěshì hái méiyǒu zhēngshú, nín děi děng yíhuìr.
Have, but still has not steamed done, you must wait awhile.

A: 没关系, 我等一会儿吧。我要一个米粉肉, 一个肉片炒黄瓜, 一个
Méiguānxi, wǒ děng yíhuìr ba. Wǒ yào yíge mǐfēnròu, yíge ròupiàn chǎo huángguā, yíge
No matter, I wait awhile. I want one rice-flour meat, one meat slices fried (with) cucumbers, one

西红柿鸡蛋汤, 再要一杯啤酒。
xīhóngshì jīdàn tāng, zài yào yì bēi pījiǔ.
tomato (and) egg soup, also want one glass beer.

B: 您吃米饭, 还是吃馒头?
Nín chī mǐfàn, háishi chī mántou?
You eat rice, or eat steamed roll?

A: 我要一碗米饭, 一个馒头。一共
Wǒ yào yì wǎn mǐfàn, yíge mántou. Yìgòng
I want one bowl rice, one steamed roll. Altogether

多少钱?
duōshǎo qián?
how much money?

B: 一共一块一毛六。
Yìgòng yì kuài yì máo liù.
Altogether one yuan one jiao six.

Translation

- A: Is anyone sitting here?
B: The customer who was sitting here has already finished eating. Please sit down.
A: What do you have today? Please recommend some good dishes.
B: Would you like fish or meat? Today we have braised fish, sliced pork fried with cucumbers, fried prawns, and tomatoes fried with eggs...
A: I've heard your pork in rice flour is quite good, do you have any?
B: Yes, but it's not done yet, you'll have to wait awhile.
A: Never mind, I'll wait. I'll have pork in rice flour, sliced pork fried with cucumbers, egg and tomato soup, and a glass of beer.
B: Will you have rice or steamed rolls?
A: I'll have a bowl of rice and a steamed roll. How much altogether?
B: Altogether one yuan one jiao and six fen.

Notes

1. *The aspect particle le 了*. Putting 了 after a verb indicates the completion of the action. E.g.: Wǒ mǎi le yí jiàn dàyī 我买了一件大衣(I bought an overcoat); Zhèr de kèren yǐjīng chīwán le 这儿的客人已经吃完了(This customer has already finished eating).

The negative forms of such sentences are made by placing méi 没 or méiyǒu 没有 before the verb, in which case the aspect particle 了 must not be put after the verb. E.g.: Wǒ méi(yǒu) mǎi dàyī 我没(有)买大衣 (I have not bought an overcoat); Zhèr de kèren méi(yǒu) chīwán le 这儿的客人没(有)吃完 (The customer here has not finished eating).

2. *Complement of result*. An additional element following a verb or an adjective is called the "complement". A complement which tells the result of an action is called a complement of result. E.g.: the chī 吃 (eat) in 吃完 is an action, wán 完 (finish) a complement of result which expresses the result achieved by the action. The shù 熟 (done) in 蒸熟 is also a complement of result. Such verb-complement constructions showing result may be followed by an object or the aspect

particle 了. E.g.: **Wǒ chīwán fàn le** 我吃完饭了 (I have finished eating), where **fàn** 饭 (food) is the object. The negative form uses 没(有). E.g.: **Wǒ méiyǒu chīwán fàn** 我没有吃完饭 (I have not finished eating).

3. *Questions using...还是... Alternative questions are formed by using háishi 还是 (or) to join two possible answers. E.g.: Nín xǐhuan chī yú, háishi xǐhuan chī ròu?* 您喜欢吃鱼, 还是喜欢吃肉? (Would you like fish or meat?)

Exercise

Translate the following sentences into Chinese:

- I have bought fish, not meat.
- I have already finished eating.
- The steamed rolls are not done yet, you'll have to wait awhile. (Answers to exercise on p. 39)

Lesson 5

游览香山

Yóulǎn Xiāngshān

Excursion to Fragrant Hill

昨天 星期日, 天气很好。我和我
Zuótiān xīngqīrì, tiānqì hěn hǎo. Wǒ hé wǒ
Yesterday (was) Sunday, weather very good. I and my

爱人、孩子去 香山 公园 玩了一天。
àirén, háizi qù Xiāngshān Gōngyuán wánle yì tiān.
wife, child went Fragrant Hill Park (and) played a day.

上午九点(钟)我们吃完 早饭, 就
Shàngwǔ jiǔ diǎn (zhōng) wǒmen chīwán zǎofàn, jiù
Morning nine (o'clock) we finished eating breakfast, then

坐车 出发了。汽车 大约 走了 一个半
zuò chē chūfā le. Qìchē dàyuē zǒule yíge bàn
sit bus set out. Bus about went one (and a) half

小时, 到 公园 的时候 已经 十点 多(钟) 了。
xiǎoshí, dào gōngyuán de shíhòu yǐjīng shí diǎn duō (zhōng) le.
hours, arrive park time already ten more (o'clock).

这天, 游览的人 很多, 公园 门口
Zhè tiān, yóulǎn de rén hěn duō, gōngyuán ménkǒu
This day, sightseeing people very many, park gate

非常 热闹。
fēicháng rènao.
extraordinarily bustling.

我们 休息 了 一会儿, 就 开始 爬 山。
Wǒmen xiūxiē yíhuìr, jiù kāishǐ pá shān.
We rested awhile, then began (to) climb hill.

大约 十二点(钟) 到了 山顶。 秋天,
Dàyuē shíèr diǎn (zhōng) dào le shān dǐng. Qiūtiān,
About twelve (o'clock) arrived hill top. Autumn,

香山 的 树叶 都 红了, 风景 很好。
Xiāngshān de shù yè dōu hóng le, fēngjǐng hěn hǎo.
Fragrant Hill tree leaves all red, scenery very good.

我们 在 山上 玩 了 一个 多 小时, 还
Wǒmen zài shānshàng wánle yíge duō xiǎoshí, hái
We at hill on played one (and) more hours, also

照 了 很 多 相, 到 家 的 时候, 已经
zhào le hěn duō xiàng, dào jiā de shíhòu, yǐjīng
(took) very many pictures, arrive home time, already

五 点 多 了。
wǔ diǎn duō le.
five more.

Translation

Yesterday was Sunday and the weather was quite nice. My wife and child and I went to Hsiangshan Park to enjoy ourselves for the day.

We finished breakfast at nine a.m. and set out by bus. The bus ride took about an hour and a half, and when we got to the park it was already past ten. There were many sightseers that day and there was a great bustle at the gate.

We rested awhile and then began to climb the hill. We got to the top around twelve. In autumn the leaves on Hsiangshan are all red and the scenery is quite nice.

We spent over an hour on the hill, took many pictures and when we got home it was already past five.

Notes

1. *Examples of telling time in Chinese:*

- 1:00 — 一点(钟)
- 1:05 — 一点[guò 过 (past)] 五分
- 1:15 — 一点十五(分) or 一点一kè 刻(quarter)
- 1:30 — 一点三十(分) or 一点半
- 1:45 — 一点四十五(分) or 一点三刻, chà 差 (lack) 一刻 两点
- 1:50 — 一点五十(分) or 差十分 两点

2. *Time words as adverbs.* A time word used as an adverb may be put at the beginning of the sentence or before the word or phrase it qualifies. E.g.: **Shàngwǔ jiǔ diǎn (zhōng), wǒmen chīwán zǎofàn, jiù zuò chē chūfā le** 上午九点(钟), 我们吃完早饭, 就坐车出发了 (We finished breakfast at nine a.m. and set out by bus); **Wǒmen xiàwǔ wǔ diǎn (zhōng) huí dào jiā li** 我们下午五点(钟) 回到家里 (We got home at five).

3. *Time words as complements.* A time word may be placed after a verb to indicate the duration of the action. E.g.: **Qìchē dàyuē zǒule yíge bàn xiǎoshí** 汽车大约走了一个半小时 (The bus ride took about an hour and a half).

4. *The successive verb form.* The successive verb form is one way to use two successive verbs or verbal constructions with the same subject in a sentence. The characteristic of this form is that no conjunction or preposition is needed between the verbs. E.g.: **Shàngwǔ jiǔ diǎn (zhōng), wǒmen jiù zuò chē chūfā le** 上午九点(钟), 我们就坐车出发了 (We set out by bus at nine a.m.); **Wǒ hé wǒ àirén, háizi qù Xiāngshān Gōngyuán wánle yì tiān** 我和我爱人、孩子去香山公园玩了一天 (My wife and child and I went to Hsiangshan Park and enjoyed ourselves for the day).

5. *The structural particle de 的.* In Chinese an element qualifying a noun is placed before the noun it qualifies and the two are often connected by the structural particle 的. E.g.: **Xiāngshān de shù yè** 香山的树叶 (the leaves on Hsiangshan), where **Xiāngshān** 香山 is the element qualifying the noun. Also: **yóulǎn de rén** 游览的人 (sightseers); **zhèr de kèrén** 这儿的客人 (the customer here).

Exercises

I. Fill in the appropriate verbs in the following successive verb form sentences (去、玩、坐、出发、学习):

- 他们_____公园_____了一天。
- 上午八点半我们就_____车_____了。
- 谢文_____中国_____中文了。

II. Translate the following sentences into Chinese:

- We went to Hsiangshan Park yesterday.
- We eat breakfast at 7:30 a.m.
- We enjoyed ourselves in the park all day Sunday.

(Answers to exercises on p. 39)

Schoolchildren

Fight a 'Yellow Tiger'

CHENTUNG primary school is deep in the high mountain forests of Chungyi county, Kiangsi province. There used to be tigers and other beasts in the area, but after a road and a lumber camp brought the mountains to life, none had been seen for years.

At noon one day in June 1971, eight schoolchildren between the ages of seven and twelve were coming down a vine-festooned mountain path after looking at their experimental pumpkin plot on the slope. Suddenly ten-year-old Yu Hsiao-ying, who was in front, saw a "yellow tiger"* about four feet long from head to tip of tail crouched on a knoll beside the path, eyeing them, its fangs bared. Before she could get a good look, it pounced on her. Digging its sharp claws into her chest, the tiger opened its mouth to sink its fangs into her throat. She twisted her head to one side, avoiding its mouth.

*"Yellow tiger" is the local name for the golden cat, a kind of wildcat.

The children recall their fight with the yellow tiger.



At this point she could have pushed the beast off. Though it was too small to eat anybody, a bite from it could still be dangerous. She didn't want it to hurt the younger children behind her, so she grabbed it by the neck with all her strength.

The others rushed up. Chubby seven-year-old Yang Min-po circled around behind the animal, grabbed it by the tail and pulled hard. It jerked up for an instant, giving Yu Hsiao-ying a chance to shift her grip to the beast's lower jaw, which she pushed upward hard. Roaring through its teeth, it clawed her chest until blood seeped through her clothes.

Hsiao-ying didn't lose her head but kept a tight grip on the tiger's lower jaw. Her other companions hit it and kicked it. Struggling for its life, the tiger got its tail free and tried to bite her again. Fearless, she seized its neck with both hands. Sharp-eyed little Min-po grabbed its tail again, gave it a turn around his wrist and, bracing both feet against a rock, pulled the tiger off Hsiao-ying. She took advantage of this to press its head to the ground with all her might. Seven-year-old Yang Min-kan seized one of the beast's hind legs.

Pulling and pressing, they brought it to the ground, unable to fight back any more. Nine-year-old Yang Min-hsiang picked up a large rock and slammed it down on the tiger's back while other children grabbed branches and beat it furiously. The beast's roars and the shouts of the children — "Hit it! Hit it!" — echoed through the ravine. Finally it lay on the ground limp as a dishrag.

The eight children went skipping down the mountain shouting, "We killed a tiger!"

PEKING, symbol of the New China, crucible of the revolution, has been even more lively since the Great Proletarian Cultural Revolution. In this great struggle to defend the proletarian dictatorship and consolidate the socialist system, my thoughts and feelings, too, were tempered and my fighting will steeled. This storm has restored my revolutionary youth.

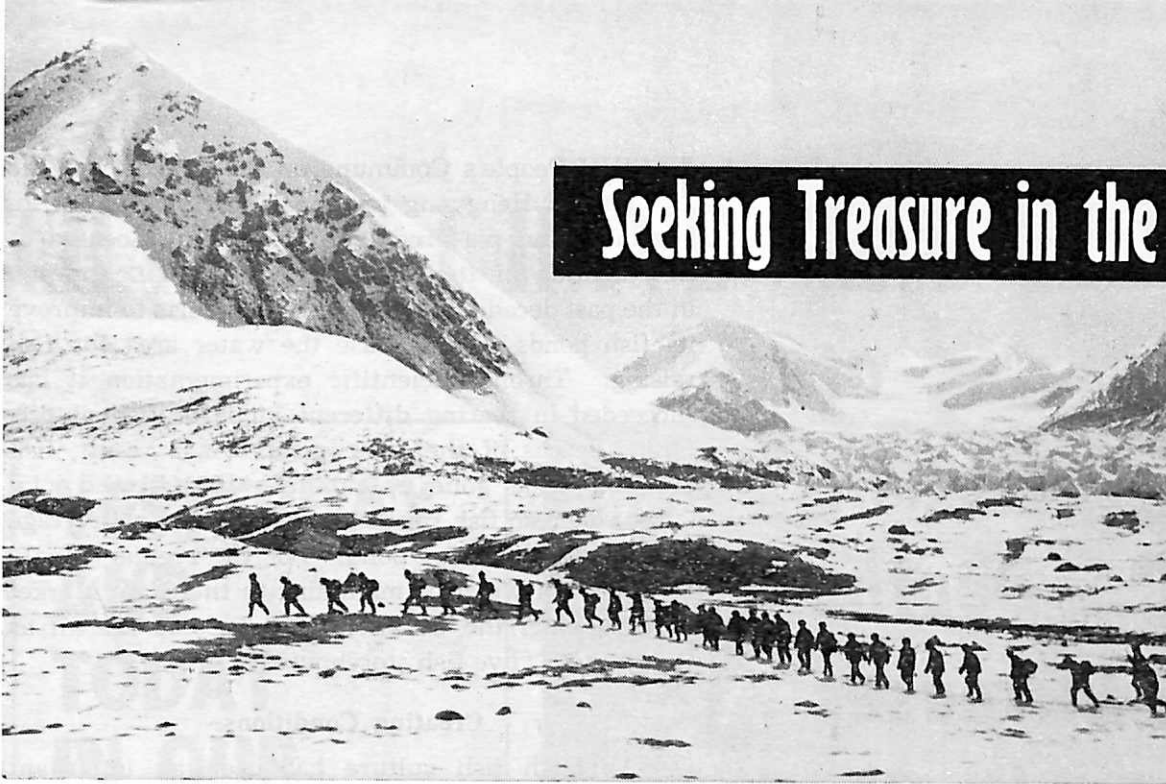
Often in the night I stand and look towards Tien An Men, and a thousand thoughts surge through me like waves of the sea. I think of Chairman Mao's teaching that we must serve the people wholly and entirely, that we should bend our backs to the task of revolution, and I am stirred to action. Like a young shoot nurtured by sunlight and rain, I feel a strength growing in me, pushing me to rise and go forward.

Propelled by this force, and with the encouragement and support of the Party organization, I am now writing a novel on the Chinese people's struggle for national liberation under the leadership of the Communist Party. Though I am not in good health, I gladly try my best. The martyrs who gave their lives in the revolutionary war are my inspiration; the wrongs of the old society and my hatred of them spur me on; the education and care given me by the Party and the people move me to write.

Seated before my desk facing the green hills in the quiet of Peking's western suburbs, I write of the revolutionary heroes that live in my mind's eye, and in this way try to add a stone to the structure which will be our socialist literature.

Peking made me hate the dark old society, Peking sent me off on the road of revolution, Peking welcomed our triumphant return. That Peking, like a loving mother, not only gave me birth and nurtured me, but gave timely treatment to my ideological ills, and now sustains me in a new political life. That is what I am trying to express when I say I love Peking.

Seeking Treasure in the Kunlun Mountains



The approach to the Kunlun Mountains.



A find of ore.

The Chinghai Province No. 15 Geological Prospecting Team surveying in rarefied air of the 6,000-meter-high Kunlun Mountains have discovered a number of important mineral deposits for socialist construction.

A meal, and advice from local Tibetans.

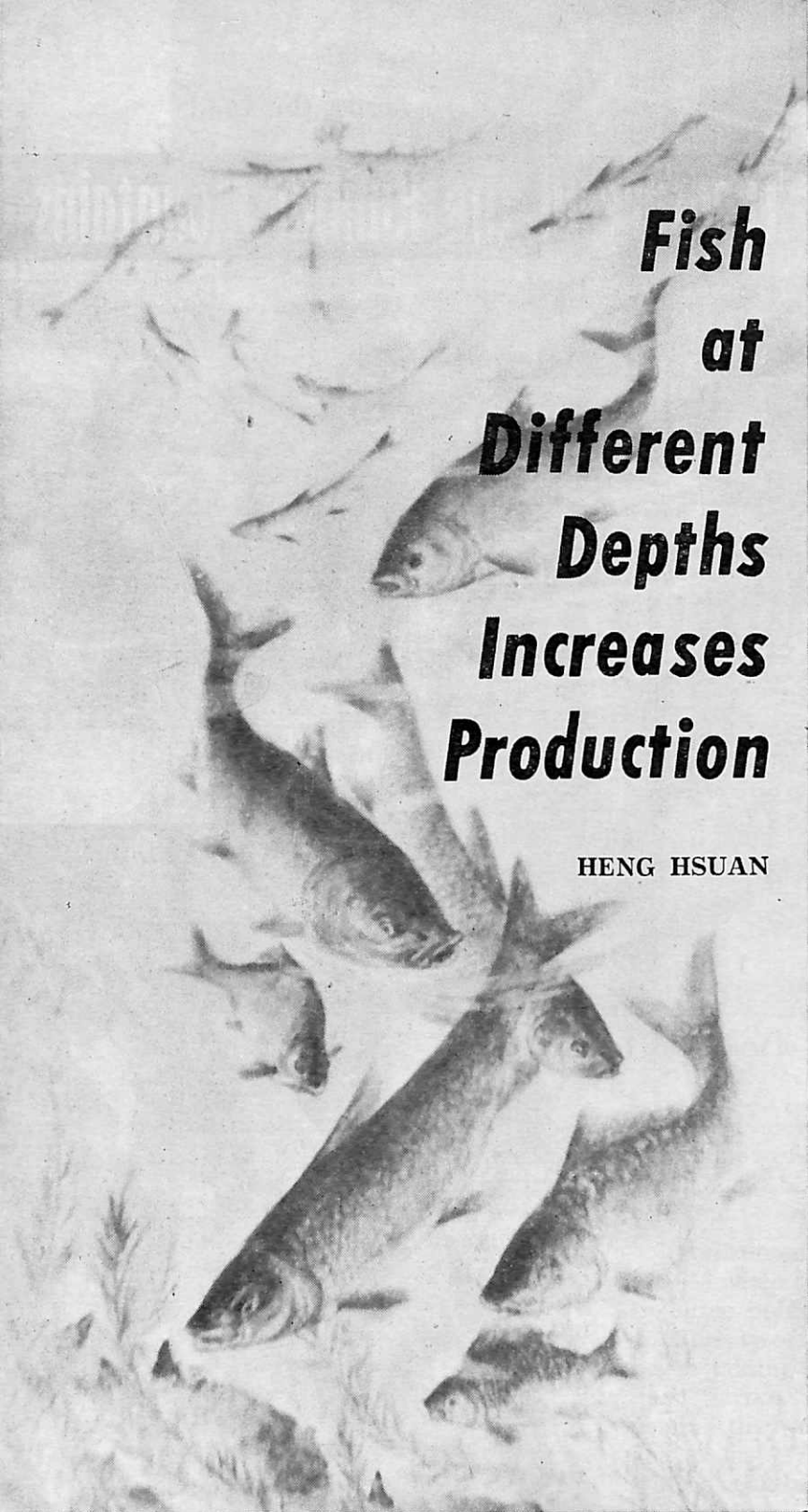


Plotting the survey.



Up a snow-covered cliff.





Fish at Different Depths Increases Production

HENG HSUAN

HSIHU People's Commune on the outskirts of the city of Hengyang in Hunan province is a fish, vegetable and pig-producing commune. Located at the junction of the Hsiang, Cheng and Lei rivers, in the past decade it has made great efforts to improve its fish ponds and increase the water area for fish raising. Through scientific experimentation it has succeeded in rearing different kinds of fish at different depths of the same pond. As a result, fish production has gone up rapidly. In 1971 the total output of fresh fish ran to 1.18 million *jin*, an average of 950 *jin* per *mu* of pond. For the regular supply of fresh fish which it maintains to the State Market in Hengyang, the commune has become known as the market's "live fish storehouse".

Creating Conditions

Although fish culture has been an important occupation in this area for a long time, before liberation production could not develop. In the time of the Kuomintang most of the fish ponds were controlled by the landlords. Less than a quarter of the water area was used for fish raising. The annual catch was only 36,800 *jin*, an average of 131 *jin* per *mu*. After liberation, peasants in the area tried to improve their method and wanted to rear fish at different depths. The small scale of individual economic production and lack of funds, however, made it impossible even to buy fry of the varieties needed, to say nothing of experimenting with raising them. In 1953 after Chairman Mao issued a call to develop the mutual-aid and cooperative movement, the peasants set up agricultural cooperatives one after another with great enthusiasm. The formation of people's communes in 1958 opened up still broader vistas for the development of fish production.

Taking advantage of the commune's ability to organize labor power within a broader scope, the people undertook large-scale capital construction. Small ponds became big ones; shallow ponds, deep ones; fresh water began to run through stagnant pools. Pits and low-lying areas were transformed into fish ponds. A former moat called the "Peihao" after many years of neglect was filled with sludge so that the fish in it often died. One winter, despite the severe cold, the commune members removed more than 400,000 buckets of sludge in two months. Output of fish in it rose to over one thousand *jin* per *mu*. A site called Yenwuping, once a garbage dump overgrown with brambles, through ten years of hard work is now a place of fish ponds, shady fruit trees, lush green vegetable plots and crisscrossing irrigation channels. As a result of carrying out Chairman Mao's policy of self-reliance and hard work, the commune's fish-breeding area has expanded from 300 *mu* to 1,225 *mu*.

Part of the pond area of the Hsihu commune.



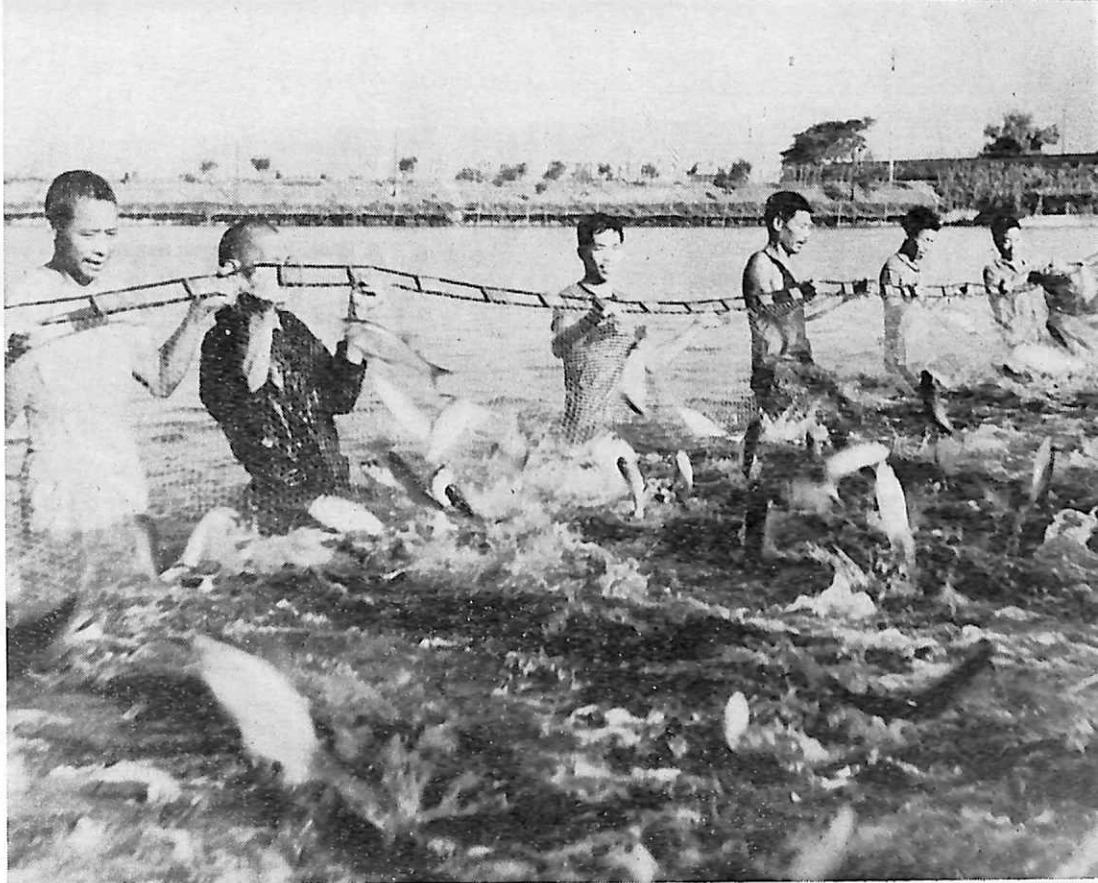
The commune members have undertaken a number of water conservation works to overcome waterlogging and drought and aid in developing fish production. In five years they have set up a total of 6,650 meters of flood-prevention dykes, and 25 kilometers of channels, as well as some pumping stations. These guarantee that 95 percent of the fish ponds can carry on production even in case of drought or excessive rain. The commune's Chiensheh brigade installed a pump with a 40-kilowatt electric motor on the bank of the river to send water up to a 30-mu pond in the mountains which, lacking sufficient water, formerly could not be used for fish.

Experiments Bring Results

The commune has organized its members to carry on experimentation with methods to further raise production and trained 120 of its people as technicians. Their first achievement, with the help of the provincial and municipal aquatic products departments, has been to produce their own fry through artificial methods of propagation.

With experience, the fish-breeders have come to understand the habits of the various species of fish, and this has enabled them to go in for raising a number of kinds of fish at different levels of one pond. The key to this, they say, is understanding the relationship between the different breeds of fish, and the relationship between the fish and the amount of water, the water temperature and available food.

Though various kinds of fish live in the same water, their habits are different. Some live near the surface, others at the middle or lower depths. Some thrive on algae, some on zooplankton, while still others feed on water plants or other food. In the course of repeated hauls of fish and re-stocking with fry, the fish breeders came to know which



Commune members haul in the net.

fish grew fastest, and increased the number of these within the limitations of the above factors.

Several kinds of fish in one pond actually benefit one another. For example, as active swimmers the Chinese ide stimulate the other fish to swim more vigorously, thus increasing their appetite. The Chinese ide lives on water plants, but does not eat them clean. The left-overs, dropping to the bottom of the pond, rot and consume the oxygen in the water. But it just so happens that carp and the *tiao-tzu* fish (*xenocytris aigengea*) like to eat this kind of left-over. Another example: Zooplankton which grow naturally in the water compete with the silver carp for their favorite food, algae, but the big-head fish, who eat zooplankton, reared in the same pond can keep the zooplankton down, leaving the algae for the silver carp.

Such combined utilization of food resources and full use of water space by raising different breeds at several levels greatly increased the commune's fish production.

The methods used at the Hsihu commune are now being introduced

in many areas, and the cadres and commune members are kept busy receiving a steady flow of visitors who come to learn from them.

1 jin = 0.5 kg. (or 1.1 lb.)
15 mu = 1 hectare (6 mu = 1 acre)

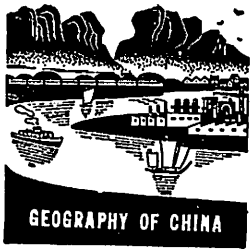
Answers to Language Corner Exercises:

Lesson 4

1. 我买了鱼,没有买肉。
2. 我已经吃完了。
3. 馒头还没有蒸熟,您得等一会儿。

Lesson 5

- I.
 1. 他们去公园玩了一天。
 2. 上午八点半我们就坐车出发了。
 3. 谢文去中国学习中文了。
- II.
 1. 昨天我们去香山公园了。
 2. 我们上午七点半吃早饭。
 3. 星期日我们在公园玩了一天。



VEGETATION

CHINA has almost 30,000 species of higher plants, almost every kind of vegetation that is found in the northern hemisphere. Owing to the varying degrees of influence of the ocean monsoons, as one travels from southeast to northwest, one passes through first the humid, then the semi-arid and finally the arid climate belts and three corresponding regions of vegetation: forest, grassland and desert. Cultivated fields account for only 11 percent of China's land area. Vast areas of natural vegetation remain, which can be opened up, utilized and transformed in accordance with local conditions.

Regions of Humid Forests

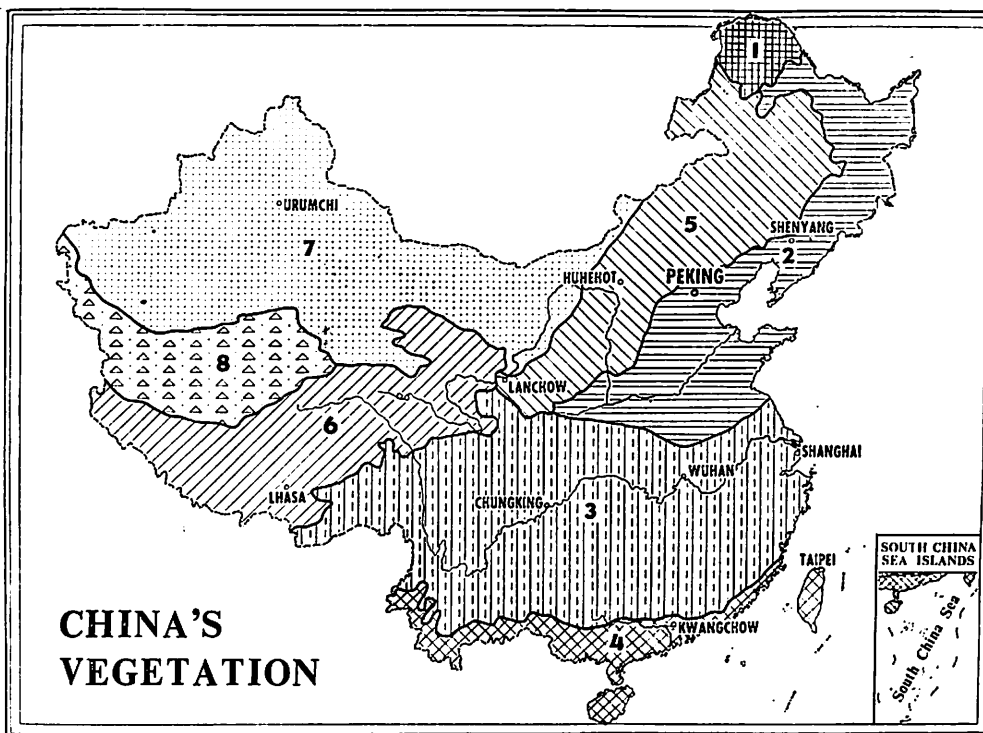
Within the various regions of this type are found cold-temperate, temperate, subtropical and tropical forest vegetation. In general, these are regions of very old civilization and they are densely populated, so the plains and low hills have be-

come farmland. Natural forests are preserved only in the mountains. These forests contain over 2,000 species of trees, of which the greater number are excellent timber.

Cold-temperate deciduous needle-leaf forest region: The thick needle-leaf forests distributed over the Greater Khingan Mountains in northernmost China give them the name "sea of trees". In addition to the light-loving larch, which is highly resistant to cold, the area also has such evergreen needle-leaf types as spruce and pine. These trees are particularly suited to the severe cold because the small area of their needle-leaves reduces water loss by transpiration to a very low level during the winter when water is unobtainable from the frozen soil. These are hardwood trees, excellent material for boats, carts, musical instruments and paper. This region is one of China's most important timber bases.

Temperate deciduous broadleaf forest region: The broadleaf trees in this area, sometimes called the summer-green forest area, grow thick foliage in summer and lose their leaves in winter. This region has many broadleaf forests similar to those in western Europe, north-east Asia, northern Japan, the Korean peninsula and eastern North America.

The mountains of northeast China are covered with mixed forests of elm, maple, linden, ash and birch, as well as the straight-trunked Korean pine. Some of the halls of the Imperial Palace in Peking are made from the strong wood of the latter. In the mountains of north China and on the Liaotung and Shantung peninsulas there are various kinds of oak forests and mixed forests of oak and Chinese pine. The native oaks were at one time economically important since their leaves provided food for silkworms which produced



LEGEND

HUMID FOREST REGIONS:

1. Cold-temperate deciduous needle-leaf forest region
2. Temperate deciduous broadleaf forest region
3. Subtropical evergreen broadleaf forest region
4. Tropical rain-forest region

SEMI-ARID GRASSLAND REGIONS:

5. Temperate grassland region
6. Alpine meadow-grassland region

ARID DESERT REGIONS:

7. Temperate desert region
8. Alpine desert region

the local "wild silk". This is China's main region for deciduous fruit trees. Apples, pears, peaches, dates, persimmons and grapes as well as walnuts and chestnuts are widely cultivated. The plains are given over to farming, and this is an important area for producing wheat, cotton and miscellaneous grain crops.

Subtropical evergreen broadleaf forest region: The vast subtropical region has a rich variety of vegetation. Szechuan province alone has almost 10,000 species of higher plants. Forests of trees of the oval-shaped-leaf type, green the year-round, are found on the hillsides and in the valleys of this region. Here are found the largest subtropical forests in the world at this latitude. Those parts of Africa, southwest Asia and Central America at the same latitude, having a dry climate, are mostly desert or grassland.

This region contains some species not now found in other parts of the world. Many plants which were widely distributed over the globe during the Cretaceous period (58 million years ago) are now almost non-existent as a result of the action of the glaciers of the Quaternary period. Parts of China's subtropical region, however, were not completely covered by the glaciers,



Forests in southern mountains.



Azaleas in the Omei Mountains in the southwest.

The Lesser Khingan Mountains in northeast China, an important source of timber.



Banana harvest in Kwangtung province in the south.



and became "sanctuaries" for some plant forms from past geological eras.

One of these is the ginkgo tree. It was widely distributed over the earth during the Cretaceous period, but today only fossils of it are to be found in many parts of the world. This tree still flourishes in southwest China. The oldest ones date back about a thousand years. Its wood is used for carving, making blocks for printing and building. The seeds are edible and as an ingredient in cough medicine serves to loosen congestion in the chest. Its leaves are also used in medicine.

The metasequoia tree native to the Szechuan-Hupeh border is another remnant from the Cretaceous period. Very adaptable, it grows well in both north and south China, where it is now being planted.

The cathaya tree, growing widely over the globe during the Tertiary period (one million years ago), was discovered in the mountains of southern Szechuan and northern Kwangsi in 1957.

Various kinds of commercial forests also thrive in the subtropical region. Moso bamboo covers some mountains like a green sea. Planted to tea shrubs, many tracts of red soil which were wasteland before liberation have become luxuriant plantations. On some slopes are grown the tea oil tree, the seeds of which are pressed to provide one of the main edible oils in the south, tung-oil and lacquer trees, whose products make excellent wood finishes, and the tallow tree, whose seeds are used to make synthetic oils. China fir and horsetail pine, which provide timber for building, are distributed throughout this region. In recent years airplanes have been used to seed large areas to pine trees, a very effective method of afforestation.

The 4,000-meter-high mountains of western Szechuan province and southwest China, both located within this region, contain various types of forests. The shoots and leaves of a kind of wild bamboo growing in these mountains is the chief food of the Giant Panda, who

likes the cold-temperate climate there. The mountains of the southwest are indeed a big natural garden, with brightly colored azaleas, primroses and many varieties of camellia, including a large flaming red kind which has been famous since ancient times.

Agriculturally, this region is China's major rice-producing area.

Tropical rain-forest region: Precipitation is 1,200 to 2,200 mm. annually in the southern parts of Kwangtung, Fukien, Taiwan and Yunnan provinces and the Kwangsi Chuang Autonomous Region, in southernmost China. In well-sheltered valleys one can find thick evergreen broadleaf rain-forests with a wide variety of trees of different heights, some up to 40 meters. The massive trunks are supported by buttress-like roots taller than a man and entwined with thick vines. Lovely ferns and brilliant orchids flourish on some of the trees.

In the tropical bays one can find "ocean forests" of red-wooded mangroves growing out of the water. Some species throw out a tangle of prop roots in the shape of arches from their base which enable them to stand up to strong wind and waves. Other species have air-roots which project above the mud and through tiny holes supply the submerged roots with air. A number of them produce viviparous seeds which germinate while still attached to the tree, so that when they drop they readily take root in the shifting mud.

In this region one can also find evergreen orchards of tropical fruits, the banana, lichee, longan, mango and betel palm, as well as plantations of industrial crops such as rubber, coconut, coffee, cacao, pepper and oil palm. There are also fields of pineapple, sugar cane and sisal hemp. The provinces of Kwangtung and Taiwan are big producers of sugar cane and camphor. Taiwan is the world's largest producer of camphor.

Regions of Semi-arid Grassland

Temperate grassland region: With a semi-arid climate, the plains

of China's northeast and the eastern portion of the Inner Mongolian plateau are a vast prairie covered mainly with perennial grasses. These grasses have long, thin blades which are woolly and curl toward the midrib, which helps prevent excessive loss of moisture. Some plants on the grasslands have deep roots to take up moisture far down in the soil. This area's goat grass and leguminous forage plants are quite high in nutritional value, making it China's main livestock-raising region.

In the warm and hot seasons, when the grass is green and a variety of flowers are in bloom the grasslands look like a multi-colored carpet. The main domestic animals here are sheep, cattle and horses. The cattle and horses from Sanho in the Hulunbuir region are fine breeds famous throughout the country.

A number of places in this region have been turned into agricultural areas. Many state farms which go in for both crop-raising and stock breeding have been established on the great grasslands of the northeast. Their main crops are soya beans, sorghum and sugar beets.

Irrigation from the Yellow River has turned the Hotao area at the top of its Great Bend in Inner Mongolia and Ningsia into a granary north of the Great Wall. On this densely-populated part of the loess plateau, over the past thousand years most of the grasslands have been turned into farmland.

Alpine meadow-grassland region: The east-central and southern portions of the Chinghai-Tibet plateau are 4,000 meters above sea level, and have no summer. The melting of glaciers produces many marshes and lakes, and meadows with lush grass and lovely flowers. The sunny slopes of the mountains provide ample grazing grounds. Yaks, Tibetan goats and sheep are the main domestic animals there. The valleys of the plateau grow such cold-resistant crops as turnips and spring barley. Since liberation buckwheat, winter barley and winter wheat have been successfully raised in some places.

Regions of Arid Desert

Temperate desert region: Sinkiang, Kansu and the Tsaidam Basin in Chinghai province are in the temperate zone. The sandy deserts and areas of gravelly gobi there contain a poor variety of plants. The growth is sparse and there are stretches where there is no vegetation at all.

Among the few plants that grow in the sandy deserts of this region are saxaul shrubs, which can be used as fuel and building material, wormwood which holds the sand in place, and sparsely-scattered tamarisk. On the gobi patches there are ephedra and calligonum. All the above-mentioned except the latter make excellent camel fodder. The leaves of some of these plants are vestigial, their function having been taken over by green branches.

The Hulunbuir grasslands in the northeast.



Trees on the edge of the Taklamakan desert, Sinkiang.

This reduces transpiration. Some have roots over ten meters long for absorbing deep-down moisture. In those desert places where underground water is near the surface, Euphrates poplars are found. This species has two different kinds of leaves growing on the same tree, one shaped like those of the poplar

and the other like those of the willow. Both make excellent fodder for camels and goats. This tree is the main source of timber in the desert.

The vast grasslands and meadows on the lower slopes of the high mountains are good grazing grounds. There are timber forests on the upper slopes. The melting of the perpetual ice and snow on the peaks irrigates the oases in the deserts below. They are where China's best long-staple cotton is grown. The basins in this region specialize in raising fruit such as grapes, watermelons and Hami melons. Because of the strong sunlight and the great difference in day and night temperatures—favorable for concentrating sugar—the fruits are extraordinarily sweet.

Alpine desert region: The northwest corner of Tibet, standing at 5,000 meters above sea level, has even sparser vegetation and of fewer varieties. Only short, small shrubs are found here. Some of these are creepers, others are cushion plants, forms adapted to resisting wind and cold and preserving moisture. The melting snow on the peaks forms beautiful blue lakes. Some of the lake shores and riverbanks are rimmed with a growth of the shrub *Myriearia*, closely allied to the tamarisk and sometimes called the false tamarisk, which is resistant to cold and drought. In summer its green leaves and red flowers against the white snow-topped mountains and blue of the lakes is one of the outstandingly beautiful sights of the north Tibet plateau.



People's Well-being

Your Party and government are leading your people in building socialism. They are taking care of the life of the masses. They concentrate the efforts of the masses to ensure the stability of the people's life and raise their living standard and morale. As Chairman Mao has pointed out, "We pay close attention to the well-being of the masses, from the problems of land and labor to those of fuel, rice, cooking oil and salt. . . . All such problems concerning the well-being of the masses should be placed on our agenda." I have seen the way the People's Government has continually applied the teachings of Chairman Mao since the founding of the New China in 1949.

A.A.K.H.

Wasut, Iraq

Preventing Pollution

I am impressed to know how the industrial waste water serves agriculture. Many times this problem of water pollution and

also of air pollution have been discussed in my club, and of course, these problems are a danger to health. But it is really encouraging that there is a clue to one of the problems.

M.B.

St. André, Mauritius

Learn from the Heroes

One of the best things I read in your magazine was written by Comrade Chih Tung Tsun-yi, his memoirs of the national hero Tung Tsun-jui. His life was one of unyielding and firm resistance and sacrifice. On reading the life of this hero my eyes were filled with tears, and a strong feeling for that hero who gave his life for his homeland flowed over me.

If every one of us Arabs has that firmness, courage and love for his homeland, no exploiter will exist any more in our home.

T.A.A.T.

Aden, People's Democratic Republic of Yemen

In the story of the fighter Chi Hung-chang, who sacrificed himself for the resistance against the detestable imperialism, I was impressed by what he said when he saw his wife worrying painfully about him. He said, "Don't be sad. Every man has to die. . . . But a soldier should die on the battlefield fighting the Japanese invaders." His words are filled with meaning. They are a great example for

the soldier faced with difficulties on the battlefield, and give him patience to endure hardships and not be afraid of death which is inevitable. It is heroic for a man to die for the sake of his homeland.

Z.K.

Algiers, Algeria

New Relations

Through reading your articles, we have come to see that in China, all social and national wealth belong to the working people, to the workers and peasants and intellectuals. A radical transformation, both economic and political, seems to have given rise to completely new relations between individuals, and between the citizens and the state.

S.G.V.

Santiago, Chile

Unity and Mutual Support

In the past 23 years the Chinese Communist Party, the Party whose deeds are the same as their words, has led the Chinese people in building the people's socialist republic. The Chinese people also are fighting shoulder to shoulder with the peoples of the world who support each other in their heroic endeavor to achieve peace and prosperity.

A.A.A.

People's Democratic Republic of Yemen



FOUR more regular stamps featuring historic sites of the Chinese revolution have been issued by the Ministry of Communications of the People's Republic of China, following on seven stamps on the same theme issued in September 1971. (See *China Reconstructs* April 1972.)

Stamp 1, 4 fen, the cave in the Date Garden at Yen'an where Chairman Mao lived from 1943 to 1946. Yellow-brown, light yellow, deep bluish green and grey.

Stamp 2, 20 fen, bird's-eye view of Yen'an with Pagoda Hill in the distance

and the Yenho River Bridge in the foreground. Yen'an was the center of the north Shensi province revolutionary base from which, between 1936 and 1948, Chairman Mao led the Chinese people in waging the War of Resistance Against Japanese Aggression and the War of Liberation. Green, deep bluish green, light blue, yellow and red.

The above two stamps were issued on December 20, 1971. The following two were issued on March 25, 1972:

Stamp 3, 1 fen, site of the First National Congress of the Chinese Communist Party held on July 1, 1921 in Shanghai. Orange-red, yellow, chocolate and grey-blue.

Stamp 4, 8 fen, Tien An Men Gate in Peking where Chairman Mao solemnly proclaimed the founding of the People's Republic of China on October 1, 1949. Vermilion, rose-red, orange, blue and light yellow.

All the stamps are photogravured and measure 26 × 31 mm. Perf. 11½.





