

PEKING REVIEW

16

April 21, 1961

MAN ENTERS SPACE

China acclaims epoch-making Soviet manned space flight (p. 5).

Stop U.S. Aggression Against Cuba!

650 million Chinese people pledge all-out support for Cuba's fight against Yankee imperialism (p. 8).

26th World Table Tennis Championships — A Great Success

Final results and other news (p. 14).

Young Reclaimers of Virgin Soil

Young city-bred pioneers transform the Great Northern Waste (p. 18).

Folk Art, Cinema and Other Features

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A WEEKLY MAGAZINE OF CHINESE NEWS AND VIEWS

SON OF THE WORKING CLASS

The autobiography of Wu Yun-to, one of New China's best-loved heroes of labour. Wu was a coalminer. He grew up in the maelstrom of struggle against the Japanese invaders and the reactionaries who were betraying the country. Whether organizing a strike, making rifles with home-made tools, getting explosives for the people's army by rifling enemy timebombs, or convalescing from his third wound, he never stopped working for the revolution.

The significance of this book is not so much that it is the story of a single hero — though Wu never indulges in heroics — as that it was because there were countless Wu Yun-tos — simple men of heroic mould — that the Chinese people won through to victory.

226 pp.

Illustrated

Taming the Dragon and the Tiger

By Tuan Cheng-pin and Tu Shih-tsun

The year 1958 was an uncommon one in China's history. To change the poverty and cultural backwardness of their country, the Chinese people, under the guiding light of the Party's general line for socialist construction, launched a big leap forward on various industrial and agricultural fronts, and scored brilliant successes. This play presents the inspiring story of how the peasants in a certain hilly region, in order to support the drive for steel production in the big leap, display soaring enthusiasm and great heroism in building a bridge to aid the transportation of ores. Around the central theme of bridge building, the conflict between advanced and conservative ideas, the overcoming of conservative ideas and the subsequent big leap in the engineering project are unfolded.

Marked by a fresh rhythm and strongly national in character, this play gives a grand, lively picture of China's big leap forward of 1958 in the building of socialism in the countryside.

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北京周報

(BEIJING ZHOUBAO)

A WEEKLY MAGAZINE OF CHINESE
NEWS AND VIEWS

April 21, 1961 Vol. IV No. 16

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ROUND THE WEEK

See, Hear, Ask and Think

"He who makes no investigation has no right to speak." This famous saying of Chairman Mao Tse-tung drives home the point that a good, down-to-earth style of work, the style of work of Marxist revolutionaries, must be based on an adequate study and full knowledge of objective realities. In the twenty years since these words were spoken it has been one of the guiding principles of the working style of Chinese Communist Party members and revolutionary cadres.

Through the years of revolutionary struggle and peaceful construction, getting down to the facts has become a settled tradition with cadres in every field of work. We find leading cadres stepping out of their offices regularly to work alongside the rank and file in the workshops and mines, with the farmers in the fields and soldiers in their companies, to discover and look into problems and help solve them. This keeps the work going steadily forward.

This traditional style of work has recently found new forms of expression in the nation's industrial enterprises. Managerial staffs in an increasing number of factories are sending out representatives to get customers' opinions about their products. Users' comments and suggestions are then analysed and products improved accordingly. The Loyang Tractor Works' management, for example, keeps in constant touch with state farms and people's communes using its Dongfanghong tractors and regularly solicits their views on how to improve its tractor models. Dongfanghong's increasing popularity with farmers is understandable.

Renmin Ribao last week made special mention of the business-like style of work of the Shanghai Petroleum Machinery Works' managerial staff. The drills which this plant first began to make in 1956 did not have a particularly high efficiency rating. When this question was discussed at the works, some naturally said that more needed to be learnt about drill-making in other countries. The Party committee and the majority of the workers and staff members, however,

were of the opinion that while this was necessary it was just as important to get the views of those who were actually using their products, the workers in the oilfields, since geological conditions in China are not quite the same as those in other countries, and the demands on a drill likewise vary. With general approval, the management sent special fact-finding teams to the Yumen oilfields to collect ideas on the spot from the oil workers.

Down in Yumen, these teams, composed of administrative personnel, technicians and workers, lived and worked with the workers "to see, hear, ask and think"—meaning to see for themselves how their drills actually worked, to hear what the workers had to say about their products, to ask them personally how they would like the drills to be made, and to think out how improvements should be made. They also made a scientific check-up on the performance of their drills in the field and a special study of damaged specimens. In 1959 alone team members inspected several hundred damaged drills at the Yumen oil derricks, analysed the causes of damage and how to guard against similar accidents. Over the past five years this Shanghai plant's fact-finding teams have frequently toured the oil centres in Yumen, Karamai, Tsaidam and other places as well as mines in many parts of the country. As a result of their research and continued improvements in the drills made, their efficiency has been greatly improved. In 1956 the Shanghai Petroleum Machinery Works produced only six kinds of drills, today it is turning out no less than 52 kinds of drills and their quality is known from coast to coast.

Tree Time

The beauty of the trees recently turned green at the first touch of spring has reminded everyone that tree-planting time is here again. In many parts of the country, especially in the south where the weather is warmer, people's commune members, students, soldiers and others can be seen with spade in one hand and bucket in the other planting trees by the thousands on hills and along the river banks and roadsides.



Kweilin Karst Scenery

Sketch by Yeh Chien-yu

Afforestation, now an annual national activity, is in full swing in Shansi, Honan, Hupeh, Hunan, Kiangsi, Kiangsu and other provinces. Hupeh, in central China, has already planted young trees on 2.4 million *mu*. In neighbouring Kiangsi, 1.8 million *mu* have been covered. And in Honan trees planted by roadsides, on river banks and around houses and villages add up to more than 100 million.

This year people are paying great attention not only to planting new trees but also to the care of the young forests which have already attained a considerable growth. Species of new trees planted are selected on the basis of local needs and conditions. In Honan, for instance, those which yield oil, timber and fuel are favoured. In Hunan, among the most popular are chestnut and persimmon. Near coalmining areas trees whose wood makes good props for the mines are receiving priority.

Probing the Limestone Lands

The famous "stone forest" in eastern Yunnan has long amazed travellers with its towering pillars of rock rising sheer from the plain. Of similar geological formation, the uniquely picturesque hills of Kweilin contain many interesting caves. The remarkable Seven Star Cave is a series of enchanting grottoes containing eroded rocks like so many hundreds of life-like figures. People marvel at the intricate handiwork of nature. These unusual sights which so much attract laymen are known scientifically as karst formations — limestone lands

sculptured and tunnelled by centuries of erosion. The study of this geological phenomenon is a specialized science.

Recently at Nanning, capital of the Kwangsi Chuang Autonomous Region where there are many karst areas, Chinese scientists gathered to review their work in this field and chart the course of their future study. This national conference, the first of its kind in China, was called by the Chinese Academy of Sciences.

Since liberation, the study of karst conditions in China has made a big headway. Large-scale construction work has greatly enriched our knowledge of karst formations. The building of big water conservancy projects, railway lines and bridges, for instance, has provided scientists with ample material for karst research. The material they have collected, on the other hand, has been of great use in planning and executing other engineering projects in karst areas. On the basis of their own practical work the peasants have also accumulated rich experience since 1958 in building many small and medium-sized irrigation works in karst areas. They have done particularly interesting work in preventing seepage, a major ill suffered by such areas. Many observation posts set up jointly by scientists and peasants have helped to gather valuable information regarding underground water sources in which, naturally, these areas are rich. It was such subjects as these that the scientists discussed at the Nanning conference.

Like other scientific work in China today, study of karst formations is also

closely geared to serve production. The conference drew the attention of researchers to the need for a further study of the distribution of karst areas in the country and the major importance of finding water sources for agricultural use in these areas. This will be immensely facilitated by the knowledge now made available through the conference.

Urban Communes' Big Role

The latest scorecard from the nation's urban people's communes shows encouraging advances. They are consolidating their general position and their industries grow apace. One of the most notable facts is that their factories and workshops are playing an increasingly important role in the production of articles of daily use. Since last autumn there has been a marked rise in both the output and quality of these products. Today commune-run industry in the cities is producing between 50 to 70 per cent of the national output of many of these small articles.

Thousands of small things, ranging from kitchen utensils, knives, scissors and toys to hairpins are daily necessities needed in millions of homes. With the general rise of the people's standards of living, retail sales of consumer goods rose by more than one-third last year compared with 1957. Sales of such small articles went up by 66 per cent.

Commune-run industry in Tientsin, north China's major port city, is making more than 1,300 kinds of small articles, nearly three times as many as in 1959. In the northeast, Shenyang's city communes last year doubled their output value of articles of daily use.

This is no small achievement considering that most of the factories and workshops in urban people's communes were set up only a little more than a year ago. The workers, mostly housewives newly emancipated from household drudgery and in their first factory jobs, not only quickly mastered the technical skills needed to make these commodities but were soon introducing technical innovations and machines to do or speed up a great deal of their work. As a result, the level of mechanization and semi-mechanization in these fledgeling factories has risen rapidly. In Shenyang, for instance, within a single year, it jumped from 20 per cent to over 50 per cent.

A New Era of Man's Entry into Space Has Begun!

Following is a translation of "Renmin Ribao's" editorial of April 13. Subheads are ours. — Ed.

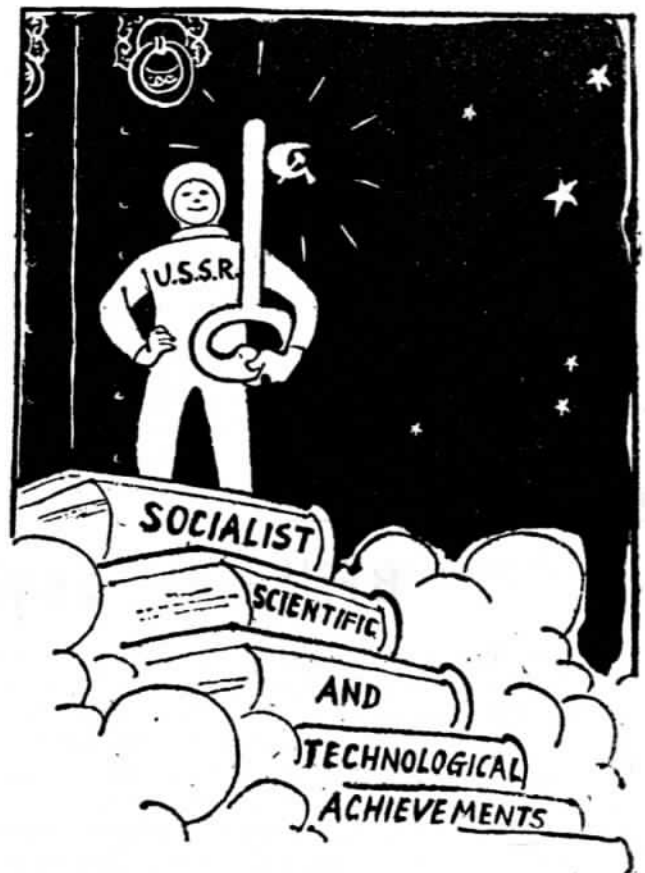
ON April 12, 1961, Major Yuri Alekseyevich Gagarin, the Soviet navigator aboard the spaceship *Vostok* (The East), made a successful flight to the skies, travelling in outer space at a distance from the earth ranging from 175 to 302 kilometres, and successfully returned to earth. This is a grand and happy event in the history of man's conquest of nature. This makes the spring of 1961 an unusual spring. A new era of man's entry into space has begun! This is a tremendous contribution of the Soviet people to human progress and world peace. The Chinese people enthusiastically hail this great and brilliant achievement of their Soviet brothers; with immense elation and joy, they extend their fraternal congratulations to the great Soviet people, the outstanding Soviet scientists and the brave Major Gagarin.

A Long-Cherished Dream Comes True

For centuries past, mankind has longed to explore the boundless expanse of the cosmos. As one scans the blue sky in the daytime and watches the glittering stars and the Milky Way at night, many beautiful images flash through one's mind. The fairy tale of Chang Ngo's flight to the moon is a reflection of the ancient Chinese people's dream of travelling to outer space. But in the past the cosmos was a mystery. The development of science has added a great deal to man's knowledge of the cosmos but even up till now he possesses little real knowledge of the numerous celestial bodies. The launching of the first artificial earth satellite by the Soviet Union in October 1957 blazed the trail for man's exploration of space. Since then the Soviet Union has obtained a large amount of valuable data about cosmic space as a result of its successive launchings of earth satellites, and space rockets and spaceships. In a short span of three and a half years, it has enabled mankind to make a successful trip into space, and thereby written a new chapter in man's conquest of space. The amazing speed of advance of Soviet science and technology and its brilliant achievements cannot fail to fill the world's people with joy and exultation.

It is known that the solution of the problem of man's entry into space not only requires the successful launching of a heavy-type satellite equipped with the necessary conditions to support human life but a guarantee that the satellite can pass through the dense layers of the atmosphere and return safely to earth. The first satellite spaceship launched by the Soviet Union last May weighed 4,540 kilogrammes. This successfully solved the problem of launching a heavy-type satellite. The second satellite

spaceship solved the problem of a safe return to earth. Moreover, with its many experiments in sending animals into space, and its systematic study of the "overloads" produced during their entry into space and "weightlessness" during orbiting, the Soviet Union has made careful preparations for man's flight into space. That is why the spaceship *Vostok* and its passenger, Major Gagarin, could make a precisely determined flight in orbit according to the will of the Soviet scientists, why Gagarin felt well during the flight, kept in constant contact with people on earth, and finally made a smooth landing in the pre-determined area. It is also known that man has up to now lived under the earth's dense atmospheric layer. On the one hand, this dense atmosphere affords protection to man and provides conditions for his existence. On the other hand, it stands in the way of man's exploration of the cosmos. Now that man has broken through this barrier of the dense layers of the atmosphere, his centuries-old dreams of making a flight into space have been realized. From now on, he will be able to enter space to carry out directly new explorations and



Man from the *Vostok* (The East)
Cartoon by Chiang Fan and Fang Cheng



Firsts!

Cartoon by Ying Tao

researches, bringing new, inestimably important contributions to the cause of science.

Epoch-Making Soviet Scientific Feats

The first artificial earth satellite, the first moon rocket, the first Venus rocket and the first satellite spaceship were all made and launched successfully by Soviet scientists and technicians. Now, it is again a Soviet citizen who is the first to return triumphantly to earth from a flight to space on board a spaceship. All these epoch-making scientific feats and all these exploits achieved by the Soviet people, scientists, technicians, engineers and workers are by no means accidental. They

The Chinese People Hail

Brilliant Soviet Achievement

THE Soviet Union has made the first manned space flight! The Soviet pilot Gagarin has orbited around the world! The news of the safe return to earth of the Soviet spaceship *Vostok* sped around Peking and China with lightning speed. It was news to make the heart soar and stir cries of "Long live socialism!"

In factories, schools and people's communes crowds gathered to discuss this remarkable event. Drums beat and gongs clanged in the traditional way to spread glad tidings.

not only bear witness to the excellence of Soviet science and technology and the leading position it holds in the world but also fully demonstrate the incomparable superiority of the socialist system. We are convinced that this great achievement of the Soviet Union will increase a hundredfold the confidence of the peoples of all the socialist countries in building socialism and communism and will greatly promote the advance of our common cause.

Such a miraculous achievement made by the Soviet people under the leadership of the Communist Party and Government of the Soviet Union has not only carried the development of human science to a new height, but also tremendously strengthened the might of the socialist camp and the forces defending world peace; it has immensely encouraged the peoples of the world in their struggle against imperialist aggression and for the victory of the cause of peace, national liberation, democracy and socialism.

On the very day of man's entry into space, the Central Committee of the Communist Party of the Soviet Union, the Presidium of the Supreme Soviet of the U.S.S.R. and the Soviet Government issued an appeal for peace to the world, saying: "We gladly place these achievements at the service of all peoples, in the name of the progress, happiness and welfare of all people on earth. We place our achievements and discoveries not at the service of war, but at the service of the peace and security of the peoples." This is the very opposite of the line taken by the imperialist countries headed by the United States which use scientific and technological achievements as a means of war to threaten world peace. The forces upholding world peace have become ever more powerful. We are convinced that so long as all peace-loving peoples of the world continuously increase their might and steadfastly and on all fronts carry on their struggle against the imperialist policies of aggression and war, it is entirely possible for them to defeat the imperialists' war plans which pose a threat to mankind and to safeguard the world peace desired by people in all lands.

The Chinese people, while joyfully congratulating the Soviet people on their magnificent achievements, warmly respond to and support this peace appeal made by the Communist Party and Government of the Soviet Union to the world. Let us unite and struggle hand in hand for the use of scientific and technological progress for the control and exploitation of nature, for the benefit of man, and for the attainment of a lasting world peace.

April 12, which dawned a normal day, was turned into a red-letter day for all mankind. *Beijing Wanbao* (Peking Evening News) of the same day and *Renmin Ribao* and other major Peking newspapers of the following day, all used bright red banner headlines to mark this historic day. The copies of these newspapers were snapped up as soon as they appeared. Radio stations put out special bulletins devoted to the news.

The cable channels were kept busy with messages of congratulation to Moscow. On its front page *Renmin*

Ribao printed the texts of congratulatory messages sent by Premier Chou En-lai and by Soong Ching Ling, President of the Sino-Soviet Friendship Association. Greetings were also sent by Kuo Mo-jo, President of the Chinese Academy of Sciences; Nieh Jung-chen, Vice-Premier and Chairman of the Scientific and Technological Commission; Li Sze-kuang, Chairman of the Scientific and Technical Association of China, by various democratic parties, and people's organizations including the China Peace Committee, the All-China Federation of Trade Unions, the National Women's Federation of the People's Republic of China and the Communist Youth League of China. All carried the warmest congratulations to the Soviet people on an achievement which is in the service of all mankind.

China's poets wrote poems of praise. A poem by Kuo Mo-jo compares the spaceship *Vostok* to the red sun in the sky. "The manned spaceship has flown to outer space. The equal of ten red suns, it shines bright in the cosmos." Poems addressed to Major Gagarin, the world's first spaceman, speak of the "new legend of the 20th century."

The exhilarating news lent new zest to the 26th World Table Tennis Championships in Peking. The news reached the Peking Workers' Gymnasium just before the mixed doubles started. All the lights were put on and thunderous applause came from the 15,000 spectators. When the Soviet players entered they were cheered to the echo. The Chinese players warmly shook hands with them.

Chinese scientists were particularly overjoyed and lost no time in congratulating their Soviet colleagues on their achievement. In the very evening of the news reaching them, Chinese scientists in Peking held a meeting, presided over by Coching Chu, Vice-President of the Chinese Academy of Sciences. Tsien Hsue-shen, Chao Chiu-chang, Pei Shih-chang, Tsien San-tsiang and many other renowned Chinese scientists spoke. The opinion was expressed that this achievement of the Soviet Union is bound to bring with it many unexpected discoveries, ushering in a new phase in scientific developments.

On April 13, the Sino-Soviet Friendship Association and its Peking branch celebrated the Soviet success at a widely attended meeting. Among those present were Vice-Presidents of the Sino-Soviet Friendship Association, responsible personages of the democratic parties and people's organizations, famous scientists, members of the people's communes, factory workers and employees, commercial workers and officers of the People's Liberation Army. Speakers at the meeting expressed the tremendous feeling of elation among the Chinese people over this great achievement of the Soviet Union. They also expressed their desire to learn all the better from the advanced experience of the Soviet scientists so as to expedite China's socialist construction.

Press comments on this historic event have made a comparison of the achievements of the Soviet Union and the United States in developments in outer space. *Da Gong Bao* writes editorially that only the socialist countries can provide unlimited prospects for the rapid development of new technology. In recent years, the paper says, although the United States, the most developed capitalist country, has also launched a number of artificial satellites and

Premier Chou En-lai's Cable of Congratulations to Chairman Khrushchov

Premier Chou En-lai on April 12 cabled a message to N.S. Khrushchov, Chairman of the Council of Ministers of the U.S.S.R., warmly congratulating him on the successful launching by the Soviet Union of a manned spaceship, and the opening of a new era in man's conquest of nature. The cable reads:

"Overjoyed to learn of successful launching by the Soviet Union of the manned satellite spaceship *Vostok* and its safe return to earth according to plan. On behalf of the Chinese Government and people, I hereby extend the warmest congratulations to you, and through you to the great Soviet Government and people, Soviet scientific workers and Soviet pilot Major Y.A. Gagarin, mankind's first navigator in space flight.

"The Soviet Union's successful launching of a manned spaceship opens a new era in man's ascent to other heavenly bodies, bringing to fruition mankind's centuries-old beautiful dreams of making a flight to cosmic space. The great epoch-making achievements of the Soviet people in the conquest of the cosmos have once again demonstrated indisputably the incomparable superiority of the socialist system, greatly increased the confidence of the Chinese people and the peoples of all other socialist countries in the building of socialism and communism, and immeasurably encouraged the people all over the world in their struggle against imperialist aggression and for world peace, national independence, democracy and socialism.

"I heartily wish the Soviet people more brilliant successes in the splendid cause of the conquest of space."

planets and made strenuous efforts to catch up with the Soviet Union, its desire is obviously unmatched by its ability and it has been left far behind. The United States up till now has not yet solved the problem of sending its rockets accurately into orbit not to say of orbiting a man into cosmic space.

On April 16, Soviet Ambassador Chervonenko gave a party to celebrate the Soviet space feat. Many well-known Chinese personages and foreign diplomats in Peking attended. Peng Chen, Member of the Political Bureau of the Central Committee of the Chinese Communist Party, Member of the Secretariat and Vice-Chairman of the Standing Committee of the National People's Congress, spoke at the party. The triumphant return of the Soviet manned spaceship to earth, he said, is a new, great victory in man's conquest of nature, it marks the beginning of man's activities breaking through natural limitations and outstepping the confines of earth, it opens a new era in man's conquest of the cosmos. It demonstrates the outstanding talents developed and outstanding achievements made by the Soviet people and Soviet scientific workers under the leadership of the Communist Party and Government of the Soviet Union; it demonstrates the incomparable superiority of the socialist system over the capitalist system and also that Marxism-Leninism is an invincible weapon. Peng Chen said that this is a grand and happy event for the Soviet people, for the Chinese people, for the peoples of all the socialist countries and for the working people of the whole world.

The elation in other major cities and provincial capitals was no less than in Peking. This was an occasion of high rejoicing for all the Chinese people.

Support the Cuban People's Struggle Against U.S. Aggression!

AFTER sending planes to bomb Cuba's cities, U.S. imperialism has organized its gangs of mercenaries to invade the soil of Cuba. This gangster action has deeply angered the Chinese people. Since April 18, at meetings, rallies and demonstrations in the major cities, the Chinese people have denounced this latest crime of U.S. aggression, pledged their determination to stand together with the Cuban people and resolutely support the Cuban people's just struggle in defence of their country against U.S. aggression.

Premier Chou En-lai's Cable

On April 18, Premier Chou En-lai sent a cable to Fidel Castro, Prime Minister of the Cuban Revolutionary Government, formally expressing China's support. The cable reads as follows:

"Following the sudden, dastardly raid on Cuba by U.S. aircraft, it is learnt that mercenaries organized by U.S. imperialism have landed in Cuba in armed aggression on Cuba. This is another towering crime committed by U.S. imperialism before the eyes of the people of the world. The Government of the People's Republic of China and the Chinese people feel the deepest indignation at this.

"In order to strangle the Cuban people's revolution, U.S. imperialism, which is aggressive by nature, has engaged in perfidious armed aggression against Cuba, not scrupling to break world peace and drag the people of the United States of America into war. The Chinese people know from their own experience, however, that a people who has stood up is invincible and that the incurably evil actions of U.S. imperialism and its lackeys will only hasten their own doom.

"The Chinese Government and people resolutely support the Cuban people's just struggle in defence of their motherland and revolution under the leadership of the Cuban Revolutionary Government, and are resolutely opposed to the criminal activities of U.S. imperialism in carrying out armed aggression against Cuba. Justice is on the side of the Cuban people. The sympathies of the people of the whole world are on the side of the Cuban people. U.S. imperialism is isolated. As long as the struggle is persisted in, it is fully possible to defeat U.S. imperialist armed intervention.

"Your Excellency, Dear Prime Minister! You can rest assured that, whatever happens, the Chinese Government and the 650 million Chinese people will for ever stand closely by the Cuban Revolutionary Government and the Cuban people and resolutely support the Cuban people's struggle in every field. Final victory will definitely belong to the heroic Cuban people steadfast in struggle."

Speaking at a reception given by the Chinese Ministry of Foreign Affairs to celebrate the 6th anniversary of the Bandung Conference, Vice-Premier Marshal Ho Lung took the opportunity to denounce the United States for its open instigation of a new military attack against the Cuban people. Then he added: "The Chinese people resolutely support the Cuban people's struggle against aggression."

People's organizations including the All-China Federation of Trade Unions, the China-Latin America Friendship Association, the National Women's Federation of the People's Republic of China, the All-China Youth Federation and the All-China Students' Federation have also sent cables to their counterparts in Cuba, denouncing the U.S. imperialist crime of flagrant aggression against Cuba, unanimously declaring support for the Cuban people's sacred struggle in defence of their motherland and their revolution, and expressing the conviction that Cuba will win.

"Cuba si, Yankees no!" "U.S. imperialism, get out of Cuba!" "Long live the Cuban revolution!" These slogans resounded at mass rallies and demonstrations held in various parts of the country. Many members of the people's militia and the People's Liberation Army participated in them. The wave of popular anger that has swept through the country shows that the hearts of the Chinese people are with the Cuban people. The Chinese people are filled with admiration for the heroic action of the Cuban people in answering the U.S. imperialists with iron and fire. The whole nation is determined to stand together with Cuba in the struggle against the common enemy.

Crazy and Arrogant Aggressive Plan

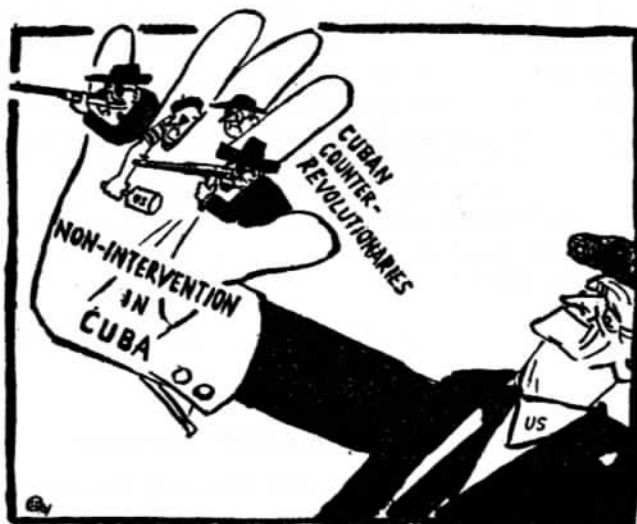
The *Renmin Ribao* published two editorials on April 17 and 19, exposing U.S. aggression and supporting the struggle of the Cuban people. The editorial of April 17 angrily denounced U.S. aircraft's savage bombing of Havana and other cities. It recalled that ever since the victory of the Cuban revolution, the U.S. Government has blustered again and again that it will overthrow the Cuban Revolutionary Government and fasten the yoke of slavery once more on the Cuban people. This was the line pursued by the Eisenhower administration; the Kennedy administration has gone still farther in this direction. The editorial, listing the measures taken by Kennedy after his inauguration to overthrow the Cuban Revolutionary Government, including the latest bombing of Cuban cities by U.S. planes, points out that the people of the world see clearly that U.S. imperialism is the vilest aggressor and the most sinister enemy of the Cuban people and the peoples the world over.

The April 19 editorial entitled "People of the World, Rise Together and Stop U.S. Aggression Against Cuba!" declares that the armed attacks on Cuba by the mercenary troops of the United States constitute a flagrant encroachment on the sacred independence and sovereignty of Cuba, a serious provocation against the freedom and security of the Latin American peoples and a grave menace to world peace. It says that all people of the world who cherish peace and uphold justice are confronted with an urgent task to check swiftly U.S. imperialist armed aggression against Cuba. The editorial points out that the mercenary troops which have now landed on Cuba have been recruited, trained and armed by the United States single-handed and that they started the invasion from bases in the United States and its vassal state, Guatemala. It stresses that the attacks on Cuba by U.S. mercenary troops constitute armed aggression against Cuba by the United States itself and that it is absolutely impossible for U.S. imperialists to wriggle out of this fact. By committing this crime of aggression, the editorial points out, the Kennedy administration stands completely exposed before the world's people as being even more aggressive than its predecessor, the Eisenhower administration.

Over the past two years, the editorial points out, the United States has used various methods of intervention — economic, political and military — in its attempt to compel the Cuban people to submit, but all this has failed. The United States, the editorial continues, can neither stamp out the Cuban revolution nor prevent it from exerting a steadily growing influence in Latin America. It is in this situation that has become increasingly unfavourable to the United States that it felt obliged to discard its mask and in the face of worldwide condemnation stake all on one gambler's throw.

The Cuba of today, however, is different from the Cuba of two years ago. The Cuban people, who have a long and glorious tradition of struggle against U.S. imperialism and who have already stood up, are the basic force in deciding the destiny of Cuba. This can by no means be shaken by a group of desperadoes bought and fostered by U.S. imperialism.

"The armed attacks on the Cuban people by the United States also constitute a direct onslaught on the daily growing national and democratic movement in Latin America," the editorial continues. "Moreover, aggression



"Kid-gloves leave no finger prints."

Cartoon by Chiang Fan

against Cuba is part of the Kennedy administration's plans for worldwide aggression. Since its assumption of power, the Kennedy administration has, on the one hand, stepped up preparations for a nuclear war, and on the other, worked vigorously to prepare for so-called 'non-nuclear warfare, sub-limited warfare or guerrilla warfare' as a means for aggression and enslavement of the peoples throughout the world. By its armed aggression against the Cuban people, the United States has once again clearly revealed its imperialist features to the people of the world. The criminal U.S. aggression against Cuba is bound to enrage the people of the world still more and arouse a fresh storm against U.S. imperialism."

"The revolutionary struggle of the Cuban people," says the editorial, "has always had the powerful support of the socialist camp." Today in their struggle against U.S. armed aggression, the Cuban people will undoubtedly obtain energetic support from all countries of the socialist camp. The editorial concludes by declaring that the heroic, united Cuban people, who have the support of all other peoples in Latin America and in the rest of the world, and the support of all socialist countries, will certainly be able to defeat the invading enemy, wipe out the intruders and win new victories in their struggle against U.S. aggression.

Chinese and Burmese Prime Ministers Meet

BURMA'S Prime Minister U Nu has completed a ten-day holiday in Yunnan Province. Accompanied by Premier Chou En-lai and Vice-Premier and Foreign Minister Chen Yi, he visited Kunming and several other cities, saw the province's various industrial and agricultural undertakings and toured many scenic spots.

During the visit, Premier Chou En-lai and Prime Minister U Nu had cordial and friendly talks. They discussed many important current international problems and the question of the further development of friendly co-operation between the two countries, and reached

identical views. On April 16, before the Burmese Prime Minister left for home, they issued a joint communique.

Enlarged Geneva Conference on Laos

Regarding the Laotian situation, the joint communique stated: "The two Prime Ministers expressed deep concern over the present situation in Laos, the common neighbour of China and Burma. They reaffirmed the consistent opinion of their respective Governments that Laos should, in accordance with the 1954 Geneva agreements, become a country of independence, unity, peace and neutrality.

They hold that in order to ensure the independence, sovereignty, national amity, peace and genuine neutrality of Laos and to ensure that the internal affairs of Laos will for ever be free from outside interference, an enlarged meeting of the Geneva Conference with the participation of 14 nations, as proposed by Prince Sihanouk, Head of State of Cambodia, must be convened immediately. The two Prime Ministers expressed the hope that, through this meeting, the aspirations of the Laotian people would be realized, the area of peace and neutrality formed by Southeast Asian countries practising a policy of peace and neutrality would be expanded and the peace of Indo-China and Asia would be ensured."

Common Effort Against KMT Remnants

The two Prime Ministers also discussed the question of the remnant Kuomintang troops in Burma. The joint communique disclosed: "Because these remnant Kuomintang troops constitute a great danger not only to the Union of Burma but also to the People's Republic of China, the two Prime Ministers have agreed that the Government of the People's Republic of China and the Government of the Union of Burma will, when necessary, act in co-ordination and co-operation to solve the problem of the remnant Kuomintang troops."

Economic Co-operation

The two Prime Ministers, stated the joint communique, also had an exchange of views on the strengthening of Sino-Burmese economic co-operation. They declared that "mutual help and mutual study between the Governments and peoples of the two countries while they engage in their respective economic construction are a concrete expression of the Five Principles of Peaceful Coexistence and fully accord with the interests of the two peoples."

At the request of the Burmese Government, the Chinese Government has agreed to send to Burma in the near future a delegation of technical experts. In accordance with the Agreement on Economic and Technical Co-operation signed by the two Governments last January, they will discuss specifically with Burmese delegates in-

dustrial, agricultural, water conservancy, hydro-electrical, communication and transportation projects which China will help Burma build in implementation of Burma's four-year plan. The Chinese Government has also agreed to receive a delegation of agriculturalists sent by the Burmese Government to Yunnan Province to study agricultural production and agricultural machinery. The Burmese Government has agreed to receive a delegation of agriculturalists sent by China's Yunnan Province to Burma to study agricultural production and tropical plants.

New Blossoms of Sino-Burmese Friendship

Prime Minister U Nu's stay in Yunnan was a heart-warming passage in the kinsmanlike friendship between China and Burma. This southwestern Chinese province is populated by many nationalities and has many national autonomous *chou*. The Burmese leader visited several of these areas and everywhere received a greeting in the local colourful style.

In Yunchinghung, capital of the Hsishuangpanna Tai Autonomous *Chou* and a rising new city only 50 kilometres from the Sino-Burmese border, Prime Minister U Nu and Premier Chou En-lai celebrated the Tai New Year with the local people. They took part in the joyous Water Splashing Festival which is a holiday custom also observed by the Burmese people during their New Year celebrations. When the two leaders, together with local government officials, appeared in the streets in Tai national costumes, thousands of holiday-makers danced and sang to greet them. They were well and truly doused as they joined jubilant crowds in the merry-making amidst resounding cheers of "Long live Sino-Burmese friendship!" On the banks of the Langtsang River, they watched 580 muscular young Tais from all parts of the autonomous *chou* compete in the biggest dragon boat race ever held in Hsishuangpanna.

As Premier Chou En-lai has said at the farewell banquet for Prime Minister U Nu, "this visit has enabled Sino-Burmese friendship to put forth new flowers and brought new splendour to the two countries' relations in the political, economic and cultural fields."

1955-1961

The Bandung Spirit Grows

by OUR CORRESPONDENT

IN 1955, from April 18 to 24, twenty-nine Asian and African countries met in conference in Bandung. It was there, in that beautiful Indonesian city, that the Bandung Spirit came into being. "A New Asia and a New Africa have been born!" declared Indonesia's President Sukarno at the Conference. "Gone for ever are the days when the destiny of the Asian and African peoples was manipulated at will by others," said China's Premier Chou En-lai from the same rostrum.

This week the people of China, together with all progressive humanity, observed the sixth anniversary of the Bandung Conference. The press and radio celebrated its historic significance. A commemorative rally, attended by over 1,500 people and many Afro-Asian and Latin American guests, was held in Peking on April 18. On the same evening, the Chinese Foreign Ministry held a commemorative reception; among those present were Premier

Chou En-lai, Vice-Premier Ho Lung, diplomatic envoys and Afro-Asian and Latin American guests in Peking.

March of Events

The anniversary was a fitting occasion for reviewing the robust growth of the Bandung Spirit and its dynamic role in shaping the course of international events. The Bandung Spirit, as *Renmin Ribao* (April 18) editorially defined it, is a "spirit in which the Afro-Asian peoples unite to oppose imperialism and colonialism, defend world peace and the friendship between the peoples of all lands."

Inspired by this spirit and aided by the mighty camp of socialism, the peoples of Asia, Africa and Latin America have won resounding victories in the past six years in their battle against imperialism and colonialism. In Iraq, the people's uprising deprived the imperialist war machine, the Baghdad Pact, of its pivot, Baghdad. In Lebanon and Jordan, U.S. and British imperialist aggression met with firm resistance. The Indonesian people quelled the imperialist-sponsored rebellion in their country. In south Korea, Turkey, south Viet Nam and Laos, the past year witnessed stormy struggles against U.S. imperialism and its placemen. Japan, too, was deeply stirred by the successive, nationwide united actions organized by tens of millions of its people against the Japan-U.S. "Security Treaty."

Africa had only five independent states at the time of the Bandung Conference. Now the number has jumped to 27. The Egyptian people thwarted Anglo-French armed aggression and recovered their Suez Canal. The Algerian people are valiantly fighting on. The Congolese people are pressing forward with their just struggle. All Africa, from Capetown to the Mediterranean coasts, from Zanzibar to Gambia, is lit with the flames of national liberation struggles. The final nails are being driven into the coffin of colonialism.

In Latin America, the victorious banner of national and democratic revolution was hoisted by heroic Cuba at the very doorstep of Yankee imperialism.

Speaking at the Peking rally, Chairman of the Chinese Committee for Afro-Asian Solidarity Liao Cheng-chih reviewed these events. He said: "The national and democratic movements in Asia, Africa and Latin America are converging into a mighty, irresistible torrent. Their broad and intensive development has tied the hands of imperialism, upset its plans for launching a world war and deepened the contradictions and crises of the imperialist camp headed by the United States, thus making great contributions to the defence of world peace."

The two guest speakers at the rally — Ratne Deshapriya Sananayeke, Ceylonese writer and Secretary-General of the Permanent Bureau of the Afro-Asian Writers' Conference; and Elias Menya Okidi, president of the African Students' Union in China — also hailed the triumphant forward march of the Afro-Asian peoples since Bandung.

Washington's Fox Tail

These victories achieved since Bandung are great, but the Afro-Asian and Latin American peoples are keenly

aware that the struggle is far from being over. The old colonialists will not take their defeat lying down. And, what is more significant, fiendish U.S. neo-colonialism is thrusting its tentacles all over the world. In his speech, Liao Cheng-chih drew particular attention to the fact that the Kennedy administration, in order to deliver the United States from its plight, has had to make some alterations in its tactics of aggression. Since its assumption of power, the Kennedy administration has been trumpeting "a fresh approach to world relations." What is this "fresh approach"? Liao Cheng-chih said:

"With respect to Asian, African and Latin American countries, it means to infiltrate into Asia and particularly into Africa by posing as 'sympathizers' of national independence, putting up the signboard of 'aid' to underdeveloped countries, using the so-called 'peace corps' and other tactics. It means to foster actively its agents so as to attain the aim of using Asians to fight Asians, Africans to fight Africans and Latin Americans to fight Latin Americans. It means to use the United Nations and other international organizations under its control, to use its vassals and those who are willing to serve it, in interfering in the affairs of the Asian, African and Latin American peoples and undermining the cause of these peoples for winning and safeguarding their national independence."

But, Liao Cheng-chih pointed out, "no matter how craftily the Kennedy administration thinks it has camouflaged itself, its fox tail is bound to show." He noted particularly that the Kennedy administration, while stepping up the development of guided missiles and atomic weapons, is laying special emphasis on preparations for "limited warfare" and "sub-limited warfare," the aim of which is obviously to send troops, whenever necessary, to directly suppress the national and democratic movements in Asia, Africa and Latin America. "All this," Liao Cheng-chih declared, "fully shows that there is no difference in nature whatsoever between the Kennedy and Eisenhower administrations, and that the peoples of the whole world must maintain sharp vigilance and wage unremitting struggles against the U.S. imperialist policies of aggression and war."

The guest speakers, too, stressed the need to fight neo-colonialism.

Afro-Asian Solidarity

Celebrating the Bandung anniversary, the Chinese people unequivocally reaffirmed their allegiance to the Bandung Spirit and their close comradeship-in-arms with all the embattled Asian, African and Latin American peoples. Voicing this sentiment, Liao Cheng-chih in his speech expressed stalwart support for the Laotian people and their Phouma government, the Congolese people and their Gizenga government, and the Algerian people in their armed struggle against the French colonialists.

Referring to the dastardly bombing of Cuba by U.S. planes and the invasion of that country by U.S.-organized mercenaries, Liao Cheng-chih declared: "The Chinese people express the greatest concern about the Cuban people suffering from U.S. aggression and voice their resolute support for the Cuban people's struggle against aggression." The tumultuous applause which greeted these words

was the expression of the sentiments of a nation roused to bitter anger by Washington's latest, outrageous crimes.

Peaceful Coexistence in Action

Guided by the Ten Principles formulated at the Bandung Conference as well as the Five Principles of Peaceful Coexistence, China during the past six years has made remarkable progress in forging friendly ties with Afro-Asian and Latin American countries. Particularly in the past year and more, it has signed treaties of mutual non-aggression or of friendship with Burma, Nepal, Afghanistan, Guinea, Cambodia and Indonesia (and, earlier, with the Yemen). It has settled the boundary question with Burma and concluded a boundary agreement with Nepal. It has reached agreement with Indonesia on the arrangement for implementing the treaty on dual nationality. It has established diplomatic relations with Cuba and a number of newly independent African states. Vice-Premier Chen Yi's successful visit to Indonesia, Prime Minister U Nu's fruitful sojourn in China, and the arrival in Peking of the Ghanaian and Congolese Ambassadors — these events of recent weeks are new manifestations of China's growing friendship with Afro-Asian nations. Besides, China has exerted efforts which are well known to the world for a settlement of the Sino-Indian boundary question.

Reviewing these developments, Liao Cheng-chih said: "All this has fully testified to our consistent stand of

faithfully adhering to the Five Principles of Peaceful Coexistence and the Bandung Spirit." He pointed out that the imperialist plots to torpedo Afro-Asian solidarity and particularly to isolate China from the other Afro-Asian countries have ignominiously failed. And he added: "Facts in the past six years have shown that Afro-Asian solidarity can stand the test, and that it is not China but precisely imperialism and a handful of persons who deviate from the Five Principles and the Bandung Spirit who have been isolated."

In the spirit of further promoting Afro-Asian solidarity, Liao Cheng-chih in his speech expressed the Chinese people's support for Indonesian President Sukarno's proposal to convoke a second Afro-Asian Conference.

In its six years of existence, the Bandung Spirit has exerted a far-reaching influence on the world. And its vitality is still growing apace. Speaking in Bandung six years ago, Premier Chou En-lai declared: "If we are determined to preserve world peace, no one can drag us into war; if we are determined to strive for and safeguard our national independence, no one can continue to enslave us; if we are determined to enter into friendly co-operation, no one can split us." Looking at the Bandung Conference in its historical perspective, *Renmin Ribao's* commemorative editorial said that events over the past six years have graphically testified to the truth of these words of Premier Chou and future events will provide even more powerful proof of their truth.

Stop Washington's Meddling in South Viet Nam!

Following is an abridged translation of a "Renmin Ribao" editorial of April 12. Original title: "U.S. Government Must Stop Its Intervention in South Viet Nam." Subheads are ours. — Ed.

OF late, particularly in the wake of the Bangkok meeting of the Southeast Asia Treaty Organization, the U.S. Government has stepped up its intervention in south Viet Nam. This situation calls for serious attention.

As is well known, the Bangkok meeting which plotted further intervention and aggression against Laos, was also attended by a so-called observer of the Ngo Dinh Diem clique of south Viet Nam. Posing an open threat to the south Vietnamese people, the meeting's resolutions announced SEATO's "firm resolve not to acquiesce in" any "takeover" of south Viet Nam.

According to Western news agency reports, U.S. President Kennedy and British Prime Minister Macmillan also discussed steps for further intervention in south Viet Nam in the course of their talks on April 6. They agreed that "increased aid" should be given the Ngo Dinh Diem clique and on the adoption of "measures which might prevent a further breakdown of the political situation there." On the same day, "U.S. defense authorities" admit-

ted that recently the United States "has stepped up its military supplies to south Viet Nam" and that a "new programme" to strengthen future U.S. "aid" to the Ngo Dinh Diem clique was being drawn up in Saigon. There the huge U.S. "Military Advisory Group" which numbers more than 2,000 has begun to train and equip Ngo Dinh Diem troops in so-called "anti-guerrilla tactics."

Who Is the "Outside" Force?

To create a pretext for intervention, the U.S. imperialists have done everything possible to distort and slander the struggle of the people of south Viet Nam against the United States and the Ngo Dinh Diem clique; they allege that "an armed minority" in south Viet Nam supported from "outside" was, in violation of the Geneva agreements, trying to "occupy" south Viet Nam and so on. However this is nothing but the despicable trick of a thief crying "Stop thief!" It may be asked: Who actually constitutes the "outside" force violating the Geneva agreements, uses force to back the Diem clique's dictatorship and controls south Viet Nam? It is none other than the U.S. imperialists themselves.

The Geneva agreements explicitly stipulate that every participating country in the Geneva Conference is obligated to respect the sovereignty, independence, unity

and territorial integrity of Viet Nam and should in no way intervene in its internal affairs. Yet, in the past six years and more, the United States has persistently violated the Geneva agreements, wantonly encroached upon the sovereignty and independence of Viet Nam and done everything in its power to obstruct the realization of the peaceful unification of Viet Nam. It has illegally introduced large quantities of arms and ammunition into south Viet Nam, set up scores of air force and naval bases there and turned the region into a springboard for its aggression in Southeast Asia and a colony of a new type. The United States has even directed the Ngo Dinh Diem clique to dispatch troops into Laos to interfere in the latter's internal affairs. Moreover it has persistently violated the Geneva agreements by using bayonets to support the Ngo Dinh Diem clique's establishment of a reactionary regime in south Viet Nam—a reign of terror which finds few parallels in the world—and its brutal massacre and persecution of the patriotic masses. The whole region is overrun with troops and police and dotted by jails; martial law has for a long time been imposed in wide areas in the countryside and in many cities; and there is absolutely no guarantee of the security of life and freedom of the people. During this period, over

200,000 former Resistance members and innocent people have been arrested and tens of thousands murdered.

Rising Popular Action

Under such dark rule, will the south Vietnamese people take it lying down or stand up and fight for survival and freedom? It is only natural and right that they have heroically risen against the U.S.-Diem clique. At present the struggle of broad sections of the south Vietnamese people to overthrow Ngo Dinh Diem has spread to all provinces in south Viet Nam. It is apparent that the south Vietnamese people's fight against the U.S.-Diem clique is on the rise and no reactionary force is capable of checking it.

The mounting popular struggle in south Viet Nam against the reactionary rule of the U.S.-Diem clique is precisely the outcome of the United States' pursuance of a policy of aggression in south Viet Nam. At the same time, it testifies to the failure of this policy. Hence the only conclusion to be drawn is: the United States Government must immediately halt its intervention and aggression in south Viet Nam and withdraw all its military personnel from there so that the Geneva agreements can be implemented.

Foreign Ministry Statement on Intensified U.S. Intervention in South Viet Nam

The following statement was issued by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the People's Republic of China on April 13, 1961.—Ed.

RECENTLY, the United States of America has intensified its interventionist and aggressive activities against the southern part of Viet Nam. In the latter part of March, under the direction of the United States, the Bangkok meeting of the Southeast Asia Treaty Organization openly adopted a decision to intervene in the situation in the southern part of Viet Nam. The U.S. Government is stepping up the provision of large quantities of military aid to the south Viet Nam authorities and is planning to help the Ngo Dinh Diem clique enlarge its army by 30,000 additional men. Moreover, Harry D. Felt, Commander-in-Chief of the U.S. Armed Forces in the Pacific region, has, upon orders, visited the southern part of Viet Nam to carry out activities and take a direct part in engineering new schemes of intervention. At the same time, certain important officials of the U.S. Government, maliciously distorting the facts, slandered and assailed the Democratic Republic of Viet Nam, with a view to creating pretexts for further intervention in the situation of the southern part of Viet Nam.

This series of interventionist and aggressive activities of the United States and SEATO constitutes an increasingly crude violation of the Geneva agreements and an increasingly serious threat to peace in Indo-China. In its statements and its letters to the Co-Chairmen of the Geneva Conference, the Government of the Democratic Republic of Viet Nam has firmly demanded that the U.S. Government immediately stop all its schemes of inter-

fering in the internal affairs of the Vietnamese people, that the Ngo Dinh Diem clique immediately stop its suppression of the patriotic movement of the people in the southern part of Viet Nam, and that the Co-Chairmen of the Geneva Conference and the International Commission for Supervision and Control in Viet Nam adopt emergency measures to halt the intervention of the United States and the SEATO bloc and ensure that the Geneva agreements be respected and scrupulously implemented in the southern part of Viet Nam.

The Chinese Government fully supports the solemn and just stand and reasonable demands of the Government of the Democratic Republic of Viet Nam. The Government and people of China, as a guarantor of the Geneva agreements and a close neighbour of Viet Nam, cannot but express grave concern over the fact that the United States, while attempting to enlarge the civil war in Laos, is intensifying its intervention against the southern part of Viet Nam. We consider that it is the sacred right of the people in the southern part of Viet Nam, in striving for survival, democracy and freedom, to wage their patriotic and just struggle with which no foreign country may interfere.

The Chinese Government hopes that the Co-Chairmen of the Geneva Conference and the International Commission in Viet Nam will give consideration to the above-mentioned just demands raised by the Government of the Democratic Republic of Viet Nam and adopt effective measures to halt the scheming activities of the United States and the SEATO bloc for enlarged intervention and aggression against the southern part of Viet Nam.

The 26th World Championships — A Great Success

THE band played *The Hearts of the World's People Beat as One*; there was a final roar of cheers and applause and the 26th World Table Tennis Championships successfully came to a close on the evening of April 14. With more than 230 front-rank players from over 30 countries and areas taking part, the 26th World Championships will take a memorable place in the annals of this increasingly popular game. It was a great gathering of sportsmen from the five continents. In friendly rivalry, they raised the technique of table tennis to a new, high level, and they made a great contribution to mutual understanding and friendship among the peoples of the world.

After nine days of keen competition and superb play, these are the results for the seven major events of the tournament:

Men's Team Championship: 1. China, 2. Japan, 3. Hungary.

Women's Team Championship: 1. Japan, 2. China, 3. Rumania.

Men's Singles: 1. Chuang Tse-tung (China), 2. Li Fu-jung (China), 3. Hsu Yin-sheng (China) and Chang Hsieh-lin (China).

Women's Singles: 1. Chiu Chung-hui (China), 2. Eva Koczian Foldine (Hungary), 3. Kimiyo Matsuzaki (Japan) and Wang Chien (China).

Men's Doubles: 1. Nobuya Hoshino/Koji Kimura (Japan), 2. Zoltan Berczik/Ferenc Sido (Hungary), 3. Chuang Tse-tung/Li Fu-jung (China) and Chou Lan-sun/Wang Chia-sheng (China).

Women's Doubles: 1. Maria Alexandru/Geta Pitica (Rumania), 2. Chiu Chung-hui/Sun Mei-ying (China), 3. Hu Ke-ming/Wang Chien (China) and Han Yu-chen/Liang Li-chen (China).

Mixed Doubles: 1. Ichiro Ogimura/Kimiyo Matsuzaki (Japan), 2. Li Fu-jung/Han Yu-chen (China), 3. Nobuya Hoshino/Masako Seki (Japan) and Wang Chuan-yao/Sun Mei-ying (China).

The men's singles title was contested by more than 140 of the world's best players. Many were world-famous veterans of the game; others were promising young players who have come to the fore since the last world championships held in Dortmund two years ago. Competition was close and stiff, and the high standard of play provided by the up-and-coming youngsters, particularly their speed and

vigour, outmanoeuvred many stalwarts of long standing and caused many surprise upsets. On the first day of competition for the men's singles championship, six seeded players, including Berczik (seeded No. 2), Hoshino (No. 4) and Larsson (No. 10), were eliminated. There were more upsets in the next few days, including the defeat of Jung Kuo-tuan, seeded No. 1, at the hands of Brazil's fifteen-year-old Costa. After six eliminating rounds, four young Chinese players stood the test and entered the semi-finals.

China's Chuang Tse-tung won his way to the finals in the men's singles by successively defeating Koji Kimura (Japan), Chu Jen-lung (China), Konrad Freundorfer (German Federal Republic), Ichiro Ogimura (Japan) and Hsu Yin-sheng (China). The finals between Chuang Tse-tung and his team-mate Li Fu-jung was a contest in speed and powerful drives. They have similar styles of play and their exchanges of fast, forceful smashes drew repeated bursts of applause from the packed gymnasium. Chuang proved the better of the two and defeated his opponent 3:1, winning the men's singles championship and retaining for China the St. Bride Vase which Jung Kuo-tuan captured at the 25th World Championships two years ago.

Competition for the women's singles title was stiff too. It was full of ups and downs, and the outcome was an open question until the last point in the finals was scored. The skill, grit and keenness which the contenders for the title displayed produced some of the best and most thrilling games witnessed at the championships.



China's winner, runner-up and semi-finalists in the men's singles (right to left): Chuang Tse-tung, Li Fu-jung, Hsu Yin-sheng and Chang Hsieh-lin

There were signs of tough competition even in the early rounds. On the first day, Tomi Okada of Japan, former world singles champion and No. 4 seeded player, and Niele Ramanauskaitė of the Soviet Union (seeded No. 16) were eliminated by China's Han Yu-chen and Liang Li-chen respectively. Han Yu-chen fought a hard battle to beat Tomi Okada in five games, winning the first two games by 21:13 but losing the next two by 16:21 and 18:21 and pulling up again to win the last game and the match with another 21:13. Wang Chien (China) scored a notable victory in the third round by defeating No. 2 seeded player Kazuko Itoh of Japan with a score of 3:1.

Excitement mounted as play entered the semi-finals, with European singles champion Eva Koczian Foldine

(Hungary) ranged against No. 1 seeded player Kimiyo Matsuzaki (Japan) and Chiu Chung-hui (China) matched against Wang Chien (China). Chiu Chung-hui beat her compatriot Wang Chien 3:0, while Koczian defeated Matsuzaki 3:1. The match between Koczian and Matsuzaki, in particular, thrilled the capacity crowd at the Peking Workers' Gymnasium with superb drives and excellent saves. It was a hotly contested tussle between two master players; Koczian's cool stonewalling defence, combined with quick backhand flicks, blunted the edge of Matsuzaki's powerful attack and finally carried the day.

The finals between Chiu Chung-hui and Eva Koczian climaxed the competition for the women's singles title. Both players were in top form, and the match between them was a hard-fought seesaw battle with many vicissitudes. Like the match between Koczian and Matsuzaki played earlier in the day, it was a duel between attack and defence that made for great excitement. Koczian, steady in her defence as ever, took the first game 21:19. Chiu Chung-hui rallied to win the second with the same score. The third game went to Koczian again who kept sending the ball to Chiu's weak backhand. Chiu came round again in the fourth and her long drives to Koczian's right hand succeeded in winning her the game, 21:18. The fifth and decisive game brought the spectators to the edge of their seats. Koczian made a good start and led all the way. At 14:17 to her disadvantage, Chiu Chung-hui pulled up with an amazing effort to tie the score and went on to lead with 20:19. Then a powerful forehand drive brought the whole hall to its feet to cheer Chiu Chung-hui for winning the match and capture for China the women's singles title for the first time in the world championships.

In the men's doubles, the Japanese pair Nobuya Hoshino/Koji Kimura (seeded No. 5) co-ordinated splendidly to win the title from tough contenders. In the finals against Zoltan Berczik/Ferenc Sido (seeded No. 4), the Japanese players' topspin loop drives caused the Hungarians to make many faulty returns and won for them the championship with a score of 3:1.

The women's doubles championship went to the Rumanian pair Maria Alexandru/Geta Pitica (seeded No. 5)



The winner, runner-up and semi-finalists in the women's singles (right to left): Chiu Chung-hui (China), Eva Koczian Foldine (Hungary), Wang Chien (China) and Kimiyo Matsuzaki (Japan)

who played extremely well together too in the team championship. In the fourth round, they scored a resounding victory over Japan's Kimiyo Matsuzaki/Kazuko Itoh (3:1), the No. 1 seeded pair. They beat China's Chiu Chung-hui/Sun Mei-ying (seeded No. 4) in a gruelling match of five games in the finals.

In the mixed doubles, Ichiro Ogimura/Kimiyo Matsuzaki (seeded No. 1) came out with flying colours as was generally expected. The Japanese pair, with their all-round technique, better combination, richer experience and more powerful drives, defeated the Chinese pair Li Fu-jung/Han Yu-chen 3:1 in the finals.

A Retrospect

The 26th World Table Tennis Championships were a great success. During the nine days of play, the championships reflected the rapid development of this sport which is gaining popularity among the peoples of all countries. They brought together a galaxy of the world's foremost players whose varied styles of play provided a unique opportunity for exchange of experience and mutual study of techniques. The championships did much to raise table tennis to new heights. The superb skill and sportsmanship of world-famous players won the plaudits of an appreciative audience. The emergence of large numbers of young promising players added lustre to this assemblage of the world's table tennis stars, and made the championships more keenly and closely contested than expected.

The success of China's players in winning the men's team championship and the men's and women's singles titles, and finishing second in the women's team championship, the men's singles, the women's doubles and the mixed doubles was a great inspiration to the young Chinese players. The whole country applauded these successes. They are the result of the strong support given by the Chinese Communist Party and People's Government to table tennis as to every other sport, and to physical culture in general, ever since the founding of the People's Republic in 1949. Over the last ten years, the number of table tennis enthusiasts has grown steadily throughout the country. Many more took to the game

after the International Table Tennis Federation decided in 1959 to hold the 26th World Championships in China. In Peking alone, for example, tournaments with tens of thousands of participants were held in 1960 in the various districts of the city. It was from such a broad and solid mass following that the Chinese players participating in the world championships were selected. They made an excellent showing there. Most important is the fact that they have been able to exchange experience with master players from other countries and they have learnt much from them to raise their standard of play. Championship play also gave a lot of valuable lessons to the thousands of non-participating players who saw the matches.

For Friendship and Mutual Understanding

While competing for the titles with great keenness, the players from all over the world made new friends or renewed old friendship during their pleasant stay in Peking. During the tournament, they took a day off and enjoyed themselves at the Summer Palace on the city's outskirts. Friendship was the keynote during their sightseeing trip to the Great Wall after the championships. The lone Great Wall on the undulating mountain-sides suddenly became alive that day with the talk and laughter of the world's foremost table tennis players on holiday, skylarking, joking, singing or posing together for souvenir snapshots. "I enjoy the trip and my visit to China very much," said Victor Barna of England, "I wouldn't have missed it for anything." "May our friendship last for ever like the Great Wall!" said Zoila Rosales of Cuba. Such were the sentiments of friendship of the players who took part in the 26th World Championships.

In the Countryside

Health and Sanitation Drive Aids Agriculture

by LIN YANG

AS spring ploughing gets into full swing, medical and health workers, no less than others from practically all spheres of activity, are wholeheartedly throwing themselves into that overriding consideration of the day—aid to agriculture. Large numbers of doctors, druggists, nurses and administrative personnel from urban medical institutions have gone to the fields—the "frontlines" of agricultural production in popular present-day Chinese parlance. Incomplete figures show that since last December, some 17,000 have left the cities in south China's Kwangtung Province for the countryside; over 1,600 from the northwest's Shensi Province went to the rural areas in separate groups before and after Spring Festival this year. . . . Their main job: the prevention and cure of disease, particularly those contagious seasonal ailments that used to have a high springtime incidence.

The consistent policy of China's socialist medical and health work has been to prevent and cure disease among the people and put health protection in the service of production. Since agriculture is the foundation of the national economy and China's rural population accounts for 80 per cent of the country's total, medical and health work should

Mayor Peng Chen of Peking gave a banquet to celebrate the success of the 26th World Championships. Friends from the five continents gathered once again in the banquet hall of the Great Hall of the People and drank toasts to their common victories at the championships, to raising the general standard of play in table tennis and to peace, friendship and unity. Addressing the gathering, Mayor Peng Chen said that the 26th World Championships had not only raised the technique of world table tennis to a new, high level but also set a good example in promoting friendship between the players of various countries and giving full play to good sportsmanship. The Mayor stressed that the championships were a vivid demonstration that no force on earth could thwart the earnest desire of the world's people for knowledge, friendship and peace. He expressed the conviction that the peoples of all countries would break down every man-made obstacle and bring about even closer contacts and friendly co-operation in science, culture, sports and other fields, thereby making still greater contributions to the cause of human progress and world peace. In conclusion, he asked all friends, on their return home, to convey to the people of their countries the sentiments of friendship of the residents of Peking and of all the people of China.

Speaking on behalf of all the Chinese players, the new women's singles champion Chiu Chung-hui toasted the victories scored by the Japanese, Hungarian and Rumanian players and the success of other participants at the championships. She bade farewell to all the friends from all over the world and expressed the sincere wish that they would meet again in Prague in 1963 and renew their friendship.

serve; first and foremost, the peasants. The steady influx of medical personnel to the countryside from the cities is a reflection of this policy. In fact, drastic changes have been effected in medical and health care in the countryside since liberation.

"The rich are treated; the poor left to the mercy of fate." So went the saying in China's rural areas in pre-liberation times. Medical facilities were so meagre as to be almost non-existent in the countryside and the peasant masses so poverty-stricken that they were quite helpless in the face of disease. The seriously ill, in desperation, turned for salvation to the gods or witchcraft.

Rural Medical Network

But with the founding of the People's Republic rural health and sanitation conditions witnessed rapid changes. Under the care of the Communist Party and the People's Government, hospitals, clinics and health-protection centres became widespread in the rural areas. The advent of the rural people's communes gave new impetus to progress. In 1959, the communes had a total of over 200,000 hospitals, maternity homes and clinics, more than double the number

before the communes. There were about five times as many beds as in pre-commune days. The number of beds in the better-equipped county hospitals increased by 80 per cent compared with pre-commune days, and more than tenfold compared with pre-liberation days.

The number of medical and sanitation workers also multiplied rapidly. By 1959, over a million were serving in the hospitals, clinics and health protection centres. In addition, there were millions of spare-time participants in health work.

In short, the rudiments of a rural medical and health protection network have been brought into being. It extends from counties down to production brigades; is closely integrated with production; embraces large, medium-sized and small establishments; combines Western-style and traditional Chinese medicine; and enlists both professional medical workers and spare-time activists.

The county hospitals are the centres of this medical and health protection network and are steadily making progress. Each year large numbers of them are expanded or renovated. Their staffs are constantly reinforced by graduates from regular medical colleges with competent professional training. The cities, too, have been sending some of their trained medical personnel to assist in the county and commune-run hospitals.

Rural medical and health institutions have been receiving modern equipment in a planned way. X-ray apparatus has been installed in all county hospitals where electricity is available. Many counties have opened various types of schools and short-term training classes to train medical personnel for the rural areas.

Thus, the county hospitals serve as centres giving technical guidance to all other rural medical institutions and are the base for medical education. They are constantly helping to improve the quality of medical service in the countryside.

Mass Health Campaign

An even more profound change in rural health and sanitation finds expression in the fact that the broad masses of peasants have been aroused and moved to action on the question of improving health and sanitation in a big way. Squalor and slovenliness are giving way to a love of cleanliness.

The mass health campaign centring on the elimination of the "four evils" — flies, mosquitoes, rats and bedbugs — the improvement of sanitation and the wiping out of the most prevalent diseases is a constant one. It has witnessed a new high tide since the spring of 1960 when secretaries of Party committees at all levels personally assumed direction and technical guidance was further strengthened. More and more rural areas have distinguished themselves as models of cleanliness and have achieved excellent general health conditions. The best known rural county in this respect is Chishan in Shansi Province (for details see *Peking Review*, No. 7, 1961). All Chishan's residents are concerned with keeping their county scrupulously clean. This has contributed in no small measure to their own good health and the excellent condition of their livestock. Sun Village in this county, once notorious for its poverty, squalor and the prevalence of disease, has become a healthy, civilized new village where flies, mosquitoes, rats and bedbugs are for the most part only

memories of things past and where for many years, thanks to the thoroughgoing health and sanitation campaign launched by the people, there has been a complete absence of contagious disease. Peasants throughout the country are examining the experience of Chishan County and applying it in their own areas in so far as it is suitable to their own concrete situations.

Health Work Spurs Production

This concentrated effort in the sphere of health along with improved labour protection in the fields and at construction sites has resulted in a marked gain in the people's health. A notable indication of this is the fact that seasonal contagious diseases have been brought under control in many areas. The incidence of such cases has been declining every year.

The fight for the elimination of parasitic and endemic diseases has been stepped up and the prevention and cure of chronic diseases is being undertaken on a large scale in many places. A remarkable achievement has been the control of schistosomiasis, one of the worst scourges in the 12 provinces and municipalities south of the Huai River and east of the Lantsang River in Yunnan Province. Of the more than five million victims who received treatment, the majority have been cured and are back on the job. As mass health work has been rooted in the policy of "prevention first," the occurrence of this disease has been considerably reduced. This contributed substantially to the growth of production. Yuchi County in Kiangsi Province is a case in point. With the elimination of schistosomiasis there, labour efficiency has risen markedly. In Chishan County mentioned above, the elimination of prevalent and endemic diseases has enabled practically all able-bodied peasants to take part in field work regularly.

In response to a call to the people by the Central Committee of the Communist Party and Chairman Mao Tse-tung in the latter part of 1960 to go in for agriculture and grain production in a big way, rural medical and health workers have intensified their drive for the prevention and cure of disease in the service of production. It was then that large numbers of medical workers began to leave the hospitals and go to the frontlines of production. In the fields, at construction sites, in public dining-rooms, nurseries, kindergartens and other collective welfare establishments, together with the commune members, they plunged wholeheartedly into the campaign to eliminate the "four evils" and improve sanitation. During last year's summer harvest, 80 per cent of the medical and health workers in Shihchiachuang, Hopei Province, went to the fields where they set up a medical and health protection network through which commune members received treatment for minor ailments right where they worked. They also opened a spare-time school which provided on-the-spot training for 75,000 activists in health work and delivered lectures on hygiene to nearly 150,000 commune members.

It has become common practice for medical and health workers active on the agricultural front to live, eat and participate in productive labour with the commune members and to consult them on all relevant matters. In so doing, they gain intimate knowledge of the place and people among whom they work. They are thus not only in

a better position to grapple with disease, but prove to be of invaluable assistance to the local Party organizations in improving the livelihood of commune members. Their contributions to the public dining-rooms are particularly impressive. Very few cases of seasonal contagious diseases were reported during the past year and more in Tushan People's Commune on the outskirts of Chungking because 60 per cent of the commune's hospital personnel took turns in helping to improve sanitation in the public dining-rooms. More than 200 practitioners of both Western and traditional Chinese medicine from Hsiangheng County, Shansi Province, have given guidance to the public dining-rooms in general sanitation work and have also advised the cooks on the preparation of food which is both nutritious and appetizing. This process is being repeated in practically all China's rural areas.

Urban-Rural Medical Workers: Partners in Progress

Urban medical and health departments are giving all-out help to rural medical institutions. In addition to sending their own personnel to the countryside as mentioned above, they are also rendering technical aid and helping train new health workers.

Medical personnel from the cities, medical college teachers and students in particular not only make splendid contributions to health work in the countryside but are themselves immensely benefited from the experience gained and from learning time-tested prescriptions and methods of treatment evolved by the people over long years of struggle against disease. And their gain in ideological remoulding through contact with and service to the working people is immeasurable. Students at the Chungshan (Sun Yat-sen) Medical College in Canton used to spend their year as interns in the large hospitals in that city. This year, together with members of the teaching staff, they went to the county and commune hospitals or toured the water conservancy sites. The students and staff members who went to the Lingshan County Hospital helped cure a dozen patients seriously ill with intestinal obstructions, intussusception and liver abscess. The intern

surgeons, for their part, improved their surgical techniques in a very short time.

New forms of city-country co-operation have been developed. Many hospitals in the cities have established regular connections ("hook-up" connections as they are called) with specific rural medical and health institutions. In Liaoning Province, for example, all the county and people's commune hospitals have "hooked up" with one urban hospital or another. The Szechuan Provincial People's Hospital has established a network for systematic technical assistance to rural medical establishments — the county and commune hospitals and clinics run by the communes' production brigades, with particular attention focused on the county hospitals. No. 6 Hospital in the triple city of Wuhan on the Yangtse has distinguished itself in aiding rural medical and health work. It has established "hook-up" connections with the Hanyang County Hospital and helped the latter to raise, within six months, the professional level of many of its departments to those of a modern city hospital. It has also sent its own trained personnel to other nearby counties to help combat various diseases and eliminate their sources.

This kind of co-operation between urban and rural medical and health institutions stems directly from the concrete implementation in medical and health work of the Party's general line for building socialism, the big leap forward and the people's communes. It shows that the idea of the Central Committee of the Party and Chairman Mao of taking agriculture as the foundation of the growth of the national economy has taken firm root in the hearts of the people.

As an old Chinese saying goes, "spring is the crucial season of the year." The work of disease prevention and cure in spring is of great significance to the success of spring ploughing which is, in turn, a decisive factor for this year's harvest. Medical and health workers active in the fields and public dining-rooms of the rural communes are working enthusiastically for the health of the labour force on the agricultural front.

Young Reclaimers of Virgin Soil

by OUR CORRESPONDENT

AT the foot of a mountain skirted by a clear, meandering stream stands an attractive hamlet of white-washed houses, sturdily built to withstand the northern cold. In front of the houses, just ready to go out to the fields, are rows of tractor-drawn implements. Behind them, fat porkers and sheep grunt and baa-aa in sties and pens. This is Peking Village. But it is over a thousand kilometres from the capital, in Lopei County in the north-eastern part of China's northernmost province, Heilungkiang. However this is no misnomer. Its residents are true Peking people, hundreds of youngsters from the capital who came here five years ago to help open up the vast expanse of virgin land known as the Great Northern Waste. Now that is a true misnomer, an anachronism, for this area has become a giant granary.

That metamorphosis from waste to granary is a saga of New China's dauntless young people in their "war on nature." In five years, these city-bred youth, all in their late teens or early twenties, led by the Communist Party and backed by people throughout the country, built houses with a total floor space of 3,000 square metres, opened up 17,400 *mu* of virgin soil, and produced millions of *jin* of grain for the nation.

Near "Peking Village" are "Harbin Village," "Tientsin Village" and "Hopei Village" — settlements of youngsters from those cities and that province. Together, they form a branch of the Lopei State Farm, one of many such state farms on the Great Northern Waste. The story of the Peking youngsters is typical of the kind of people who have brought the wasteland to life.

In autumn 1955, five youngsters from Peking's suburbs petitioned the city committee of the Communist Youth League (then the New Democratic Youth League) for permission to go to a frontier region to reclaim wasteland. They declared: "We learn that there are more than 1,000 million *mu* of wasteland slumbering in the frontier regions and that the Party and Government have called on us to reclaim them; we want to go there right away to make the fertile black earth yield grain and serve socialism. . . . We know there will be difficulties. But we are young people of the Mao Tse-tung era, we don't want to live an easy life with food and clothing ready-made for us—we want to be the vanguard of the volunteer land reclaimers."

Within two weeks of publication of their petition in the Peking press, 800 youngsters had written in asking to go with them. With the hearty approval and assistance of the Communist Youth League, the first group of 60 young volunteers were selected to pioneer frontier land reclamation. They arrived in the Great Northern Waste and found it a vast stretch of grass and scrubland, roadless and practically uninhabited. Few people had ever traversed the area.

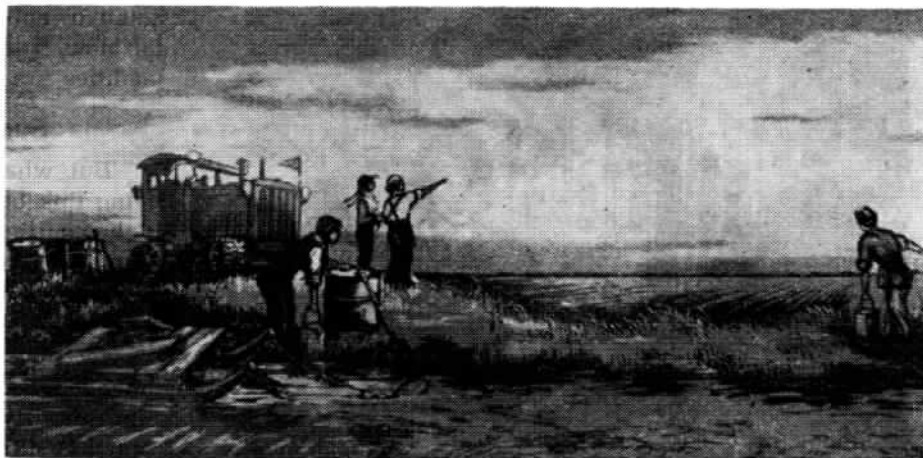
The young trail-blazers pitched their tents on the inhospitable steppe. That first night was pitch dark. Wolves howled at the disturbers of their fastness. A few shots scared them away. New masters of the wasteland had arrived.

An urgent task was to get permanent housing built. Braving bitter cold with the mercury at 40 degrees below, they went into the forests on the Lesser Khingan Range to get their own timber. Snowfalls here were so heavy that sometimes when they woke of a morning they practically had to dig themselves out of their tents. It was here too that in the frozen, marshy hollows they got good reeds for thatch. They manhandled their timber back to the building site and, one after another, comfortable and becoming houses were erected in the wilderness.

Buckling Down to the Job

The main job, however, was to open up the fertile black earth. They plunged into it right away. They had been allotted an area of 30,000 *mu* of land. They had a good plan of land utilization drawn up for them by a special survey team sent down by the People's Government. Nearby counties and state farms provided horses, farm tools and other means of production together with pots and pans and other utensils. But it was their brawn and brain that would have to do the actual work.

Nevertheless, in spite of this encouraging help, the beginning was tough going for these youngsters, fresh from primary or middle schools and with little or no experience in farming at all. To open up virgin soil is a formidable job at the best of times; in the wasteland swarms of relentless mosquitoes and the heavy sticky soil after continuous rains did not make things any easier.



A Fine Morning in the Great Northern Waste Woodcut in colour by Fang Yuan

They learnt assiduously from the agro-technicians sent by the county people's government to help them and gradually got the hang of ploughing. Sometimes teams of six to eight horses had to be harnessed to the ploughs. A single-horse plough is hard enough for a novice to manage. Eight in hand is a tough proposition. But it was not long before Li Shu-hsiang, a brawny Peking girl, was doing it with the best of them. It was hard work but when the youngsters saw the life-giving black earth turned up for the first time under their ploughs they were filled with excitement and the feeling that their endeavours were well worthwhile. That first year, they opened up 1,200 *mu* of land.

The first sowing was done the following spring. As the frost-free period is rather short at this high latitude—48° N., time was the overriding consideration even though by that time they had received tractors sent by the People's Government. Work went ahead day and night. One of the outstanding crews was that of eight girls headed by 17-year-old Hsu Shih-hua, daughter of a Peking steel worker. It became champion at ploughing by day and by night.

Nature was not niggardly in the return it gave to hard work. That year, lush crops of wheat and soya beans grew for the first time in those fields. They raised more vegetables, fodder and other crops than they could consume on their farm and a bumper harvest of grain and soya.

In 1958, they became part of the Lopei State Farm. With better technical equipment and organization they reaped ever richer crops.

Into Experienced Farmers

Today, when one meets tractor drivers or stock breeders in their thick cotton-padded jackets and warm fur hats at Peking Village, working with assured skill like veteran farm hands, it is difficult to believe they are the same inexperienced youngsters who came only five years ago from the capital. In these five years, they have become tempered, cheerful, skilled and hard-working socialist farmers. Chou Chun, a teenager who didn't know how to handle a horse and cart when he first came, is now a skilled driver of his China-made Dongfanghong tractor. Hsu Shih-hua has been re-elected a model worker every year. One-third of these young people have become out-



In the Great Northern Waste: A Modern Poultry Farm
Woodcut in colour by Tu Hung-nien

standing workers. Among the first 60 to arrive in the Great Northern Waste, there are now 19 tractor-combine drivers (seven of them women); two stock breeders; one agro-technician; four carpenters; 13 electricians and mechanics; and four veterinarians. Four have been sent to agricultural colleges or secondary schools.

They have made solid political progress too. Eighteen of them have been accepted into the Communist Party and 22 have joined the Communist Youth League. As for the five youngsters who initiated the whole affair, four—Yang Hua, Pang Shu-ying, Li Ping-heng and Li Lien-cheng—have been transferred and promoted. One is a director of a state farm branch, two are vice-directors and the fourth is director of a factory. Chang Sheng remains as leader of Peking Village. In short, these young city-breds have found the frontier just the place to temper their talents and energies in building socialism.

There have naturally been enormous improvements in general living conditions. Their temporary abode has become a miniature town complete with clinic, department and book stores, and a cinema. During these years, 19 couples have got married and raised 37 babies. They have snug homes, and there are few traces of the hardships of the early days left. Many have become so fond of the place that they have moved their whole families there from the capital.

Life is never dull. They are absorbed in their work. Radio, newspapers and magazines keep them abreast of the news. They have their own wall newspaper. In the mornings they have physical culture or games on the sports field they themselves have built. Of an evening there is study, discussions, choral singing and other

amateur entertainments and the cinema. They are not far now from the county town where modern transport facilities are within easy reach.

Support from All Over the Country

But what makes for the feeling of an ever-present, living link between them and the great land behind them is the continuing care and support they get from the Communist Party and People's Government and people all over the country.

The land allotted them is fertile and they are well provided with equipment and not by the Government alone. When young workers of the Peking Farm Machinery Works read of their project in the papers, they contributed five double-share, double-wheel ploughs bought out of the bonus won for overfulfilling their production quotas. Young workers in a pharmaceutical works helped stock the clinic. The thousands of books in their library are gifts from young people all over the country. An agricultural college sent good-strain seeds and the Heilungkiang provincial broadcasting station presented a fine receiver set.

Their prized possessions too include warm and friendly letters from people all over the country and beyond. Overseas Chinese in Indonesia and Soviet youth in Moscow have sent them greetings and encouragement.

They have established a long and valuable friendship with Hu Yao-pang, First Secretary of the Central Committee of the Chinese Communist Youth League. He has visited them personally and kept up a regular correspondence with them, sharing the joy of their bumper harvests and discussing their problems with them in production, political study, life and love. . . .

With the coming of a new spring, Peking Village, full of youthful vigour, is stepping up its efforts to make that old name—Wasteland—even more of an anachronism than ever.

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SIDELIGHTS

Though the Matches Are Over . . . In Peking, the 26th World Table Tennis Championships is still an item of great interest even after two exciting weeks in which it was the talk of the town.

At the Children's Palace in Coal Hill Park, young enthusiasts invade the pingpong tables with a special gleam in their eye. Chuang Tse-tung, new world table-tennis champion, had practised in these very rooms just a few years ago. Who knows but one day. . .

Nineteen-year-old student Chuang Tse-tung took to pingpong when barely in his teens. He developed his smashing drives while practising against the wall at home. His mother breathed a sigh of relief when he joined the pingpong team at the Children's Palace, a recreation centre set up by the People's Government in all major Chinese cities where youngsters are provided with facilities for sports, drama, art, scientific and technical hobbies, etc. Here he and his teammates received expert coaching from well-known instructors including Fu Chi-fang, the coach of the Chinese national men's team. They were given many opportunities to observe national team members at play and, later on, to take part in major tournaments.

As in everything else "mass participation" is the watchword for sports in China. Throughout the country wide-spread recreational facilities and coaching provided in schools, workshops, Children's Palaces and spare-time physical education schools for children give tens of thousands of youngsters the same chance and incentives that made Chuang Tse-tung a top-notch player. Eighteen-year-old Han Yu-chen, who finished second in the mixed doubles and third in the women's doubles at the recent championships, is the daughter of a Harbin commune dining-room cook. She became a pingpong enthusiast while still in primary school, and a spare-time physical education school for children gave her the necessary coaching to become a skilled player. The youngest Chinese player of the tournament, 16-year-old Su Kuo-hsi from Kwangtung Province, is a late-comer to table tennis, having taken it up only two years ago. But he made such rapid

progress that he was able to overcome keen competition to take part in the championships. Twenty-year-old Chang Hsieh-lin, who placed third in the men's singles, is a boring machine operator at Shanghai's Steam Turbine

Works. He, too, got his start in pingpong at the Shanghai Children's Palace.

Lao Wang's Family. One grey-headed "oldster" mingling with the crop of young Chinese players at the championships tournament hall came in for much congratulations. He was Wang Hui-chang, deputy chief umpire.

"Lao Wang, you lucky dog!" people would say, "Why, your whole family's in the championships!" This comes pretty close to the truth since besides himself, both his sons were participants in the tournament. One is Wang Chuan-yao, a member of the Chinese men's team which captured the Swaythling cup. His daughter-in-law was an umpire of the championships. Moreover his other son's fiancée also played for China. Although he himself had been an avid table tennis player in his youth, there had been no opportunity to develop his talents. A post office errand boy, he earned 17 yuan a month of which 3 went to paying for a chance to play. Both his boys grew up in poverty and want. The girl who later became his daughter-in-law was at that time a slum-dweller who picked scraps from the garbage heaps to live and his other boy's fiancée was then a servant-maid at a Shanghai amusement centre. That was the condition of his family then. Only after liberation did he see his boys get their chance to develop their skill at the game they loved, and with gratifying results. When congratulated on his good fortune, therefore, the grey-haired Wang would say, "Why yes, 'luck' has indeed come to me—now in the people's era!"

Greens the Year Round. "We're the oldest and the biggest vegetable farm in Peking," a guide said to the group he was showing around the 40,000 mu people's commune. "More than half the area is given to vegetables. In the peak season we send 800,000 jin of fresh vegetables to the city each day."

This vast vegetable farm, the Evergreen People's Commune, supplying one-seventh of all vegetables consumed in Peking, lives up to its name. Tomatoes, crisp green cucumbers, chives and other vegetables leave the commune's huge hothouses by the truckload each day even in winter. The rows of glasshouses and covered nursery beds are meticulously tended

DURING THE CHAMPIONSHIP MATCHES



Badges of Friendship



Street Scene



Busiest Salesman



Little "Seed-lings"

Cartoons by Ying Tao

CHINESE PRESS OPINION

by skilled vegetable farmers aided by agricultural scientists. Besides collaborating to improve farming methods and tools, they work to improve strains and to grow a greater variety of vegetables in and out of season.

Fir Tree Farmer. Since 1955 the name of Chang Wan-hung, fir tree farmer of Hunan, has become known to forestry workers throughout China. Many silviculturists are studying and trying his method of bringing certain types of fir to earlier maturity.

By giving meticulous care to the fir seedlings before and after planting them out in winter instead of spring, he gets a better than 90 per cent survival rate and shortens by several years the time it normally takes firs to mature.

Chang Wan-hung tried his hand at these methods even before liberation while planting trees for a landlord with his father. But there was little incentive or opportunity at that time to go ahead with his experiments and he was forced to abandon the effort. Full opportunity came only after land reform. With the active support of the local Party organization, he organized the first agricultural and forestry mutual-aid team in his county and began to put his ideas into practice. With the help of experienced foresters, pooling, summing up and improving on their experience, he was able, within four years, to cultivate three-year-old fir saplings to stand as tall and thick as those twice their age. Of every 100 seedlings planted, 98 took root and grew.

Flying Fish Season Starts. Down in south China's Hainan Island, the fishermen are pulling in great hauls of shimmering fish from the blue sea. The flying fish season has descended in earnest upon this subtropical island, and the fishing communes are on the look out for a record haul of this rare table delicacy.

No longer than a fountain pen, these "winged" fish glide 500 metres through the air with the aid of powerful pectoral fins. For this reason, they have been dubbed "little airplanes on the sea." In China they are found in the Yellow, East and South China Seas, particularly on the eastern coast of Hainan Island in the South China Sea.

Afro-Asian People's Solidarity

Commenting on the fruitful 4th meeting of the Afro-Asian People's Solidarity Council which closed in Bandung on April 13, *Renmin Ribao's* editorial (April 16) notes that the general declaration and resolutions adopted at the meeting once again show that solidarity among the Asian and African peoples has grown.

This grand solidarity is built on their common determination to win and uphold their national independence and to oppose imperialist and colonialist aggression, the editorial points out.

The resolutions of the meeting stated clearly that U.S. imperialism is neo-colonialism, the main bulwark of modern colonialism and the most vicious enemy of the peoples of Asia, Africa and the world, the editorial states. Working in collusion with U.S. imperialism and relying on the various military blocs headed by U.S. imperialism, such old colonialists as Britain, France, Belgium, the Netherlands and Portugal brutally suppress and slaughter the oppressed peoples in the colonies in order to maintain their colonial rule, the source of all evils. Meanwhile, U.S. neo-colonialism is taking advantage of every opportunity to penetrate the Asian and African regions in a big way in an attempt to step into the shoes of the old colonialists.

The U.S. Government tries to sow discord, create national disputes, undermine the internal unity of all countries and carries on its vicious policy to get Asians and Africans to fight among themselves. Its criminal actions in Laos and the Congo are the latest examples. Under the camouflage of "aid to the underdeveloped countries," the U.S. Government also carries on economic plunder of the Asian and African countries through the export of capital, dumping of surplus farm products, through loans and technical "aid." Under the camouflage of so-called "peace and friendship," it exports its decadent bourgeois culture in bulk in an attempt to benumb the national consciousness of the Asian and African peoples and

weaken the militancy of their spirit. The Kennedy administration has recently put forward its so-called "food for peace" programme and organized the so-called "peace corps." These old things may appear in new forms, but they cannot conceal the aggressive face of U.S. neo-colonialism.

The Bandung meeting resolutions clearly pointed out the immense importance of opposing both new and old colonialism, particularly U.S. neo-colonialism. This will help the Asian and African peoples in their struggles to win and uphold national independence and encourage them to strengthen their unity, support each other and advance bravely in their struggles against imperialism and colonialism, says the editorial.

Referring to the world situation, the editorial notes that with the East wind prevailing still further over the West wind, a fundamental change has taken place in the face of the world. This is an excellent situation which is very favourable to the national independence struggles of the Asian and African peoples. Such a change is particularly striking in the Asian and African regions. Stormy revolutionary struggles for national independence, democracy and freedom are raging throughout Africa. The African people have become more and more awakened and their will to achieve independence and freedom is firmer than ever. The heroic Algerian people continue their war of resistance and are dealing blow after heavy blow against the French colonialists. The great Congolese people, with unparalleled heroism, have nothing but contempt for the U.S., Belgium and other new and old colonialists for their aggression and intervention under the United Nations' flag; rallying closely around the legal Congolese Government headed by Antoine Gizenga they are carrying on the struggle. The torch of national independence and freedom is being held aloft in Angola, Uganda, Kenya, Northern and Southern Rhodesia, Zanzibar, Gambia, Bechuanaland, Basutoland and other places. The so-called "Dark Continent" has already become a continent with brilliant prospects. In Asia, such faithful running dogs of U.S. imperialism as Syngman Rhee, Nobusuke Kishi,

Adnan Menderes and their like, were swept away one after another by the angry waves of the people fighting in those countries against U.S. imperialism and the local reactionaries.

The Chinese people's consistent stand is to give resolute support to all just struggles of the Asian and African peoples and resolutely oppose any forms of aggression and intervention by either the old or new colonialists against the Asian and African peoples, the editorial stresses. We maintain, the editorial continues, that the problems of the Asian and African countries should be settled by the Asian and African peoples themselves and that it is absolutely impermissible for the U.S. Government to intervene. We are grateful to the council meeting and to the Asian and African peoples for their support to the Chinese people's struggle for the liberation of Taiwan, the editorial declares.

African Freedom Day

"African Freedom Day" (April 15) is a red-letter day for the 240 million African people in their struggle for independence and freedom, a great festival for the peace-loving peoples of Asia and all the world in their support for the African people's just struggle, writes *Renmin Ribao* in its editorial of April 16.

The African people's struggle for independence and freedom, it declares, is developing in mighty waves. The slogans "Hands off Africa!" and "Africa must be free!" voiced at the Conference of Independent African States three years ago are reverberating throughout the length and breadth of the African continent. Chains are being broken link by link. A new Africa is emerging. All the people of the world who cherish freedom and peace are watching this awakened giant with joy and excitement as he strides ahead.

The Western colonialists naturally will not willingly give up what they have grabbed in Africa, the editorial says. The old colonialists of Britain, France, Belgium and Portugal are putting up a desperate fight; they are making frantic attempts to suppress the African people's battle for independence and freedom. At the same time, they are using such cunning deceptions as talk about a common "community" or "constitutional reform" and setting up puppets in an

THE PASSING SHOW

Out of This World

While all the world cheered the first Soviet man in space, there was a grinding and a gnashing of teeth in Washington and thereabouts.

Washington, reports a New York broadcasting station, "is gloomy with President Kennedy playing the part of a good loser." Others found it a more difficult part to play. The *New York Herald Tribune*, loathe to admit the epoch-making significance of this greatest socialist scientific achievement to date in this century, declares that the honour of making the first step in cosmic flight really belongs to the United States which in 1949 shot a hybrid of German and American rockets into the air. A correspondent of that paper takes things even further back—to 600,000 years ago when the prehistoric ancestors of man stood up on their hind legs.

Senators and the denizens of the Pentagon simply growled. Representative Fulton, member of the House space committee, declared that he was "darned tired" of seeing the United States finish second in space and immediately shot off into a moan about a "really vital space gap" developing between the U.S. and the U.S.S.R.

Hugh Dryden, deputy director of the National Aeronautics and Space Administration, said bluntly that the U.S. "lost the space race long ago," while Representative Victor Anfuso hollered: "I want to see this country mobilized on a wartime basis because we are at war."

Raymond of *The New York Times* reports that the air force brass in the Pentagon have "decided to use the Soviet Union's spectacular achievements in space as a boost for their proposals for establishing military space platforms and for the possible use of bases on the moon and other celestial bodies. . . ."

While Soviet Cosmonaut Gagarin, weightless, in orbit at 28,000 kms. an hour, felt quite at home, weightlessness seems to have affected a pretty large section of the U.S. body politic.



attempt to paralyse the fighting will of the African people and maintain their colonial rule.

The new U.S. colonialists are even more sinister and ferocious, the editorial points out. Feigning "sympathy" with African "national independence" and using "aid to the underdeveloped countries" as a smoke-screen, they are staging an all-out invasion of Africa, in the political, economic, military, cultural and other fields, in a bid to replace the old colonialists there. The U.S. is attaching ever greater importance to the use of the U.N. as a tool for carrying out its aggressive policy in Africa and to cover up its neo-colonialist face, the editorial points out. In a 6-point plan concerning African policy put forward before he became president, Kennedy declared that "the U.S. must make the United Nations the central instrument of its efforts in Africa," the

editorial recalls. The events in the Congo have been precisely the result of the U.S. carrying out its aggressive policy through the instrumentality of the U.N.

The African people have won great victories in their struggle for national independence and freedom. But they will still have to wage a persistent and indomitable fight before they can drive the stubbornly struggling colonialists, new and old, out of Africa utterly and completely, and achieve and consolidate their independence and freedom. In seeking liberation, the African people must strengthen their unity and mutual support among themselves and form a broad anti-imperialist united front. An anti-imperialist united front is a reliable guarantee of victory for the African people in their struggle against the old and new colonialism, concludes the editorial.

CHINA AND THE WORLD

Trade Delegation Returns From U.S.S.R.

The Chinese Government Trade Delegation led by Minister of Foreign Trade Yeh Chi-chuang has returned from Moscow. During its stay in the Soviet Union, it signed together with the Soviet delegation a trade protocol on goods to be exchanged in 1961 and two related agreements. The delegation also visited Minsk, Kiev and Tbilisi, capitals of the Byelorussian, Ukrainian and Georgian S.S.Rs. respectively. Everywhere they received a most warm fraternal welcome.

Speaking at the Chinese Ambassador's reception to celebrate the signing of the trade protocol, Yeh Chi-chuang declared that the success of the Sino-Soviet trade talks marked a new step forward in the two countries' trading ties and showed the stronger relations of unity, mutual aid, friendship and co-operation developed between them after the 1960 Moscow Meeting of the Representatives of the Communist and Workers' Parties.

6th Congress of Indian C.P.

Warm, fraternal greetings were conveyed by the Central Committee of the Chinese Communist Party to the National Council of the Indian Communist Party on the convocation of the 6th Congress of the C.P.I. in Vijayawada.

The message reads in part:

"Together with the great Indian people, the Communist Party of India is waging a stern battle to safeguard and consolidate India's national independence, develop its national economy which is an aid to consolidating independence and improving the people's livelihood and defend their democratic rights and vital interests.

"The Communist Party and people of India have also made great efforts in opposing the policies of war and aggression of the imperialist bloc headed by U.S. imperialism, in safeguarding the peace of Asia and the world, in defending the Five Principles of

Peaceful Coexistence jointly initiated by China and India and in developing the traditional and great friendship between the peoples of China and India.

"Historically, both the Chinese and Indian peoples have suffered long years of imperialist slavery and oppression; consequently the Communist Party and people of China regard every success in the struggle of the Communist Party and people of India as their own and rejoice in it with a special feeling of warmth. History will prove that in spite of the difference in social systems the friendship between the two great peoples of China and India can never be disrupted.

"This congress of your Party is convened in an international situation in which the forces of socialism have surpassed those of imperialism and the forces of peace have surpassed those of war. The Statement and Appeal to the Peoples of All the World adopted by the recent Meeting of Representatives of the Communist and Workers' Parties are illuminating our path of advance. We are convinced that, through this congress and through the strenuous and complicated struggles of your Party and people, you will assuredly overcome all difficulties in your path of progress and make new contributions and win new success in strengthening the unity of all democratic and progressive forces of India and promoting the cause of the Indian people in the defence of world peace, the safeguarding of national independence and for democracy and socialism."

Latin American Guests

Chairman Mao Tse-tung and Premier Chou En-lai received on two separate occasions the Venezuelan peace fighter Senator Antonio Delgado Lozano and his son Dr. Fernando Delgado Espinoza, Chairman and member of the Venezuelan Leftist Revolutionary Movement. The Venezuelan guests are visiting China at the invitation of the China Peace Committee.

A Cuban Cultural Delegation led by Armando Hart, Minister of Education, is currently touring China at the invitation of the Chinese Commission for Cultural Relations with Foreign Countries. While in Peking, the delegation was received by Vice-Premier Lu

Ting-yi and attended several public receptions in their honour.

Chief Minister of the Federal Supreme Court of Brazil, Djalma Tavares da Cunha Mello, is currently visiting China. He was received on two separate occasions by Vice-Chairman of the People's Republic of China Tung Pi-wu and President of the Supreme People's Court Hsieh Chueh-tsai.

A 17-member economic delegation from Brazil headed by Otto da Rocha e Silva, Chairman of the Brazil International Trade Promotion Association, is now touring China. The Brazilians are the guests of the China Council for the Promotion of International Trade. Members of the delegation include Jose da Silva Matos, former President of the Amazonia Bank, and his wife; Francelino Bastos Franca, President of the Bank of Rio de Janeiro, and his wife; and Adelcio Banicio dos Santos, Director of the Cocoa Research Institute of Bahia State.

Other guests from Latin America:

Secretary-General of the Peace Movement of Chile Waldo Augusto Atias Martin.

Juan Emilio Pacull, President of the Chilean Journalists' Association, and his wife.

Ties with Africa

Diaka Bernadin, first Ambassador of the Republic of the Congo to China, has arrived in Peking along with members of the Congolese Embassy. He has presented his credentials to Tung Pi-wu, Vice-Chairman of the People's Republic of China.

Both the Chinese leader and the Congolese Ambassador spoke at the presentation ceremony. They underlined Sino-Congolese friendship and solidarity in the common fight against imperialism.

Vice-Chairman Tung Pi-wu reaffirmed the Chinese Government and people's solid support for the just struggle of the Congolese people. "The imperialists and colonialists," he said, "can never separate the people of our two countries. The common struggle against imperialism and colonialism has linked and will always closely unite our two peoples." The Chinese people, he added, greatly admire the

undaunted fighting spirit displayed by Patrice Lumumba, national hero of the Congo, and by the Congolese people and are convinced that final victory will be theirs.

Ambassador Diaka Bernadin said that when the People's Republic of China made known its desire to materialize the fraternal ties between the two countries, the legal Government of the Congo immediately dispatched to Peking its first group of Congolese diplomats. They will study the methods which brought victory to the Chinese people in their more than 20 years' struggle against imperialism and colonialism.

A public reception was given by the Chinese-African People's Friendship Association on April 17 in Peking to mark its first anniversary and to welcome the first Ghanaian Ambassador to China Cobina Kessie and the first Congolese Ambassador to China Diaka Bernadin. U.A.R. Ambassador to China Salah el Dine Tarazi was also a guest of honour. Addressing the gathering, Vice-President of the Association Bur-

han Shahidi hailed the striking growth of friendship between the peoples of China and Africa in the past year. He reiterated the solid backing of the 650 million Chinese people for their African brothers.

The Chinese Government Trade Delegation headed by Vice-Minister of Foreign Trade Lu Hsu-chang is currently visiting Nigeria at the invitation of the Nigerian Federal Government.

Earlier, the delegation made a three-week tour in the Republic of Mali where they signed a trade and payments agreement. They later spent two weeks in Guinea, where they were received by President Sekou Toure and other Guinean government leaders, and another two weeks in Ghana where they were received by President Nkrumah and Ghanaian Trade Minister Goka.

A Chinese-African People's Friendship Association delegation led by its president, Liu Chang-sheng, is also touring the West African states. They

have visited Mali and Guinea and are now in Ghana.

Fellow Asian Countries

An Indonesian industrial delegation headed by Skanto, Chief of the Directorate of Industrial Enterprises of the Indonesian Ministry of Civil Industries, is now in Peking for talks with Chinese trade representatives. A draft Sino-Indonesian agreement on economic and technical co-operation has been worked out and notes exchanged between it and the Chinese Ministry of Foreign Trade.

Premier Chou En-lai has received the delegation.

Rice transplanting machines modelled after those introduced from China will be widely used in Burma in the coming rainy season. A practical demonstration of the Chinese rice transplanters was given at a model government farm at Hmawbi last year. They soon won wide popularity in the surrounding areas and later on in other districts. The Burmese model, made of wood and bamboo, can do the work of five men.

African Students in Peking Demonstrate Against Imperialism

African students in Peking held an anti-imperialist demonstration and rally on April 16 to mark Africa Week. They firmly demanded that all colonialists, new and old, get out of Africa. Over 3,000 Chinese students and students of various countries in the Chinese capital joined their ranks.

Carrying a huge streamer inscribed "African Students Vehemently Oppose Imperialism, Colonialism, Neo-Colonialism," the demonstrators marched along broad West Changan Boulevard to Tien An Men Square in the heart of the city. Placards and slogans conveyed their support for the valiant struggles of the peoples of Algeria, Angola, the Congo and Kamerun. They also expressed solidarity with the peoples of Asia and Latin America in their fight against imperialism, demanding that U.S. imperialism clear out of Laos, south Viet Nam, south Korea and China's Taiwan and shouting "Cuba si, Yankees no!" Passers-by stopped to applaud and manifested warm support for the demonstrators.

The demonstration was followed by a rally in Chungshan Park. Leaders of the newly formed African Students' Union in China—Elias Menya Okidi (Uganda), president; E. John Hevi (Ghana), secretary-general; and Wadi Hassan Abdallah (Chad), financial secretary—addressed the meeting. They strongly condemned imperialist and colonialist suppression of the African national liberation movement. Okidi declared: "Africa is for Africans—it is not an extension of Europe nor of the U.S. Hands off Africa!" Hevi pointed out that the United States is trying to take the place of the existing

colonialists in Africa. "To the greedy Yankees, Africa says no!" he said. Speaking at the rally, Wang Teh-yang, Chairman of the Peking Students' Union, emphasized that the Chinese students and people always stand four square behind the anti-imperialist struggles in Asia, Africa and Latin America.

Earlier, the African Students' Union in China had sent a cable to the United Nations, declaring that it had "lost confidence in the United Nations with reference to its mishandling of the Congo situation." The cable continued: "We hold the UNO, Belgian, U.S. and other capitalist plotters responsible for Lumumba's death. We ask for the reorganization of the UNO Secretariat and the dismissal of Hammarskjold. The UNO must cease acting as a capitalist-imperialist tool and take realistic action with reference to decolonizing Africa." The Union had also sent a cable to the All-African People's Conference Secretariat, declaring: "We firmly support the Gizenga government. We support the formation of an African High Command to hasten decolonization. We encourage the political union of the African states."

On April 15, the African students in Peking gathered to celebrate the founding of their Union. Its president, Okidi, defined the aims of the Union which include the fostering of co-operation and unity among the African students, struggle against imperialism and colonialism, and the promotion of Sino-African friendship. He also stressed the Union's responsibility in helping African students make their studies in China fully successful.

CULTURAL RELICS

Protection of China's Heritage

A recent directive of the State Council assures more careful protection of the nation's monuments and relics of historical, artistic and scientific importance. It is accompanied by detailed regulations governing the protection of cultural remains, notable buildings, sites and relics connected with important historical events, the revolutionary movement and outstanding revolutionaries; valuable ancient settlements, tombs, buildings, cave monasteries and stone sculptures are given special attention. The Government accords protection to valuable art work and art handicrafts of different periods, revolutionary documents, ancient books and other objects. Except with the approval of the State Council for exhibition abroad or for exchange, they may not be taken out of the country.

The first group of 180 monuments and relics the State Council lists for special care includes 33 revolutionary sites and buildings, 14 cave monasteries, 77 ancient buildings and buildings of historical interest, 11 stone sculptures and other statues, 26 ancient settlements and 19 ancient tombs.

Museums and research institutes are to be set up to protect specially important monuments and relics. The State Council stresses the importance of preserving the original appearance of the historical buildings and their surroundings undergoing repairs or reconstruction. It also stresses the importance of giving timely attention to monuments and relics in areas where extensive construction work will be undertaken.

The present directive is part of the continuing attention which the Communist Party and the Government have paid since liberation to the protection of the nation's historical monuments and relics, and palaeontological remains.

FOLK ART

New Papercuts

There is a greater variety and output of papercuts in China today than ever before in the history of this ancient folk art. Some are as delicate

and intricate as fine embroidery. Others as colourful as stained glass; still others again have the rough strength of a bold linocut. Their subjects range through the new life of China and its history, landscapes, figures, still life, animals real and mythical. . . . In both form and content the papercut today has gone far beyond the old prototypes. A new, fresh art of the papercut has emerged. The two examples reproduced give a glimpse of some of the new developments.

The attractive cut-out *The Hunter*, quarry in hand and foot firmly placed on a rock beneath a pine tree—has the typical vigour and clarity of conception and execution of the latest north China cut-outs. It borrows much from the folk tradition and this is the secret of its immediate appeal to the popular masses. *Heroes, to Horse!* by Lin Hsi-ming of Shanghai is an eloquent vignette of the spirit of the Chinese people in the big leap forward. In vigour and strength of line, it bears a striking resemblance to the stone reliefs of Han times.



Heroes, to Horse!

Shanghai papercut

The tradition of making papercuts in China is immensely old. The country people have long been accustomed to use them to decorate their windows and walls during the New Year and on other festive occasions. Many are made by the peasant families for themselves; others, made as sidelines, can be bought on the village markets and in city shops. As a rule they are cut out of red paper—in China a colour symbolizing auspiciousness—but some are cut out of black or other coloured paper with further colours pasted behind to fill the interstices, like glass in a stained glass window. Others

again are cut in white and hand tinted. All make a most attractive display for any festival.

Papercuts in the old days mostly symbolized good luck wishes: *Ji qing you yu* (May there be an abundance of joy!) and *Gui zi deng ke* (May our son be successful in the official examinations!) were common subjects. Others mirrored the people's hopes for good harvests, or depicted local customs and manners (herding flocks of sheep or camels in papercuts made in China's northwest; sailing boats in China's well-watered southern provinces). Flowers, birds, cats, lions, fish were always popular. Scenes from folk operas, popular heroes and heroines and landscapes of pagodas, bridges, trees and mountains were also favourite themes. In addition to these papercuts used for house decoration there was another category of scissorcuts prepared for peasant women as patterns for embroidery to beautify their aprons, collars and shoes. These were usually made of a kind of white, thin but sturdy paper, and were, of course, restricted to the more decorative subjects and designs.

The usual instrument for making a papercut is a small, sharp knife. But there are many women whose nimble fingers wielding scissors make beautiful cuts straight off without even a pattern, hence the alternative name: scissorcuts. But no matter what instrument is used the results have their strong local character. Roughly, one may say that designs of the northwest are generally simply cut but with a vigorous touch; those from south China have finer lines and give more attention to details; while those made in north China are marked by greater subtlety of conception, but with strong, bold lines. Yet there are countless local and individual variations within these broad general styles that make papercut collecting a fascinating hobby.

During the War of Resistance Against Japan (1937-45), professional artists in the liberated areas were much attracted by this folk art medium and they were the first to create a considerable number of papercuts showing the new revolutionary life of the people. This trend towards modern themes has developed much further since liberation. Today it is this urge to reflect, to praise, to revel in and build the new socialist society that is



The Hunter
North China papercut

the inspiration for the most vital of the new papercuts being made both by professional and folk artists.

CINEMA

U.S. Film "Salt of the Earth" Warmly Received

The U.S. film *Salt of the Earth*, dubbed in Chinese by the Shanghai Dubbing Studio and released in Peking in mid-March, has been enthusiastically received here by audiences and reviewers alike. It is still being shown to packed houses.

Writing on the literary page of *Renmin Ribao*, Po Teh-lu, a miner from the Mengtougou Colliery on the outskirts of Peking, who before liberation narrowly escaped death several times in his years underground and is today head of the security inspection department of the mines, said: "*Salt of the Earth* brought back to me those miserable years before liberation. Watching it on the screen I had the feeling of being part of the struggle of our American working brothers. How much I wanted to get in there and help them fight those vicious, intriguing mine owners."

Contrasting his own degradation and wretchedness from the time he came to the mines as a child labourer at the age of 13 with his transformed life today Po wrote: "Through this film I see even more clearly the great difference in the destiny of workers under the different systems of socialism and of capitalism. . . . We Chinese workers and miners in our happy

life today, do not forget that there are still toiling brothers elsewhere in the world who are suffering oppression. We stand together with our fighting American working brothers and sisters. We believe they will win ultimate victory in their struggle just as those in *Salt of the Earth* emerged triumphant in their strike. The miserable days will eventually become a thing of the past; a happy tomorrow is bound to come!"

The poet Yuan Shui-po shares miner Po's opinion. In a long appreciation carried in the *Renmin Ribao*, he wrote that it showed the fine character of the American people; "the U.S. imperialists are our enemies, but the American people, the American working class are our brothers and sisters and our comrades-in-arms."

He had high praise for the artistry of the film, calling it "a most precious treasure of progressive art in the United States." "Ideologically," he wrote, "the film is moving, and artistically, it has a unique style all its own. It glows with the beauty of simplicity and truth . . . it is said that script writer Michael Wilson and director Herbert Biberman lived for a long time at the scene of the strike and interviewed many people there. In making the film, they scrupulously observed the accuracy of the basic situation down to the smallest detail. The script was subject to discussion by the miners. Of course, there is artistic generalization and attention to typicalness. But even these aspects were realized with the participation of the workers. The creative experience involved in making this film certainly deserves our careful study."

In the same paper another review entitled "From Ordinary Workers to Class Fighters" pointed out: "*Salt of the Earth* derives its subject matter from a broad society. . . . It successfully presents three types of contradictions and conflicts: class struggle, racial discrimination and family dissension. Of these the main contradiction is the class struggle with all the others interwoven and dramatized in the conflict which develops between the miner and his wife. These two did not at first grasp clearly that all other contradictions should be subordinated to the needs of the class struggle. However, taught by reality, they learn to recognize their class enemy." The review goes on to say

that the film "is truly the record in art of a great battle. There is no question but that it is a splendid jewel in the arts of the international working class. . . . We salute the American workers. We stand by their side, now and for ever."

The enormous difficulties experienced in the whole course of making this film were described at length in the press. Also related was how, harassed in its filming and distribution in the United States, it has been welcomed and acclaimed by audiences throughout the world. More than one reviewer noted that the film was awarded a special prize at the 8th International Film Festival at Karlovy Vary, Czechoslovakia, and that Rosalia Revueltes, famous Mexican screen actress who is its heroine, won a prize for acting at that same festival. It is the consensus of opinion here that these were honours richly deserved by *Salt of the Earth* and its talented courageous star.

SHORT NOTES

Soviet Artists in China. Visiting Soviet singers and musicians gave three extremely successful performances in Peking which were hailed by a *Renmin Ribao* review as "consummate art" and "the voice of friendship." Their programmes included: Moussorgsky's *Pictures from an Exhibition* played by pianist Viktor Merzhanov, international Chopin contest winner; vocal solos by the baritone Aleksandre Sutyagin, People's Artist of the R.S.F.S.R., and *coloratura* soprano Nina Guselnikova, Merited Artist of the Byelorussian S.S.R.; and violin solos by Boris Kunev, international prize winner.

From Peking, the visiting artists went to Nanking where they gave two public performances and one for peasants in a people's commune. Their tour of other cities still continues.

Film on World Table Tennis Championships. This Central Newsreel and Documentary Studio production, released on April 13 and covering the event from its opening to the final winning of the Swaythling and Corbillon cups by China and Japan, is being shown in 13 cinemas in Peking. Running half an hour, it is the first part of a complete documentary on the championships.

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