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3

January 18, 1963

Latin America on the March

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A WEEKLY MAGAZINE OF CHINESE NEWS AND VIEWS

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(BEIJING ZHOUBAO)

A WEEKLY MAGAZINE OF CHINESE
NEWS AND VIEWS

January 18, 1963 Vol. VI No. 3

CONTENTS

ROUND THE WEEK	3
Winter Overhaul; New Coalmines; Mao Tse-tung's Works in Minority Languages; Remembrances of Things Past	
ARTICLES	
India's Attitude on the Border Issue Needs Watching — Renmin Ribao Commentator	5
Indian Intrusions Across China- Sikkim Boundary	6
Latin America on the March — Lo Chi	6
The Last Days of Thanh-Truong — Tai Feng	9
Why the People Win in S. Viet Nam	11
Archaeology in New China — Hsia Nai	13
CHINA AND THE WORLD	20
Women's Congress of the Ameri- cas; Protocol for Kathmandu- Lhasa Highway Signed; Sino- Iraqi Trade Talks; Protests to Asian Table Tennis Federation; Briefs	
PUBLISHING, BALLET	21
Knowledge in a Nutshell; <i>Fountain of Bakhchisarai</i> ; Short Notes	
WHAT'S ON IN PEKING	23

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ROUND THE WEEK

Winter Overhaul

The nation's farms are busy overhauling their machinery and implements in preparation for the spring ploughing and sowing.

This year, they face a bigger job than ever before in this field, because they have more farm machines than they ever had in previous years. More tractors, for instance, with about a hundred thousand tractors today as against only 1,200 before liberation. They have much more irrigation and drainage machinery and other equipment too.

Since winter set in, the workshops of machine repair plants, tractor stations and irrigation and drainage centres throughout the land have been humming with activity. While busy with their jobs, the workers are swapping experience, mastering advanced techniques and introducing innovations to get their work done quicker and better. With spring drawing near, they are redoubling their efforts to complete the work in time. Incomplete figures from Heilungkiang, Liaoning, Hopei, Kiangsu, Szechuan and twelve other provinces show that, by the end of the first week of this month, about 20 per cent of the tractors that need repairs are now shipshape.

The nation's major factories and workshops have done their best to make the winter overhaul campaign a success. The steel mills have supplied thousands of tons of quality steels rolled to the most diverse specifications. Machine works have rushed out urgently needed machine tools and parts. Last year, over 200 machinery plants in Shanghai, Shenyang and Chungking and other engineering centres turned out whole sets of special repair equipment as well as a million precision-made parts for the repair of farm machines, including pistons, piston rings and crankshafts.

Priority for these special machines and parts has gone to the provinces in northeast and north China which have more tractors than other provinces and to Chekiang, Kiangsu and Kwangtung which have more irrigation and drainage machinery. The northeast-

ernmost province of Heilungkiang, for instance, which has the largest tractor park in the country, last year received over 800,000 tractor parts and accessories and nearly 600 special machine tools and other equipment for overhauling tractors. Now installed, these latter items have doubled the province's capacity for large repairs.

Veteran workers and technicians from factories in many provinces have organized teams which are touring the countryside and making repairs on the spot. In Shansi Province alone, over 300 experienced workers and mechanics are touring the rural people's communes in groups, overhauling farm machines and, at the same time, passing on technical know-how to peasants keen on learning the tricks of the trade.

Now proceeding at full tilt, winter overhauling is expected to be completed in about seven or eight weeks' time when the greater part of the country's farmlands will be warm enough for the spring ploughing and watering.

New Coalmines

Two new, large and highly mechanized coalmines have been commissioned recently. One is on Peking's western outskirts at Mentoukow — part of the Chinghsi mining centre. It has a designed capacity of 600,000 tons a year. This is 50,000 tons more than the peak annual output of the whole Mentoukow area when it was under the control of the Japanese and British imperialists. The Chinghsi colliery, as a whole, has been greatly enlarged since liberation. Last year, it produced 16 times as much coal as in 1949, the year the People's Republic was founded.

The other new mine is at Hsinwen, to the southeast of Taian in Shantung Province in east China. It was commissioned at the end of last year. The deposits here are large and the coal is of fine quality. The mine's designed capacity is 1.2 million tons a year. Part of the seams lie under a river-bed and, in the course of construction, loose silt and water posed special problems. These, however, have all been successfully solved

by the Chinese engineers and builders who devised special safety installations to guard against water, fire and gas. These and the good ventilation, water-sprays to keep down dust, lighting and other facilities make the mine one of the best equipped in the country.

Production is highly mechanized here too. Mining is by hydraulic flushing; then the coal is transported by a 1,000-metre-long belt conveyor from the pit bottom to the sorting and grading sheds and the coaling station where it is loaded on to the railway waggons.

Small Pits Modernized: Along with the building of big modern mines, small coalmines in various provinces are being improved to boost output. Most of these were opened only a few years ago; they have well proved their worth. They tap coal deposits scattered in various parts of the country that are too small for large-scale workings. Supplying homes and enterprises in the immediate locality, they cut transport costs and effect big economies.

The indigenous mining methods with which they started have in many cases been replaced by more modern mechanical means which have considerably increased output. Mechanical improvements in Shansi Province's 1,000 and more small coalmines enabled them to reach and pass their 1962 production quotas by 5 per cent a month ahead of time.

Mao Tse-tung's Works in Minority Languages

A Kazakh edition of the *Selected Works of Mao Tse-tung*, Volume IV, came off the press recently. It was a welcome gift to China's Kazakh people who at the end of last year celebrated the eighth anniversary of the founding of the Ili Kazakh Autonomous Chou, the largest of the autonomous chous established for the minority peoples living in Sinkiang in north-

west China. Earlier, the Nationalities Publishing House in Peking had brought out a Kazakh edition of the first volume of Chairman Mao's selected works.

Chairman Mao's works enjoy great popularity among the nation's minority peoples. Over the years the Nationalities Publishing House has brought out editions of his works in various minority languages. To date, Volumes I to IV are available in Mongolian and Korean; Volumes I, II and IV have been published in Uighur; Volumes I and II in Tibetan. Tens of thousands of copies of each volume have been bought by the minority peoples eager to study the revolutionary teachings of this great leader of the Chinese people.

Remembrances of Things Past

Some weeks ago, at the Hongwei Farm on Changchun's outskirts in northeast China, Director Ma Ching-jen found himself surrounded and "interviewed" by a couple of score of pupils from the city's Dongzhan Primary School.

"Tell us what it was like here before," they begged. Director Ma preferred to talk about the present and the future, but he knew that the past had its lessons. "The peasants who settled in these parts," he said to the children, "were practically all penniless refugees who, as a result of crop failures, were forced to flee their homes in search of a living elsewhere. They had a hard time of it before liberation, what with warlords, the Japanese invaders and the Kuomintang. Even after liberation when they got land through the land reform and organized mutual-aid teams, things were not too easy. They were short of draught animals and farm tools and much else. But they kept hard at it." He told them of those old days and how in the past 13 years the mutual-aid teams had developed first into co-

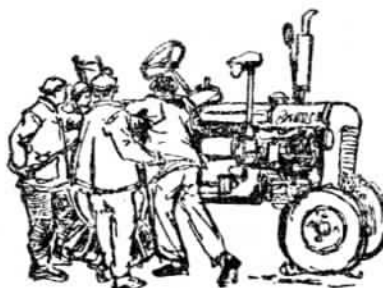
ops and then into the people's communes of today. "The farms have made much headway," he continued. "Now they have more draught animals, farm tools and machines and even lorries. Many peasant families have their own radio sets, bicycles and sewing machines too. Our life today is happy and secure, but we never forget the long hard way we have come."

The children listened, silent and wide-eyed. Some time after, they visited Chung Chung-shih, a veteran worker at the Changchun Building Machinery Factory. Old Chung told them of life in their district before liberation. "There were few real factories then," he said. "Apart from a tobacco plant and a printing shop, there were only a handful of dark crude workshops owned by a few petty capitalists." He told them of the blighted life of the people in those times. Then he pointed around to the big factory chimney-stacks and roofs that dotted the skyline. "All these were built after liberation," he said.

Such "interview" lessons with veteran workers and peasants have become part of the curriculum in schools in Changchun, as well as in Tientsin, Shanghai, Peking and other cities. The national press has recently drawn attention to them as an imaginative way of educating the younger generation. New China's children are surrounded by the love of their families and the care of the state and schools. Their life is made as happy as possible, but it is essential as part of their education and upbringing that they should understand and never forget the long and difficult road the Chinese people traversed before achieving victory under the leadership of the Chinese Communist Party. Through a comparison of the past and present they learn to treasure all the more their happy life today and carry forward the fine tradition of the pioneers of the revolution.



Overhauling Farm Machines



Sketches by Hsi Lin

India's Attitude on the Border Issue Needs Watching

by "RENMIN RIBAO" COMMENTATOR

Following is an abridged translation of a commentary published in "Renmin Ribao" on January 13, 1963, under the title "Closely Watch the Indian Government's Attitude." Subheads are ours.—Ed.

A SPOKESMAN of the Chinese Ministry of National Defence announced today that the Chinese frontier guards in the regions of Tibet and Sinkiang will continue to withdraw on their own initiative from the entire Sino-Indian border, including Tawang and other places. On the eastern sector, they will by January 15 withdraw to areas north of the line of actual control which existed between China and India on November 7, 1959. On the western sector, they will by January 15 withdraw to areas on the Chinese side 20 kilometres behind the line of actual control, except at some sentry posts which were established before November 7, 1959, and which will be preserved and handed over to civil police check-posts. The faithful carrying out by the Chinese frontier guards of the Chinese Government's decision announced on November 21, 1962, fully testifies to the latter's good faith in easing the tension on the Sino-Indian border and seeking a peaceful settlement of the Sino-Indian border issue.

Two Contrasting Attitudes

Since the Chinese Government's November 21, 1962, announcement of its decision to take the initiative in ceasing fire and withdrawing its frontier guards in order to solve peacefully the Sino-Indian boundary question, the whole world has seen that the Chinese and Indian Governments have adopted two diametrically opposed attitudes on the boundary question.

The Chinese Government has faithfully fulfilled its promise. In addition, during the period from December 5 to 31 last year, the Chinese frontier guards released at Bomdila and other places six groups of captured Indian army personnel who were wounded or sick.

All this indisputably proves that the Chinese Government has no wish to cross swords with the Indian Government over the border issue and that, after the outbreak of the unfortunate armed conflict provoked by the Indian side, it has been doing everything in its power to avert any resumption of the border conflict.

By contrast, the Indian Government has to date failed to reciprocate the Chinese Government's goodwill. Instead of responding positively to the ceasefire and withdrawal which the Chinese frontier guards effected on their own initiative, the Indian Government even used this opportunity to commit a series of grave provocations against the Chinese frontier guards. On the eastern sector of the Sino-Indian border, the Indian troops on No-

vember 27, 1962, started pressing forward towards the Chinese ceasefire line at Yingko Pass and the adjoining areas. On the western sector of the Sino-Indian border, since the Chinese frontier guards ceased fire on their own initiative, the Indian troops have on eight occasions intruded into Chinese territory to engage in harassing and provocative activities. What is particularly grave is that Indian aircraft have repeatedly intruded into China's air space on provocative reconnaissance missions, flying directly over the Chinese frontier guard posts and over such major Tibetan cities as Lhasa and Shigatse and the interior of Sinkiang. In the period between November 22, 1962, and January 10, 1963, alone, Indian aircraft intruded into Chinese territorial air on as many as 26 occasions.

Meanwhile, the Indian Government has continued to step up its war mobilization and stir up a war atmosphere within the country. Right up to the present moment, the Indian President, Prime Minister and other top-ranking officials continue to make bellicose statements. Nehru made five such speeches on January 6 and 7, alleging time and again that "our [Indian] fundamental conflict with China has not ended" and that "war efforts" must not be slackened.

With a view to fanning up anti-China hysteria, the Indian Government, despite the Chinese Government's repeated protests, has intensified its persecution of Chinese nationals in India and unilaterally torn up the agreement on the exchange of consulates-general between the two countries. It does not scruple to resort to all available means to worsen its relations with China.

It must be noted that at a time when the Chinese frontier guards are continuing to withdraw on their own initiative, a spokesman of the Indian Ministry of External Affairs on January 10 even went to the length of falsely accusing the Chinese frontier guards of "violating" the ceasefire on 34 occasions during the period between November 21 and December 2 last year. What can be the motive behind this trumped-up charge made by the Indian Government at the present juncture? Such a move cannot but put people on the alert.

China's Steadfast Stand

We always maintain that the Sino-Indian boundary question can only be settled through peaceful negotiations. We have taken a series of important measures for the reopening of negotiations with India. But what the Indian Government has done sharply contrasts with the measures taken by the Chinese Government. From all this the world can see more clearly than ever before that the Chinese Government has exerted tremendous efforts for the peaceful settlement of the Sino-Indian boundary question while

Indian Intrusions Across China-Sikkim Boundary

IN its note of August 24, 1962, to the Indian Embassy in Peking, the Chinese Government drew attention to three occasions last June when armed Indian personnel crossed the China-Sikkim border and intruded into Chinese territory. It urged that India immediately stop such activities. However, in spite of the Chinese protest, the Indian side has since intensified, not stopped, its flagrant encroachments on Chinese territory.

On September 28, 1962, Indian troops crossed the Natu La Pass on the China-Sikkim border and penetrated about 300 metres into Chinese territory where they started building fortified structures. In the past few months, they have built a total of 39 pillboxes on Chinese territory. They have also strung up barbed wire, dug communication trenches at Natu La and blocked the pass to hinder the normal movements of border inhabitants. Furthermore, the Indian troops, who have been several times reinforced, have repeatedly intruded into Chinese territory to engage in reconnaissance and provocative activities. Meanwhile, Indian aircraft have many times intruded, via the Natu La and other passes, into China's air space over the Khamba Dzong and other areas in Tibet for reconnoitring and harassing purposes. As many as 12 verified cases of such intrusions took place from October 19 to December 11, 1962, alone.

The Chinese Ministry of Foreign Affairs in a note to the Indian Embassy in Peking on January 10 lodged a serious protest with the Indian Government against these grave violations of China's territory and air space across the China-Sikkim border.

"The China-Sikkim boundary," the protest pointed out, "which was formally delimited long ago, has always been tranquil and Natu La is a pass through which Chinese and Sikkim border inhabitants customarily move to and fro. The utilization of the territory of Sikkim by Indian troops for intrusions into China and for blocking the normal customary movements of border inhabitants can only be regarded as a deliberate act to upset the tranquillity along the China-Sikkim border."

The protest emphasized: "Moreover, the Chinese Government solemnly declares that China has consistently respected the China-Sikkim border which has long been delimited and that the Indian scheme to create tension along the China-Sikkim border so as to impair the good neighbourly relations between China and Sikkim will definitely fail."

"The Chinese Government once again urges that the Indian side immediately cease its various activities of intrusions into Chinese territory and air space across the China-Sikkim boundary," the Chinese note stressed.

the Indian Government has throughout persisted stubbornly in its unreasonable stand and has continued to whip up an anti-China campaign. Isn't it very clear who does not want an easing of tension in the Sino-Indian

border situation and who is harbouring ulterior motives and unwilling to settle the Sino-Indian boundary question through peaceful negotiations in the interests of Sino-Indian friendship?

The Surging National-Democratic Movements

Latin America on the March

by LO CHI

IN Latin America, as in other parts of the world, the year 1962 saw the East wind prevailing even more over the West wind. The essential features of the situation there last year were: the unprecedented exposure of the U.S. imperialists' dual tactics of the "arrows" and the "olive branch"; the great victory won by the heroic Cuban people in their sharp and difficult struggles against U.S. aggression; the growth of the revolutionary fighting will of the Latin American people who saw more clearly than ever how to advance to liberation; the further isolation and increasing difficulties of the reactionary, pro-U.S. rulers in various countries as a result of their anti-popular activities; the opening of a new stage in the advance of the great struggle of the Latin American peoples against U.S. aggression and enslavement and for national independence, democracy and freedom.

The Cuban Path

With the great victory of the Cuban people's revolution and their struggle against aggression and the

increasing exposure of the counter-revolutionary dual tactics of U.S. imperialism, a profound change is taking place in the national and democratic struggles in Latin America. The truth demonstrated by Cuba has so gripped the minds of millions of people that they have been proving by deeds that the Cuban path is the one which all Latin America will take.

The criminal interventionist and aggressive activities of the United States against Cuba have resulted in one upsurge after another in defence of Cuba throughout the rest of Latin America. When the United States called the American Foreign Ministers' Conference at Punta del Este last January-February to work out plans for intervention in Cuba, when a U.S. warship shelled Havana last August and when the United States announced its military blockade of Cuba in late October last year, a movement of protest in support of Cuba swept the whole of Latin America; it embraced workers, peasants, students, intellectuals, political personalities and other wide sections of the people. This movement

spread even to those countries which are under brutal fascist rule. As they struggled to defend Cuba, the masses in the Latin American countries condemned their own domestic reactionaries' support for U.S. intervention in Cuba, denounced their governments' reactionary foreign, domestic and economic policies and opposed capitulation to U.S. imperialism and monopoly capital.

The inspiring example of the Cuban revolution has transformed itself into a material force in the struggles of the peoples of the various countries. The clarion call of the Second Havana Declaration issued on February 4 last year by the Cuban people has been heard in every corner of Latin America. This declaration tells the people that no illusions whatsoever must be entertained about U.S. imperialism and its lackeys and that the people must wage an armed struggle to win liberation when U.S. imperialism and the reactionary oligarchies block all the peaceful paths to democracy. This great revolutionary call has won a widespread, enthusiastic response.

Polarization of Political Forces

Another basic feature in these developments in Latin America is the polarization of political forces and their sharpening contradictions in many countries. On the one hand, the reactionary upper strata of the ruling groups are turning more and more to the Right and serving the interests of U.S. imperialism and the oligarchies in an ever more blatant manner. On the other, the broad masses of the people are looking forward more and more to revolution. Their increasing opposition has led to unprecedentedly acute crises of the regimes in many countries and the increasing isolation of their rulers.

One typical example is provided by the Betancourt government of Venezuela. In foreign affairs, it is acting ever more rabidly as a United States cat's-paw against Cuba and, at home, is engaged in brutal attempts to suppress the struggle of the Venezuelan people in defence of the Cuban revolution and to win freedom and democracy. Four days after the Kennedy Administration announced its decision to blockade Cuba, the Betancourt government, under the pretext of eliminating a "threat" from Cuba, ordered general mobilization of its armed forces. Then, at Washington's bidding it accused Cuba, at a special meeting of the Council of the Organization of American States, of engineering a "subversive conspiracy" in Venezuela. Since the Betancourt government assumed office, it has four times suspended constitutional guarantees and deprived the people of the rights they enjoy under the constitution. Three thousand patriotic democrats have been thrown into jail. Facts prove that, faced with opposition from the various sections of the people, the Betancourt group, which so loudly professes its dedication to "democracy," depends on bayonets and jails to maintain its tottering rule.

In Guatemala in Central America, the pro-U.S. Ydigoras dictatorship is also stepping up its anti-Cuba and anti-popular policies. It is sitting on top of a volcano and is liable to be overthrown at any moment.

The widespread mass movement against the pro-U.S. dictatorship which broke out in Guatemala last March, April and May marked a new stage in the Guatemalan

people's revolutionary struggle. Although the regime managed to survive this storm, general dissatisfaction and opposition are growing throughout the country. On November 25, last year, officers of the air force staged a revolt and bombed the presidential palace. This showed that the disintegration of the regime is spreading to the armed forces.

The U.S. *Newsweek* has pointed out that "Ydigoras, in fact, had no visible means of support except the police, *milicianos*, army and . . . the U.S. Government." This apt description goes for all the pro-U.S. dictators in Latin America, who are despised by their own people.

The Argentine situation presents a similar picture. After the collapse of the pro-U.S. Frondizi government, the succeeding Guido government controlled by the military groups has carried on the anti-Cuba and anti-popular policies it inherited. Despite the high-handed rule to which they are subjected, the Argentine people have taken up various forms of struggle, including general strikes, mass meetings, demonstrations and lightning parades. They protested against the anti-democratic actions of the government, demanded the fulfilment of their minimum programme to safeguard their right to live and opposed the dispatch of troops by the government to take part in intervention in Cuba.

Armed Struggle

An important indication of the sharpening of the people's fight in Latin America is that armed struggles have broken out in several countries.

The Cuban revolution is the first revolution in Latin America to gain victory through armed struggle. Following the victory of their revolution, the Cuban people began to arm themselves on a nationwide scale to defend and develop their revolution. This shows that victory can definitely be won in the fight against U.S. imperialism, which outwardly appears to be strong but is actually weak, as well as against the dictatorial regimes that it manipulates. The Cuban revolution has given a great impetus to the national and democratic movements in Latin America. Armed struggles against pro-U.S. dictatorships and the armed seizure of land by the peasants are spreading like a prairie fire in a number of Latin American countries.

Armed struggle is a new feature of the national and democratic movements in Latin America. It demonstrates that the revolutionary situation there is daily ripening and that U.S. imperialism and its lackeys are having an increasingly difficult time. Under the pressure of U.S. imperialism, many Latin American governments have gradually turned to the Right and the road of the people's legal struggle has been completely blocked by the reactionaries. In these circumstances, the people have no alternative but to resort to armed struggle.

Venezuelan patriots, for instance, have launched guerrilla warfare against the reactionary regime of the Betancourt government. The guerrillas have been very active since March 1962 and made frequent attacks on the government forces. The Venezuelan authorities officially admit that guerrilla activities have spread to more than one-third of the country's 20 states. Latest reports indicate that the guerrilla units of the Venezuelan Na-

tional Liberation Army are engaged in anti-government activities not only in the mountain areas but also in villages, towns and cities. Patriots in the government troops revolted twice, in May and June. These two revolts were suppressed only after bitter fighting. The battle for the port of Cabello was one of the most fiercely contested actions in any revolt in the history of Venezuela. After the Kennedy Administration announced its military blockade of Cuba, the headquarters of the Venezuelan National Liberation Army gave orders to all officers and men to go into action immediately against U.S. personnel, U.S. equipment and property in the country.

In Guatemala, armed struggle against the pro-U.S. dictatorship broke out again in February 1962. The "Aljandero de Leon November 13 Guerrilla Front"—formed by a group of patriotic armymen who had been ruthlessly suppressed by the United States and the Ydigoras dictatorial regime in their uprising in November 1960—is active in northeastern Guatemala. Another detachment of insurgent forces, named "the October 20 Guerrilla Front," is also active in many other areas. These guerrilla forces have attacked government troops not only in remote areas but also in districts near the capital.

In Colombia, anti-government armed forces are waging a resolute struggle. The Colombian people's armed struggle has made fresh progress since the victory of the Cuban revolution. Guerrilla activities have spread to 11 out of the country's 16 provinces. Stepping up their activities in 1962, they attacked government troops and police in the Andes Mountains. It was officially admitted that they had engaged the reactionary government's troops in Valle de Cauca, Caldas, Tolima and other provinces.

In Ecuador, in April 1962, a group of patriotic youth led by members of the Ecuadorian Union of Revolutionary Youth attacked a place only 90 kilometres from Quito, the capital. The Ecuadorian authorities, greatly alarmed, have arrested a large number of patriots and stepped up its repression. This struggle, as the Ecuadorian Communist Party pointed out, shows the people's courage and determination to fight against the reactionary regime that oppresses them.

United Front and Joint Action

In their patriotic struggles against U.S. imperialism and their domestic reactionaries, people from all walks of life in many Latin American countries have formed united fronts and are increasingly organizing joint actions. Through these, they have succeeded on more than one occasion in frustrating the plots of imperialism and the reactionaries and strengthening their own positions.

In Brazil, following their victories in the anti-coup d'état struggles in August and September, 1961, the national and democratic forces again succeeded in repulsing the attacks of the U.S.-supported Right-wing reactionary forces in three fresh major political struggles in March, July and September, 1962.

The reactionaries, in their attempt to engineer a political coup, wanted Brazil to carry through a policy of capitulating to U.S. imperialism, opposing Cuba, obstructing reform and oppressing the people. Workers, peasants, students, petty bourgeoisie and national bourgeoisie and a number of patriotic armymen, however, joined in the struggles against the reactionaries' conspiracy to stage a

coup d'état. A tremendous mass movement involving general strikes, student strikes, protests and demonstrations swept the country. Leaders of the armed forces issued statements against the conspiracies of the reactionaries. This compelled the pro-U.S. Right-wing forces to draw in their horns. These events show that the national and democratic forces in Brazil have steadily become stronger.

In 1962, patriotic and democratic united front organizations were set up in still more Latin American countries. In July, a Left-wing liberation front was formed in Uruguay by the Communist Party of Uruguay, the Oriental Revolutionary Movement and many other Left-wing political parties and organizations. The common basis of this united front is to win national liberation, social justice and support for the political programmes of the Cuban revolution.

In April, a democratic, progressive and revolutionary united front organization called the Ecuadorian People's Revolutionary Movement was formed in Ecuador. Its aim is to organize the masses to fight for a fundamental reform of the country. This organization, sponsored by the Ecuadorian Communist Party, the Socialist Party and many other organizations, has set up branches in many provinces.

In Peru, the National-Liberation Front held its First Extraordinary National Congress in early November. It passed a resolution calling for the promotion of the anti-imperialist and anti-feudal struggle and the strengthening of its organizational work. It was formed in November 1961. Since then it has built many branches at the basic level throughout the country.

In Chile, too, through the People's Action Front and the United Confederation of Labour of Chile the people's forces have further strengthened their unity.

Growth of Workers' Movement

A basic fact of decisive significance in the rapid march of events in Latin America last year is the upsurge of the workers' and peasants' movements in many countries.

The workers' movement in many Latin American countries has raised the banner of opposition to U.S. imperialism and support for the Cuban revolution. In most Latin American countries, national trade unions and many other trade union organizations have taken part in the movement to defend the Cuban revolution.

The workers in many Latin American countries are coming to realize more clearly than ever that plunder and exploitation at the hands of U.S. imperialism and the feudal-oligarchic forces are the source of the labouring people's suffering and humiliation. They insistently demand the cessation of this double oppression; they call for complete economic and political independence, social and economic progress. They integrate the struggle for these basic demands with the fight for improvement of their livelihood. Trade unions in Chile, Uruguay, Brazil, Argentina, Mexico and Venezuela put forward these demands in their programmes of action.

In the struggle against imperialism and the domestic reactionaries, trade unions in many Latin American countries have concerted their actions and strengthened their organizations. Brazilian workers called two general strikes

in July and September 1962 to oppose the intrigues of the pro-U.S. reactionary forces and demand social reforms and the formation of a national-democratic government. A general headquarters of Brazilian workers was set up. Three million workers from more than 1,900 trade unions took part in various forms of struggle. In Peru, the First National Trade Union Congress was held last October, and attended by more than 200 representatives from 821 trade union organizations. It was decided that the Fifth National Congress of the Confederation of Workers of Peru would be held in February 1963 to carry forward the work of reunification and reorganization. The conference deprived the former leaders of the Confederation of Workers of Peru of their authority because they were in the service of U.S. imperialism and the pro-U.S. government of the People's Party, and condemned their traitorous action. This is an event of great significance in the struggle of the working class in Peru.

Peasants' Fight for Land

In co-ordination with the workers' movement, big headway has been made in many Latin American countries by the peasant movement directed against the latifundia system, in which the peasants demand land reform and are seizing the land of the latifundia owners. The peasant masses are a powerful detachment in the anti-feudal and anti-imperialist struggle in Latin America. In Peru, the peasants, who in 1961 seized land from the latifundia owners on an extensive scale, continued this struggle in the past year. In October, extensive seizures of land occurred in an area of the province of Cuzco, and the peasants here fought bravely against the troops and police. In Ecuador, the Indian peasants in the mountain areas of the northern provinces continued their struggle to seize land and refused to pay taxes. In addition, seizure of wastelands and of lands belonging to the big latifundias has continued unabated in the coastal areas. In Brazil, the peasant struggle to seize

land and refuse payment of rent in the northeastern areas has developed on an unprecedented scale. Peasant associations have been formed in 16 out of the 21 states in Brazil. These associations have between them more than 100,000 members. A peasant association including small peasants, agricultural labourers, tenants and other poor peasants has also been formed in Chile. These growing peasant movements strike hard at U.S. monopoly capital. Reports of peasants taking back land from U.S. monopolies are pouring in from many Central and South American countries.

The peasants and workers in Latin America give support to each other in their struggle and are gradually forming alliances. The Fourth National Trade Union Congress in Brazil in August 1962 and the First National Trade Union Conference in Peru in October passed resolutions calling for the realization of land reform. Peasant organizations in Ecuador and Peru, by issuing statements or by holding demonstrations, have consistently given powerful support to their peasant struggles.

Events in 1962 have shown that neither the brute force nor the intrigues employed by U.S. imperialism and its lackeys can prevent the awakening Latin American peoples from taking firm action to achieve their complete emancipation.

Like the Cubans, the people in the other Latin American countries fighting for national independence, will never submit to the counter-revolutionary pressure of U.S. imperialism and its lackeys, who are using in turn "soft" and "hard" tactics in dealing with the people. As the Second Havana Declaration said: "No one people in Latin America is weak, because all are parts of a family of 200 million brothers who suffer the same miseries, harbour the same sentiments, face the same enemy. All dream alike of a happier fate. . . ." The 200 million Latin American peoples are fighting with courage and determination for the just cause of their national and democratic revolution.

"Strategic Villages" in S. Viet Nam

The Last Days of Thanh-Truong

by **TAI FENG**

ROBERT McNamara, the U.S. Defence Secretary, once said that the establishment of "strategic villages" in south Viet Nam would give the local people a chance to practise "elementary democracy." He little knew how true his words were—but not in the way he thought. The people in south Viet Nam destroyed 1,436 of these "strategic villages," in the first nine months of 1962!

Here is the story of Thanh-truong, one of the oldest of these concentration camps established by the U.S.-Diem clique in the north of southern Viet Nam under the "Staley-Taylor Plan."

Shoot to Kill

Strategically located on an arterial road in Dien-ban County of Quangnam Province, Thanh-truong was enclosed by a wall and pillboxes extending 12 kilometres and

surrounded by sentries. There were only four passages for entering and leaving the place. Its wall, about one metre thick and two metres high, was made of five rows of bamboo fencing between which grew thorny plants, interspersed every three to five metres with American-made mines. Many traps and sharpened wooden spikes were placed outside the wall; inside, there was a three-metre-wide ditch, the bottom of which was sown with spikes made of either iron or sharpened bamboo. No one was allowed to come close to the wall and if anyone intruded into the forbidden area by mistake, the guards or soldiers of the U.S.-Diem clique were under orders to shoot to kill.

The people at Thanh-truong, like all "residents" in "strategic villages," had naturally not come there of their own free will—the U.S.-Diem clique had bayoneted them

into abandoning their own homes to move into this place. Among them were women, the aged and the young, and at least 1,000 people in the prime of their life. Once they had been herded in, their names were entered in the "census book," which meant that henceforth they had to confine themselves "for ever" to this overcrowded "village." Thanh-truong and other "strategic villages" in other words are to all intents and purposes concentration camps set up by U.S. imperialism.

U.S. imperialism planned these "strategic villages" as key elements in its military, political and economic drive against the people of southern Viet Nam. By means of these "villages," the U.S.-Diem clique hopes to isolate the masses from the people's armed forces which are defending their lives and rights. By this and other means it hopes to crush the popular forces, suppress the anti-U.S. patriotic struggle in the south, "regain the initiative," and reoccupy the vast area it has lost in southern Viet Nam. It has therefore dotted the country with these "strategic villages" planned on military lines and according to an overall strategic concept. Each "village" is a military strongpoint, complete with radio communication equipment and defended with men under arms. Thanh-truong "Village" for instance, was garrisoned by a platoon of well-armed "civil guards." This was reinforced by a squad belonging to the "Self-Defence Corps" of the county. Besides this men of Diem's regular army were on patrol in the neighbourhood. Linked up with the pillboxes built along the main communication lines of the U.S.-Diem forces, Thanh-truong thus became part of the enemy's outer defence line. All men of military

age in Thanh-truong and other "strategic villages" were required to do military service and become reserves of the Diem government's army.

Reign of Terror

The inhabitants of the "strategic villages" live under a reign of terror. An intelligence service was organized in Thanh-truong with its own house of detention and torture room. Landlords, hooligans and puppet army officers were appointed by the U.S.-Diem clique to rule as village heads, police commissioners or members of the "Doan Thanh Nien Cong Hoa" (Youth League). These men could arrest and torture anyone they wished to. The peasants were forced to join the "Youth League," the "Dang Nhan Vi Can Lao" (the political party led by Diem's brother) or the "Women's Association" for anti-communist indoctrination. Every 20 households in the "village" formed a "combined family" and each was expected to spy on the others. If one member of a household ran away from the village, all other members of the household would be held responsible: their house would be burnt down and they themselves would be arrested. In the few months before Thanh-truong was destroyed by the people, five households lost their houses and property in this way. Each "villager" was issued a "residence card" and only on showing this could the holder enter or leave the stockade. Curfew began at seven in the evening. Special agents were on the job day and night keeping a close watch on the "villagers." No meeting of more than three persons was allowed; marriages and funerals had to be reported beforehand and could take place only after verification had been made and a permit granted and under the eyes of someone sent by the village authorities.

All inhabitants of the "strategic villages" were required to abide by a so-called "anti-communist pact" of 15 articles. Eleven of these articles listed 12 different kinds of penalties which could be imposed on the villagers for various "offences." For "light offences," violators of the "pact" were compelled to stand under the broiling sun, do hard labour or have their property confiscated. For "more serious offences," they would be arrested, strung up by the arms so that their feet could not touch the ground and flogged, or even be put to death.

Torture

The "villagers" were at the mercy of the special agents, the army and the police who were free to humiliate them with insults and beat them. Rape at their hands was commonplace. One police officer named Nguyen Dang Thu alone had beaten up 35 people, four of whom were maimed. There was one peasant by the name of Nong. Accused of being a "Viet Cong" (Communist), he had his hands nailed together, thrown in a field and burnt to death. There was an old man, who was said to have violated the "pact." He was told to fill up a large jar with water which he had to fetch in a small medicine bottle from a stream some two kilometres away. To strike terror into the hearts of the villagers, Nguyen Trinh Nhung, the village head, stealthily buried a pile of leaflets, prepared by himself, under a tree in the compound of a certain family. The next day he and his men raided the house, "unearthed" the leaflets and had the whole family rounded up. One of them, a 16-year-old girl, was tied up and horsewhipped in order to force a "confession" out of her. The girl angrily refused



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to "confess." So they laid her down on the ground, filled her mouth and nose with soapy water and pounded her belly with clubs. The whole family was later sent to the county government to "be punished according to law." A false confession was then read before a meeting of the village and they were threatened with the same punishment if they associated with the "Viet Cong" or violated the "village regulations." It is by such means that the U.S.-Diem clique hopes to keep the "strategic villages" under control, suppress the anti-U.S. patriotic struggle and consolidate its reactionary rule.

The "strategic villages" are also the basic units used by the U.S.-Diem clique to rob the people. It hopes to concentrate the manpower and wealth of the peasants here so that it can conveniently use it as needed. It taxes "villagers" heavily and takes away their food grain. The grain in Thanh-truong was concentrated in the hands of the village authorities and rationed out to the "villagers" day by day. No one knows how many kinds of taxes and levies there were. Land cultivated by the "villagers" was frequently taken away outright or "requisitioned."

The People Fight Back

But these "strategic villages" have not succeeded in suppressing the anti-U.S. patriotic activities of the people in the southern part of Viet Nam. In Thanh-truong "Village," the people organized themselves to fight back. One day last May, supported by the people's self-defence armed forces, the "villagers" stormed the puppet government offices and disarmed the guards. That same day, a mass rally of 3,000 was held in Thanh-truong by the South Viet Nam National Liberation Front. At the meeting, the people angrily denounced the thugs of the U.S.-

Diem clique for their atrocities and demanded that they be brought to justice. The police commissioner was executed on the spot. After the meeting, 370 youngsters volunteered to join the people's self-defence armed forces and armed themselves with the weapons captured from the enemy. Lighting torches to cries of: "Down with U.S. imperialism!" the people set fire to the wall around the "village" and made a bonfire of the "census book" and "residence cards."

Fifteen days after Thanh-truong was destroyed, a battalion of Ngo Dinh Diem troops, with 20 police dogs and led by four U.S. military "advisers" arrived there on a "mopping-up" operation. As they advanced, they burnt down the houses of the people on their way. Finally they fell into an ambush set by the people's self-defence armed forces and took to their heels, leaving eight dead behind them.

Under the leadership of the South Viet Nam National Liberation Front, the people in south Viet Nam are continuing the fight to destroy these "strategic villages."

With a great effort the U.S.-Diem clique has built altogether 2,612 "strategic villages" but more than one half of them were destroyed in the first nine months of 1962. Not only that, but many such "strategic villages," once destroyed by the people, have become bases of the anti-U.S. patriotic struggle.

The revolutionary people of south Viet Nam will never give in. They will fight on to total victory. The people in south Viet Nam have served notice to the Diem clique and its masters in Washington. No "strategic villages" can save the U.S. imperialist aggressors from their inevitable doom!

News Analysis

Why the People Win in S. Viet Nam

WITH the 1963 New Year came news of the latest victory of the south Vietnamese people's self-defence armed forces in their struggle against U.S. imperialism and the Ngo Dinh Diem clique. In the battle of Ap Bac, just 40 miles southwest of Saigon, the people's forces, on January 2, routed enemy troops who attacked under cover of U.S. planes and warships. They shot down five U.S. helicopters, put three amphibious M-113 tanks out of action, sank one war vessel and hit another. The enemy suffered more than 300 casualties including 13 Americans. This was a crushing blow for Washington's much-vaunted "new tactics" of joint operations with the use of airlift helicopters and amphibious tanks. The paper tigers are once again revealed for what they are.

Weapons No Substitute for Men

The people in south Viet Nam are poorly armed, so far as weaponry is concerned, but they have routed an enemy using weapons of the latest type. Once again it brings home the truth that it is the man behind the gun that tells.

This operation has made Hanson Baldwin, military correspondent of the *New York Times*, come to the con-

clusion in his article of January 5 that "machines, no matter how good, can help and supplement, but cannot replace, as the final arbiter of victory, the man on the ground, using his legs and carrying a rifle in his hand." "The legs," he noted, "are a soldier's chief weapon. Helicopters and other forms of modern transportation tend to make many soldiers forget this. To move tactically, that is, within the battle area, there is no substitute for legs."

What then does all this mean? The soldiers of the Diem clique have legs just like those of the people's fighters. Besides, they have U.S.-made weapons of the latest type. How comes it then that Diem's troops, so well equipped and trained, become so helpless in the face of the people's fighters, many of whom started out as simple farmers and, according to an AP dispatch, "had to rely on [a] home-made shotgun or old French rifle to blast away at the big American machines"?

The reasons are not far to seek. The people's fighters in south Viet Nam are fighting a just war; they know what they are fighting for: for their very existence and for an independent and unified motherland. Diem's



Everything is under control, except his legs, sir!
Cartoon by Fang Cheng

"government troops," on the contrary, are simply mercenaries paid to further the U.S. policy of aggression. Their American masters, fighting an unjust war, can have as many helicopters as they want to airlift these mercenaries to the battlefield, but there the trouble is, as Baldwin put it, they "displayed some of the same basic faults they have demonstrated in other operations. They showed little inclination to use their legs and little desire to attack" — unless it was to run away. In south Viet Nam, as in elsewhere, the will to fight and the cause men are fighting for are half the battle.

Wall Street Worries

Admitting the defeat of the U.S. interventionists and the ability of people's forces "to operate effectively against superior numbers and equipment, including helicopters," the *Wall Street Journal* in its editorial of January 10 suggested that "it is time to try to find out what is going wrong" in south Viet Nam. "A related and perhaps even more fundamental difficulty," the editorial wailed, "is the reluctance of the south Vietnamese troops to fight, even though to Western eyes it would seem eminently in their interest to do so. The U.S. was bedeviled by the same apathy in the fighting in adjacent Laos. . . ." It might have added that no matter where it is, in south Viet Nam or Laos, or anywhere else in the world, where the oppressed rise in revolt, it is difficult for the imperialists and the reactionaries to make their mercenary troops fight their fellow countrymen who are fighting for their freedom against their foreign and domestic oppressors.

The *Wall Street Journal* was thus compelled to admit that "there are certain things the U.S., for all its military power, cannot do. One is to reshape the nature of peoples of radically different traditions and values." "Brilliant generals," it asked sadly, "have often inspired their own troops. But who knows the magic that can inject

in Southeast Asians the indispensable will to fight?" Some at least among the imperialists seem to be learning the bitter truth that an unjust war is inevitably doomed to defeat. It is a great pity that nowadays modern revisionists cannot even see what some spokesmen of imperialism have admitted themselves.

Attack and Counter-Attack

The struggle between the U.S.-Diem troops and the people's self-defence armed forces also shows that although the enemy may employ new weapons and change their tactics from time to time, because their troops, waging an unjust war, lack enthusiasm, these new weapons and tactics cannot be efficiently utilized. The people's armed forces, on the contrary, can always adapt themselves to new circumstances, thwart the enemy's "new tactics" and devise ways and means to render their new weapons powerless.

This change of tactics on the part of the enemy and the change of tactics on the part of the people's armed forces were vividly described in a recent issue of the *U.S. News and World Report* (January 14).

"Both sides," it says, "communist and anti-communist, are turning to new weapons, trying out new tactics.

"For example: the helicopter was the symbol of war when introduced by U.S. in south Viet Nam 13 months ago. At first, red guerrillas ran when whirlibirds appeared. Later, they began to shoot back with automatic rifles . . . they lined rice fields with sharpened bamboo stakes 10 feet long, at night planted land mines on helicopter pads used by the Americans. . . .

"U.S. helicopter experts learned fast. They put steel plates in helicopters to protect crewmen, mounted machine guns so Americans could fight back. Newer helicopters — high speed, armed with rockets — were rushed in by the U.S. to Saigon.

"The reds had an answer. They hit back January 2 with an old guerrilla trick. Red forces, hidden, held their fire until the early waves of helicopters had landed and escort helicopters were overhead. Then the reds opened up with new automatic weapons, damaging most of the helicopters. . . ."

This is reminiscent of the Chinese guerrillas fighting the Japanese and the puppet armed forces during the War of Resistance. In the face of the "mopping-up operations" launched by the enemy with superior equipment, the Chinese guerrillas, led by the Chinese Communist Party, always managed to find new tactics and ways to defeat the enemy. As Chairman Mao Tse-tung told the people as early as 1938, "When we say that Japan will be finally defeated despite her technological superiority, we mean not only that she will suffer losses through our battles of annihilation and attrition, but also that her soldiers will consequently be demoralized and that there will no longer be perfect co-ordination between men and arms."

The enemy is at a loss what to do next in south Viet Nam. The conclusion of *U.S. News and World Report* is this: "War in south Viet Nam will be won — or lost — on the ground. That is where helicopters come in. They are needed to get anti-communist troops into guerrilla areas in a hurry. So far, nobody knows of a better way."

So it looks like more of the same prescription for the dying patient, for its colonialist war in south Viet Nam.

Archaeology in New China

by HSIA NAI*

ARCHAEOLOGY has made new headway in the past thirteen years since the founding of the People's Republic of China. Methods of research have been improved and the scale of work has been extended. Large numbers of young archaeological workers have been trained. The large-scale capital construction which has been carried on in the country since the liberation has led to the unearthing of the remains of ancient settlements and tombs in many places. These have yielded important archaeological finds and abundant material for research.

Archaeological workers in research institutes, universities, museums and various institutions devoted to the preservation of cultural relics are engaged in both field work and laboratory studies. Their efforts to elucidate the history of ancient China on the basis of archaeological finds have already achieved considerable success. A fresh impetus has been given to the advance of archaeology in China.

The archaeological finds of recent years are too numerous to be described in detail. The present article, therefore, will only attempt to discuss a few of the more important problems.

Early Men in China

Archaeology is playing a major role in the study of prehistoric human society in China. The answers to the problems of the origin of man and the approximate time man began to inhabit China depend on archaeological and palaeo-anthropological studies. More than thirty years ago, the discovery of Peking Man (*Sinanthropus pekinensis*) and his culture proved that man lived in China in very early times (some 500,000 years ago) and that China is probably one of the cradles of mankind, a home of the earliest man.

Excavations made since China's liberation in 1949 have unearthed more human fossils and artifacts of palaeolithic times. The site at Tingtsun in Hsiangfen County, Shansi Province, is of particular interest in this connection. In 1954 fossils of what is now called Tingtsun Man were discovered here together with two-thousand-odd stone artifacts. A study of these indicates that Tingtsun Man came later and was more advanced than Peking Man. Artifacts unearthed at Keho Village, Juicheng County, Shansi Province, in 1960 are held by their discoverers to predate even Peking Man. These and other finds give us some of the basic links in the prehistoric development of human culture in China.

The problem of whether Peking Man was the earliest and most primitive man in China, has been the sub-

ject of a lively discussion in academic circles recently, but the final solution of this problem clearly calls for more data and more intensive studies.

Tools and Production Techniques

Archaeologists in New China lay particular emphasis on the study of the development of tools and techniques of production and the economic life of societies. In the Palaeolithic Age men in China lived by hunting and gathering and used crude chipped implements. Their economic life was poor, and they left only a few remains and artifacts. However, in recent years quite a few palaeolithic sites have been found in Shansi, Shensi and Honan Provinces and in Inner Mongolia.

In the Neolithic Age, the emergence of agriculture brought about profound changes in man's economic life. Man settled down and began to domesticate animals and make pottery. He also improved his tools and weapons made of stone and bone. Archaeologists in New China have conducted quite extensive surveys and done a considerable amount of research work on the agricultural tribes of this period. The number of neolithic sites uncovered in the past thirteen years runs to over 3,000. More than 100 of these have been excavated.

The most important among these is the site of an agricultural village at Panpo near Sian, Shensi Province, containing many well-preserved foundations of dwellings and pottery kilns. A moat surrounds the settlement and beyond it lies the common cemetery of the clan. This site has yielded many fine examples of painted pottery and stone or bone implements, as well as a small pottery jar containing the remains of millet.

Other sites belonging to this same culture have been found in large numbers in the Yellow River valley. But the remains of neolithic communities of other culture types too have been brought to light. In the Yangtse valley and along the southeastern coast, there have been found remains of agricultural tribes leading an economic life similar to that of the Panpo community but belonging to a different culture. Here, rice, rather than millet, constituted the staple grain. There



Painted pottery vase excavated at Ningyang, Shantung. Neolithic Lungshan culture. H. 17.2 cm.

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were also differences in the pottery and the types of stone implements used.

On the grasslands of Inner Mongolia and Sinkiang archaeologists have found remains of many settlements differing from the preceding not only in cultural type but also in economic life. These are rather camping-sites which usually only contain stone artifacts and potsherds; ash layers are rarely encountered, indicating that these people probably led a nomadic life. Unlike the bulky polished stone implements of agricultural tribes, the stone artifacts found here consist mainly of chipped microlithic implements.

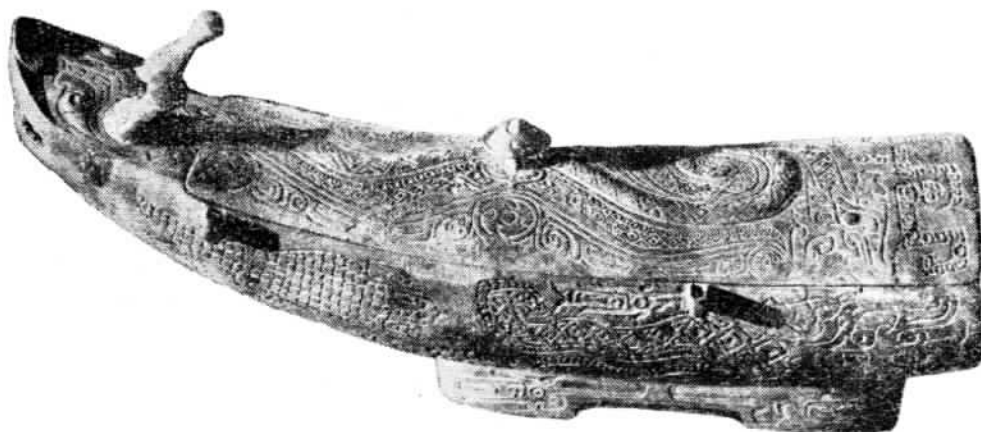
On the basis of the finds made, archaeologists are exploring such problems as the relations between the various cultures and their chronological sequence. It is not possible as yet to give a coherent history of the neolithic peoples who inhabited China. The problem of the origin of agriculture and animal husbandry in China is also still to be solved because so far we have not found any remains which can definitely be said to date from the beginning of the neolithic period.

China's Bronze Age

The emergence and development of metallurgy gave a tremendous impetus to the growth of man's productive forces. Following this, marked differences appeared in the historical development of the inhabitants in different parts of the country. It was about this time that a class society, the state and a written language appeared in the Yellow River valley. But on its periphery, there were many tribes which still lived in a state of primitive society even though some of them also came to know the techniques of casting bronze.

Since the liberation, not a few magnificent bronzes of the Shang-Yin (c. 16th-11th century B.C.) and Chou (c. 1100-221 B.C.) Dynasties have been uncovered, and Anyang, Loyang and Sian have all yielded rich collections of bronzes, sometimes in complete sets for the furnishing of funerary chambers. Remains of bronze foundries with clay moulds and bronze slags have been uncovered at Anyang and Chengchow in Honan Province and at Houma in Shansi Province. These have shed much new light on the techniques of manufacturing these fine bronzes.

The mining and smelting of copper and tin and the casting of the alloy of the two, that is bronze, demands a



Bronze *kuang*, wine vessel, unearthed at Shihlou, Shansi. c.15-11th centuries B.C. L. 44 cm.

specialized knowledge of rather complicated techniques. Consequently, the making of bronze ware, implements and weapons and other handicrafts gradually came to be separated from agriculture. Furthermore, since copper and tin ores are not available everywhere as are rocks and clay, the raw materials for stone implements and pottery respectively, the production of bronze objects was confined to a few localities. With the separation of handicrafts from agriculture and the further division of labour among the various branches of handicrafts, commodities produced specifically for exchange also began to be made.

Iron Implements

Following the discovery of iron and the development of iron smelting, implements of iron gradually replaced those of stone in both farmwork and handicrafts. The archaeologists of New China have paid particular attention to ancient iron implements of production and have already made some important discoveries. Among their finds are many early iron implements dating from the Warring States Period (475-221 B.C.) to the Han Dynasty (206 B.C.-220 A.D.). In 1953, iron moulds for casting farm implements and chariot fittings belonging to the late Warring States Period were unearthed at Kutungkou, Hsinglung County in Hopei Province.



Iron mould for casting sickles (inscribed). Warring States (475-221 B.C.) L. 31.5 cm.

Since 1958, several important sites of ore-mining pits and iron smithies of the Han Dynasty have been discovered at Tiehshengkou, Kunghsien and Kuwancheng, Nanyang in Honan Province. These show that many different types of furnaces were already used for smelting, fusing and forging and that iron workers had such facilities as ore-dressing grounds, storage pits, sunken floors for mixing raw material and pits for quenching. These finds show the relatively high level of iron-working techniques at that time.

Silk Textiles

Many new archaeological finds shed light on the making of textiles—another important handicraft of ancient China. Archaeologists have uncovered from the remains of neolithic settlements numerous spinning whorls made of pottery or stone, and potsherds bearing the impress of textiles. Silk fabrics from the Shang-Yin

Dynasty of the Bronze Age unearthed at Anyang prove that a rather advanced type of loom was already in use at that time. At Changsha, Hunan Province, some Warring States tombs have yielded silk fabrics with elaborate lozenge designs. The discovery of gorgeous brocades at Niya and Turfan in Sinkiang suggests that drawn looms already existed at that time.

In the early period of the Han Dynasty, the fame of Chinese silk fabrics was spread abroad and they became an important commodity in international trade. Silk fabrics exported from China at that time have been found as far away as Siberia in the north and Syria in the west. At this time, Chinese weaving techniques were the most advanced in the world.

Pottery and Porcelain

As mentioned above, pottery making started in the Neolithic Age. Since liberation, pottery kilns of this period have been unearthed in many places. By studying their construction, archaeologists have gained a much better knowledge of the art of pottery making in ancient times. Glazed pottery made of kaolin clay was already made in the Shang-Yin Dynasty but these wares were fired at a rather low temperature and as a result the paste was not sufficiently fused. The Western Chou (c. 11th century-771 B.C.) glazed pottery was somewhat better and approached porcelain in quality — proto-porcelain.

By the Three Kingdoms period (220-280), Yueh ware (a celadon type) appeared in the south. In both southern Kiangsu and northern Chekiang, archaeologists have discovered Yueh wares of the Kingdom of Wu (222-280) and kiln sites where this ware was made in the Tsin Dynasty (265-420) and the Southern and Northern Dynasties (420-589).

In the Tang (618-907) and Sung (960-1279) Dynasties, Chinese porcelain was further improved. The tombs of this period have yielded many vessels of various types of celadon and white porcelains, outstanding for their graceful form and exquisite colour. We have uncovered a large number of porcelain kiln-sites of this period and excavated the sites of the well-known Lungchuan ware kilns in Chekiang Province and the Yaochow ware kilns in Shensi Province. The Lungchuan kilns were of the climbing kiln type; the kiln chambers were arranged in a long row on a stepped floor. At the Yaochow kilns archaeologists found the remains of workshops and yards for drying unfired vessels and storing raw materials.

Porcelain, one of China's major inventions, has been an important article of international trade since the Tang and Sung Dynasties. Porcelain fragments of these two dynasties and subsequent periods have been unearthed at many places along the coasts of Asia and in Northeast Africa.

Growth of Trade

With the growth of trade and commodity production, coinage and weights and measures began to appear. Numerous coins of the early Iron Age (from the Warring States Period to the Han Dynasty), as well as yardsticks, measures and weights of the scale from this period have been discovered since the liberation. It was the Emperor Shih Huang (First Emperor) of the Chin Dynasty (221-



Bronze plate bearing the imperial decree of the Emperor Shih Huang of the Chin Dynasty (221-206 B.C.) unifying units of measurement. Excavated at Hsienyang, Shensi. L. 10 cm.

206 B.C.), who ordered the standardization of weights and measures in the empire and a bronze plate bearing this imperial decree was recently unearthed at the site of Hsienyang, the capital of the Chin Dynasty, in Shensi Province.

In the Sui (581-618) and Tang Dynasties, China had a prosperous trade with many other countries. Archaeologists have discovered in Sian and other places Byzantine gold coins of the time of Justin II (565-578) and many Persian Sassanid silver coins of the fifth to seventh centuries.

A great deal has been learnt about the vehicles and boats used for travel, transport and trade in the past. Remains and models of chariots from Shang-Yin and Chou times and on through the Han Dynasty have been excavated at Anyang and Huihsien in Honan Province, Changsha in Hunan Province and other places, and wooden and pottery models of boats of the Han Dynasty have been found at Changsha and at Canton in Kwangtung Province. Painstaking field work and laboratory research have enabled archaeologists to make full-scale reconstructions of these vehicles and boats. These may be regarded as a major achievement since liberation.

Social Forms

Because of the complexity of the problems involved, the archaeological data so far discovered are by themselves not sufficient to explain fully the nature of the social systems of ancient times. Nevertheless, archaeological and ethnographical data have made the greatest contribution towards the understanding of prehistoric society in China.

The very sparsity of palaeolithic sites and the few, crude and scattered artifacts found there seem to indicate that men at this time lived in primitive hordes which later developed into early clan societies. The layout of the settlements of the neolithic agricultural tribes and the finds from their common cemeteries point to the existence at the outset of a prosperous matriarchal society which subsequently developed into a patriarchal society.

But in scientific circles opinions still differ as to whether the social organization of a particular culture in a particular period was matriarchal or patriarchal.

In the Bronze Age, the Shang-Yin and Chou Kingdoms in the Yellow River valley were already based on a slave-owning society. In 1950, a gigantic tomb of the late Shang-Yin Dynasty was excavated at Wukuan Village, Anyang, in Honan Province. The remains of more than 300 human beings were found in it and in the sacrificial pits near by. These were clearly sacrificial victims. In some cases only the skulls had been interred. Nearly every medium-sized tomb of this period excavated at Chengchow, Huihsien and Anyang has yielded evidence of human sacrifice. These victims probably came from the most oppressed class of the time — the slaves.

Sacrificial human victims have also been found in some tombs belonging to the middle of the Western Chou Dynasty at Changchiapo near Sian but after that period this phenomenon is rarely met with. This may be due to the fact that after the maturing of the slave system, slaves were regarded as useful tools and the waste of slaughtering them as human sacrifices was recognized.

The nature of Western Chou society is a question that has long been debated among Chinese historians. Archaeological excavations conducted since liberation at a settlement site on the west bank of the Feng River near Sian reveal that the tools and technical level of handicrafts in the Western Chou were about the same as in the Shang-Yin Dynasty. This is also borne out by finds in tombs excavated there. From the period of the Warring States on, many of the tomb figures made of pottery and wood and buried with the dead represented household slaves of the dead slave-owners.

In the Han Dynasty tombs, *ming chi*, or funerary objects, such as models of granaries, stoves, wells and other articles of daily use began to occupy an increasingly important place while ceremonial vessels indicative of the rank of the dead gradually became rarer. This shows that by that time the feudal manorial system had already



Tomb brick with painted decoration representing a procession of musicians. Excavated at Tenghsien, Honan. Southern and Northern Dynasties (420-589) W. 38 cm.

been replaced by the feudal landlord system. The groups of figures of armed attendants frequently found in tombs of the Southern and Northern Dynasties probably represent the private men-at-arms of the feudal lord.

Beginning with the Bronze Age, the social development of different regions in China began to show a marked unevenness. In the Shang-Yin and Western Chou periods while slave ownership prevailed on the middle and lower reaches of the Yellow River, the rest of the country was still in a stage of primitive clan society. This is indicated by the cultural remains excavated in these areas since liberation. But in the Western Han period, iron implements were already replacing bronze ones and a feudal society began to take shape in the prefectures and counties under direct imperial control. Spectacular finds excavated at Shihchaishan,* Tsinning County, Yunnan Province since liberation reveal that this area at that time still had a highly developed bronze culture marked by slave ownership. Many of the bronzes unearthed here represent bronze figurines of slaves doing various kinds of manual work.

Cultural sites and relics of the Han Dynasty found in the outlying regions of the Han empire, such as the area of present-day Kirin and Heilungkiang Provinces and Hainan Island, still retain the traditions of the Neolithic Age, indicating that the inhabitants of these regions at that time still lived in a primitive clan society.

Birth of the State

With the emergence of a class society with its acute antagonisms, the ruling class set up the state on the ruins of the clan system to exploit and enslave the oppressed classes. Legendary accounts put the first establishment of the state in China at the beginning of the Hsia Dynasty (c. 2100-1600 B.C.). The earliest archaeological data verifying written sources and discovered before liberation consist of late Shang-Yin remains found at Yin Hsu, the site of the Yin capital near Anyang, Honan Province.

Since liberation, a series of important new finds has been made. In 1952, archaeologists unearthed Shang-Yin remains at Erhlikang, Chengchow, which are of an earlier date than those found at Hsiaotun, Anyang. Subsequently, cultural remains still older than those at Erhlikang were brought to light at Lotamiao, Chengchow, and Erhlitou, Yenshih County, Honan Province. The finds here of this early period already include small objects made of copper or bronze. The pottery found includes prototypes of the *ku*-beakers and *chueh*-cups so often found in late Shang-Yin tombs.

Scholars have as yet reached no consensus of opinion as to whether the culture of the Erhlitou type belongs to the Hsia people or to the ancestors of the Shang-Yin kings. Archaeologists have found some clues for an elucidation of the problems of the origin of the state in China and the culture of the Hsia Dynasty, but a final solution awaits further intensive studies.

Towards the end of clan society, material wealth multiplied. For defence, tribal settlements were sometimes surrounded by a moat or wall, or by both. Thus, the dwelling area of the neolithic settlement at Panpo

*cf. Wang Chun-ming, "The Bronze Culture of Ancient Yunnan," *Peking Review*, No. 2, 1960, pp. 18-19.

near Sian was encircled by a deep moat. As class society developed, the need for defence became even greater and the government, representing the ruling class, resorted even more frequently to building walls and digging moats around the cities for these were the political centres of the time and often the economic or cultural centres as well.

Ancient Cities

The Eastern Chou period (770-221 B.C.) witnessed the rise of many great cities, such as Lintzu, Hsiatu (Lower Capital), Hantan, Hsincheng and Chinan (Yingtu), capitals of the Chi, Yen, Chao, Cheng (later the Han) and Chu Kingdoms respectively. These were all surrounded by city walls of rammed earth. Parts of them are still extant.

Since liberation, reconnaissance surveys of these cities have been carried out and the sites properly protected. Excavations have been carried out through several seasons at the site of an Eastern Chou city discovered at Houma, Shansi Province. This may be the site of Hsintien, once the capital of the Tsin Kingdom, a prosperous city down to the Warring States Period. Excavations here have yielded some important finds. The remains found include city walls, moats, terraced earthen platforms and many handicraft workshops.

Excavations have also been started at the site of Hsienyang, the capital of the Chin Dynasty near Sian. The Han and Tang Dynasties also had their capital cities near Sian and both were called Changan. Both have been a focal point of intensive archaeological excavations since liberation.* These have already brought to light the remains of city gates, palaces, streets and markets.

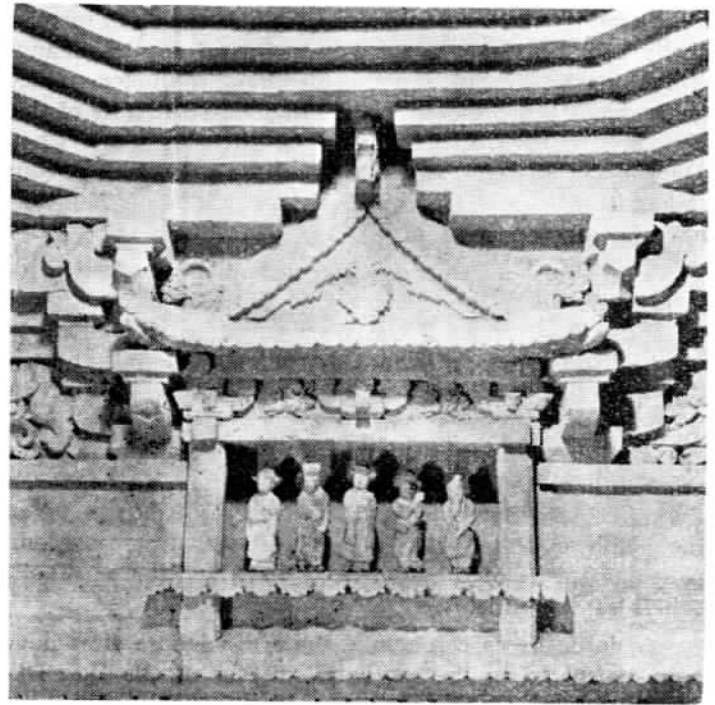
Preliminary surveys have also been started at the sites of the old Loyang of the Han and Wei Dynasties and of the Loyang of the Tang Dynasty. These excavations are expected to determine the layout and building techniques of the metropolises of the time and also provide a deeper insight into the political and economic conditions of the time.

Art Treasures

Archaeological research is also throwing fresh light on the spiritual culture of ancient times such as the arts and religion. Many important new finds in this field have been brought to light since liberation. The high artistic level of Chinese neolithic painted pottery has long been recognized throughout the world. Archaeological research and study of the finds made since liberation has provided a deeper understanding of their evolution and the originality and inventiveness of their designs.

Priceless art treasures have been excavated since 1949: bronzes and jades of the Shang-Yin and Chou Dynasties discovered at Anyang and Sian; lacquer ware and other objects of the Warring States Period found in Hsinyang, Honan, and Changsha, Hunan; murals of Han tombs at Wangtu, Hopei, and Liaoyang, Liaoning; Han Dynasty tomb bricks with relief designs from Szechuan; stone tomb reliefs at Yinan and Anchiu in Shantung; Han and Tang brocades from Sinkiang; Buddhist stone sculptures at Chuyang, Hopei, and Chengtu, Szechuan; newly discovered sculpture and murals in the cave temples at Pinglingssu, Kansu; bronze mirrors and pottery figures of the Warring States and subsequent periods from various

*cf. Ma Teh-chih, "Tang Dynasty Palace Unearthed," *Peking Review*, No. 3, 1961, pp. 23-24.



Detail of tomb decoration in carved bricks representing a stage with performers. Excavated at Houma, Shansi. Kin Dynasty (1115-1234)

places; porcelains of the Six Dynasties and the Tang and Sung Dynasties; and bronzes of the state of Tien unearthed at Shihchaishan, Tsinning, Yunnan. The artistic value of these finds is highly regarded both in China and throughout the world.

In addition, tens of thousands of the more common works of art have been found. Since these were discovered during systematic archaeological excavations there is no question of any of them being fakes. And most of them can even be accurately dated on the basis of associated finds. Using such accurately dated specimens as a criterion, a reliable basis has been laid both for the study of the characteristics of the artistic styles of various periods as well as of the question of how each age in China inherits and carries forward the artistic traditions of the preceding age.

Joint studies of this wealth of material by archaeologists and art historians will assuredly make significant contributions to the study of Chinese art history. In addition to this, these stone reliefs, murals, pottery figures, wood and pottery models and other finds provide invaluable data for the study of the histories of Chinese architecture, music, drama and the dance.

Light on Religious Beliefs

Archaeological data throw light on ancient religious beliefs. They seem to suggest that by the Neolithic Age at the latest, the concept of the immortality of the soul already existed in China. At that time objects of daily use as well as food and drink for the enjoyment of the deceased in after life were buried with the dead. The discovery of pottery phalli of late neolithic times shows that the cult of the phallus was in vogue at that time. In academic circles opinions still differ as to whether the animal designs on the painted pottery of those times are related to totem worship or are merely artistic decorations.

The practice of divination had already appeared towards the end of the neolithic period as is proved by the

discovery in various places of oracle bones and tortoise shells. It became even more widespread in the Shang-Yin Dynasty. There were professional diviners in the government and the oracle bones and tortoise shells of this period have inscriptions incised on them. By the Chou Dynasty divination began to decline in public favour though some oracle bones and tortoise shells of that time have been unearthed.

The "monster tomb guardians" and the fantastic animals depicted in the decorative designs of lacquer ware from the Chu tombs of the Warring States Period attest to the Chu people's "belief in witchcraft and ghosts." The "tomb guarding jars" with vermilion inscriptions from the late Eastern Han tombs, the "spirit jars" with applique decorations of human figures and animals from the Southern Dynasties tombs and the magical deeds for the purchase of tomb plots which were placed in tombs of the Southern and Northern Dynasties onwards to accompany the spirits of the dead are all connected with Taoist beliefs of the time.

A dozen or so ceremonial buildings whose sites have been excavated in the southern suburbs of the Han Dynasty's capital of Changan are likewise related to the religious beliefs of the time. All these are important discoveries. The remains of Buddhist temples, statues and wall paintings which appeared in China after the introduction of Buddhism are important data for the study of the history of Chinese Buddhism.

Writing and Ancient Books

The invention and use of writing marks the transition of human society from barbarism to civilization. Inscriptions on oracle bones unearthed at Erhlikang, Chengchow, are slightly earlier than those found among the Shang-Yin remains at Anyang, but the script used on both is the same. Many inscribed bronzes of the Shang-Yin and Chou Dynasties have also been found. Some of them have provided historians with very important documentary data. The four groups of inscribed bamboo slips excavated at Changsha, Hunan, and Hsinyang, Honan, are the earliest of their kind still extant in China. Found along with them were writing brushes and bronze knives for preparing the bamboo slips.

The 480 inscribed bamboo and wooden slips excavated in 1959 from a Han tomb at Wuwei, Kansu, consist mainly of seven out of the 17 chapters of the *Yi Li* (Book of Rituals).^{*} As the first manuscript in book form of a Western Han version of a classic ever unearthed in China, they are of the utmost importance for the study of Han Dynasty classical learning and the binding and format of the books of the time. In the languages of minority peoples, there are the inscriptions of the Kingdoms of Pa and Shu, still not completely deciphered, found on bronzes dating from the Warring States through the Early Han excavated in Szechuan, wooden slips bearing ancient Kharoshthi scripts and wooden slips and manuscripts inscribed with ancient Uighur scripts unearthed in Sinkiang.

Formation of the Han Nationality

China is a multi-national country and archaeological research is playing an important role in solving the prob-

^{*}cf. "2,000-Year-Old Book Discovered," *Peking Review*, No. 13, 1961, pp. 20-21.

lems of the origins of its many nationalities and their historical development. With reference to the formation of the Han nationality, archaeological data reveal that in the Neolithic Age many different types of cultures flourished in the areas now inhabited by this nationality. There were enormous differences even in the cultures found between the middle and lower reaches of the Yellow River. This fact is also reflected in ancient historical legends.

By the time there were written records, the Huahsia (Han) nationality in the Central Plain of China began to assimilate with the Eastern Yi nationality on the lower reaches of the Yellow River but their culture still differed from that of the Pa, Shu,^{*} Chu, Wu and Yueh nationalities of the Yangtse River. These differences are also manifested in the remains of their material cultures discovered in archaeological excavations.

During the 800-odd years of the Chou Dynasty, these nationalities of the Han (Chinese)-speaking family in the Yangtse valley gradually came to form an integral part of the Han nationality, lost their own specific local characteristics and became indistinguishable from one another. By the Han Dynasty, the formation of the Han nationality was pushed even further and the Min, Southern Yueh and other nationalities in the areas south of the Yangtse River all became an integral part of the Han nationality. Archaeological data suggest such a process of the formation of the Han nationality but its concrete details still await further studies.

National Minorities

There are still many national minorities in China today. Though these are not completely identical with the Han nationality, their ancestors throughout China's long history have forged ever closer ties with the ancestors of the Hans, and so they form today a part of the great community of the Chinese nation. The written source material concerning the formation and growth of the various national minorities is largely fragmentary and incomplete, hence the importance of the supplementary material provided by archaeology. The studies of palaeo-anthropologists show that in the Palaeolithic Age the various ethnic groups of the human race were still in the process of differentiation and formation and there was no question of any definite division into nationalities.

In the Neolithic Age matters were more advanced. Since liberation archaeologists working in the areas inhabited by the national minorities have uncovered cultural remains of many different types¹ which are providing valuable clues to the study of their early primitive societies. With the introduction of written records, each dynasty gave its own descriptions of the minority nationalities and these can be verified or disproved by archaeological finds.

The ancient bronze culture found recently in the Kirin-Changchun region, Kirin Province, may be relics of the Sushen tribes in the Chou Dynasty. Since liberation excavations in both Inner Mongolia and Liaoning Province have unearthed groups of Western Han tombs containing bronze plaques decorated in openwork with animal de-

^{*}cf. Wang Chun-ming, "Szechuan's Bronze Age," *Peking Review*, No. 12, 1962, pp. 21-23.

signs. These may be the remains of the Huns or of the Eastern Hu tribes.

The same doubt as to origin attaches to several tombs containing bronze daggers of a peculiar type discovered in eastern Inner Mongolia and Liaoning. These are of a somewhat earlier date and go back to the Eastern Chou but it is also doubtful whether they belonged to the Huns or the Eastern Hu tribes. On the other hand, epitaphs on tombstones have enabled archaeologists to identify the tombs belonging to the Kaokouli Kingdom in Kirin and Liaoning, the tomb of Princess Chenhui of the Pohai Kingdom in the Tang Dynasty at Tunhua, Kirin Province, and the Liao Dynasty (916-1125) tombs of the Chitan tribes in northeast China and Inner Mongolia. Two tombs excavated in Inner Mongolia and dating from the Northern Wei Dynasty probably belonged to the Hsienpei tribes.

Among the remains of the Mongolian nationality in the Yuan Dynasty investigated after liberation is the site of Shangtu (the Upper Capital). The site of Taming City which was the middle capital of the Liao Dynasty at Ningcheng, Inner Mongolia, has also yielded some relics of the Yuan Dynasty. In Sinkiang, preliminary surveys have been conducted at the sites of various ancient cities, dwellings and monasteries in many places and some excavations have been made at Hotien (Khotan), Kucha, Yenchi (Karasahr) and Turfan. These have brought to light relics from the Han to Tang Dynasty times. Tombs surmounted with earthen mounds excavated in the vicinity of Chaosu in northern Sinkiang possibly belonged to the medieval Tuchueh tribes.

A certain amount of preliminary survey and excavation work has been done on remains found in Chinghai Province; the earliest of these probably belong to the Chiang tribes known in the Chou and Han Dynasties. Some of the Chiang tribes may later have become part of the Tibetan nationality. In Tibet, extensive surveys of cultural relics and monuments were carried out in 1959.

Minorities in the Southwest

In southwest China, the costumes and styles of hair-dress depicted on the relics unearthed at Shihchaishan, Tsinning County, Yunnan Province, suggest that the ruling Tien tribes held several different nationalities under their sway. Among these may have been the Sui, Kunming and Mimo tribes mentioned in the *Shih Chi* (Historical Records), written by Ssuma Chien (c. 145-86 B.C.), the greatest historian in Chinese history.

Some remains of the Kingdom of Nanchao (649-902) and the tombs of the Kingdom of Tali (937-1253) in Yunnan have also been excavated. The archaic "rock paintings" discovered on precipices at Huashan, Ningming County and other places in Kwangsi are the creations of the ancient Chuang nationality and probably date back to the Tang or Sung Dynasty. But the most important among these finds are the results of the excavations at Shihchaishan, Tsinning County. The fabulously rich and colourful finds* made here have provided historians with a vivid picture of ancient Tien society, a picture which was almost completely unknown before.

*cf. Wang Chun-ming, "The Bronze Culture of Ancient Yunnan," *Peking Review*, No. 2, 1960, pp. 18-19.



Incised decoration on a bronze cowrie container excavated from the royal cemetery of the Kingdom of Tien at Tsinning, Yunnan. W. Han (206 B.C.-24 A.D.)

As outlined above, the national minorities have made significant contributions to the history of China and due emphasis is being put on archaeological work in the areas they inhabit. It is clear for instance that more intensive study needs to be made on some of the archaeological data mentioned above. The names of many national minorities who lived in these areas in ancient times are known from ancient written sources, but some of these names or peoples later disappeared from the records. The solution of the problems concerning the connection between these ancient names and peoples and the national minorities now inhabiting these areas will be of great help to an understanding of the formation of the Chinese national minorities as they are today.

Improved Methods of Research

Archaeological research since liberation has greatly improved its methods. Using such traditional archaeological methods as stratigraphy and typology, as well as written sources and ethnographical data in solving archaeological problems, archaeologists are now also making wider use of methods provided by natural science.

The Institute of Archaeology of the Chinese Academy of Sciences has established a laboratory in which physical anthropologists are studying the skeletons of ancient people, chemists are analysing the chemical composition of ancient relics and their manufacturing processes, and nuclear physicists are using the radiocarbon method to date them. Some of these departments have already given certain results while others are just beginning to achieve them.

Much has been learnt about the past of our country through archaeological work since the founding of the People's Republic of China, but archaeologists still have very far to go in penetrating all its secrets, field work and patient research on an increasing scale are, however, steadily piercing the veils of the past and bringing that past vividly and comprehensively alive for us today in all its details.

CHINA AND THE WORLD

Women's Congress of the Americas

Wu Chuan-heng, head of the Chinese women's delegation to the Women's Congress of the Americas recently held in Havana, reaffirmed the support of Chinese women for the Cuban people's struggle against U.S. aggression and in defence of the Cuban revolution. They firmly backed the five just demands set forth by Premier Castro. They also unreservedly supported the just struggles of the women and other people of Latin America to defend national independence and strive for democracy.

Referring to the struggles of the women of the Americas and the oppression and exploitation of Latin American countries by U.S. imperialism and its lackeys, the Chinese delegate pointed out that the women and other people of the whole continent knew very well that the root cause of all their suffering, poverty, hunger, unemployment, lack of land, discrimination and oppression was the brutal exploitation by U.S. monopoly capital and U.S. imperialist aggression and plunder. U.S. imperialism is the most vicious enemy not only of the people of the Americas but also of the people of the world, she stated.

Wu Chuan-heng went on to say that the Chinese women had learnt from their experience that the struggle for the emancipation of women, their right to equality and the happiness of children was inseparably linked up with the struggle for national independence, democracy and freedom. It had also been proved by the history of the women's movement in all countries that national independence is an important guarantee for women's emancipation.

She stressed that the struggle against the U.S. imperialist policies of war and aggression was the common task of the women and other people

of Cuba, Latin America and other parts of the world.

Protocol for Kathmandu-Lhasa Highway Signed

A protocol between the Governments of China and Nepal for the construction of the Kathmandu-Lhasa Highway was signed in Kathmandu on January 13. This protocol was concluded in accordance with the agreement signed in Peking in 1961.

Sino-Iraqi Trade Talks

An accord to renew for another year the trade agreement which was concluded in May 1960 between China and Iraq was signed in Baghdad on January 10 after friendly talks between the trade delegations of the two countries. Both delegations noted with satisfaction the marked development of trade between the two countries in the period during which the agreement had been operative. They exchanged views as to the ways and means of further developing the existing trade ties based on the principles of equality, mutual benefit and balance in the values of imports and exports.

Under the trade agreement China will export to Iraq various commodities including industrial equipment, electrical appliances, silk and cotton piece goods, steel and timber while Iraq will export to China dates, crude oil, oil products, wool and other products.

Protests to Asian Table Tennis Federation

The Asian Table Tennis Federation has invited the Chiang Kai-shek gang to participate in the coming Asian table tennis championships to be held in Manila later in the month. Protesting against this move, the All-Indonesian Table Tennis Association has announced that it will not take part in the championships.

A spokesman of the Chinese Table Tennis Association in a statement strongly protested to the federation and expressed firm support for Indonesia's decision to boycott the championships and their just stand in safeguarding the solidarity of the Asian countries and peoples and the friendly relationship between Indonesia and China. The Indonesian association points out that these games cannot be

called Asian table tennis championships without the participation of the People's Republic of China.

The Chinese statement said: "This action of the Asian federation is a new conspiracy on the part of U.S. imperialism to use international sport activities to create 'two Chinas.'... It is known to all that in order to oppose the plot of U.S. imperialism and its agents to create 'two Chinas' in the Asian Table Tennis Federation, we withdrew from the federation in 1958 with a declaration that there is only one China in the world and that is the People's Republic of China, that we will never tolerate the lowering of the Asian Table Tennis Federation into an instrument manipulated by a few in the service of reactionary U.S. imperialist policies and that we will never tolerate the appearance of 'two Chinas' within the federation."

The statement added that in defiance of the voices of justice a handful of imperialist agents in control of the federation have persisted in serving the U.S. imperialist plot of creating "two Chinas" and refused to correct their erroneous practice of recognizing unlawfully the Chiang Kai-shek gang, long thrown out by the Chinese people.

"We resolutely demand that the Asian Table Tennis Federation correct its error and expel the 'table tennis organization' of the Chiang Kai-shek gang," said the spokesman.

Briefs

Chairman Liu Shao-chi and Premier Chou En-lai have sent a message to King Hassan II expressing sympathy over the flood disasters in the central and northern regions of Morocco.

* * *

Senior General Lo Jui-ching, Vice-Premier and Chief of the General Staff of the Chinese People's Liberation Army, extended congratulations to the people and the armed forces of Pakistan at the Pakistan Armed Forces Day reception given in Peking by the Pakistan Embassy.

* * *

A Sino-Burmese communique on trade issued in December last year by the Chinese trade delegation and the Burmese Revolutionary Government announces that in 1963 China will purchase and transport from Burma 100,000 long tons of Burmese rice.

PUBLISHING

Knowledge in a Nutshell

The little illustrated booklets of the *Concise Chinese History Series* published by the Chung Hwa Book Company are proving to be immensely popular. Pocket-sized, with large, clear type and concise enough to be finished in one sitting of an hour or so, they are written primarily for students, and workers and peasants having an educational level equal to that of an average middle school student with eight or nine years' schooling. But the one hundred titles already on sale are being snapped up by teachers as handy reference material and by the general reader too. As one buyer put it: "An hour or two spent reading these booklets after the day's work is both good relaxation and a gain in knowledge."

Publication of the series began three years ago. The initiative came from a group of public-spirited people — historians, teachers and publishers — who suggested such a series in answer to the growing demand for knowledge on the part of the masses carried along on the upsurge of the cultural revolution after the liberation. The idea was immediately and eagerly taken up by a large number of middle school teachers who agreed to do the writing. The Chung Hwa Book Co. undertook to handle the project and an editorial board was organized with the well-known historian and writer Wu Han as chief editor.

Under the original plan, several score titles were published. They deal with important historical personages and significant historical events. Among the most popular are *Chin Shih Huang Ti* (the "first emperor" who unified China into a great empire); *Tsao Tsao* (an outstanding statesman and poet of the 3rd century); *Chu Yuan* (340-278 B.C., China's first great poet); *Lao Tse* (a great thinker of the 5th century B.C.); *Pai Chu-I* (a great poet of the Tang Dynasty); *Wen Tien-hsiang* (a great patriot of the Sung Dynasty who organized forces to resist the Mongols and, when captured, refused to surrender and was put to death); *The Story of Hai Jui* (a Ming Dynasty official well remembered for the good deeds he did for the people); *Li Shih-chen* (ancient China's greatest pharmacologist); *Hsu Hsia-keh* (a great traveller and writer of the Ming Dynasty); *Lin Tse-hsu*

(national hero of China's resistance to the British invaders during the Opium War of 1840); *The "Resist the British Corps" During the Opium War*; *Hung Hsiu-chuan* (a leader of the Taiping Revolution in the mid-19th century); and *China's Ape-Man*.

The first printings of these first titles were sold out almost as soon as they went on sale. Then readers suggested that the publishers widen the scope of the series to include other key phases of economic and cultural life in Chinese history, including descriptions of important cultural relics and historic sites and cities, the historical background of China's various nationalities, China's relations with foreign countries in the past; important writers and their works, and so on.

The plan was therefore enlarged to include 350 titles. This is how the 100 titles now available include *Iron and Steel in Ancient China*; *A Brief History of the Five Food Grains*; *Kung Shang-jen and His Famous Opera "The Peach Blossom Fan"*; *Lin Shu, Pioneer Translator of Foreign Novels Into Chinese*; *Art of the Tunhuang Caves*; *The Ancient Chaozhou Bridge*; *Changan, Capital of the Tang Dynasty* and *Peking's Imperial Palaces*.

The concise history series has whetted readers' appetites and they have suggested that popularly written books in similar style be brought out to cover other fields of general knowledge. As a result, two other series began to appear in the summer and autumn of 1961: the *Concise Histories of Foreign Countries Series* (the Commercial Press) and the *Concise Geography Series* (the China Youth Publishing House). Wu Han, who has edited the first series so well, was invited to head the editorial boards for these two subsequent series.

In the *Histories of Foreign Countries Series*, so far, there have appeared about a dozen titles including *The Pyramids*, *The Paris Commune*, *Klara Zetkin*, *The Feudal Estates of Western Europe*, *The Munich Intrigue* and *Chernyshevsky*; in the geography series, *China's Deserts* and *Cuba* are among the first dozen.

Side Benefits

Apart from providing useful reading material which is both knowledgeable and popularly written, the publication of these booklets has some valuable

side benefits. It has helped to train a large number of writers in popular writing. As many as 300 middle school teachers in Peking were drawn into work on the Chinese history series, and their ranks have kept on growing as the work has expanded. Many of those engaged in it speak gratefully of the help this work has been to them in improving their methods of teaching.

It is also strengthening the links between scholars and the masses. Quite a number of leading scholars have been invited and have agreed to write for the series. Among them is the well-known paleontologist Chia Lan-chih; he is an authority in his field with 30 years of experience in research work and many monographs to his credit, but in writing the text of *China's Ape-Man*, he says he found it quite a different and also difficult matter to explain all that is essential on this subject in language easily understandable to the average layman reader. The popularity of his new booklet shows that he has succeeded brilliantly in this task, forging a new and valuable link with the masses. His experience is typical of that of other scholars who have joined in this work.

Not the least important result of Peking's initiative in blazing this trail in the popularization of knowledge is that it is now being followed by publishing houses at the provincial level that are planning similar series on other branches of knowledge.

BALLET

"Fountain of Bakhchisarai"

The capital's ballet-lovers received a choice season's gift: the first performances of B. Asafiev's *Fountain of Bakhchisarai* presented by the Experimental Ballet Troupe of the Peking School of Dancing just before the New Year holidays. China's young ballet theatre has ably handled this notable 1934 composition which played an outstanding role in the development of Soviet classical ballet from superficial prettiness and the conventions of the fairy ballet towards full-blooded realistic dramatic expressiveness in dancing.

The libretto by N. Volkov is based on Pushkin's poem of the same name,

and the music is set in the style of Russian music of the time of Pushkin. It tells of events in the latter part of the 18th century. A party is being held in a noble's house in Poland. Guests dance mazurkas and cracoviennes in the moonlight. Maria is in love with Vaslav. Invading Tartars raid the house, slaughter the guests, kill Vaslav and abduct Maria for the Khan Girei's harem in Bakhchisarai. Girei is stricken, for the first time in his life, with love for Maria. She repulses him. Zarema, Girei's former favourite, in a storm of jealousy, kills Maria. Girei orders Zarema's execution and spends the rest of his days mourning the chaste Maria beside the fountain of tears he has built to her memory.

The Chinese production at the Tian-qiao Theatre has captured the mood and drama of the original tale. It was choreographed by Wang Hsi-hsien. This is the first independent production of this talented young Chinese choreographer backed up by the effective collective effort of the whole theatre. He has built on the Leningrad version first staged by the Kirov Theatre with Ulanova in the lead. Three vivid images stand out: the frustrated tyrant Girei; the gentle, lyrical Maria and the passionate Zarema. The main theme of Pushkin's poem is well brought out: force cannot conquer the spirit. The savage, despotic force personified by Girei is conquered by the pure, unyielding spirit of Maria loyal to the death to her native land and her love.

The main roles were danced by two casts in alternate performances. Chang Ling-yi and Chung Jun-liang



Maria and Girei

were appealing as Maria. Liu Ching-tang and Sun Hsueh-ching were imperious Girei. Zarema was danced by the well-known ballerina Pai Shu-hsiang and Chang Wan-chao. The role offers special difficulties for a young ballerina, but Pai Shu-hsiang gave a passionate and moving characterization. Among the supporting roles special laurels undoubtedly were deserved by Tsao Chi-hsin as Nurali, the fiery lieutenant of Girei, and Chou I-chi as the catty court lady who teases Zarema to distraction after her rejection by Girei. Chang Ling-yi (Maria), Sun Hsueh-ching (Girei) and Tsao Chi-hsin (Nurali) were dancing their first big roles.

There was grace and dignity but not enough sparkle in the Polish national dances of the first act—the dancers have not yet captured the full genius of these spirited dances—but the male dancers fully made up for this with the energy and verve of their Tartar warrior dances in the last act. These were splendid.

Ma Yun-hung (decor) and Li Ke-yu (costumes) did the most fruitful research for the meticulous details of their excellent original designs of decor and costumes in a romantic tradition very suited to the general style of the ballet.

The production as a whole is extremely well turned out. It shows the fast progress made by this young and promising ballet troupe which since its formation in 1959 is steadily building up a sound classical repertoire—already including *Swan Lake*, *Giselle*, *The Corsair*—and also making interesting experimental efforts for the further development of the art of the ballet.

—P.R.C.

SHORT NOTES

Growth of Writers' Union. The Union of Chinese Writers accepted 160 new members in 1962. They include outstanding young writers, peasant writers, new talents from the minority peoples and from the ranks of veteran revolutionaries who earned their literary reputation by their immensely popular reminiscences.

Lo Kuang-pin and Yang Yi-yen, authors of the widely acclaimed novel *Red Crag*, are among last year's new members. In a little more than a



Zarema Sketches by Li Ke-yu

year, more than two million copies of *Red Crag* were sold and more than a dozen stage adaptations were made of it. In this book, the young writers tell of the heroic struggle waged by the prisoners in the notorious SACO prison run jointly by the U.S. imperialists and the Chiang Kai-shek clique in their desperate fight against the Chinese people. The authors are themselves survivors of the SACO prison.

Twenty-three-year-old Shen Yao-chun, a peasant writer from Hopei Province, is another new member. He came to the public's notice four years ago with his short story *The Chairman's Hair* in which he successfully portrayed a public-spirited peasant cadre. All these years, he has been forging ahead steadily and a collection of his short stories has now been published.

Among the national minority writers is Ankchinfu, a Mongolian with several collections of short stories to his credit. Others include Rabgyal Pasang, a Tibetan soldier writer, Poyuwen, the Tai poet who was formerly a folk ballad singer, and Yang Su, the short story writer of the Pai nationality.

Among the old revolutionaries who have recently been accepted into the union is Yang Chih-lin, Secretary of the Chinghai Provincial Committee of the Chinese Communist Party. His reminiscences about the days he spent in prison together with Wang Jo-fei, one of the earliest Party members, during the early 1930s, has been translated into several languages. (In English, published by the Foreign Languages Press, it is entitled *Iron Bars But Not a Cage*.)

Yao Chung-ming who wrote *Comrade, You've Taken the Wrong Road*

and *Fresh in the Memory of the Chinese People*, two popular plays on episodes of revolutionary history, is another veteran revolutionary who is a new member. He is now Chinese Ambassador to Indonesia.

Young Kuo Liang-hsin who wrote the scenario for the film *A Red Detachment of Women*, is a new member too. He works with the soldiers' drama group of the units of the Chinese People's Liberation Army stationed near Canton.

The Writers' Union has more than a thousand members. In addition, it has 25 local organizations in different parts of the country with a total mem-

bership of several thousand. The union accepts new members on the recommendation of its local organizations or other literary institutions after discussions and careful consideration by the union's secretariat, which is elected by the members.

* * *

1963 Skating Championships. The National Skating Championships held this year January 6-9 in Mutankiang, northeast China, saw Wang Chin-yu win the men's all-round title for the fourth time running and Wang Shu-yuan, a 19-year-old, up-and-coming speed-skater, become the women's all-round champion.

In winning the all-round title with 205.583 points, 0.367 points short of the all-China record, Wang Shu-yuan, who did not make the national team for the Imatra World Championships last year, set three new national records. These were: 47 sec. for the 500 metres; 1 min. 40.2 sec. for the 1,000 metres and 5 min. 26.1 sec. for the 3,000 metres.

Wang Wen-sheng was the only skater in the men's events to break a national record at this meet. His 42.1 sec. for the 500 metres clipped 0.2 sec. off the old record set by Lo Chih-huan at the last championships and makes him the country's No. 1 sprinter on ice.

WHAT'S ON IN PEKING

HIGHLIGHTS OF CURRENT ENTERTAINMENT, EXHIBITIONS, ETC.

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

PINGJU OPERA

▲ **BATTLE OF WITS** An ancient Chou Dynasty story. Sun Pin and Pang Chuan, two knights, receive their military training from the same teacher. Pang Chuan becomes a general, but jealous of Sun Pin's superior skill in military strategy when they meet in a battle of wits, he plots against him. Sun Pin escapes and his enemy gets his deserts. China Pingju Opera Theatre.

SZECHUAN OPERA

▲ **STORY OF A SCHOLAR** A traditional satire. A scholar, falsely accused of robbery, appeals to the local courts and officials demand a bribe. Incensed, he appeals to the emperor, believing that he will give him justice. But, the emperor sentences him to death, and he realizes that there is no hope of getting justice from a corrupt society. Produced by the visiting Szechuan Opera Theatre from Chengtu.

▲ **KING OF YUEH RETURNS TO THE HOMELAND** A historical episode of the Warring States Period. Kou Chien, King of Yueh, returns to his homeland after years of captivity in the State of Wu. **INN FOR THE VIRTUOUS**, a short comedy, satirizes a mercenary hostess of an inn. **THE TURNIP GARDEN**, a comedy, tells how an old couple, owners of a turnip garden, rescue a young scholar and a girl from misfortune. Produced by the visiting Szechuan Opera Theatre from Chengtu.

DANCE-DRAMA

▲ **THE MAGIC LOTUS LANTERN** Based on a Chinese fairy tale. How a brave warrior, son of the Nymph of Mt. Huashan, defeats his intolerant uncle in combat and sets his mother free. Central Opera and Dance-Drama Theatre.

MODERN DRAMA

▲ **RED PROPAGANDIST** A modern Korean play depicting the Flying Horse Movement in Korea. It is about a Korean youth who devotes herself to socialist construction in the countryside and brings great changes to her home village. First performances in China, by Peking People's Art Theatre.

▲ **RED CRAG** A play adapted from the popular novel by Lo Kuang-pin and Yang Yi-yen. It describes the bitter struggle inside the notorious SACO prison between the political prisoners and the U.S.-Chiang agents and gaoers on the eve of Chungking's liberation. Peking People's Art Theatre.

▲ **WU TSE TIEN** A historical play written by Kuo Mo-jo. A dramatic chronicle of how Empress Wu Tse Tien, China's woman ruler of the early Tang Dynasty, brings peace and progress to the country by her wise statesmanship. Peking People's Art Theatre.

▲ **THE MARRIAGE OF FIGARO** A comedy of intrigue by the 18th-century French dramatist Beaumarchais. China Youth Art Theatre.

▲ **THE SIEGE** Approaching an industrial city in northeast China, the People's Liberation Army skillfully makes use of the conflicts within the enemy camp to liberate the city by peaceful means, saving the city, its people and industry from harm. Peking Film Workers' Modern Drama Troupe.

FILMS

▲ **RED CORAL** Colour film version of a modern opera. Aided by a P.L.A. scout, fishermen in a coastal village battle their oppressors and the KMT forces on the eve of liberation. "August 1" Studio.

▲ **AFTER THE CEASEFIRE** An exposure of how in 1946, the reactionary Kuomintang, under pressure of the people's demand for peace, signed a ceasefire agreement with the Communist Party, but, on the other hand, worked hand in glove with the U.S. imperialists to launch an all-out civil war. Peking Studio.

▲ **RED SAILS** A Soviet widescreen film of how a girl's romantic dream comes true.

▲ **HARVEST** An Argentine feature. The story of a rising of Argentine Indian sugarcane workers against their capitalist exploiters.

▲ **DREAM ON THE ICE** An Austrian ballet on ice in colour. An amateur ice skater and dancer takes the place of a famous star in a new show of spectacular skating and sets and reaps troubles — and a big success.

▲ **ALGERIAN GIRL** A U.A.R. feature film. The life and martyrdom of an Algerian girl-student who becomes a revolutionary heroine in the fight for Algeria's independence.

EXHIBITIONS

▲ **PAINTINGS OF THE ALBANIAN PAINTER VANGJUSH MIO** Daily, 9:00 a.m.-5:00 p.m. till Jan. 23. At Shulxie in Zhongshan Park.

▲ **6TH NATIONAL PHOTOGRAPHIC ART EXHIBITION** Daily, 9:00 a.m.-4:00 p.m. till Jan. 31. At Summer Palace.

▲ **EXHIBITION OF PAINTINGS BY AMATEUR PAINTERS** Daily, 9:00 a.m.-5:00 p.m. till Jan. 31. At the Working People's Palace of Culture.

▲ **FOOCHOW INDUSTRIAL ARTS EXHIBITION** Daily, 9:00 a.m.-5:00 p.m. till Feb. 5. At the Round City, Beihai Park.

(Above exhibitions closed on Mondays.)

SKATING

The Season's On!

The skating rinks in Peking are open:

▲ SHI CHA HAI:

Mon.-Fri.	5:00	p.m.-8:30	p.m.
Sat.	5:00	p.m.-9:00	p.m.
Sun.	9:00	a.m.-11:00	a.m.
	5:00	p.m.-8:30	p.m.

▲ WORKERS' STADIUM:

Mon.-Fri.	5:00	p.m.-8:00	p.m.
Sat.	5:00	p.m.-8:30	p.m.
Sun.	9:00	a.m.-11:00	a.m.
	5:00	p.m.-8:00	p.m.

▲ WORKING PEOPLE'S PALACE OF CULTURE:

Mon.-Sat.	5:00	p.m.-9:00	p.m.
Sun.	9:00	a.m.-12:00	noon
	5:00	p.m.-9:00	p.m.

▲ BEIHAI PARK:

Mon.-Fri.	5:00	p.m.-8:30	p.m.
Sat.	5:00	p.m.-9:00	p.m.
Sun.	9:00	a.m.-11:30	a.m.
	1:00	p.m.-3:30	p.m.
	5:00	p.m.-8:30	p.m.

▲ ZHONGSHAN PARK:

Mon.-Fri.	9:00	a.m.-12:00	noon
	5:30	p.m.-8:30	p.m.
Sat.	9:00	a.m.-12:00	noon
	5:30	p.m.-9:00	p.m.
Sun.	8:00	a.m.-10:30	a.m.
	11:30	a.m.-2:30	p.m.
	5:30	p.m.-8:30	p.m.

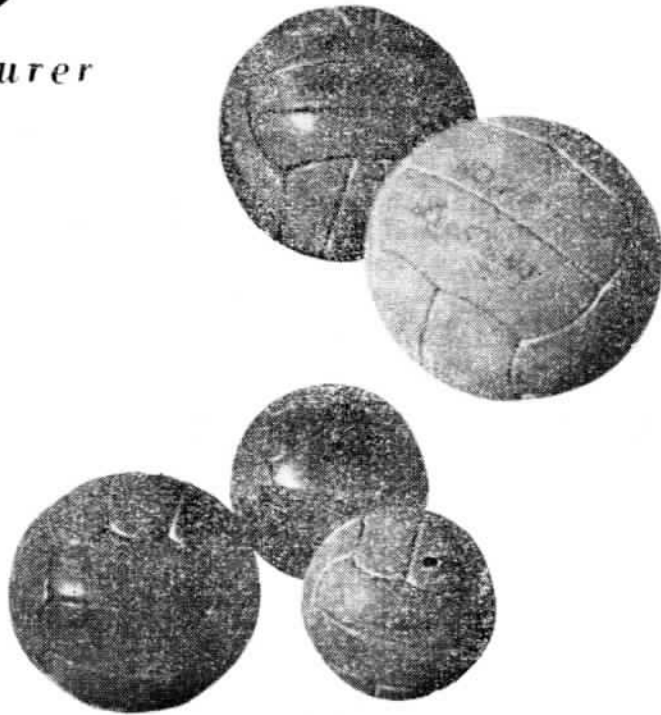
▲ TAO RAN TING:

Mon.-Sun.	5:00	p.m.-8:30	p.m.
Tues., Thurs.			
Sat. & Sun.	8:30	a.m.-11:00	a.m.





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