

PEKING REVIEW

19

May 11, 1973

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Seeing the Essence of Problems

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**Warm Send-Off for Samdech Sihanouk
On His Visit to Nine Countries**

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**Path of Youth: Integrating With Workers
And Peasants**

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北京周报

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Samdech Sihanouk on Visit to Nine African-European Countries

Head of State and Chairman of the National United Front of Cambodia Samdech Sihanouk and Madame Sihanouk, accompanied by Ieng Sary, Special Envoy of the Interior Part of Cambodia, left Peking by special plane on May 8 to visit nine African and European countries — Senegal, Guinea, Mali, the Congo, Albania, Mauritania, Algeria, Yugoslavia and Romania.

Samdech Penn Nouth, Chairman of the Political Bureau of the Central Committee of the National United Front and Prime Minister of the Royal Government of National Union of Cambodia, and Madame Penn Nouth and Ministers of the R.G.N.U. were at the airport to see them off.

Chinese state leaders Chou En-lai, Yeh Chien-ying, Li Hsien-nien, Teng Hsiao-ping, Li Teh-sheng and others were also present to bid the Cambodian comrades-in-arms bon voyage.

The previous day, Premier Chou En-lai gave a special banquet to honour Samdech Sihanouk and his party, wishing him complete success on his visit. At the banquet Chinese artists gave a special performance of songs by Samdech Sihanouk, including *Glory to Arab and African Brothers*.

Samdech and Madame Sihanouk made an inspection tour of the Cambodian Liberated Zone last March which has produced strong and favourable international reactions. The international prestige of the Royal Government of National Union of Cambodia is growing continuously,

with nearly 40 countries having extended it de jure recognition.

Third Anniversary of Royal Government of National Union of Cambodia Greeted

Acting Chairman Tung Pi-wu and Premier Chou En-lai sent a message on May 4 to Samdech Norodom Sihanouk and Prime Minister Penn Nouth extending their warmest congratulations on the third anniversary of the establishment of the Royal Government of National Union of Cambodia.

The Chinese government leaders said in the message that the Royal Government of National Union of Cambodia had closely rallied the broad masses of the patriotic armed forces and people and won continuous great victories in the military, political, diplomatic and other fields. The Royal Government is enjoying an increasingly high international prestige, they added.

The message pointed out: "Facts have fully proved that the Royal Government of National Union of Cambodia is the sole legal government of Cambodia which maintains close ties with the people. Under the heavy blows of the patriotic armed forces and people of Cambodia, the traitorous Lon Nol clique is already bottled up in an isolated city and is putting up a last-ditch struggle. It definitely will not last long."

In conclusion, the Chinese government leaders reaffirmed the Chinese people's firm support for the Cam-

bodian people's just struggle till complete victory.

Luxembourg Foreign Minister Visits China

Premier Chou En-lai and Foreign Minister Chi Peng-fei met with the visiting Foreign Minister Gaston Thorn of the Grand Duchy of Luxembourg on the afternoon of May 6. They had an unconstrained conversation in a friendly atmosphere.

Present on the occasion were J. Vixseboxse, Ambassador of the Netherlands to China who is in charge of the diplomatic interests of the Grand Duchy of Luxembourg in China; Adrien Meisch, Luxembourg Ambassador to the Soviet Union; and Roger Hastert, Director of the Protocol Department of the Luxembourg Foreign Ministry.

The Luxembourg Foreign Minister and his party arrived in Peking on May 4 for a visit at the invitation of Foreign Minister Chi Peng-fei who gave a banquet the following evening to welcome the guests.

Speaking at the banquet, the Chinese Foreign Minister praised the people of Luxembourg for having waged a protracted and unswerving struggle to safeguard national independence and sovereignty. Many small and medium-sized European countries, he said, are now uniting in a struggle to defend their own independence and security and oppose power politics and hegemonism. We appreciate Luxembourg's unremitting efforts in this struggle, he stressed.

In his speech, Foreign Minister Thorn said that with the establishment of diplomatic relations between Luxembourg and China, a new page had opened in the history of the relations between the two countries, which would certainly lead to happy and mutually beneficial co-operation between them. He declared that he was filled with confidence and was looking forward to relations be-

tween Luxembourg and China with optimism.

Speaking of the European Community which has a population of 300 million, the Luxembourg Foreign Minister said that Luxembourg attached prime importance to European unification and strove for it with might and main. He said that he noted with satisfaction that the Chinese Government also attached great significance to the development of the European Community.

Premier Chou Meets Canadian Petroleum Mission

Premier Chou En-lai, Minister of Foreign Trade Pai Hsiang-kuo and Vice-Minister of Fuel and Chemical Industries Tang Ke on May 2 met the Petroleum Mission from Canada with D.S. MacDonald, Minister of Energy, Mines and Resources, as its leader and R.G. Head, Assistant Deputy Minister of the Department of Industry, Trade and Commerce, as its deputy leader.

Invited by the Chinese Government, the Canadian Petroleum Mission arrived in Peking on April 22.

Speaking at a welcome banquet for the mission, Minister of Foreign Trade Pai Hsiang-kuo expressed the belief that the visit of Minister MacDonald and his mission would make beneficial contributions to increasing Sino-Canadian understanding, promoting the friendship between the two peoples and the relations between the two countries, and expanding technical exchanges concerning the petroleum industry between them.

During their stay in China, the Canadian guests visited oilfields, petro-chemical works and a petromachinery plant, as well as factories, rural people's communes and places of interest in Harbin, Tientsin, Shanghai, Hangchow and Kwangchow.

Torch Race in Peking Marks Youth Day

To commemorate May 4th, China's Youth Day, a night relay torch race was sponsored by the Peking Municipal Committee of the Chinese Communist Youth League and the

Municipal Physical Culture and Sports Commission on May 3. More than 15,000 Youth League members, Red Guards and other young people took part in the race and related activities.

Fifty-four years ago on May 4, 1919, a great revolutionary movement against imperialism and feudalism erupted in Peking. Gathering in Tien An Men Square in the heart of the city, thousands of students marched through the streets in protest against the traitorous warlord government preparing to sign away China's sovereignty through the Paris "peace treaty." This subsequently developed into a nationwide mass movement with the working class as its main force and marked the beginning of China's new-democratic revolution.

May 4 was designated Youth Day by the youth organization, led by the Chinese Communist Party, in the Shensi-Kansu-Ningsia Border Region in the early part of the War of Resistance Against Japan (1937-45). This was officially confirmed after the founding of the People's Republic in 1949.

The opening ceremony of the race took place on the campus of the former Peking University. Northeast of the Forbidden City, this was the very place where, on the night of May 3, 1919, the May 4th Movement was launched.

Addressing the meeting, a leading member of the Peking Municipal Committee of the Chinese Communist Youth League called on the young people of Peking to inherit and carry forward their predecessors' proletarian revolutionary spirit, take over the torch of revolution and pass it on, and always march in the van of the revolutionary movement. She then lit a torch, which started off a group of 54 torch-bearers who sprinted off in the direction of Tien An Men Square. There, amidst a huge throng of cheering youth, the race was taken over by 540 runners, all holding flambeaux, which were passed on to others at six different points on the round-the-city circuit that finally led back to Tien An Men.

Among the runners was Chu Tsung-yi, an educated youth who had

settled in the Changlingying Brigade on the outskirts of Peking in 1965. Now secretary of the brigade's Party branch, he has lived and worked among the former poor and lower-middle peasants of that brigade with whom he had become close in thought and feeling and made outstanding contributions there. Speaking of the educated youth settling in the countryside, Chu said: "I am convinced that the road pointed out by Chairman Mao for young people like me—that of integrating with the workers and peasants—is the only way for us to really become revolutionaries."

In the ranks of the runners were Peking University students of worker, peasant or soldier origin, whose minds were fired with the images of their forerunners fighting valiantly against the imperialists and feudal warlords. Red Guards of the middle school attached to Tsinghua University and young workers of the February 7th Rolling Stock Plant, both vanguards in the Great Proletarian Cultural Revolution, showed great speed and stamina.

Taiwan Fishermen Compatriots Rescued

On April 27, 12 fishermen from a trawler of the Hsinhuatai Co. in Keelung City, Taiwan Province, that had sunk near the island of Tungyin because of an engine breakdown were rescued by fishermen of the Haifeng Brigade of the Huangchi People's Commune in Lienchiang County, Fukien Province. The 12 rescued were brought ashore where they were warmly received and looked after by the local authorities and people. Arrangements are being made to help them return to their homes in Taiwan as soon as possible.

Lu Hsun's Works Republished

The People's Literature Publishing House in Peking is republishing the *Complete Works of Lu Hsun* as well as some of his works in pamphlet form, to fulfil a growing demand from cadres, workers, peasants and soldiers.

The pamphlets, numbering 24 in all, include *Call to Arms*, *Wandering*,

(Continued on p. 23.)

Seeing the Essence of Problems

by Chi Ping

CHAIRMAN MAO has always taught us to try to find the essential or main aspects of a problem. We must learn to use this scientific approach in sizing up a situation, analysing a problem or discussing our work.

Criticizing people who go against this approach, Chairman Mao pointed out in July 1955: "The way these comrades look at problems is wrong. They do not look at the essential or main aspects but emphasize the non-essential or minor ones. It should be pointed out that these non-essential or minor aspects must not be overlooked and must be dealt with one by one. But they should not be taken as the essential or main aspects, or we will lose our bearings." (*On the Question of Agricultural Co-operation.*)

In estimating a situation, we must try to grasp its essence and mainstream before we can size it up correctly. We must, as Chairman Mao has said, "apply the Marxist-Leninist method in analysing a political situation and appraising the class forces, instead of making a subjective analysis and appraisal." (*On Correcting Mistaken Ideas in the Party.*) Only by correctly assessing the relative strength of the different classes in society and the trend of their development can the essence of a situation be ascertained in a maze of complicated phenomena.

During the various historical periods of the Chinese revolution, Chairman Mao always distinguished between the principal and the secondary contradictions of each period by scientifically analysing the balance of class forces and the trend of their development at the time. On this basis, he charted the correct strategy for struggle for the Party and steered the Chinese revolution ahead victoriously.

The same is true for all Communist Party members and revolutionaries. Only when we correctly assess a situation from its essence can we obtain a deep understanding of the Party's line, principles and policies and steadfastly carry them out; only in this way can we remain level-headed and retain a high revolutionary enthusiasm and persist in the correct political orientation.

To Marxists, all kinds of contradictions in the social life of a class society are, in the last analysis, class contradictions. Such contradictions and struggle motivate the advance of society. Chairman Mao has

said: "Classes struggle, some classes triumph, others are eliminated. Such is history, such is the history of civilization for thousands of years." (*Cast Away Illusions, Prepare for Struggle.*) Classes, class contradictions and class struggle continue in socialist society, which moves forward in contradictory struggle.

Since China entered the period of socialist revolution, the principal contradiction has been that between the proletariat and the bourgeoisie. The existence and development of this principal contradiction decides or influences the existence and development of other contradictions. Reflected in the Party, this contradiction is manifested in the struggle between a Marxist-Leninist line and an opportunist one. The reason why the Party's basic line is so important is that it scientifically analyses the principal contradiction in the stage of socialist revolution and points out the principles and methods for its solution.

To view a situation correctly, we should analyse social phenomena in the basic context of the struggle between the two classes, two roads and two lines. This is our most fundamental starting point. In socialist society, the proletariat constantly gains in strength while the bourgeoisie weakens and the Marxist-Leninist line repeatedly repulses the revisionist line in the course of this struggle. Hence the advance of society and history. Therefore, we can see a situation clearly from its essence only by grasping this fundamental starting point.

The waxing and waning of the respective strength of the proletariat and the bourgeoisie and the latter's final extinction is the general trend of revolutionary development in the socialist period. However protracted the struggle and tortuous the road, this general trend will not change. The key here is that the proletariat must have a Marxist-Leninist line.

Chairman Mao has noted: "The correctness or incorrectness of the ideological and political line decides everything." When the line is correct, the proletarian revolutionary cause will spurt forward. This has been amply proven by the 23-year history of the People's Republic of China. Guided by Chairman Mao's proletarian revolutionary line, we have experienced during this period a number of big struggles, including both class struggle in society and line struggle within the Party. Each struggle ended with the strength of the reactionary exploiting classes seriously weakened and

the proletariat and revolutionary people growing stronger through the tempering they received. Thus the revolution goes forward. Such struggles, carried out ceaselessly, will eventually enable us to accomplish our great historic task—that of finally eliminating the system of exploitation and the exploiting classes.

An entirely different situation has been known to appear in the international communist movement when the line is incorrect, as in the Soviet Union. There, the revisionist renegade clique has usurped Party leadership and state power, betrayed the revolutionary principles of Marxism-Leninism and followed a revisionist line. The result is that the dictatorship of the proletariat has been replaced by the dictatorship of the bourgeoisie, socialism has been replaced by social-imperialism and fascism, revolution is undermined and history retrogresses. However, this is a temporary phenomenon. In the end, Marxism-Leninism will certainly defeat revisionism and the proletariat will defeat the bourgeoisie. This general trend of historical development can never be changed.

Foster the Growth of New Things

As the socialist revolution deepens in China, the Great Proletarian Cultural Revolution, initiated and led by Chairman Mao, is a great struggle between the proletariat and the bourgeoisie and between the Marxist-Leninist line and the revisionist line. Guided by Chairman Mao's proletarian revolutionary line, Party members, cadres and masses, after repeated and sharp struggles, uncovered the handful of renegades, special agents and diehard capitalist-roaders in the Party headed by Liu Shao-chi. Then they went on to smash the plots of political swindlers like Liu Shao-chi to restore the fascist dictatorship of the landlords and comprador-bourgeoisie, destroy their bourgeois headquarters and settle accounts with them for their counter-revolutionary crimes and revisionist line. All this has enormously strengthened China's proletarian dictatorship and the Chinese Communist Party. It was also a very severe blow to imperialism and social-imperialism, which schemed to subvert the socialist system in China through their agents. This tremendous victory has sparked vigorous development in all fields of socialist endeavour and is of extremely far-reaching significance.

The proletariat, through the Great Proletarian Cultural Revolution, has further enlarged its positions in the superstructure, including all spheres of culture, while the ideology of the bourgeoisie and all other exploiting classes suffered harsh blows. In literature and art, education and other realms where the bourgeoisie had long been entrenched, a profound revolution has taken place, with the proletariat taking over these ideological positions.

As Chairman Mao's proletarian revolutionary line and principles and policies are carried out in all spheres of the superstructure, large numbers of socialist new things have emerged. These include the creation and

popularization of model revolutionary theatrical works, enrolment of worker-peasant-soldier students in universities and colleges, settling of educated city youth in the countryside, participation of cadres in productive labour, development of co-operative medical services and emergence of "barefoot doctors" in the rural areas, shifting of medical workers to the countryside. All these have a common class nature: they are advantageous to the proletariat and detrimental to the bourgeoisie and benefit socialism while harming capitalism. Although some are still in an imperfect state, lack adequate experience or are passing or have yet to pass the test of various struggles, they possess, nonetheless, immense viability and have an illimitable future. They show the direction of our advance and the rapid progress of the socialist revolution. As Chairman Mao has said: **"It is always so in the world, the new displacing the old, the old being superseded by the new, the old being eliminated to make way for the new, and the new emerging out of the old."** (*On Contradiction*.) To actively protect new-emerging things, enthusiastically foster their growth and correctly sum up experience and lessons is to persist in revolution and in progress.

Distinguishing Between Principal And Secondary Aspects

In class society, class struggle is **"always the great motive force of historical progress."** (Engels: *International Socialism and Italian Socialism*.) Such noteworthy changes in favour of the proletariat in the balance of class forces have an important bearing on the overall situation of socialist revolution and socialist construction. Their powerful influence is felt in every field, on every front and by every part of the overall situation. Historical experience proves that a major class or line struggle never fails to bring a leap in the various fields of revolution and construction.

In the course of the Great Proletarian Cultural Revolution, we have destroyed the bourgeois headquarters of Liu Shao-chi and other political swindlers and smashed their counter-revolutionary revisionist line; Chairman Mao's proletarian revolutionary line has taken firm hold of people's hearts, and the Party's principles and policies are implemented even better so that the socialist enthusiasm of the cadres and masses are further aroused. All this has enabled every field of work in China to advance triumphantly along the socialist road. Shortcomings and problems which appear during the rapid growth of the socialist cause are non-essential and minor things not difficult to overcome, and certainly can be overcome, once Chairman Mao's correct line is put into action. In viewing the situation on different fronts or in different fields or in considering a partial situation, the overall situation of the class struggle must not be forgotten, and neither should the essential and main aspects. Concrete analysis should also be made of the minor or secondary aspects. The principal and the secondary aspects form a unity of opposites. The secondary aspects reveal the

new contradictions arising in the progress of things, and they will remind us to solve the problems and thus bring about sounder development of the main aspects.

As socialist revolution moves ahead, the victories we win by no means indicate the end of the struggle. These victories can be consolidated and developed only by persisting in continuing the revolution under the dictatorship of the proletariat.

Chairman Mao has taught us: "We have won great victory. But the defeated class will still struggle. These people are still around and this class still exists. Therefore, we cannot speak of final victory. Not even for decades. We must not lose our vigilance." Historical experience since the founding of New China proves that each major class struggle with its resultant changes evokes a different response from different classes, strata or social cliques.

The proletariat and the masses of labouring people are elated by their victories, while the reactionary exploiting classes lament their defeat. Liu Shao-chi and other political swindlers did everything in their power to nullify the great achievements of China's socialist revolution and construction and of the Great Cultural Revolution, slander the fruits of the revolutions in art and literature and in education and other fields of struggle-criticism-transformation and sling mud at the excellent revolutionary situation. They hoped by this to oppose Chairman Mao's proletarian revolutionary line and achieve their criminal aim of sub-

verting the proletarian dictatorship and restoring capitalism.

To be able to see the essential and main aspects of things correctly, we must firmly adhere to a proletarian stand. Chairman Mao has pointed out: "Our stand is that of the proletariat and of the masses. For members of the Communist Party, this means keeping to the stand of the Party, keeping to Party spirit and Party policy." (*Talks at the Yen-an Forum on Literature and Art.*) This is our fundamental point of departure in approaching all problems. Only in this way can we firmly keep in mind the great historic task of the proletariat, correctly recognize the objective laws of class struggle, grasp the trend of social development, observe at all times what conforms to the maximum interests of the masses and to the advance of society and vice versa, and thus analyse and judge the situation correctly.

Anyone who keeps to the stand of an individual or a small clique instead of that of the proletariat will see problems through prejudiced eyes; he will fail to correctly analyse class contradictions and class struggles and thus see the situation in an incorrect light. It is imperative, therefore, that we carry out Chairman Mao's instruction to "read and study seriously and have a good grasp of Marxism," consciously remould our world outlook and keep firmly to the proletarian stand through constant tempering.

(Slightly abridged translation of an article from "Hongqi," No. 3, 1973. Subheads are ours.)

Path of Youth

Integrating With Workers And Peasants

by Our Correspondent

LAST March I went to attend the Fifth Congress of the Communist Youth League of Liaoning Province held at the provincial capital, Shenyang, which is an important industrial centre in China's northeast. The youth leaguers number 1,700,000 out of 6 million young people in Liaoning. There were 1,400 delegates from various fields of work attending the congress, some of whom I interviewed.

"Integrating with workers and peasants" is what the delegates often emphasized during their speeches and conversations.

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As early as in 1939, Chairman Mao explicitly pointed out in his article *The Orientation of the Youth Movement*: "Our young intellectuals and students must go among the workers and peasants, who make up 90 per cent of the population, and mobilize and organize them. Without this main force of workers and peasants, we cannot win the fight against imperialism and feudalism, we cannot win it by relying only on the contingent of young intellectuals and students. . . . How should we judge whether a youth is a revolutionary? How can we tell? There can only be one criterion, namely, whether or

not he is willing to integrate himself with the broad masses of workers and peasants and does so in practice."

It was then that the flames of the anti-Japanese war were spreading to all parts of the country. Many educated young people put away the long gowns they wore which distinguished them as intellectuals and went to live among the workers and peasants. They carried out activities against the invaders together with the workers and peasants and learnt from them. Not a few went to rural base areas to join the revolutionary armed struggle. Such was the road traversed by quite a few among the older generation of leading cadres now on the provincial committees of the Chinese Communist Party and the Communist Youth League.

Referring to the past, they said, "Before liberation many young people in the Kuomintang-controlled areas, especially the students, were at odds with the society. Sometimes they felt like struggling against its ills, but couldn't find a way out. All their efforts were futile, and their future uncertain. However, once they were influenced into going among the workers and peasants, becoming integrated with them and carrying out revolutionary struggle under the leadership of the political party of the proletariat, their actions took on meaning and significance. Impractical in thinking and irresolute in action as they had always been, they now began gradually to overcome these shortcomings."

To the Countryside

After the nationwide victory in 1949, the living standards of the Chinese people has been steadily rising. More and more young people attend primary and middle schools, vocational schools as well as universities. What road will these educated youth take after graduation? There exists a sharp struggle over this question.

In speeches and discussions during the congress, the delegates criticized the fallacies spread by Liu Shao-chi and other political swindlers, who advocated all sorts of nonsense such as "going to school in order to become officials" and "striving for rank and fame" and attacked the integration of educated youth with workers and peasants. Such thinking was rejected as nothing but out-and-out exploiting-class thinking. Ideas like this had prevailed for more than 2,000 years of feudal society in China, and were expressed in concepts such as, "those doing mental work should rule, while those doing manual labour should be ruled over," and "a good student today, an official tomorrow." In capitalist society, chasing after fame and climbing higher to get rich have always been cited by the bourgeoisie as the natural path for young people to follow.

The delegates pointed out that in our socialist society where the working people are their own masters, the ideal of a young person is to be a labourer with both socialist consciousness and culture, to be of value to the people and to serve the people. Yes, young people have been promoted to positions of responsibility at various levels, but they are still ordinary labourers, and de-

cidely not overlords sitting on the backs of the people. Many scientists, artists and experts in various fields have emerged from the younger generation, but they are integrated with the workers and peasants and not "spiritual aristocrats" who hold aloof and consider themselves superior to the working people.

These young men and women are true to their words. I found that in this province there are over 1.4 million graduates of universities and middle schools who have settled in the countryside or in their native villages since 1968. They do farming or other work as their contribution to building socialism in rural areas where conditions are comparatively poor.

Re-education

One of the delegates to the congress, a 23-year-old girl named Liu Li, accompanied me on a visit to one of the centres for educated youth in the rural areas of Haicheng County. She is head of this site. On entering the village we came across 24 rooms of red bricks which serve as a dormitory for 46 educated city youth working in different production teams of a local people's commune. Everything was tidy in the bedrooms. They have their own dining room, and study together after work. Newspapers, periodicals and books are available in the reading room. Recreational facilities provide for different kinds of chess games and sports. To the left of the dormitory, as you come out, there's a chicken-coop, to the right a pigsty, and at the back a shed for draught animals.

Liu Li was brought up in the steel centre of Anshan. Both parents are government cadres. After graduating from middle school in 1968, she and her classmates came to live in this village in response to Chairman Mao's call for educated youth to settle in the countryside. When she was still a schoolgirl, she cherished many "fine" wishes: to be a famous teacher . . . a good doctor . . . a geologist prospecting high up in the mountains or in remote parts of the motherland . . . and so on and so forth. After she learnt about Chairman Mao's call,



Liu Li going to the fields.

she reassessed her aspirations. How could she best apply her youthful energies in socialist construction? The revolution needs all kinds of work, she thought. In the countryside there is plenty of room for young people to develop their talents. They are needed there. . . . That's how she made up her mind to go.

For educated youth to go to the countryside is more than simply a question of choosing a job. Their aim is to learn from the poor and lower-middle peasants, identify with them and overcome their own shortcomings as intellectuals. They should learn not only to understand the feelings of the working people, but should experience these feelings themselves. When Liu Li first came, she fell in love with the beautiful scenery. What "poetic" surroundings to live in! However, life had a severe test in store for her.

It was cotton-picking time. A harvest was nothing new to the peasant women, who kept talking and laughing as they deftly worked their way down the rows. Liu picked busily too, but, perspiring all over, she fell farther and farther behind. Back in her room, she felt sore in every muscle, and her back ached. Working like that for several days running, she began to wish it would rain so that she could have a rest. When she mentioned this out in the field one day, a veteran poor peasant said: "Child, if it rains, won't some of the cotton be damaged? Less output means the team sells less cotton to the state." She flushed at these words. It was clear to her: The two different wishes — one for rain, the other for sunshine — reflected two different feelings — one, of selfishness, the other, of concern for the public interest. In the evening she restudied Chairman Mao's teaching: **"It is highly necessary for young people with education to go to the countryside to be re-educated by the poor and lower-middle peasants."** She came to understand more deeply the political significance of educated youth going to the countryside, and determined to remould her world outlook well.

After that she placed more emphasis on learning from the peasants and made a point of taking on the heavier tasks. At the west end of the village there was a two-hectare piece of rock-strewn wasteland covered with tree-roots and tall grass. Liu Li and 13 other girls organized a shock brigade to reclaim it, and started work in real earnest in the spring of 1970. They carried 5,000 buckets of water on shoulder-poles from the village a kilometre away to water the fields during spring sowing. That year they harvested eight tons of grain from it.

Liu Li has matured politically and ideologically during her five years' tempering in the countryside. At the congress she was elected a member of the Standing



Li Tzu-pin (right) at work.

Committee of the Provincial Committee of the Communist Youth League.

Developing Talents to the Full

While being educated by the poor and lower-middle peasants, young school graduates have helped build up the countryside, contributing their cultural and scientific knowledge with revolutionary enthusiasm. Li Tzu-pin and 15 of his classmates who finished senior middle school in 1964 asked to go to the countryside. The village they settled in had poor soil and low yield.

They joined the poor and lower-middle peasants in reclaiming seven hectares of low-lying land. Twenty thousand cubic metres of earth had to be added and eight channels dug. This enabled the village to increase output fivefold the following year. Next they worked hard to reclaim another seven hectares of alkaline soil, turning it into paddyfield. They persisted in scientific experimentation, coming up with 32 successful items which included pesticides and herbicides. Seven new good rice strains suited to the locality were cultivated. Through the efforts of these young people working with local peasants, the team's annual grain output has been raised in recent years from 22 tons to 265 tons. Li Tzu-pin was elected deputy leader of the team.

Living standards have risen, and educated youth who came to settle down have moved into new houses. Li Tzu-pin got married, and the couple now have a baby. Their earnings are more than enough for food and clothing. They find time to raise their own pigs and chickens. Such a comfortable family life — they must be quite content. . . .

Far from it, Li told me. He and the team members are drawing up a long-term plan for still higher output and mechanization. "This is but our first step on the road of integrating with the workers and peasants. More strenuous work lies ahead!"

Like Li Tzu-pin, large numbers of educated young people are having their talents developed to the full in the vast countryside. Many of them have been admitted into the Chinese Communist Party and the Communist Youth League, and not a few have been promoted to leading posts. Many are now accountants, teachers, "barefoot doctors," agro-technicians and meteorologists, contributing more and more to the transformation of China's countryside. One begins to comprehend the significance of their lives when one hears them discuss, with youthful vigour, the communist ideals of eliminating the differences between town and country, worker and peasant, and mental and manual labour.

Go to the Factories

Delegate Chang Min, only 19, can climb up a pylon about 30 metres high and work on a live 220,000-volt ultra-high-tension transmission line. Lots of workers who come from other parts of the country to learn from her praise her performance highly.

How did a young girl like Chang Min manage to master this difficult technique so quickly? "Veteran workers taught me," she explained. "They are the best teachers. Hardships taught me, too. They form the best environment in which to temper my revolutionary will!" The transmission line in the charge of her squad is several hundred kilometres long, its highest voltage 220,000, its highest pylon some 70 metres.

The electricians work out in the open, checking to make sure the line is in good order. When something goes wrong, repair work continues round the clock whether it's in the severest winter weather or the hottest days of summer. Sometimes they are out in temperatures over 20 degrees below zero, their faces exposed to the freezing wind and their feet numbed with cold. Yet their minds are at ease, they talk and joke as they work. Their fine qualities impressed Chang Min deeply. She determined to learn this spirit first, believing that only with such a spirit could she defy all difficulties in learning technique.

Once on a construction site in winter, a windlass had to be moved from a muddy paddyfield to a place several hundred metres away. A worker came over quietly, squatted in the muddy water and said, "Come, put it on my shoulder." Chang Min and several others lifted it with difficulty. He carried it straight to where it was needed. Recalling the scene, Chang said, "I felt warm as I watched him go. This symbolized the proletariat. I determined to take it as an example to follow."

"I'll tell you how I learnt my job," she continued. "The basic training of an electrician like me consists of climbing the pylon. The first time I stood at the base looking up, the height and the whistling of the transmission line in the wind unnerved me. Before I had climbed some 10 metres my knees weakened; looking down made me dizzy. The master electrician by my side encouraged me, instructing me to hold fast and to mind my step. Look straight forward, he said, and you won't be dizzy. Summoning up all my courage, I



Chang Min operating high up in the air.

climbed to the top of that 30-metre-high pylon. With more practice, I was finally able to climb a pylon over 70 metres high.

"Another big challenge was learning to work on a live 220,000-volt ultra-high-tension line. What a fright I had at the first touch! Sparks flew from my hands, "tzu-tzu" went the soles of my boots. I calmed myself down by reviewing the rules for operation my patient master had taught me. I knew this was nothing — just normal electrical phenomena. I moved along the line as my master instructed. When an arc light flew towards me, I pressed my hand on the wire to put it out. Gradually through practice I became familiar with the laws governing the 'electric tiger' and knew there was nothing to be afraid of."

"But do you find this kind of work interesting?" I asked.

There was a note of revolutionary romanticism in her answer: "Our socialist motherland needs any number of huge factories. Which is the biggest? I say ours is. The space between the blue sky and the ground is our factory."

There are thousands of young workers like Chang Min and young peasants like Li Tzu-pin and Liu Li in China. Their greatest happiness lies in making the biggest possible contribution to the people and the motherland at their ordinary posts, and their greatest satisfaction, in overcoming difficulties to accomplish arduous tasks. They are hard-working, studious and full of vitality. On the road of integration with the workers and peasants, they are remoulding their subjective world in the course of transforming the objective world.

This is the path of China's youth today.

Boundless Creative Power

— How a densely populated county with limited land achieves growing prosperity

by Sung Chin

WUHSIEN County is only two hours west of Shanghai by train and four hours east of Nanking, provincial capital of Kiangsu.

Spring here is a tapestry of colour and movement. Well-tended plots of swaying wheat and flowering rape chequer the flat land in green and gold. Commune members are applying fertilizer and pesticides, and meticulously tending the fields.

The white sails of fishing boats stand out against the blue-green waters of Lake Taihu and splash go the shining nets as they are skilfully cast for the next catch. On the adjoining hills bright green tangerine trees heighten the pink and white of blossoming peach and plum. From afar can be heard the laughing chatter of tea-pickers gathering the new leaves of the famous *pilochun* green tea on the slopes.

The lovely garden city of Soochow, capital of the State of Wu some 2,000 years ago, lies in the centre of Wuhsien County. Down through the ages, the magnificence of this region has kept alive the saying, "Above is Heaven, on earth, Soochow-Hangchow!" This paradise, however, was only for the exploiters before liberation. The peasants who toiled the year round growing wheat and rice in abundance could scarcely feed themselves, so that praise of the land's richness could never drown out an old accompanying lament: "Not even a handful of wheat-bran is left to eat when cicadas begin shrilling, nor rice-husks when the first snow-flakes fall." Now the people, with political power in their own hands, can shape their own destiny, and increase the bounty of the land for the benefit of all. This has been especially true since 1964 when the one million peasants of Wuhsien County rallied to Chairman Mao's call to learn from the Tachai Brigade, the nation's pace-setter in agriculture. The lesson, well-learned, was how to work hard with their own hands to transform their land.

Chairman Mao said: "The masses have boundless creative power. They can organize themselves and concentrate on places and branches of work where they can give full play to their energy; they can concentrate on production in breadth and depth and create more and more undertakings for their own well-being."

And that is exactly what the people of Wuhsien County have done.

Tremendous Potential

Wuhsien County has gathered in bumper harvests eleven years in a row. Its per-*mu* grain yield last year reached 676 kilogrammes, totalling 650 million kilogrammes for the whole county. In 1949 its grain output was only 190 million kilogrammes, while in 1963, prior to the "learn from Tachai" campaign, it was 400 million kilogrammes.

This fertile county criss-crossed by rivers near the mouth of the mighty Yangtze is densely populated, with an average of one *mu* of cultivated land per person. Was it possible to go on getting bigger harvests? The land was limited; the area under cultivation could be expanded no further. Grow grain on the hills? They were already planted to trees, and were yielding valuable crops of fruit, tea, mulberry leaves and timber.

Was there really any need to learn from Tachai? Learn what?

"Tachai is all arid upland country. We're different. We're on well-watered lowland," some said. Others claimed that since Tachai dry-farmed and Wuhsien grew paddy-rice, Tachai's experience could hardly be applied to Wuhsien. These views were mostly from a handful of unremoulded landlords and rich peasants. They also reflected the conservative thinking of some peasants. But the poor and lower-middle peasants were all for learning from Tachai in line with the Party's call. They had been the worst exploited and oppressed in the old society.

"It is Chairman Mao who has called on us to learn from Tachai, and we will," they said. "Tachai stands for certain basic ideas. These are what we must grasp." The poor and lower-middle peasants of Wuhsien thus repudiated the erroneous views and argued for working harder and persisting in revolution however favourably situated they were. After going over their particular circumstances, they said: "The people of Tachai hewed fields out of hills. We can't do that, but we can work to make each *mu* of our land give two crops of rice a year."



Agro-technicians of the Lungchiao Brigade, Wuhsien County, examining young wheat.

The practice in Wuhsien was to grow two crops a year — one of rice followed by one of wheat. Couldn't this be changed? Led by the Party branch secretary Shen Keng-nan, the cadres and peasants of the Lungchiao Brigade struck out along a new path. Through sheer hard work and ingenuity they managed to win three crops a year — two of rice and one of wheat. They made every minute count, collecting manure in the coldest part of winter, and in the hottest days of summer planting late-rice hard on the heels of the early-rice harvest. After several years of trial, the brigade in 1969 extended this schedule to every *mu* of its 1,000 *mu* of cropland.

The brigade achieved a record of one ton of grain per *mu* in 1970 and went on to set a higher record the following year. Its per-*mu* yield in 1972 went up to 1.089 tons, more than double the 0.4 ton per-*mu* standard fixed by the state for this region.

Right from the start these burgeoning harvests made the whole county sit up and think. "If the Lungchiao Brigade can do it, why can't we?" they asked. Before long, the whole county swung into action. In 1966 only 11.1 per cent of its 1.08 million *mu* under food crops grew two crops of rice, but by 1972 the percentage was increased to 77.7 per cent, or 0.84 million *mu*.

They were now getting higher yields in rice over a larger area; what about doing the same with wheat? The relatively low wheat yields in the past were mainly due to the high water table plus too much rain in spring and summer. Some people said, "Rice loves water, wheat doesn't. How can you put in wheat right after a rice harvest!" Insoluble as the contradiction seemed, the peasants of Wuhsien found a way out by taking a leaf from the advanced experience elsewhere and doing their own experiments. They dug a network

of drainage ditches two inches wide and about a metre deep which lowered the water table. This boosted wheat output.

The high-yield acreage was expanded steadily. By 1972, five communes, 58 production brigades and more than 700 production teams had reaped more than 800 kilogrammes of grain per *mu*, or double the state target. Eight brigades and 53 production teams bettered the one ton per *mu* mark.

New Contradictions

Together with higher yields under the new cropping system came new problems. Even old, experienced peasants felt the need to "go back to school."

Simple arithmetic wasn't enough. How could they squeeze two rice crops — early and late — into the frost-free period of approximately 215 days, when it required anywhere from 235 to 295 days?

At first early ripeners were selected although they gave lower returns. After repeated experiments it was found that though the frost-free period could not be prolonged artificially to any practical advantage, the growing period of the rice plants could be manipulated and shortened. Then the Changchiao Commune introduced a strain of late rice which gave high yields and needed 175 days to grow. This was made to mature in 145 days, and output was raised by more than 20 per cent. After experimenting repeatedly with more than 100 strains, the peasants finally found suitable ones for use in a yearly three-crop schedule.

Growing acreage for two rice crops a year gave the scientists new headaches too. Some brigades of the Chinshan Commune noticed that more damage was being done by insects than before. Careful investigation by agro-technicians revealed that changes in cropping had brought about changes in insect life. Preventive measures were taken in time with good results. By popularizing this commune's experience throughout the county, damage caused by the rice-borer, for example, was sharply reduced.

This county pays considerable attention to research in agronomy. It has its own research institute, while the communes have technical information centres and the brigades have their own agro-technicians. This forms a network for the propagation of better agricultural techniques. Training classes are frequently held and already some 15,000 peasants have been through them.

Broad Avenues

During the Great Proletarian Cultural Revolution cadres and commune members of Wuhsien worked hard

to give fuller and more energetic implementation to the principle of **"taking grain as the key link and ensuring an all-round development."** They diversified the county's economy and, as a result, there have been yearly increases in tea, fruit, fish and pigs. Today the county has one pig per capita. Quarrying is being developed. Embroidery, mat-making and other traditional sidelines are thriving alongside newly established enterprises like cultivating pearls in mud-clams, raising broilers and growing mushrooms.

The Yuehhsi Commune, ensconced in green hills and placid waterways, was a pleasure to visit. The road was lined with young green willows, while budding mulberry trees cast their shade along the embankments. We saw the commune's tidy plots, sturdy stands of lush bamboo and large stretches of aquatic fodder crops. The row upon row of piggeries and the flocks of chickens and ducks, noisy and exuberant, were a tribute to their keepers who lived in new houses. The glass windows sparkling in the sun and the tile roofs high-lighted the prosperity and progress of this area on the southern bank of the Yangtze.

Yuehhsi has gradually expanded its acreage growing two crops of rice a year since 1969; today all its paddyland is on this schedule. The need for more organic fertilizer was met by raising more pigs, but as the number of pigs grew, their feed problem also grew. One of the teams began by feeding its collectively raised herds on rice-husks. This turned out to be too expensive and tended to discourage quick expansion of the herds. Substitution by various aquatic plants which could be grown cheaply and in large quantities was tried. Several types of plants were found which the pigs thrived on. This solved the feed problem, paving the way for a swift rise in the pig population. Each of its 89 production teams today has over 100 pigs. Big porkers weighing about 250 kg. are quite common.

More pigs, more fertilizer, more grain; this was a successful formula. The Yuehhsi Commune has pushed up its grain production year after year, with per-mu yield in 1972 reaching 900 kilogrammes. At the same time money flowed in from its many-sided economy — orchards, mulberry groves, poultry, sheep, rabbits, silkworms, pearl-culture and mat-weaving. With its own funds the commune bought 65 tractors of medium and small size and other farm machinery, to create conditions for a sustained and bigger leap forward in agricultural production.

Mechanization

The heaviest demands were made on commune members in summer when they worked from early morning until after dark. Following the switch to three crops a year the cry for power machinery to raise efficiency and lessen the intensity of labour grew louder.

Cadres and peasants repudiated the sophistry of Liu Shao-chi and other political swindlers who maintained that there was no need to mechanize farming in places with limited land and plenty of people. The cadres and peasants clearly saw that mechanization was the basic way to develop agriculture, and started building various industries at both county and commune level.

First a network of workshops for making and repairing farm machinery was set up within handy distance of the users. The network embraced county, communes and brigades.

We called at the county's farm machinery plant. It had started out mainly as a repair station with several out-dated pieces of machinery. But over the past two years it has added over 100 lathes and other machine tools. The plant fitted out a boat with a lathe, power-drill and electric-welding equipment for repairing farm machinery at places along the county's many waterways. In addition, well-equipped bicycle and tricycle teams pedal about the hill country doing repairs and teaching operation, maintenance and repair of tractors and other power machines. These trouble-shooters on wheels are enthusiastically welcomed by the peasants wherever they go.

The commune plants make machinery and implements suited to the needs of their locality. At the



Yuehhsi commune members gathering aquatic plants for fodder and manure.

Chefang Commune we travelled by waterway to see a suction-pump boat in operation. River-mud fertilizer has always been highly prized by the people of this region, but in former days digging it out was slow, heavy work. Four or five stalwart lads would go out in boats to dredge the river-bottom with scoops, with no more than four or five boatfuls a day for their trouble. Now, when the operator throws a switch, a suction-pump (made at the commune's own plant) begins sucking up the dark rich sludge. The cement boat moored alongside is loaded to capacity in a matter of minutes.

In the past finding enough organic manure for two crops of rice a year had been quite a problem for this commune. But now with more pigs being raised and

efficient sludge collection, this is no longer a problem. Last year, paddyfields in this commune received two dressings of organic manure, a total of 10,000 kg. for each *mu*.

Over the past three years Wuh sien County has set up a host of small industries such as iron and steel, chemical fertilizer, machinery and cement. There are plants making diesel engines, electric generators, motors, pumps, bearings, transformers, suction pumps, threshers, huskers, lathes and rice transplanters. This has powerfully boosted agricultural production. At present the county has 1,100 tractors, and machines do most of the work of irrigation and drainage, threshing, elimination of pests, fodder-crushing and grain-processing. Wuh sien County is still far from being fully mechanized but is making forceful and rapid strides in this direction.

Zimbabwe Guerrillas

The Struggle Is On

ON the eve of the seventh anniversary of the armed struggle by the heroic Zimbabwe people (April 28), this correspondent called on some guerrilla leaders and fighters fresh from the front. What struck me most was their revolutionary spirit of persisting in armed struggle for the liberation and independence of their motherland.

It was on April 28 seven years ago, in Sinoia, a township northwest of the Rhodesian capital, Salisbury, that a guerrilla unit led by the Zimbabwe African National Union fired the first shot against the white racist regime. This was the start of the revolutionary armed struggle for national independence waged by the Zimbabwe people. To commemorate this historic day, the Zimbabwe people call it *chimurenga* day, *chimurenga* meaning war of liberation in the local language.

Flames of Revolution Cannot Be Extinguished

The Zimbabwe people's armed struggle which began in 1966 has not been plain sailing in the face of ruthless domination and fascist suppression by the Smith white racist regime. The armed struggle was resumed at the end of 1972 after years of political and military preparations, the guerrilla fighters having studied experience and lessons drawn from previous struggles.

In the northeastern areas of Rhodesia bordering on Mozambique which is under Portuguese colonial rule, the guerrillas took on enemy troops on several occasions and defeated them. According to figures now available, they put nearly 100 enemy troops out of action in less

than three months from December 21, 1972 to February 4 this year.

Guerrilla operations now have been extended in the north to the Mount Darwin area adjacent to Tete Province in Mozambique, in the east to the Umtali area adjoining Mozambique's Manica Sofala Province. The guerrillas have also been active in the Gatooma area, south of Salisbury, and in the Karuio area in the west.

Night Raid on Officers' Mess

One guerrilla leader told this correspondent about a victorious attack on an enemy officers' mess in the Mount Darwin area, which took place last January 6 and resulted in 40 enemy deaths.

The decision to make a raid after dark on the officers' mess came after the guerrillas learnt from the masses that enemy officers and men spent their weekends there drinking and relaxing. Having made a reconnaissance of the area and worked out a detailed plan of operation, they went into action in three groups, one to attack the mess itself, another to cut off enemy telephone lines, electric wires and communications and the third group to blow up the bridge on the Mufuli River leading to the officers' mess, while keeping close watch and ready to ambush any possible enemy reinforcements from the township.

At sunset, the guerrilla fighters had all taken up their prearranged positions, lying in ambush around the officers' mess and on both sides of the road ready to

spring into action. A heavily overcast night found the darkness gradually thickening. By then some enemy officers in the mess were already very drunk while others were still enjoying themselves. When the order to strike came, the first group started the assault by showering grenades on the mess from all directions. The bewildered enemy officers were thrown into utter confusion.

Enemy officers tried to call the township for help, only to find that the phone lines had been disconnected. The guerrillas stormed into the mess and killed every officer inside, 25 all told. When reinforcements from the township, rushing to the scene at the sound of gun shots, reached the bridge, it was blown up by the third group of guerrillas who set off explosives underneath, killing 15 troops. The rest fled in panic. The mission fulfilled, the guerrilla fighters returned to their camp in high spirits.

Relying on the Masses

The Zimbabwe guerrillas put great importance on mobilizing the masses and relying on them. They have worked actively among workers, peasants and students to draw them into the struggle against imperialism and the Rhodesian racist regime,

A guerrilla leader said that the number of people joining the guerrilla ranks has increased in recent years. Around 100 men, including whole families, enlisted in a training camp this year. This, he noted, should explode the enemy lie that "the guerrillas have been wiped out in the country."

Mozis, a 10-year-old junior guerrilla fighter, who comes from the Mount Darwin area, told me in a chat: "The enemy has burnt down our houses and taken away our land and cattle. I am joining the elders to fight the white settlers."

The broad masses of people have been enthusiastically helping the guerrillas transport arms and ammunition and supplying them with intelligence. Sometimes they also have taken up arms to fight shoulder to shoulder with the guerrillas.

Another guerrilla leader said: "The revolutionary war is a war of the masses. Without the masses the guerrillas would be helpless, like fish out of water. No matter how arduous our struggle may be, so long as we rely on the broad masses and persist in *chimurenga*, we will win independence and liberate the motherland for certain. Final victory is certainly ours."

— *Hsinhua Correspondent*

Glimpses of Panama's Interior

Following is a report from the Chinese Journalists' Group which recently toured several provinces in Panama. — Ed.

PANAMA has fertile soil and its climate is suitable for cultivating tropical crops. But as a result of the lop-sided economic development under age-long colonial rule, the country derives more than 80 per cent of its revenue from the "metropolitan zone," the isthmian strip from the capital to the city of Colon where the country's economic activities are concentrated though the zone makes up less than 3 per cent of Panama's area. The interior is sparsely populated and underdeveloped, with unexploited forests, swamps and uncultivated land accounting for 85 per cent of the total territory. But today efforts are being made to rid the countryside of backwardness by promoting agriculture and stock-breeding, said the Minister of Agriculture and Livestock Breeding, Girardo Gonzalez.

Struggle for Land

The land problem remains a serious one in Panama. Statistics for 1971 show that the country has about 103,600 rural households and over 2 million hectares of cultivated land. But 11 latifundistas own 15 per cent

of the cultivated land whereas 60,000 households have little or none. Foreign monopoly companies also possess large tracts of land. For instance, the U.S.-owned United Fruit Company alone holds more than 120,000 hectares of land and controls 90 per cent of the banana industry which tops the list of the nation's exports. Hence the sharp contradictions between the peasants on the one hand and the foreign companies and local latifundistas on the other and the consequent incessant peasants' struggle for land. The appearance of the "peasant settlements" in the last few years is a result of the struggle by the needy peasants. At present there are 152 such settlements all over the country embracing over 5,000 households and 50,000 hectares of land, and it is planned to increase the number of settlement households to 30,000 by 1978.

Visits to "Peasant Settlements"

On March 17, we drove southwestward from Panama City and entered Veraguas Province after passing many towns. There had been no rain for three months in this sparsely populated province where the soil is less fertile than that of other parts of the country. Travelling along a bumpy mountain path, we saw that

the withered grass and trees on the sun-scorched land were on fire, sending up heavy columns of smoke. But in the Ponuga area, the crops were growing well, a witness to the hard work of the peasants.

Victoriano Franco, Vice-Chairman of the "Revolutionary Alliance" Settlement, told us that in the past two years three settlements have been formed in Ponuga, with 76 peasant households working 52 hectares of land collectively. Another 120 households are establishing their own settlements. He recalled that in the past when the landless peasants worked for the latifundistas, they were in abject poverty and could only afford to live on peas and beans. So they fought for the ownership of land and other vital interests. After October 1968, the government began to expropriate the latifundistas' estates where the peasants' struggle was fierce, and the local peasants were organized into settlements. Today the peasants of the settlements earn two and a half times as much as they did before.

The next morning, after a serpentine drive westward in the mountains, we reached the Progreso community (in Chiriqui Province) which is 500 kilometres from the capital and near the border of Costa Rica. Gonzalez Pitty, the local representative to the Assembly of Representatives of the Communities of Panama, received us in his office. He said that the "peasant settlement" is a form of organization which came into being as a result of the peasants' struggles, including the struggle to seize land, and in which the land and other important means of production are collectively owned. He told us that in Chiriqui Province, 29 settlements have already been established and 11 others are in the making. These 40 settlements will have 2,000 rural households and 5,000 hectares of land.

He conducted us through the fields and treated us to water melons grown there. We met with representatives from three settlements in the community, who told us how the peasants had waged struggles for land in the area. Lazaro Jimenez, from the "Peasants' Victory" settlement which unites 54 households on 325 hectares of land, said that most of the members of his settlement had been farm workers growing bananas for the United Fruit Company. In August 1970 when the company tried to lay them off, they fought back, seized the land and farm houses and organized the settlement.

We were invited into a settlement building to see the folk dances performed by local peasants in colourful national costumes to the accompaniment of drums and other musical instruments. When we bade them farewell, Gonzalez Pitty said: "The first meeting between Chinese reporters and Panamanian peasants is a friendly contact between the people of the two countries. It shows that the barrier erected by the imperialists has broken down. The people support each other in their struggles."

Birth of "La Victoria" Sugar Refinery

Sugar is fourth among Panama's exports. The cane fields are mainly in the hands of two Panamanian

oligarch families. With a view to promoting agriculture and economic development in the interior and shattering their monopoly, the government built "La Victoria" Sugar Refinery at la Raya de Santa Maria, Veraguas Province. Surrounded by a large expanse of cane fields, the refinery looks from afar like a ship on the sea. We were the first foreign journalists ever to visit the refinery and were warmly welcomed by its director Alberto Perez Herrera. He told us that the refinery will help to promote agriculture and cut down unemployment in Veraguas, an under-developed province. Inaugurated last January 27 with 4,000 hectares of cane fields to be enlarged to 7,000 by 1974, it produces at full capacity 450 tons of raw sugar per day, and this is equal to the output of the two existing private-owned sugar refineries combined. During the January-May sugar season, it employs 3,000 factory and field workers. The establishment of the refinery and the development of agriculture have contributed to improving the life of the 10,000 local inhabitants.

We witnessed brisk activity in the fields as well as in the refinery since our visit coincided with its first sugar season. Tip-trucks went back and forth carrying canes to the refinery and molasses was being piped into a huge storage. About 100,000 tons of cane had already been processed, we were told.

Hydroelectric Station

Growing population and urban construction and development of rural and remote areas in Panama call for a much bigger electricity supply. With an eye to using the water resources in the interior, the Panamanian Government has launched a project to build a big hydroelectric station at Canita, Panama Province. When we visited the project located in the mountainous Bayano River valley, we saw the foundation work being carried out at a lively pace and heard the roar of machines. Avilez, a civil engineer, gave us an account of the project. Started one and a half years ago, it is scheduled to be completed at the end of 1975. By that time a dam, 400 metres long and 65 metres high, will cut across the Bayano River, linking up the mountains on both banks. When full of water, the reservoir will cover an area of 30,000 hectares and have a drop of up to 62 metres. The project includes four generating sets with a total capacity of 450,000 kilowatts, mainly for supplying electricity to the "metropolitan zone."

A graduate of the National University of Panama, Avilez told us that 480 people were working on the site. The number will increase to 4,000 once dam construction is in full swing. The project provides a good opportunity for training Panama's own engineers and technicians, he added.

Our tour of the interior left us with the deep feeling that the Panamanian people, while fighting to recover sovereignty over the Canal Zone, are at the same time striving to develop their national economy and end backwardness in the interior.

CAPITALIST COUNTRIES

Strikes and Demonstrations

Japan. Seven million workers rallied and demonstrated on May 1, International Labour Day, in 850 cities and towns throughout Japan to mark the victory of their spring struggle.

Prices of daily necessities have kept rising since the beginning of the year as a result of hoarding and speculation by the monopoly capitalists, bringing new difficulties to the lives of the labouring people. Mobilized and organized by the General Council of Trade Unions of Japan (SOHYO), Japanese workers carried out a massive struggle from the end of February to the end of April. This has resulted in some gains in the struggle for a big wage rise, higher workers' pensions, shorter working hours and restoration of the right to strike.

For more than ten years Japan's workers have waged sustained struggles every spring. More than 8 million workers took part in this year's spring struggle. Four large-scale joint struggles took place on March 29, April 10, 17 and 24. The fourth involved 3 million and several hundred thousand workers in as many as 68 trades. In particular, the April 26-27 general strike was on a scale unknown in the history of the Japanese labour movement. The victory of the Japanese workers' two-month spring struggle demonstrates the unprecedented unity and strength of the working class of Japan.

Britain. Protesting against rising prices and demanding a guaranteed livelihood, 1.6 million railway, engineering, mining, dock and other industrial workers staged a nationwide one-day strike and held demonstrations on May 1. As a result, trains stopped running almost everywhere in the country and car factories were shut down. Docks were hit hard, with the Liverpool docks coming to a complete standstill and the Hull and Manchester docks lying idle. Production of coal-mines in many areas

stopped. The publication of all national newspapers and many provincial ones was suspended. The British postal service and various enterprises were also affected.

About 20,000 people took part in a London May Day demonstration, the biggest in the city since the end of World War II. Demonstrations also took place in Birmingham, Glasgow, Liverpool, Cardiff, Manchester and other major cities in Britain.

Federal Republic of Germany. Tens of thousands of working people held demonstrations and rallies on May 1 in Hamburg, Munich, Frankfurt, Kiel, Bremen, Hannover, Koeln, Mannheim and other major cities to mark the red-letter day of the international working class and labouring people.

In Munich, 50,000 working people participated in a rally in "Koenigsplatz" square. They carried red banners and placards inscribed with slogans such as "Oppose Wage Robbery, Soaring Prices and Political Oppression!" "Equal Pay for Equal Work Done by Men, Women, Apprentices and Foreign Workers!"

Italy. Labouring people all over the country held demonstrations and rallies on May 1 to mark International Labour Day. Parades in Rome and Milan involved about 50,000 and 100,000 people respectively. There were also demonstrations and rallies in Turin, Napoli, Palermo, Trieste and other cities.

France. Demonstrations took place in Paris and other cities on May Day.

Tens of thousands of Parisians, including workers, employees, students and women as well as foreign workers, demonstrated in the rain from 10 a.m. until after 6 p.m.

Carrying placards and streamers, they shouted slogans and sang *The Internationale*. Streamers were inscribed with "Better Working Conditions," "More Pay," "Workers, Unite" and slogans expressing their continued support for the just strug-

gles of the Indochinese peoples and the Palestinian people.

Sweden. Swedish labouring people held parades and rallies in many cities on May 1. In Stockholm, 25,000 people, carrying red flags and placards and singing *The Internationale*, took part in parades and rallies demanding better working and living conditions.

Many of the participants held aloft the flags of the four parties of the three Indochinese countries and placards reading "U.S., Stop Bombing Cambodia and Laos!" "U.S., Get Out of Indochina!" "Recognize the Provisional Revolutionary Government of the Republic of South Viet Nam!" — to pledge their firm support for the Indochinese peoples' just struggle against U.S. aggression and for national salvation.

AFRICA

Four-Nation Joint Statement

Niger's President Hamani Diori, Mauritania's President Moktar Ould Daddah, Mali's Head of State and President of the National Liberation Military Committee Moussa Traore, and Algeria's President of the Council of Revolution and Prime Minister Houari Boumedienne held a meeting in El Golea, Algeria, on April 26 and issued a joint statement.

The statement says, "The four parties underline the close connection between the national-liberation struggles and the policies of economic, cultural and social emancipation. They stress the necessity for the African states, individually or collectively, to work towards reinforcing the currents of liberation in order to hasten the advent of African unity, and thus to return to the continent its due place and role in the participation in the settlement of international problems."

The statement adds, "They consider it imperative for all states of the continent to close their ranks in face of the renewal of imperialist activities and aggression which dangerously affect the interests and security of the African peoples."

It says, "The four heads of state agree to increase their assistance to the national-liberation movements

and spare no efforts for the triumph of freedom and justice in Africa, and consider it urgent, whatever the circumstances, to do everything to free the continent from foreign domination."

It says, "The four parties commit themselves to further efforts to accelerate the process of liberation of the peoples of Angola, Mozambique, Namibia, Guinea (Bissau) and Cape Verde, Zimbabwe, South Africa, so-called Spanish Sahara and other territories."

The four parties, it goes on, "renew their total support for the peoples struggling against colonial domination, racism and attempts to strangle the economy of the independent African countries."

The statement says, "The four heads of state reaffirm their determination to co-ordinate their action closely within the framework of the Organization of African Unity and other international organizations so that the interest of Africa and the third world should not be sacrificed to the interest of the new strategy of some big powers."

The statement says, "The four heads of state hold that the European conference of security and co-operation could actually offer no prospect of peace and progress in international relations so long as the area where their countries lie remains vulnerable to factors of external tension and is under colonial domination and military occupation."

The four heads of state, it adds, agree that the continued aggression and occupation of the Arab territories by the Zionists "perpetuate a state of war in the (Middle East) region and constitute a menace to the peace and security of the world. To be durable, any solution to the Middle East question should be based not only on the withdrawal from the occupied Arab territories, but also and particularly on the acknowledgement of the national rights of the Palestinian people and the recovery of their homeland."

It says, "The four heads of state pay tribute to the liberation struggle of the Palestinian people, condemn all attempts to liquidate the Palesti-

nian revolution and assure it of their unremitting support."

EGYPT

Resolve to Recover Land By Force

Egyptian President Sadat reaffirmed on May 1 that Egypt's clear-cut position is: "No partial solution, no phase solution, no separate solution, no negotiations with Israel."

He was speaking at a May Day rally at the Egyptian Weaving and Textile Company in Mehalla el Kubra, Garbia Governorate.

The President sternly warned that "the American peaceful settlement is a deception." He added, "The United States desires to accomplish for the Israelis through negotiations what they failed to attain in 1967 through armed aggression. The Soviet Union should know that."

He said: "Our friends in the Soviet Union have to know our real feelings and that we believe that what was taken by force will not be restored except by force."

"What are America's thoughts?" President Sadat asked. "They want us to declare the legitimacy of Israel's existence, that is, to recognize Israel. They continue to uphold the same old pretext — secure borders. And what does this mean? It means (in their view) that Israel takes whatever (Arab) land it wants to secure its borders and we should be prepared to give Israel guarantees of security against our own interests," he said. "The American peaceful solution is a fallacy because everything required is in favour of Israel: assurances for Israel, secure borders for Israel, rights for Israel, land for Israel, everything for Israel — as if we were aggressors and as if we had seized land and were changing its features. Nothing at all about our own security."

"I wish our friends in the Soviet Union to hear what I say," President Sadat continued, "to hear the warning which I declare here, the peaceful settlement put forward by the United States is a misleading myth."

President Sadat said: Every day that passes with the ceasefire in

force is detrimental to our cause because it gives our enemy a chance to impose a fait accompli.

He reaffirmed Egypt's three tasks in the phase of total confrontation: to liberate the land, to rebuild society, and to establish peace based on justice in this area.

Referring to the Palestinian revolution, the President declared that "there will be no bargaining over the rights of the Palestinian people." He added: "We shall not concede an inch of our territory, or surrender to the United States and Israel."

BRAZIL

Peasants' Armed Struggle in Para State

The peasants in Para State have carried on guerrilla warfare in their struggle against ruthless exploitation and plunder and political persecution. Their armed struggle has grown in the past year despite repeated armed suppression by the Brazilian authorities.

Beginning in early April a year ago in the village of Sao Domingos Das Latas, the armed struggle has spread to Sao Joao and Conceicao along the Araguaia River. Addressed to a Brazilian deputy and circulated in Brazil, a letter from the guerrilla forces of Araguaia attributed the armed struggle to "the increasingly frantic activity of groups of land-grabbers along the Araguaia River with the open and tacit support of the authorities." The local inhabitants have been driven out of their home towns and made homeless, the letter said. "As a result of such ruthless plunder, the peasants have risen to protect their land."

The British weekly *Latin America* in its November 17, 1972 issue disclosed that the Brazilian authorities had dispatched more than 5,000 troops to put down the guerrilla forces last September. The weekly pointed out that the guerrilla activity has grown along the Araguaia River to within about 400 miles of Brasilia. "They appear to have some kind of popular support from the local inhabitants."

An AP dispatch dated January 1, 1973 from Rio de Janeiro said that

the Brazilian military admitted last October that while troops were combing the Amazon jungle for guerrillas they were attacked by guerrillas near the nearby town of Maraba. The dispatch added that Monday's (January 1, 1973) announcement, which came in a guerrilla pamphlet mailed to Rio de Janeiro, said that the military efforts had failed to wipe out the guerrillas. "The events in the south of the State of Para are not an isolated event. It is part of a movement of generalization and radicalization of rural struggles." The guerrillas enjoyed "ever more ample support from the local population."

The Brazilian press reported that Brazilian official sources had admitted recently that the guerrillas of Araguaia had inflicted losses on troops and that a major and a sergeant had been killed.

SOUTHEAST ASIA

Soviet Revisionist Trap Seen Through

Newspapers in some Southeast Asian countries have recently pointed out that the Soviet Union's aim in advocating a "system of Asian collective security" is to expand its sphere of influence in Asia. They noted that the Southeast Asian countries would get no benefit at all.

An April 5 article in the Thailand weekly the *Bangkok Review* was entitled "The Soviet Union Intimidates Pakistan With Trawlers and Threatens Japan With Heavy Bombers." It said: "Since recently, the Soviet Union is strengthening its role in the Asian and Pacific region. This means expanding its sphere of influence in the world and at the same time blockading China." In another article, the weekly said: "The Soviet Union is attempting to encircle China by a system of collective security or a co-prosperity sphere. It is as difficult as pushing a stone-mortar uphill. The Soviet attitude and policy towards establishing a system of collective security look suspicious to the Asian countries. At the back of the system is nothing other than defending the interests of the Soviet Union, and there will not be the

slightest benefit for any other country joining the Soviet Union co-prosperity sphere."

The *Djakarta Times* of Indonesia wrote in an article: "No doubt, the countries in Southeast Asia have learnt that this proposed collective system is nothing but a trap by the Soviet Union to pull these countries into its sphere of influence."

The *Nanyang Siang Pau* of Singapore pointed out in an article that by advertising the "system of Asian collective security" the Soviet Union aims at "practising economic exploitation and political domination in this region on the one hand while on the other materializing its plot of encircling and containing China." The Singapore *Min Pau* pointed out in a commentary that the "system of Asian collective security" proposed by the Soviet Union "has met a cold response in Asian countries because people in these countries have learnt a good lesson from the Kremlin's theory of 'limited sovereignty' and its military occupation of Czechoslovakia. They do not want to be the Kremlin's 'satellites' and pawns. Still more they don't want to be involved in a new anti-China encirclement to isolate China." After citing facts, such as Soviet support to India to dismember Pakistan and its advocating of the "internationalization" of the Strait of Malacca to deliberately violate the sovereignty and security of the coastal countries, the commentary said: "Isn't it ridiculous that a country which has constantly threatened other countries' security and violated their sovereignty over their territorial waters and land should glibly talk about protecting the security and sovereignty of other countries?"

U.N.

Resolution on Permanent Sovereignty Over Natural Resources

The developing countries have the inalienable right to full exercise of permanent sovereignty over their natural resources. This was stressed in a resolution adopted by the Economic Committee of the 54th Session of the U.N. Economic and Social Council on April 27 when it concluded its debate

on the question of permanent sovereignty over natural resources.

Sponsored by Chile and 16 other countries, the draft resolution was adopted by a vote of 37 in favour to 2 against with six abstentions. The Soviet Union revealed its hypocrisy by voting in favour and then announcing its "reservations" after the vote.

During the debate which began on April 24, representatives of many developing countries voiced their indignation at the violation of the permanent sovereignty over the natural resources of their countries by some powers, especially the superpowers.

Chinese Representative Wang Jun-sheng said it is entirely reasonable and just for the developing countries to demand the full exercise of permanent sovereignty over their natural resources and the right to reasonably dispose of the resources in accordance with their specific conditions and the need to develop their national economies, and to formulate and carry out long-term development plans conducive to their national economic development and take all measures and actions in the interests of their own peoples. This fully conforms with the fundamental interests of their own peoples as well as the people all over the world.

Wang Jun-sheng made it known that certain big powers coveted the natural resources in various strategic areas. He expressed support for the draft resolution submitted by Chile and other countries, pointing out that it reflects the common desire of the developing countries and other medium-sized and small countries to safeguard permanent sovereignty over their natural resources.

Paul Faber, Director of the U.N. Division of Public Finance and Financial Institutions, stated that the Secretariat had noted the concept raised by the Chinese delegation that the great powers tended to covet natural resources in strategic areas, and asked for more documentation from the delegations.

Soviet Representative Gennady Lissov became furious at this point, charging that a high official of the U.N. Secretariat seemed to be enunciating a "new concept" that the sov-

THIRD WORLD CHRONICLE

Trans-Saharan Highway. A ceremony inaugurating the El Golea-In Salah section of the Trans-Saharan Highway and starting construction on the second section extending to Tamanrasset was held on April 26 in In Salah of Oasis Province, southern Algeria.

Total length of the projected highway in Algeria is 1,900 kilometres. Upon completion at Tamanrasset, it will branch out into two highways, leading to Mali and Niger respectively. Construction of the El Golea-In Salah section, about 400 kilometres long, began in September 1971 and was completed seven months ahead of schedule.

When completed, the Trans-Saharan Highway will be of great importance to the development of communications and transport, trade and friendly ties between countries in north Africa and south of the Sahara. It is called the "Road of African Unity."

Struggle for Land. Landless peasants recently occupied a private estate in San Pedro Sula, about 200 kilometres north of Tegucigalpa, capital of Honduras. In Olancho, the country's largest department, peasants armed with machetes and other farm tools, occupied a latifundium. Thousands of peasants in the department have clashed with local latifundistas in the last two years in order to protect the

land they had seized. Honduras is predominantly an agricultural country and farm production constitutes 85 per cent of its gross national product. The greater part of the fertile land is in the hands of the latifundistas while the peasant masses own no land.

Reforming Religious Education. A recent Peruvian statute has replaced compulsory religious education with full freedom of religious belief. Compulsory religious teaching has been in force in Peru for many centuries. The new statute recognizes and guarantees freedom of religious belief for secondary school and university students and teachers. Religious courses will be optional for students. The statute also provides that no teacher who is a non-believer should be forced to teach religion.

First Geo-Thermal Power Plant. From north to south, Mexico, a land with many volcanoes, is rich in endogenous vapour resources. Press reports from Mexico City say that in Lower California construction of the country's first geo-thermal power plant was finished on April 4. Near the Cerro Prieto Volcano about 30 kilometres south of the frontier city of Mexicali, the plant has a capacity of 75,000 kilowatts. Fuel for Lower California's power generation formerly had to come from the Gulf of Mexico via the Panama Canal; endogenous vapour resources now serve as a new source of energy for the country.

More Gems for Export. Sri Lanka, where gems are found in abundance, increased exports of precious stones

in the first quarter of this year—8 million rupees more than the total export value in all of 1972. A Sri Lanka gems company was formed last July to develop the gem industry and control gem exports to some extent.

Rising Self-Sufficiency in Rice. In 1957 Malaysia produced less than 50 per cent of its staple food, rice. In recent years, however, rice production has made fairly big headway, thanks to the expansion of paddy acreage and the building of a number of irrigation works. The country now is 85 per cent self-sufficient in rice, a noticeable change compared with the days of colonial rule when it had to import large quantities of rice every year.

Building Health Centres. Afghanistan is building 150 health centres throughout the country. Each one will serve 40,000 to 50,000 people. Services will include child and maternity care, environmental hygiene, health education and control of infectious diseases. The whole country is divided into a number of health zones, each with one main hospital. Patients will receive medical treatment at the nearest health centre and can go to the hospital in their zone for further treatment if necessary.

The First in Its History. Kenyan President Kenyatta on April 17 appointed a Kenyan, Dedan Njuguna Gichuru, to replace Britisher Edwards as Commander of the Kenyan Air Force, thus putting all the three services of the Kenyan armed forces under Kenyan commanders. The Kenyan President described this as "the first time in our history."

sovereignty of developing countries was being threatened by great powers. He alleged that the "artificial concept enunciated and the publicity given to the fictitious spectre of great power domination might obfuscate the issue."

Chinese Alternate Representative Wang Tzu-chuan refuted the Soviet representative's nonsense. He said: "Gone for ever are the days when imperialism or social-imperialism

could arbitrarily interfere in the internal affairs of the developing countries and dictate to them what they should do and what they should not. It is entirely within the sovereign rights of the developing countries to reasonably determine the limit of their territorial seas or exclusive economic zones in order to safeguard their sovereignty, defend their countries and build up their national economies."

He stressed that "at present it is mainly superpower hegemonism that has prevented the developing countries from exercising permanent sovereignty over their own natural resources. No matter how hard a certain superpower has tried to justify itself, it has increasingly bared its true features in broad daylight. As a Chinese saying goes: 'The more one tries to hide, the more one is exposed.'"

Teachers in Hilly Areas

DESPITE all kinds of difficulties, large numbers of teachers are working hard to bring about universal education equivalent to that of primary school in many out-of-the-way, sparsely-populated hilly areas. Lessons are given in different forms for the convenience of the peasants' children.

Tucked away in the mountains of southern Kiangsi Province in east China, 11 families live on a hilltop. Five of their 10 school-age children went to a primary school at the foot of the hill while five others could not go because they had to help with household work. Making use of their off-hours, the school's teachers take turns giving them special lessons mornings and evenings.

In Hupeh Province, central China, there is a production brigade with 178 families scattered in 41 gullies. Thirty-four of the school-age children live far from the brigade's primary school. When the Party branch called a meeting to discuss how to help these children study, teacher Huang Ke-ying expressed his willingness to teach them in their homes. The

Party branch gave him full backing. Taking a self-made blackboard, textbooks, exercise books, chalk and other classroom aids in baskets on a shoulder-pole, he travelled up and down hills and across rivers to teach his pupils by turns in their homes. Later he organized them into 12 groups. With his help, these pupils have made rapid progress.

Teachers in a people's commune in Honan Province made light of getting around in the mountainous areas to look into the distribution of school-age children in the out-of-the-way hamlets where 50 production teams were located. On the basis of their investigation, they added 14 primary schools to the original 10 in a matter of several months and set up several centres where they made their rounds and gave lessons. To help children who had difficulty in attending school, some schools introduced a half-day system or gave lessons in the mornings or evenings. As a result, 98 per cent of the children are now in school.

Many urban educated young people who settled in the countryside have also contributed to the develop-

ment of education where they are. In 1969 when Chang Yu-chun came to a hilly village of the Yao people in Chungshan County in south China, there were only three children going to a far-off primary school. Later with the help of the local Party organization and peasants, she took charge of setting up a primary school which enrolled all school-age children in the village. To obtain better teaching results, she went out of her way to learn the Yao language. Six months later she could hold classes in the local tongue.

Like the hilly areas, the fishing and pastoral areas have also developed their educational network by setting up schools on boats and in tents.

Books and Periodicals on Science and Technology

A NUMBER of books on science and technology have been published in Peking. They include popular readers for the workers, peasants and soldiers as well as works on the basic sciences and modern technology for professional people. In the first quarter of this year 33 titles were made available by the Science Publishing House. Sales of each ranged from tens of thousands to hundreds of thousands.

Translations will be made and published of *De Revolutionibus* by Copernicus, in commemoration of the 500th anniversary of the birth of that great Polish astronomer, and of *Nuclear Structure* by Aage Bohr and others, to introduce scientific knowledge from foreign countries.

This same publishing house issues periodicals edited by research institutes of the Chinese Academy of Sciences. They include: *Physics*, *Mathematical Practice and Knowledge*, *Archaeology*, *Utilization of Beneficial Animals and Insects and Elimination of Harmful Ones*, *Zoology*, *Botany*; *Scientific Experiment*, which appears monthly, consisting of articles on popular science; and a comprehensive magazine on natural science — *Scientia Sinica* — which centres mainly on basic theory in the fields of physics, technology, agriculture and medicine. (This publication comes out in separate Chinese and foreign language

On the way to a study group.

Huang Ke-ying giving lessons to two cowherds.



editions for circulation at home and abroad.)

A series of technical books to satisfy the needs of the workers for cultural and technical study has been edited and published by the Machine Industry Publishing House, while the People's Publishing House in Peking has put out a simple *Natural Science Series*, easy for children to understand.

In the last two years, the People's Health Publishing House has made available many books on medicine and health, mostly for the use of medical workers in rural areas. The number of books on Chinese traditional medicine and on combined Chinese and Western medicine is increasing. *Principles of Traditional Chinese Medicine (new revised edition)* is a fairly systematic introduction to the basic theories of traditional Chinese medicine and its methods of clinical treatment. The book also provides some instances in which Chinese and Western medical theories and treatment corroborate each other. This has been keenly appreciated by readers.

In addition some ancient Chinese medical works which are particularly valuable for reference have been issued by this publishing house, while other such works have been revised and republished. Two additional books brought out by the same publisher are: *Combined Chinese and Western Treatment of Bone and Joint Injuries* compiled by the No. 1 Hospital of the Wuhan Medical College on the basis of many years' clinical practice and experience, and *Combined Chinese and Western Treatment of Pneumonia Among Children*, written and edited by the Pediatrics Department of the Peking Friendship Hospital.

Medical Workers in The Mines

THE hospital at the Laohutai Coal-mine in Fushun in the northeast has set up a clinic more than 300 metres below the surface of the ground. Wearing work-clothes and safety hats, they sling their medical cases over their shoulders and go down with the miners to look after

their health at this frontline of production. A miner with a headache or minor injuries can be treated without leaving the pit.

With a staff of more than 200, this hospital which sends doctors down into the pit regularly also has trained many non-professional health workers from among the pit workers. Medical workers do preventive work as well as treat ailments. They popularize knowledge on safety in production and prevention of silicosis. When they discovered that some workers who repair colliery lamps can develop acidosis they issued preventive medicine. Some old miners who had contracted rheumatism in the old society were often troubled by this old ailment. They looked into the matter and made a kind of alcoholic medicine for them to drink. At one stage inflammation of the eyes was prevalent so they immediately gave miners eye drops at the tunnel head and in the tunnels to halt the infection.

Veteran miners have been deeply impressed by this continuously improving medical service. In the Laohutai district before liberation, there were only three medical workers in the clinic who just looked after the imperialist owners and gang bosses. The 60,000 miners and their dependents had neither medical attention nor access to medicine. One miner injured by a falling prop was dragged out unconscious. But when he was taken to the hospital the doctor demanded a huge deposit before he would do anything. The miner could not raise the money. He did not even have enough to feed himself.

Like all other workers in China, miners here get free medical treatment while their dependents are charged half price. After leaving the shafts every day, the miners immediately take sulphur baths to avoid rheumatism and use ultra-violet lamps to make up for their lack of exposure to sunlight.

The hospital here is constantly thinking of how to improve its service to the miners. Medical workers go to retired miners at home to deliver medicine and give injections.

This is called "the free hospital bed at home." In recent years this form of medical care has been extended to five thousand men.

An Old Man Over a Hundred

In Lungtung Commune, Yunyang County, of Szechuan Province in southwest China, there is a 103-year-old man—Liu En-yang. He has lived through a number of different historical periods and social systems. As he tells about his life, he is deeply stirred by the comparison between the present and the past.

I was born in a very poor peasant family. For 80 years before liberation I worked like a beast of burden for the landlords and endured untold hardships.

One stormy morning under the Ching Dynasty, when I was seven, the landlord came to press us for repayment of our debts. Repay debts? We had nothing to eat! To earn some money, my father had to go up into the mountains to carry coal. He fell from a mountain cliff and died in agony. Soon after, soldiers of the reactionary army came to pressgang my eldest brother. When my mother tried to stop them, she was beaten to death on the spot. Not long after, my eldest brother died, far away from home. The year I turned 12, there was a big drought, followed by famine and plague. My second elder brother, his wife and their two children all died. In our family of eight, I was now the only one left. I had to go around begging.

The emperor was overthrown during the 1911 Revolution. Then war and strife between the warlords lasted several years. After Chiang Kai-shek came to power in 1927, the lives of the poor went from bad to worse. When I was 59, there was a 40-day drought and the growing crops all withered. The villagers collected wild herbs in the mountains for food, and ate tree bark. Many died of starvation. Many others deserted their villages. I went to work for a landlord in a neighbouring county. Year after year, it was the same old story—

never enough to eat or wear. I was greatly worried about old age, when I could no longer work and would have no one to depend on.

In 1949 my village was liberated by the Communist Party. Since then I have stood up, along with all the poor peasants in my village. How happy I was when I received a double portion of land during the land reform! Later I joined the agricultural co-op, and then became a member of the people's commune when it was set up in 1958. Production has been going up every year and life has become better and better since liberation. The people's commune runs factories, power stations, hospitals and schools.

Here I am, an old man without children or relatives. Thanks to Chairman Mao's solicitude I'm leading a happy life free of worry. The brigade I'm in guarantees me food,

clothing, fuel, medical care and burial expenses. You should see my new brick house, and the new furniture given to me by the brigade! It also takes care of all my expenses. Every second or third year, I am supplied with a new cotton-padded coat and quilt. The production team assigns comrades to fetch water and fuel for me. It's not only the coal and wood that warms me; it's the care and concern shown by the collective that give me the greatest warmth!

I have been seriously ill three times in my life. The first time, in the Ching Dynasty, I came down with the plague like hundreds of others. I lay in bed for half a year and narrowly escaped death. The second time was during the Kuomintang reactionary rule, when I was 62. I lay in a mountain cave without medical care of any kind. I often

rolled on the ground in pain. This time my suffering lasted nearly a year. In 1971 I fell ill again. I suddenly developed a high fever and lost consciousness. When I came to, there were many people crowding around me. I was at home. A doctor from the commune clinic had given me an injection. My neighbours were preparing a meal for me. The Party secretary of our commune came to see how I was getting along, and brought me some meat and rice. I recovered completely within a month.

I am always deeply moved by happenings like these. I want to contribute whatever I can for socialism. People in my village keep telling me that I don't have to work, but how can I just hang around the house! I'm strong enough to do all sorts of odd jobs for the team, so if they don't assign me any, I find them for myself!

(Continued from p. 4.)

Wild Grass, Essays of Demi-Concession Studio, More Essays of Demi-Concession Studio, Last Essays of Demi-Concession Studio and Two Hearts. These have been on sale in the Hsinhua Bookstores of Peking and other parts of the country since April. The rest will be available before the end of the year.

Sino-Japanese Agreement on Sea-Bed Cable Signed

The Telecommunications Administration of the People's Republic of China and the Ministry of Posts and Telecommunications of Japan signed an agreement on May 4 in Peking on laying a sea-bed cable between the two countries.

This is the first agreement signed between China and Japan since the normalization of their relations.

Chuji Kuno, Japanese Minister of Posts and Telecommunications, signed the agreement on behalf of Japan.

The 14-member delegation headed by Chuji Kuno arrived in Peking on

April 29. On May 3, Premier Chou En-lai, Foreign Minister Chi Peng-fei and Director of the Telecommunications Administration Chung Fushiang met Chuji Kuno and his wife and the party he led.

Philippine Trade Mission In China

Premier Chou En-lai, Vice-Minister of Foreign Trade Li Chiang and Vice-Chairman Li Chuan of the China Council for the Promotion of International Trade met all the members of the Philippine Trade Mission to China on May 5. A friendly and unconstrained conversation took place between hosts and guests. The chairman of the mission was Wigberto P. Clavecilla, President of the Philippine Chamber of Commerce, and the vice-chairman was Dominador I. Lim, Director of the Chamber of Commerce.

At the end of the meeting, Premier Chou asked the mission to convey his respects to President Ferdinand Marcos and regards to his old friend Carlos P. Romulo, Secretary of Foreign Affairs.

The Philippine mission came to China for a visit at the invitation of the China Council for the Promotion of International Trade. Arriving in Kwangchow on April 25, the 15-member mission visited the 1973 Spring Export Commodities Fair there and came to Peking on April 28. In the capital, they were feted by Vice-Foreign Trade Minister Li Chiang and Vice-Chairman Li Chuan of the host council.

Foreign Minister Aulagi Mourned

Foreign Minister Chi Peng-fei sent a message of condolence on May 4 to the Foreign Ministry of the People's Democratic Republic of Yemen expressing deep grief over the death of Foreign Minister Mohammed Saleh al Aulagi and other officials killed in an air crash on April 30.

On the morning of May 4, Vice-Foreign Minister Ho Ying, Vice-Minister of Foreign Trade Chen Chieh and Vice-Minister of Economic Relations With Foreign Countries Shih Lin as well as leading members of the departments concerned called at the P.D.R.Y. Embassy in Peking to express their condolences.

New Booklet

WELCOME THE SIGNING OF THE PARIS AGREEMENT ON VIET NAM

This booklet in English includes:

- Chinese Party and State Leaders Warmly Greet the Signing of the Paris Agreement on Viet Nam
(January 29, 1973)
- Chairman Mao Tsetung Meets Comrades Le Duc Tho and Nguyen Duy Trinh
(February 1, 1973)
- Comrade Chou En-lai's Speech at the Banquet in Honour of Comrade Le Duc Tho and Nguyen Duy Trinh
(February 1, 1973)
- Comrade Nguyen Duy Trinh's Speech at the Welcoming Banquet Given by Comrade Chou En-lai
(February 1, 1973)
- Comrade Chang Chun-chiao's Speech at the Peking Mass Rally in Celebration of the Signing of the Agreement on Viet Nam
(February 2, 1973)
- Comrade Le Duc Tho's Speech at the Peking Mass Rally in Celebration of the Signing of the Agreement on Viet Nam
(February 2, 1973)
- Welcome the Signing of the Agreement on Viet Nam
(*Renmin Ribao* Editorial, January 28, 1973)

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