

NEW KOREA



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HONOURED GUESTS FROM CZECHOSLOVAKIA

A delegation of the Czechoslovak National Assembly and the Prague Central National Committee arrived in Pyongyang on October 19.

During their five days' stay in our country, they visited many institutions in Pyongyang and farm villages, and had talks with deputies to the Supreme People's Assembly, D.P.R.K., and to the Pyongyang City People's Committee. On October 21, they were received by Premier Kim Il Sung.



Above: Premier Kim Il Sung chatting with members of the delegation. Center: The delegation receiving bouquets at the Pyongyang City mass welcome meeting. Below: The delegation at the Okdo Co-op, Ryonggang County, South Pyongan Province

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FRONT COVER: Merited Miner Rye Ho Pil happy over the fulfilment of his plan

BACK COVER: A noble and commoner in the feudal Li Dynasty. Painting by Kim Duk Shin (1754-1822)

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Radical Measures Taken for Capital Construction

THE question of how to improve the work of capital construction in our country was discussed at the plenary session of the Central Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea, which was held from October 17 to 19 this year. The report on the question was delivered by Pak Keum Chul, Vice-Chairman of the C.C. of the Workers' Party of Korea.

The plenary session gave a scientific review of the tremendous works done in the field of capital construction in the post-war period. On the basis of the review the plenary session formulated the militant tasks confronting capital construction in the period of the First Five-Year Plan. It adopted concrete measures to inaugurate an innovation campaign in the field of capital construction and advance our capital construction work a step forward in answer to the growing demand of the people.

The report delivered by Comrade Pak Keum Chul at the October Plenum of the C.C., Workers' Party of Korea pointed out in regard to the tasks facing capital construction during the First Five-Year Plan period as follows:

"In capital construction emphasis must be placed on building up those industrial departments that form the backbone of our national economy and, particularly, enterprises of metallurgical, fertilizer, fibre, building-materials, machine-building and other industries as well as centres of fuel and power, which are essential for solving the question of clothing, food and housing for the people.

"For the further development of rural economy large-scale construction work must be conducted on irrigation and river-dike projects, and extensive housing construction be carried out in towns and villages.

"In order to accomplish this huge task a large fund will be allocated for capital construction during the First Five-Year Plan period. In this field labour productivity should be raised more than 150 per cent and construction cost lowered by more than 28 per cent."

Innovation in the work of capital construction is an important factor in the successful fulfilment of the tremendous tasks of the First Five-Year Plan.

SUFFICIENT POSSIBILITIES

In the short space of time after the war the Korean people have already attained enormous achievements and created through their own labour all the necessary conditions for effecting innovation in the field of capital construction.

Following the general line of the post-war rehabilitation

and reconstruction of national economy and under the correct leadership of the Workers' Party of Korea which set forth tasks of capital construction as well as the ways and means of carrying them out, the Korean people restored, improved and newly built more than 360 factories and enterprises of large and medium sizes including such factories of heavy industry as the Hwanghai Iron Works, Nampo Refinery, modernly equipped Hichun Machine-tool Factory, etc., and those large factories of light industry such as the Pyongyang Textile Mill, Meat Packing Factory, etc.

Huge construction work was also conducted in the field of rural economy. The completion of the Pyongyang Irrigation System and other irrigation projects and the renovation works on rivers and dykes resulted in the expansion by more than 100,000 jungbo of irrigated area, making it possible to protect 160,000 jungbo of cultivated area from flood and drought.

In the field of reconstructing urban communities and public utilities, too, remarkable successes have been achieved. Pyongyang, the capital of our country, and many other cities have risen from the ruins. Dwelling houses with 5,100,000 square metres of living space, over 5,400 school buildings, over 1,700 hospitals, and many educational, cultural and public catering establishments have been restored or newly built.

The successes achieved in the field of capital construction are of great importance not only for their contribution to the speeding up of the rehabilitation of all branches of national economy and the betterment of the people's livelihood but also because they make it possible to carry on capital construction more rapidly and on a larger, nation-wide scale in the future, which will be required as socialist construction makes headway in our country.

It may well be said that in our country the greatest difficulties have already been tided over in solving the questions of the mass production of building materials, of securing necessary amount of building machines, and training designing and building workers, which are essential for large scale construction.

Thanks to the establishment of the production centres of building materials after the war the output at present of structural steel rose more than 1.5 times the pre-war level, cement more than 1.6 times, bricks more than 16 times, and tiles more than 7 times. As com-

pared with 1953 or immediately after the war, the output of structural steel is now 5.1 times as much, cement 33 times, bricks 41 times, tiles 117 times.

Thus, we have now the possibility of solving the question of building materials. Every condition for expanding woodwork and prefabricated part factories required for construction by prefabricated building method has now been created.

The output of building machines is increasing steadily in our country. We have now various types of modern building machines such as cranes, excavators, concrete mixing machines, etc., which our country has never known before.

As for the question of builders, more than 130,000 workers and technicians are working in the field of construction, while the designing capacity has considerably grown.

Today our people have ample possibilities and conditions for carrying on construction on quite a new technical basis. Moreover, they are full of enthusiasm for making their native land a more beautiful and cultural one, and are devoting all their energies and talents to this end.

BASIC LINE

Our national economy does not allow capital construction to mark time, but calls for radical revision of outdated method.

Main shortcomings in capital construction which have greatly hindered the development of our national economy lie in the fact that with all favourable conditions and possibilities few innovations have been introduced in practical work, and conventional methods of work are still used.

The Workers' Party of Korea has long since attached great importance to the prefabricated building method on the basis of due reckoning with the real conditions and possibilities existing in the field of capital construction in recent years. It emphasized more than once the necessity of innovating the work in the field of construction by this advanced method. But in the field of capital construction the Party's line of boldly switching over to the advanced method was not put in practice because the ideological battle to carry through the Party's policy was launched half-heartedly. This was largely due to the criminal acts done by those anti-Party sectarian elements, Kim Seung Hwa, Li Pil Kyoo, and others,

who had been slandering the Party policy and trying their utmost to deliberately hinder by all sorts of insidious wiles the development of construction.

The October Plenum exposed and denounced once again the anti-Party factional elements sabotaging the construction work, and indicated a concrete course towards, and practical ways of, switching over to the pre-fabricated building method.

As confirmed by experiences, the assembly method in building has a great advantage over the conventional one not only in making the work easier and raising considerably the labour productivity but in quickening the tempo, overcoming the seasonal restrictions — rainy season or cold winter — and improving the quality of construction.

Formerly 10 brick-layers could build 12.5 cubic metres of wall in 8 hours, while by adopting prefabricated building method they can build 40 cubic metres or 3.2 times as much work as by brick-laying method. In building three-storey flats with prefabricated reinforced concrete details, for example, the time of building has been shortened by half, and manpower and timber cut by 33 per cent and 68 per cent respectively, thus lowering the construction cost by 23.8 per cent as compared with conventional brick-laying method.

In view of the superiority of the prefabricated building method, it is planned to raise the proportion of prefabricated buildings to an average of over 40 per cent in the country's overall capital construction — 20 per cent of the total capital construction in industrial establishments, and 50 per cent in urban housing construction.

Now, we are confronted with the questions concerning standardization of designs, the industrialization of the production of prefabricated parts, mechanization of work, etc., which are essential for switching over to the prefabricated building method. How are these questions to be tackled?

As for the production of prefabricated parts, the production of reinforced blocks must be expanded first and foremost. For this we must furnish necessary materials, equipment, and means for their transport.

Our experience gained through practical work has shown that the question of the production of prefabricated parts could be easily solved with relatively smaller funds. For instance, since 1956 the building workers under

the Ministry of Light Industry turned out an annual output of 250,000 cubic metres of prefabricated parts by making use of war-damaged warehouses as workshops or organizing open-air production. They made use of the surplus steam of the Pyongyang Textile Mill for treating reinforced blocks. As a result, they speeded up the tempo of production 20 times higher than in the past. Moreover, they reduced the weight of prefabricated parts to 65 per cent by utilizing the ashes of coal, thereby saving an average of 50-80 kilograms of cement per one cubic metre block.

But the production capacity of the existing equipment for prefabricated parts is insufficient to turn out by the end of the First Five-Year Plan the required amount of reinforced block including more than two million cubic metres of wall blocks. It is planned to turn out annually 430,000 cubic metres of prefabricated reinforced blocks by 1961. With this in view, the backwardness in their production should be once and for all done away with.

A block factory is now under construction in Pyongyang with an annual capacity of producing 45,000 cubic metres of prefabricated parts.

In view of the present conditions that the building of prefabricated houses proceeds at such a rapid speed that they cannot furnish designs for each project, our construction workers are bent on standardizing designs as well as prefabricated parts.

From 1958 on, as a rule, dwelling houses, schools, hospitals, nurseries, stores and auxiliary buildings of enterprises will be built in accordance with the standardized designs, based on modern architectural theory and the experiences we have gained.

Mechanization is of great importance in the building of pre-fabricated houses. By the end of 1961, mechanization in excavation will have increased 55 per cent, in loading and unloading 53 per cent, in lifting building materials 80 per cent, in concrete mixing 80 per cent.

To go over to the construction of prefabricated buildings, the Plenum outlined concrete ways of meeting the demands for construction machines, improving the work of drawing up capital construction plans, establishing system and order in construction and seeing to it that the production of building materials goes ahead.

NATION-WIDE MOVEMENT

The October Plenum set forth measures for improving the building-up of towns and the countryside and enlisting the forces of the entire people in it.

Swift rebuilding of our towns and countryside, which were almost reduced to ashes by the American imperialists during the war, requires mobilization of the forces of the entire people.

In the post-war days, our people have taken an active part in the rehabilitation of their native towns and villages. Thanks to their endeavours, the postwar rehabilitation and construction are proceeding at such a rapid speed as rarely seen in other countries, and we have scored marvellous achievements. More houses, more educational and cultural establishments of better quality will be built in towns and the countryside during the period of the current First Five-Year Plan, whose aim is to solve in the main the question of clothing, food and housing of the population.

Building of dwelling houses in towns and the countryside will be carried out not only with government funds but also with private funds.

Many of urban and rural inhabitants now want to build modern dwelling houses with their own funds and labour. Their funds and labour should be made use of. Thus a nationwide movement will be launched for construction in towns and countryside. The state will give positive help to urban inhabitants including private traders and industrialists to accumulate funds and pool labour for building houses on their own.

Now that socialism has decisively won in our countryside and the material and cultural standards of peasants have substantially been improved, there arises the necessity of cultural build-up in the countryside.

In this connection, a ten-year plan for the building-up of the countryside will soon be drawn up, and the construction will be carried out according to the plan.

The state encourages the peasants to earmark their increasing incomes for the build-

ing of dwellings, production facilities, and educational and cultural establishments.

During the current First Five-Year Plan period, some 7,200,000 square metres of dwelling houses will be built with government funds. Besides, many houses will be built in urban areas with funds and labour of individuals. In the countryside, more than 200,000 houses, many schools, theatres, clubs, hospitals and nurseries will be built in addition to the building of medium and small irrigation systems, planting of shelter belts, construction of bridges and repair of roads.

Such are the basic tasks the October Plenum outlined in order to bring about radical changes in the field of capital construction. With a view to carrying through the policy of the Party on capital construction, the Plenum set forth tasks for strengthening Party organizations, improving and reinforcing the Party's organizational and political work in the field of capital construction.

The decisions of the October Plenum are now being permeated among the people, enjoying the wholehearted support of the masses. Welcoming the decisions of the October Plenum, a shop manager of Pyongyang Construction Trust No. 3, Won Joon Hyon, wrote his views in the *Rodong Shinmun*:

"While making a profound study of the documents of the October Plenum of the Central Committee of the Party, workers of my shop are re-examining their work. We are now studying how to bring about radical changes in the production of blocks. We are resolved to do our utmost to correct the past mistakes and improve radically the production of building materials."

The patriotic zeal of the people in the building up of their dear native land will certainly bring the decisions of the October Plenum to a successful accomplishment.

Especially, workers in the field of construction are ever more firmly rallied around the Party and the Government, determined to give full play to their talent and enthusiasm to engender radical changes in capital construction.

When the decisions will have been carried through, Korea's towns and countryside will take on a new appearance.

A YEAR OF BIG ACHIEVEMENTS

KIM IL CHAN

THE year 1957 has left a deep impression on the minds of the Korean people.

The year will remain forever in our memory as a milestone marking the Korean people's significant advance in socialist construction in conformity with the revolutionary line laid down at the historic Third Congress of the Workers' Party of Korea. This year we started the First Five-Year Plan.

In relation to the implementation of the plan for 1957, mention must be made of the December Plenum of the C. C. of the Workers' Party held in 1956; its decisions penetrated deep into the mind of every man and woman and enhanced his or her enthusiasm.

The decisions clearly indicated how to solve the questions arising in the course of the development of our national economy into a new stage. During the period of the three-year plan, the inexhaustible creative labour enthusiasm and wisdom of the people were displayed to the full and brilliant achievements were made. Consequently our economic foundation has been further consolidated.

Our national economy has entered a new stage of development since the completion of rehabilitation. Taking into account such conditions, the December Plenum of the C.C. of the Workers' Party of Korea set forth the correct policy of "increased production and economization". The aim was to speed up the tempo of the progress of our economy and to accelerate socialist construction with our own funds and labour.

The decisions of the December Plenum, which is a correct reflection of the objective laws and demands of economic development, have been turned into a mighty material force for mobilizing the popular masses to step up production.

At the beginning of the year, our workers made up their minds to fulfill not only the plan set forth at the Plenum, but also the targets for additional production they set themselves in the course of the popular discussions to carry out the Plenum decisions—an extra 735,800,000 kwh of electric power, 376,500 tons of coal, 20,000 tons of pig iron, 30,000 tons of steel, 36,670 tons of chemical fertilizer, 92,300 tons of cement, 828,000 metres of cotton fabrics, 1,750,000 metres of silk fabrics, and 520,000 tons of grain. Now they are fulfilling them with credit.

Of course, there is still time before the end of the year, and I regret that I cannot present you the complete summing up data. However, the outcome is in sight.

The working people of our country overfulfilled the state plan for the first half of the year by 12 per cent (additional production targets by 2 per cent) and for the third-quarter of the year by 16 per cent (additional production targets by 3 per cent).

As the end of the year draws near, many factories have announced their achievements made in increased production.

As is known, the casting capacity of furnaces at the Kimchaik Iron Works originally built under the Japanese rule was 500 tons. But the workers there who rose up in response to the December Plenum are now turning out nearly 1,000 tons of molten iron per day—a miracle indeed, as a certain foreigner put it. But such a miracle is not only limited to this works.

The workers of the Kangsun Steel Works and Hwanghai Iron Works shortened the time of heating of open hearth or electric furnaces by 2 or 3 hours, demonstrating that their technique had reached the level of

advanced countries. The workers in the mining industry launched a nation-wide movement to drill more than 100 metres per month by high-speed method as against their former rate of drilling 20-30 metres.

In light industry, too, more than 300 new items were produced, and the Pyongyang Textile Mill alone has increased its daily output from 190,000 metres to 240,000 metres of cloth.

No need to dwell upon our construction tempo. Some foreigners expressed their impressions that the streets of Pyongyang were being changed overnight.

Indeed, we Koreans, too, are sometimes embarrassed at not being able to find familiar places when we go to certain local districts, or at finding ourselves quite strangers in Pyongyang whenever we return from a month's journey.

This is true of changes in all branches of industry — machine-building industry, chemical industry, forestry, fishery, transport and commodity circulation.

Mention should also be made of the changes in the countryside. This year, our countryside was subjected to long drought lasting for 90 days from spring to early summer. Old people said that they had not heard of such drought for the past 100 years or more. However, our peasants under the slogan, "Do not let a drop of water flow to the sea," tackled the drought by digging ditches, sinking wells or watering the maize field with the water carried in jars. For all the severe drought, the peasants harvested hundreds of thousands tons more of grain than in the peak year under the Japanese rule. Many co-operatives scored considerable increase in grain output compared with last year, to say nothing of the production level in the days of individual farming.

Such changes were not limited only to economic construction.

In the political field the elections to the Supreme People's Assembly were held in August. In the elections we won an unprecedented victory in the returns; 99.99 per cent of the total electors participated in the elections and 99.92 per cent of them cast their votes in favour of the registered candidates.

Reference should be made to those Korean artists who displayed their talent and ability

to the full at the World Youth and Student Festival in Moscow this year.

One of the great events of the year was the celebration of the 40th anniversary of the Great October Socialist Revolution. The Korean people celebrated the whole month before this red-letter day, the anniversary of the Revolution, which opened up the road for complete liberation of mankind, as the month of "Korean-Soviet Friendship."

The unbreakable friendship between the peoples of Korea and the great Soviet Union came to full bloom, enhancing the will of the Korean people to fight shoulder to shoulder with the Soviet people in their common cause.

As mentioned above, the Korean people scored tremendous results in the first year of the First Five-Year Plan — the first difficult stage in carrying out the revolutionary task laid down at the Third Congress of the Workers' Party of Korea.

During this period our people have grown and their ranks gained in strength; they have a firm confidence of final victory in their just struggle; all this is the most important factor in accelerating further rapid advancement.

In the course of carrying out these tasks, we have always been guided by the Party, the organizer of victory, showing us the road to further development.

The April Plenum decisions on renovation in the fishing industry, the October Plenum decisions on radical changes in capital construction, and the reports of Premier Kim Il Sung at the First Session of the Second Supreme People's Assembly and the activists conference of machine-building workers live in the heart of every worker as the source of vitality and power to create material wealth.

The unshakable unity of the Party, the Government and the people finds expression in our worthwhile labour for economic construction.

I am not going to speak of all the eventful occurrences of this year. We are proud that we have made great achievements. This is not only a matter of joy to the Korean people but also to foreign friends.

On the contrary, it is the source of unrest for the American imperialists and the Syng-

man Rhee clique. Our successes serve as a solemn judgment dealing a fatal blow to the delirium of the anti-Party sectarian elements headed by Choi Chank Ik and Pak Chang Ok, who once tried to slander the correct policy of the Workers' Party of Korea. The significance of our brilliant results does not end in the results themselves. On the basis of our labour, wisdom and perseverance, we are to work out more broad blue-prints.

It is planned to produce, in the period of implementing the Five-Year Plan, 9.5 billion kwh of electricity, 10 million tons of coal, over 600,000 tons of chemical fertilizer, 2 million tons of cement annually. It is expected to produce in the near future various industrial articles including fabrics with the aim of supplying 17 metres per capita. Also by that time the annual grain output will reach 3.7 million tons, the acreage under fruit will have been expanded by over 100,000 hectares, and many modern dwelling houses will be built. Our fisheries will catch 600,000 tons of fish. And the implementation of the compulsory 7-year educational system is also envisaged in the plan.

Up until 10 years ago, our parents and forefathers had never dreamed of such a country as Korea today, where socialism is flowering.

When I look upon the year fraught with glory, a stanza written by a young Korean poet comes to my mind:

*Just this happiness, this future,
The enemy wants to rob us of.
But you are powerless to harm us,
For we are sons of the people in power.
Our steel-like hearts beat with
determination*

*To safeguard our banner, our country.
Under the banner of the Party
We cherish the honour and pride
Of building a paradise on the earth.*

Yes, we are always with the Workers' Party of Korea and the Government of the D.P.R.K. We live in a country where the Party and the Government stand for the people, and the people direct all their wisdom and devotion towards the goal indicated by the Party and the Government. We can find no words to express our joy at living in this country.

Of course, we still have far to go to reach our ultimate goal, we have many difficulties and obstacles to tackle. We know that the American imperialists will not withdraw from Korea of their own will. This year alone, they have openly exposed their true nature of aggression by transferring the "U.N. Command" to Seoul, unilaterally abrogating major paragraphs of the Korean Armistice Agreement. How can we fail to see the stern reality we are in?

But we have taken our first step in socialist construction. Today we have a firmer confidence in our strength than ever before, an unshakable confidence we have fortified in the course of struggle against difficulties. This confidence, which symbolizes for us the banner of the Party, is burning like a flame in the hearts of the Korean people. And no force can extinguish the flame burning in the hearts of the Korean people who are marching along the road of peace, peaceful unification of the country and socialist construction.

Korea Must Be Unified Peacefully

KIM CHUN HAI

Member of the Presidium, the C.C., United Democratic Fatherland Front

THE elections to the D.P.R.K. Supreme People's Assembly on August 27 this year were successful thanks to the high political enthusiasm of the entire people. This was the second time for the Korean people to elect deputies to their highest state organ, and the people greeted the occasion with great achievements of labour.

99.99 per cent of the total voters went to the polls, and 99.92 per cent of them voted for the registered candidates.

This is evidence of the unanimous support of the policy of the Workers' Party of Korea and the Government of the D.P.R.K., and at the same time, serves to demonstrate the political-moral unity and the indestructible might of the Korean people closely united around the Party and the Government.

The First Session of the Second Supreme People's Assembly which was followed with keen interest by the people accomplished a work of great significance in our state life, and adopted a series of important decisions.

The session unanimously approved the policy and appraised the achievements of the Workers' Party of Korea and the Government headed by Kim Il Sung. Affirming that such Government alone can lead the people to the ultimate victory of the revolution, it endorsed the formation of a new Cabinet with Kim Il Sung as its head. The entire people warmly welcomed the new Cabinet.

In his speech at the session Premier Kim Il Sung elucidated, in conformity with the general line laid down at the Third Congress of the Workers' Party of Korea, home and foreign policies with regard to the peaceful unification of the country and the socialist construction in the northern part of the country.

The peaceful unification of the country and socialist construction are the militant tasks of the Korean people.

Proposals for peaceful unification

"To attain the peaceful unification of the country and to relieve our fellow countrymen in South Korea of indescribable sufferings," Premier Kim Il Sung said in addressing the session of the Supreme People's Assembly, "we must wage a further strenuous struggle. This is a revolutionary task of great magnitude for the entire Korean people."

In his speech Premier Kim Il Sung outlined the measures for peaceful unification.

First, for the country's peaceful unification, lasting peace, above all, is needed. Provisions of the Korean Armistice Agreement, therefore, must be strictly abided by and the armistice be converted into a durable peace. Manoeuvres of the American imperialists and the traitorous Syngman Rhee clique to abrogate the Armistice Agreement and to create tension in Korea must be curbed. All foreign troops must be withdrawn from Korea, and South Korea must not be turned into an atomic base of the U.S.A.

Secondly, North and South Korea should not resort to armaments race, but should cut their armaments. It was proposed to the South Korean authorities to cut the strength of the armed forces of North and South Korea to 100,000 respectively or to less than that.

Thirdly, It was proposed to the South Korean authorities to take without delay concrete measures for resuming trade relations, free travel of population, and postal and cultural exchanges between the North and South. As a preliminary step, we proposed to designate both in the North and South a place where exchange of goods will be conducted.

Fourthly, an international conference of the countries concerned with the peaceful settlement of the Korean question must be convened with the participation of the representatives of North and South Korea.

The peaceful unification of the country re-

quires the immediate solution of these measures representing the will of the entire Korean people.

Korea must be unified peacefully by the democratic will of the Koreans, without interference from outside.

For the country's unification, nation-wide elections on the principle of universal, equal and direct suffrage by secret ballot must be conducted without any pressure and control from outside. For such elections, conditions must be provided for free activities of all political parties in both parts of the country.

The proposals for peaceful unification, representing the will of the entire people, enjoy their warm support.

The Workers' Party of Korea and the Government of the D.P.R.K. have consistently worked and will continue to work for the peaceful unification of the country.

The aspirations of the Korean people for the country's peaceful unification found expression in the Joint Conference of Political Parties and Social Organizations of North and South Korea of April 1948 at which representatives of 56 political parties and social organizations with different political views and religious conviction discussed the destiny of the country in opposition to the treacherous separate elections in South Korea by the U.S. imperialists and the traitorous Syngman Rhee clique; in the formation of the United Democratic Fatherland Front in June 1949 with 72 political parties and social organizations in both parts of the country; in the statement of the U.D.F.F. on the peaceful unification of Korea; in the proposals for the setting up of a united supreme legislative body put forward by the Presidium of the D.P.R.K. Supreme People's Assembly in June 1950; and in the appeals issued by the U.D.F.F.

But the American imperialists and the Syngman Rhee clique turned down all our sincere proposals and provoked a fratricidal war. To attain their aggressive aim against the northern part of the country, the American imperialists mustered the armed forces of their 15 satellite countries and spent 20 billion dollars, resorting to all manner of barbarous warfare unheard-of in the history of war.

But the aggressors failed to conquer the Korean people who had risen up in defence of the freedom, independence and glory of their country. The war ended with the igno-

minious defeat of the invaders, and they were obliged to sign the Armistice Agreement in Panmunjom.

The cease-fire in Korea made greatly for the restoration of peace in Korea and the relaxation of international tension, and at the same time, provided prerequisites for the peaceful settlement of the Korean question.

In the post-war period, the Workers' Party of Korea and the Government of the D.P.R.K. have consistently striven for the peaceful unification of the country. At the Geneva Conference of April 1954 the D.P.R.K. Government Delegation put forward proposals for the peaceful settlement of the Korean question. The Eighth and Ninth Sessions of the D.P.R.K. Supreme People's Assembly of October 1954 and of March 1955 proposed to hold North-South negotiations and to cut armed forces of the North and South. The United Democratic Fatherland Front issued appeals in support of the proposals, and political parties and social organizations issued statements supporting the proposals. And the Third Congress of the Workers' Party of Korea adopted a declaration on the peaceful unification of the country.

American moves

But the American imperialists and the traitorous Syngman Rhee clique have turned down all our proposals for the peaceful unification of the country, and they are persistently pursuing aggressive policy against the D.P.R.K.

Since the armistice in Korea, the U.S. imperialists had increased their puppet Syngman Rhee's army from 16 to 31 divisions and committed 554 provocative acts by May 1957.

To cover up their violations of the Armistice Agreement, the American imperialists impeded the activities of the Neutral Nations Supervisory Commission and its inspection teams and unilaterally drove out the inspection teams from South Korea. On June 21 this year they announced unilateral abrogation of the Sub-Paragraph 13d of the Armistice Agreement forbidding reinforcement of armed forces. Then they moved the "U.N. Command", the strong-hold of the aggressive army, to Seoul, and are noisily talking about the introduction of guided missiles and other new types of weapons into South Korea. And at the same

time, they continue to smuggle spies, wreckers and subversive elements into the northern part of the country in order to undermine peace and security.

The people of South Korea under the occupation of the aggressive U.S. army are not guaranteed even the elementary political freedom and democratic rights. They are subjected to unparalleled national humiliation by the U.S. army that continues to perpetrate outrageous murders and robbery of the people.

American soldiers stationed in South Korea under U.N. signboard are murdering innocent Korean people: women walking along street; peasants at work in fields; school boys going to school; and boys swimming in the river. They killed a three-year-old Korean child playing near an oil pipeline, impudently charging that he was "stealing their oil."

Atrocities of the aggressive U.S. army which evoke indignation of the Koreans and the honest-minded people throughout the world have become more frequent and cruel since the "U.N. Command" moved to Seoul.

Total ruin

The monopoly control of the American imperialists over the South Korean economy has led to total ruin of national industry in South Korea.

In 1956, there were over 1,100,000 unemployed and several million semi-employed in South Korea.

Agriculture in South Korea is also in a state of bankruptcy. The onerous exaction by the puppet Syngman Rhee's government, landlords and compradors, — "redemption grain," "land acquisition tax," "water utilization fee" and forcible collection of grain — has driven the South Korean peasants into extreme poverty. Foodless peasant households last spring reached upwards of one million.

All this serves to show that South Korea under U.S. occupation is a living hell where the people, deprived of rights, are suffering from unheard-of starvation and poverty. Even the reactionary papers in South Korea deplore the situation, writing: "It is the worst inflation in 800 years and the worst suffering of the people in 4,000 years."

To relieve the foodless South Korean peasants of their sufferings, the D.P.R.K. Gov-

ernment proposed in May to offer free of charge 15,000 tons of rice, while the Central Committee of the Korean Red-Cross Society proposed in July to send relief articles to the flood-victims of South Korea. These are the manifestation of the sincere affection for our fellow countrymen in need.

On October 7 this year, Minister of Home and Foreign Trade of the D.P.R.K. sent a letter to the South Korean Minister of Trade and Industry proposing concrete measures for the promotion of North-South trade, designating for our side Kaesong as the place of commodity exchange, and asking the South Korean authorities to designate a suitable place for their side.

But we have not received an affirmative reply to any of our proposals.

The South Korean people live in constant fear of being murdered by the American soldiers, South Korean economy has gone bankrupt, the people in the South are suffering from the most horrible conditions and Korea still remains divided—all this is due to the occupation of South Korea by the aggressive U.S. army.

All the misfortunes brought upon the Korean people will be removed when the U.S. army leaves Korea.

No wonder, therefore, the Korean people in every nook and corner denounce the occupation of South Korea by the U.S. army, which continues to perpetrate atrocities in South Korea, and demand the U.S. aggressors to leave Korea.

The American aggressors, employing shameless trickery, do not bring murderers to justice, and attempt to justify with various excuses their atrocities.

The traitorous Syngman Rhee clique make no scruples of defending the murderers, and try to assuage the indignation of the people, telling them the atrocities were due to their not having an agreement on the status of the American soldiers in South Korea. With this excuse they are making insidious intrigues to sign the ROK-U.S. Administrative Agreement to tighten their rule over South Korea.

Far from demanding the withdrawal of the U.S. army from Korea the Syngman Rhee clique scheme to have the aggressive army stationed permanently in South Korea.

Whatever intrigues the American imperialists and the Syngman Rhee clique may make, they will not dupe the Korean people nor escape the bitter hatred and censure of the Korean people.

The Korean people strongly demand the withdrawal of the U.S. army, the murderers of the people, from South Korea and the punishment of culprits.

Triumphant march

The Korean people, who had long lived in the same family, eagerly wish to live in peace in a unified country.

To realize their cherished desire, the peaceful unification of the country, the people in the northern part of the country have striven with might and main to fortify the democratic base in the northern part of the country, the guarantee of Korea's peaceful unification.

Thanks to the correct policy of the Workers' Party of Korea and the Government of the D.P.R.K. and to the enthusiasm of the working people, the post-war three-year national economic plan (1954-1956) was successfully carried out.

During the three-year plan period, more than 320 big and medium industrial establishments were either rehabilitated or built anew and went into operation. Total industrial output increased 2.8 times during the three-year plan period or 1.8 times as much as in the pre-war year 1949.

Total grain output in 1956 was eight per cent greater than in the pre-war days and nineteen per cent over the pre-liberation year of 1944. At present over 90 per cent of the total peasant households are in the agricultural co-operatives.

Socialist economic sector has become dominant both in towns and the countryside.

Having successfully accomplished the post-war three-year plan, we are now energetically working for the fulfilment of the First Five-Year Plan. The main tasks set forth in the current five-year plan are to strengthen further the socialist economic foundation in the northern part of the country and to solve in the main the question of clothing, food and housing of the population.

The correct policy of the Workers' Party of Korea and the Government of the D.P.R.K. in relation to the priority development of

heavy industry along with the growth of light industry and agriculture will make it possible to turn, during the current First Five-Year Plan period, Korea with backward agriculture into a country with industry and agriculture furnished with up-to-date technique and greatly promote the socialist construction in the northern part of the country.

By 1961, annual grain output will reach upwards of 3,700,000 tons; each person will receive seventeen metres of cloth a year; 7,200,000 square metres of dwelling houses will be built with government funds, and 200,000 modern dwelling houses will be built in the countryside.

Seven-year compulsory schooling to be enforced during the current five-year plan period will be the first of its kind in Asia. Secondary and higher technical schools will train large numbers of technical personnel, and Korea's national culture and arts will further effloresce.

Consequently, the material basis for the realization of the country's peaceful unification will be further fortified and the preparations for the swift recovery of South Korean economy following the unification of the country will be further stepped up.

The political-moral unity of the Korean people closely united around the Workers' Party of Korea and the Government of the D.P.R.K. is stronger than ever.

The entire patriotic people guided by the Workers' Party of Korea do not want fratricidal bloodshed. Democratic political parties and social organizations and the patriotic figures desirous of territorial integrity and nation's unification, irrespective of their past activities, political views and religious conviction, are united for one aim — the peaceful unification of the country.

Premier Kim Il Sung said: "The firm unity and solidarity of democratic political parties and social organizations and the people of every walk of life based on the worker-peasant alliance constitutes the mighty political foundation of our country and the source of our indestructible might."

The United Democratic Fatherland Front, the embodiment of the united force of the people, plays a great part in the work for the country's peaceful unification and the socialist construction in the northern part of the country.

Experiences have convinced our people that fidelity to proletarian internationalism and the firm unity and solidarity among the countries of the socialist camp ensure the final victory of our revolution. The Korean people, therefore, have been and will remain true to proletarian internationalism in order to strengthen further friendship and solidarity with the peoples of the Soviet Union, the People's Republic of China and the other fraternal People's Democracies.

Firmly subscribing to the Leninist principles of peaceful co-existence between the countries with different social systems, our Government is strengthening the solidarity with India, Indonesia, Burma, Egypt, Syria and all other countries striving for their national independence and world peace against colonialism. It is working for the establishment of normal relations with Japan, and is ready to cooperate with all countries desirous of maintaining good-neighbouring relations with our country.

Our foreign policy enjoys the support of people throughout the world.

In this way, the prospect of Korea's peaceful unification is becoming brighter with each passing day.

The whole of the Korean people give unanimous support to the policy of their Government as enunciated by Premier Kim Il Sung at the recent session of the Supreme People's Assembly — peaceful unification of the country and socialist construction in the northern part of the country — and work hard for their realization.

Unanimous voice

Territorial division and national split are the greatest misfortune for the Korean people. We can no longer tolerate the division of territory.

The root cause of all sufferings of the Korean people, as Foreign Minister Nam Il's statement of October 9, 1957 pointed out, lies in the occupation of South Korea by the ag-

gressive U.S. army. (See New Korea No. 11 for Foreign Minister Nam Il's statement)

It is a pressing task for us to relieve our fellow countrymen in South Korea from the untold sufferings and to live in peace with them in the same family. Therefore, the people in the northern part of the country, solidly united politically and morally, are striving for the peaceful unification of the country and for the socialist construction in the northern part of the country.

The barrier standing in the way of our happy life, the occupation of South Korea by the U.S. aggressive army, must be eliminated, and Korea must be unified peacefully in accord with the free will of the Korean people.

To this end, the proposals made in the speech of Premier Kim Il Sung at the recent Supreme People's Assembly session and in the Foreign Minister Nam Il's statement of October 9 must be realized at an early date.

We demand a lasting peace in Korea and denounce any sabotage of the Armistice Agreement by the American side. The Armistice Agreement must be strictly abided by and the truce in Korea be turned into a durable peace.

An international conference with the broad participation of the countries concerned for the settlement of the Korean question must be convened as early as possible.

As Premier Kim Il Sung suggested, the representatives of the two parts of the country must sit around one table as soon as possible, and nation-wide elections should be conducted to unify Korea at the will of the Korean people without interference from outside.

Whatever obstacles the American imperialists and the Syngman Rhee clique may place in the way, the Korean people, enjoying the support and encouragement of the peace-lovers throughout the world, will surely attain the peaceful unification of their country.

"Go home, aggressive U.S. army!" is the unanimous voice of the Korean people.

Our country being surrounded by seas on three sides and having favourable natural conditions abounds in marine products. According to recent data in the last 200 miles of the West Sea (Yellow Sea) over 200 kinds of fish and sea weeds are found. Of these sea-cucumber, cuttlefish, sea-urchin, kelp, laver, shell-fish, abalone, haddock, sparrow and crab meat are being exported. We have plenty of sea for the purpose of export.

Korean Goods of Export

KIM EUNG HA

Vice-Director of Export Bureau, Ministry of Home and Foreign Trade

THE rapid rehabilitation and development of the national economy in our country has brought a great increase in the volume of foreign trade. The total volume of exports in 1956 when an epoch-making change took place in our foreign trade doubled that in 1953.

Until 1956 we conducted trade only with the Soviet Union and the People's Republic of China, and it was since 1956 that we have concluded trade agreements on the basis of cooperation with the fraternal countries of the socialist camp in South-east Europe and Asia, thereby further consolidating and developing economic relations and friendship with these countries.

We have made strenuous efforts to expand trade relations on the basis of equality and mutual benefit with all countries, firmly adhering to our peace-loving policy and the principle of peaceful co-existence among nations with differing social systems.

In 1957, we concluded trade agreements with commercial concerns of India, Indonesia, Britain and Switzerland and have laid a foundation for developing economic relations and friendship with these countries. Moreover, despite all the artificial barriers, we have established trade relations with other neighbouring countries through our sincere efforts.

The development of our foreign trade can be observed in the increased volume of exports. In 1954 we exported 34 more kinds of chemical products, farm and forestry produce, marine products, etc., than in 1953; in 1955, 26 more kinds of mineral, metal, and chemical

products, native products than in 1954; and in 1956, 36 more kinds of mineral, metal, and chemical products, and light industry products than in 1955.

In the first six months of 1957 alone, 25 new items were added to the list of our exports: metal goods such as structural steel and carbon steel; building materials such as cement and sheet glass; chemical products such as zinc oxide and hexachlorine. Particularly, caustic soda, cement, hydrochloric acid, cigarettes, silk fabrics, angle bars and sheet glass, large quantities of which we had to import until 1956, are being exported from 1957, after satisfying the ever growing demands in the country.

Favoured with geological conditions, our country has a wealth of natural resources, considered from the standpoint of variety, rich deposits and high volume of output. There are over 300 kinds of minerals, of which over 150 are of economic significance. To cite a few, magnesite, tungsten, graphite, baryte, fluorite, etc., are of high quality and mined in abundance. We also have inexhaustible deposits of iron, lead, zinc, copper, anthracite, etc. Besides the Moosan Mine with a one-billion-ton deposit of iron ore, iron ore deposits are scattered around in many parts of the country.

We have rich deposits of lead, zinc, copper, gold, silver, tungsten, molybdenum, cobalt, tantalum, beryllium, nickel, antimony, etc.—all valuable minerals constituting the material foundation for the further development of our ferrous and non-ferrous metal industry. In the composition of our exports, an important place is occupied by various

metal goods including high-speed steel, carbon steel, special steel, steel, metallic minerals such as iron, tungsten, zinc, molybdenum, and non-metallic minerals such as hyacinth tourmaline, fluorite, talc, etc.

We have enough ceramic materials to export, namely, kaolin, fire-proof clay, loess, diatomaceous earth and high-quality building-materials such as marble, natural slate, felspar, silica. In this way, our country is provided with every possibility and reserve for developing the chemical industry. As for raw materials for chemical industry, we have abundant deposits of lime-stone, iron sulphide, salt, phosphate ore, anthracite, in addition to by-products from the non-ferrous metal, dyestuffs, timber, fibre, food and other processing industries. Our country is rich in hydro-electric power.

Prior to the Fatherland Liberation War, the chemical industry had already reached a high level, exporting large quantities of fertilizers, calcium carbide, soaps and other chemical products. Since the war, the chemical industry, having recovered from the severe damage suffered from the war, is being furnished with up-to-date equipment under the correct economic policy of the Party and the Government. As a result, in 1956, its output already surpassed by far the level of pre-war years. Building-materials such as cement and sheet glass, calcium carbide, bakelite, alundum, caustic soda, nitric explosives, zinc oxide, etc., are in wide demand on foreign markets. At the same time, foreign demands for sulphuric acid, hydrochloric acid, bleaching powder, hexachlorine, ammonium sulphate, nitrogenous fertilizer are also growing. Thus, chemical products hold an important place in our foreign trade.

In the field of light industry, apart from various high-grade cigarettes, high-quality Korean silk fabrics, many kinds of tinned fish, tinned meat, tinned fruit, corn-starch, and potato-starch occupy a large proportion in the volume of exports.

Our country, being surrounded by seas on three sides and having favourable natural conditions, abounds in marine products. According to recent data, in the East Sea and the West Sea (Yellow Sea) over 530 kinds of fish and sea weeds are found. Of these sea-cucumber, cuttlefish, sea-urchin, tangle, laver, shell-ligament, abalone, haddock's spawn, and crab meat are being exported. We have plenty of agar for the purpose of export.

Korean ginseng and its derivatives are world-famous. And there are delicious fruits such as apples, pears, peaches, plums, apricots, which are sent to foreign markets.

The unique, natural and geological conditions in each locality of our country grow many kinds of plants and herbs. To cite a few, there are over 100 priceless medical herbs—rhubarb, sylvestris komanov, akebia quinata decaishe, helen, nymphacaceae, epimedium koreanum nakai, which are found in abundance sufficient to meet domestic needs and export. Large quantities of native products such as furs of weasel, fox, otter and badger are being exported.

During the First Five-Year Plan period, the volume of minerals and chemical products for export will be increased several fold.

The fruit-growing acreage will be expanded by 100,000 hectares in accordance with the plan set forth by the Government to further develop the rural economy, and it is expected that the volume of exports such as apple, pear, peach, plum, etc., as well as farm and forestry produce and native products will be considerably increased. An important place in export will be occupied by special steel, electric appliances, chemical products such as insecticides, soap, metanor, kalium chlorate. Fruit, tinned goods, frozen fish, codliver oil, isinglass, high-quality silk fabrics, furs, imitation Koryu porcelain, glass works are of export value. Thus our export trade is bound to undergo an epoch-making change, exporting ever greater amount of new items and various finished goods.

The Land of Immortals

H. M. P. MOHIDEEN,

Ceylonese Writer

MY GOOD friend, the famous Chinese writer, Yang Shou in his novel about Korean war described Korea as "A Thousand Miles of Lovely Land". This description is very truth. But to me, the struggling land of Korea is "The Land of Immortals". This too is a great truth.

The kind invitation of the Korean Society for Cultural Relations with Foreign Countries gave me this great opportunity to visit this lovely heroic land. Though the period of my stay in this great country was a very short one, yet the picture of this thousand miles of lovely land, the land of the flower of eternal days, is so deeply imprinted upon my mind that it will be unforgettable to the last moment of my life.

In Ceylon, to the writers and artists who are active in the cultural field, and to me personally, the portrayal of Korea was visible only through the following Korean poem:

*With a history of five thousand years,
With a thousand miles of lovely land,
With the flowers of endless days
blossoming all over the hills,
Our beautiful Korea spreads out
before us.*

But after setting my foot on the soil of this struggling country, and seeing first hand the ups and downs of the nation my idea is absolutely changed.

Korea is a hundred times more beautiful and glamorous than the simple words of the poet.

To me, Korea is poetic. It is a beautiful

poem, with a tragic background; so far it is half completed, well and good. But it should end, to make it an immortal poem. In the few days of my stay here I was convinced that the completion of the poem is nearing. A good end of the Korean poem is inevitable. No force, no power, not even the napalm bombs of the Americans can obstruct its completion.

When I make this statement, I make it with a clear conviction. My eyes which saw the sparkling true facts of reality all over this delightful land, are my witnesses. I hear the voice of the Korean poet Min Byong Kyun, which rises to the zenith to proclaim to the world the true sentiments of the valiant Korean people:

*No waters, no fires,
No rain of bullets and shells,
Can halt the march of the steel ranks.
No guns, no curtains of iron,
Can bar the flag of the company.
Comrades, forward!*

Yes, the march is on. It is a long march. I see that. But it is a victorious march. The march which is triumphant and glorifies the people's Korea.

The delightful land—Korea—stands proudly with its hills and the long ranges of purplish mountains, which to me are the symbol of eternal youth. Her green fields stretching on to the far corners of the Korean soil, rolling like the waving sea caressed by the soft autumn breezes are a thing of artistic beauty and charm.

With a rhythm and gay dance, the waters

of the rivers and streams, whispered to me as I passed along, "We are not the old, degraded waters. We are newly born from the hot, red blood of the beloved sons and daughters of Korea. We do not die in the sea, untouched and unnoticed as in the olden days. We shall live long in the hearts of mankind."

They further whispered to me about the great Korean men and women who dyed the blue waters red with their precious life's blood to protect their soil.

The inexhaustible underground resources and the Korean valleys, luxuriant with green and blossoming with fruit and grain are like a paean to the Korean people which inspired me as I sped along the highways.

I saw the brave Korean people, whose heroism knows no parallel.

The calm, indefatigable men, and the fair sex with their radiant faces, their liquid black eyes and rosy cheeks quite won my heart. Behind them I saw the great Korean womanhood, which not only presented their fatherland with great heroes and thousands of brave sons and daughters, who gave their lives heroically and courageously, believing like Voltaire, the father of the French Revolution, that, "it is better to live one day and die as an independent soul, than to live thousands of years a miserable slave locked in chains or living behind bars..." Even mothers and grand-mothers with shaking hands have helped and assisted the marching Korea on its way, and died with the cry of "Freedom... Freedom..." on their lips.

Side by side with the delightful and beautiful scenes we found in Korea are unhealed wounds and scars of the war that yet remain. The deep holes, the scorched grounds, and marks of bombardments are to be seen at every hundred feet, on the hills, in fields and in towns and villages, destroyed cultural monuments and remains, echoes of many families weeping for their sons and daughters who were ruthlessly killed by the man-eating brutes—the dollar Yankees—and black ashes of the burnt grain touch one's heart.

Whoever these brute cannibals that perpetrated such barbarous crimes may be, they are vandals, they are destroyers and obstructors of the world's progress and, more, they

are enemies of mankind. As a writer, who believe in progress, I curse these treacherous killers. Let them be doomed and destroyed.

To me and to many others in Ceylon, Korea had been regarded as a country of war. She had only time to defend her mother soil from the enemies, who endeavour to encroach on her liberty. But, after coming to Korea and seeing the underground theatre, the musical instruments played by the soldiers during the war time near the enemy camp, the archeological finds in Pyongyang and Kaesong City, the industrial development in the factories and plants and many other such things I was amazed.

The bitter war and rain of bombs of the brutal, inhuman enemy did not prevent the brave Koreans from building their country. The six prize winning performances of the Korean cultural troupe at the World Youth Festival in Moscow, and their songs and works of art which I saw in Korea during the last few days, are proof of their future development. The people who loved and developed their cultural tradition during the time of war midst suffering and death will in the future become masters in the realm of art.

The most moving and touching was the liberation pavilion. The pictures and the portrayals of the beloved sons and daughters of Korea which I saw there, deeply impressed me.

Maxim Gorky said that writers should not be sentimental. But I confess, even though I am a progressive writer, I became sentimental in this pavilion. Frequently tears rolled uncontrollably down my cheeks. My good friend Comrade Li, who accompanied me, inquired, "What is wrong with you?" I only answered, "I have a cold."

The liberator of Korea, the great patriots, whom I saw in this pavilion, will ever remain in my memory. The Americans may say, they are the dead bodies of those whom they killed. But I should like to tell them, yes, you have killed them with your bombs and dollars; they are dead bodies. But their spirit lives on. The noble cause for which they laid down their lives, covering the muzzle of your machine guns with their patriotic hearts, is not dead and will never die. Their freedom and their immortal names will

live on through history. They have already become immortals among immortals. Their sacrifices are cherished in the hearts of millions and millions of people throughout the world who are fighting for liberation and emancipation of humanity from the exploitation of man by man. The great Korean martyrs in this pavilion will live throughout the ages.

Before leaving the pavilion I looked at the statue of a martyr. He was carved in stone with a gun in his hands. His gentle smile attracted me. I approached him. I could hear his eternal voice speaking to me. He said, "My good friend from Ceylon, wait and see; the future belongs to us. It will be ours... ours..." The voice of my friend brought me to senses. I left the pavilion with a feeling of solemnity.

Our car sped on and on. Yet I could hear the voice of the Korean martyr, ringing in my ears. I was saddened, yet at the same time greatly inspired. The voice whispered to me, "Don't worry, it is true the human butchers, the cannibals of the 20th century, destroyed our houses and took a toll of thousands and thousands of lives. But they can-

not destroy our future." I could hear: "No, never... never..."

Wherever I went in this heroic land of Korea, I clearly witnessed a great flame burning in the hearts of the people. It is the flame of love; love for their country; love for their people, for justice and peace. It is for this love they have given up personal happiness, personal ties... and even their precious lives. Where can one find a greater love than this? This is an undying love... an eternal love, which will live throughout the ages.

I came to this lovely land alone. But I am returning to my motherland not as lonely as I came; but with many compatriots around me. They are the inspiring spirits of the great martyrs of Korea. The noble common cause for which they lived and laid their lives will ever guide and lead us in all our struggles in the future.

I salute the immortal land of Korea and its heroic people!

I clasp my hands in token of respect to the valiant heroic martyrs of Mother Korea!

Long live peace and friendship between Korea and Ceylon!

Rice Cultivation in Korea

RIM HI CHOON

Vice-Director of the Agronomic Institute

RICE in Korea is the highest-yielding crop as well as staple food, indispensable for the people's living. The paddy fields occupy 25 per cent of the total acreage under cultivation in the northern part of the Republic, while the rice yield amounts to roughly 50 per cent of the total grain output. This shows that the output of rice per hectare is higher than that of other crops. Therefore, the Korean peasants have directed keen attention to the cultivation of rice from olden times. They turned dry fields into paddies, wherever water supply was possible, and cultivated rice on almost all fields, in which water stayed after rainfall, even though irrigation was impossible.

Rice cultivation began in Korea even before the Christian year. This was proved by the carbonized rice found in a shell-mound in Kimhai situated at the southern extremity of Korea. In Korea rice was planted on an extensive scale several thousand years ago, because the natural and geographical conditions were suitable for rice cultivation and because the people knew from experience that rice was a high-yielding crop.

As is shown by ancient records, our ancestors were keenly interested in natural phenomena. Meteorological records after A.D. 3 have been handed down to this date. In particular, rainfall was gauged by special device from 1440. The meteorological data were used for increasing grain output already from that time. It is also on this historical basis that rice cultivation has developed in our country even down to today.

Rice cultivation is directly influenced by rainfall, for rice is a crop which requires much water.

The annual rainfall in Korea is between 600 mm and 1,500 mm, that is, an average of 1,000 mm. The rainfall in Korea is somewhat heavier compared with the average rainfall of the whole world which is 840 mm.

However, rainfall differs widely according to seasons: 15-20 per cent of rainfall in spring, 50-60 per cent in summer, 20-25 per cent in autumn and 5-10 per cent in winter. It is cloudy or rainy for some forty days on end in the rainy season. This weather condition has a bad effect upon crops which require little water.

The yield of crops in Korea largely depends upon the duration of the periodical rainfall which is irregular. Rice is less affected and its harvest is comparatively secured every year.

Since liberation, the Korean Workers' Party and the Government of the Republic have taken and carried out a series of measures, attaching great importance to the enhancement of rice output. One of these measures was to invest a huge sum of state funds in the expansion of irrigation system in order to turn more dry fields into paddies and to bring unirrigated paddies under irrigation. Another important measure was to push through research work for improving rice-growing technique and to popularize the results of research on an extensive scale. In a word, these are correct measures for raising the yield per hectare.

As is generally known, the prime task of increasing farm produce is to expand the arable land, the basic means of agricultural production, and to raise the yield per hectare through the improvement of seed-raising and rice-cultivating methods. Due to the topographical conditions, Korea has quite a few potentialities for expanding the arable land.

Although the arable land is limited, we are now basically solving within the country the question of provisions, industrial raw materials and fodder. This has been possible because we have directed special attention to raising land utility, expanding the acreage under rice and improving technical level.

The Korean Workers' Party and the Government of the Republic invested a huge sum of state funds for increasing rice output

before the war and especially during the period of the Post-war Three-Year Plan for the rehabilitation and Development of the National Economy. The annual rate of investment can be seen in the following figures:

Taking 1949 as 100, the investment was 76.6 in 1953, the year of the armistice, 100.9 in 1954, 227 in 1955 and 322.2 in 1956.

As a result, the acreage under state irrigation increased by 65.6 per cent in 1956 and by 69.2 per cent in 1957 as compared with 1949.

Splendid results have also been registered in improving farming technique.

Before the August 15 Liberation, in the northern part of the Republic, there was no laboratory or research institute which was capable of solving the question concerning agro-technique. And there were few Koreans who specialized in agronomy. Therefore, much attention had to be directed, first of all, to training agronomists, establishing or expanding laboratories and research institutes and extensively organizing and carrying out research work. As a result, new and better methods have been explored.

We can cite as an instance the improved method of rice transplanting. In Korea rice is not directly sown in fields, but in nursery beds, and then transplanted to paddies. According to a record in 1429, the transplanting method was extensively applied to rice cultivation already in the feudal ages. The method of transplanting rice seedlings has developed in Korea through such a long historical period. At present, rice seedlings are transplanted with a few exception on all fields. This method has rapidly developed after liberation, especially after the war.

Before liberation, 50-70 clusters of rice seedlings were transplanted to one pyung (3.24 square metres). However, in the post-liberation period, it was proved by the experiments at laboratories and research institutes and the experiences of the peasants that the greater the number of clusters per pyung, the better the yield. Therefore, the small-cluster close-planting method has been encouraged. Immediately before the war, 70-90 clusters of seedlings were transplanted to one pyung. Especially during the war when fertilizer was insufficient, the number of clusters per pyung increased to 100.

Almost all agricultural cooperatives are now transplanting 100 clusters to one pyung.

(1 cluster consists of 2 to 5 seedlings) Some agricultural cooperatives are transplanting 150 clusters to one pyung.

Keeping pace with the work of securing high-yielding seeds, the system of improving seeds has been rationally established. At present, more than 800 varieties of rice are kept in various laboratories and research institutes. Among them, the varieties of productive value alone amounts to over 30. These varieties have been adapted through a long period to the weather and soil conditions of our country.

There are varieties of early, intermediary and late maturity. Each variety has its own different biological peculiarities. Varieties are selected according to the respective soil condition and the amount of fertilizer prepared by peasants. Therefore, different varieties of rice are planted in the same agricultural cooperative. The variety which requires much fertilizer should be planted on fertile land and the contrary one on lean land.

To grow healthy seedlings is another important matter. The yield largely depends upon this. That is why keen attention is directed in our country to the growing of healthy rice seedlings.

The agro-technical methods of growing healthy seedlings differ according to the kinds of seedling beds, varieties and the weather and soil conditions of each locality. However, generally speaking, the best method is to raise in cold-frames, the next best is to raise in dry beds and the third, in watered beds.

By the time of liberation, in Korea rice seedlings raised in watered bed were transplanted as a rule. The cold-frame and dry-bed seedling methods were extensively popularized during the war and in the period of the Post-war Three-Year Plan. The advantage of these methods was confirmed by the results of research at agronomic institutes and by the experiences of peasants. It has the following theoretical basis:

The volume of water needed by the rice plant is different in each stage of its growth, for the rice is not an aquatic plant. At the time of sprouting, the rice requires comparably little water. The soil containing 60-70 per cent of water in saturation is suitable for rice while it is still young. When rice seedlings have original nature, their cellular tissues are minute and their roots become strong. There-

So the living of my family was a wretched one indeed. One bowl of thin gruel a day meant a great feast. In winter all the family members slept curled up into balls in a room which was not heated for days on end. My little children were too numbed with hunger to cry for food even when they went without several meals. Seventy-year-old Grandma wept quietly, not for herself, but pained at the sight of her great grand-children starving.

Shy and afraid of my proletarian stories as she was, Grandma was so delighted when my stories were published in papers or magazines that she read them over and over again with the aid of her old spectacles. She even made a round of our relatives to make a display of them.

She kept this secret from me, of course. She showed no sign of it before me and kept saying, "Stop writing such stories."

Once I made desperate efforts to get some money, even a few yen at least, when the KAP members launched a campaign for raising fund for printing its organ. And such was not a rare occurrence at that time.

I consulted with my wife and sold, without the knowledge of the elders of the family, her only silk skirt which she had bought when she was married to me. Grandma, however, got wind of this and carried away to the market her chest of drawers she had been keeping from younger days and gave the money obtained from it to my wife, asking her to hand the money to me without telling me about it.

Grandma passed away at the age of 92 in late autumn of 1944, shortly before the August 15 Liberation.

She was not ill long. That day she had her breakfast as usual, slept a little, and then breathed her last at about noon.

On that very morning she had dressed herself as if she were going out, called me to her and said:

"I'm afraid I shall die before seeing the independence of our country. Though I die

before seeing it, ye must carry on your original intention to the last without giving up. Write more and better pro-le-ta-ri-an stories and unite the Korean into one."

Alas! How could I know this would be Grandma's last words in this world!

This aspiration of my grandmother was at the same time the unanimous aspiration of our thirty million compatriots.

Upon receiving the honour of being elected this time deputy to the Supreme People's Assembly, I longed for Grandma more ardently than ever and was unable to repress tears.

Grandma's aspiration—the aspiration of the Korean people! This has come true at last and now we have our glorious fatherland, the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, and have the genuine people's power—the Supreme People's Assembly.

Reality which seems almost like a dream!

Upon being elected deputy, a servant of the people, I renewed my resolution to make devoted efforts, a hundred, a thousand times more than before. I will write more and better proletarian stories as grandmother bade me do, and will do my bit for the sacred struggle for the unification of the country.

Grandma! I, your unfilial grandson about whom you worried so much, have now become a proud citizens of a wonderful country which you were unable to see before you died, and have become even an honourable deputy to the Supreme People's Assembly.

Rejoice, Grandma! Weep, and laugh, to your heart's content! Before long our country will be unified and will become a paradise, and I will be writing more and better proletarian stories as you told me. Then I will be thinking of you, Grandma, on the street of Seoul where you went out to sell your chest of drawers. And I shall shout, "Your chest of drawers, wet with tears you shed at that time, is now brightly adorning a corner of our beautiful fatherland."



GREAT OCTOBER HOLIDAY

The people in Pyongyang and all other towns and villages in the country, who are engaged in socialist construction, joyously celebrated the 40th anniversary of the Great October Socialist Revolution.

Rostrum of the open-air mass rally in celebration of the 40th anniversary of the Great October Socialist Revolution, in Pyongyang



An out-door performance in celebration of the holiday

Just after the mass rally

Citizens of Pyongyang at the mass rally

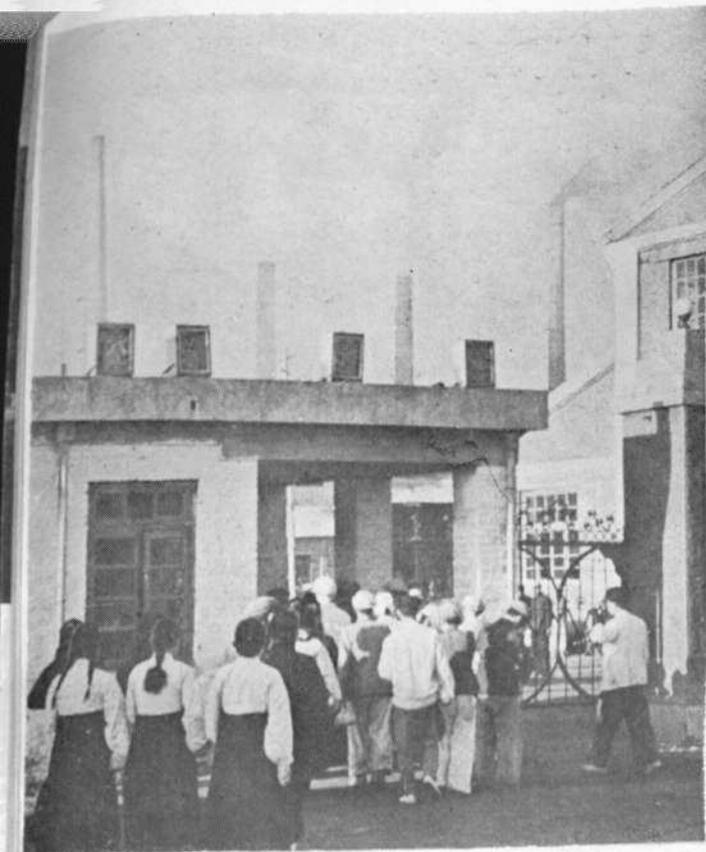


WORKING YOUTH IN KOREA

Under the people's power, working youth, creators of happiness and prosperity, are rendering distinguished services in every field of the national economy.

Young workers of the Hwanghai Iron Works, one

of the centres of Korea's ferrous metal industry, are displaying their inexhaustible creative energy and patriotic devotion to carry out the task of the First Five-Year Plan. They are offered every opportunity for study and recreation.

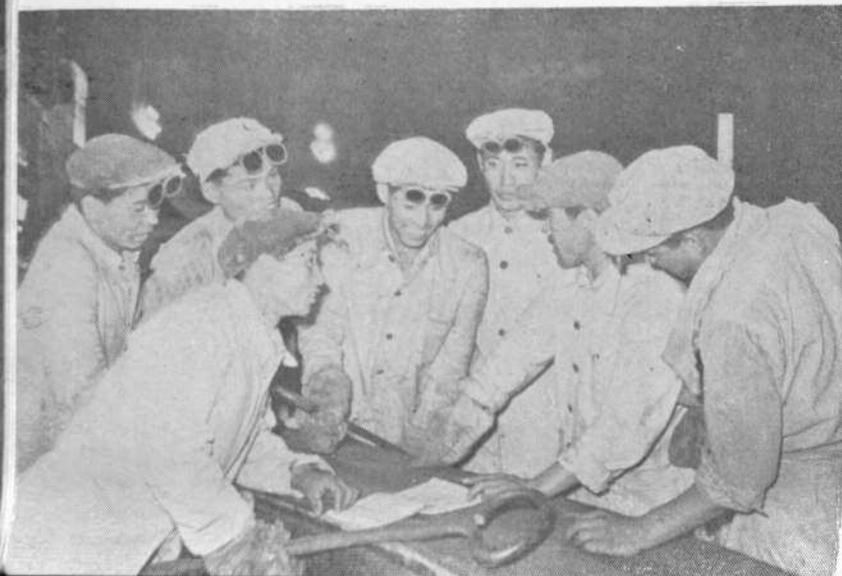


Young workers going to work in the morning

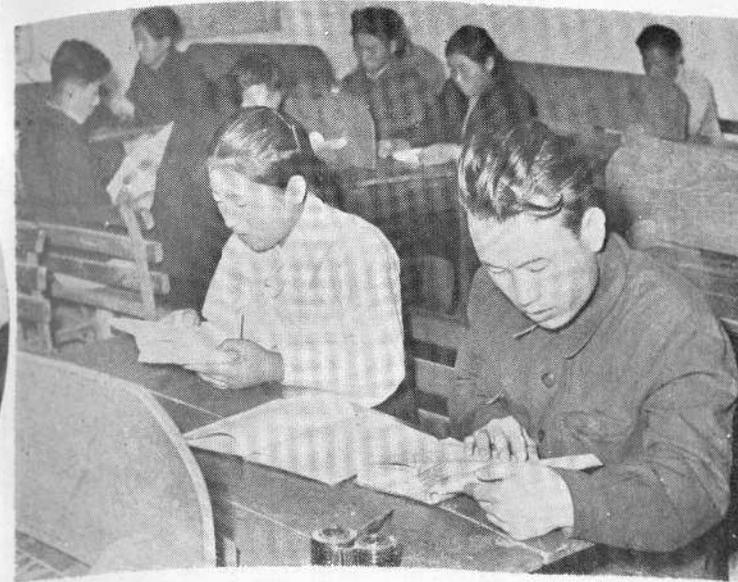
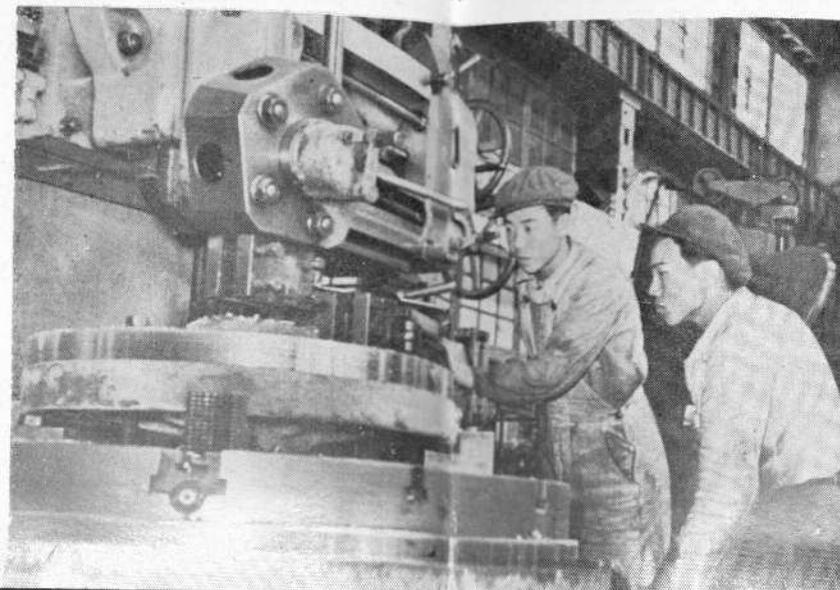


Young workers' music circle at a factory club

Young smelters of the Democratic Youth Furnace discussing how to reduce smelting hour



A turner Um Ki Moo



At a reading room



After a day's work

Workers playing volleyball

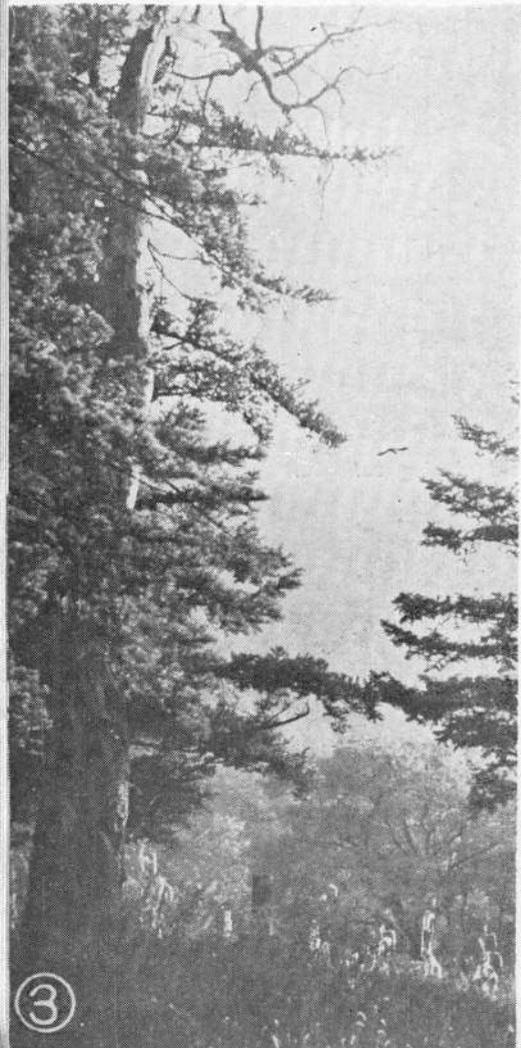




MT. MYOHYANG ABLAZE WITH AUTUMN TINTS

Photo by Kim Eun Joo

With its beautiful scenery of majestic height, limpid streams running along ravines and fantastic rocks, Mt. Myohyang in North Pyongan Province ranks among the Four Mountains of Korea.



- 1) A view of Myohyang Mountains
- 2) Chundai Fall
- 3) Thick woods around the Bohyun-sa Temple
- 4) Haijangwon, one of the ancient temples



U.S. Troops, Go Home!

SEVERAL years have elapsed since the Armistice Agreement was signed in Korea. Nevertheless, the U.S. aggressors are still occupying the territory of South Korea, perpetrating all kinds of atrocities against the South Korean people.

Acts of barbarity committed by the U.S. soldiers became much more excessive this year than ever before, particularly after the "U.N. Command" was brought to Seoul, and those savages announced their intention to abrogate the Armistice Agreement with the object of introducing weapons of new type into South Korea.

On October 9, a statement was issued by Minister of Foreign Affairs, D.P.R.K. denouncing the beast-like acts committed by the soldiers of the aggressive U.S. troops in South Korea.

The statement voiced the national indignation of the entire Korean people against the U.S. imperialists, the sworn enemy who had butchered arbitrarily our fellow countrymen, accusing them of trampling down the principles of human morality. The statement reads in part:

"Declaring that under no circumstances can it tolerate or connive at the national indignities and insults and the brutal outrages to which the South Korean brothers and sisters are subjected at the hands of the aggressive U.S. imperialist army, the Government of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea resolutely demands an immediate end to such atrocities on the part of the U.S. army.

"The Government of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea and the entire Korean people strongly protest against and denounce with mounting national indignation the barbarous criminal acts of the U.S. troops against our South Korean brothers and sisters and firmly demand the withdrawal from South Korea of the aggressive U.S. troops, a band of murderers, and the punishment of the criminals."

In support of the statement mass meetings were held in every city and village and at all factories and enterprises in the northern part of the Republic. All attending the meetings, men and women, old and young, voiced their protest and denunciation against violence of the U.S. imperialist murderers.

At a rally held on October 11 the workers of the Kimchaik Iron Works expressed fierce indignation at the criminal acts the American soldiers have committed in South Korea against our fellow countrymen, and demanded that the criminals should be brought to justice and the aggressive U.S. army withdrawn from the soil of Korea. Speaking at the rally, iron-founder Chang Jin Song, whose family is still in South Korea, said: "Just at this very moment, my home villagers and other compatriots in the southern part of the country are being subjected to the violence of the U.S. imperialists and may be shedding their blood. The U.S. imperialists — murderers — are more heinous than wolves. I seem to hear the painful cries of my brothers and friends calling for help and vengeance. The aggressive U.S. army must get out of South Korea as soon as possible."

On October 12 a protest meeting was held in Haijoo, South Hwanghai Province, at which Kim Rin Ki, one of the foremen of the Haijoo Cement Factory, accused the U.S. imperialist aggressors of murdering our brothers and sisters and plundering their properties. He said: "I once again pledge to overfulfil the quotas assigned to me by the state, fully convinced that it will serve the cause of the peaceful unification of the country. The entire workers and employees of our factory are giving active support to the proposal made by the Minister of Home and Foreign Trade on the establishment of the trade relations between North and South Korea. Who can dare deny us, the people of a single nation, the right to live peacefully as a family?"

Yoon Kak Ro, student of the Haijoo Pedagogical Institute, who spoke at the meeting,

said: "When I was in my native city of Kongjoo in South Korea, I happened to witness the American soldiers and Syngman Rhee army men killing an old woman, who had been a neighbour of my family, simply on the ground that she said our country should be unified peacefully as soon as possible. And now I have heard that the American beasts killed Song Joong Won, a Korean middle-school boy, at Kimchun on October 3, who was on his way to school. When I think of my father and mother, brothers and sisters standing helpless under iron heel of the brutal U.S. soldiers, and facing death daily, my whole being is consumed with wrath." The speaker demanded the immediate withdrawal of the U.S. troops, bands of murderers.

A meeting was called at the Sam-ri co-operative, Book-chang County, South Pyongan Province, on Oct. 15, at which Kim Ryu Choon, a co-op member, said: "We must deliver our brothers and sisters in South Korea from the dreadful abyss of atrocities and plunders. It is only the peaceful unification of the country that will save the South Korean peasants, whose harvests are taken away by the U.S. gangs and their subordinates, Syngman Rhee clique, and who are constantly pressed by hunger. Korea belongs to the Korean people themselves. Nothing can be said in justification of the occupation of our beautiful country by the U.S. imperialists. The U.S. troops must get out of South Korea."

Noting that the true face of the U.S. imperialists as wolves has recently been more clearly exposed, Han Sul Ya, Chairman of the Central Committee of the Writers' Union, said: "Ever since the American gangs set their blood-stained foot on the soil of South Korea, not a day has passed without the southern part of the country witnessing the tears and bloodshed of the people.

"The U.S. imperialist aggressors cannot be regarded as human being; they are veritable wolves. There is the Pajoo incident inefaceable from our mind, in which those American wolves gave a good illustration of their brutality: these packs of wolves attacked, plundered and murdered the people.

"We are well aware that the atrocities perpetrated by the U.S. troops have become more excessive after the 'U.N. Command' had been brought into Korea. They are acting arbitrarily in South Korea, showing their true colours as wolves more clearly than in any other places in the world. In their dirty bu-

ness, the Americans have Syngman Rhee clique as their most loyal pander.

"The U.S. army is so brazen as to excuse the American soldiers' deliberate action of shooting a Korean passer-by, saying that their intention was to shoot a pheasant. Truly, they are veritable beasts in human guise giving loose rein to their practice of 'man-hunting' in South Korea. This is what they call the 'American way of life,' or the 'humanism of American type.' But everyone knows that the Americans do not deserve the word 'life' or 'humanism,' because they are not human beings but 'biped animals' in the literal sense of the term."

The U.S. imperialist aggressors entrenched in South Korea are facing the burning hatred of the entire Korean people, who are crying out for the withdrawal of the U.S. troops. The stand of the Korean people have met with the warm response and support of all sober-minded people of the world.

The Soviet press gave prominence to the statement by the Minister of Foreign Affairs, D.P.R.K. Moscow Radio commentator Razhumayev, in his commentary entitled "The troops must get out of South Korea," said: "There are U.S. military bases in the territory of numerous countries including so-called independent countries.

"It is well known in Britain, France, West Germany, etc., where the U.S. troops are stationed, that murder, plunder and rape are a matter of daily practice of American soldiers. But the atrocities committed by them in Asia are far more heinous. According to the recent South Korean papers, during the first half of the current year, the American soldiers slaughtered nearly 70 South Koreans. The only way out for the South Korean people from the woeful plight is the immediate withdrawal of the U.S. troops."

The statement of the Minister of Foreign Affairs, D.P.R.K. was given wholehearted support in commentaries in the Chinese papers. "The U.S. troops must be withdrawn from Korea and the murderers brought to justice," said the Ta Kung Pao on October 12 in a commentary on the statement. All the troubles and hardships suffered by the Korean people arise from the occupation of South Korea by the U.S. troops. The paper said that the Chinese people support the proposal of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea to hold a conference of the countries concerned

to the settlement of the Korean question. A statement was issued on October 13 by a Japanese youth delegation which had been on a visit to our country, denouncing the barbarous behaviour of the U.S. aggressors. The statement said: "The South Korean people have been subjected to the indiscriminate atrocities committed by the U.S. troops on many occasions. There were of late the Williams Girard case which occurred in Japan and the Taipei incident in Taiwan, which eloquently revealed the aggressive aspect of the U.S. imperialism. Under no circumstances can we tolerate any attempts of war incendiarism or national humiliation."

In conclusion, it said: "In this sense, we protest in the name of a Japanese youth delegation against the atrocities perpetrated by the U.S. imperialists in South Korea." The American imperialists are soaking the soil of South Korea with the blood of our compatriots, while they are piling up obstacles to the peaceful unification of our country and hindering even the communication between relatives and friends in North and South Korea.

The Korean people cannot remain indifferent to the humiliating death our brothers and sisters have been meeting nor can they allow the murderers to continue their inhuman practice.

An angry wave of protests against the criminal acts of the U.S. imperialist aggressors is sweeping all parts of our country, and all honest-minded people the world over sympathize with the righteous resentment of the Korean people. The enraged South Korean people are intensifying their open struggle against the U.S. imperialists in spite of their cruel suppression. Suffice it to point out that even the South Korean papers have recently condemned the acts of indiscriminate manslaughter by the U.S. soldiers and report

that the indignation of the South Korean people has reached the point of bursting into action.

Under these circumstances, the Central Committee of the United Democratic Fatherland Front issued on October 10 an appeal to the entire Korean people. The appeal said: "The righteous struggle of the Korean people to effect the withdrawal of the U.S. troops is closely linked with the struggle of hundreds of millions of the people throughout the world for peace, freedom and progress of mankind.

"The resistance of the people against the occupation and atrocity of the aggressive U.S. troops is spreading with every passing day in all parts of the world where the blood-stained paws of the U.S. troops have reached. No manoeuvres of the U.S. imperialists will stay the hand of isolation and decay—their inevitable doom.

"Expose every act of brutality committed by the aggressive U.S. soldiers in South Korea and smash all the traitorous plots of the Syngman Rhee clique!

"Unite and rise up, all the Korean people, in a struggle for the national honour and the peaceful unification of the fatherland against the occupation of South Korea by the aggressive U.S. army!

"Compel the aggressive U.S. troops to withdraw from our land."

Today, a wave of national indignation is sweeping our country like a whirlwind, protesting against and denouncing the barbarous behaviour of the U.S. imperialists. The watchwords in the struggle of the Korean people are: "U.S. troops, go home!" "The Korean people are the masters of Korea. Korea must be unified peacefully by the Korean people themselves."

The just demand and struggle of the Korean people will be carried through at all costs.

Samryong Plain on the Eve of Harvest

Our correspondent SUH IL

WHITE clouds like boles of cotton gathered and disappeared in the blue sky after the downpour of rain for two days and nights, casting their shadows over the Samryong plain where various kinds of crops were ripening.

Huge ears of maize were peeping out through yellow-green leaves in hundreds of hectares of dry fields and the golden carpet of rice was undulating in paddies along the river that winds like a long snake across the plain.

The cosy dwelling houses and other buildings in villages attract the eye of visitors. Slogans calling for increasing grain production painted on the white walls of buildings stood out like a relief.

The peaceful villages and promising fields where the members of the Samryong Agricultural Producers' Cooperative devote all their labour are holding out fresh strength and hope to them on the eve of the third harvest of the cooperative.

Like all the members of agricultural cooperatives in the country, in response to the call of the Korean Workers' Party for the increased production of grain they worked throughout the summer and autumn to see the bumper crop of today.

"We thought a catastrophe had befallen us in the first part of summer when the scorching drought kept hanging on. But our sweat of the brow was not in vain after all. Look at that!" Pointing at the maize fields, Yoon Chi Il, managerial chairman of the cooperative, smiled broadly.

"The grain dividend of our co-op for this year," he went on, "will be 10 kilograms per man-day labour and the per-household share after the settlement of yearly account will be 4 tons 700 kilograms on an average. This is an increase of 2.6 kilograms per man-day labour and 1 ton 130 kilograms per household as against that of last year."

"Really, it seems to be a good year," I said. "Judging from the looks of the ear, this year will be above the average."

Sweeping his eyes across the fields and villages, Chairman Yoon Chi Il started to relate the history of the cooperative.

With 111 farm households the Samryong Agricultural Producers' Cooperative in Soonchun County, South Pyongan Province, was formed in September 1954 on the initiative and by the pioneering role of Yoon Chi Il, Li Dal Hyun, Li In Kap, Suh Yung Sik and Kim Dong Bin. At first the cooperative had 244 work hands, 297 hectares of arable land and 32 draught cows.

Today, three years later, it is like a different cooperative. The number of member households has increased to 228, acreage of land to over 500 hectares and the work hands doubled as compared with the time of the organization.

The property of the cooperative has likewise swelled. The amount of fixed property has reached 24 million won, the number of draught cows 60 and ox carts 24. The joint stock-breeding unit has more than 60 cows and 100 pigs.

In 1956 alone the members built such public buildings as managerial committee office, day nursery, sericultural house, common stables, warehouse and a smithy, as well as 17 dwelling houses for co-op members.

The construction for healing the wounds of war and for bettering the material and cultural living of the cooperative members is making steady headway. This year altogether 50 houses for members and a sericultural building with a floor space of 16 pyung (1 pyung is 6 feet square) will be set up. Already 20 pyung of warehouse and 10 pyung of cooperative's consumer store as well as Ri people's committee office, a hospital, barber shop and tailor shop have been built. Besides, the co-op is being equipped with more farm implements and installations.

Such radical growth is not a simple accumulation made with little effort. Behind this lies the unflagging labour, resourceful wisdom and lofty patriotism of the entire cooperative members. The whole of such advancing force was concentrated upon the increased production of grain.

As to grain dividend, it was 4 kilograms per work-day and 1.4 ton per member household in 1955, but in 1956 it grew to 7.5 kilograms for a work-day and to more than 3.5 tons for a household.

The struggle for the sharp increase of grain production was focused on the enhancement of the rate of land utility, cultivation of high-yielding crops and the fertilization of land. It was thanks to this that 15.7 hectares more sown land was secured during the period from 1955 to 1957 and the land utility rate was raised by 33 per cent in 1956 and by 40 per cent in 1957. The acreage under maize was expanded during the three years by 45, 75 and 95 per cent respectively. In the same period 16 tons of home-made compost per hectare were applied in addition to chemical fertilizer.

As a result of the unanimous struggle of the cooperative members, last year's grain production increased to 145 per cent, domestic animals 154 per cent, silk output 175 per cent and the volume of potatoes as well as industrial crops topped the state target.

Great improvement was made also in the management of the cooperative. Improved livelihood of the co-op members, rational organization of labour, correct distribution of income, full development of democracy within the cooperative and consolidation of the unity of will and ideology of the members — all these are attributable to the wise and upright leadership of the management of the cooperative.

Such great achievements won the cooperative first place in the emulation drive for increasing production for last year in South Pyongan Province. The zeal of the co-op members for increasing production blazed high.

Upholding the decision of the December 1956 Plenum of the Central Committee of the Korean Workers' Party, they pledged themselves to overfulfil this year's state targets by 75 per cent in grain production, 70 per cent in stock breeding and by 50 per cent in sericulture. For the implementation of the pledge the cooperative members came out to the fields from early spring. Each work team raced with time in sowing.

But before them a great difficulty and trial loomed out. It was the severe drought that lasted for three months.

"The fat ears of maize over there remind me of the fight the co-op members put up

against the drought. They overcame the scorching drought with buckets and water jars. Men and women alike brought water from a half kilometer distance to wet maize fields. They also transplanted sprouts where seed did not root or sprouts dried up, and kept watering them.

"So now, when they face arduous tasks the co-op members push ahead with their work with unanimous voice, 'This is nothing compared with the difficulty at that time.' We already look back to beginning of our cooperative as a remote past. Keeping pace with the progress of the co-op, the people around here are transforming themselves and advancing fast."

With a pleasant smile, dark-faced Yoon Chi Il went on to explain.

This cooperative incorporates 5 villages, each composed of relatives of the same lineage. Therefore, at first there was a strong tendency of patronizing their own clans. But they could not be mixed in work teams, for the distance between villages, the location of fields and the condition of work had to be taken into consideration. Thus, 16 work teams were formed in accordance with village units.

Under such circumstances there was unprincipled equalitarianism in assessing the quantity and quality of work and some team leaders were inclined to report work results unreasonably high. They were interested only in quantity, neglecting quality. There were some people who, in cutting weeds for fertilizer, cut only succulent ones, heavy in weight but low in compost value.

It happened one day in June 1955. While examining the results of the day's weeding, team leader Li Dal Hyun met face to face with Li Hak Ran, a woman team member. The amount of her work was unusually high. But there was a cunning manoeuvre lurking behind it.

"Comrade Hak Ran, speed in work is not the only thing we are after. We must do it well, too. Let's decide the mark of your work after you pull out the roots of weeds on the paddy you weeded today," the team leader said with a smile.

She flushed a flaming red. She confessed that she cut weed with a scythe instead of pulling out the roots, to get a better mark. It took her three days to dig out roots in the paddy which she weeded in a day.

These were not all the setbacks in the work of the cooperative. There were some people opposed to the introduction of advanced farming methods and cultivation of high-yielding crops proposed by team leaders and progressive members. They were old folks in many instances. On the eve of the first sowing after the founding of the cooperative, team leader Li Dal Hyun suggested to expand the acreage under maize to 60 per cent of the total dry field. And two old men, Choi Sun Doo and Choi Chi Hyang, stubbornly resisted this idea.

"Say, are you out of your mind? You do not respect your elders. Haven't we planted millet here in this region for generations? My back is bent from the 60 year's farm work and I have never heard that maize is better crop than millet. What do you know about farming? To hell with the 'early sowing' and 'high-yielding crop.' I am sick of it."

However, the first harvest showed that the yield of maize was 5 times that of millet and 40 less men worked on maize field per hectare.

"Peasants, particularly old ones, are not moved by words. It is a matter of course that they are convinced only after they see the result and touch it with their own hands. But now all the co-op members, men and women, old and young, vie with each other in their cooperative work. The ability of our managerial workers has grown remarkably, too." Breaking off his story, Yoon Chi Il stood looking out over the golden waves of crops with great satisfaction.

This upright and humble chairman did not utter a word about things to his credit. He is precise and steady in his work, and practice comes before words. He has faithfully carried out his work from the start of the cooperative to this date. He was awarded with the title of Labour Hero in July this year for his outstanding achievements in the work for developing the cooperative and increasing grain production.

The conversation among old folks in the

democratic propaganda hall last night suddenly came to my mind.

"Our Chairman is the pride of our cooperative and treasure of our country."

"Yes, he is praise-worthy, indeed. When we were at his age we saw him many times playing in the arms of his mother whose face was yellow with fatigue and poverty."

"True, now the young man is doing a great thing, worthy of a Labour Hero! But, do you remember? At the time of organizing this cooperative you insisted that his suggestion was foolish. Do you realize how prosperous you have become? The merit of our Chairman has much to do with it."

"Hey, you talkative fellow. Who opposed it? You went me one better on that score. Let's stop talking about the past like a monk chanting a prayer."

While I was recalling the conversation among old village folks merry voices of a chorus floated out. I spotted a group of young people on the side of a hill back of a village, cutting grass to the tune of their own singing. They are already preparing for next year's farming.

"Do you see that blue streak near the horizon over there? That's one of the tributaries on the upper reaches of Taidong river. It is planned that during the First Five-Year Plan period the waters of the river will be channelled for converting half of our land into paddies. Then the major production of our cooperative will go over from maize to rice. And we will have 10 hectares of orchards and 12 hectares of mulberry fields by the end of the Five-Year Plan period."

As he said this, Yoon Chi Il's face radiated with great hope, joy and firm determination. A cock crowed somewhere in the village. It was a peaceful village seething with labour. Soon a bell rang to announce the noon hour. The morning work was finished.

We walked to the village lying under a canopy of elms and weeping willows. The Samryong Plains were shining with bumper crop under the clear autumn sky.

How They Put Their Pledge Into Effect

Bong Pil Yeun

IT WAS about-time for the change of shifts when I arrived at a pit of the Aoji Colliery. A group of miners were taking leave, and among them I found my old acquaintance Kim Jik Hyon, Hero of Labour. "How are you, comrade Kim?" I called out.

Comrade Kim was glad to meet me, and when he learned I had come to acquaint myself with his high-speed drilling, he smiled.

The Aoji Colliery, the centre of soft coal production in the northern region, was the initiator of the movement for high-speed drilling. The first to propose and put into effect the movement was Kim Jik Hyon.

"Oh, I see. But there's nothing particular to tell," he said modestly. Here is what comrade Kim told.

**

The team-mates touched off the fuse, and then there were several blasts. The drillers followed excitedly each explosion and when the last one went off, they relaxed and lit cigarettes.

The pit was filled with smoke of explosions. So the drillers had to wait until the smoke all cleared away.

One of the drillers, an ex-service man Kim Dong Ryul, anxious to know the results of the blasts, asked Kim Jik Hyon how much he thought they might have made through those blasts.

But Kim showed no interest. His thoughts were evidently somewhere else.

"What's the matter with you, Comrade Kim? Any trouble?" The team-mates asked him.

"No, nothing's wrong. I'm pondering over a matter which I'd like to discuss with you."

As in all other collieries, the miners of the Aoji Colliery were much stimulated by the decisions of the December Plenum of the C.C., Workers' Party of Korea, which called upon the people to increase production to the maximum and cut waste to the minimum. Everyone here is ashamed of his failure to fulfil the state assignments for the previous year and for the Three-Year Plan period and is determined to make up for it by exceeding the targets this year.

But whether or not they could beat their targets in coal production depended to a large extent upon drilling.

Last year drillers failed to prepare in time for extracting coal, which impeded the fulfilment of the coal production plan.

Kim Jik Hyon, a veteran driller, was depressed about the drilling, and he had been trying to think of a way out.

On the previous day, he had gone to the chairman of the colliery Party committee for advice on improving the situation.

The chairman gladly welcomed him and told he was just wanting to see him.

"By the way, when is your tunnel expected to be completed, comrade Kim?" The chairman asked.

"By the end of the year."

"By the end of the year... Then no coal from there this year?"

"Most likely not."

"Now Comrade Kim, don't you think that tunnel could be completed ahead of schedule... say, by introducing new devices and renovation of methods?"

Kim was silent.

He was always self-confident in the matter of drilling and at the beginning of the year he pledged himself to do all in his power to increase coal production. But this time he could not say outright "yes" to the chairman.

The tunnel his team was excavating was a 360 meter long shaft which was to connect with a gallery for the coal train.

Their experiences proved that to make 30 metres a month even in the driving of horizontal passage was not easy. A 360 metre long shaft a year meant to go above the results of the previous year. To complete it ahead of schedule was not an easy job.

"Give me time to think it over. I'll discuss the matter with my team-mates," Kim said.

"All right. And always keep in mind that the Party December Plenum wants us to explore every potentiality and reserve," the chairman said grasping Kim's hand.

The team-mates listened attentively to Kim.

"Last night I pondered over and over how to improve the situation with the drilling, and got some ideas," Kim told his fellow-drillers. "We must first correct the defects found in our work. We are wasting considerable time, as the work is not well organized. Inter-relations between different processes are inadequate. Time is also wasted in replacing drills, and the efficiency of blasts is not up to the mark."

All his team-mates agreed with him.

By then smoke inside the pit had cleared out, and they got up and went to work.

In the evening they gathered again in the pit office to discuss the defects in their work. But no concrete way for ending them was found.

Their discussions continued whenever they found free time.

It was revealed in their discussions that the 420 minutes of working hours were not properly used, only 200 minutes being spent on drilling. And even this time was not made best use of. They came to the conclusion that if they checked the waste of time, some 100 metres more could be dug in a month.

The team-members went to the colliery Party committee and the management with the conclusion of their discussions. They asked the management to form 14-member

team, to supply them with fans, devices for electric blasting and to send them coal trains in time. The management accepted their suggestions.

A few days later.

Miners of the colliery called a meeting in support of the decisions of the Party December Plenum.

"High-speed drilling is feasible. My team pledges before the Party to improve the drilling to 100 metres from the present 30 metres a month, and calls upon you to follow my team." He was loudly applauded. Excitement filled the room as he left the floor.

"Now I'll show you how our team-mates have been working," Kim Jik Hyon said, inviting me to go underground along with him.

In the pit office I changed my clothes for miner's overalls.

Taking me around the pit, he gave me an account of how they worked to put their pledge into effect.

A new 14-member team was formed with Jang Kil Hwan, who was an ardent supporter of Kim's idea, as leader. In the team there was an ex-service man. Kim himself invented double-blasting method, which made it possible to raise the efficiency of explosion to 100 per cent. As often as not a shift drove over two metres. However, since not all the shifts registered such success, the result on an average remained insufficient.

The team members came to see that the enhancement of efficiency of blast alone would not help things improve. They worked strenuously to reduce the time of each process. The time for getting ready for work was reduced to ten minutes from half an hour, and the time for boring a hole to 20 minutes from 40-50 minutes. Reduction of time in some processes resulted in spare time vacancy around the end of hour in each shift. The time thus created was not enough for another blast, and, therefore, it was not made use of.

Several days went by without any noticeable change.

Kim himself got nervous. Deep in thought about the feasibility of the 100 metres, Kim came out of the pit. The team leader Jang followed him. On the surface the two walked for some time without speaking a word.

It was cold outside and the sun of a short winter day of January was waning.

"What shall we do, Kim?" Jang broke the silence.

"Well,"

Another silence.

"Hey, Jang! I'm thinking of two blasts during a shift."

"Do you think it is feasible?"

Another silence.

"We can't tolerate waste of the time we've gained through hard work. At present we lack co-operation between different processes and mutual help. Every one is busy only with his particular job. Should we tackle the work with joint effort, we can accelerate the work," said Kim.

Jang agreed with Kim's idea. And the two hurried to a chief engineer to ask his opinion. The chief engineer helped them to organize their work better.

Mutual help and co-operation enabled them to drive ahead their work apace. Removal of impurities and erection of pillars, which would take them much time, were done in half the time. At last they succeeded in making two blasts in a shift.

The day's result went up to 8.1 metres. And 101.8 metres were dug in eighteen days, and 139.5 metres were driven in a month.

Kim and I visited the drillers at work. A young driller Kim Dong Ryul proudly told me:

"Now we can tell the mining workers they don't need worry any longer about tapping new coal veins."

His remarks reminded me of the manager's words that with the overfulfilment of targets in drilling the miners now exceed their plans, and that the drillers have done 360 metres over their plans.

"Yes, it's true", Kim Jik Hyon put in. He took out several sheets of paper from his pocket and held them out to me.

There were telegrams of greetings for the success of high-speed drilling from the Head of the Department of Coal Mining Industry for Northern Region, Ministry of Coal Mining Industry, and from the miners of the Kokunwon, Kocham, Keungshim, Hamyon and Shinyeusun collieries. These collieries were also challenged to emulation.



Jang Kil Hwan team members around Kim Jik Hyon, Hero of Labour, discussing a new drilling method

"How is the emulation proceeding?" I asked.

"They are our strong opponents, although we now drive over 100 metres a month. You'd better go there to see for yourself how they are working."

The next day I visited the Kokunwon Colliery.

I met chief engineer Kim Jai Joong, who proudly told me that by June 27 they had fulfilled their increased production plan for the first half of the year, and added that it was due to the tenacious labour of drillers.

The success of Kim Jik Hyon in high-speed drilling stimulated the drillers here. Hero of Labour Ro Pan Dong and Merited Miner Kim Wun San launched a drive for high-speed drilling.

Since February when they entered the drive, they had been driving 102-130 metres a month at tunnels No. 3 and No. 5. The layer of hard diorite did not discourage them. With the new method of boring the efficiency of drilling was further raised. They manufactured themselves semi-automatic loading devices. And Ro Pan Dong, simultaneously operating two drills, reduced the drilling hour from 244 minutes to 70 minutes.

As a result, they were able to prepare extra explore layers of coal.

From the chief engineer I learned the teams taking part in the movement for high-speed drilling had increased from two teams at the beginning of the year to five.

In the Kokunwon Colliery I happened to meet Kim Rak Jung, Head of the Department of Coal Mining Industry for the Northern Region, Ministry of Coal Mining Industry, who was then visiting the colliery on his tour of on-the-spot guidance. He told me:

"At first, we were dubious of success in the movement. But the inexhaustible creative energy of miners and the guidance of the Party have made the movement possible."

He gave a detailed account of the situation of the collieries in the northern region.

There were over fifty teams taking part in the movement for high-speed drilling, and, especially, in the Kocham Colliery a team working on a tunnel 1.5 times bigger than ordinary ones was making 97 metres a month.

As a result, by June 19 the collieries in the northern region exceeded by 0.4 per cent

their plans of increased excavation for the first half of the year. And miners, provided with better conditions, had been beating their monthly targets. The plans for increasing the output of coal for the first half of the year were fulfilled by June 26.

I asked the Head of the Department what change was taking place in the life of the miners with the success in high-speed drilling.

"Well, the miners, especially those taking part in the movement, earn 1.5-2 times more. They are buying themselves many new things."

He took for example Pak Jeong of the Kocham Colliery and many other colliers who had bought radio sets, clocks, sewing-machines, etc. and made new clothes.

Through my present visit I was once again convinced of how deeply the decisions of the C.C. of the Workers' Party of Korea were permeated among the colliers.

SYRIAN JOURNALISTS ARRIVED

Korea played host to a Syrian journalists group, which came on a friendly visit on October 8. The group, led by Mr. Jougik Yazaji, Chief of the Press Department of the Foreign Ministry of Syria, composed of the editors of Syrian dailies and weeklies—An-Nasr, Barada, Al-Aiam, Al-Aorouba and Al-Baao.

They met Korean pressmen on October 10, and discussed in a friendly atmosphere the "Eisenhower Doctrine" in the Near and Middle East and the manoeuvres of aggressive elements in Israel.

On the same day, Nam Il, Vice-Premier of the D.P.R.K., received the Syrian journalists.



Syrian journalists arrive in Pyongyang

KOREA'S FRUITS

SUH HONG RIN

KOREA IS endowed with every favourable condition for pomiculture and she abounds in numerous wild and cultivated fruits of the temperate zone. There are some 1,000 different varieties of fruit grown in Korea. Persimmons are limited chiefly to the southern regions while apples, pears, grapes, Korean dates, chestnuts, strawberries, plums and many others are widely grown south of the 41st parallel. Particularly common are peaches, apricots, plums and wild cherries are grown throughout the country. The apricot, peach, and cherry blossoms have long been favorite flowers and many songs and poems have been written to the beautiful spring in Korea with these flowers.

On the Island of Chejoo, the southernmost part of Korea, persimmons, tangerines, figs, loquats, and pomegranates are grown. Along the vast area of the Baikdoo Mountain region numerous wild fruits and berries grow. And throughout Korea such wild fruits as pears, grapes and berries are found in plenty. Many of them are high in nutritive value while many are used as medical herbs.

Korean people eat much fruit, the wide variety of fruit making it available throughout the year.

Particularly in the northern part of the Republic, that is, from the central Korea northward, apple growing takes first place. The whole area of apple orchards covers 81 per cent of the total orchard acreage, and there are some 100 different kinds of apples being grown. Compared with persimmons, pears, and peaches which have been cultivated in Korea for thousands of years, apple growing has a short history of only seventy years. Nevertheless, today the apple tops all in quantity and in the development of cultivation.

Korean apples are widely known for their superb flavours and beautiful colours. Moreover the per hectare yield is far greater than any other fruit. The delicious Korean apples are a favorite wherever they are known. Be-

fore liberation the Japanese fruit growers put a ban on the selling of Korean apples in Tokyo for fear they would drive the Japanese apples off the market.

Particularly in the post-liberation years, apple growing has made rapid progress. In recent years the Agricultural Research Institute and the Pomiculture Experimental Station in Nampo have been conducting experiments with much success in further improving the quality. And many new varieties are being introduced.

To name a few, Nampo No. 2 contains 16.6 per cent sugar content and 0.16 acid, which means 2.372 per cent more sugar and 0.456 per cent less acid compared with other good quality apples. While Nampo No. 1 and No. 3 contain about 1.5 per cent less sugar than Nampo No. 2, Nampo No. 1 is cold-resistant and less vulnerable to attacks from insects. Nampo No. 3 is known for its size, weighing more than 200 grams. All these three kinds are known for their delicate flavours.

The Korean climate and soil are most suitable to growing good quality, delicious apples. Particularly, the influence of the continental and oceanic climate is suitable for apple raising. The average temperature of this region is 8-12 degrees. There is also the wide difference of 12-13 degrees on an average between day and night temperature. In other words, during the daytime assimilation is very active while at night dissimilation goes on.

The average annual rainfall is 800-1,200 millimetres in Korea. But 80 per cent of the rainfall between the latter part of June and early part of September which has very little effect on apple growing. The rainfall is very light between May and June, the efflorescent period, and the dry weather from the latter part of September to October, the ripening period, are factors that serve to make the Korean apples delicious.

Of different varieties of Korean apples, the Kookwang comprises about 70 per cent

of the total yield. The Hongok is about 20 per cent, then comes the Delicious, 'India' and others.

Time of ripening differs with varieties. Hongkwai and Hwangkwai are the first ones to come in, followed by Chookwook and others. Later apples are Kookwang, Hongok, Delicious and 'India'. The apple orchards add colour to the flaming countryside in the fall.

The Korean people are not only fond of fruits for eating but for weddings or memorial to the dead, such fruits as pears, persimmons, Korean dates as well as chestnuts, and walnuts are "musts" though they vary according to different localities. And in recent years apple has been added to the list.

Fruits have also been widely used in cooking for thousands of years. Yakbap—a sort of fruit-nut rice made from glutinous rice, Korean dates, chestnuts, pine-nuts, sesame-seed oil, and soy sauce, which was made for the first time in 479-499 A.D.—has been a favorite of the middle and upper classes. On the 15th of January (lunar calendar) everyone in the South ate Yakbap. Particularly Sangjoo, North Kyungsang Province, has been known for its delicious fruit-nut rice. There are many stories around Yakbap. One legend has it that the people of Sangjoo took three years to prepare Yakbap to present to the King during the Li dynasty (1392-1910).

Many delicious Korean sweets such as Yakwah, Jungkwa and Rigang wine are made mainly from fruits.

In naming sweets and drinks made from fruits one cannot fail to mention the old Korean favorite cold drink, Hwachai, made from oranges, nuts, persimmons, honey and other fruits.

In Korea there are many ancient customs and stories connected with fruits. Of course, many are dying out but still in some places one can find traces of these. There are such customs as putting a heap of unpeeled chestnuts under the pillows of the bride and bridegroom on the wedding night so they can peel chestnuts while they talk of their love. This idea came from the old belief that

centipedes were very jealous of the newly-weds and might hurt them. And it was supposed that chestnuts would get rid of centipedes.

During the past Fatherland Liberation War, orchards suffered heavy damage. But today the farm co-op fruit growers and state-owned orchards have recovered from war damage and fruit yield is increasing. The Government has taken measures to establish fruit research institutes in order to facilitate the study of the cultivation, fertilizers and management of fruit growing. And the frequency of off-years has been greatly reduced. Special attention has been paid to turning out specialists in pomiculture. And these experts are working at various orchards to help fruit growers. More quantities of insecticides and farm implements have been supplied. As a result, the fruit yield per hectare has been constantly growing. Last year the state orchard in Pookchung, South Hamkyung Province, harvested a record yield, 42 tons and 700 kilograms of apples were harvested, which was an increase of 18 tons over the highest pre-liberation figure.

Apples are grown today in the coldest region of Korea where it was once said apples absolutely could not be grown. In Jagang Province a new variety of apple is being produced by cultivating a hybrid.

While the fruit cultivation is growing in the northern part of the Republic keeping pace with the demands of the people, the picture is quite different in South Korea. There industry and agriculture are in complete ruin and orchards are either lying in waste or being converted into military grounds. For the toilers of the South Korea who are crying even for rice, fruit is an unthinkable luxury.

In order to fully satisfy the ever-growing demands for fruits, the Government of the Republic in its First Five-Year Plan (1957-1961) intends to extend orchard acreage by more than 100,000 jungbo. Before long in the northern part of the Republic the apple production per capita will reach more than 100 kilograms.

To Seek a Way to Study

KIM HO CHUL

Former student of Kyeun Myung
High School, Seoul

N EARLY one year had elapsed since I entered school. During that time I was annoyed several times by the numerous student gangs planted there by the police. But I also won many friends and was enjoying my school work.

The last class for the day—a history class—was about over when one of the pupils asked the teacher:

"Teacher, you said that our history started with Tangoon, a mythological figure. And it was said 'he' was originally a bear, but was humanized by God's will. But this is different from what we learned in biology. We are supposed to have evolved from the monkey. You're saying now that human beings have their origin in the bear, isn't that right?"

The teacher did not answer immediately but looked at him over his glasses for a moment. Then he answered in a solemn voice:

"Everything was created by God. Therefore, our ancestors were sons of God." The teacher didn't look any too comfortable. But the class would not let the matter rest there. Because only a short while ago he had told the class that Tangoon was a woman. Another student stood: "Teacher, a few minutes ago you told us Tangoon was a woman, then why do you call Tangoon a son of God?" This made the whole class giggle. But luck was with the teacher. No sooner had the student sat down than the recess bell rang. Before the teacher left the class room he demanded that those two students should come to the student advisor's office.

When I came outside leaving behind the rabbling class the spring air was very refreshing though it was still quite cool. No more snow was to be seen on the cap of Sangak Mountain and willows were tinged with green. I was basking in the sun leaning against a wall, when Jo, one of my friends, came up and asked if I had had lunch. Before giving him my answer, I asked him if he had eaten. Then we both laughed, for this was a

standing joke. Many students went without lunch and he and I belonged to a group which called itself "skip-a-meal" group.

After lunch hour I was called by my teacher at the end of the physics class. I knew right away why he was calling me. The contribution money! Because several times already I had been in his office to say that it was simply impossible for me to raise 7,500 hwan. Knowing that mother never could raise this money, I did not even mention this contribution money to her. It had been only about a year ago that she had such a time raising 12,000 hwan as the entrance fee. I remember mother selling her dresses and all the suits which had been kept in memory of father. And then she had to borrow some from my unwilling uncle.

As I entered the faculty room, I was very uneasy all over again. The dean was sitting by my class teacher. They demanded that I should contribute the money within a week.

When I came out of the faculty room, a class in my favorite subject—geography—was going on. But I didn't feel like going in. I kept roaming around the school compound trying to think what to do. How could I raise the money? I wanted to stay in school.

Eventually another school day ended and all the pupils went home. I had to go home, too. I went into my class room to pick up books. Somehow the empty class room seemed more silent and quiet that day.

As I was coming out of the front gate, I met my physics teacher who was on his way home. He wanted to know if I was ill, because I looked so pale. I liked my physics teacher very much. He was respected by every student. He may have been in shabby clothes but he taught well and had an understanding heart.

As we walked along together, I explained to him the difficulties I was in. He patiently listened to me, then slowly said:

"I wish I could do something for you. Only a few days ago a teacher made a suggestion

to the school authorities to cancel or reduce the amount of contribution money. Why don't you ask your class advisor if you could pay by installments?"

As usual I made my way to the school on the morning after a sleepless night. I wanted to go into class, but I could not, remembering what the American educated dean had told me the day before. I waited for the class to start. Afterwards I walked into my teacher's office. After some hesitation I asked him if there was any way for me to pay the contribution by installments. My teacher — a kind man — said gently that he would ask the school principal.

After some anxious moments on my part he returned from the principal's office. I could judge from his expression what the answer was.

"I'm afraid the answer is 'no,'" he said.

It was the end of my school days. How hard did I try to get in school! And how happy my admittance had made mother despite her difficulties in raising the enormous entrance fee! Now, I would see no more of my schoolmates and teachers.

My teacher, too, was very much disturbed. He kept looking out of the window. He was almost biting his lips and his eyes glowed with anger. Feeling that my presence burdened him more, I stood up and bowed silently and walked out.

So the contribution money closed the school door to my face. Of course, they call it "contributions" to school expenses. But every one knew members of the school board or influential teachers pocketed the money they squeezed from the students and their parents on every kind of pretext.

Every morning I went out pretending I was going to school. But there was no school for me. To make mother think that I was in school I spent "school hours" in roaming around the streets of Seoul. Very often I stopped and watched the traffic. Big streets, noisy automobiles, loud jazz tunes and crowds of people—all these seemed very far from me. As a matter of fact, I was in a totally different world.

One day during my usual "school hours," suddenly a strange woman's voice stopped me in the street. When I turned around, there stood Yong Ok, one of my former neighbours

whom I grew up with in Wonjoo. I heard she was a sales girl in some department-store in Seoul. But the Yong Ok who stopped me in the street was an entirely different girl. She was heavily painted. Her eyebrows were pencilled and her red lipstick seemed all over her face and even on her fingernails. The suit she had on was so unbecoming. She was, I thought, trying to copy some cheap Hollywood actress. She looked me up and down to express her disappointment. She thought I would look good after so many months in Seoul.

I felt I had to talk to somebody. I thought of Jung Kyung Rok with whom I had been friend since my early childhood. He and I had vowed to be brothers. He was now an attendant to Son Dal Joo, Chief of Staff of the R.O.K. 26th Division.

When I went to the government building where he worked, unlike previous occasions, it was easy to see him. My friend was free because his boss was away on a visit to the Philippines.

As we walked we told each other what had happened. He told me he could not bear any more his life with the Syngman Rhee puppet army. In reality, he was a personal servant of Son Dal Joo. He was subjected to every sort of abuse and insult. He had to fetch water for Son's mistresses. He had to stand outside when the boss spent the night in drinking or when he spent a night with a prostitute. And my friend knew where his boss got the money to dine and wine himself. The money came from selling rice and clothing which were allocated to his men. Kyung Rok was furious and repeatedly said he had enough.

When I told him about my expulsion from the school he said that in North Korea students studied on state scholarship. Then in a hushed voice, he said:

"Let's go to the North!"

I recalled the experiences I had in Wonjoo during the war time. How proudly students from Kim Il Sung University, Kim Chaik Polytechnical Institute and Pyongyang Medical College spoke of their happy student life in the North! Then they also emphasized the bright future the youth faced in the North. How we envied them! Then there were many People's Army personnel and political workers who impressed us very deeply. Why hadn't I thought of North Korea sooner instead of rambling aimlessly through the streets

of Seoul? I made up my mind to seek a way to study in the North. It was like a beacon in the darkness.

A few days after I saw my friend Jung Kyung Rok again to tell him that my mind was made up. He said he knew the way to the North. And we began to make necessary preparations.

Not a word did I mention to my mother about the expulsion. But somehow she got wind of it and one evening she called me and said:

"Had your father been alive, I'm sure, things like this would not happen. Because we are poor, you can't go to school. But I know some day there will be a change."

I wanted to say, "Mother, don't worry. I'm not going to wait for change here. I'm going to the North to study." But I only said, "I can study alone. So, please don't worry." Then I asked her if I might go to our home town, Wonjoo, for a little visit.

I called on some of my relatives and Pak San Il, a former class mate, in Wonjoo. Pak San Il and I have been friends for a long time. Even though we were separated by distance—he in Wonjoo and I in Seoul—our friendship became firmer. He was then attending the Wonjoo High School. According to him, his brother who was in a university was arrested by the police. He objected the forced recruitment into the army, and was branded as "Red". His eldest brother, the mainstay of the family who was in contracting business faced bankruptcy. I turned the matter over in my mind as to whether I should tell him of my plans, but I was a bit reluctant. Once such information leaked out, every terror organization in school such as the Patriotic Students Association, Student Advisory Committee, etc., would have their hounds on my trail.

But Pak San Il had been my trustworthy friend for a long time. And after much thought I revealed my secret to him, adding that he should come along with me. Pak was very hesitant, saying there was no one whom he knew in North Korea and he would not know what to do there. I did not coax him any more but asked him to keep the secret.

As I bade him goodbye, I asked him to come to Hwachun Village near the demarcation line on the 15th of April, should he

change his mind. On my return to Seoul, I found the whole city in a great uproar with the coming so-called Presidential Election. The Democratic Party with a slogan "Time for a change! We cannot go on like this!" came out against Syngman Rhee who was scheming a life-time Presidency. And the progressives too had their candidates. But all this tumult meant nothing to me, as I thought the puppet show staged by the U.S. occupation forces would bring no good to the people. It was an empty game of electing somebody for Presidency at the nadir of degradation.

To me there was only one avenue open. To the North! I went to see my friend Kyung Rok. While I was waiting for him outside the building, I saw five or six officers and men in the Syngman Rhee army uniform being dragged away. They were beaten almost to unconsciousness. A few American soldiers in sun glasses looking down from upstairs were laughing loudly.

Fear gripped me suddenly, lest my friend Kyung Rok was in the group. But to my joy, he showed up about that time. He explained to me that those men were beaten up because of their negative votes in a straw vote. I checked again with Kyung Rok the date when we would cross over the North.

Ahead of my friend, I went to Wonjoo on the 24th of April. The following day Kyung Rok arrived with two Syngman Rhee army uniforms. To my delight, there came also my friend Pak San Il who was not too sure when I met him last. Holding my hand firmly, he said that he would go with us in search of a new life.

As the night fell, we three climbed up a little hill nearby. Dead silence seemed to envelop us. The moon cast her soft beams upon the earth. Tomorrow evening we would leave this place—South Korea—for the North. And we could not suppress our profound emotions as we stood on the hill top. We bit our forefingers to soak a handkerchief with our blood and buried it deep in the ground. We did this to express our wish that the down-trodden South Korea would rise up soon, and as a symbol of our loyalty to each other until we reached North Korea, and to share death, if need be.

April 26—it was the crucial day. Every road in and out of Hwachun was filled with

heavy guns and tanks. Pak and I changed into the puppet army uniform as the student uniforms were conspicuous around this region. Moreover, the army uniform would serve our end better as the whole area was crowded with American M.P. cars and M.P. boxes.

We started out after dark. We climbed over barbed wires and came to a sign which indicated a M.P. box. As we made our way through the mountain we could see bivouacs of Syngman Rhee's men all around us. It was getting quite late and even one little rolling stone would resound through the mountain air. Even our own breathing seemed so loud.

Now, we came to another bivouac which we had to go around. We inched our way by crawling. Suddenly we saw a Syngman Rhee's army patrol sitting a few metres away from us. We flattened ourselves to the ground to watch how this man acted. Presently the man began to sing.

My native village

That I long for,

My native village

Which I dream of.

But far, far

Am I from

My dear home. . .

He was singing in a very sorrowful tone. We could not tell whether it was from home sickness or from his fill of the puppet army life. But we were glad he was singing because we could pass over the tight spot with little difficulty.

We spent two days in the mountains and by that time all our provisions were exhausted and the cold was penetrating. According to Jung Kyung Rok the ridge we were on was none other than Maibong Ridge.

On this ridge many of our young men had shed blood. At the foot of the hill there was a spring. And sometimes men of the People's Army or the puppet army leaving their guns behind went down the hill to fetch water from the spring. And it seems both sides refrained from shooting on such occasion, only to resume when the men went back to their side with water. Such was the tragic picture of the war that the American imperialists and the Syngman Rhee clique

brought to the Koreans—a war in which Koreans had to kill Koreans.

On we went towards the North. When we were hungry we chewed azaleas. Soon we came to a signpost which told us that anyone passing beyond this line would be shot.

It was the puppet army's signpost and we knew the demarcation line was not too far off.

After the third night in the mountains, early in the morning Jung went out to scout about. Shortly Jung returned to say that positively we were in North Korea already. To this Pak and I cheered loudly. From now on we could walk in the daytime. Let us start right away. Suddenly a voice shouted.

"Halt! Who goes there?" It was the voice of a People's Army soldier. Pak San Il in a clear voice answered.

"Two South Korean students and one puppet army man have come over to North Korea."

Then we removed the army uniforms. Several People's Army men ran up to us. Wholeheartedly they welcomed us and carrying us on their shoulders they sang the "Democratic Youth League March".

Our escape was successful and we were now in North Korea.

From that moment on my life has been meaningful and full of hope. Everywhere we went people received us with kindness and friendship.

We have been receiving the best treatment one can think of.

We have been at Sokhoo and Songdan rest homes—two of the splendid rest homes for workers.

Under a Cabinet Ordinance we were given 20,000 won each. The ordinance provided special consideration for youth and students of South Korea who came to the North in opposition to the rule of American imperialists and the Syngman Rhee clique.

At present Pak San Il and I study at the Songdo Political Economy Institute and Jung Kyung Rok joined the glorious People's Army, as he wished.

The Government provides us every month with 3,300 won besides clothing, footwear and school supplies. Under the tender care of the Government and in the midst of people's affection we are marching forward freely on the road of learning.

In Support of Declaration of the Fourth WFTU Congress

THE KOREAN people wholeheartedly support the "Declaration Concerning the Korean Situation" adopted by the Fourth World Federation of Trade Unions Congress. As reported, paying careful attention to the cause of international tension created in Korea today, the Fourth WFTU Congress sternly condemned the U.S. aggressive circles' violation of the Korean Armistice Agreement, their scheme to introduce new type weapons into South Korea, and their repeated barbarous acts, committed against the population of South Korea. The Congress held that such acts of the U.S. aggressive circles constitute a new threat to peace.

In the name of the workers of eighty countries, the Congress demanded strict adherence to the Armistice Agreement, an end to the plunder of the Korean people, and the withdrawal of foreign occupation troops from Korea.

The Congress appealed to the workers and the members of trade unions of all countries to promote the solidarity with the workers and general public of Korea who are fighting for the peaceful unification of their country.

The declaration concerning the Korean situation was not only in full conformity with the aspirations of the Korean people but also in the interest of world peace.

The working people of the whole world are firmly standing on the side of the Korean people. This fact is very significant for the Korean people who are struggling against the American imperialists' aggressive policy and for the peaceful unification of the fatherland.

Throughout Korea workers are holding meetings in support of the "Declaration Concerning the Korean Situation" adopted by the

Fourth WFTU Congress, resolved to be worthy of the support of the peace-loving forces of the whole world.

Especially, in these meetings, they bitterly condemned the inhuman predatory policy of the U.S. imperialists and Syngman Rhee hordes enforced against their fellow countrymen in South Korea, and stressed the strengthening of unity between workers of North and South Korea and the positive support of, and encouragement to, the anti-American struggle of South Korean workers.

Yoo Yung Su, a coal miner of Sadong mine, said: "The cruel treatment inflicted upon the Korean workers under the tyranny of the American imperialists and Syngman Rhee clique arouses a feeling of national indignation. In order to relieve the workers and the people in South Korea, we must compel the U.S. imperialists to withdraw from our country and attain the peaceful unification of the fatherland."

O Jin Keun, an engineer of the blast-furnace shop, who came from South Korea, said at the employees' meeting of Kim Chaik Iron Works:

"The entire South Korean people, including my native village folks, should launch a more powerful struggle against the American imperialists and Syngman Rhee clique to win their freedom and happiness. The South Korean workers are rising up to free themselves from the morass of a disgraceful slavish life. Their struggle is not isolated."

The appeal to the South Korean workers adopted at the employees' meeting of Seung-hori Cement Factory read in part:

"You do not stand alone. Our warm fraternal hand is stretching to you. The working

class of the eighty countries of the world is supporting and encouraging you.

"Fight for your rights as the master of the country, for escaping the humiliation of slavery, hunger and poverty, and for the enforcement of the eight hour working day system.

"Bravely struggle to make the 'Daihanro-chong' an organization which will protect your freedom and happiness and to strengthen the purity, unity and solidarity of the ranks by driving out the servitors of the U.S. imperialists and the Syngman Rhee clique.

"In the van of the national salvation move-

ment, you should bravely participate in the struggle to muster the entire South Korean people in order to force the U.S. imperialists to withdraw from our country, to adjust the Korean question by Korean people themselves, and to achieve the country's peaceful unification and permanent happiness!"

"The Declaration Concerning the Korean Situation" adopted by the Fourth WFTU Congress is further inspiring and encouraging the struggle of the Korean workers and the entire Korean people for the peaceful unification of the country and further strengthens their conviction.

BASHKIR DANCE ENSEMBLE IN KOREA

On September 4 Bashkir Dance Ensemble arrived in Korea to join the celebration of the Korean-Soviet Friendship Month which was held in commemoration of the 40th Anniversary of the Great October Revolution, and to promote the friendship between the Korean and Soviet peoples.

The Ensemble consisting of 35 members, headed by K. I. Kudashov, included two U.S.S.R. Merited Artists, Kh. Galimov and M. E. Prishov.

The Ensemble performed in the cities and towns for nearly a month and demonstrated the brilliant art of the U.S.S.R.

It gave its first performance in the Moranbong Theatre, Pyongyang, in the evening of September 7 in honour of the opening of the Korean-Soviet Friendship Month.

The first number on their program, the Bashkir national



Bashkir Dance Ensemble members welcomed

dance, "Gulinazira" delighted the audience with its optimism and light movement. And the folk dances, "Chikita", "Baik", and "People in Mt. Mariya" were applauded for their characteristic rhythm and the expression of splendid technique.

The dance "Seven Maidens" and the classical dance "Rainbow", expressing the character of virtuous and diligent Bashkir women, were highly appreciated for their lyrical expression and graceful movement.

The dances of various Re-

publics in the U.S.S.R. were also performed. "Russian Kadril", "Polyanka" and "Gopak" expressed the strength and joy of vigorous youth.

The solo performance of the national instrument "Krai" with its oriental colour tone and Vakhitov's vocal solos of "Branbai" and "Jari-hwa" were warmly applauded.

Particularly Galimov's singing of folk songs, "Ural" and "Perform a Dance, Madam" and Karimurina's "I've Made a Scarf", Korean composer Moon Kyong Ok's "The Fifth Day of Fifth Month", and Korean folk song "Arirang" won the heart of the audience and were encored again and again.

The fine performances of the instrument "Baiyan" of the accompanists were also appreciated.

The Bashkir Ensemble was a tremendous success with the Korean public who gave these representatives of a gifted nation a most cordial welcome.

Big Achievements of Soviet Science

THE successful launching of the first artificial earth satellite in the Soviet Union was widely commented on in Korea. Korean scientists and citizens greeted with great joy and admiration the stupendous achievement of Soviet science in the service of peace and happiness of mankind. The D.P.R.K. Academy of Sciences sent a congratulatory message to the U.S.S.R. Academy of Sciences on the success of the Soviet scientists.

Li Jai Gon, Head of the Physics and Mathematics Research Institute, D.P.R.K. Academy of Sciences, said that the successful launching of the man-made satellites by the Soviet Union means a great victory for Soviet science and a great contribution to peace and the development of science.

"That the Soviet Union is ahead of the United States in the field of rockets is admitted throughout the world.

"The peoples of the socialist camp headed by the Soviet Union, and all the peace-loving peoples rejoice over the rapid progress of Soviet science.

"Stimulated by the tremendous success achieved by Soviet science, we Korean scientists will earnestly strive to learn from the progressing Soviet science. The launching of the satellite marked the initial step towards the travel into outer space—the dream of mankind. And at the same time, it is a landmark in the development of culture and science."

Li Rak Bok, Director of the Korean Central Observatory, said: "The revolution of 'baby-moon' round the globe has made it possible to conduct scientific observation at the altitude never reached before, and the fact that the man-made apparatus keeps circling round the globe itself is a miracle.

"The launching of the satellite, which will lead to a revolution in the scientific world, has helped us to enrich our knowledge of the cosmos, and presented data useful for the conquest of the cosmos. And Soviet science brought interplanetary travel, the long-



Big achievement attained by Soviet science

cherished dream, one step nearer to the realization."

Now it is clear to everyone that in science the Soviet Union has become first in the world, surpassing the most developed capitalist country—the United States.

The Soviet Union was the first to test successfully inter-continental ballistic missile in August this year.

The achievements of Soviet science have once again testified to the superiority of the socialist system over capitalist system.

Congratulating the stupendous achievements of Soviet science in their editorials and comments Korean papers emphasized their great significance.

Rodong Shinmoon under the headline "Soviet Science is Bringing the Dreams of Mankind to Realization" wrote: "While the building of communism, a long-cherished dream of mankind, is being carried out in the Soviet Union another dream of mankind, the inter-planetary travel, will likewise be realized in our age. This has strengthened the confidence of the people that socialism will prevail over capitalism in the peaceful competition.

"The peoples of the socialist camp headed by the Soviet Union, confident of their triumph in the peaceful competition, consistently proposed peaceful competition between the two camps in the remaking of nature and turning the energy of nature into the service

TWO IRRIGATION PROJECTS UNDERTAKEN

Two big irrigation projects have been under way since October in North Korea — one in Kiyang, South Pyongan Province and the other in Ujidon, North Hwanghai Province.

The Kiyang Irrigation System, which is expected to be completed in 1961, will water the vast farm land in the five counties of Onchun, Zeungsan, Ryonggang, Kangsu and Taidong along with Nampo district. And it will increase grain production by 60,000 tons.

The Ujidon Irrigation System will be completed in 1961. Then over 12,600 hectares of non-irrigated, waste and fallow land in the five counties of Bongsan, Eunpa, etc. will be turned into irrigated fields, bringing an increase of over 21,000 tons of grain yearly.

With the experience they gained in building the mighty Pyongyang Irrigation Project the workers are successfully carrying out the projects in cooperation with the peasants in the localities.

KOREAN-BURMESE TRADE ARRANGEMENT

Letters on promoting trade between Korea and Burma were exchanged on October 2 in Rangoon between the Korean trade delegation and Burmese Ministry of Trade Development.

According to these letters both parties are to station their trade representatives in the capital of each country and the governments of the two countries should afford them facilities.

It is envisaged in the letters that Korea will export to Burma cement, angle bar, sheet glass, chemical fertilizer, carbide, ginseng, silk fabrics, marine products, etc.

Burma will supply Korea with rice, rice products, beans, raw cotton, tea, oil-bearing seeds, lumber and handicraft products.

SOVIET CULTURAL DELEGATION IN KOREA

A Soviet cultural delegation came to Korea on October 4 at the invitation of the Central Committee of the Korean-Soviet Cultural Society.

The delegation, led by B.S. Stepanov, Vice-Minister of Public Health of the R.S.F.S.R., consisted of a writer, an economist and a VOKS worker.

The delegation members attended the opening ceremony of the Korean-Soviet Friendship Month and many other meetings in honour of the 40th anniversary of the October Socialist Revolution.

EDUCATION FUNDS TO KOREAN STUDENTS IN JAPAN

Recently the Central Committee of the Korean Red Cross Society was entrusted by the Committee for Relief of Overseas Koreans to send again 41,562,000 won in Korean currency, equivalent to 100,000 pound sterling, to the Korean Central Education Society in Japan to provide Korean students in Japan with necessary expenses for education.

This contribution follows the initial one which was 50 million Korean won (more than 120,000 pounds sterling) that was sent to the Korean Central Education Society in Japan some time ago.

YOUTH DELEGATES DENOUNCE ATROCITIES BY AMERICAN ARMY

In the press conference held in Pyongyang on October 13 youth delegates from Japan, Indonesia, Cuba, Sudan, Chile, and Argentine who had been in our country since October 4, condemned the barbarous acts of the American aggressors who occupy South Korea. Every delegate strongly demanded that the American Armed Forces should withdraw from every foreign land where they are stationed.

BUILDING SCHOOLS IN VILLAGES

In response to the decision of the Workers' Party of Korea on putting into practice the compulsory seven-year schooling system during the First Five-Year Plan period, the peasant masses in South Pyongan Province have already built this year in 10 counties including Moonduk, Soonan, Sookchun and Kangsu 19 schools with 147 class rooms by themselves without any state fund.

In other cities and counties also schools are being built in preparation for the seven-year schooling system.

500 PASSED EIGHTH STATE TECHNICIAN EXAMINATION

The eighth state qualification examination for technicians was held in August.

Five hundred out of 10,000 candidates passed successfully. Out of 500, 93 were given certificates of engineers in industry and agriculture. There were 233 technicians, 28 accountants, 146 assistant accountants. Since the Armistice 3,591 candidates in total successfully passed the examinations and received state certificates.

ORE DRESSING PLANT OF KAPSAN MINE OPENED

On September 26, a new ore dressing plant of Kapsan Mine, Ryanggang Province, was put into operation. This will greatly contribute to the nation's copper production.

The exploitation of the rich Kapsan Mine was started during the war-time despite many difficulties; soil research work started in 1951, drill work began in 1952, followed by the opening of pits and construction of buildings.

Surmounting many difficulties including unfavourable geographical conditions and lack of technical equipment, the workers excavated many pits and built a large-scale ore-dressing plant.

미제는 나가라 !



Yanks, Go Home!

