# People's 人於中國 China

**MAY DAY, 1952** 

"SELECTED WORKS OF MAO TSE-TUNG"

A Review of Volume II

CHINA'S TRADE UNION MOVEMENT
Liu Ning-I

ON U.S. BACTERIOLOGICAL WARFARE Kuo Mo-jo

CHINESE-INDIAN FRIENDSHIP
Li Yi-mang

SONGS OF NEW CHINA Yao Hua





# People's China

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CHAIRMAN MAO TSE-TUNG

# MAY DAY, 1952

The working people of New China welcome May 1, the great international festival of the working class with new brilliant achievements in the political, economic and cultural construction of the New Democracy and in the struggle for world peace.

This May Day the Chinese people welcome to their capital, Peking, a great assemblage of guests from many lands, from all classes, of various political and religious beliefs and many nationalities. Here are the representatives of the fraternal countries, of great trade unions, cultural delegations and outstanding cultural leaders of other nations, partisans of the world peace movement, people's delegations from various countries, and participants of the International Economic Conference recently held in Moscow.

This is a striking expression of the wide ties of friendship linking the new China with all the peoples of the world. China's guests will see for themselves the bright reality of the New Democratic China, the unassailable solidarity of the united front of the democratic classes and the peoples of China led by the working class, the rock on which is founded the creative strength of the new China. They will see the record-breaking achievements in industry and agriculture; the brilliant advances in education and culture. They will witness the great improvements in the standards of living of the masses that has resulted from these achievements in a country in which the people are the master. They will see the people's enthusiasm for production, inspired by a high revolutionary consciousness, by a new attitude to labour.

New China's successes in the past two and a half years have demonstrated conclusively the superiority of the New Democratic system over capitalism. The Chinese people, under the leadership of the Central People's Government, the glorious Communist Party of China and their beloved leader Mao Tse-tung, are working selflessly for the further development of all branches of the national economy in preparation for the industrialisation of their country. Our guests will see a great people in the full confidence of their strength and the correctness of the path they have chosen, advancing with firm and sure tread.

They will see a people determined to defend their great revolutionary gains. The

present movements to increase production and practise economy, and against corruption, waste and bureaucratism are immeasurably strengthening the people's state and consolidating the leadership of the working class.

The determination of the Chinese people to stop the incendiaries of a new world war is shown in deeds. The best sons and daughters of the Chinese people, fighting today alongside the heroic Korean people, have dealt shattering blows to the brutal American aggressors and forced them to come to armistice negotiations. Frustrated, these aggressors are even now descending to the lowest depths of vileness in employing germ warfare against Korea and China.

This new crime underlines the significance of the events of today. More and more the peace-loving peoples repudiate the slanders and lies of Washington and turn to see the true reality, and guide their actions by its light.

The Chinese people will continue to intensify their efforts in the world-wide struggle for the essential needs of mankind. They demonstrate on this day of working class solidarity for a peaceful and bountiful life founded on just and stable foundations; for the immediate prohibition of the bacteriological weapons used by the American aggressors in Korea and against China; for the conviction of the war criminals; for the peaceful settlement of the Korean question and other problems in Asia and the world; for the ending of colonial regimes and every oppression that is their foundation. They will continue to struggle for mutual assistance and concord between the working people of the world; for the peaceful coexistence of nations of differing political, economic and social systems. They are confident of success in these aims, for the world camp of peace headed by the Soviet Union, our mighty ally, is working in unity for them.

The growing economic strength of the new China is a reliable basis for international peace and economic co-operation. With their everswifter advance to their goals of industrialisation and progress through New Democracy to Socialism and Communism, under the banner of Marxism-Leninism, led by Mao Tse-tung, the Chinese people will prove an ever stauncher bulwark of world peace and the interests of the peoples.

# China's Trade Union Movement Today

## Liu Ning-I

Vice-President of the All-China Federation of Labour

The Chinese working class, under the guidance of its trade unions led by the Communist Party, was the vanguard and leader of the people's liberation struggle for freedom and democracy. With nation-wide victory in this struggle, it leads the nation in the advance, through the New Democracy, to Socialism.

The history of China's trade union movement dates back three decades. Since its very beginning, it has been under the direct leadership of the Communist Party of China. This has assured wise and correct guidance for the working class of China in its revolutionary struggles.

Just thirty years ago, on May 1, 1922, the First All-China Labour Congress, attended by 162 delegates representing 200,000 trade union members, was held in revolutionary Canton. It was sponsored by the Chinese Trade Union Secretariat (organised in 1921 in Shanghai), of which Chairman Mao Tse-tung was one of the leaders. The congress took decisions to achieve the unity of the Chinese working class in the revolutionary struggle. It also formally recognised the Chinese Trade Union Secretariat as the national leading organ of the working-class movement prior to the establishment of an All-China Federation of Labour.

The All-China Federation of Labour was formally set up three years later, on May 1, 1925, at the Second All-China Labour Congress, also held in Canton. This congress was attended by 277 delegates representing 540,000 union members. It approved the constitution of the A.C.F.L. and elected its Executive Committee, with the outstanding Communist Liu Shao-chi as its vice-chairman. The congress decided that the working class should participate in and lead the national revolution against the foreign imperialists and the feudal warlords.

The trade-union movement now developed even faster. The Third All-China Labour Congress in Canton, held on May Day 1926, was attended by 502 delegates representing 1,241,000 members. It called on workers throughout the country to support and take an active part in the impending Northern Expedition of the national-revolutionary armies.

The Fourth All-China Labour Congress was held on June 19, 1927 at Hankow, where the headquarters of the A.C.F.L. was then located. Taking part in it were 420 delegates, representing 2,900,000 members of trade unions. On April 12, 1927 Chiang Kai-shek had betrayed the revolution and begun the White Terror with the massacre of the workers of Shanghai. The congress denounced Chiang's betrayal and called on the working class to support the revolutionary peasant movement which was then spreading in the southern provinces.

The Fifth All-China Labour Congress was held secretly in Shanghai in 1929, at a time when the White Terror reigned throughout the country. Despite temporary setbacks, the militant workers of China continued the fight against reaction. The congress called on workers to go to the countryside to lead the peasants, the most numerous and most reliable allies of the working class, in waging armed struggle against reaction and carrying out the agrarian revolution. Under the leadership of the Communist Party, China's workers, together with the peasants, persisted in this armed struggle for ten years, successfully repelling four largescale encirclement campaigns conducted against them by the reactionary Kuomintang with the full backing of the foreign imperialists.

In 1937, a new revolutionary upsurge took place in China with the start of the Anti-Japanese War. The cadres of the A.C.F.L. carried on work in various parts of the country organising and mobilising the toilers to defeat the aggressors. Some made their way behind the enemy lines, where they were active in the leadership of the anti-Japanese guerilla struggle which liberated vast areas. Others working underground in the Japanese-occupied areas engaged in a relentless struggle against the enemy until victory was secured over the invaders. Still others remained in the Kuo-

mintang-controlled areas, continuing to lead the working class there in its legal activities.

Nineteen long years after the previous congress, with the nation-wide victory of the people's War of Liberation at last drawing near, the Sixth All-China Labour Congress was held in Harbin on August 1, 1948. Representing 2,830,000 organised workers throughout the country, 504 delegates gathered to define the central contemporary task of the workingclass movement: the final overthrow of the rule in China of the United States imperialists and their reactionary Kuomintang running dogs and the establishment of a people's republic of the New Democratic type. The Sixth All-China Labour Congress adopted a resolution to revive the All-China Federation of Labour. A new executive committee composed of 53 members and 20 reserve members was elected.

# Present Trade Union Organisations

At present, the A.C.F.L. has more than 100,000 basic trade union branches with a total membership of more than 7,297,000. Trade union councils have been set up in all major administrative areas, provinces and cities, and in an overwhelming majority of the counties. Upwards of 90 per cent of China's industrial workers are trade union members. For example, out of more than 504,000 railway workers in the country, over 474,000 or 94 per cent, have joined their own trade unions. Out of 594,000 textile workers, 530,000 or 89 per cent, are union members. In big and medium sized cities, between 60 to 80 per cent of various trades are organised.

Ten national trade unions have already been established under the A.C.F.L. These are the railway workers; postal and telecommunications workers; coal miners; electrical workers; textile workers; teamsters; food industry workers; educational workers; munition workers and shop clerks. Another ten are being organised among seamen; chemical industry workers; machine-building industry workers; metallurgical workers; journalists, publication workers and printers; civil aviation workers; medical workers; salt-industry workers; builders; and bank workers.

That some national trade unions have been organised more rapidly than others is explained by the different circumstances of the workers in various industries. The railway workers, coal miners and textile workers, for example, have a glorious revolutionary tradition accumulated during thirty years of struggle, and have produced more seasoned trade-union cadres to lead their unions. Moreover, their organisation on a national scale assumed an urgent character because of the special role which they play in the national economy, as in the case of the railway workers who were called upon to restore communications during the War of Liberation, the coal miners who provide fuel for heavy industry and the textile workers who supply clothing to the people.

Sometimes, too, the more rapid organisation of a national union is important for other special reasons. This has been the case with the teamsters for instance. They particularly needed the help of the A.C.F.L. in organising a national centre to lead them in the strenuous struggle to overthrow deeply-entrenched feudal forces represented by contract-labour-gang bosses who often forced them to hand over up to 80 per cent of their wages as "commission."

## Participation in Mass Movements

In the 31 months since the founding of the People's Republic of China the trade unions have thrown their great strength into the building and consolidation of the people's democracy and the rehabilitation and development of the national economy.

The trade unions are a school of Communism. They train workers in large numbers to participate in the government of the country and the administration of enterprises.

The Chinese Communist Party, the vanguard of China's working class, has paid the greatest attention to the trade union movement since its establishment. Trade union policy and problems are always a primary concern of the Party which gives it direction on both the national and local levels. The Party has sent a great number of its best cadres to help organise the trade unions. Party members have proved themselves to be the moving force in trade union growth and development.

The trade unions lead their members in participating in the great nation-wide mass movements.

# The Movement to Resist American Aggression and Aid Korea

In October, 1950, when the aggressive war of the United States in Korea threatened to

spread to Chinese territory, the Chinese people's volunteers moved to the defence of the integrity of their borders and to the aid of the young Korean Democratic People's Republic. The trade unions have played and are playing a tremendous role in this movement. On November 6, 1950, the A.C.F.L. appealed to the working people of the whole country to develop a patriotic emulation production movement in every sphere of the national economy to increase production, strengthen the national defences and aid the volunteers.

In answer to this call, the Chinese working class developed a wide patriotic emulation movement. Following the example of such foremost workers as the railwayman Li Yun, the lathe-operator Chao Kuo-yu and the miner Chang Tse-fu, thousands and thousands of workers of various branches of industrial production made patriotic pacts and established new records, exerting every effort to give the front more weapons, food and equipment. Answering the call of the China Committee for the Defence of World Peace and to Resist American Aggression, the workers developed the movement for the collection of funds to buy planes, tanks and guns for the volunteers. According to statistics compiled in November, 1951, more than 96,000 work brigades signed patriotic pacts. Over 80 per cent of the industrial workers have taken part in this patriotic movement.

The trade unions care for the volunteers' families. When worker-volunteers leave for Korea, their unions make sure that their families receive their full pay as well as all benefits due them under the Labour Insurance Regulations. The union guarantees prompt transmission of all mail and parcels between volunteers and their families. Family members of worker-volunteers receive such attentions as festival gifts from the union and are given the best seats at union-sponsored film shows and dramatic performances.

# The Movement to Increase Production and Practise Economy

The movement to increase production and practise economy (See *People's China* Nos. 1 and 7, 1952) is the main source of capital accumulation for the industrialisation of China and the guarantee of constantly rising standards of living for the workers and the whole people. Alongside the movement to resist

American aggression and aid Korea, it takes its place as a key task in China today.

The trade unions in public and private enterprises have been the inspirers and organisers of productive emulation campaigns and of the mass movement of workers to create inventions, innovations and rationalised work procedures—which lead to higher production, economise time and materials, and directly better the workers' livelihood. In the first half of 1951 alone, 2,233,000 workers took part in patriotic productive emulation campaigns, during which more than 86,000 model workers were elected. These model workers have led in setting output records unprecedented in China and in introducing inventions, innovations and rationalisation proposals which raise the general level of productivity. In 1951, no less than 147,000 major rationalisation proposals were made by workers throughout the country, of which more than 108,000 were accepted and put into practice.

Labour enthusiasm is high in every factory and plant as a result of these great movements. The creativeness of the workers and labour productivity has been greatly raised. Before the liberation in 1949, the output of China's heavy industry was only 30 per cent of the highest Chinese records set, and that of light industry, 70 per cent. Three years later in 1951, the output of many branches of China's industry already surpassed the highest output ever attained in this country.

The Chinese people know that the wealth they create by their heroic labour can only be used fully for the construction of the country and of a better life if elements tainted by the old society are prevented from stealing, misusing or wasting any part of it. In December, 1951, under the leadership of the Communist Party and the People's Government, they began a great mass movement to remove the evil heritage of the past, to eliminate corruption, waste and bureaucratism in government organs and public enterprises. In private enterprise, the corresponding campaign centred on such crimes and abuses committed by part of the national bourgeoisie as the bribing of personnel in government and public organisations, smuggling and tax-evasion, theft of state property, shoddy work and the use of inferior materials on government contracts and espionage to obtain economic information from government sources for use in private speculation. The Chinese people cannot tolerate such abuses and are determined utterly to eliminate them.

The A.C.F.L. and its affiliated unions have taken an active part in this extremely important movement. Led by the People's Government, the Communist Party and the A.C.F.L., the organised workers have become the staunchest fighters against all forms of corruption and waste, and against bureaucratism that their inevitable breeding ground.

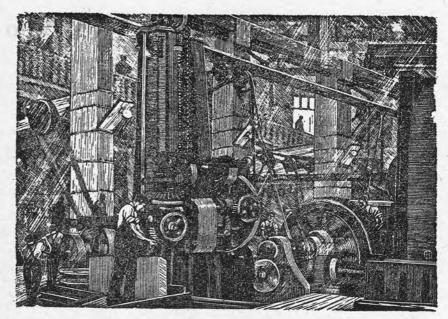
In wiping out corrupt and anti-social practices among law-breaking em-

ployers, the Shop Clerks' Trade Union, for instance, has mobilised as many as 70-80 per cent, and in some cities 90 per cent, of commercial employees to expose the illegal activities of employers by means of which selfish interests fatten at the expense of the state and the people. The union has made sure that no patriotic employees are thrown out of work, threatened, or penalised, now or in the future, as a result of their activities in exposing such evils. Where purely speculative or profiteering firms have been ordered to close down as a result of the evidence disclosed by the movement, the union has arranged work for their displaced employees or helps them to learn new skills for national construction.

The results of this great movement have further strengthened the working class leadership in the political and economic life of the country; it has had immediate effects in reducing costs of production and prices and thus raising the masses' standards of living. It is an essential prerequisite for the advance to the tasks of industrialisation.

## Development and Consolidation

China's trade unions are democratically organised. Many enterprises have long established union organisations. In many factories and mines where there were no open trade union organisations before liberation, the workers organised themselves during the People's Liberation War first to protect industrial property from being plundered or destroyed



Factory

Woodcut by Ma Leh

by fleeing Kuomintang troops, and then to set up unions to help in the take-over and the rehabilitation of industry under the people's rule.

In other enterprises, both publicly- and privately-owned, where there was little previous trade-union leadership among the workers, work teams of skilled trade union cadres came to help the workers on their liberation to organise unions and solve their most pressing problems.

The process of consolidating union organisation is also thoroughly democratic. All trade union members participate, at regular intervals, in small group meetings where all problems in connection with work and personal life are discussed. The weapon of criticism and self-criticism is used on all occasions.

All trade union functionaries are democratically elected and must report on their work to the rank-and-file, who are free to call them to account and remove them if they do not adequately represent the interests of the working class.

Moreover, as has been stated above, the unions organise participation by their members in all nation-wide mass movements. This, too, has the effect of consolidating the trade unions and raising the political level of their members. In the movement to suppress counter-revolutionaries, early in 1951, hidden enemy agents were thrown out of labour's ranks. Later in

(Continued on page 38)

# The "Selected Works of Mao Tse-tung"

# A Review of Volume II

The second volume of the Selected Works of Mao Tse-tung, prepared under the auspices of a special commission of the Central Committee of the Chinese Communist Party for the publication of Mao Tse-tung's selected works, has been issued by the People's Publishing House. Hsinhua Book Store branches throughout the country began distribution of this eagerly awaited volume on April 10.

The second volume of the Selected Works of Mao Tse-tung comprises 41 works written by Comrade Mao Tse-tung between the outbreak of the Anti-Japanese War in July 1937 and the period when the high tide of the second anti-Communist campaign launched by Chiang Kai-shek was repulsed in May, 1941. Among the important works included here are: Principles, Methods, and Prospects of Opposing the Japanese Invasion, Struggle to Mobilise All Forces for Victory in the War of Resistance to Japanese Aggression, Oppose Liberalism, The Situation in the War of Resistance to Japanese Aggression and Our Tasks After the Fall of Shanghai and Taiyuan, Strategic Problems of Anti-Japanese Guerilla Warfare, On Protracted War, The Role of the Chinese Communist Party in the War of National Liberation, The Question of Independence and Autonomy Within the United Front, Problems of War and Strategy, The Direction for the Youth Movement, Comments on the New International Situation Made to the Correspondent of the "Hsinhua Daily" in an Interview, The Interests of the Soviet Union Are Identical With Those of Mankind, Introducing "The Communist," The Chinese Revolution and the Communist Party of China, Stalin-Friend of the Chinese People, On New Democracy, Problems of Political Power in the Anti-Japanese Bases, Tactical Problems of the Anti-Japanese United Front at the Present Time, Freely Develop the Forces for Resisting Japan and Repel the Attacks of the Anti-Communist Diehards, On Policy, Conclusions Drawn From the Repulse of the High Tide of the Second Anti-Communist Campaign, and On Contradictions.

The Principles, Methods, and Prospects of Opposing the Japanese Invasion and Struggle

to Mobilise All Forces for Victory in the War of Resistance to Japanese Aggression were written by Comrade Mao Tse-tung at the beginning of the Anti-Japanese War. In these two articles, Comrade Mao Tse-tung analyses two basically different lines of policy in relation to the question of the Anti-Japanese War. One is the line of the proletariat and the masses of people as represented by the Communist Party, and the other is the line of the big landlords and big bourgeoisie as represented by the Kuo-The struggle between these two lines of policy of the Communist Party and Kuomintang, pointed out by Comrade Mao Tsetung at the very outset of the war, lasted throughout the whole course of the eight-year Anti-Japanese War.

# On the Anti-Japanese War

In the report on The Situation in the War of Resistance to Japanese Aggression and Our Tasks After the Fall of Shanghai and Taiyuan, Comrade Mao Tse-tung stresses the difference in principle between the proposals of the Communist Party regarding the Anti-Japanese War and those of the Kuomintang, that is, the former "advocated an all-out national revolutionary war through the general mobilisation of the people of the whole country," while the latter advocated "a partial war of resistance waged by the government alone to the exclusion of the masses of the people." He also points out that the latter's "partial war of resistance will inevitably lead the war to Comrade Mao Tse-tung explains: "After the Lukouchiao Incident, however, the main dangerous tendency in the Party has changed from 'left' 'closed-door' sectarianism into right opportunism or capitulationism." He goes on to emphasise that no member of the Communist Party should ever forget the bitter lesson of Chen Tu-hsiu's capitulationism in 1927. He puts forward the principles of independence and autonomy within the united front and maintains that in the united front, the Left-wing group should be enlarged and consolidated, the middle group should be won over, and the Right-wing group should be isolated.

Strategic Problems of Anti-Japanese Guerilla Warfare and On Protracted War are the two works by Comrade Mao Tse-tung, in which, in the initial stage of the Anti-Japanese War, he made a scientific analysis of the problems of the war and proposed his brilliant strategic plan of developing a people's war. Comparing the forces at the disposal of China and Japan, appraising the forces of the various classes within the country and possible changes in the relation of these various forces, Comrade Mao Tse-tung opposed both the "theory of subjugation" (of China) and the "theory of a quick victory" (by China). He foresaw that the Anti-Japanese War would inevitably be protracted, and that victory would be won only after passing through the three stages of defence, stalemate and counter-offensive. On the basis of these facts, Comrade Mao Tse-tung, also in contrast to the right opportunists, planned out how the vanguard of the proletariat should organise the people's forces. how it would advance from the strategic period in which the people waged guerilla war by independent and autonomous guerilla units to another strategic period in which the people would wage regular warfare against Japan, and would then struggle to develop the war against Japan so as to bring it to a victorious conclusion in favour of the people.

# On the Role of the Party

The Role of the Chinese Communist Party in the War of National Liberation explains how the Communists should shoulder the immense historical task of effectively leading the war of national liberation. On the basis of the practical experiences of the Chinese revolution, Comrade Mao Tse-tung gives a clear description of the various aspects of the high proletarian seriousness of purpose of the Party and the correct organisational line for maintaining close contact with the masses. In this important report, the section which deals with the subject of study gives a profound explanation of how in order to be able to shoulder its great historical tasks, the Party must first of all raise the level of Marxist-Leninist consciousness throughout its ranks. The strong appeal which Comrade Mao Tse-tung made in this work regarding the adaptation of Marxism-Leninism to Chinese conditions aroused within the Party an enormous interest in the study of Marxism-Leninism.

The Question of Independence and Autonomy Within the United Front and Problems of

War and Strategy were two inter-related problems of the Party's political line at that time. In these two articles, Comrade Mao Tse-tung criticises incorrect concession-making in regard to the problem of the united front. He criticises as incorrect the idea of fearing to expand the liberated areas and the people's war in the Japanese-occupied areas while placing hopes in the Kuomintang troops of defeating Japanese bandits and entrusting the people's destiny to the legal movement under the reactionary rule of Chiang Kai-shek. The two articles present the basic conclusions drawn by Comrade Mao Tse-tung concerning the dispute on lines of policy which existed in the Party in the initial stage of the Anti-Japanese War. They were significant in unifying the pace of the development of Party work.

## On the International Situation

In Comments on the New International Situation Made to the Correspondent of the "Hsinhua Daily" in an Interview, a penetrating analysis is made of the complex and changing international situation at that time. This cleared the air of a certain ideological confusion which existed both inside and outside the Party and put forward the policy which the Party should adopt at that time.

By analysing a number of world issues which were of concern to all at that period, The Interests of the Soviet Union Are Identical With Those of Mankind explains a question which concerns the destiny of the people of all countries. For the Chinese people, it is an extremely important work on the alliance of the peoples of the two great countries—China and the Soviet Union.

In Introducing "The Communist," Comrade Mao Tse-tung brings out the three basic problems for the Party in China's revolution: the united front, armed struggle and the building of the Party. Comrade Mao Tse-tung writes:

"A correct understanding of these three questions and their inter-relationship is equivalent to giving correct leadership to the whole Chinese revolution." (People's China Vol. II, No. 1) Comrade Mao Tse-tung gives a profound historical explanation of the question of both uniting with and struggling against the bourgeoisie, the question that "without armed struggle there will be no place in China for the proletariat, or the people, or the Communist

Party, and the revolution will not attain victory" (*People's China* Vol. II, No. 1) and the question of integrating Marxism-Leninism with the practice of the Chinese revolution.

In the pamphlet The Chinese Revolution and the Communist Party of China, the basic questions of the Chinese revolution are explained in a concise, popular way.

## On New Democracy

On New Democracy is a work of great historical significance. On the basis of an analysis of the fundamental changes in the historical conditions, both international (the proletarian Socialist revolution had begun, and had achieved victory in Russia) and national (the proletariat had become the leading force in China's revolution), and the new experiences accumulated in the course of the twenty years of China's revolution, Comrade Mao Tsetung develops Leninist-Stalinist theory with regard to revolutions in colonial and semicolonial countries. He draws the distinction between the two historical periods of China's revolution-the old democracy and the New Democracy, which belong to two different historical categories. He solved the theoretical problems of the New Democratic national construction of China and its preparations for the advance to Socialism. He thus smashed the reactionary illusion of establishing the dictatorship of the bourgeoisie in China. This is a perfectly integrated theoretical work on China's revolution in line with Marxism-Leninism. It has played a vital role in mobilising and organising the Chinese people in the liberation struggle and in the construction of New China, and consequently has added immense strength to the Chinese revolution.

Overcome the Danger of Capitulation and Intensify the Struggle to Improve the Situation, Tactical Problems of the Anti-Japanese United Front at the Present Time, Freely Develop the Forces for Resisting Japan and Repel the Attacks of the Anti-Communist Diehards, On Policy, and Conclusions Drawn From the Repulse of the High Tide of the Second Anti-Communist Campaign are works written by Comrade Mao Tse-tung at the time when he was leading the Party in carrying out repeated, successive and sharp struggles against Kuomintang capitulationist and anti-Communist policies during the Anti-Japanese

War. These writings further expound and make more concrete the policy of both unity and struggle in regard to the problems of the united front. They helped mobilise the masses to repulse the Kuomintang's anti-Communist campaign at its height and corrected the mistakes of some of the comrades who were still under the influence of capitulationism and dared not give free rein to developing the revolutionary forces.

In Problems of Political Power in the Anti-Japanese Bases, Comrade Mao Tse-tung maintains that political power in the anti-Japanese bases must be in the hands of those who simultaneously support the war of resistance and democracy, that is, it must be a democratic dictatorship jointly exercised by a number of revolutionary classes over the traitors and reactionaries. The type of political power of the revolutionary united front in the anti-Japanese bases which was led by the Communist Party and was participated in by the representatives of the masses of people, played a very great role in the policy of developing the progressive forces, winning over the middle forces and isolating the reactionary forces which was carried out by the Party at that time.

### On Contradictions

The first edition of the Selected Works of Mao Tse-tung, Volume II, contains another philosophical treatise by Comrade Mao Tsetung: On Contradictions. In this outstanding militant Marxist-Leninist work, based on the rich experiences of China's revolution, Comrade Mao Tse-tung has further developed the dialectical materialism of Marx, Engels, Lenin and Stalin. He deeply expounds every aspect of the law of the unity of opposites, the "kernel of dialectics." In particular, he expounds and emphasises the special nature of contradictions. He severely criticises the subjective, partial, superficial, incorrect way of thought of the doctrinaires who "refuse to make any laborious study of concrete matters" and "have no knowledge of the distinctions between various conditions of revolution and therefore no knowledge of how to solve different contradictions by different ways and means but invariably force upon all cases a single formula which they think is unchangeable." This work is an important contribution by Comrade Mao Tse-tung to the philosophical treasury of Marxism-Leninism.

# Kuo Mo-jo Answers Questions on

# U.S. Bacteriological Warfare

# Put to Him by "L'Humanité," Paris

QUESTION: Is there further evidence of bacteriological warfare waged by the United States since the Oslo session of the Bureau of the World Peace Council?

ANSWER: Yes, there is. This evidence will soon be made public to the whole world.

**QUESTION:** Is the U.S. bacteriological warfare experimental in character?

ANSWER: Yes, but it is a large-scale experiment. The U.S. knows that China and Korea will not retaliate with bacteriological bombs and that warfare in Korea will not spread to the But the experimenters in bacteriological warfare have not taken account of the fact (1) that a country in which the people have become the masters has the strength to crush bacteriological warfare, (2) that waging bacteriological warfare has caused the U.S. to suffer from a spiritual epidemic. Mankind will pronounce its due verdict on the present government of the U.S.A. as the first to employ atomic and bacteriological bombs.

QUESTION: What are your views about the proposal that investigations be made by the International Committee of the Red Cross and the U.N. World Health Organisation?

ANSWER: This can only be the desire of the organisers of bacteriological warfare to find out the effects of their experiment. The U.S.A. is so anxious to know the effects of its experiment that it parachuted spies into the rear in Korea to collect information. But the spies have been caught. Their recorded depositions will be broadcast to the whole world.

QUESTION: What should be the conditions for the choice of an international investigation commission initiated by the Bureau of the World Peace Council on a proposal by China?

ANSWER: None. The Chinese and Korean peoples will surely welcome any prominent figures so long as they are impartial and self-sacrificing. It is an exacting and serious task to come to China and Korea to investigate bacteriological warfare crimes. They must be prepared to risk their lives and challenge the forces of violence.

QUESTION: What steps will be taken to halt bacteriological warfare following an investigation into the crimes by an international commission?

ANSWER: We hope that an international conference will be held to condemn the American crimes and to demand that the U.S. government ratify the Geneva Protocol of 1925 which prohibits the use of bacteriological weapons. The U.S.A. is the only country among the Great Powers which has not yet ratified the Geneva Protocol.

**QUESTION:** What else needs to be considered in the cause of world peace besides the checking of bacteriological warfare?

ANSWER: Promotion of general disarmament. Outlawing atomic weapons. Support of the peoples of West Germany and Japan in their campaigns against the rearmament drive which is turning their countries into bases for aggression. Promotion of international economic relations on a basis of equality and mutual benefit. Abolition of the colonial system. Realisation of the demand by more than 600 million people that the Five Powers sign a peace pact.

# Insect Agents of U.S. Germ Warfare

Professor Sicien H. Chen

Director of the Laboratory of Entomology, Academia Sinica

Disease-carrying insects spread by the Americans are of many kinds. Here I will only comment on the Anthomyiid flies, house flies, non-biting stable flies, sunflies, Aedes mosquitoes, locusts, springtails, and spiders.

The Anthomyiid fly belongs to the genus Hylemyia (s.l.). It resembles the house fly in size. It is black in colour, has shining wings and its thick covering of hairs makes it very suitable for carrying and spreading pathogenic organisms. In certain parts of Korea and Northeast' China, it was mostly Anthomyiid flies that were discovered, after U.S. aircraft had flown over, in icy, snowy weather with a temperature of 10 degrees below zero. The circumstances were such that it was impossible for them to have been disseminated except by American aircraft. Moreover, from specimens of these Anthomyiid flies, we isolated Bacillus anthracis.

The house fly is a common insect. It cannot make its appearance naturally at low temperatures below zero. Masses of house flies were suddenly discovered on the snow in the village of Szepinghsiang in Northeast China after American aircraft flew past. There was no doubt whatever that the insects were dropped by U.S. aircraft. That the house fly is a disease-carrying insect is well known to medical science. It transfers such diseases as typhoid, dysentery, cholera, etc.

The non-biting stable fly is bigger than the house fly and is also well known as a disease-carrying insect. This insect was discovered in various parts of Northeast China in large numbers in circumstances somewhat similar to these in which the house fly was found. We isolated Salmonella typhosa from specimens of this insect.

The sunfly belongs to the dipterous family Helomyzidae. Large numbers of this fly were suddenly discovered on the snow in certain areas after enemy aircraft passed over. They were obviously dropped from the aircraft. We isolated Salmonella paratyphosa from this insect.

Of the Aedes mosquitoes, several species are already known to be vectors of encephalitis,

yellow fever, dengue fever, and the vicious purpose of the American imperialists in using dangerous insects of this kind can be deduced from this fact.

The locust had done serious damage to crops in China in the past. It passes the winter in the egg stage. In the Northeast, the adult insect, after laying its eggs, dies off in late autumn. The eggs are hatched the following May. It is impossible for nymphs or adult locusts to appear before April. Nevertheless, in the present instance, a group of adult locusts were found in Shenyang (Mukden), near the staff quarters of the trade department of the Northeast People's Government. The only explanation for their presence is that they were dropped from U.S. aircraft.

The black springtail is a small wingless insect belonging to the family Entomobryidae. Some species of this family can live on the surface of snow. Generally, it is not harmful. But it can resist cold and live on the surface of snow and for this reason, apparently, the American imperialists have chosen to breed it in the bacteria factories and disseminate it in large numbers in China and Korea. We have proof that these insects carry fatal disease germs.

Spiders are among the disease-carrying animals dropped by the American imperialists in large numbers. They were discovered in places over which U.S. aircraft had flown. We isolated *Bacillus anthracis* from these spiders.

The many abnormal circumstances attendant on the appearance of the various types of disease-carrying insects provide authentic and irrefutable evidence of the American crime of disseminating infected insects.

(1) The time of the year when these insects appeared is abnormal. In late February and early March, temperatures in Korea and Northeast China are regularly below zero. It is a matter of common sense, quite apart from the affirmation of the local people, that the appearance of so many insects at such a time of the year is extraordinary. For instance, house flies only begin to appear in mid-April, yet in mid-March full-grown male and female house flies were discovered in large numbers

# Do Not Pretend You Do Not Know

Dr. James G. Endicott

Chairman of the Canadian Peace Congress, writes:

One of my purposes in going to the Northeast was to investigate germ warfare. It is in the Northeast where the American

attack has been most concentrated, apart from Korea.

Every Chinese Christian in this country knows that this large-scale and continuing germ warfare is a fact. I have personally investigated this monstrous immorality and I can say without hesitation that it is a fully established fact.

In the name of all that is decent and just, I call on the Christians of the whole world, Catholic and Protestant, to protest this wickedness of American germ warfare. Every day we say the prayer which says, "teach us to depart from evil." There

is no greater evil in the world today than the American mass murder of young and old, men and women and children in Asia today. What



Dr. Endicott inspects an American germ bomb

they have done already is only a fraction of what they are preparing to attempt. Do not hide yourselves behind the pretence that you do

> not know. That is what the British Foreign Office spokesman is trying to do. Let us not forget that western governments tried to pretend that they did not know about Hitler's atrocities. The German people living right beside the concentration camps claimed they knew nothing about the mass murders. The German Christian Church on the average remained shamefully silent about the murder of six million Jews. Let us not remain silent this time about the germ warfare of the American militarists.

> I call on Christians of the whole world, Catholic and Pro-

testant, to protest this wickedness of American germ warfare. Your silence gives consent.

in the city of Szeping. The Aedes normally appear in late May at the earliest, but full-grown male and female Aedes were discovered on March 4 in Tiehling, Liaohsi province. Spiders are not active before April, yet masses of them were discovered on March 3 on Chenkiang hill, Antung city. Locusts that normally emerge in May were discovered near the staff quarters of the trade department of the Northeast People's Government at Shenyang on March 15. These are some of the instances demonstrating that the time of the appearance of the various insects is abnormal and much earlier than the native insects naturally emerge.

(2) The places where these insects appeared are abnormal. For instance, black springtails were discovered on a concrete grandstand six metres high in the race course in Fushun city. Locusts were discovered in cold mid-March on an open veranda on the first floor of the Department of Trade of the Northeast People's Government at Shenyang. Many flies and mosquitoes were found on sand banks, hilly ground or completely exposed farm land in Kwantien county, Antung

city, or even on snow. Normally it is impossible for these insects to appear in such places.

- (3) The manner in which these insects appeared en masse in certain isolated areas is abnormal. According to the report of the Northeast group of the Commission for investigating the American crime of germ war, these insects appeared in sections and close assemblage. Moreover, many different kinds of insects were collected together in one place, thus differing fundamentally from the habits of the local, naturally appearing insects.
- (4) The distribution of these insects is abnormal. The localities in which they were discovered are in all cases areas over which U.S. aircraft had intruded, or the vicinity of such areas. In other places of the same latitude, temperature and similar geographical conditions, with the exception of springtails, no such insects have been discovered up to the present time.
- (5) The high percentage of infected insects in a non-epidemic area is abnormal. The pathogens carried are varied and insect vectors are most extraordinary. For instance,

Anthomyiid flies of the genus *Hylemyia* are normally not recognised as insects of medical importance, but have now been proved to carry dangerous pathogens.

The whole series of abnormal phenomena can only be explained by their being broadcast by American planes. The Americans are now disseminating not only bacteria-infected insects, but also baseless rumours. They are trying to deny and cover up their crime. But in face of the conclusive evidence, their denial is entirely futile.

No matter how numerous the infected insects the American imperialists may scatter, we Chinese people are firm in our confidence and ability to wipe them out. Locusts and paddy borers, the two most injurious agricultural pests in China, have been successfully controlled under the leadership of the People's Government by organised mass preventive measures. With the same determination and mass effort we will speedily and thoroughly exterminate the infected insects now being distributed by the American imperialists.

# A WORLD CAMPAIGN AGAINST U.S. GERM WARFARE

The Commission of the International Association of Democratic Lawyers published on April 2 its report entitled The Use of Bacteriological Weapons on Chinese Territory by the Armed Forces of the United States. On April 4, the Chinese commission to investigate the American use of germ warfare in Northeast China released its report, confirming the indisputable facts of the American crime.

On April 18, four eminent Chinese scientists, Dr. J. S. Lee, Dr. Tao Meng-ho, Dr. Co Ching-chu and Dr. Wu Yu-hsun, all vice-presidents of the Academia Sinica, issued a statement endorsing these two reports.

Many other testimonies based on personal investigation by Chinese entomologists, bacteriologists, doctors, and pathologists have all exposed the crime of American germ warfare. Professor Wei Hsi, M.D., deputy leader of a Chinese volunteers' epidemic prevention team, stated that he and his team had found these insects and objects dropped by American aircraft laden with plague bacilli (pasteurella pestis) and other bacteria. These facts were confirmed by Dr. Ho Kuan-ching, graduate of Peking Union Medical College and of the U.S. Johns Hopkins University, and now a member of the epidemic prevention team, at a press interview on April 17.

On April 13, leading Moslems in Peking issued an appeal to Moslems throughout the world to take action to check the grave American crime.

People all over the world continue to voice their indignation over the American use of bacteriological weapons. The International Conference in Defence of Children held in Vienna from April 12-16 called on the people of the world to demand U.N. prohibition of bacteriological warfare.

In India, mass meetings were held on April 5 and 6 by New Delhi residents protesting against American use of germ warfare in Korea and China. A large-scale signature campaign was launched by the West Bengal Peace Council condemning and demanding punishment of those responsible.

From Japan, Motoharo Yoshida, chairman of the Congress of Industrial Unions of Japan, wrote to Kuo Mo-jo, chairman of the China Peace Committee, on April 7 denouncing the use of germ warfare by both the American and Japanese imperialists.

The Permanent Commission of the French Peace Movement sent a message to the Chinese People's Committee for World Peace and Against American Aggression condemning the use of germ warfare.

On April 2, the British Peace Committee, as well as the British Communist Party Congress meeting on April 11-14, protested against the U.S. germ warfare. On April 4, fourteen Manchester housewives marched through the main streets of the city, carrying banners protesting against the use of germ weapons in Korea. They handed the U.S. consul a petition of protest addressed to President Truman. The Belfast Trades Council has passed a resolution expressing its solemn condemnation and protest.

Professor H. Brandweiner, leader of the Commission of the International Association of Democratic Lawyers which recently carried out on-the-spot investigations in Korea and Northeast China, presented the Commission's report to the I.A.D.L. Congress in Vienna on April 16. The report on Korea covers evidence of American atrocities against civilians, the use of asphyxiating gases and of germ warfare.

# Friendship Between the Chinese and Indian Peoples

Li Yi-mang

Deputy Head of the Cultural Delegation to India and Burma

The long history of friendly relations between China and India can be traced back to the first century A.D., when, in the reign of Emperor Ming Ti in the Eastern Han dynasty, Buddhism was brought to China. The great Chinese pilgrim and Buddhist scholar Hiuen Tsiang is known to people throughout India and China, and his name at once comes to mind when Sino-Indian friendship is mentioned. Hiuen Tsiang lived in India for sixteen years (629-645). His major work, Si-Yu-Ki (Buddhist Records of the Western World) has been an indispensable reference for Indian historians researching in India's ancient history.

Chinese and Indian cultures are interconnected and modelled on each other at numerous points. Apparently the silk cocoon went to India from China, while cotton came to China from India.

Still more noteworthy is the fact that, with a common boundary of two thousand miles, India and China have always lived at peace with each other. War between them has never been known.

Some people have remarked that after the British imperialist occupation of India, friendly relations between the two countries ceased. This may have been so on the surface, but friendship between the Indian and Chinese peoples did not end with imperialist interference. The sympathy of the Chinese people has always been with the Indian people in their struggle for national liberation. In the same way, the sympathy of the Indian people has always been with the Chinese people in their struggle against the imperialists. It is not accidental that the Indian people today rejoice and are deeply moved by the victory of the Chinese people in their struggle for liberation.

In October last year, a Chinese cultural delegation went to India for a six-week visit. Following this, a Chinese industrial mission visited India and participated in the International Industries Fair in Bombay; for the second time, a cinema workers' delegation

went to India and took part in the International Film Festival in Bombay, Madras, New Delhi and Calcutta. Chinese films were shown in many large cities.

An Indian cultural delegation, which will hold exhibitions of Indian arts in Peking, Shanghai and other cities, is expected in China shortly. A group of Indian trade unionists has been invited to China by the All-China Federation of Labour to attend the May 1 celebrations. To them all we extend our warmest greetings. Last year a delegation headed by Pandit Sundarlal attended the October 1 celebrations in Peking, marking the second anniversary of the founding of the People's Republic of China.

It can be well said that friendship between China and India is being strengthened. The sympathies and support of the Indian people for the people of China are mounting every day.

' Although the New China Culture and Arts Exhibition held by the Chinese cultural delegation in Delhi, Bombay and Calcutta was only open for nineteen days, it was seen by 130,000 people. On show were photographs of construction work, reproductions of the famous Tunhuang murals, and handicraft samples. What most impressed all visitors was the extent of China's achievements during the past two years which, many averred, could only be explained by the superiority of the New Democratic system. They were also much impressed with the combination of strength and delicacy in the artistic designs. The Indian people were able to get a better idea of Chinese industrial production at the International Industries Fair held in Bombay, which remained open longer and was seen by over 400,000 people. large attendance at these two exhibitions is in itself conclusive evidence of the love and friendship felt by the Indian people for the new China.

During its stay, the Chinese cultural delegation visited many universities and attended mass welcome meetings sponsored by the India-

Friendship Associations in Delhi. Bombay, Hyderabad and Benares. Everywhere the members were overwhelmed with the enthusiasm of their reception. At Aligarh University, the students showered the delegates with fresh flowers which fell from the balcony of the meeting hall like rain. Many welcome parties came carrying posters of Chairman Mao; at railway stations and aerodromes, no sooner had we alighted than garlands of jasmine, orchids and tuberoses were put around our necks. In Agra, Calcutta and Benares, poets came to meetings to recite poems eulogising New China and the friendship of the Indian and Chinese peoples. Everywhere we were swamped with requests for autographs. Everywhere the people reached out to shake our hands. Everywhere they shouted: "Long Live Mao Tse-tung!" "Long Live New China!" "Long Live Indian-Chinese Friendship!"

We were greeted with such great joy and enthusiasm that even now though several months have passed, the memory of it remains vivid, and I can hardly believe these events did not take place just yesterday.

While accepting the ovations accorded us, as delegates of the people of China we knew that the glory belongs to the whole Chinese

people and Chairman Mao. We also realised that the friendship shown was most genuine and to be most highly prized. The Chinese people will not make light of this friendship. The Chinese people have always been greatly concerned about the fate of the Indian people -their independence, freedom and prosperity. The great friendship of the Indian people stimulates the Chinese people in their huge construction efforts and heightens their courage in struggle. India and China have much in common: they are both Asian countries, close neighbours, with historic and traditional relations both culturally and economically. Both have been subject to criminal aggression by the imperialists. No wonder there is genuine friendship between them-a friendship that will last and be consolidated. The imperialists are afraid of this friendship between the Chinese and Indian peoples; they are envious and will try by every possible means to destroy it. But their efforts will prove futile.

We are confident that the friendship between the Chinese and Indian peoples will develop and become ever firmer with the advance of time. It will contribute greatly not only to the cultural and economic development of our two countries, but also to the cause of peace in Asia and the world.

# Hungarian Ensemble Welcomed to China

Arriving in Peking on April 2 on the invitation of the Ministry of Cultural Affairs of the Central People's Government of China, the Hungarian State People's Ensemble was met by a cheering crowd of nearly two thousand people at the station. "We have come 16,000 kilometres to perform for you the arts of the free Hungarian people and to learn from the arts of China," said Gyula Szollosi, director of the Ensemble in answer to their greetings.

The Ensemble, which includes a folk dance group, folk orchestra and chorus, has already given several performances in Peking and will later tour Nanking, Shanghai, Hangchow and other cities. Its gay and vigorous dancing, its orchestral renderings of classical and folk music and its impressive choral singing, including the rendering in Chinese of "The East Shines Red," the popular song in praise of Chairman Mao, has quickly won it a warm place in the heart of Chinese audiences.

The whole Ensemble will participate in the great May Day parade at Tien An Men Square. Its members are also seeing several performances by Chinese singers, dancers and orchestras specially arranged for them.

Cultural relations between China and Hungary are developing rapidly in accordance with the "Sino-Hungarian Cultural Co-operation Agreement" signed in July, 1951 in Peking. The performances of the Hungarian State Ensemble will make a great contribution to the strengthening of these friendly relations between the two countries.

# Songs of New China

## Yao Hua

The art of song has to an extraordinary degree reflected and invigorated every successive phase of the revolutionary struggle in China. Song acted as a spur to the development of music. Within the space of little more than a decade from what may be considered the birth of modern music in China—the May Fourth Movement of 1919—the people's revolutionary forces were singing songs that stirred with the force of art imbued with the spirit and aspirations of the new democracy.

In the succeeding years, this modern music and song has developed and been enriched from many sources—by drawing deep on the age-old culture of the nation's folk song and by adapting the cultural experiences of Western music and, particularly in song, the new developments of Socialist musical art in the Soviet Union. The rich material gathered in the experiences of our composers has been turned into a splendid instrument, strong and resilient—a shining weapon for freedom made of an alloy forged with Chairman Mao Tsetung's teachings on art.

# The Beginnings of the New Songs

China has a rich cultural heritage in music and song but, like its painting, and indeed all its arts with their roots deep in the past, this needed a radical transformation to bring it into harmony with the demands of contemporary revolutionary reality.

That moment of transition between the old era and the new, the moment when the accumulation of new tendencies in art was transmuted into a new style of art—was the May Fourth Movement of 1919. This was the moment when the artistic strivings of the progressive modern intellectuals of China coalesced with the proletarian revolutionary movement. This union was heroically shown when the workers of the great industrial centres of China struck in support of the revolutionary intellectuals who were demonstrating against the betrayal of China by the reactionary warlord regime. Up to that time, the songs of

the people were the folklore and traditional songs of old China. A small number of Western-style airs and hymns were known only to a small circle. The revolutionary vision of these early modern composers dealing with the theme of the working class was, however, as yet neither sufficiently clear nor deep enough to produce anything more than a tentative approach to the new themes. Yet this was a beginning.

In 1921, the Chinese Communist Party was founded. The proletariat emerged with its own vanguard party as the driving force of the Chinese revolution. The upsurge of revolutionary activity that accompanied the Northern expedition against the imperialists and their feudal warlord agents found expression in stirring new songs that called the people to the struggle and inspired them. In the first Revolutionary Civil War of 1924 to 1927, Chinese workers, peasants, soldiers, students, revolutionaries marched to the strains of The Internationale, the song of the international working class, and to the new melodies of such songs as The Young Vanguard and Workers and Peasants, Unite! They sang the call: Down With the Imperialists! Down With the Warlords!

With the betrayal of the revolution by Chiang Kai-shek in 1927, these songs were banned. But the people's voice could not be stilled. In 1932, defying the White Terror of the reactionary Kuomintang that did not hesitate to murder or bury alive some of the brightest talents of the nation, the composers Nieh Erh, Lu Chi and their colleagues formed in Shanghai the music section of the underground Chinese Union of Left Dramatists which was led by the Communist Party.

These young composers already knew the need of the revolution led by the working class to rouse the broadest masses of the people against the imperialists and their lackeys inside the country—the feudal landlords and the big comprador capitalists. They were able to unite a developed knowledge of modern musical technique with a passionate artistic awareness of the historic demands of the time. It was

a critical moment. China, with a corrupt government at Nanking, was menaced by Japanese imperialism, which had already engulfed China's Northeast. Between 1932 and 1934, Nieh Erh, the pioneer of proletarian music in China, produced more than thirty militant songs which gained and have kept a wide popularity. In 1934, to the words of Tien Han, he wrote the music for the March of the Volunteers, which has now become the national anthem of the People's Republic of China. No song of China's revolutionary struggle so fully expresses the militancy, the aspiration and courage of the time:

Arise, all ye who refuse to be slaves!
....Millions with one heart, braving the enemy fire,

March on! March on! March on!

That song was heard in schools and factories, in the great demonstrations in Shanghai and other cities that demanded, despite the police terror of the Chiang regime, democratic national unity for the defence of the country. It spread throughout the land along with other songs of national salvation during the years of the people's War of Resistance against the Japanese invaders and bouyed the people in the most bitter moments of that struggle. There have been few times in the history of nations when mass songs played so great a role in deciding a nation's fate. The practice of great mass performances of songs at meetings of thousands of people began on a wide scale. This has since become a feature of the people's song movement in China today.

As the defeatists and reactionaries came to dominate Chungking, China's wartime capital, the centre of the mass singing movement moved to Yenan, the mountain girt stronghold in the Shensi-Kansu-Ninghsia border region to which tens of thousands of ardent young patriots trekked to learn the path of national salvation from the Chinese Communist Party. Songs about the resistance movement and the growth of the new life of the liberated areas spread from Yenan throughout the anti-Japanese bases and guerilla areas behind the Japanese lines. With the heroic Eighth Route Army and the New Fourth Army, the cultural front groups from Yenan carried songs of courage and mass discipline wherever they marched. These songs helped preserve the people's faith and kindle the democratic struggle in the Kuomintang dominated areas.

Yenan was the site of the Lu Hsun Art Academy dedicated to art for the people. It was the centre of a fertile revolutionary creative movement that in music produced such works as the Yellow River Cantata and the Production Movement of Hsi Hsing-hai. In these works, advanced Western musical technique became the vehicle for the first major orchestral compositions on essentially modern Chinese themes.

## For the Workers, Peasants, Soldiers

It was in Yenan in 1942 that Chairman Mao Tse-tung gave his epoch-making series of addresses to literary and art workers in which he pointed out that to be fully worthy of their calling, art workers in China must turn resolutely to serve the workers, peasants and people's fighters. Musicians as well as artists and writers answered this call. They orientated their art consciously and enthusiastically to fulfil the tasks of the New Democracy. A new creative period began in Chinese music. Musicians went out to seek their themes in the front lines, in the production centres and farmlands. With the keen insight of a Marxist revolutionary vision, they discovered new musical colours and idioms from direct observation of the life of the people around them. They began to draw more fully from the inexhaustible treasure-house of folk song. Among the most popular of the musical productions of the period 1942-45 was An Po's Brother and Sister Tilling Virgin Soil (one of the earliest modern adaptations of the famous North Shansi folk songs), Red Army Counter-Attack by Liu Chih and Victory Celebration by Li Chieh-fu.

Out of this movement came the opera, *The White-Haired Girl* that received a 1951 Stalin Prize and has won itself a place in the hearts of the people surpassing that of any of the great classical productions of the Chinese theatre. *The White-Haired Girl* is the epic of the agrarian revolution. The voice of Hsi Erh, its heroine, is the voice of the exploited peasant millions.

Stitches without number and endless thread!
In my heart there is an infinity of woe!
Why do the poor suffer so?
Why are the rich so merciless?
My sufferings are deep as the sea.
And they are unavenged!
Even if the oceans dry,
Even if the rocks rot,
There must be an end of these torments!

It is the voice of retribution against the feudal landlord oppressors:

Today, in the sunlight all wrongs shall be righted!



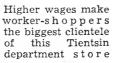
To Safeguard Peace! Workers of the world, unite and struggle for a lasting peace and people's democracy! Oppose the instigators of a new war!

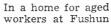
Poster by Su Kuo-chin





The newly remodelled Dairen Port Workers' Club









Workers on a carefree holiday at t

# THE RIGHT TO AND REC

"This government will improve the madeclared the first session of the Chinese I Here are some of the fine amenities now

At the Youth Technical School





he beautiful West Lake, Hangchow

# HEALTH, REST REATION

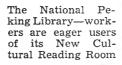
terial and cultural life of the people," People's Political Consultative Conference. enjoyed by New China's working people

of the Dairen Railway Works





Hsintun Workers' Sanatorium, Fushun, Northeast China





In the sanatorium of Shanghai's No. 6 National Cotton Mill





# 擁護世界和平理事會的宣言!

Support the Resolutions of the World Peace Council!

Poster by Liu Chi

The wrongs of a thousand years shall be avenged!

Other songs of this period are Without the Communist Party There Would Be No New China, with music by Huo Hsing; We Workers Are Strong, by Ma Ke; Cotton Spinners by Sa Li.

As is usual in such periods of rapid artistic development, these achievements were not the work of a few gifted geniuses, but the fruition of a great collective creative effort. The musical section of the Lu Hsun Art Academy collected over three thousand songs directly from the peasants and made this rich material available to composers. Besides adaptations of ancient melodies to new themes made by professionals, many new songs set to old familiar tunes gained wide popularity. One of many examples is *The East Shines Red*, a song in praise of Chairman Mao by two Shensi peasants, Li Yu-yuan and Li Tsung-tseng. This has become a national favourite:

The East shines red,
The sun arises,
Mao Tse-tung appears in China,
Toiling for the happiness of the people,
The saviour of the people!

It has been orchestrated by the noted composer Ho Lu-ting.

Thus did the artists take their art to the people and learn from the people's art to produce a new quality of artistic creation, technically advanced in form, filled with the strength and splendour of the era of the people.

The War of Liberation against the imperialists, the feudal elements and the bureaucratic capitalists of the Chiang Kai-shek breed evoked new departures in musical creation. The new songs expressed the militant fervour and confidence of the revolutionary forces, steeled in a thousand victorious battles. Attack! by Shen Ya-wei sings with soldiers' humour:

You don't want peace talks so you'll feel my wrath.

Do you forget you've got a bloodied nose? Bring us some more guns then!

and the Huaihai Battle:

Fear no difficulty, nor cold nor hunger, Cross the mountains where they rise, Cross the waters where they flow, Pursue the enemy! On to victory!

These songs were sharp weapons in the struggle against the reactionary regime. They threw the enemy into impotent fury. They invigorated the singers. They made clear the targets of attack.

#### Songs of the Liberation

The formation of the People's Republic of China opened up the brightest and widest prospects for the development of music in China. The composers have seized on the opportunities offered with avidity. The themes today are concerned with the great constructive tasks the Chinese people have put

their hand to. Throughout all these songs there runs the underlying theme of peace, of creative life, of defeat of the dark forces of reaction and death.

Typical of the songs of peace are Wang Ta Ma Wants Peace with music by Chang Lu and All the World's People Have One Heart with music by Chu Hsi-hsien:

The banner of victory waves overhead,
The cheers of the millions shake the earth and
move the hills,

Mao Tse-tung! Stalin! Like the sun, shining in the sky, The red flag waves in front.

The whole world is marching towards one great goal.

For the People's Democracy, for a lasting peace! The hearts of the world's people beat as one.

It is impossible to describe the deep emotions aroused in China today by the simple declamation of those two names. This song, so deeply permeated with the spirit of internationalism and faith in the victory of the people, won the second prize in the song division of the Third World Youth Festival in Berlin.

Composers and poets participate in every one of the great national mass movements. As workers and peasants bring gifts of increased production and new inventions to the festivals and holidays of the toilers, so they bring their new compositions. Demonstrations against American imperialist aggression and for aid to Korea sing the stirring Battle Song of the Chinese People's Volunteers composed by. Chou Wei-shih. The land reform movement inspired the words and music of Who Provides for Whom? by Yeh Lin:

Look and think!

The landlord and the peasant: who provides for whom?

If the peasant didn't plough the land, would white rice fall from heaven?

To bed at midnight and rise before the dawn, To water and harrow the land, needs strength, The landlord doesn't till the soil,

Yet white rice and fine flour are piled high in his barns!

The song by Ma Ke Suppress the Counter-Revolutionaries widely popularised the slogans of the great campaign to wipe out the remnants of the counter-revolutionary elements.

A new note has been sounded in contemporary songs by the theme of patriotism, of the Chinese people's pride in their reborn and lovely land. These songs are in the direct line of development with the lyrics of China's famous ancient poets singing of the beauty of the country and of the people's spirit. Wang Hsin's Sing of the Motherland and Shih Yueh-meng's Erh Lang Mountain are typical of these many new songs. Here are some lines from the former:

Great and spacious and beautiful Is our beloved Motherland.
Our heroic people have stood up brave and free, Firmly united as with the strength of steel.
We are valiant in our love of labour;
Freedom and independence are our ideals.
We have conquered every hardship.
We ardently love peace; we love our native land!
Who dares invade us is looking for his grave!

Some of the best compositions both vocal and orchestral have been produced in connection with distinguished new motion pictures. Again in this connection we must mention The White-Haired Girl with a musical score by Chu Wei and Chang Lu. Critics and public have given praise to the music for the Steeled Fighters by Chang Kuo-chang and Ke Yen and for the Shangjao Concentration Camp by Ho Lu-ting.

#### National Form, New Democratic Content

The new songs of China are national in form and New Democratic in content. The early compositions of the modern era in Chinese music bore the marks of being ill-digested adaptations of western models. Our composers today, however, have achieved a high level of mastery of western forms and traditional Chinese musical culture; they have carefully studied the cultural heritage of their own country and of contemporary folk art. Their approach to both the cultural heritage at home and abroad, however, is critical. They know that folk music has both its grand and healthy aspectsrevealing the wisdom, sincerity and vitality of the people in fine and simple styles, but they know too that it has some undesirable features acquired under the long continued feudal rule. The positive achievements of folk music and song are an inexhaustible reservoir for composers. Since liberation the National Association of Music Workers and the Chinese Society of Folk Songs have undertaken a considerable body of work in recording, classifying and analysing folk songs and ballads, theatrical music and songs, instrumental music, and the music of the many national minorities. The Central Conservatory of Music and other organisations also have special departments for similar studies.

There is a deepening study of western music. Chairman Mao in this connection said in his 1942 talks on art questions in Yenan: "We cannot refuse to use examples from our ancestors and from abroad even if they come from feudal or bourgeois sources ....But they should never be considered as anything other than examples, certainly not as substitutes, for they cannot possibly be substitutes." The classical song-writers are of course studied, but a

special interest is naturally reserved for those composers who have identified themselves with the interests, thoughts and feelings of the masses of the people. This approach has enabled the composers to integrate the western musical inheritance into the development of a people's musical culture for modern China. The contacts with Soviet music are particularly close, for the two countries are linked by similar cultural aspirations—for the development of truly democratic musical cultures, expressing the deepest interests and hopes of the masses-for peace, for freedom and a bountiful, creative life. Soviet songs are widely known and loved: the magnificent Song of the Fatherland, the Song of Stalin, the March of the Happy Folk. The Socialist, realistic creative method of the Soviet composers has exerted a profound influence on Chinese composers, who have studied the rich experience of Soviet musical criticism and discussion with tremendous interest.

The development of the art of song in China has been accompanied by the growth of wide-spread organisations of music lovers, forming one of the greatest mass organisations in the country. Almost every mine and factory has its music circle. Groups of young composers and musicians and singers now exist among the workers of all the major industrial The local associations of music workers centres. give them professional help. Village clubs are keen centres of musical culture. No festival is complete without their musical performances. Not infrequently some of the most popular songs emerge from these mass music circles. Professional musical training is now on an unexampled scale not only in these music circles but in the special classes organised by municipalities and workers' music associations in many cities. Higher study is carried on at the Central Conservatory of Music in Tientsin and its branch in Shanghai, where a definite number of places are reserved for the children of workers and peasants. This nation-wide activity of the people's music is organised and directed by the National Association of Music Workers.

In every age music and song reflect with great spontaneity and directness the life of society which gives them birth. You may know a people by the songs they sing. Chinese song today reflects the beauty and strength of the New Democracy. It is the music of the warm-hearted masses of the people headed by their heroic working class, the victorious fighters of mighty battles against the enemies of mankind and peace. It is the music of the workers, the peasants and their defenders, who have much to sing about; the music of a great nation advancing confidently in fraternal brotherhood with all the peoples to the bright tomorrow.



24 People's China

# LIU YING-YUAN

# From Apprentice to Power-Plant Manager

Chen Hsu

On the night of the National Day celebrations, the Tien An Men, outlined in electric lights, shines like a jewel, and in its glitter, the people dance on the great square.

The vital current dependably serves the capital. Peking's people have not forgotten the Kuomintang times when the current failed on six days out of ten. But soon after the people's power was established, the lights came on—and stayed on. When Peking people think of this, they think of Liu Ying-yuan, the Old Hero from the Harbin Electricity Works who came to be first manager of Peking's liberated Shihchingshan Power Plant.

At eleven, Liu Ying-yuan got his first job packing cigarettes

in a Shenyang (Mukden) factory. By the time he was seventeen, at various times he had been baby-sitter, bakers' apprentice, herd-boy for pigs, flour-grinder, helper at a bean-curd shop, and a railway porter, suffering all the bitter exploitation and petty humiliations of workers under the old reactionary regimes. Born in 1898 in a poor peasant's home in Hopei province, North China, he had come to the Northeast when drought drove his whole family from the land.

When he was 26 years old, he settled as a repairman at the Harbin Power Plant. The plant manager Pai, however, was a typical labour gang boss. Seeing that Liu was an able worker, he smiled on him, expecting the usual "presents." But Liu was no toady. At the Dragon Boat and mid-autumn festivals and Chinese New Year when other workers sent Pai presents and money, Liu did not. Pai, angered, took it out on him by making him work night shifts, not letting him off even on his wedding day, and when he was still convalescing after a severe attack of rheumatism, Pai continued his revenge by assigning him to especially heavy jobs. There was nothing unusual in such malevolence on the part of the old labour bosses.

#### Under The Japanese Yoke

On September 18, 1931 the Japanese began their invasion of the Northeast. Seizing Harbin, they took over the power plant. Though Liu was a technician, he was forced to do all sorts of odd jobs for the Japanese managers, cleaning their rooms and even toilets. The workers were paid a pittance. They are acorn flour and musty bean-curd, were glad to get some wrinkled dried vegetables for a change. Flour was reserved for the Japanese.



Liu Ying-yuan

Chinese were forbidden to eat rice. Beatings, killings, forced labour were the order of the day in Harbin.

It was from this living hell that the Soviet Army liberated the Northeast in mid-August, 1945. Fourteen years of Japanese rule ended. The people celebrated with passionate joy. Now at longlast the new day was dawning!

It was not long afterwards that the news came that with the departure of the Soviet Army the Kuomintang officials were arriving to assume authority in Harbin.

The power plant workers crowded before the gates of the plant. When the new Kuomintang manager arrived, they called for a speech. He did not even speak to them, looked around perfunctorily and almost

immediately drove off. Humiliated and disappointed, the workers dispersed. Liu Ying-yuan voiced their thoughts: "Is this what we have waited fourteen years for?"

This same question was asked throughout the Northeast. The brutal attempt of the corrupt and reactionary Kuomintang regime to suppress the democratic revolutionary forces in the Northeast was answered by the people with arms in hand.

On April 27, 1946 the People's Liberation Army entered Harbin. A squad of soldiers came to guard the plant. They ate frugally and lived simply, studying much. A warm friendship sprang up between soldiers and workers. The squad's political instructor told them more about this army: "Weare toilers just like you. We are led by the Communist Party and Chairman Mao Tse-tung. We serve the people, protect the workers' interests. If you find anything you don't like about us, please let us know so that we can improve ourselves."

The People's Army was the wonder of the city. It was indeed a people's army. One day Liu was bathing in the plant wash-house. A group of fighters were also there. They had finished washing and were about to dress again when they jokingly began to count who had the most wound scars. Somehad two or three. The squad leader had eight. To Liu's surprised enquiry he replied that his wounds had all been received in the anti-Japanese struggle. Liu could not resist the desire to find out what made these soldiers the kind of men they were. "You are all men of great merit," he said. "Why don't you take the chance to live more comfortably now? Why do you eat coarse grain? You pay us rice, why don't you eat it yourselves?"

The squad leader smiled. "We fought the Japanese devils because we wanted to free the people. You suffered under the Japanese for fourteen years. It's only right that you should eat rice now. We eat coarse grain because we do not want to burden the people with our upkeep."

Liu was greatly impressed with this and told the story to everyone he met.

In May, the new supervisor came to the plant, Comrade Chih Ming. His first act was to call a mass meeting of the workers and discuss all the plant's problems with them as frankly as if it were one big family. "The plant belongs to you now," he said. "It belongs to the people. This must be our guiding principle: Serve the people!"

Under Chih Ming's guidance a trade union and a co-operative were organised, and many things were done to improve the work and the living and working conditions of the workers. The trade union organised study classes. Chih Ming lectured three or four times a week. Fair or foul weather, he was always punctual. It was some distance from his house to the plant, but he refused to use the automobile and rode on a battered old cycle. He came early and left late. Liu Ying-yuan compared this new director with the Japanese and Kuomintang officials of the past and he began to understand: the Communist Party really serves the people.

Liu Ying-yuan took a more and more active part in the political life of the plant. He felt inspired to give of his best at work. He became acting head of the machine-repair shop.

#### Working for the People

Harbin received most of its power from the Hsiaofengman hydroelectric plant in Kirin province. On July 18, 1946 the Kuomintang reactionaries cut the power lines, and Harbin was thrown into darkness. Factories closed. Prices rose. Reactionary agents spread rumours that the Communist Party and the People's Liberation Army would soon be forced to leave the city. Chih Ming called the workers together to discuss what could be done.

It was proposed to repair the old generators in the power plant and so provide emergency power to the factories, communications and institutions. Led by Liu, the job was soon done. But hardly had this task been fulfilled than a new task cropped up.

A fire that broke out in the plant was heroically put out by Liu and his comrades, but generator No. 3 was put out of commission. Leading comrades of the communications office, the municipal government and the trade unions in Harbin came to the plant. They and Chih Ming asked Liu if it could be repaired. "If it can, that will be a victory as great as a successful engagement with Chiang Kaishek at the front." Liu answered frankly: "I'm not sure. I think it can." Sixteen days was set for the job.

Led by Chih Ming and Liu Ying-yuan, the whole repair shop was alerted. Liu did not leave the place day or night. The job was done in fourteen days. Once again the factories of Harbin hummed with the power of the repaired No. 3 generator.

The victorious repair team received awards. \*They were feted at a special meeting.

At the selection of labour models that November, Liu was elected Labour Hero, Second Class. His exploits were known to all in Harbin. He was given the nickname of "Lao Ying Hsiung", the Old Hero, and that is the name that everyone calls him by.

Fired by their successes, the workers were eager to take up new tasks. Many factories in Harbin were still closed through lack of power. Two more turbo-generators in the plant, No. 5 and No. 6, were lying long disused. As their contribution to the emulation movement the workers decided to repair them too. They started to repair turbo-generator No. 5.

It was a complicated job. No blue-prints existed for the machines. As the machine parts were dismantled for cleaning, the place of each detail was carefully noted. The re-assembly went smoothly enough until they came to the fixing of the rotating blades of 14th stage of the turbine. They had the trouble of pressing the blades together without the proper tools. "When the Japanese were here," recalled Liu, "they couldn't deal with this and finally sent the whole thing to Japan to be repaired." This problem too was solved by Liu's tireless initiative.

On the day the generator resumed work, leading cadres of the government and mass organisations came to the power plant to congratulate the workers. The 800,000 people of Harbin rejoiced. Liu Yingyuan was elected Labour Hero, First Class, at the next selection of labour models. He did not relax his efforts. He was always on the look out for improvements. Under his direction, in order to eliminate the weaknesses that later appeared in the Workers dismantled both the No. 5 and No. 6 and combined the better parts of both to build a single serviceable generator. Liu received the title of Special Labour Hero for his part in this work.

Thus under the constant encouragement and education of the Communist Party, Liu Ying-yuan advanced in political consciousness and technical skill. He wanted to join the Party, yet hesitated. "Does the Party want me?" he asked. "I am only an ordinary worker. I am hardly literate!" But Chih Ming and other comrades warmly welcomed his desire. On April 1, 1947 he was admitted to the Chinese Communist Party.

#### A Worker-Manager

After serving as head of the repair section, Liu was appointed vice-manager of the plant. Then he went first as manager of the Changchun Power Plant, then to the Fushun Power Plant and finally to head the power station of China's capital, Peking.

In these few years he had greatly developed his technical experience and administrative abilities. He had learned to read more and was fully able to manage the big national enterprises put under his care. When he received the assignment to manage the Shihchingshan Power Plant at Peking, he had asked what were the main tasks. "First, guarantee production," he was told. "And safety in operations. Second, rationalise production and reduce production costs." From his first speech at the Shihchingshan Plant, the workers recognised his mettle, knew him as one of themselves, a man who knew as well

as they what the old life was like. They set to work with a will to reconstruct the plant.

On April 13, 1950, the Democratic Management Committee of the Power Plant was formed with representatives of the workers, the administration, the Trade Union, Communist Party and Youth League. Of its 21 members, 11 are workers. With this mass backing Liu was confident that all tasks set by the People's Government and the Communist Party could be solved.

Shihchingshan Power Plant is many years old. It has several types of machines in operation. Under Liu Ying-yuan's management, a New Democratic efficiency has been brought to every sphere of work and life in the plant. He introduced the system of individual responsibility for machines and systematic, periodic check-ups. He takes special care of work conditions. The problem of coal dust was a sore point with the workers. He adopted their suggestions and this problem was solved. Seeing how their new administration values their opinions and efforts, the plant's workers work with a zest and alertness they never knew before to give the capital an assured output of power. Costs of production have been lowered; the accident rate cut. From then on developments were even more rapid.

Thus within six months after assuming his post, guided by the Party and the People's Government, Liu Ying-yuan, splendid son of the Chinese working class, solved the biggest task that the people had so far asked of him.

In the past two years, 366 workers' rationalisation proposals were accepted by the management.

Reduced production costs have saved more than 6,300 million yuan for the country, and this year, another 2,900 million yuan will be saved.

Always intent on "seeing things for himself," Liu Ying-yuan pays as much attention to the living conditions of his colleagues as to their work places. In two years, the plant has built 14,000 square metres of floor space for dwellings and social activities, including a dormitory for young workers, a hospital, club rooms, a night-shift rest room and dining and assembly halls. Further amenities are being planned.

Big successes have been achieved in study. Nearly 70 per cent of the workers attend spare-time schools. In 1950, nearly 20 per cent of the workers were illiterate. In 1951, this figure was cut to less than half, and this year, illiteracy will be completely wiped out.

Mobilising the great enthusiasm of the workers, these advances in workers' conditions have been achieved in the closest contact with the National Trade Union of Electrical Workers of which Liu. Ying-yuan is also a vice-chairman.

The political and technical levels of the workers has been greatly raised. In two years, 55 workers and 17 staff members have been promoted to more-responsible posts. There is a strong Party group. Thirty-four labour heroes have been elected.

"Our Old Hero raises Young Heroes!" say the workers. But Liu Ying-yuan answers: "It is the Party that raises them, the masses who elect them.—that is where the heroes come from!"

# Document

# Address to the Moscow International Economic Conference

### Nan Han-chen

Leader of the Chinese Delegation to the International Economic Conference

The International Economic Conference is a grand assembly of industrialists, businessmen, agriculturists, co-operative leaders, trade unionists and economists from all over the world. The Chinese delegation is glad to be present at this conference. We express our heartfelt thanks to our friends in the Preparatory Commission of the International Economic Conference, especially our Soviet friends, for the preparations they have made.

Delegates to this conference come from countries of different political, social and economic systems, with divergent viewpoints and beliefs, but with the common desire to promote peaceful international co-operation. Through a general exchange of opinions and making of business contacts in the conference, we believe we shall open up a possible road for mankind to develop trade and other economic relations among nations in a world at peace so as to raise the living standards of the peoples. Therefore, people all over the world and public opinion in different countries look to this confer-

ence with earnest expectations. We believe that, through the joint efforts of all the delegates here, we will successfully accomplish this task.

1. To promote international trade and developinternational economic relations in conditions of world peace so as to improve the living standards of peoples of the world.

At present, what industrialists, businessmen, agriculturists, co-operative leaders, trade unionists, economists and the broad masses of the people of the world are most concerned about is the problem of how to promote international trade and develop international economic relations in order to improve the living standards of all peoples. The Chinese people have striven in this direction for many years, and we would like to offer our experience and views for your consideration.

The Chinese people feel keenly the damage of war to economic life. Everybody knows that the Second World War caused serious devastation to

the economy of different countries. And it is well known, too, that the Second World War first began in China when, in 1931, the Japanese imperialists rang up the curtain on the Second World War by invading our Northeast. The Chinese people experienced the Second World War for the longest period. When it came to an end, China was obliged to continue a further four years of war owing to the attack against the Chinese people launched by the reactionary Chiang Kai-shek clique with alien support. China's economy was thus seriously devastated. In the course of the war, many industrial and commercial enterprises closed down one after another; large numbers of workers and intellectuals became unemployed; masses of peasants and handicraft workers went bankrupt; the living standards of the people greatly deteriorated.

That war brings economic devastation and deterioration in the people's living standards is a law which has been repeatedly proven by history. Nevertheless, even before the wounds caused by the Second World War have been healed, some countries have sought to escape from economic crisis by an armaments drive and making war preparations. This naturally leads to inflated state military budgets and heavier burdens on the people. At the same time, the expansion of war industry and curtailment of civilian industry cause a reduction of the people's purchasing power and a stoppage and shrinkage of industrial and commercial enterprise, hence an increase in unemployment and lowering of the people's living standards day by day. Armaments drives and war preparations have not only failed to save these countries from their economic crises but, on the contrary, have thrown them deeper into economic crises.

The United States of America has sought. through the imposition of blockades and embargoes on the Soviet Union, China and the People's Democracies, to monopolise the world market and abate its own economic crisis. Everybody knows, however, that these actions directed against the Soviet Union, China and the People's Democracies, countries with a total population of over 800 millions and with a vast territory, are based entirely on illusions. In reality, they are merely a pretext facilitating monopolisation by the U.S. government of raw materials and commodity markets. However, the international trade of various countries in Asia, Europe and America with the Soviet Union, China and the People's Democracies dates back several decades or centuries. Once these ties are broken, it is inevitable that it causes their own difficulties to increase. Industrialists and businessmen in Europe and America, for instance, have found it more difficult to obtain from China soya beans, bristles, tung oil and egg products. Those in Japan have found it more difficult to obtain from China cheap coal, salt, soya beans and other products. Other Asian countries have experienced greater inconveniences in obtaining cereals, soya beans and products of light industry from China.

The United States of America, however, is now taking advantage of the difficulties of these countries to intensify control over them. Meanwhile, blockade and embargo are costing industrialists and businessmen in a number of countries in Asia, Europe and America a vast market for industrial equipment, chemical raw materials, manufactured goods, industrial raw materials and agricultural products, while the United States of America is now utilising other people's difficulties to purchase these articles at extremely low, dictated prices. Though by such measures the U.S. government originally meant to foist its economic crisis on the shoulders of others, it has in fact greatly curtailed its own industrial production for civilian consumption, while expanding military production without limit, so that instead of mitigating its own economic crisis, these measures have dragged many more countries deeper into the maelstrom of serious economic crises. Therefore, the absurd and foolish measures of blockade and embargo were, from the very beginning, opposed by the peoples of the world and the governments of many countries, and foredoomed to utter failure.

We consider it necessary to promote international trade and develop international economic relations in conditions of world peace so as to improve the living standards of the people throughout the world. Mao Tse-tung, Chairman of the Central People's Government of the People's Republic of China, on October 1, 1949, the day of the inauguration of the Government, clearly proclaimed to the governments of all countries that "this Government is willing to establish diplomatic relations with any foreign government which is willing to observe the principles of equality, mutual benefit and mutual respect for territorial integrity and sovereignty." We stand consistently for lasting world peace and friendly co-operation among all peoples. The Common Programme of the Chinese People's Political Consultative Conference has clearly defined the policy to "restore and develop commercial relations with all foreign governments and peoples on a basis of equality and mutual benefit."

We have adopted the policy of actively restoring and developing economic relations with all countries. We are prepared to resume and develop commercial and trade relations with any government and people, irrespective of divergent beliefs, political, social and economic systems, provided that such relations are based on equality and mutual benefit. We are deeply convinced that peaceful coexistence and establishment of international economic relations among countries of different political systems are possible. We consider that the development of international economic relations must be based upon equality and mutual benefit, respect for each other's political independence, trade independence and economic interests. We are against interference in the sovereignty of others and against the policy of dumping, monopoly and the swallowing up of others. Equal and mutually beneficial international trade is in conformity with the interests of the Chinese people as well as the peoples of the rest of the world. We consider that in the present situation, only by developing international economic relations in conditions of world peace, abolishing blockade and embargo and fully promoting international trade, can countries save themselves from economic crises, restore their peaceful industrial production and

raise steadily the living standards of their people. This is very clear.

Achievements of two years' economic construction in China have provided promising prospects for the development of international economic relations.

Not only do the Chinese people wish to develop international economic relations under peaceful conditions, but the achievements of two years' economic construction in China have greatly increased China's potential for developing economic relations with other countries and provided a promising future for China's foreign trade.

The rotten rule of the reactionary Chiang Kaishek regime and the civil war instigated by the U.S. government drove China's economy to the verge of collapse. In the course of the war, over half of China's railways and highways were destroyed. China's agricultural production was reduced to 75 per cent of the pre-war level. The output of her heavy industry was reduced to 30 per cent that of the record year in her history, and the output of light industry to 70 per cent. The reactionary Chiang Kai-shek regime, maintaining gigantic military budgets, caused serious inflation. On the eve of its collapse in May, 1949, the banknote issue increased 176,800 million times, and commodity prices were 13,884,200 million times higher than in June, 1937. The total value of foreign trade in 1948, resulting from the shrinkage of production, was reduced to 28 per cent that of 1931. The unanimous opposition of the Chinese people finally overthrew the corrupt regime of the reactionary Chiang Kaishek clique. The export of arms by the U.S. government not only failed to expand its international trade with China but caused it to shrink; it did not strengthen the corrupt regime of the reactionary Chiang Kai-shek clique but, on the contrary, accelerated its collapse.

Since its establishment in October, 1949, the Central People's Government of the People's Republic of China, under the leadership of the great and wise leader of the Chinese people, Chairman Mao Tse-tung, started to restore and develop China's economy from its utter ruin, and has made brilliant achievements within the past two years.

As a result of the agrarian reform, China's agriculture has been rapidly restored. Peasants throughout the country no longer need to pay a total of more than 30 million tons of grain as rent to land-lords, and therefore they have money with which to purchase large quantities of livestock, fertiliser, water-wheels and modern farm tools to build up agricultural production.

The Central People's Government has allocated huge sums for water conservancy works. In the past two years of water conservancy work, the earthwork involved amounted to 959 million cubic metres, enough to build an embankment one metre in width and height to circle the equator 24 times. Biggest among these works of construction is the Huai river project. A total population of 55 million living in an area of 210,000 square kilometres are being directly benefited. Chinese peasants are now capable of preventing and combatting natural calamities. In the past two years, despite

floods, droughts and pests in some regions, the country gathered in bumper harvests. Compared with 1950, total agricultural output in 1951 increased by some 7 per cent, of which industrial crops had a relatively higher percentage increase. For instance, cotton increased by 40.7 per cent, oil crops 27 per cent, tobacco 340 per cent, jute for gunny bags 98 per cent. All these surpassed all previous records in China's history. With increased production and rational distribution, China's grain output is now sufficient for the whole country, and is still being increased. Soya beans, oil crops, tea, silk and livestock all have great potentialities, and we are increasing output in a planned way, according to the demands of home and foreign markets.

China's farming technique is also steadily improving. Model peasant Chu Yao-li created a record by harvesting 6,840 kilogrammes of cotton per hectare, or over nine times more than was common before the war. Another model peasant Liu Changwen achieved a record yield of 10,500 kilogrammes of rice per hectare. The tremendous purchasing power of the 400 million peasants resulting from the land reform is something which China has never seen before. Both means of production and daily necessities are selling remarkably well. The peasants are not only purchasing livestock, chemical fertilisers, water-wheels, and modern farm implements in large quantities, but are also demanding cotton piece-goods, soap, bicycles, electric torches, books, paper, medicines, etc. The rapid growth of purchasing power among the peasants of the Northeast shows itself in the swiftly increasing sales of cotton piece-goods. Eight hundred thousand bolts of cotton cloth were sold in 1947, 1,200,000 bolts in 1948, 3,200,000 bolts in 1949, 9 million bolts in 1950, 11 million bolts in 1951. In other words, the sale of piece-goods increased fourteenfold in the course of five years.

With so broad a home market and with a surging patriotic campaign among Chinese workers to increase production and practise economy, China's industry is being developed very rapidly. Compared with 1950, the output of rolled steel in 1951 went up 78 per cent, cement by 63 per cent, coal 18 per cent and paper 35 per cent. The output of the main industrial products such as cotton yarn, cotton cloth, paper, tyres, rolled steel, cement, copper, caustic soda, pure soda, glass, etc., all surpassed the highest records in China's history. China has begun to manufacture textile machinery and steel rails in large quantities. The people, as masters of the factories, have raised labour productivity rapidly. The production of cotton yarn, for instance, (calculated at 20's in 20 hours) has attained 1.20 to 1.30 pounds per spindle, and that of cloth, 99 yards per loom in 20 hours. And in the coal mines, each miner digs on the average 258 tons per day with a pneumatic drill, and the maximum haulage of locomotives is 7,207.9 tons.

China's handicrafts are also being rapidly restored. Her world-famous handicraft products, such as cloisonne ware, brocade, laces, straw braiding, rugs, etc., are being exported in large quantities. Communications have been restored. The total volume of railway transportation in 1951 surpassed all records in China's history, and the milage of

railways built in 1951 also surpassed that of any single year in the past. The number of co-operatives in China has reached more than 39,000 with a membership of over 82 millions. During 1951, their volume of trade increased 251 per cent compared with 1950. Industrial and commercial enterprises run by private capital have achieved a definite development under the leadership of state economy. According to statistics of 15 cities, including Shanghai and Tientsin, the number of private industrial and commercial enterprises has increased by more than 65,000 during the period from July, 1950 to June, 1951.

At the same time, wages of the Chinese workers have increased considerably. In Northeast China, workers' wages in 1951 increased by 260 per cent over March, 1948. The problem of unemployment has in the main been solved. A shortage of intellectuals and skilled workers is already being felt, requiring rapid training of new people.

Under conditions of developed industrial and agricultural production throughout the country, efficient means of communications and a stable currency, a nation-wide, unified and stable market has been created. Our international economic relations with various countries, based on equality and mutual benefit, are also beginning to develop rapidly. China has achieved a balance in international payments, and her credit in international trade is better than ever before. The U.S. dollar quoted in March, 1950 at a rate of 42,000 yuan was down to only 22,800 yuan in March, 1951. As a result of China's stabilised currency and great capacity to pay, the governments and peoples that trade with her enjoy various facilities and advantages and, at the same time, are ensured reasonable profits. The aggregate value of China's foreign trade in 1951 was twice that of 1950, not only surpassing the war level, but also far exceeding the pre-war level. On the basis of development in production, our export of agricultural, livestock and mineral products and industrial goods is constantly increasing. At the same time, with the expansion of the domestic market, the demand for the import of industrial machinery, equipment, raw materials, semi-finished goods and industrial products are rising day by day. This development in foreign trade is steady, normal and reliable, and its scope will expand daily, keeping pace with the development of China's economic construction.

The prospects for China's economic relations with other countries are remarkably great and bright. With 500 million diligent and industrious people and nearly 10 million square kilometres of territory, there exist favourable conditions for the development of China's industry, agriculture, forestry, animal husbandry and marine products. China has long been well-known for the abundance of her agricultural, mineral and handicraft products. She once exported within one year 2,480,000 metric tons of soya beans, 100,000 metric tons of tea, 100,000 metric tons of tung oil, 20,000 metric tons of antimony, 70,000 metric tons of egg products, 250,000 metric tons of peanuts, 10,000 metric tons of raw silk, 100,000 metric tons of salt and 7,430,000 metric tons of coal. In the course of her future economic construction, China's agricultural and industrial production will advance with brisk strides.

Chinese people will offer even more agricultural, livestock and mineral products, industrial goods and handicrafts for export. At the same time, China needs to buy from various countries still more industrial machinery, equipment, raw materials and industrial products as well as various sorts of agricultural and livestock products in order to promote her industrial and agricultural production and to meet fully the daily growing demands of her domestic market.

# 3. Bright prospects for the development of economic relations between China and other countries.

Since the armaments drive, war preparations, blockade and embargo necessarily destroy economic rehabilitation and development and undermine the people's living standards, and since development of international economic relations under peaceful conditions is the only path for all countries to follow, we are of the opinion that there are bright and promising prospects for the development of economic relations between China and other countries.

Diplomatic relations based on peace and friendship and commercial and trade relations based on equality and mutual benefit have been established between China and the Soviet Union, the People's Democracies of Poland, Czechoslovakia, Bulgaria, Rumania, Hungary, Albania, the German Democratic Republic, Korea, Mongolia, and Viet-Nam. between China and the Soviet Union and the People's Democracies is based entirely on peace, friendship, equality and mutual benefit, with respect for each other's sovereignty and economic interests. The Soviet Union has supplied China with large quantities of machinery and equipment for her industries, agriculture and communications, all of great help to China's economic construction. And China has met the demands of the Soviet Union by providing great quantities of industrial raw materials and food-stuffs, beneficial to the life of the Soviet people. In the future, we will continue to develop peace, friendship, and economic relations with the Soviet Union and the People's Democracies.

It is our view that to establish similar international trade relations on the basis of equality and mutual benefit between China and other European countries, irrespective of whether diplomatic relations exist, is perfectly possible. Some European countries, such as Great Britain, restored and expanded to a large extent their trade with China after October, 1949, but as a result of outside control, they themselves later cut down this trade. This has brought them certain fresh difficulties which they need not have encountered. We believe that these difficulties can be removed immediately, provided these countries shake off this external control and give up the blockade and embargo which are detrimental to their own interests. We also believe that further development of trade between China and the European countries, principally Great Britain, France and Western and Northern European countries, will make it possible for the latter to obtain from China supplies of various food-stuffs and industrial raw materials, and to find a market in China for the products of their peaceful industries. This will facilitate the restoration and development of production in both their and our

peaceful industries and the raising of living standards. The people of China will certainly strive to do their best in this respect.

Peaceful and friendly diplomatic relations and commercial and trade relations on the basis of equality and mutual benefit have been established between China and the countries of Southeast Asia such as India, Pakistan, Burma, and Indonesia. Despite certain attempts to obstruct the development of such friendship and economic relations, the peoples of these countries will never allow these schemes to be successful. Consequently, economic relations based on equality and mutual benefit between China and the rest of Asia, and even with countries in Africa, will certainly have the chance of growing in the future. Many Asian countries possess rich natural resources and are the main exporters of the world's raw materials and agricultural products. Nevertheless, some of these countries are under the domination of foreign powers. They find it difficult to obtain in return machinery and industrial goods essential for developing the domestic economies and for raising the living standards of their people. Blockade, embargo and monopoly of the world's raw materials have caused grave losses to many Asian countries. Since the embargo on rubber, for example, its price has been falling continuously and its producers have lost interest; the people's living standards have therefore been adversely affected. It is our opinion that people all over the world should respect the great contribution made by Asian countries in supplying the world with raw materials and farm products. At the same time, they should respect the independence of the various Asian countries, their sovereignty and the interests of their growing national industries, and should establish relations of economic co-operation with them on a basis of equality and mutual benefit.

The Chinese people believe that it will fully conform to the interests of the Japanese people, if Japan refuses to rearm but instead develops her peaceful industries and establishes her foreign trade relations with other countries on a basis of equality and mutual benefit.

Now the United States of America is attempting, against the will of the Japanese people, to dominate and force Japan to restore and develop war industry which hinders the development of her peace-time industry. At the same time, Japan's normal trade relations with foreign countries are entirely restricted. Therefore, it has become difficult to improve the livelihood of the Japanese people, and Japan's relations with other countries grow tenser with each passing day. Japan's industries need Chinese coal, salt, soya beans, oils, fats and other products, which are not only of good quality but also reasonably priced. And China also needs Japan's machinery, industrial equipment and manufactured goods. But since the restrictions on Japan's normal trade relations with other countries, she can no longer buy from China coal which costs less, but has to buy coal from America at much higher prices. This is an extremely unfair and irrational phenomenon. We believe that the people of Japan, who are peace-loving and have self-respect, will not long endure this kind of barbarous and irrational control and restriction. The Chinese people would like to see Japan develop her peaceful economy in a healthy way, and restore and develop normal trade relations between China and Japan, so that the Japanese people's living conditions will not suffer further from the threat of war, but gain the possibility of real improvement.

The U.S. government, disregarding the will and the needs of the American people, followed its intervention in Korea and seizure of China's Taiwan with a blockade and embargo on China. This blockade led the United States to cut off its supplies of Chinese bristles and tung oil which are urgently needed by the Americans. (American imports of tung oil and bristles from China used to constitute more than 90 per cent of her total imports of each of these products.) We consider it perfectly proper to urge the U.S. government to withdraw its blockade and embargo so as to restore trade between China and America. The Chinese people look forward to this.

The Chinese people would also like to establish and develop economic relations with other countries on the basis of peace, friendship, equality and mutual benefit.

# 4. The International Economic Conference will certainly achieve success, and mark the beginning of further efforts in the world to promote international economic relations.

The Chinese delegation proposes that, in order to achieve the promotion of international trade and economic relations among nations under peaceful conditions so as to improve the living standards of the people, the International Economic Conference should appeal to industrialists, businessmen, agriculturists, co-operative workers, trade unionists and economists all over the world and to the broad masses and governments of all countries, with a proposal for the establishment of international trade relations among the governments and peoples on a basis of equality, mutual benefit, mutual aid and co-operation. International trade must be widely developed on the basis of peace, friendship, equality and mutual benefit, irrespective of divergent beliefs, political, social and economic systems. During the conference, all kinds of negotiations in trade should be carried on so that active steps may be taken to promote trade among nations.

The Chinese delegation also proposes that, after this meeting, the International Economic Conference should establish a permanent body to push forward vigorously the development of international economic relations.

Both during and after the conference, the Chinese delegation will welcome all participants to exchange opinions with us and to establish definite connections. Apart from being willing to exchange opinions on general principles, we also wish to do practical business. We firmly believe that, by the efforts of all participants here, the International Economic Conference will score successes which will mark the beginning of further efforts by people throughout the world to promote international economic relations in peaceful conditions. In conclusion, allow me to wish you all good health and to express our sincere thanks to our Soviet friends for their cordial hospitality.

April 4, 1952

# The Success of the International Economic Conference

From Our Correspondent

Hundreds of millions of pounds sterling worth of trade agreements were concluded among business men from forty-nine countries who met at the International Economic Conference in Moscow from April 3-12.

Held in the stately Hall of Columns of the Moscow Trade Unions House, the International Economic Conference was attended by 520 businessmen, engineers, trade unionists, economists, co-operative leaders, and editors of economic journals and newspapers. The main purpose of the meeting was "to find possibilities of improving the living conditions of the people through the peaceful co-operation of different countries and different systems and development of economic relations between all countries."

The idea of convening such a conference came from the Berlin session of the World Peace Council. The proposal immediately evoked world-wide interest, not least in those western countries where abnormal trade conditions largely resulting from American pressure in pursuance of the "cold war" against the Soviet Union, the People's Republic of China, and the People's Democracies, have been wreaking havoc on their economies.

The large attendance at the conference and its successes have been a signal rebuke to Washington's attempts to sabotage this peace initiative.

Discussions at the conference focussed on the development of international trade, international economic co-operation for the solution of social problems and the economic problems of underdeveloped countries. The conference was marked by a common and genuine desire for the extension of trade on a basis of equality and mutual benefit.

Delegates attended as private persons and not as government representatives. Apart from the formal sessions, groups from private enterprise countries and from the Soviet Union, the People's Republic of China and the People's Democracies examined samples and negotiated trade agreements on an exchange basis, producing a considerable expansion of mutually beneficial East-West trade. An exhibition of Chinese industrial products and handicrafts was arranged for the delegates.

### Many Trade Agreements

The Chinese delegation, headed by Nan Hanchen, director-general of the People's Bank of China, concluded import-export agreements with businessmen from Britain, France, Belgium, the Netherlands, Switzerland, Ceylon, Indonesia, Pakistan, Finland, and Italy, to the value of over 223 million U.S. dollars. Of this figure, 20 million pounds sterling (about 56 million dollars) worth of trade with 10 million pounds each way to be concluded before the end of the current year, was negotiated with Great Britain. In the agreement signed

by Nan Han-chen and Lord Boyd-Orr, China contracted to supply Britain with 25 per cent of the total value in coal, hog bristles and sausage casings; 20 per cent in frozen eggs and egg products; and 55 per cent in other products to be mutually agreed. China will buy from Britain goods in the following amounts; 35 per cent textile goods, 30 per cent chemicals, and 35 per cent metals (excluding copper and aluminium).

The Chinese-British contract is just one example of the many fruitful business agreements that resulted from the conference. These preliminary achievements emphasised the significance of the announced possibilities for future trade. M. V. Nesterov, president of the U.S.S.R. Chamber of Commerce, stated on April 5 that the Soviet Union could increase its foreign trade during the next two or three years to a total of 30,000 to 40,000 million roubles as against the post-war maximum of about 5,000 million roubles which was reached in 1948. Lei Jen-min, member of the Chinese delegation and Vice-Minister of Trade of the People's Government, said that, given normal conditions of trade, China was prepared to increase its trade with the capitalist countries during the next two or three years, to from 15,000 to 19,000 million roubles. This is between two and three times the previous peak figure attained in 1946 during the post-war years of the reactionary Chiang Kai-shek regime. The People's Democracies of Eastern Europe stated that they would be able to increase their foreign trade to from two to three times its present value. Much interest was shown in these statements, for such increasing trade between the planned economy countries and private enterprise countries can go a long way to alleviating the problems of unemployment that beset the western countries and will also raise the standard of living of all peoples concerned.

The satisfaction of all the delegates and the spirit of optimism in which the conference concluded was demonstrated by the decisions unanimously adopted at its closing session: to set up a permanent committee for the promotion of international trade; to issue a communique summarising the achievements of the conference and calling for an end to artificial obstacles to international trade; and to send an appeal to the United Nations, proposing that a conference be convened at government level, with the participation of business circles, trade unions and other social organisations of all countries, at the earliest possible date, to discuss the expansion of trade on a basis of equality and with special consideration for the underdeveloped countries.

The Moscow International Economic Conference is a significant landmark in the movement of the peoples to build a world of peace and human cooperation. It opened a new era in post-war international economic co-operation.

# From Sinuiju to Pyongyang

A Special Correspondent

Our train came to a stop at Antung's railway station in the early morning, and almost immediately, we prepared to cross the Yalu river into Korea.

I looked eagerly over the water to Sinuiju, on the Korean side. In the winter of 1950, I had stood at this same spot with a group of volunteers in blacked-out Antung, waiting for the word to cross over to Korea. The bridge had been badly bombed by the enemy. Twisted girders hung, wax-like in the river. Sinuiju, which a Soviet correspondent was later to compare to Stalingrad, lay in the agony of a raging fire; a curtain of smoke hung over it.

At that time, the fellows of those eighty pirate B-29s that sought to crush Sinuiju's will were even then bombing and strafing Antung and other cities of Northeast China. That was in the heyday of the braggart MacArthur with his hollow "home by Christmas" promises to his invading troops; that was before the blows of our planes and ack-ack gunners sent "increasing numbers of B-29 superforts...limping into their bases," to borrow the words of an Associated Press despatch.

But now it was different. Antung's streets were brightly lit again. Across the water, freshly constructed buildings in Sinuiju stood above the ruins.

I saw something of the superiority of our defences the first night I was in Sinuiju. On the raid warning, searchlights flung a network of brilliance in he sky. "Catching chickens!" one searchlight crew told us. The ack-acks roared, and above the din we could hear our night fighters searching out the enemy and punching him. The U.S. pirates were badly mauled. They had no time even to drop their bombs. As Time magazine laconically reported, "The Far East Air Forces' lumbering, obsolescent B-29 bombers have been forced to do most of their work at night." And what work!

#### People's Planes Control the Skies

With the people's fliers controlling the skies from Pyongyang north to the Chinese border, the Koreans can go about their business safely in the daytime now. A year ago, travel was safe only after sunset, and without lights. To be abroad by day was to court death: the American pirates no sooner caught sight of a moving object than they would swoop down and strafe it: a cow in a field, a woman walking home to her farm, a child playing by a stream—nothing was safe.

Now we drove in daylight. Pounded for a whole year by the enemy, the road to Anju showed not a single scar. Groups of women and children and men too old to bear arms were engaged in maintenance work. They paused to wave when we passed and shouted "Wan sui! Wan sui!" in Chinese. On all sides stretched cultivated fields. Their owners need not farm in the dark now, and they were busy with the spring planting.

But as in the town, the countryside bore the cruel scars left by U.S. napalm and bombs. Here in North Pyengan over 8,000 people were killed or wounded by the enemy on his greedy march towards the Yalu in 1950; and 16,000 houses were destroyed. But from the scorched earth, the wild plants that herald the passing of winter had already put forth their clusters of little flowers.

Pyongyang. The worst bombed capital in the world. But the streets were bustling with life again. Children with satchels were hurrying to school. Street stalls were doing a brisk trade among the ruins. It was not only that the people were calm and moved in contempt of the American planes—we noticed the same quiet confidence in Sinuiju, Chonju, Anju and the villages in which we spent the nights—it was more than that: in Pyongyang it is the pride of an unconquerable people that they are in their capital. One stands humbled in face of the magnificence of their spirit.

#### Pyongyang Resurgent

Pyongyang resurgent; the peasant women tilling in the fields to fulfil their quotas; the songs of Korean youth marching to battle: these are the tangibles of resistance that infuriate the Wall Street madmen. One day I saw a group of U.S. planes approaching the city. Before they got within striking distance there came the challenging roar of our fighters, and the Americans ignominiously fled. In their frustration, the Americans now try sneaking through our defences to drop their despicable germ loads. Like the nazis they have underestimated their would-be victims and the wrath of the world. Everywhere we saw teams being organised to isolate and deal with the germ bombs.

How can the Korean people be conquered when they are led by such an indomitable leader as Kim Il Sung? And the entire Chinese people have sent their sons and daughters to fight side by side with them. The people of the world will never allow their Korean brothers to fall. In Pyongyang this was brought home vividly to us in the dwelling of a Korean fighter. He showed us letters of encouragement and support his unit had received from people all over the world; his medical kit had only recently arrived from as far away as Rumania, a gift from the people of Bucharest. "With good friends like that we are unconquerable," he said proudly.

I looked at this thrice wounded hero, the incarnation of Korean courage, with his well-used automatic over his arm. So this was the Korean man, the unconquerable man and his weapon that forced the invaders to a halt. As Comrade Stalin has said so truly, "The war in Korea can end only in the defeat of the interventionists."

Pyongyang, April, 1952

# The Patriot in the Tahang Hills

Ting Shan

Last autumn we were sent to investigate conditions regarding the output of local products and the purchasing power of the peasants in the Neihsing. Hsihsia and Lushih regions, south of the Funiu mountains.

We set off from the Hsiping district of Hsihsia for Lushih and crossed the Tahang hills, as the local inhabitants call them. It is thirty li across the hills. This part of the country is not much frequented, and with the drizzling rain that fell that day, it looked even more desolate.

During the War of Resistance, a highway had been laid on these hills after the Japanese invaders had captured the Lunghai railway. But shortly after V-J Day, the road fell into ruins. There were no traces of it when we climbed the hills; everywhere there were weeds, pebbles and mud. No one was in sight.

From the start and all through the fifteen lichimb, we did not come across a single dwelling. It was not until on our way back half-way down a slope that we saw a thatched cottage of three rooms. We called there with the intention of buying a few eggs.

An old woman met us at the door. She appeared to be a little surprised to see us, but answered pleasantly when we asked if she had any eggs for sale.

"But yes!" she said. "If it were not for the donation, I'd gladly let you have them free. Such a trifle really...."

"Oh no, we couldn't do that!" interposed one of our young comrades before she could finish. "We know what a hard life you have. Eggs could be exchanged for salt. It will be convenient for you to sell us the eggs and buy salt with the money."

At this the old woman smiled.

"Well, comrade," she said, "you'd be doing me a real good turn if you buy my eggs. Otherwise, if I went along with these eggs for the donation, I'd look silly, wouldn't I? I was worrying about having no money to give."

Saying which, she invited us in and brought out a small wooden box with twenty-odd eggs in it.

Our young comrade took the box from her, and asked, as if he doubted what she had said, "Do you have the donation movement here too?" "But surely," came the reply. "So's we can buy aeroplanes to fight against the American aggressors. Why not?"

"And why should we fight against the American devils when they haven't landed on our soil?" Our young comrade appeared not to believe what she was saying and examined her as if she were a child.

"Oh!" she replied. "Maybe they haven't come right into China, but they are invading our neighbours, and didn't they cross our frontier and bomb us? Now, my friend, don't you try to give me an

examination. We have a lot of meetings nowadays, and our village chairman explains everything to me."

She laughed heartily, much to the embarassment of our young comrade. But she became serious again.

"Comrades, people used to consider us hill people ignorant, but now, with Chairman Mao leading us, we understand many things." She pointed to the bed in a corner of the hut. "The Japanese devils blinded my old man, and he's been lying there for more than ten years now. He can't do any work, that's what the Japanese did to an old woman like me...."

Hatred of the enemy seized her, and her eyes, which a moment ago were alight with enthusiasm, now stared dully and vacantly with sorrow. In order to take her mind off these unpleasant memories and to comfort her, I hastily interposed:

"Chairman Mao has brought good days to the poor, and all that will never happen again. Have you been allotted land in the land reform?"

"Oh yes, and our neighbours at the foot of the hill always come in and help me with my work as my son has joined the People's Liberation Army. Yes, we have good days now, and I wouldn't allow any foreign devils to come in and bring us ruin any more."

"So you are the honoured mother of a people's fighter!" Comrade Li uttered admiringly.

She smiled. "Chairman Mao gave me that honour. It's true my son joined the P.L.A. and I'm donating, all for the sake of our country, but at the same time it's for my own sake too, isn't it?"

"Yes, yes, Granny. You are indeed a good woman!" I couldn't find the appropriate words to say to this fine example of our country's women, and irrepressible tears gushed to my eyes.

"Where's your village government situated?" I asked.

"At the corner of the ravine on that hill opposite us. It's about twelve li from here. I'm going there this afternoon to attend a meeting, and this time I shall have some money to donate!"

She smiled happily again. She must have been looking forward with pleasant anticipation to that evening when she would no longer have to watch the others donating whilst she looked on with a twitch in her heart.

This is an isolated hut in the wilderness of the hills, but here is a heart burning with determination to resist American aggression and to aid Korea, enthusiastic in patriotic donation, and beating as one with the people throughout the great expanse of China.



China's workers today are demanding more and better works of pictorial art, just as they are asking for new works of literature, drama, music and cinema to satisfy their cultural needs. But as well as encouraging work from professional artists, they themselves are "wielding the brush." Would hunger and the fear of want permit an ordinary worker to dream of such artistic activity in the "old" days of less than three years ago? Yet many thousands of workers' drawings and paintings have appeared in the press and exhibitions in the first years of the people's republic. Three exhibits of workers paintings have been held in Tientsin, North China's biggest industrial and commercial centre. Half of the 315 pictures at the first exhibition sponsored by the Association of Fine Art Workers of Port Arthur and Dairen in April, 1950 were by factory workers; half of the 48 exhibitors were workers.

An outstanding feature about this workers' art is its close reflection of production and life in the factories. Workers are "born realists." The early works of our worker artists following on the liberation were characterised by a spontaneous enthusiasm for creative labour, and joy in the consciousness of the leading role played by the working class in the most momentous historic changes in human society.

The first Peking Exhibition of Workers' Paintings in the spring of 1950 featured mostly themes like Life Before and After Liberation, Repairing the Machine, and Our Production Meeting. At the 1950 Spring Festival and May Day exhibitions in Tientsin, there were 32 sets of picture-stories, vivid depictions of how workers strive to save materials, improve their skills, care for their machines and help their brother workers, together with themes of peace and international solidarity.

# When Workers "Wield the Brush"

Later, as workers throughout the shop windows into hard-hitting country participated in the great mass movements like the patriotic emulation campaign, the drive to resist American aggression and aid Korea, the suppression of counterrevolutionaries, to support peace, oppose the rearmament of Japan and so on, these, too, were reflected in their art as well as other present-day tasks of the working class in the new society. The second Peking Exhibition of Workers' Paintings in the summer of 1951 dealt with themes like Our Factory Is Our Battlefield, Our Production Soars, The American. Stand Confounded, Imperialists Socialism, and Towards March Defend World Peace. The workers' political consciousness was immeasurably raised by these successive movements. This was essential in endowing their artistic works with deeper insight and profundity of feeling, and hence increasing their artistic value.

The workers have made the graphic arts a sharp weapon in the present historic movement to eliminate corruption, waste and bureaucratism and illegal activities on the part of the bourgeoisie. Cartoons in wall-newspapers, particularly, have played a keen role in exposing criminal acts, educating the people to remould themselves and enhancing the class consciousness of the masses of workers. In the People's Printing Press in Peking, more than 600 cartoons, posters and picture-stories were produced by trade-union art groups during this movement. Many works have been contributed to the press.

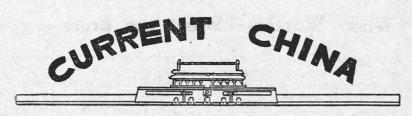
#### Window Posters

Since the autumn of 1950, when the American imperialists were menacing China after their savage attack on Korea, shop clerks in private enterprises in many big cities responded to the call of the leading artists in Peking by making their window displays, with the cotinued this work by turning their Democratic art of the people.

propaganda attacks against corruption, waste and bureaucratism. Many of these displays with drawings or puppets are copies of famous cartoons, but most are bold new creations, and an altogether extraordinarily high quality of imagination and execution is shown.

Inspired by the great social events through which we are living, many workers have, as one expresses it, a "headful of thoughts" to be expressed in painting. The desire to create comes naturally, healthily. The art of painting in China has. never before been popularised on so broad a basis as this. And as for the works exhibited, we see that already most of them have been elevated from a mere reflection of life to something that is a guide to the future.

While able to convey a realistic and sincere impression of his work and life in works that are marked by strong simplicity of composition and economy and boldness of line, the average worker-painter today is still much limited by his general technical and cultural attainments. In order to popularise and elevate both art and literature among the workers, the first All-China Representative Conference of Art and Literary Workers called upon all artists and authors "to further unite with the broad masses of the people, with the workers, peasants and soldiers." Since then, government organs, P.L.A. cultural troupes, art academies and branches of the All-China Association of Art and Literary Workers have organised professional art workers and students to serve the factories and plants more intensively. While learning from the workers, they foster the development of art activities by helping them to form art circles under the direction of the trade unions. Spare-time art schools have also been set up to train workers themselves to lead art activities in the factories. It operation of their employers, into is out of such regular training of thousands of miniature-exhibitions the potentialities of the artistic of cartoons, posters and tableaux genius of the workers that a new on the theme of "Resisting Ameri- type of worker artist of the Mao can Imperialist Aggression and Tse-tung era is being cultivated-Aiding Korea." Many have con- the creator of a modern New



## May Day Celebration

Several hundred guests from many countries are expected to attend the May Day celebrations in Peking.

By April 24, trade union delegations from Rumania, Sweden and Denmark had already arrived in Peking. Delegates from Australia, Argentina, Brazil, Britain, Canada, Ceylon, Chile, France, Indonesia, Mexico and Venezuela, who attended the Moscow International Economic Conference, have also arrived in Peking.

A cultural delegation from Burma has arrived in Canton and is on its way to Peking. A cultural delegation from India is shortly expected. Delegations and special guests from other countries are making their way to China.

Trade union delegations from the Soviet Union and the People's Democracies, from India, Pakistan, Indonesia, Burma, Ceylon, Australia, Japan, the Near and Middle East, North Africa and New Zealand have been invited by the All-China Federation of Labour. Delegations from Britain and other countries have also been invited.

Several delegations of Chinese workers are going abroad to attend May Day celebrations in the Soviet Union and People's Democracies.

## May Day Production Drive

Chinese workers have been intensifying their drive for new production records in honour of May Day.

In Shenyang (Mukden) 142 production units in 12 industries are taking part in this campaign. Workers in the city tramway workshop are putting the finishing touches to the first trolley bus to be made in Northeast China.

In Tsingtao, the textile workers are responding to a call from their trade union to reduce defective products to not more than 1.5% and cotton waste to not more than 0.7%.

Workers at the Jenmin Iron Works in Sian have challenged enterprises, setting other city themselves a target of manufacturing 200 new type water-wheels and 260 standard metal castings before May Day. They have also pledged to raise the efficiency of their smelting by 25% per kilogramme of coke.

## **Production Records**

Coal-A new national record in collective coal cutting of 19.006 tons per man-day has been set by miners at the Huainan Colliery, north Anhwei. This exceeds the previous national record of 18.194 tons per man-day made by the same group of workers. 20-man team owes its latest success to a new working method, taken from Soviet experience, and adapted to the condition of the coal seams.

Railways-a new national record for running without accidents or breakdowns has been established by the crew of locomotive No. 1008, on the Changchun line. They have had a safe running record of 352,871.2 kilometres for the past three years. This success resulted from the introduction of new methods of locomotive maintenance worked out in the Soviet Union. The crew has raised its working efficiency sevenfold and at the same time cut down coal consumption.

Machine Industry-The first of a new type of Chinese-made coalcutter has been produced by the Taiyuan Engineering Works. Judging from the results as regards speed for both fast and slow cutting and power of haulage, the efficiency of the machine comes close to that of Soviet-made 65-h.p. coal-cutters. The machine will soon be put into large-scale production.

Transport—A new national record per h.p. has been achieved by a worker of the Yangtse river Navigation Bureau. Using a 300-h.p. tugboat, Liu Ching-hsing was the first made on over 1,420 items.

to adopt Soviet methods of boat haulage and towed four boats with a displacement of 2,300 tons each in a trial cruise between Shanghai and Wuhu, on the Yangtse river in south Anhwei. Using the old methods, a steamer of equal horse power could only tow 1,500 tons, The new method effects a saving in transportation costs of 40 million yuan for every run of similar milage.

## New Trade Agreements

A 1952 trade protocol between China and the Soviet Union was signed in Moscow on April 12. The protocol stipulates considerable expansion in the exchange of goods to be made between the two countries in the current year.

A second protocol was signed at the same time, by which the Soviet Union is to deliver to China during 1952 equipment and materials against the credit granted under the agreement of February 1950.

Trade agreements totalling the equivalent of U.S.\$223 million were signed between China and Great Britain, France, Belgium, Holland, Switzerland, Ceylon, Indonesia, Pakistan, Finland and Italy as a result of the Moscow International Economic Conference.

#### New Price Cuts

Prices in state department stores throughout the country have been cut by an average of 8% on thousands of items.

Peking: Price cuts on over 3,300 items were announced by the Peking branch of the state-owned China Department Store. the second major reduction in two weeks. The previous cut affected prices of 560 kinds of goods. The present price cuts averaged 7.5% and in some case ran as high as 34.95%.

Shanghai: An average price cut of 11% was made on over 10,000 items. Since Shanghai accounts for 80% of China's total production and consumer goods, the price reductions here will bring benefits to the people in areas as distant as Hainan and Sinkiang.

Nanking: An average price cut for steam boat haulage of 7.7 tons of 10% was made on over 1,500 items. (Some prices were lowered as much as 36.15%.)

Hangchow: 2-42%

Tsingtao: An average price cut of 10% was made on over 620 items (some cuts as much as-44%).

Sian: 1.5-22% price cuts were April 7 made on over 870 items.

Shenyang (Mukden): An average price cut of 9.8% was made on over 600 items.

In Northwest China 900 items have been reduced in price; in Northeast China, 600 items: in Central South China, 3,000 items.

The present price reductions are the direct outcome of the nationwide movement to eliminate corruption, waste and bureaucratism. They have been made possible through raised efficiency in state stores, reduction of service costs and the elimination of illegal practices by private manufacturers.

## Child Education

In China there were over 440,000 primary schools with an attendance of over 37 million by the end of last year. However, this does not include the enormous number of boys and girls studying in literacy classes. The number of children in kindergartens is nearly double that in Kuomintang days. There are now well over one million school teachers.

In many parts of the Chinese countryside where land reform has been carried out, the number of pupils has doubled, tripled or, in some areas, increased sevenfold.

According to government plans, within five years 80% of all China's school-age children will be attending full-time schools, and within 10 years, universal compulsory education will be a realised fact.

## Chronicle of Events

April 2

A directive to Chinese peasants on how to raise China's 1952 cotton crop yield by 20% over 1951, is published by the Ministry of Agriculture.

April 3

Premier Chou En-lai gives a reception to welcome the Hungarian State People's Ensemble.

Government Administration Council promulgates decision regarding water conservancy works for 1952.

The Northeast China Group of the Commission for Investigating the American Crime of Germ Warfare publishes a report on its investigations.

Government leaders attend Hungarian National Day celebrations at the Hungarian Embassy.

The Government Administration Council promulgates directive regarding readjustment and development of secondary technological education.

Shen Chun-ju, vice-president of the International Association of Democratic Lawyers leaves Peking for Vienna to attend the council meeting scheduled to open on April 16.

April 10

The second volume of Mao Tsetung's Selected Works is published.

April 12

A 1952 trade protocol between China and the Soviet Union is signed in Moscow.

A Sino-British trade agreement is signed in Moscow by Nan Han-chen and Lord John Boyd-Orr, heads of the Chinese and British delegations to the International Economic Conference in Moscow.

A government delegation from Czechoslovakia arrives in Peking to negotiate a cultural, scientific, technical, postal and telecommunications agreement.

Special stamps commemorating the International Conference in Defence of Children are issued.

April 13

A message honouring the anniversary of Leonardo Da Vinci's birth on April 15 is sent to the Italian Commemorative Committee by the China Peace Committee and the All-China Federation of Literature and Arts Circles.

One U.S. F-86 marked 0636 is shot down by ground fire over Changtienhokow, Liaotung province, China.

A Sino-Dutch trade agreement is signed between the Chinese delegation and Dutch businessmen at the International Economic Conference.

A Hsinhua dispatch from Moscow reports that a trade agreement has been concluded between the Chinese delegation and French businessmen at the International Economic Conference. Other agreements were signed between the Chinese delegation and Switzerland, Ceylon, and other countries. (See page 32)

April 22

The 82nd anniversary of the birth of V.I. Lenin, the great leader and teacher of the working people of the whole world, is marked throughout

# Letters

## From an Asian Reader

PUNJAB, INDIA

I send this letter to the Chinese people through you at this critical time of the great struggle between the forces of peace and war.

During the last U.N. General Assembly every proposal for peace came from the side of the U.S.S.R. And every such proposal was betrayed by the American bloc. Still they boast that they want peace. Let them reply! Who betrayed the international declarations at Potsdam and Cairo regarding Japan and Germany? is occupying Taiwan illegally? Who is rearming and preparing war bases throughout the world? Who started war in Korea and is now hindering the armistice talks? Who is suppressing the democratic people of Viet-Nam; Malaya, and Morocco? Who is sucking the lifeblood of the Asian peoples?

Peace is not a word, it is a great task and can only be achieved if honourable and honest steps are taken toward it. Let us expose the criminal machinations of the warmongers. Let us take the task of preservation of peace into our own hands.

SWAROOP

# Letter From Europe

GLABAIS-GENAPPE, BELGIUM

It is a Belgium soldier who writes to you. All partisans of peace now understand that any steps for peace are attacked by the U.S. Wall Street world.

In Germany, I spoke to a great number of people about the remilitarisation of their country. A very important majority are opposed. They affirm they will offer a rigorous resistance to this. They explain: "Now, the Americans use the same language as Hitler did, they want to use us, our children. NO, they are mistaken. NEVER will it be."

In our army, we speak much about Korea, about the Chinese volunteers. The military chiefs are compelled to recognise that the aggressive war launched against the young Korean Republic has failed, that victory is in the hands of the K.P.A. supported by the Chinese volunteers.

All my greetings and admiration go to such an army, an army of Liberation. Thanks to you all. The people here, you know, are with you.

Long live your magnificent leader, Mao Tse-tung, the leading star of New China! Long live New China! PRIVATE S. G.

# CHINA'S TRADE UNION MOVEMENT TODAY

(Continued from page 7)

the year, the democratic reform movement in the factories uprooted contract-labour and labourgang bosses of the feudal type, who had so long tyrannised over Chinese workers. In the current campaign against corruption, waste and bureaucratism, all trade-union functionaries who have in any way lost their high ideals have been removed from their posts. The trade unions are further developed and consolidated. As this movement progresses, the masses of workers and commercial employees, educated in the class struggle waged against bourgeois abuses, become stauncher and more conscious fighters for the cause of the working class.

#### Serving the Workers' Welfare

The organised workers of China elect and send their own trade union delegates to take part in deliberations of the national People's Political Consultative Conference and the people's representative conferences of all levels, which make policies and decisions, and of the people's governments of all levels which put them into effect. The working-class masses are represented in all legislative and executive bodies, from the highest to the lowest. In East China alone, according to incomplete estimates, more than 7,300 trade union cadres have been chosen to work in government organisations above the *chu* (district) level.

Chinese workers enjoy democratic rights in all places in which they work both in the administration of state enterprises and in the solution of questions of the relation between labour and capital in private enterprises. The old abuses of oppression and super-exploitation, effectuated by the former ruling class through a veritable army of gang-bosses and labour-spies, has been exposed and smashed. The teamsters alone have dethroned and punished over 15,000 such "little Hitlers."

In state enterprises trade unions take part in the setting up of Factory Administrative Committees which have authority in all production and management matters. These committees are composed of equal numbers of representatives of the administration and the workers, giving the latter a full voice in the running of such enterprises. Moreover, an increasing number of industrial administrators are themselves workers. In East China, for instance, about 8,000 workers already hold such posts, 2,000 of them of managerial or vice-managerial rank.

In private enterprises, the trade unions send their delegates to sit with employer representatives in labour-capital consultative conferences, where, among other things, disputes are discussed and settled. In protecting the economic interests of the workers, trade unions in private enterprises have the duty of seeing to it that the employers faithfully carry out government laws and decrees concerning labour protection and business operations in general. Under the New Democratic system in

force in China, private capitalists must observe the provisions of the Common Programme, basic law of the country adopted by the democratic united front of the workers, peasants, petty-bourgeoisie and national bourgeoisie under the leadership of the working class. They are allowed to engage in industrial and commercial activities which are beneficial but they are not permitted to do anything detrimental to the state and the livelihood of the people. The trade unions are vigilant guardians of the Common Programme.

The increase of production, so ably encouraged by the trade unions, has been accompanied by a systematic rise in workers' wages. In Northeast China, for instance, where liberation came earlier than in other industrial areas of the country, workers' wages in June, 1951 were 2.6 times what they were in March, 1948.

The problem of unemployment, formerly chronic, has been solved in China. With the rapid rehabilitation and development of industry, unemployment is becoming a thing of the past. In June, 1950 there were still 1,660,000 unemployed and semi-unemployed workers and intellectuals throughout the country. By December, 1950 their number had fallen to 600,000; by July, 1951, to 450,000 and by April, 1952, to almost none. Today not only are there practically no unemployed or semi-employed workers or intellectuals in China, but a growing shortage of skilled and experienced workers and intellectuals is beginning to be felt. In fact, this is one of the difficulties of our expanding economy.

In addition to the increase in real wages and the virtual disappearance of industrial unemployment, the security of workers and their families has been further guaranteed by the Labour Insurance Regulations. The Regulations, which went intoeffect on May 1, 1951, now cover more than 2,600,000 workers and their families, with over 10 million persons in all enjoying its benefits. The entire cost of labour insurance is borne by the state or the employer. Control of insurance funds and the distribution of benefits and allowances are in the hands of the trade unions. The insurance is of a comprehensive nature, providing definite material guarantees in maternity, old age, illness, occupational injury and disability, as well as to the worker's dependents in case he or she dies. The sphere of operations of the labour insurance system is being steadily expanded.

Chinese trade unions have already established 33 workers' sanatoria, 8 rest homes, 14 homes for aged and disabled workers and 136 rest homes where workers are cared for after working hours.

Alongside of these benefits, the trade unions have brought about great improvements in working and health conditions in factories and mines. In the railways alone, a sum equivalent to 50,000 tons of grain was spent on such work in 1951, with the result that there has been a drastic reduction in cases of illness, injury and deaths. Among chemical workers, the incidence of occupational diseases has been cut from the appalling figure of up to 40 per cent in some enterprises in Kuomintang times to an average of 0.5 per cent today.

The trade unions take special care of women workers, over 80 per cent of whom are now union members. Not only has occupational discrimination against women been eliminated, but women workers are given special training to become administrators. In Shenyang, Port Arthur and Dairen, more than 2,300 women workers have been promoted to be factory superintendents, shop-foremen or brigade leaders.

The trade unions are now able to report that more than two million workers in factories and mines are studying cultural or technical subjects in their spare time.

In addition to the regular educational facilities formerly denied the workers, Chinese trade unions have set up 66 palaces of culture, 8,720 clubs, 5,119 libraries, 1,157 mobile libraries, 3,272 choirs, 8,438 athletic teams, 1,267 public address systems and 400 mobile moving-picture projection teams. A great number of trade unions in factories and mines hold social evenings every Saturday night, give dramatic performances and organise other entertainments for their members.

The A.C.F.L. and its affiliated trade unions operate many schools and classes to train new cadres. They also send workers to attend the Cnina People's University in Peking. By the end of 1951, about 150,000 cadres and activists had been trained in these schools. In addition, promising young cadres are assigned to work with experienced leaders. All cadres and trade-union members participate in regular political and vocational study every day.

### International Solidarity

True to the international tradition of the working class, the A.C.F.L. is affiliated to the World Federation of Trade Unions. It leads the Chinese working class in firm support of the aims of the W.F.T.U., to support the world-wide struggle of the workers, for better standards of living for the working class, for democracy, lasting world peace and against imperialist aggression. Over 90 per cent of Chinese workers have endorsed the Appeal for a Five-Power Peace Pact and voted against the rearmament of Japan.

Sixteen Chinese trade union leaders now hold posts in the central organs of the W.F.T.U. and various trade union internationals. Among them are Liu Shao-chi, vice-president of the General Council of the W.F.T.U., Liu Ning-I, alternate member of the W.F.T.U. Executive Committee, and Chu Hsuehfan and Liu Chang-sheng, both members of the W.F.T.U. Board of Directors.

The Chinese trade unions have responded unreservedly to the W.F.T.U.'s call for working class solidarity throughout the world. Since November, 1949, some thirty workers' delegations have been sent from this country to attend international meetings abroad, to be guests at national celebrations in fraternal countries, and to study. The countries visited included the Soviet Union, the Korean Democratic People's Republic, Poland, Czechoslovakia, Hungary, Rumania, Bulgaria, the German Democratic Republic, Austria, India, Burma, Pakistan, and Britain.

Among visitors to China in 1951 were workers' delegations, trade union leaders and railway model workers from our neighbouring Korea. A ninemember British People's Delegation, headed by Jock Kane, a miner, toured China between April 28 and June 12, 1951.

The Chinese trade unions make use of the rich experience of the Soviet trade union movement in all their activities. The trade unions of the two countries have established close fraternal relations with each other which are growing and strengthening day by day. These ties are being consolidated by the exchange of trade union delegations and also by the close co-operation between the Chinese workers and Soviet specialists who are helping China in its peaceful construction.

The successes of the Chinese People's Republic serve as an inspiring example for the toiling masss of the Asian countries.

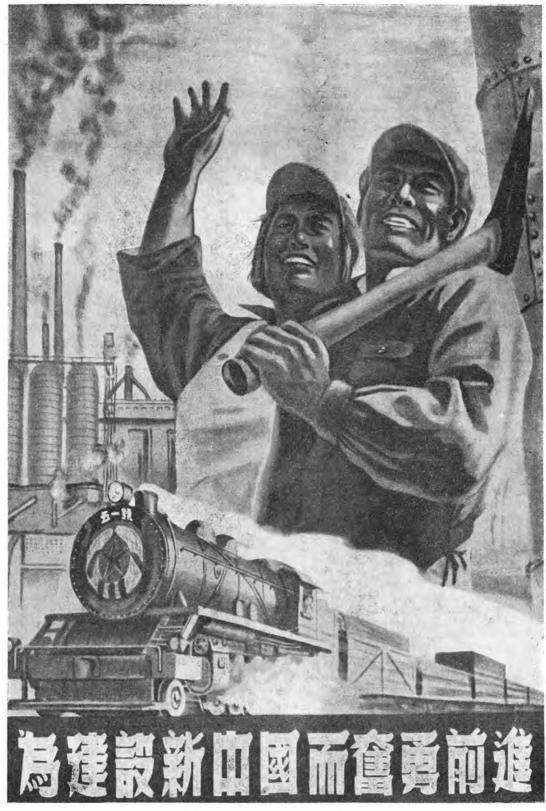
In November, 1949 China was host to the Trade Union Conference of Asian and Australasian Countries, held in Peking under the auspices of the W.F.T.U. Executive Bureau. Marking the close solidarity of the working class in the Asian-Australasian countries, the conference was attended by 117 delegates from thirteen countries, including the Soviet Union, Mongolia, Korea, India, Viet-Nam, Burma, Siam, Indonesia, Ceylon, Philippines, Malaya, and Iran. It also decided to establish a W.F.T.U. Liaison Bureau for Asia and Australasia with its headquarters in Peking.

In his inaugural speech to the conference, Liu Shao-chi, vice-president of the W.F.T.U. and honorary president of the A.C.F.L. said in part:

"I think that our Trade Union Conference of Asian and Australasian Countries should support the wars for national liberation of these countries in resisting the attack of the imperialists and their lackeys. It is only after victory in the struggle for national liberation and the driving out of the imperialists from the oppressed countries in Asia and Australasia that it will be possible to liberate the working class, to raise the workers' living standard, to improve the working conditions and secure trade union rights in these countries. It is impossible to achieve fundamental betterment of the workers' livelihood under the conditions when the imperialists are still maintaining their colonial and semi-colonial rule. To fight for national independence and people's democracy, therefore, is the supreme task of the working class in the colonial and semi-colonial countries.

The way taken by the Chinese people in defeating imperialism and its lackeys and in founding the People's Republic of China is the way that should be taken by the peoples of the various colonial and semi-colonial countries in their fight for national independence and people's democracy."

Confident in their strength, conscious of the correctness of their chosen path, the Chinese working class and the whole people press forward their peaceful creative labour. No power on earth can hold back their advance to the bright future.



Forward to fresh victories in the building of New China! Poster by Sun Sun