

# People's 人民中国 China

June 1, 1950

## **Mankind Demands Peace**

— Kuo Mo-jo

## **Northeast China's Economic Victories**

— Ke Chia-lung .

## **Child Care In New China**

— Kang Ke-ching

# 11

**Vol. I**

Archive: Statement on Sino-British Negotiations

PUBLISHED IN PEKING



# People's China

This journal appears on the 1st and the 16th of each month. All correspondence should be addressed to: 26, Kuo Hui Chieh, Peking, China. Entered as first-class printed matter at the General Post Office of North China, December 20, 1949.

## CONTENTS

### EDITORIALS

|                                   |   |
|-----------------------------------|---|
| Let the Warmongers Beware .....   | 3 |
| Hail the People of Viet-Nam ..... | 3 |
| Realism and Duplicity .....       | 4 |

### SPECIAL ARTICLES

|                                |                    |    |
|--------------------------------|--------------------|----|
| Mankind Demands Peace          | Kuo Mo-jo .....    | 5  |
| Manchuria's Economic Victories | Ke Chia-lung ..... | 7  |
| The U.S. Relief Conspiracy     | C. C. Fong .....   | 10 |
| Child Care in New China        | Kang Ke-ching .... | 12 |

### PICTORIALS

|                                      |    |
|--------------------------------------|----|
| World Peace — Tomorrow's China ..... | 13 |
|--------------------------------------|----|

### FEATURES

|  |                  |    |
|--|------------------|----|
| China's Young Pioneers                   | Chen Lien .....  | 17 |
| Jenchienhu Conquers Flood and Famine     | Wen Chao .....   | 19 |
| An Institute of Child Care and Education | Sun Pao-su ..... | 21 |

### CULTURAL WORLD

|                                     |    |
|-------------------------------------|----|
| Education — Art — Archaeology ..... | 23 |
|-------------------------------------|----|

### CURRENT CHINA

|                           |    |
|---------------------------|----|
| (May 11 — 25, 1950) ..... | 24 |
|---------------------------|----|

|   |    |
|---|----|
| ARCHIVE: Statement on Sino-British Negotiations ..... | 26 |
|---|----|

### SUBSCRIPTION RATES

|  | One Year<br>(24 issues) | Six Months<br>(12 issues) |
|--|-------------------------|---------------------------|
| <i>U.S.A. and Canada</i> .....               | US \$4.00               | US \$2.20                 |
| <i>British Commonwealth and Empire</i> ..... | £1, —s.                 | £ — 11s.                  |
| <i>U.S.S.R.</i> .....                        | 15 Rubles               | 8 Rubles                  |
| <i>India, Malaya, Hong Kong</i> .....        | HK \$16.00              | HK \$8.80                 |

## LET THE WARMONGERS BEWARE!

Throughout the world, from Moscow, the heart of the peace camp, to Washington, the warmongers' headquarters, millions of men and women of goodwill, regardless of nationality, are adding their names to the appeal demanding the "unconditional prohibition of the atomic weapon" and branding "as guilty of war crimes the government that is the first to use the atomic weapon against any country."

This campaign has brought into being an organized, world-wide peace movement that is unprecedented in scope. The eagerness with which the peoples participate in it demonstrates their consciousness of the truth that the struggle for peace is a cardinal task. They are determined to have the deciding voice on this vital question. They are confident that they have the power to enforce their will for peace.

In China, the peace signature campaign was formally launched on May 14 by the Chinese National Committee of the World Peace Congress. It is making swift headway throughout the country. Mass meetings are being held in cities and villages to promote the campaign. Workers, peasants, students, government cadres and soldiers of the victorious PLA have made the collection of signatures for peace one of their primary tasks. Many major cities have already set their targets. Over 400,000 signatures were put to the appeal within a few days of a target of 1,000,000 being set in Shanghai. In the short space of eight days, one Peking newspaper alone received lists of more than 100,000 signatures from factories, schools, army units and hospitals.

The Chinese people know that their contribution to this campaign for peace must be practically linked with the task of consolidating their own revolutionary victory, and thus strengthening to the utmost the bastion of peace that is China. They are underscoring their signatures to the peace appeal

with new achievements in every sphere. It is in this context that the peace-loving people of the world regard and applaud such successes of the new China as the industrial progress of Manchuria or the latest defeats inflicted on the reactionaries and their imperialist backers on Hainan and Choushan Islands.

But the imperialists are loath to admit defeat. With each set-back their desperation increases and they sink to yet more sordid and evil methods in the attempt to gain their criminal ends. Truman's order to build the H-Bomb is complemented by such acts as MacArthur's revival of the fascist forces in Japan and his release of war criminals responsible for the most bestial atrocities. The great peace signature campaign will counter these new frantic acts of the warmongers. It will deal them yet another telling blow.

This campaign is a review of the peace forces of the world led by the Soviet Union. The greater its success, the greater will be the already evident isolation of the imperialist warmongers and the greater will be the assurance of a lasting world peace.

## HAIL THE PEOPLE OF VIET-NAM!

President Ho Chi-minh's 60th Birthday on May 19 was an occasion for the Chinese people to demonstrate their whole-hearted admiration and firm support for the anti-imperialist struggle of the Viet-Nam Republic. Telegrams of greeting were dispatched from Chairman Mao Tse-tung, the Chinese Communist Party, other democratic parties and popular organizations. All the leading newspapers of the nation paid tribute to this venerated leader of the courageous Viet-Nam people's struggle for liberation.

The Chinese people were elated to learn of the militant way in which the people of this fraternal Republic celebrated the day. Factories throughout Viet-Nam launched production drives; the Commander-in-Chief of the Viet-Nam Liberation Army, General Vo Nguyen Giap, called on the Army and the partisans to complete their preparations for a general counter-offensive. The people of Saigon, defying the brutal French imperialists, staged demonstrations and strikes. Inspired by the undaunted spirit of their President, the people of Viet-Nam are redoubling their efforts in the battle against imperialism.



Cartoon by Chao Yen-nien from the *Liberation Daily*

The cause of the people of Viet-Nam occupies a special place in the hearts of the Chinese masses. They are close neighbours. They fight in a common cause of freedom with China and the democratic peoples of the world, led by the Soviet Union. Having just thrown off the yoke of imperialism themselves, the Chinese people know full well the bitterness of the struggle in which the Viet-Nam people are engaged. They know too the certainty of its victory.

Despite all their American arms and loans, the French imperialists and their pet lackey Bao Dai are daily sinking closer to their doom. Bao Dai and his fellow traitors are haunted by the wretched fate of Chiang Kai-shek. Just as surely, the French imperialists must ponder gloomily on the lesson of the ignominious defeat of the Japanese and American imperialists in China.

The brilliant successes achieved by the Chinese people have, on the contrary, more than reassured their Viet-Nam comrades-in-arms that victory in the armed struggle against imperialism is certain so long as it is waged consistently by a united democratic front under the leadership of the Communist Party.

We salute Comrade Ho Chi-minh!  
Hail the heroic people of Viet-Nam!

## REALISM AND DUPLICITY

Early this year the British Government expressed its desire to establish diplomatic relations with the new China. At the same time Britain's then Under-Secretary for Foreign Affairs, Christopher Mayhew, stated bluntly that this move was "an acknowledgement of fact and not a mark of approbation." This remark implied an attitude of hostility, but at least it also contained an element of realism, or so it seemed at least.

On sending its representative, Mr. John C. Hutchison, to Peking in January, the British Government officially notified China that it had severed relations with the remnants of the reactionary KMT clique. It also agreed that diplomatic relations between the two countries should be established on the basis of equality, mutual benefit and mutual respect for territory and sovereignty.

The events of the past few months, however, have shown that the British Government's "acknowledgement of fact" is confined to words alone. Its deeds distort and contradict its words. It indulges in duplicity.

While acknowledging the Central People's Government of the People's Republic of China as the sole lawful government of China, the British Government, following the dictates of Washington, has persistently abstained from voting on the proposal to oust the KMT representatives from the United Nations. By so doing it has not only hampered the Chinese people from being duly represented in this world body, but has also seriously undermined this central structure of international co-operation.

Furthermore, during these months while the negotiations between Peking and London were actually in progress, the British Government has repeatedly infringed Chinese rights. It has hindered Chinese students from returning home by refusing to grant them visas for transit through Hongkong. In Malaya, while the murder and mass imprisonment of Chinese continues, the British authorities there have banned 150 Chinese books and have taken repressive measures against Chinese journalists.

In April, the British Government further demonstrated its hostility to the Chinese people. It announced that thenceforth all Chinese nationals entering or leaving Hongkong would be treated as foreign immigrants and subjected to the same controls.

It is significant that when China was under the reactionary Manchu, warlord or KMT regimes in the past, no such preposterous restrictions were imposed, but they are suddenly introduced when the people of China establish their own government.

To crown these deliberate and unfriendly acts against the new China, the British Government, on May 9, ordered the Hongkong Court to detain the 70 planes of the CNAC and CATC of the Civil Aeronautics Bureau of the Central People's Government of China. Having previously prevented these planes from flying back to China, the British authorities allowed seven of them to be wrecked while on the British "guarded" airfield.

In its eagerness to serve its capitalist masters in the City and their American colleagues on Wall Street, the British Government has grossly betrayed the genuine friendship cherished for the new China by the British people.

The gentlemen in Whitehall would do well to realize that the Chinese people have had sufficient experience to see through all their attempts at double-dealing under whatever pretext or guise, and that it is the firm determination of the entire Chinese nation to maintain inviolate every right and property to which they are in justice entitled.

# MANKIND DEMANDS PEACE

Kuo Mo-jo

The mortal enemy of world peace is imperialism, which is itself a machine of aggression. And the life-lines of imperialism are its far-flung colonies and semi-colonial possessions.

Today the Chinese people have delivered themselves from the fetters of semi-colonialism, expelled the imperialists and thus hastened the doom of imperialism. The crippling of imperialism means the strengthening of world peace. It is, therefore, no accident that the democratic and peace-loving people of the world are celebrating this development with the greatest joy.

But let us remember that the victory of the Chinese people has not been easily gained. Ever since the Opium War of 1840-1842, the Chinese people have been engaged in an unceasing struggle against foreign aggressors and their lackeys inside the country. They have shed their blood profusely and made a heavy sacrifice of their lives for the liberation that they have now achieved.

Our foremost task at present is to extend the scope of our victory on the military front and to continue giving our utmost support to the PLA in its campaigns to liberate Taiwan, Tibet, and a few remaining islets off China's coast, in order to bring these territories back into the fold of China within the shortest possible space of time.

Nor is this enough. We must carry the success we have gained on the military front into other fields—into the nation's economic, political and cultural activities, so that a backward agricultural China can be turned into an industrialized state. Only by so doing can we consolidate our victory and our national defence.

But if we are to embark upon a programme of reconstruction and production on a vast scale, we need a lasting and well-safeguarded peace. The reason why China has lagged behind in the march of nations is that, for over a hundred years, she was denied the conditions indispensable to peaceful reconstruction. The imperialists and their lackeys made peace in China impossible. Although our victory has fundamentally altered the situation, and secured the conditions for peace, yet peace, under the circumstances obtaining at the moment, is not universal. The threats to it have not yet been crushed. We must broaden the scope of victory in order to strengthen the foundations of peace. We must consolidate peace in order that our victory

may be consolidated. This is a sacred task to which every Chinese should devote himself.

Today, the aggressive nature of the imperialists is becoming more blatant and exposed. The reason for this is that imperialism is at its last gasp, while the democratic anti-imperialist peace camp is going from strength to strength. The imperialists have thus been caught between the hammer and the anvil. They are becoming frantic, hoping against hope to find a way to save their skins.

In the space of less than thirty years mankind has witnessed two horrible wars. The victorious October Revolution at the end of World War I destroyed Tsarist imperialism and ushered the Socialist Soviet Union into the world. World War II resulted in the overthrow of three imperialist powers—Germany, Japan and Italy, and it saw the rise of ten New Democratic states in East Europe and East Asia.

Great Britain and France, two remaining imperialist countries, are impoverished and weakened and have become the satellites of imperialist America. It is true that the United States did not suffer directly from either of the two world wars, and in fact batted on them. But what are the conditions in the United States today?

Because of the irreconcilable conflicts in its internal situation, the United States is faced with the problem of declining production and an increasing number of unemployed. According to official U.S. government statistics, industrial output in that country fell by 22 per cent in October, 1949, as compared with that in the corresponding month in 1948; the number of unemployed workers was 4,500,000 and the number of partially employed 10,000,000 by the end of last year; another 3,500,000 had only nominal jobs.

Such is the spectacle presented by domineering, swashbuckling imperialist America today. We need waste no words in describing the situation of its West European satellites who have been driven to the verge of bankruptcy.

In contrast, the peace camp which is headed by the Soviet Union is becoming more and more consolidated and prosperous. Soviet economy is on the upgrade. Unemployment is unknown in the Soviet Union and the living standards of the Soviet people continue to improve. Its total industrial output last year was 41 per cent above the 1940 level. The total yield of farm produce in 1949 also passed the pre-war level and has reached the target set for 1950 in the post-war 5-Year Plan.

KUO MO-JO, Chairman of the Committee of the Chinese Congress of the Defenders of World Peace, is concurrently Vice-President of the Bureau of the Committee of the World Peace Congress. This is a condensed text of his broadcast speech made on May 13 over Radio Peking.

Last year the national income of the Soviet Union exceeded by 36 per cent the corresponding figure reached in 1940, the year before the German attack on the U.S.S.R. If we take the price index as a base, the present gross incomes of the Soviet industrial and farm workers have increased since 1940 by 24 and 30 per cent respectively.

What a striking difference is seen when we compare the Soviet Union with the U.S.A.! On the one hand, there is an ever increasing prosperity, and, on the other, an ever greater decline.

When you consider, in addition to this, the increasing prosperity of the People's Democracies, and particularly the great victory won by the Chinese people, then you will understand the squalid fear of the imperialist warmongers. They cannot but tremble when brought face to face with the stupendous force of the world's peace camp.

It is true for all living things that, as they reach the end of their existence, the process of dying tends to accelerate. This holds true for imperialism too, and especially for American imperialism which, by its actions today, shows that it feels its death-pangs. The nearer imperialism reaches its doom, the greater will be its fear; and the greater its fear, the more determined will it be to cling to its dying system. The imperialists' insane preparations for war are an unmistakable expression of their desperation today. The colossal rearmament figures of the U.S. imperialists illustrate this clearly.

The U.S. government budget for the fiscal year ending 1950 earmarks US\$13,100 million for military expenses out of the total estimated expenditure of US\$43,300 million. This figure is 14 times greater than the total amount the U.S. government spent for military purposes during 1938-1939 on the eve of World War II. When we add to this the expenditure on the manufacture of atomic weapons and supplementary allowances to the U.S. armed forces, the total reaches US\$21,900 million, which is 51 per cent of the total estimated budgetary expenditure of the United States government. It is reported that the U.S. Congress, now discussing the budget for the coming financial year, will authorize further increases in military expenditures.

What do these facts show? While they expose the American imperialists' fear and desperation, they also serve as a warning to us that the crisis of a new war not only exists but is growing and directly threatens peace. There is a saying that "a cornered dog is apt to jump the wall." We must not ignore the madness of the imperialists because they have been weakened. We must not lessen our vigilance because the peace camp is going from strength to strength.

We must remind ourselves of the May Day slogans issued by the Communist Party of China:

"Workers of the world arise! Unite and fight for lasting peace and the people's democracy! Oppose the instigators of a new war!

"People of Asia! Unite and oppose imperialist aggression! Work for national independence and democratic freedom! Oppose the scheme for an imperialist alliance in the Pacific!"

These resounding, powerful, and timely slogans should be fully supported by the Chinese people, widely publicized and translated into action as our response to the clarion call for peace.

The menace of an imperialist war is not restricted to Asia alone, it hangs over the heads of all humanity. Peace is indivisible. In order to protect mankind from the horrors of another war, the peoples of all lands must be aroused to smash the criminal war preparations of the imperialists.

It is a most inspiring fact that peace-loving people in every country are being more closely united in their defence of peace and show their invincible force by practical action.

In April, 1949, delegates from 72 countries assembled in Paris and Prague to form the World Peace Congress. In only a year's time its work is being rapidly expanded and firmly consolidated. Branches in the form of Permanent National Committees have already been established in 52 countries. They have an aggregate membership of 1,000 million people, which is more than half the world's population.

When the Permanent Committee of the World Peace Congress held its session in Stockholm, Sweden, last March, the international cause of peace entered a new stage.

The appeal for signatures to the peace campaign is spreading to every corner of the globe. Here in China, the campaign is in full swing. This world-wide movement will be another telling blow against the warmongers.

This appeal is a clarion call to all defenders of peace and a warning to the warmongers.

Let it be clearly stated: Our appeal does not beg for peace from the warmongers but is to compel them to stop their aggression.

The defence of peace is inseparable from the consolidation of the revolutionary victory. We must give our support to the cause of the World Peace Congress. We must follow the guidance of the peace camp headed by the Soviet Union and unite with other nations to oppose the aggressive designs of the imperialists. In so doing we shall be able to consolidate the fruits of our victorious revolution. The greater the achievements of our revolution and the more firmly we consolidate them, the greater will be our contribution to the defence of peace under the leadership of the World Peace Congress.

Today we demand victory and we also demand peace. As we want peace, so do we want victory. We want a victorious peace and we also want a victory that safeguards peace.

Let the imperialist warmongers tremble before the power of the peace camp!

Cornered dogs are apt to jump the wall! Well, if they do, they will kill themselves in the act!

# MANCHURIA'S ECONOMIC VICTORIES

Ke Chia-lung

The year 1950 will go down in the annals of Northeast China as a year of decisive victory on the economic front. Even during the first quarter of the year, market conditions had become largely stable, inflation was halted, a balanced budget had been adopted and production rose at an unprecedented rate—factors which taken together add up to substantial improvements in the living standards of Manchuria's workers and peasants.

These significant developments trace their source to the far-sighted decision of the Chinese Communist Party—a decision taken long before the complete liberation of Manchuria—to give the region a special economic status within China. By permitting Manchuria to retain its own separate currency system, and by insulating the area from the economic effects of the war still in progress south of the Great Wall, Northeast China has been able to forge rapidly ahead with its rehabilitation programme.

As a result of this policy, now when final victory is in sight, Manchuria is already in a position to serve as a stable foundation for restoring China's economy on a nation-wide basis. Its agricultural production has increased to such a degree that in 1950, Manchuria is able to send 2,600,000 tons of grain to other parts of China without upsetting its own economic equilibrium. Its industry has been geared to turning out the equipment needed for the nation-wide industrialization programme, and these industrial goods are beginning to move southward in a sizeable stream. Equally important, Northeast China has pioneered the road of economic rehabilitation and its valuable experiences will provide the rest of China with many short cuts.

Today Manchuria offers a pre-view picture of all China in a few years' time. That is why each of its new achievements is a source of tremendous inspiration and encouragement to other regions. The workers of Shanghai, for instance, can realize that their present difficulties are transitory because they have before them the example of the steadily improving conditions of the Manchurian workers. Similarly, the peasants of newly liberated areas tackle their problems with renewed vigour when they learn how the purchasing power of Manchurian peasants has risen as market conditions became stabilized and land reform was completed.

How has Manchuria managed to achieve such impressive economic victories in the brief space of one and half years since its complete liberation?

Without resorting to rationing or a rigid price-fixing system, how has the Northeast People's Government brought the market under control? How has industrial production been restored to such an extent that unemployment is already wiped out while real wages mount from month to month?

Although space does not permit a detailed survey of this complex subject at this time, here briefly are the highlights of current economic developments in Manchuria which have brought about these remarkable results.

## Price and Currency Stabilization

In March, the general retail price index in Manchuria took its first downward step since the end of World War II. Daily necessities headed the decline, with grain and fuel prices in the lead. The only commodities which continued their steady upward price trend were those needed for industrial expansion—metal wares, chemicals and building materials.

The following indices (December 1949 = 100) show current retail price trends:

| <i>description</i>       | <i>March index</i> |
|--------------------------|--------------------|
| kaoliang (sorghum) ..... | 91.6               |
| millet .....             | 95.2               |
| wheat .....              | 99.8               |
| rice .....               | 100.0              |
| soya bean .....          | 95.0               |
| fuel .....               | 95.2               |
| cloth .....              | 98.0               |
| cotton yarn .....        | 95.4               |
| metal wares .....        | 118.0              |
| building materials ..... | 119.3              |

In view of the many other favourable economic factors making their influence felt on the market, there is now every prospect of keeping prices of daily necessities on a tight check-rein. In fact, one may safely predict that the general price picture will have been completely stabilized by the end of the year.

One of the important factors that ensures this achievement is the tremendous quantity of goods concentrated in government hands which can be used as needed to regulate the market. Six-sevenths of the region's industrial commodities are turned out by state-owned enterprises and marketed through government channels. In addition, almost one-fifth of the area's agricultural produce is turned over to the government in the form of taxes collected in kind.

These government commodities are now retailed through 372 state stores and 9,000 co-operatives, which last year handled 34 per cent of Manchuria's total volume of retail trade. This year the number of state stores will be increased to 1,500 and these shops alone will handle 50 per cent of the area's retail business. Such developments place the government in a strong position for dictating market conditions and adjusting price levels as desired.

The state's control over the market is further reinforced by the fact that the peasants sell a large proportion of their surplus grain and other produce through state trading companies or co-operatives. This year these two marketing channels plan to buy 44 per cent more surplus grain than in 1949. At this rate of increased state purchases, it will not be too long before state and co-operative enterprises can between them squeeze parasitic middlemen and speculators out of the market entirely. One more source of market instability will then have been dug out by the roots.

The Northeast People's Government also strengthened its financial position by adopting a centralized and unified system of administering its vast network of assorted enterprises. Immediately after the liberation of Mukden on November 2, 1948, all state industrial enterprises were placed under the unified control of nine government administrative agencies, covering mining, textiles, machine-tools, etc. Locally-operated industrial concerns, either provincial or municipal, were put under the jurisdiction of the Department of Industry.

These leading organizations then drew up co-ordinated plans covering allocations of capital and raw materials, production quotas and marketing methods. Thus supply was tailored to fit demand; the prices of various goods were re-aligned to ensure a properly balanced relationship; and centrally-directed, standardized business methods were introduced which boosted production efficiency tremendously—all contributing factors for achieving price stability in the market.

In January this year, the government took a further step of instructing all state enterprises to avoid making cash payments wherever possible. Such concerns were required to open accounts in state banks and deposit their funds at the close of each day. All large business transactions must now be

settled through the banks, and state enterprises may only retain enough cash on hand to cover a few day's operational expenses.

Largely as a result of these measures, March bank deposits in Manchuria were 2.5 times their December figure and 2.3 times the total volume of currency in circulation.

That is one of the main reasons why the government has not needed to issue a single additional bank-note since the first of the year. And this was, of course, another factor of immense significance in stabilizing market conditions.

It was against this background that late in March, the Northeast People's Government was able to adopt its first balanced budget. Furthermore, treasury returns for the first quarter have already indicated that the revenue estimates set forth in the 1950 budget are too modest.

According to this budget, government revenues this year would exceed the 1949 figure by 30 per cent and the 1948 figure by 120 per cent. Revenue from state enterprises, making up 49.7 per cent of the government's total income, flowed into the treasury during the first three months of the year according to plan. Urban tax collections, however, were 44.4 per cent above the budgeted estimates, while rural grain collections topped their quota by 9.7 per cent and government bond sales were 33 per cent above expectations. It is already quite evident, in fact, that Manchuria would end up the year with a fiscal surplus if the area were not transferring 2,600,000 tons of grain to the Central People's Government for use south of the Great Wall.

While the total volume of tax returns is mounting steadily, it should be noted that tax rates are declining. In 1948, the peasants handed over 23 per cent of their harvests to the government in taxes. Last year agricultural taxes were cut back to 19.5 per cent of the harvest, while this year's figure is still lower. It is also noteworthy that this year, for the first time since liberation, urban areas will pay a larger sum into the government treasury than rural areas. According to budget estimates, public grain collected in the countryside will provide 19.5 per cent of the revenue, while urban tax collections will account for 25.49 per cent. The remainder of the revenue will come from state enterprises, bond sales and sundry minor sources.

### 1950 Budget for Northeast China

| Revenue   |                             | Expenditure   |                                  |
|---|-----------------------------|---|----------------------------------|
| Description   | Percentage of total revenue | Description   | Percentage of total expenditures |
| agricultural tax .....                                  | 19.50                       | economic reconstruction .....   | 53.00                            |
| urban taxes .....                                       | 25.49                       | military expenses .....   | 8.88                             |
| public enterprises .....                                | 49.70                       | administrative expenses .....   | 5.00                             |
| bond sales, warehouse clearance and other sources ..... | 5.31                        | cultural, educational and public health expenses .....  | 6.90                             |
|   |                             | payment to Central People's Government, subsidies to local governments, reserve fund, etc. .... | 26.22                            |
|   | 100.00                      |   | 100.00                           |



Another factor in balancing the budget is the curtailment of government expenditures wherever possible. Military expenses, for instance, have been slashed from 41.21 per cent of the budget in 1949 to 8.88 per cent this year—a reduction made possible by the shift of military operations to south of the Yangtze River. Administrative expenditures have also been pared down from 7.71 per cent of the budget last year to 5 per cent in 1950. As part of its retrenchment programme, the government reduced its administration staff by 70,000 persons, all of whom have transferred to work in state industry and trade.

This is one aspect of the government's efforts to get Manchuria's economy back on its feet. But in addition to scoring great victories on the financial front, the Northeast People's Government has succeeded in piling up a comparable record of achievements on the production front.

### The Production Scene

When the KMT armies were facing defeat, they did everything in their power to destroy Manchuria's industrial capacity so as to leave nothing but chaos behind them. However, by April, 1948, half the enterprises which the people's government took over from the KMT regime or bureaucratic capitalists were already back in production; by last September, 65 per cent had re-opened; and by March, 1950, 90 per cent were operating.

As a result of the pace at which these war-damaged factories and mines have been restored, the industrial sector of Manchuria's economy is expanding rapidly. In 1950, industry will account for 43 per cent of the region's total output, compared to 35 per cent last year. By the end of 1952, Manchuria's industries are expected to surpass their peak 1943 output and to be turning out 56 per cent of the area's total production.

Such rapid restoration could only occur with the help of very heavy government investments. In 1950, 41 per cent of the government's expenditures are being channeled into the development of industry, and 85 per cent of these funds have been earmarked for heavy industry. In this one year alone, the value of industrial output is expected to leap 93 per cent above last year's figures. Heavy industry will register enormous increases, as shown by a few sample statistics:

|                |            |       |          |            |       |
|----------------|------------|-------|----------|------------|-------|
| machine-tool   | production | — 350 | per cent | above 1949 | level |
| iron and steel | „          | — 350 | „        | „          | „     |
| coal           | „          | — 55  | „        | „          | „     |
| electric power | „          | — 43  | „        | „          | „     |

The success of the 1950 production plan has been virtually guaranteed by the results of the first quarter. During this period, state industrial enterprises exceeded their quotas by 9.21 per cent. Among the most spectacular achievements was that of the Mukden Smelting Plant, which fulfilled the first half

of its year's plan on April 10. Not long afterwards, on April 26, the Dairen Yuantien Glass Works became the second large establishment to reach its six-month production target.

Agriculture is not lagging far behind in the all-out campaign for increased production. The 1950 plan calls for a harvest 37 per cent greater than last year's. Manchurian farmers are expected to reap 18,000,000 tons of grain this year, which is 93 per cent of the peak figure reached under Japanese occupation in 1943. To achieve this goal, an additional 27 million *mow* (1,800,000 hectares) will be brought under cultivation this year.

Northeast China completed its land reform programme this March. More than 20 million farm labourers and poor peasants received land, draught animals and houses during redistribution of the rural wealth formerly concentrated in the hands of feudal landlords. This is by far the greatest single factor in ensuring the success of this year's agricultural production plan.

In addition, however, the government is helping the peasants raise their crop yields by allocating 500,000 tons of grain for loans to peasants and for irrigation projects. The government is also making every effort to get improved farm tools and seeds into the hands of the peasants.

Now that the government has gained firm control over the market, it is in a position to readjust the relationship between agricultural and industrial prices along more rational lines. As a result of the government policy of narrowing the price gap between these two types of commodities, the peasants' purchasing power has already been substantially increased\*—providing industry with the stimulus of an expanding market while also raising the peasants' production enthusiasm.

At the same time, the workers' purchasing power is also being steadily raised. In 1949, real wages of industrial workers rose 27 per cent, and a further increase of 7 or 8 per cent is anticipated this year. This steady improvement in workers' living conditions, which encourages them to put forth still greater productive efforts, is one more factor ensuring victory on the production front.

All of these multiple factors interweave themselves into the healthy pattern of an expanding economy which rests upon a stable financial foundation. Today it is the pattern for Manchuria, but tomorrow it will be the pattern for the whole of China.

\* In 1946, a peasant could only buy 0.8 bolts of cloth for one ton of grain. In 1947, his ton of grain would buy 1.7 bolts; in 1948, 2.2 bolts; and in 1949, 3.3 bolts. The 1950 exchange ratio is expected to reach 3.5 bolts per ton.

# THE U. S. RELIEF CONSPIRACY

C. C. Fang

China is now featured in the U.S. bourgeois press and on the radio as a famine-stricken country that is doomed unless the capitalist countries help her. The Chinese people are described as threatened by "the worst famine in living memory." Millions are reported to be starving. Uncle Sam, it is contended, must come to the rescue. A host of politicians from Dean Acheson to the jingo Senator from California, William Knowland, are advocating the immediate organization of relief missions on "humanitarian grounds." And as if this were not sufficient justification, they advance the old plea of the USA's "traditional friendship for China."

It all sounds extremely magnanimous and this ardently professed concern for the Chinese people would indeed be touching if only one could forget for a moment the whole ignominious history of this so-called "traditional friendship", or ignore the monstrous fact that American assistance to the Chiang Kai-shek brigands has already led to the slaughter of millions of Chinese and is at this very moment causing fresh deaths and sufferings, through bombings by US-made KMT airplanes.

The history of capitalist America's interest in China is a long record of infiltration under many disguises. Old China was an easy victim for American political and economic chicanery in which "relief" played a big part. But the victory of the Chinese people's War of Liberation has now completely exposed the whole hypocritical network of Yankee imperialist expansion in Asia.

The imperialists, however, like to learn the hard way. Ever since their pet jackal, Chiang Kai-shek, was thrown off China's mainland, the American expansionists have been impatiently seeking a pretext to poke their noses again into Chinese affairs. The first report that certain areas in China had been badly hit by crop failures and floods — due mainly to that same reactionary KMT regime which they are still trying to prop up — was enough to make these callous politicians whoop for a "come-back" to China. What could look more disinterested than the desire to help other people in misfortune? Washington, with the ruins of its "China policy" still cluttering the State Department, evidently thinks this the best pretext available at the moment to justify opening a new chapter of American interference in China.

At the meeting of the All-China Representative Conference of Relief Workers recently held

in Peking, Vice-Premier Tung Pi-wu exploded the myth of imperialist America's concern for China. Exposing the whole U.S. relief conspiracy, he ridiculed them for thinking that by this means they could make the situation in China "a splendid opportunity to win back the Chinese people, strike a telling blow against the Soviet Union and drive a wedge between China and the Soviet Union."

Such an American "relief" scheme, coupling intervention with espionage, is no new thing. The U.S. indeed has built up an unrivalled reputation for using "relief" as a weapon in international politics. Its technique was perfected in the post World War I period by Herbert Hoover's notorious American Relief Administration.

Hoover made the ARA into a deadly weapon for suppressing the popular movements that rose out of the havoc of war in Europe. He withheld food and supplies from starving people in Germany, Poland, Hungary, Russia and other areas, and gave their allocations to the White Russian armies and the Anglo-American interventionists attacking the new born U.S.S.R. and to the storm troops of the reactionary regimes fighting the upsurge of democracy in Europe. The whole of American policy, as Hoover admitted in 1921, was to prevent Europe from "going Bolshevik." Such was the reality of American "relief" after World War I. The plight of the European peoples for whom the relief was intended meant nothing to the U.S. imperialists.

The U.S. relief racket could claim some success in helping to stifle social revolution in Germany, and in imposing reactionary regimes in other countries, but it failed abjectly in its main aim of undermining the revolution in the Soviet Union.

This was by no means the last American relief conspiracy on an international scale.

\*

The story of the U.S. manipulation of UNRRA supplies after World War II repeats the discreditable record of the ARA under Hoover. They used it as an instrument to promote the imperialist aims of the U.S.A.

In Europe, it was notorious that the despatch of UNRRA supplies was made conditional upon acceptance of American political demands. Cajolery and blackmail were brought into play while countless people in war-devastated countries were being half-starved. The People's Democracies in Eastern

Europe repulsed American blandishments and blackmail, but not a few European countries, notably Italy and Greece, succumbed to American pressure.

In China. UNRRA's record will stand forever condemned. UNRRA undertook "that at no time shall relief and rehabilitation supplies be used as a political weapon." But UNRRA supplies in China, despite repeated warnings from the China Liberated Areas Relief Association, were manipulated to assist the KMT wage the civil war.

The Liberated Areas which, according to the UNRRA Charter, were entitled to about 60 per cent of all UNRRA supplies to China, did not get more than 2 per cent. Even then, the supplies that actually reached the Liberated Areas often consisted of unsuitable goods, such as mouldy chocolate, spoiled cigarettes, toilet paper, and so on. The State Department hand-picked all senior officials of UNRRA's mission in China. They saw to it that the Communist-led Liberated Areas got as little as possible from UNRRA. Large numbers of other UNRRA staff were ex-U.S. Army personnel and on conclusion of their "operations" went straight back to the Army, the Office of Strategic Services or the State Department.

The record shows that the UNRRA mission in China was, from start to finish, a typical racket of the State Department designed to achieve political ends under the guise of relief work.

UNRRA taught the Chinese people the full meaning of the American imperialists' "philanthropy" — and the main American relief conspiracy in the Far East, like its counter-part in Europe after World War I, failed utterly of its purpose.

Now the Chinese people see the American imperialists playing the relief gambit again. They are particularly intrigued to find Senator Knowland and his like shedding crocodile tears over "famine conditions" in China. For they know Senator Knowland as the man who steered the Bill through the Senate which provided financial aid to Chiang Kai-shek in fighting the Chinese people, and who advocated a naval blockade of the Chinese coast. Now the same Knowland proposes a "relief mission similar to the one headed by Herbert Hoover after World War I"! He wants to send a Trojan Horse to China!

Reports from the United States show that country facing farm surpluses which by 1951 may amount to US\$6,300,000,000. The London *Economist* writes of mountains of potatoes bought at high prices by the U.S. Government being sold back to the farmers for fertilizer at less than the cost of the sacks containing them. Surplus wheat now held by the Commodity Credit Corporation is estimated at US\$1,000,000,000. It is not surprising that American senators, such as Knowland, Flanders and

others, who have never had any love for the Chinese people, should want to despatch the farm surpluses "to relieve famine conditions in China." How nice to be able to dump these surpluses in China and at the same time get further opportunities of undermining her New Democratic state!

The Chinese people are therefore not surprised that the band-leaders of American propaganda are concentrating on the tune of "famine conditions" in China. The American imperialists attempt to make the situation look as alarming as possible in order to justify their "relief scheme." China's reply to this hypocrisy is to throw the provocateurs' lies back into their teeth.

American propaganda must be seen for what it is. While the State Department is trying to make political capital out of the "relief" campaign for China, it is paying increasing attention to other countries in Asia, which, in the eyes of the American imperialists, are "under-developed areas" and, therefore, need their "help." If it is not "famine conditions," then it is "backwardness." A pretext can always be found. But the grim face of imperialism cannot be hidden by the sophistries of Truman's Point Four policy "for the development of backward areas." This sugar-coated programme, which the State Department is trying so hard to sell to South-east Asia, aims at nothing less than dollar domination of the recipient countries. There is no lack of evidence to show that any country which opens itself to the U.S. imperialists' "relief" is opening its gates to U.S. imperialism in all its rapacious greed. The past experiences of the Chinese people should serve as a warning and a lesson to all the Asian nations.



by Jack Chen

# CHILD CARE IN NEW CHINA

Kang Ke-ching

In old China under the rule of the KMT reactionary clique, children were deprived of the protection of the State. No adequate attention was paid to their health, educational or recreational needs. The vast mass of the children of the labouring people suffered like their parents from a many-sided oppression and grinding poverty. Most of them were undernourished and underdeveloped. Child diseases were rampant. The infant mortality rate was appalling.

The new people's China protects the interests of the children and places them high in public esteem. Article 48 of the *Common Programme* of the Chinese People's PCC stipulates that "National physical culture shall be promoted. Public health and medical work shall be expanded and attention shall be paid to the protection of the health of mothers, infants and children." The *Marriage Law* of the Chinese People's Republic, promulgated on May 1, 1950, also lays special emphasis on the protection of women and children.

These fundamental principles have been upheld from the early days of the revolutionary movement. The people's government in the old Liberated Areas did its utmost to care for the children in every way despite all the difficulties of a serious war situation, the backward conditions of the villages, the enemy blockade, and shortages of medical and other supplies.

With the motto which they took of "All for the Children!" the child welfare workers of the old Liberated Areas gave a wonderful example of steadfastness and initiative in the strenuous revolutionary struggle. Today in the people's China, this tradition is being developed under constantly improving conditions. The children have been given the protection of the state in the fundamental laws of the New Democracy. Their interests are under constant consideration in the current political programme and laws. In the various localities, the government and popular organizations under the leadership of the Chinese Communist Party are taking advantage of every opportunity to promote child welfare work with great vigour and initiative.

In all the big cities, factory nurseries, wherever they existed, have resumed their work and are being improved. New nurseries are being established. This work is undertaken jointly by the local people's governments, the departments of women workers in the local trade unions, the child welfare departments of the women's federations and the respective factories. But much of this work has to be prepared "from the ground up."

KANG KE-CHING is the head of the Child Welfare Department of the All-China Democratic Women's Federation.

Tientsin and Shanghai are typical examples. At the time of liberation in January, 1949, there were only six factory nurseries in Tientsin for an industrial population of 300,000.

Shanghai, before its liberation in May 1949, had 36 factory nurseries for an industrial population of just over a million. These have since been expanded and increased to 56 and the number of children being cared for increased from 1,658 to 3,603.

In old China, many of these factory nurseries served merely as window-dressing for the regime and were never seriously intended to solve the problems of the women workers. Mothers did not want to send their children to them because they were badly managed and their personnel was irresponsible. No such window-dressing is permitted in the people's China.

Though it has not been long since the liberation, the very real help given to the women working mothers by the new nurseries has already given positive results. It has not only eased the lives of women workers, but increased their labour enthusiasm and their efficiency in production. These tangible benefits have broken down their old prejudices against nurseries and will make it easier now to get the mothers' co-operation in starting new ones on a bigger scale.

Before the liberation, Wang Kuei-chen, a woman cotton weaver in the No. 12 Plant of the China Textile Corporation in Shanghai used to produce 20 yards of cotton a day. Now, with her child in the new factory nursery, her output has increased to 30 yards a day. When Hsu Feng-ying, a woman worker in the Dairen Fish-net Factory, used to work with her child at her side in the old days, she could only produce 30 nets a day. Later, after sending her child to the nursery, her daily output rose to 80 nets. Now it has reached 100 nets a day and she has been elected a Model Worker. According to the production figures of this same factory, in May 1949, the productive efficiency of the 95 mothers employed there increased by 64 per cent since they were able to send their children to the new factory nursery.

The number of general nurseries in China has also increased since the liberation. These, too, are mainly for the children of working mothers in the factories or other professions. According to incomplete statistics, in Shanghai, before the liberation there were 42 nurseries, now there are 112. Before the liberation there were only 9 nurseries in Peking, now there are 53. Tientsin formerly had only 9, now there are 26. But by the time these lines are in print, these numbers will have increased

(Continued on page 27)

# "WE WANT WORLD PEACE!"



Releasing "doves of peace" at a mass rally at Peking's Chung Shan Park on May 14



People applaud Emi Siao (right), who represented China at the recent Stockholm world peace conference



Soong Ching Ling (Madame Sun Yat-sen) signs the appeal for world peace. With her are (l. to r.): Emi Siao; Li Teh-chuan, Minister of Public Health; Premier Chou En-lai and Vice-Premier Kuo Mo-jo

People throughout the country are signing the Stockholm peace appeal



Representative Pai Yu-shan pledges the peasants' support for world peace



# THE YOUNG PIONEERS



Members of the Pioneers parading in Peking on Youth Day, May 4th



Delegates at a recent conference of Pioneers casting their votes

Pioneers meet Soviet youth delegates at a Peking party



# TOMORROW'S CHINA



They used to roam the streets



Morning break for fruit



In the playground of a Manchurian nursery. New nurseries are being established all over the country as fast as funds permit



A future engineer at play



Fit and happy children of New China





# CHINA'S YOUNG PIONEERS



Chen Lien

At the celebration of China's Youth Day on May 4, columns of youngsters in blue trousers, white shirts and red ties marched at the head of the youth demonstration on Tien An Men Square. A special hurrah of encouragement was reserved for them. They were members of the Chinese Pioneers at their first big public youth parade.

As they passed the rostrum over the great red gate, these bright-eyed youngsters greeted their own people's government leaders in the complete confidence that the future belonged to them. Every step they take carries them further from the old reactionary China where only a fraction of the children had educational opportunities and most were undernourished and bitterly exploited. The Pioneers of New China know that with the victory of the people's revolution children now have an honoured place and due protection in society.

China's new Pioneers comes fourth in a succession of revolutionary children's organizations formed under the leadership of the Chinese Communist Party. During the time of the Great Revolution of 1925-27, the first progressive children's corps was founded — the Labour Scouts. When that revolution was betrayed by Chiang Kai-shek, and the revolutionary forces withdrew from the cities to the countryside, the children were led by two organizations — the Young Vanguards and the Children's Corps. The Young Vanguards was a semi-military organization of children which cooperated with the Red Army in its campaigns. Each member wore a red tie and carried a three-foot scout pole. They acted as sentries, patrols on the outskirts of villages, or messengers for the People's Army in its mortal struggle with the KMT. In the rear, they helped the families of soldiers and played their part in hunting down traitors,

reforming loafers, and stopping gambling. Progressives all over the world heard of these "Little Red Devils."

The Children's Corps engaged only in rear service work, helping production, acting as Little Teachers, writing letters for the peasants to their relatives at the front.

During the Anti-Japanese War these revolutionary children's organizations became the Anti-Japanese Young Vanguards and Children's Corps and they showed an equal bravery and resource in fighting the Japanese invaders. Many became adepts at laying mines and collecting intelligence. Their exploits have gone into the history books. In Shensi Province people still tell the tale of how the Corps leader Li Hsiao-hu, the "Small Tiger," outwitted the Japanese sentries, who searched him to his skin, by carrying an important message to the Eighth Route Army concealed in the stem of an Indian corn.

## Children's New Joys

With the mainland virtually cleared of enemy troops and the people engaged in the great work of rehabilitation and construction, the children of New China are no longer required to serve as sentinels and patrols. Now they only play at soldiers. Life today offers them the joys of childhood and the task of fitting themselves for the great work of building a New Democratic China.

At the first National Congress of the New Democratic Youth League, held in Peking in April 1949, it was decided that one of the League's important tasks was to give leadership in the training of the children. The Communist Party emphasized that the best cadres should be mobilized for this work, and in October 1949 the League's Central Committee announced the establishment of the Pioneers.

The membership of this organization, unlike its predecessors, is not restricted to the more politically-conscious children but is open to all boys and girls aged 9 to 15. They undertake to cultivate the Five Loves — love of the Motherland, of people, of labour, of science and of public property. In the Pioneers, they also strive to develop the Four Virtues of unity, democracy, courage and good humour.

Pioneer branches are organized on the basis of the schools, institutions, streets and villages. Eight to 15 members make up a platoon; 3-5 platoons make up a company; 3-5 companies, a detachment. When the Pioneer branches are set up by the various Youth League branches, League members and young school teachers are selected as instructors.

In five provinces and 20 leading cities, up to March this year, the Pioneers had already a membership of 478,488.

It has a gaily printed fortnightly of its own, *Chinese Pioneers*, with a circulation of 43,000. Now in its 14th issue, it contains articles on current topics, scientific stories, reports of school life, games, puzzles, and many lively pictures and cartoons.

The Harbin branch of the Pioneers organizes outside reading groups for school children and runs a "Star Meeting" at which astronomy is studied in interesting ways, replacing the children's superstitious ideas about the universe with scientific knowledge.

Branches in the various cities also organize hiking, sports and picnics during the holidays and play a big part in building up a sound physique in the younger generation.

The Pioneers also inculcates the spirit of internationalism and love and respect for labour by participating in the great international festivals such as May Day, learning about the revolutionary move-

ments in the U.S.S.R. and other countries and helping the grown-ups in productive tasks. Thus the Pioneers helps the children both in their school lessons and political education.

The Pioneers has shown that it can improve the children's marks in their school lessons through its members' practice of mutual help. The Pioneers also improves the children's discipline and behaviour and cuts down unpunctuality and truancy from school. It strengthens the children's unity among themselves by bringing different age groups and classes together in collective activities.

As Pioneer members, the children are also encouraged to take part in public activities. This gives them a new and active sense of citizenship. In Peking, Changsha and other cities, they teach reading and writing to juvenile and adult illiterates. In Hsuehchow, Kiangsu Province, when ten thousand children were still temporarily out of school as a result of the war, the Pioneer members acting as Little Teachers organized 4,525 children into study groups. In every area where Pioneers are active they play an important part in the campaign for buying Victory Bonds.

In the rural areas the Pioneers are shock brigaders in aiding the production campaigns. They take part in the Winter Study movement. They give special care to animals. The villagers are particularly impressed by the way the Pioneers has given their children a new purposeful approach to work and helps them spend their leisure hours in more creative ways.

On April 23, 1950, the Central Committee of the Youth League called a national congress in Peking of all cadres engaged in children's work and the Pioneers' flag, anthem, members' badge, salute and slogans were formally adopted. In the Pioneers' emblem the star symbolizes the leadership of the Communist Party, and the torch — enlightenment.

"Our children are eager in the pursuit of truth and knowledge.

Of their very nature, they are in love with a healthy collective life. Our Pioneers movement is bound to be a success," said Feng Wen-ping, General Secretary of the

Youth League, at that congress. Seeing those bright and eager young faces at the Tien An Men parade, no one could doubt the truth of his words.

## A SHAMEFUL LIE EXPOSED

*Exploiting their favourite theme of "famine in China," the imperialists have, in recent weeks, employed every propaganda medium to slander the Chinese people and their leaders.*

*The Voice of America has shamelessly concocted a story that Soong Ching Ling (Mme. Sun Yat-sen), Vice-Chairman of the Central People's Government and concurrently Chairman of the People's Relief Administration of China, has asked the U.S. to send food to China. The following is a statement issued by Vice-Chairman Soong Ching Ling on May 24 in which the hollow fabrication of the U.S. State Department's chief propaganda organ is summarily exposed.*

It has come to my attention that a slanderous attack was made in a recent *Voice of America* broadcast against the relief policies of the People's Republic of China. In this attack it was stated that I had cabled the China Welfare Appeal, an organization friendly to the Chinese people, to send food supplies to China. I wish to state categorically that this is a shameful lie which was used to distort the meaning of a paragraph in the May 1 speech of Vice-Chairman Liu Shao-chi. In the first place, I have never cabled the China Welfare Appeal asking for food. In the second place, Vice-Chairman Liu made it perfectly clear in his May 1 speech that the People's Republic of China is always ready to receive well-intentioned assistance from abroad, but we do not have to accept anything with imperialistic intentions behind it.

I am in hearty agreement with Vice-Chairman Liu, and the People's Relief Administration of China is on record as being staunch and unwavering in our refusal of any so-called "help" which would be used subversively or indirectly to attack the people's government. I also wish to take this occasion to state, as has been made plain in other documents available to the whole world, that the Central People's Government is fully capable of keeping any famine under control and that this is the actual state of conditions within our country today.

It would be wise for those imperialists in the United States who are wasting time worrying about the welfare of the Chinese people to spend all of that time on their own welfare problems, which consist of the livelihood of over 16 million people either totally or partially unemployed in their country today. The Chinese people would also like to recommend that these phony philanthropists spend less time war-mongering in London conferences and divert all that wasted energy to retrieving the over 20 per cent decrease in their industrial index which will so drastically affect the well-being of the people in the United States.

# Jenchienhu Conquers Flood and Famine

Wen Chao

China's liberated peasants have learned to overcome adversity in a new way. Whenever famine swept the countryside in former times, the peasants faced the future with passive stoicism. Each got along as best he could, believing that he would survive or not according to his foreordained fate. But the politically awakened peasant of today knows that the future is something he can mould with his own hands, and that the combined efforts of men are stronger than all the forces of nature.

Jenchienhu village, about 60 kilometres northeast of Tientsin, is typical of the thousands of small communities throughout China which have learned to conquer hardship through collective struggle. Last winter's fight against famine was often very strenuous and bitter, but today the peasants can look across their fields and know that their grain bins will be full again after a few weeks.

"We'll be alright now," Jen Yen-lin told me. "Thanks to our government's help and our own round-the-clock efforts, we managed to get the upper hand over flood and famine this time."

A year ago, Jen had been the first in the village to finish spring ploughing. Under the old KMT society, his labours had brought him nothing but hunger and poverty. Now after land reform, with the title-deeds of several new plots in his pocket, he worked with an enthusiasm that refused to acknowledge fatigue. As soon as his own land was ready for sowing, he turned to ploughing up wasteland lying further from the village. His wife, his 14-year-old son and his two younger daughters all joined in the work, spurred on by the government decree that "reclaimed land belongs to the tiller and will be tax-free for one year."

In the words of the 60-year-old grandmother, "our whole family

went crazy over land reclamation — we could talk of nothing else." Before the spring season was over, the Jen family had planted some 50 mow of *kaoliang* (sorghum).

In May, an exceptional heat wave swept eastern Hopei and shrivelled the young green shoots. Jen's wife, Jui-chin, persuaded him to replant the land. Racing against time, they managed to sow their fields again before it was too late, and the new crop came up quite well.

But July brought the summer rains, and this year the rains were torrential. The Chi Yun River, which skirts the village, soon threatened to overflow. Each morning Jen and his wife went with the other able-bodied villagers to reinforce the dykes. Their battle with the river was all but won when suddenly a tremendous rain-storm came down. Even Grandmother Jen went out to work on the dykes, which the KMT army had carved up with gun emplacements during the preceding year's campaign.

## When the River Rose

As the river rose, the most dangerous sections of the dyke stood firm. Then without warning, a section that had seemed quite safe gave way. The turbulent river poured out over the fields, destroying everything in its path. Jen's fields were all submerged under several feet of water. Nothing remained but the village which, situated on a slight elevation, now jutted up in the middle of a lake.

Back at home, Jui-chin checked over their food supplies and announced in a strained voice: "We have enough grain to last one month." The grandmother and children burst into tears, but Jen sat motionless and silent.

The next day a meeting was called of Party members and village officials. As Jen had been elected to a minor village post, he went along to the session. An oppres-

sive atmosphere, compounded of worry and nerve strain, permeated the room.

When the Party branch secretary tried to lay a more cheerful and optimistic view of the situation before the gathering, Jen snapped at him angrily:

"It's easy for you to talk because you are well enough off. You have your old job in Tientsin that you could always go back to. But what about us?"

"He isn't going anywhere," said an old Party member named Liu. "None of us will leave. As you know, since I'm a carpenter I could go anywhere to earn a living. But all of us are going to stay right here and help each other through the hardships ahead."

"Comrades," the Party secretary said calmly, "we've all been hard hit. But this isn't the old days when there would be nothing we could do but sell our children and finally leave our homes as refugees and beggars. Now we have a government of our own to support us. It will help us set up subsidiary occupations to earn money during the winter — and if the worst comes to the worst, it will give us relief grain to tide us over. We villagers are organized now and we know how to work together. If we all join forces, we'll find a way out."

The grim atmosphere of the meeting gradually gave way to a spirited discussion of proposals for getting through the famine period lying ahead. Next morning the resultant plan was presented at a mass meeting for the approval of all the 136 families in the village. Until side activities could be organized, the villagers were advised to collect wild millet and to mow hillside grass which could be sold as fuel in the nearby town. These proposals were all enthusiastically adopted.

A few days later, Jen took 100 catties of dried grass to market

and sold them for several catties of grain. Thereafter he adopted the routine of going to town every morning and cutting wild grass and scrub every afternoon. Other members of the family spent the day gathering wild millet, which the grandmother husked and cooked together with other grain. In this way, the Jen family covered its daily requirements and even managed to add a bit to its grain reserves.

By the end of August, the wild millet had all been collected and even wild grass was becoming scarce. An air of depression again settled over the village.

The Party secretary called another meeting to discuss the situation. According to his report, the coastal population was extracting marketable chemicals from sea water; the inhabitants of mountainous areas were digging medicinal herbs to sell to pharmaceutical firms; in other regions, the villagers were catching fish in their flooded fields.

Jen interrupted the report at this point to remark that he had seen a few fish swimming through his flooded fields. A fishing project seemed like a good idea, but how at such a time could Jenchienhu village afford to buy the necessary equipment? The village leader noted that, as a last resort, they could ask the government for a loan. However, he advocated trying to get by on their own resources if possible, "so that the government can save its money for those who are worse off than we are."

#### Co-operative Formed

When the general plan was worked out, the village leaders called a mass meeting at which a fishing co-operative was formed. There were 94 initial shareholders, each of whom contributed four catties of *kaoliang* plus eight hours of labour per day. Jen became a full member, and his son took out a half-share.

A week later the fishing grounds had been laid out and work began. To everyone's surprise and joy, the catch averaged 1,500 catties a day. The co-operative set up a

marketing section to exchange part of the catch for grain and to distribute each member's daily share. As Grandmother Jen told me later: "Fish used to live on us during previous floods, but this time we lived on the fish."

But by the end of September, the flood waters began to recede and the fish catch dwindled. Fortunately a nearby state farm was constructing some buildings and needed unskilled workers. The village made a contract with the farm which provided employment for many of the peasants. Other villagers with draught animals were hired to transport building materials to the farm.

Jen alternated between working on the state farm and marketing the grass which his wife and daughters now went out to cut. The son took the family horse and joined a transportation team. Thus the Jens continued to make ends meet until December, when heavy snows shut down work on the state farm and halted grass cutting.

The Jen family remained idle for some time and its food reserves dropped alarmingly. Tempers grew taut and a violent family quarrel broke out over whether or not to sell the horse.

The village head went to the district headquarters for advice. On his return he announced the encouraging news that the government would loan the village ten machines for weaving straw sacks.

"But who's going to buy our straw sacks in times like these," Jen asked skeptically.

"The government trading company will buy all we make and pay in hard cash," the village leader replied.

Mutual-aid teams were set up to handle this work. Both Jen and his wife joined a weaving group, and after a time the son helped with the work as well. By the end of January, the family had turned out 180 bags. This brought in 400 catties of *kaoliang*, enough to feed the Jens during the critical winter period.

By mid-February, virtually every family in Jenchienhu had been

organized into some kind of non-agricultural production group. There were now 48 sack-weaving machines in operation as well as production units for spinning cotton yarn by hand. Several transportation teams had been formed, and these were kept busy on government contracts. Though life might be hard, the villagers no longer faced the threat of starvation.

#### Mutual Aid

Spring ploughing presented the next problem. How was it to be carried out without interrupting the daily income from side-occupations? There was only one solution — further co-operation.

The Jens formed a mutual-aid team with a neighbouring family having manpower to spare but no draught animal. Jen's son and the neighbour's 20-year-old boy handled all the ploughing for both families. The other able-bodied members of both families were thus left free to earn their current living expenses.

By means of such arrangements, Jenchienhu village planted 320 *mow* of early-ripening wheat and 300 *mow* of *kaoliang*. Only 32 *mow* of village land were left uncultivated, and these were still too swampy for use. Later, the hoeing and weeding were also handled by co-operative methods. The village did not halt its handicraft production for a single day during the spring season.

The wheat on Jen's land is now almost waist high and the ears are beginning to fatten out. A bumper harvest is expected within a month's time. The *kaoliang* is also coming along well, and this year no summer floods will destroy the crop. The government has carried out a large-scale water conservancy project that has brought Chi Yun River under control.

Just as flood has become a thing of the past for Jenchienhu village, so has the threat of famine. The villagers can no longer be terrorized by any natural disasters, for they have learned to overcome them through their own collective efforts.

# An Institute of Child Care and Education

Sun Pao-su

When four-year-old child Chao Pao first arrived, last autumn, at Peking's Institute of Child Care and Education, she was a problem child. She refused to talk and would not even give her name, though the Institute knew it from her mother who brought her there. Immediately anyone tried to approach and fondle her—for she was such a good-looking child—she would tremble and tense her limbs. Since she was too shy to eat with the other children, the matron brought her meal on a tray all to herself, thinking that this might soften her feeling of resistance. But to her surprise, the little girl pushed the dishes away with a violent gesture.

Not unfamiliar with this phenomenon, the matron consulted her mother. It was soon clear that little Chao Pao had suffered a deep shock from the dreadful experiences she had gone through.

Shortly before Chiang Kai-shek had been driven out of Nanking, where the child lived, a gang of KMT secret agents came at night and dragged Chao Pao's father away. He was an underground revolutionary. The next morning they returned and placed the mother and child under house arrest. Except for the times when they were taken to a brutally conducted court for 'trial', Chao Pao and her mother lived constantly under the baleful eyes of two gendarmes armed with rifles and bayonets.

With the defeat of the KMT they were freed by the People's Liberation Army, only to learn that Chao Pao's father had already been butchered with hundreds of others.

It was by no means the first time that a child with Chao Pao's background had been received and rehabilitated at the Institute, for it has a revolutionary history. With sympathetic and careful attention Chao Pao gradually regained her normal

childlike gaiety and trust in human beings.

The Institute of Child Care and Education, formerly known as the Los Angeles Nursery, is the oldest and for a time was the only nursery in the old Liberated Areas of China. Since its foundation in 1940 in Yen-an its history has been closely linked with that of China's Liberation Army. It withstood many enemy bombings, both from the Japanese and KMT; it broke through many a siege; it crossed the Yellow River and in winter time, with the KMT troops in close pursuit, climbed the Eighteen Ladder Mountain that is noted for its bleakness and cold.

In all these trials the Institute personnel gave an inspiring demonstration of self-sacrifice and sense of responsibility. Their slogan is, "Everything for the children!" Except for one day in March 1947, in an emergency evacuation from a Shensi village which was already within range of enemy gunfire, the children were never short of any essential need. The staff, however, often carried on with little food and sleep under nerve wracking conditions.

## Precious Charges

One night, in Hupao county, on the border between Shansi and Hopei Provinces, as they were racing for the Yellow River crossing, a raging storm came on. It was so pitch dark they could not see their hands before their faces. But they had to push on. There was only room for the children on the carts. The nurses had to trudge alongside the wheels, constantly feeling with their hands to see if the children were safe. One nurse crushed her finger in a wheel, but once again they saved their precious charges.

Wherever the nursery might be, the local institutions and the People's Army did all they could for the children of their revolu-

tionary comrades. It was thanks to this care from the people that all through the months of hectic flight and long periods of village life under difficult conditions, the nursery suffered not a single casualty or serious illness, and in March 1949, children and nurses arrived safely in Peking from Pingshan county where they had stayed for nearly a year.

The Institute is now housed on the western outskirts of the city in the Wan Shou Ssu, a former Buddhist temple with a chequered history. It was used as a barrack during the Japanese occupation, and later became a KMT concentration camp. Here and there, one still can detect some barbed wire over a wall, or a reactionary slogan not quite erased. This site of mediaeval gloom has now been transformed into a modern nursery. The main hall where the enormous gilt Buddha used to be and where the KMT camp wardens used to torture their victims, has been redecorated and made into a sunny indoor playground for forty children. On the wall hangs an inscription from Chairman Mao: "To the Sun! To Liberty!" In place of apparatus of torture there are play-pens, rocking horses and swings. The old altar at which pilgrims burnt incense is now criss-crossed with bamboo poles to dry the nursery washing. The spacious drawing rooms and bed-chambers of the former abbots are now living quarters for the children. The ancient courtyard has been made into a miniature basket-ball ground. Under the foliage of ancient trees at the back of the temple, a modern garden has been laid out. There the children play hide-and-seek behind the pine hedges, watch the gold fish in the pond and plant flowers and vegetables.

The 200-odd children at present in the Institute range from three month old babies to six year old children. The youngsters up to

three years of age are cared for in the creche; from three to five years of age they live in the nursery; and from five years of age they attend the kindergarten. Within these departments they are grouped according to their physical or mental ages. The administrative and teaching staff number about 170, of whom 100 are nurses and nine are teachers for the more advanced kindergarten pupils.

Since its founding in war time, the Institute had always to keep itself prepared for evacuation at a moment's notice in case of danger. Thus the first task of the staff was to keep the children fit and ready for rough travel. The Health Department of the Institute is formed by three baby specialists, four nurses and one pharmacist. The hospital, situated at the rear of the temple, consists of a special ward, a sanatorium, a clinic and several isolation wards for infectious cases. In addition to vaccination, children are inoculated against all diseases, such as whooping cough, diphtheria, cholera and typhoid, and are given a B.C.G. vaccination upon entering the Institute. They are screened every six months to guard against tubercular symptoms and their heights and weights are taken monthly. The children eat five times a day. Their meals are supervised by expert dieticians.

Coming mostly from the old Liberated Areas and with revolutionary cadres as their parents, the children here seem to be specially politically conscious. They all hate Chiang Kai-shek whom they generally refer to as 'that bad man', a substitute for 'reactionary', just as they call revolutionary workers and members of the PLA 'good men'. They boast to each other with such remarks as "My father is a good man in yellow uniform (the army)!" while another may retort by claiming "Well, mine is in blue (a civilian cadre)!"

The children are taught to love and respect labour. Before their visit to the botanical gardens, they were read stories about the plants and flowers. They were taken to the rice fields. It was not easy for them to link the green leaves with

## AGNES SMEDLEY - IN MEMORIAM

The high esteem in which Agnes Smedley is held by the Chinese people is abundantly shown in the many tributes paid to her memory immediately after the news of her death reached China.

"Her sincere love for the Chinese people will live forever in their hearts," says the statement of the Chinese People's Relief Association headed by Soong Ching Ling (Madame Sun Yat-sen). "We must express our boundless indignation against U.S. imperialism whose persecution caused her death."

Similar sentiments were voiced by the All-China Democratic Women's Federation and the All-China Federation of Writers and Artists.

A message of condolence sent to the Committee for a Democratic Far Eastern Policy in New York by the Editorial Board of this journal also expressed its profound sorrow at the death of this talented and well-loved writer.

Emi Siao, poet and personal friend of Agnes Smedley, in his article published in the Peking *People's Daily*, denounced the fascist U.S. ruling class for persecuting her and warned them that despite such attacks on progressives, "the American people will remain comrades-in-arms on the peace front in the common struggle against the use of atomic weapons."

Newspapers in all parts of the country from Peking to Canton carried articles on Agnes Smedley in black-bordered boxes and reminded their readers of her contribution to the cause of freedom for which she fought to the last.

Agnes Smedley in her will requested that her ashes together with all her personal belongings be sent to Peking and placed at the disposal of General Chu Teh, Commander-in-Chief of the Chinese People's Liberation Army. In her last act, Agnes Smedley thus identified herself with the country in which she had spent twelve of the most productive and militant years of her life.



the white rice they eat at meals, but still, they realized that one had to wade through knee-deep mud to cultivate the rice, that their favourite food did not just appear from nowhere but came as a result of heavy but rewarding labour. When they went on a picnic to the Summer Palace, they were told how those lovely and palatial buildings were built by the sweat and blood of the labouring people. They also have their own little vegetable garden just outside the temple where each child tends his own allotment. All the heavy jobs are done by the adults; they only sow the seeds and weed and water the plants, but they learn in the best way possible from this early stage

to regard labour as a privilege and a creative joy.

Since its arrival in the capital, the Institute, in addition to carrying on its own special work, has established courses to train new nursery personnel. Five groups totalling 100 baby-nurses, dieticians and child psychologists have already graduated. In addition to their usual knowledge of hygiene and diet they have taken with them to their new jobs the spirit of this unique Institute summed up in its slogan: Everything for the children! Into their peace time labours they carry the revolutionary tradition of the place, knowing that those they tend are not 'just babies' -- but the future of New China.

## EDUCATION - ART - ARCHAEOLOGY



## Educational Conference

The All-China Conference on Higher Education opening on June 1 in Peking will make a special study of the problems of adapting higher education to the needs of New China's economic reconstruction and national defence.

Immediately after their liberation, China's universities and colleges set about eradicating the reactionary influence of the KMT and re-orientating themselves to serve the people's interests. Many new industrial courses were started. But as a whole, higher educational institutions still await the recommendations of this conference to complete their transformation into true people's colleges.

The Ministry of Education has already established close contacts with the universities and the various industrial ministries in order to work out jointly the principles of the new system of industrial education.

Following a series of discussions, concrete proposals have already been made to reorganize the curriculums of the colleges of natural science and technology. The ministries concerned have studied these educational problems from their own angles and have stated their requirements for the training of industrial cadres.

The Northeast Workers' and Peasants' Educational Conference was held from May 11 to May 14 in Mukden in preparation for the June All-China Conference. Vice-Minister Chien Chun-jui was present and summed up Northeast

China's experiences in industrial education.

The main purpose of this conference was to give definite guidance for the development of workers' and peasants' education in preparation for the complete eradication of illiteracy among them within the next four or five years.

## Chinese Art for the New Democracies

A pre-view of the art exhibits to be sent to Prague for its forthcoming "China Month" has been one of the recent highlights in the capital's cultural life.

The Classical Art Exhibition includes 155 objects of rare artistic value from the Palace Museum, Peking. Precious stone carvings, chinaware, porcelains, enamels, wood-carvings, tapestries, embroideries and paintings, all products of Chinese craftsmanship, have been specially chosen to illustrate aspects of Chinese life.

The Handicrafts Exhibition containing 175 examples of contemporary craftsmanship shows that the ancient artistic tradition has not been lost despite the chaos of the years of reaction, but has even been developed by the people in new directions. Although many craftsmen still cling to traditional forms, there are many new designs and the artistic expression of progressive trends is already clearly evidenced. The portrait of Chairman Mao, done in Hunan embroidery, sculptured dancing *yanko* figures, and paintings on porcelain of children celebrating the creation of the new China and demonstrating for the defence of world peace, are particularly attractive.

The Modern Art Exhibition with more than 400 woodcuts, oils, New Year pictures and scissor-cuts pulses with the new life of China. The woodcuts made by the artists who lived in the KMT-dominated parts of the country are poignant denunciations of the reactionaries' atrocities, but they also depict the

heroism of the revolutionary struggle. The artists of the Liberated Areas deal characteristically with such themes as the land reform, industrial production and the War of Liberation. These themes also inspire the painters and designers of New Year pictures. The examples of scissor-cuts, a typical folk art, are of great beauty and vitality.

These exhibits are amplified by a photographic exhibition of New China with more than 300 photographs showing the Liberation War, land reform and cultural activities. There are also seven full-length documentaries and feature films, and more than 30 gramophone recordings, all representative examples of contemporary Chinese films and music.

## 2000-Year Old Bell

The famous Hsiung-Yuan Bronze Bell was formally presented to the nation by its owner, Hsiung Shutao, of Tientsin, in May. Mayor Hwang Ching accepted the gift on behalf of the Central People's Government at a ceremony, and it has now been brought to the capital.

Kuo Mo-jo, President of the Academia Sinica, Ma Heng, Director of the Palace Museum, and other archaeologists have confirmed that the bell is a product of the Chow dynasty, dating back some 2,000 years. Both of its broad sides have inscribed patterns and 48 ideographs which add considerably to its scientific interest. None of the Chow dynasty bronzes in the Peking Palace Museum have any ideographs.

Since it was found by a fisherman in the Poyang Lake and passed into Mr. Hsiung's keeping, several attempts, some of them forceful, have been made in the past to get it out of his possession. He was presenting it to the nation now, he said, because under the people's government he was sure that the people would really have access to their cultural heritage,



A scissor-cut from Hopei

# CURRENT CHINA

May 11—25, 1950



## Choushan Liberated

Choushan Archipelago, composed of some 300 islands lying near the mouth of the Yangtze River, was completely liberated by May 18 following three-day landing operations. On May 17, Gen. Chen Yi's 3rd Field Army freed Choushan Island, the largest of the group and the main KMT base for air and sea attacks against China's mainland. Before fleeing to Taiwan, KMT troops engaged in an orgy of murder, rape and robbery. Many thousands of local inhabitants were rounded up and shipped to Taiwan for forced labour.

The liberation of these strategic islands has broken the back of the joint U.S.-KMT blockade against Shanghai and adjacent coastal ports. Shipping between Shanghai and Tientsin is scheduled to be resumed in a few weeks. This victory has also created favourable conditions for the impending liberation of Taiwan, clearing the sea route for the final attack against the sole remnants of Chiang's forces.

## PLA Captures Tungshan

PLA forces liberated Tungshan Island, some 100 kilometres southwest of Amoy, on May 12 following a night-long battle. Chiang Kai-shek now only retains one island, Kinmen Island, along the entire Fukien coast.

## Hainan Restoration

Public order was swiftly restored on Hainan Island after its liberation on April 30. The inhabitants have regained a peaceful life for the first time in over a decade. Regular shipping and tele-communication services again link the island with China's mainland.

During the two-week Hainan campaign, more than 30,000 KMT troops were put out of action, of whom 23,885 were taken prisoner.



## Last Days on Taiwan

While the PLA intensifies its preparations for the final assault on Taiwan, Chiang Kai-shek reportedly told American newsmen that he would consider placing the island under MacArthur's control. However, the American imperialists have been tightening their hold on Taiwan without waiting for such formalities. Another 28 American agents, including retired Admiral Charles M. Cooke Jr., are arriving in Taipeh disguised as "economic advisors" and "experts," sent by the Universal Trading Corp., a KMT agency in New York.

## Appeal to Tibetans

Hsijaochiatso, Vice-Chairman of the Chinghai Provincial People's Government, has broadcast an appeal to his fellow-Tibetans to bring about the peaceful liberation of their homeland, which has been promised regional autonomy within the framework of the People's Republic of China. Reports from New Delhi claim that the Indian government has granted the United States permission to ship arms to Tibet via India.

## Price Stabilization

Reflecting recent price stability, railway passenger fares have gone down 15 per cent since May 1,

while postal rates were cut 20 per cent on May 11. During April, banks reduced deposit interest rates from 85 to 70 per cent, while loan interest rates declined from 70 to 55 per cent. By the end of April, deposits in state banks were three times the February level. During this period, the exchange ratio between people's currency and U.S. dollars was narrowed by 11 per cent.

## Stocktaking Results

The nation-wide stocktaking drive to uncover hidden or "lost" KMT assets in its confiscated warehouses has led to recovery of U.S.\$14,000,000 worth of goods in East China alone. The China Textile Corporation, for instance, discovered 1,800,000 unlisted machine parts in its possession. By May 10, more than 3,000 tons of airplane parts had been located in Kunming. Enough tele-communication equipment was unearthed in Chungking to supply the area's needs for five years. Goods worth \$6 billion people's currency have been tracked down in Honan Province, including 4,000 taels of gold and silver.

## Flood Control HQ

A National Anti-Flood Headquarters is being set up with field posts throughout the country to direct the battle against floods this year. This spring's water conservancy projects, involving 300 million cubic metres of earthwork, are being completed on schedule with the help of 3,000,000 peasants.

## Timber Production

The 1950 task of afforesting some 1,772,000 *mow*, planting 500 million tree seedlings and reserving existing forests was laid down in a Government Administration Council Directive issued on May 16. Under this plan, 4,000,000 cubic metres of timber will be felled this year, largely in Inner Mongolia.



## MacArthur's Illegal Act

Foreign Minister Chou En-lai formally accused Gen. MacArthur on May 15 of serious violation of international law and of taking unilateral and arbitrary action to release Japanese war criminals. Pointing out that the Chinese people had every right to demand just punishment for these war criminals, the Foreign Minister called for the immediate repeal of MacArthur's Directive No. 5 on the advance release of war criminals. The Central People's Government, he said, holds the U.S. Government fully responsible for correcting MacArthur's illegal acts.

## International

**Britain:** In a sharply-worded statement from the Foreign Ministry issued May 22, the Central People's Government asked the British Government for clarification on the inconsistencies between its friendly declarations and hostile actions toward Peking (full text on p. 26).

**India:** K. M. Panikkar, Indian Ambassador to China, presented his credentials to Chairman Mao Tse-tung on May 20.

**Viet-Nam:** The 60th birthday of Ho Chi-minh, President of the Democratic Republic of Viet-Nam, was widely celebrated in China.

**U.N.:** Chinese delegate Su Yunung arrived in Switzerland on May 24 to attend a meeting of the Universal Postal Union, the first U.N. agency to seat a representative of the Chinese People's Republic.

Wang Chia-hsiang, Chinese Ambassador to the U.S.S.R., conferred with U.N. Secretary-General Trygve Lie on May 16 in Moscow upon the latter's request.

## Here and There

**Children's Day:** June 1, International Children's Day, has been officially proclaimed a holiday for Chinese children by the Central People's Government.

**Tractor Depot:** The first agricultural machine depot in China, equipped with 30 tractors and other mechanized agricultural equipment, has started work near Mukden.

## ON THE PEACE FRONT

The campaign to mobilize signatures in support of the Stockholm peace appeal is gathering tremendous momentum in China, welding all strata of the Chinese people into a solid and determined front opposing the imperialist warmongers.

The various political parties in China and all national mass organizations have unanimously endorsed the World Peace Congress' demand that atomic weapons be banned unconditionally, that strict international controls be set up to enforce this decision, and that any government which first employs atomic weapons shall be considered a war criminal guilty of crimes against humanity. A brief sampling of the response to the peace signature drive reveals how widespread the campaign has become since it was officially launched in China on May 14.

Tientsin collected more than 220,000 signatures in the first week. Within three hours, 326 members of a PLA unit stationed near Tientsin signed the Stockholm declaration to which they added the words: "We do not want war, but we are not afraid of it. We are prepared to fight the warmongers if necessary."

\* \* \*

More than 50,000 Peking youths crowded the Sports Stadium on May 18 to attend a giant peace rally sponsored by the New Democratic Youth League of China.

\* \* \*

A Peking railway worker who lost an eye in the War of Liberation wrote beside his name: "I would gladly give my other eye — and my life too — to win lasting peace for the world."

\* \* \*

A Peace Barrow, accompanied by a *yangko* dance team, is turning the back lanes of Peking to help

achieve the city's target of 1,000,000 signatures by the end of May. Street stalls gathering signatures dot the capital's main thoroughfares, which are festooned with banners proclaiming: "Sign For Peace," and "Lovers of peace—join in the world struggle for peace."

\* \* \*

In signing the peace appeal, 145 former high-ranking KMT officers wrote: "Having fought in the KMT anti-popular war, we feel keenly the destructiveness of war. We are convinced that victory must go to the world-wide broad masses of peace-loving people."

\* \* \*

Yang Ming-chen, a peasant living near Peking, brought his whole family into town to sign the peace appeal. As he explained: "The united strength of hundreds of thousands of people can tip the scale for world peace — that is why I want to add the five members of my family to this united force."

**Bridge Repaired:** The 317-metre Lunghai Railway Bridge west of Chengchow, in Honan Province, has been restored by the PLA in the record time of 2½ months. This bridge, destroyed by the KMT in 1940, had remained derelict for ten years.

Kiangsu and Shantung Provinces in East China, as well as Hopei and Pingyuan Provinces in North China, suffered serious calamities. Some provinces had more than an ordinary year. Certain places in Central, Southwest, Northeast and Northwest China were also afflicted, but the average . . ."

**The May Fourth Movement:** On page 12, at the end of column two, the text should read: "As a result of the nation-wide strikes organized by mechanics, printers, textile workers, railwaymen and other transport workers on June 3, the warlord government was forced to release the arrested students, dismiss the worst traitors from their official posts and reverse their policy at Versailles. From . . ." etc., as continued on page 21.

## CORRECTIONS FOR THE PREVIOUS ISSUE

**The Financial and Food Situation:** On page 6, eight lines from the bottom of column two, the text should read: "Quite a few places in Northern Anhwei, Northern

ARCHIVE

## FOREIGN MINISTRY SPOKESMAN ON SINO-BRITISH NEGOTIATIONS

On May 22, a spokesman of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Central People's Government made the following statement:

On January 6, 1950, the British Government sent a note to Chou En-lai, Foreign Minister of the Central People's Government of the People's Republic of China, expressing the desire to establish diplomatic relations with the Central People's Government of the People's Republic of China on the basis of equality, mutual benefit and mutual respect for territory and sovereignty. On the same day the British Government also announced its withdrawal of recognition from the remnant reactionary clique of the Kuomintang. On January 9, Foreign Minister Chou En-lai of the Central People's Government of the People's Republic of China replied to this note of the British Government, expressing willingness to establish diplomatic relations between the People's Republic of China and Great Britain on the basis of equality, mutual benefit and mutual respect for territory and sovereignty. Furthermore, on January 28, he accepted Mr. John C. Hutchison, Charge d'Affaires *ad interim*, as representative of the British Government to come to Peking to conduct negotiations on preliminary and procedural questions concerning the establishment of diplomatic relations between the People's Republic of China and Great Britain.

After Mr. Hutchison's arrival in Peking, the negotiations concerning the establishment of diplomatic relations between the People's Republic of China and Great Britain formally began on March 2. In the course of the negotiations, the Central People's Government verbally made it clear to the British representative that, among the preliminary and procedural questions concerning the establishment of diplomatic relations between the People's Republic of China and Great Britain, the most important one, which must first be settled, was the relationship between the British Government and the remnant reactionary clique of the Kuomintang. The Central People's Government considered the action of the British delegate in abstaining from voting on the question of Chinese representation in the United Nations, and the question of what actually is the attitude of the British Government towards the various organizations of the remnant reactionary clique of the Kuomintang and the national properties and assets of China in Great Britain, Hongkong, and territories subject to Great Britain, as all pertaining to the question of the relationship between the British Government and the remnant reactionary clique of the Kuomintang. The Central People's Government, therefore, desired the British Government to clarify its position with regard to these two questions.

The British Government gave some explanations regarding its attitude to the above two questions in a verbal reply delivered by its representative Hutchison on March 17. The Central People's

Government, however, did not consider these explanations satisfactory.

In fact, the British Government has, for five months, consistently abstained from voting on the question of China's right to representation in all the United Nations organs. Furthermore, with regard to the airplanes now at Hongkong, which are in the possession and directly under the protection of the two airlines — the China National Aviation Corporation and the Central Air Transport Corporation of the Civil Aeronautics Bureau of the Central People's Government of the People's Republic of China, the British authorities in Hongkong not only have in many ways obstructed their flight to China, but have in fact failed to assume their real responsibility in protecting the airplanes, to the extent that seven of them have been wrecked. All these facts sufficiently indicate that the British Government has not been able to demonstrate by its real actions that it has in fact completely severed its relationship with the remnant reactionary clique of the Kuomintang. They also show that it has not paid due respect to the rights of the Central People's Government of the People's Republic of China to its national properties and assets and its right to manage such properties and assets.

In view of this, the Central People's Government addressed, on May 8, a special notification to representative Hutchison for transmission to the British Government, asking it to clarify further its position with regard to the following two questions: China's right to representation in the United Nations and China's rights to its national properties and assets.

But on the very day following this notification of the Central People's Government, that is, May 9, the British Government ordered the Hongkong court to detain the 70 airplanes of the China National Aviation Corporation and the Central Air Transport Corporation, which were parked on Hongkong's Kaitak Airfield. This action not only proved that the British Government did not respect the rights of the Central People's Government to its national properties and assets and its right to manage such properties and assets, but also represented in fact an extremely unfriendly attitude towards the People's Republic of China. On the one hand, the British Government expressed the desire to establish diplomatic relations with the Central People's Government of the People's Republic of China; on the other, after expressing this desire, it again and again demonstrated that it has not in reality completely severed its relationship with the remnant reactionary clique of the Kuomintang. The Central People's Government of the People's Republic of China considers that it is absolutely necessary to ask the British Government to clarify further its position with regard to the central question of this inconsistency between words and deeds.

## CHILD CARE IN NEW CHINA

*(Continued from page 12)*

still more. True, the number of nurseries is still inadequate, but in comparison with the past they show a considerable progress — and the rate of increase is mounting.

Conditions in the nurseries are also improving from day to day. Accommodation, medical and sanitary arrangements are all receiving practical attention. Particular care is now given to the children's food. In the old days, the children "cared for" in the nursery of the No. 7 Rubber Factory in Mukden were all undernourished. Now their diet has been completely changed and they even get fruit dishes, an unheard-of thing in the past. These diet changes have had an immediately visible beneficial effect on the children, and the mothers express great satisfaction. Wang Hsu-lan, a woman worker in the spinning section of the No. 1 Plant of the China Textile Corporation in Tientsin, expressed it frankly: "Formerly my child was fed on millet at home and he was as thin as a small red shrimp. Now he has grown fat and looks much better than when I took care of him myself."

In the public nurseries today, the children eat eggs and fruit every day. In Northeast China, where economic construction is developing more rapidly than elsewhere, the children in the public nurseries have had milk added to their diet and those with delicate constitutions are given cod-liver oil and the necessary vitamin pills. In both public and privately-operated nurseries, the children are systematically inoculated and vaccinated.

New personnel are being trained to keep step with this programme of expansion of nursery facilities. The quality of their training is also being improved. The All-China Democratic Women's Federation and the women's federations of the various localities have started short-term classes to train new child welfare personnel in ten major cities of China. Over a thousand new workers have graduated from these classes, which have been successful in developing the political as well as the technical knowledge of the trainees.

This has heightened their spirit of initiative. On entering the nurseries, these trainees have improved on old educational methods, devising many new ways of solving nursery problems, and generally making more efficient use of available resources to give the children a happier life.

Work is also being pushed ahead to include the vast rural areas in the child welfare programme. Small-scale experimental nurseries have been set up in very many villages. In the Chenju area near Shanghai, four nurseries have been organized under the supervision of the local Peasant's Association. In other areas, the district and village administrations have co-operated with the women's federations and peasants' associations and assisted the local women to organize mutual-aid groups to take care of the children. In this way, women who were

previously unable to go out to work can now take an increasingly active share in agricultural production. In the West Pass district of Tingsien, Hopei Province, the old women in such a mutual-aid group look after the children while the able-bodied mothers do the farm work for the older women.

The new approach of the People's Government in dealing with these problems of child welfare has passed a particularly severe test in the areas which have been facing food shortages. Here the joint efforts of the government and the people themselves have fulfilled the task of bringing relief to the children. At the present time, in order to prevent and treat the diseases which normally accompany such calamities, the People's Government has already organized medical and sanitary corps and despatched them to the stricken areas. Various popular organizations are co-ordinating their efforts with those of the government in overcoming the shortage in medical supplies.

Women in childbirth and new-born infants are also the subject of special measures of protection. The People's Government has prescribed a vacation of 45 days for pregnant women before and after childbirth and great efforts are being made to improve the care given to women during their confinement. Considerable aid has been given to local authorities in the training of personnel and in the organization of mobile medical and sanitary corps for midwifery services in the villages.

An important aspect of this work is the re-training of old-fashioned midwives. According to reports from 19 countries in the six Provinces of Liaotung, Liaohsi, Heilungkiang, Jehol, Kirin and Sungkiang in China's Northeast, 2,679 old-fashioned midwives were retrained in modern methods in the 52 training courses held there between July and December, 1949. This experience is now being adapted in other parts of China and this will have an appreciable effect in improving the care given to mothers and babies in the villages which previously lagged so far behind in the march of progress.

China has already won a nation-wide victory but there are still many problems and difficulties to be solved. Nowhere is this truer than in child welfare work. Already, however, this aspect of social service in New China bears a brand new countenance when compared with the old days of child neglect by the warlord and KMT governments.

The establishment of creches, public nurseries and village nurseries in the various parts of the country, and the large-scale training of personnel for child welfare work are serving not only to relieve the women of China from the burdensome and distracting worries of family life, but enabling them to participate more fully in the productive and political life of the country. They are sweeping away the cause of much bitter distress suffered in the past by China's children and laying the foundation for a happy future for the first generation to grow up in the people's China.

# DEFEND WORLD PEACE!



**“WE DEMAND THE UNCONDITIONAL PROHIBITION OF THE ATOMIC WEAPON, AS A WEAPON OF AGGRESSION AND MASS EXTERMINATION OF HUMAN BEINGS, AND THE INSTITUTION OF STRICT INTERNATIONAL CONTROL TO ENFORCE THIS.**

**WE SHALL REGARD AS GUILTY OF WAR CRIMES THE GOVERNMENT THAT IS THE FIRST TO USE THE ATOMIC WEAPON AGAINST ANY COUNTRY.”**

*Resolution of the Third Session of the  
World Peace Congress Permanent Committee  
Stockholm, March 15, 1950*

## ALL PEOPLE OF GOODWILL SUPPORT THIS APPEAL!

**“This appeal is a clarion call to all defenders of peace and a warning to the war-mongers. It does not beg for peace from war-mongers, but is to compel the imperialists to stop their aggression.”**

*KUO MO-JO, Chairman of the Committee of the  
Chinese Congress of the Defenders of World Peace  
Peking, May 13, 1950*

北京市軍事管制委員會報紙雜誌通訊社臨時登記證新字第七七號  
經華北郵政總局登記認爲第一類新聞紙類登記證第一〇一號