China Reconstructs
Sports in New China
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Front: Archers Chiang Sheng-ling (first right), Wang Wen-chuan (third left), Sung Shu-hsien (second left), Huang Shu-yen (first left) and their coach Li Shu-lan (second right) on the archery field.
Back: A scene from "In Praise of the Red Flag", a mass callisthenic display at the opening of the Third National Games.
Inside front: Chinese mountaineers after crossing an ice crevasse at 6,950 meters above sea level on the way to Qomolangma Feng (Mount Jolmo Lungma).
Inside back: The Wutaishan indoor and outdoor stadiums in Nanking, Kiangsu province.

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IMMENSE CHANGES have taken place in China’s physical culture and sports over the past 26 years and especially since the cultural revolution. These have been achieved under the guidance of Chairman Mao’s revolutionary line.

With a steady rise in living standards following the development of socialist revolution and socialist construction, more and more people are participating in athletics. Mass sports are being organized in cities and countryside and there is a steady improvement in performance. A new-type force of athletes with socialist consciousness is rapidly expanding. The result has been a marked improvement in general physique. China is no longer the “sick man of Asia”, as the imperialists called it. The people are now healthy, filled with vitality and imbued with confidence for building their great socialist motherland.

Broad Road Opened

In the old semi-feudal, semi-colonial China the vast majority — the laboring people — oppressed and exploited by imperialism, feudalism and bureaucrat-capitalism, could hardly survive, much less go in for sports. Sports remained extremely backward. The few facilities existing in the cities were used exclusively by foreigners and the Chinese “upper crust” — bureaucrats, landlords, capitalists. All athletic activity was a mere vehicle for their profit and pleasure.

Chairman Mao and the Chinese Communist Party have always paid great attention to the development of sports. Soon after liberation, in 1952 the call “Promote physical culture and sports and build up the people’s health” was issued by Chairman Mao. He pointed out the orientation for China’s socialist athletics and defined that it must serve the worker-peasant-soldier masses, be combined with productive labor and serve socialist revolution and socialist construction by building up the health of the people. Sports began to blossom.

To strengthen leadership, the Physical Culture and Sports Commission was set up by the Central People’s Government and under it committees were formed in provincial, municipal and regional national autonomous people’s governments. A national mass organization, the All-China Sports Federation, was set up to aid the promotion of mass sports, the organizing of nationwide competitions and participation in international sports events.

Children at a primary school in Changtien, Shantung province, hold a table tennis competition.
The state also established physical culture institutes in seven cities including Peking, Tientsin and Wuhan, and departments of physical culture in 26 higher educational institutes. Their task is to train teachers, coaches and other personnel for the sports field and to do scientific research.

Amateur athletes are now trained in 1,500 spare-time sports schools for juniors in various parts of the country, where promising primary and middle school students are enrolled for tuition-free training in individual sports. The state has allotted large sums to build many well-equipped public stadiums, gymnasiums and swimming pools in big and medium-sized cities all over the country. Factories, mines, rural people's communes, government organizations and schools have also built their own sports fields. Favorable conditions thus exist for the development of sports.

Mass Participation

The emphasis in China's athletic work is on spreading sports among the masses. Chairman Mao has pointed out, “Whenever feasible, physical culture and sports of all kinds should be encouraged, such as physical exercises, ball games, running, mountain climbing, swimming and traditional Chinese taichi boxing.” Hundreds of millions of people have acted on this.
Militia in Wenchiashih, Hunan province, start a torch race from the site where the troops of the Autumn Harvest Uprising joined forces at the beginning of the Second Revolutionary Civil War (1927-1937).

Oil workers swimming at an offshore drilling platform of the Takang oil field.

Highjumping in a field of the Chungyi commune, Macheng county, Hupeh province.
Workers of the Chingtung Gorge Power Plant taking a break for exercise.

A tug-of-war during a work break at the Kueilu commune in Nanling county, Anhwei province.
and there is today wide participation in track and field, swimming, gymnastics, basketball, table tennis, football, volleyball, badminton, tennis, weightlifting, traditional wushu exercises, shooting, ice sports and so on.

Largest participation is in daily physical exercises. In 1951 the Physical Culture and Sports Commission publicized the first set of these to be done to music broadcast by the central and other radio stations. Four other sets have since been put out and every station is required by government regulation to set aside time every day for cadres and workers to take part in them. In schools, teachers and students do these exercises together at different times of the day. Specialists have devised various sets of exercises of particular benefit to steel workers, coal miners, textile workers, construction workers, dockers and those engaged in other industries.

Traditional Chinese boxing — taichi — is also popular. At dawn, in parks, on tree-shaded sidewalks of city boulevards, workers, cadres, young people and retired oldsters can be seen doing the flowing movements of taichi boxing which blend grace and strength. In many cities free coaching in the art is available at specified places.

Swimming is another favorite. During the warm weather hundreds of millions of people flock to China's many rivers, lakes, reservoirs, swimming pools and beaches to practice swimming. In Tungkuan county — known as the "home of swimmers" — in the water country of the Pearl River delta of Kwangtung province, more than half the population have learned to swim. Chairman Mao's many swims across the Yangtze and his swim in the river at Wuhan on July 16, 1966 at the age of 73 have inspired large numbers to take up this sport. To commemorate Chairman Mao's feat, mass cross-river and cross-lake swims are held on July 16 every year all over the country.

In the cold weather, long-distance running becomes the most popular activity. During the winter of 1974-75, 1.93 million of Peking's students, workers, shop assistants, office workers and other city residents and rural commune members took part in the symbolic "Yenan to Peking" run. They were organized into teams of around 30. Adding up the daily distance run by its members, each team covered 2,500 kilometers within two months — equivalent to the distance between the two cities.

Every year, about one million people in Tientsin and nearly two million in Shanghai join in long-distance running. On New Year's Day or during the Spring Festival thousands in these and other places take part in round-the-city, cross-country or torch relay races.

Games enjoying greatest popularity in factories, schools, offices and rural people's communes are table tennis and basketball. They are played in school yards, on empty ground around workers' housing units, in factory squares, on threshing grounds of commune production teams, on army drill grounds, in remote mountain and small island fishing villages — many with makeshift tables and baskets made from whatever local materials are available. At different service points along the 2,000-km. Chinghai-Tibet highway, transport workers and soldiers have leveled basketball fields and built simple clubrooms with ping-pong tables made by themselves.

Many areas concentrate on volleyball and football. Taishan county in Kwangtung province is known as the "land of volleyball". Women's teams account for 25 percent of its 5,000 volleyball teams, and every commune and production brigade boasts its own men's and women's teams. In the Yenpien Korean Autonomous Prefecture in northeast China there are over 1,100 football fields and nearly 10,000 teams composed mainly of workers and commune members.

Other sports followed on a wide scale are badminton, weightlifting and shooting. In the cold northeast and northwest skating and skiing also enjoy wide participation.

In addition to these well-known sports, China's more than 50 minority nationalities have many of their own activities. Women of Korean nationality in northeast China are expert in high swinging and see-saw jumping. In the northwest, the Sibo people are fine archers while the Uighurs compete in a game on horseback with a sheep. In the southwest, during the Spring Festival, young men and women of Tung nationality compete at mountain climbing, the Yis wrestle, and in their Water Splashing Festival the Tais hold dragon boat races.

In the Inner Mongolia Autonomous Region, during the past year, Nadam sports meets have been held in over 20 banners (equivalent to counties in Han areas). These included horse races, wrestling and shooting. In the Kuolo Tibetan Autonomous Prefecture 4,000 meters above sea level in Chinghai province, 70 percent of the communes have held sports meets among the herdpeople during the past two years. In the Tibet Autonomous Region there is a growing interest in ball games, mountain climbing and track and field. Many former serfs who in the past knew absolutely nothing about sports have become good in them.

To help children of primary and middle school age develop in an all-round way — morally, intellectually and physically — every school has regular periods for physical culture and sports activities. Football, basketball and volleyball are played with smaller-than-standard-size balls. Primary schools in eight districts of Tientsin have more than 300 football teams and 870 basketball teams and a total of over 20,000 young athletes. All engage in regular competitions.

Sports meets for kindergarten children are a new feature, held in many areas over the past year. To raise the standard of athletics of older boys and girls, the spare-time sports schools for juniors have also expanded their activity. They now have about 3,000 regular teachers and 3,000 part-time teachers training 120,000 students.
Sports on the beach of an aquatic farm in Chiung Hai county, Kwangtung province.

Polo, a favorite sport of the Mongolian nationality.
Traditional women's sport of the Korean nationality, Yenpien Korean Autonomous Prefecture.

Mass participation in sports has already resulted in a general improvement in health. The change in the general health of members of the Lantien production brigade in Yukiang county, Kiangsi province, is a case in point. Lantien is in one of the areas where schistosomiasis (snail fever) was endemic. Here, before liberation, Kuomintang oppression and the ravages of schistosomiasis resulted in the death of over 800 people, wiping out four villages and breaking up over 200 families.

Chairman Mao's directive, "Snail fever must be wiped out," issued after liberation, fired the people in Yukiang county with the determination to wipe out the disease. While the problem was attacked from the medical aspect the Lantien brigade also stressed physical culture. Its members began to do daily physical exercises to music over the radio. They played basketball, volleyball, table tennis, took up track and field, swimming, wushu, grenade throwing, weightlifting and held tugs-of-war. By 1958 schistosomiasis was wiped out and the fact that half the brigade members have continued to take a regular part in sports has helped to consolidate the results. With improvement in their physique the members are able to put in more and more workdays and increase their contribution to revolution and construction. The average pre-liberation grain yield of only 0.75 tons per hectare had risen to 8.63 tons by last year, and the brigade's total grain output had increased by 20 times—from 45 tons at the time of liberation to 900 tons.

The general improvement in the health of China's young people is shown by the results of a general physical checkup given in October 1973 to nearly 10,000 students (age 7 to 18) in 12 primary and middle schools in Peking's west district. It was found that by comparison with students of the same age in 1965 the boys had increased in height by an average of 2.3 centimeters, in weight by 1.7 kilograms and in chest measurement by 0.45 cm. Among the girls the increases were 1.7 cm. in height, 0.9 kg. in weight and 1.3 cm. in chest measurement.

Athletic Level

With the emergence of widespread sports activities, the extremely low athletic level in old China has given way to steadily rising standards. More and more first-class athletes are coming to the fore.

Even junior track and field records today exceed the pre-liberation national records for adults. In some sports there was formerly no participation, for others there were no records. Since liberation good records have been achieved in some items and world records in others. By 1953 all the old China records had been broken.

In high jump the pre-liberation women's record was only 1.40 m. But in 1957 Cheng Feng-jung cleared 1.77 m. to become China's first woman athlete to break a world record. In 1970 the world men's high jump record was broken by Ni Chih-chin who cleared 2.29 m. Three Chinese swimmers have five times broken world records in the men's 100-m. breaststroke. The first world record to be broken by a Chinese athlete was in the bantamweight clean and jerk weightlifting event in 1956. The honor belongs to Chen Ching-kai, who together with nine other weightlifters subsequently broke world records 30 times. To date world records in parachute jumping, shooting and archery have been shattered on more than 70 occasions by Chinese athletes.

In the 25th to 33rd World Table Tennis Championships (1959-75),...
China won a total of 21 titles. In badminton, at the 7th Asian Games last year, China won the men’s and women’s titles in both singles and team events. The Chinese men’s team won over the Indonesian men’s team which had won the world championship eight times. In gymnastics at the same meet China placed first in eight out of the 14 events, including the men’s and women’s team events and the women’s individual all-round event.

Three Chinese mountain climbers scaled the world’s highest peak, Qomolangma Feng, for the first time from the northern slope in 1960. On May 27, 1975, nine Chinese mountain climbers again reached the summit. Among them was Phanthog, a deputy leader of the expedition and the first woman climber in the world to conquer the peak from the northern slope.

All these achievements testify to the sustained effort and daring of Chinese athletes — men and women — in striving for the highest world levels in sports.

**Struggle vs. Revisionism**

In socialist China there are no “sports for sports’ sake”. The objective of sports is to serve the workers, peasants and soldiers and serve socialist revolution and socialist construction. An athlete is first and foremost a servant of the people, both when on his regular job and when on leave to play or participate in competitions. In the struggle for a revolutionary line against a revisionist line, China’s sports have developed and her athletic force has grown.

Liu Shao-chi, Lin Piao and their followers, however, tried by every means to sabotage Chairman Mao’s revolutionary line. They pushed a revisionist line which opposed sports serving the workers, peasants and soldiers. They stood against mass participation, and attempted to make sports a pastime for a small minority instead of a means for building up the health of the people. They always stressed “technique comes first” and “trophies above all”. They tried to entice athletes to seek personal fame and fortune, to forget politics and forsake the aim of serving the people. In essence, they wanted to separate sports from the worker-peasant-soldier masses, divert it from its socialist orientation and use it as a tool for restoring capitalism in China.

Since the cultural revolution and the movement to criticize Lin Piao and Confucius began, athletes and workers in physical culture have thoroughly repudiated Liu Shao-chi and Lin Piao’s revisionist line, and made great efforts to eliminate its poisonous influence and heighten their own socialist consciousness. They are resolutely implementing Chairman Mao’s revolutionary line for a more vigorous growth of socialist sports.

**New Sportsmanship**

To serve the workers, peasants and soldiers more effectively, since the cultural revolution began the athletes have frequently gone to factories, mines, rural people’s communes and People’s Liberation Army units, both during periods of collective training and during competitions. Their exhibition matches and performances help arouse the masses’ interest in sports and are a stimulus to
Athletes in China: Past and Present (1)

From My Own Experience

MOU TSO-YUN, Member of the National Committee of the All-China Sports Federation

I have been in sports for 37 years. I know from my own experience the forlorn and neglected state of China's physical culture under the reactionary Kuomintang regime. Today I am proud to see sports developing so vigorously in China under the leadership of the Chinese Communist Party and Chairman Mao. When more than 10,000 participants and sports workers from all over the country poured into Peking for the Third National Games I couldn't help comparing the new society with the old.

When I was in primary school I liked to play basketball and volleyball and went out for track and field. I was on my middle school's basketball team and represented it in track and field events at several sports meets. Once I even went abroad with a team.

The reactionary Kuomintang government was never concerned about promoting physical culture to improve the people's health. All it did was bleed the people and wage anti-Communist and anti-people campaigns. For these reactionaries sports was merely window-dressing for their so-called tranquil and plentiful society. They did create an office of physical culture inspector under the Ministry of Education, but this functionary did nothing to promote sports. Very little money was spent and facilities were few and far between. There was practically no training of physical culture workers.

Sport was much tainted with commercialism. The few basketball teams that existed in the larger cities were nothing but walking advertisements for rich merchants. The exploited and oppressed working people never got a chance to take part in sports. Our country was slandered as the "sick man of Asia". In international competitions our athletes were humiliated and discriminated against.

I was indignant at such injustice to China and decided to devote my life to physical culture and sports. With this as my goal I entered Peking Teachers' University and majored in physical education. To my disappointment, I found there were only 40 other students in the department with me and all the facilities we had were a 200-meter circular track and two basketball courts. The lectures given us were merely copied from foreign materials.

For the 11th Olympic Games in 1936 the Kuomintang government scraped together a "national basketball team" from among several university and commercial teams. I was on it. Our Olympic delegation didn't have the fare to go to Berlin, so our football team was sent to play matches in some southeast Asian countries to raise money. They didn't earn much and we had to travel third class by sea. By the time we finally might be able to change my country's backwardness in this field. With this as my goal I entered Peking Teachers' University and majored in physical education. To
reached Berlin after 17 days at sea. I had lost 8.5 kilograms. We had only two days to rest before our team entered for competitions. So we were eliminated in the first match. None of the Chinese athletes got any better results. Not a single mark was scored by our 69-member delegation. When the Olympics were over the head of our delegation, a Kuomintang physical culture inspector, left us and made a pleasure tour of Europe, but we had to depend on the football team for fares back to China. After this trip I could see no future for China in physical culture and sports.

In the old society there was a prejudice against athletes. Their talents were suppressed and they had no way to make a living. Chu En-teh, one of my university classmates, had been champion in several track and field events in the International Far Eastern Athletic Meets in the 1920s. But after graduation he couldn't find a job. Worn out by poverty and illness he finally went insane and was found dead one day on a Peking street.

I still had a desire to improve China's basketball, so when I got a chance to go abroad and study basketball skills and theory of training at a physical culture institute I seized it. In 1948 I was hastily called back to train a basketball team for the 14th Olympic Games in London. When I got back to Peking and had organized the team, the Kuomintang reactionaries found their own man to replace me and wouldn't let me coach the team.

My dream that the country could be saved through physical culture and sports was shattered by the corrupt and incompetent Kuomintang government and hard facts in the dark old society. No matter how hard I worked, by myself I could do nothing to change my country's backwardness in physical culture and sports. I now realized how naive my dream had been.

The revolution led by the Chinese Communist Party and Chairman Mao pulled the Chinese people out of the depths of misery. In August 1949, shortly after Peking was liberated, I was chosen to head a Chinese youth basketball team to go abroad for an international competition. Before we left our team was received by Chairman Mao and Premier Chou En-lai.

After we got back I was present at the great ceremony of the founding of our people's republic on October 1. From the reviewing stands in front of Tien An Men Gate I heard Chairman Mao's clear voice solemnly proclaim it to the world. When I saw the five-star red flag being hoisted I could hardly contain my emotion. From now on my motherland would move onto the broad path of socialism! I saw a bright future ahead for China's physical culture and sports.

In 1952 Chairman Mao issued a call to the whole nation, "Promote physical culture and sports and build up the people's health." In 1953 the Central People's Government set up a Physical Culture and Sports Commission to unify sports efforts throughout the country. With the concern of the Party and the state, interest in sports spread vigorously in China and helped to improve the people's health. Standards of athletic performance rose rapidly. Within a few years our new athletes had broken all the national records of old China.

In 1956 we broke a world record for the first time—in weightlifting—and subsequently broke more in high jump, swimming, archery, shooting, mountaineering and parachute jumping. Progress in table tennis and badminton was even more striking.

Basketball became one of the most popular games. Recently we have had fairly good results in international contests against strong teams.

As an individual I have done very little but the Party and the people have given me much honor. In 1952 I was a coach of the national basketball team. Four years later I was made a deputy-director of the Ball Games Department in the State Physical Culture and Sports Commission. I was also elected to the national committee of the All-China Sports Federation and made a vice-chairman of the basketball association.

I often led the national basketball team on tours of the country giving demonstration matches to promote ball games. This was to help factories, communes and other grassroots units develop organized sports for the masses.

Since the cultural revolution began in 1966 many principles have become clearer to me. Physical culture and sports should serve proletarian politics and the workers, peasants and soldiers. It should serve socialist revolution and construction and help strengthen friendship between Chinese and foreign athletes. In order to better promote sports among the people and also raise their standards, every spring and autumn in

The author (center) with basketball players at the Third National Games.
recent years the State Physical Culture and Sports Commission has organized national tournaments in football, volleyball and basketball in medium-sized cities.

Every time I see workers and commune members streaming in to watch a basketball match after a day's work I am deeply moved. Now the working people have become the masters of sports. Before and after every tournament we sponsor a training course for referees and instructors. I try my best to pass on to the younger generation my experience gained through the years, for I am glad to see so many young people taking up refereeing and coaching.

As mass participation grows, in addition to learning skill from other countries, we are striking our own path for advancing ball games. This has raised the standards of play more quickly. At the Third National Games almost all the basketball teams showed improvement in speed. Fifty-three of the 78 men's team matches resulted in scores of over 90 points. Many teams showed a good mastery of varied tactics and flexibility of play. Especially notable was the spirited performance given by newcomers, the main force on all teams. This meet also included contests for junior teams, involving 144 players under 17, a growing reserve for China's basketball.

Since liberation friendly interchanges of athletes between China and other countries have become more and more frequent. I have received many foreign sports delegations who come to China and have also led our basketball team or joined our sports delegation to other countries. On these trips I meet many old friends and make new ones. The sight of our bright five-star red flag flying over international meets brings tears to my eyes. Memories of how we were humiliated and discriminated against by imperialism when we went abroad before liberation crowd into my mind. How long I had wanted my motherland to be strong and able to stand up in the international sports arena! Today my dream has come true.

Athletes in China: Past and Present (2)

The Training of Archers

LI SHU-LAN, Archery Coach at the Peking Institute of Physical Culture

I Grew up in the new society and was trained and educated to become an archer by the Communist Party. I made up my mind to devote my life to helping develop this sport in my country fourteen years ago, when I drew my first bow.

When I first entered the People's Liberation Army Institute of Physical Culture in 1960 at the age of 16, Ni Ah-cheng, our coach, told us his own life story. When he was three his father, a boatman, had died of illness and exhaustion. His mother went to the city and worked for 16 years as a servant for a capitalist. At eight Ni Ah-cheng himself went begging from village to village. Many times he was bitten by the dogs of the landlords. Later he went to work as a child laborer in a textile mill. He was cursed and beaten almost daily. Liberation in 1949 saved Ni Ah-cheng's family from drowning in this sea of bitterness. In 1953 he joined the PLA where he learned archery and became a team coach.

Ni's story helped me appreciate my own opportunity even more. I was determined to make full use of it to win honor for our socialist motherland.

In the Institute I studied the history of archery in China from ancient times and learned that, on the verge of extinction, it was included as an event at sports meets only after liberation. In 1959 China began using the international rules in archery competitions.

Our team's political instructor encouraged us to make it our goal to rapidly catch up with world levels. Inspired by love for our socialist motherland, I developed deep feeling for this formerly unfamiliar sport.

Today athletes and physical culture workers are honored by the government and the people. Their talents are developed and they have full scope to use them. In January 1975 Chuang Tse-tung, three-time world men's singles table-tennis champion, was appointed Minister in Charge of the State Physical Culture and Sports Commission. Twenty-two outstanding athletes and sports workers were elected deputies to the Fourth National People's Congress. Physical culture workers of the older generation are also respected. Tung Shou-yi, now 81, who has been active in sports for 59 years, is a Vice-Chairman of the All-China Sports Federation.

Now I am over 60. The way our country is becoming more prosperous every day through socialist construction and the way physical culture and sports are thriving make me feel I am growing younger. I intend to spend the rest of my life working to promote socialist physical culture and sports in my country.

Li Shu-lan when she set a world record at the Games of the New Emerging Forces in 1963.
Archery requires exceptional strength in the arms and fingers. The back, abdominal and leg muscles must also be strong enough to carry one through shooting a total of 288 arrows over four consecutive days in a competition. When I began, drawing even a 30-pound bamboo bow was quite an effort. My arms were short and I couldn't hold them straight. Some said I didn't have the makings of an archer.

Ignoring this, I started doing push-ups and exercising with a spring expander. I was supposed to do 100 push-ups in several sets, but I was exhausted before I got to 70. The coach advised me to wait until next time but I thought that I should finish my assignment then. After a rest I completed the exercise.

A veteran archer’s three drawing fingers are thick and strong. I kneaded sand, supported myself against the wall with these fingers and practiced snapping them against the wall to strengthen them. We trainees stuck up small targets in our rooms and practiced aiming in our spare moments.

After two years I could draw a 45-pound fiberglass bow with ease and had taken the first steps toward mastery of the skill.

In 1962 I participated in a national archery competition. On the eve of the meet I learned that I would be shooting at the same target as Chao Su-hsia, who had won the women’s title at the First National Games. I was so tense that though I beat her national record and felt quite upset. I still had a little way to go to reach the world record and felt quite upset.

Later the coach and the political instructor helped find the reason. I had been nervous because I had been concerned about my personal success or failure. Thus I had lacked good control at the crucial moment.

After that I worked harder at my study of political theory. Chairman Mao’s teachings on serving the people and holding ourselves responsible to the people were a great inspiration to me. Archery was the task assigned me by the country and the people, I thought. PLA fighters practice shooting in order to defend our socialist motherland; as an archer I must also do my best to win honor for the country.

Taking this lesson to heart, in a national mail match in April 1963 I overcame my self-centered attitude and kept cool. Though my first six ends were not good, I didn't get discouraged or impatient. Encouraged by the leaders and my comrades, I finally broke world records — twice for the 30-meter single round and once each for the 30-meter double round, 50-meter double round, the total and the grand total.

Six months later I went to Indonesia as a member of the Chinese delegation to the Games of the New Emerging Forces. Archery was extremely difficult in the variable winds and blistering heat of Jakarta. My performance the first three days was unsatisfactory.

During the final shooting at 30 meters, the wind carried my first arrow into the inner white zone. To break the world record I would have to get an average score of nine for my remaining 35 arrows. I was very tense.

“You must consider each arrow a responsibility,” the team leader told me. Yes, this was a crucial moment. I had to be responsible to the people for every arrow. I corrected my point of aim to allow for the wind, judging it from the way the pennants on the range were blowing.

By the time I had one arrow left, I needed only five points to break the world record of 623 set by June Heywood of Britain. I had already been under the scorching sun for six hours, but I told myself I could not relax. My last arrow had to be my best. Between gusts of wind I shot a nine to break the world record for the 30-meter double round. Over the next four years I broke six world women’s archery records 11 times.

In 1972 I became a member of the leading group of the Peking Institute of Physical Culture and coach of its archery team. Now training new archers was the task entrusted me by the Party and the people. The cultural revolution had steeled my resolve. I held myself responsible for helping the young archers develop as rapidly as possible.

I told the trainees all that I had learned and taught them the key points to master and gave them individual help.

In June 1973 I led a six-woman team to the national archery match in Tsingtao. It was the first time any of them had taken part in a national contest. I viewed this meet as a chance to give them competition experience, as from now on they were the ones who would be improving China’s archery. My own performance was secondary.

I encouraged them to do better than ever and to avoid putting pressure on them I always shot last. Our team’s 17-year-old Hao Wanchiu took first place in the women’s events.
A coach's job is to train a new generation of sportspeople. Aside from teaching technique a coach must be concerned with the political progress of the trainees, with raising their proletarian consciousness and preventing inroads by bourgeois thought.

Some young people are influenced by the revisionist ideas "technique first" and "prizes are everything". When they get good scores it goes to their heads and they begin to think of awards and personal fame. They have to be helped to see that this is wrong.

I'm with the trainees from morning to night. We eat together and have daily political study together. Evenings I often go to their dorms to talk with them, to sum up the day's training or help them repair their bows and arrows. When any of them is ill I help prepare herbal medicine and take care of her. We have a comradely relationship.

Guided by the Party organization at the Institute, the new archers have developed rapidly. In the last three years they have broken all the world records I set.

"We must work harder to make China's archery even better," they tell one another. They are strict with themselves in training, going through a much more rigorous program than I ever had. I used to draw my bow 150 times a day; they do it 250 times. They don't stop training even when their fingers are swollen from the rubbing of the string.

Last year Sung Shu-hsien spent three months in the hospital with acute rheumatic arthritis. She came out greatly weakened. She had been able to hold a drawn bow for 40 seconds; now holding it for 10 left her hands trembling and her body aching. She was so upset she cried.

The members of our team Party branch had many talks with her and encouraged her to keep exercising and not lose heart. She resumed training with a stubborn will. Late at night when the others were asleep, she would still be in the hallway working hard to improve her stance, aim and release. On Sundays she worked out with dumbbells and on the high bar.

At the national archery meet held in Foochow last April, Sung Shu-hsien broke the world records for the women's total, grand total and 70-meter double round, and tied those for the 70-meter single round and the 60-meter double round.

The archery competitions at the Third National Games were the largest of their kind ever held in China. All but six of the 109 contestants had been trained in the past few years and their average age was 20. Three teams and eight individuals broke 13 national records. Sung Shu-hsien tied the world record for the women's 30-meter single round set by her training mate Wang Wen-chuan and took first place in the women's grand total. I find the rapid development of our country's new generation of archers very exciting and encouraging.

Athletes in China: Past and Present (3)

I Love Gymnastics

LIU YA-CHUN, Student at Peking's West City Junior Spare-time Sports School

I'm 13 and a member of the Peking gymnastic team. At the national games last September I won first place in the women's individual all-round event and in three individual events for seniors — the uneven bars, balance beam and free exercise. This was because of what I'd learned from gymnasts from different parts of the country when we exchanged experience, and the help and encouragement they gave me.

In 1971 when I was in the third grade at the Hsinhsing Middle Lane Primary School a gymnastic team was set up there. What great fun it must be, I thought as I watched the members do somersaults, splits, bridges and handstands. I tried to do them too but didn't have the strength. I just couldn't do the backward walkover well. I practiced and practiced on the sand heap and at night on the bed. One day the athletics teacher asked me if I wanted to join the school's team. I jumped at the chance.

That year the team took part in the Peking west city district gymnastics contest. Afterward the coach at the district spare-time sports school for juniors asked if I wanted to study there. This was a school where they gave special training to young athletes and I was terribly excited.

My mother and father were also very happy about it. "Work hard and study well, Ya-chun," my father said. "In the old society a worker like me couldn't even afford to send his children to school. I'd never heard of gymnastics. It's only in the new society that you have such advantages." I attended
classes at the spare-time school from 4-7 p.m. five days a week. There were four classes in gymnastics. The one I was in had 12 children about my own age from schools in the district.

The first day our coach explained to us that learning gymnastics, too, is answering Chairman Mao's call to "promote physical culture and sports and build up the people's health" and that we should prepare ourselves to carry on and develop this sport. In our own schools we were urged to help our schoolmates in sports activities and work together to improve our physical fitness. After I saw that learning gymnastics was not just for fun but has a deep meaning I was even more eager.

When we began formal training I realized that it would take lots of hard work to become a good gymnast. Our coach told us again and again that as Little Red Guards we should not be afraid of difficulties or failures, but should keep practicing until we could do a movement right.

I had never been very strong, so I made it my first object to improve my physique. While we were learning the front somersault on the balance beam the coach told us to practice on a low beam first. I thought I should have the courage to start on the balance beam right away and the coach agreed. I took a deep breath, leaped in the air for the salto and landed with both feet firmly on the ground.

It wasn't all clear sailing, though. Once when I made a reverse grasp on the uneven bars, I missed and fell and broke my left arm. It was a lacerated fracture of the elbow. I had to rest with my arm in a plaster cast. This was a big blow. I realized that it would take lots of hard work to become a good gymnast, so I began joining the wounded, so I began joining the army, including lifting the barbell. My arms became stronger and I also improved my technique.

In preparation for the Third National Games the sports school wanted me to learn some more difficult movements — the stretched somersault with double body twist in the free exercise, a backward walkover followed by two successive flip-flops and landing on one foot, and a dismount with a back somersault after a bounce away from the high bar. The school's political instructor and coach told us stories about Cheng Feng-jung, who broke the world women's high jump record, and Ni Chih-chin, who did the same in the men's high jump — how they practiced hard to win honor for the motherland.

I may be young, I thought, but I also want to do well and do my part to raise the gymnastic level of our country. I should try to have the revolutionary daring of the older athletes. I practiced and practiced, sometimes doing one movement hundreds or maybe up to a thousand times. My wrists got bruised, but I bandaged them and kept on. After about six months I finally mastered these movements.

At the sports school professional dancers gave us lessons to help us improve our dance movement in the free exercise. We also had a chance to watch outstanding Chinese and foreign gymnasts train and give exhibition performances. Through primary school and the sports school I got an all-round education. Our teachers and coaches constantly urged us to be "three good" pupils — to have good health and be good in our studies and at work, as Chairman Mao wants us to be. They checked our homework and supervised our studies. When our class went to do farm work in the people's communes in the suburbs we performed for the commune members. Because of the strict demands made on us, I worked and studied hard and was cited a "three good" pupil in my school.

Before the Third National Games I had already been in some important competitions. I was chosen to participate in the gymnastics contest of the International Middle School Games held in Wiesbaden, Federal Republic of Germany, in August 1974. There I got the third highest individual total in the women's team competition and won first place in the individual all-round event. At China's national gymnastics meet last May I was winner of the women's all-round event.

I feel that I was able to do well because the Communist Party and the people made it possible. Our final aim, though, is not records and titles, but to do our part in developing sports in our country, to serve the people and to carry on the cause of the revolution.

I gained a better understanding of this point at the Third National Games. The individual all-round finals on the uneven bars and the vaulting horse were held at the open-air stadium in Tunghsien county east of Peking. It was a clear day but windy. We had to buck the wind in the horse vaulting, and on the uneven bars the sun was constantly in my eyes — quite different from doing these in an indoor stadium. Performing for the workers, peasants and soldiers, I told myself, is our way of serving the people, so I tried to do every movement well. When I heard the enthusiastic applause I realized that the people expected great things from us young athletes. I was glad I had tried hard.

I know I still have a lot of weak points to overcome and I'm resolved to go on practicing and making progress.
Mr. President,

Profound changes have taken place in the international situation since the 29th Session of the United Nations General Assembly. A serious capitalist economic crisis plagues most parts of the world. All the basic contradictions in the world are further sharpening. The trend of revolution by the people of the world is actively developing. The Asian, African and Latin American peoples have advanced valiantly and won a series of significant victories in their struggle against colonialism, imperialism and hegemonism. On the other hand, the contention between the two superpowers for world hegemony has become more and more intense. The whole world is in greater turbulence and unrest. Rhetoric about detente cannot cover up the stark reality. The danger of war is visibly growing.

First of all, it should be pointed out that the great victory of the three Indochinese peoples has shaken the world. The Cambodian and Vietnamese peoples have thoroughly defeated U.S. imperialism and its lackeys, thus making an important contribution to the anti-imperialist cause of the people of the world and greatly inspiring all oppressed nations and oppressed people. Their victory is a brilliant example showing that a weak nation can defeat a strong, and a small nation can defeat a big.

The peoples of Asia are strongly against superpower interference and control and against the attempt of any country to seek hegemony in any part of Asia. The Southeast Asian countries want their region to become a zone of peace, freedom and neutrality, free from any form or manner of interference by outside powers. This position of theirs has won the recognition and respect of an increasing number of countries. The struggle of the South Asian peoples against expansionism and hegemonism has made new progress. In West Asia, long-standing disputes have been resolved by the countries concerned which excluded foreign influence and conducted consultations on an equal footing, thus creating favorable conditions for friendly cooperation among the countries in the region. The Gulf countries are getting united in the common struggle against superpower infiltration and control.

In Africa, Mozambique, Cape Verde, Sao Tome and Principe and the Comoros have achieved independence one after another. This is the result of their persistence in protracted struggles, particularly in protracted armed struggles. The struggle of the peoples of Zimbabwe, Namibia and Azania against racism and white rule is developing in depth. The situation on the African continent is most encouraging.

The struggle of the Latin American peoples to combat imperialism and hegemonism, safeguard state sovereignty and defend their national economic rights and interests has continued to surge forward. They have reinforced in various ways their unity in the struggle.

Furthermore, we are pleased to see that in Oceania, Papua New Guinea has achieved its national independence recently.

In order to change the old international economic order and oppose the shifting of economic crises, the third world countries have, in pursuance of the Declaration and Program of Action adopted by the U.N. General Assembly at its Sixth Special Session, advanced many reasonable proposals and waged unremitting struggles at various conferences and achieved marked successes.

The unity and struggle of the third world countries, extending from the political to the economic sphere, have ushered in a new stage in the revolutionary cause of the people of the world against colonialism, imperialism and hegemonism.

The countries of the second world have also heightened their struggle against superpower and
particularly social-imperialist control, intervention, subversion and threat of force. The trend among the West European countries to get united against hegemonism has continued to grow. The second world has increased its dialogue and contacts with the third world. Such cooperation will doubtless have good prospects for development as long as it is based on mutual respect for sovereignty and equality.

The contention between the two superpowers, the United States and the Soviet Union, extends to all parts of the world. They are intensifying their strife in Europe, the Mediterranean, the Middle East, the Persian Gulf, the Indian Ocean, the Pacific, the Atlantic, Asia, Africa and Latin America. Strategically, Europe is the focus of their contention. Social-imperialism is making a feint to the east while attacking in the west. This was revealed, rather than covered up, by the Conference on Security and Cooperation in Europe. The two superpowers do reach some agreements from time to time, but these only erect a facade, behind which they are engaged in bigger and fiercer contention.

Take for example the agreement in principle reached at the U.S.-Soviet summit meeting last November on the limitation of strategic offensive arms. This agreement only sets a numerical limit on the arms in question, which exceeds the amount each side possesses at the moment, while qualitatively it sets no limit at all. It is evident, therefore, that such an agreement should more appropriately be called an agreement on strategic arms expansion rather than an agreement on strategic arms limitation. Facts are at hand to prove this. Since the signing of this agreement, the United States and the Soviet Union have both stepped up their development and deployment of new-type strategic arms, each trying hard to overpower the other.

Of late, the Soviet Union has made use of the conclusion of the European security conference to turn out much propaganda alleging that detente has progressed to a new stage. This is sheer deceptive talk. We are aware of the eager desire for security on the part of the many small and medium countries which participated in that conference. We are also aware that they have no illusions about its agreements which have no binding force. What security, let alone detente, is there to speak of when Europe remains in a prolonged state of tense armed confrontation? While chanting "peace and security" in the conference hall, the Soviet Union made moves to aggravate tension outside. It not only concentrated massive military forces and carried out unbridled provocations in the seas of northern Europe and the Mediterranean, but also brazenly stretched its tentacles to the Iberian Peninsula. Such deeds of expansion coupled with words of detente are a huge mockery of the European security conference. From its inception we considered the European security conference a European insecurity conference. Now that this conference has ended, is there greater security in Europe? In our view, no. It has not altered the basic situation in Europe in the least. If one should be so naive as to believe in the Soviet propaganda, that would be dangerous indeed.

The Soviet leadership hankers after a so-called "Asian collective security system". Now that the European security conference has been a success, as they say, we Asian countries should learn from its example. What a bright idea! The situation in Asia, however, is different from that in Europe. It was only a short while ago that a superpower was driven out of Indochina. So the purpose of the Soviet Union is not the preservation of Asian security; rather it is to "fill the vacuum" and at the same time divert world attention to Asia to cover up the fact that Europe is the focus of its strategy. As for the principle of the inviolability of existing frontiers that was stressed at the European security conference, what implications would it have in Asia? Is it that the Soviet Union wants us to recognize as legal its occupation of the territories of some Asian countries while at the same time allowing it to reserve the right to support another Asian country in violating the existing frontiers of another, as it did in 1971? To put it bluntly, the idea of a so-called "Asian collective security system" peddled by the Soviet leadership is designed to facilitate its contention with the other superpower for hegemony in the Asia-Pacific region and serves as a means by which it seeks to divide and control the Asian countries. But the Asian countries, which won their independence after protracted struggles, know well that in order to be masters of their own house they must never "let the tiger in through the back door while repulsing the wolf through the front gate". China's attitude towards this stuff of "Asian collective security system" is clear-cut: First, we are against it; second, we despise it.

As Lenin pointed out time and again, imperialism means war. So long as imperialism and social-imperialism exist, war is inevitable. The content of imperialist politics is world domination, and the continuation of this politics is imperialist war. Since both superpowers are after world domination, the contradiction between them is irreconcilable; one either overpowers the other, or is overpowered. The so-called "balance of power", even if it exists, is only a transient and superficial one. It will not do to depend on a "balance of power" or a so-called "balance of terror" for maintaining peace. Khrushchov's brainchild that peaceful coexistence is the only alternative in this nuclear age is a hypocritical lie. If the Soviet Union took this stuff seriously, why should it frantically develop conventional armed forces in addition to energetically developing nuclear arms, and maintain an offensive posture far exceeding its defence needs? With the superpowers contending so fiercely and expanding their armaments so madly, they are bound to go to war against each other some day. This is independent of man's will. The superpowers are the source of a new world war, and the danger of war comes mainly from the wildly ambitious social-imperialism. The frequent meetings between the superpowers and their profuse talk about detente precisely prove that there is no detente, let alone lasting peace, in this world. What characterizes
the current world situation is decidedly not an irreversible process of detente but the approaching danger of a new world war.

We hope that the people of all countries will heighten their vigilance and get prepared against the growing danger of a new world war. It is better to be prepared than unprepared. Without preparations one will suffer. The superpowers look strong but are inwardly weak and very isolated. The more evils they do, the more thoroughly they will reveal their true features, and the stronger the resistance of the people of the world will become. At present, the factors for both revolution and war are increasing on a world scale. Whether war gives rise to revolution or revolution prevents war, in either case the international situation will develop in a direction favorable to the people. And the future of the world will be bright.

Mr. President,

Numerous questions will be considered at the current session of the General Assembly. The Chinese Delegation would like to state our views on some of them.

1. The Question of Opposing Colonialism

The past year was a year in which the African people continued to win important victories in their struggle for national independence and liberation. With the collapse of the Portuguese colonial system and the glorious birth of a number of newly independent states, the African national liberation movement has advanced to a new stage, and the last strongholds of colonialism in southern Africa are assailed from all sides by the multitude of African people and countries persisting in struggle.

But even before old-line colonialism dies out, the two superpowers have already stepped in. The United States has long supported colonial rule in Africa, and particularly southern Africa in particular. The Soviet Union, flaunting the banner of "socialism", has infiltrated into the African national liberation movement to sow discord and stir up trouble in an attempt to bring the movement within its social-imperialist orbit.

All revolutionary people of the world are saddened by the civil war in Angola. Differences within a national liberation movement are something normal. The correct attitude is to encourage unity in their common struggle to combat the enemy and drive out the colonialists. That is why the Organization of African Unity has recognized and supported all the three liberation organizations in Angola engaged in armed struggle and has made tireless efforts to promote unity in the Angolan national liberation movement. But the Soviet leadership, which considers itself as the patron of the national liberation movement, disregards the agreement reached among the three Angolan organizations on unity against the enemy and has, through its propaganda media, identified one organization as revolutionary and censured the others as reactionary in a deliberate attempt to create division. Furthermore, it has sent large quantities of arms, including heavy arms, to one of the Angolan organizations. That was how the civil war was provoked in Angola. The other superpower, on its part, has not lagged behind. The situation in Angola is becoming ever more complicated.

From the very beginning China has given her support to the national liberation movement in Angola. We gave military aid to all three Angolan liberation organizations to help them fight Portuguese colonialism. Being aware of their differences, we have all along urged them to unite against the enemy. After the agreement on independence was reached between the Angolan national liberation movement and Portugal, we stopped giving new military aid to the three Angolan organizations. Such are the facts, and facts are more eloquent than words. The Soviet slanders against China can in no way cover up the truth; instead, they serve to lay bare the true features of the Soviet Union.

The civil war in Angola instigated by the Soviet Union is a bad thing, but a good thing too. It is good precisely because it serves as teaching material by negative example. All revolutionary movements are bound to go through twists and turns. We believe that the broad masses of the Angolan people, after experiencing setbacks and detours, will certainly uphold unity, persist in struggle, frustrate the superpower and particularly social-imperialist schemes and achieve their independence and liberation. Their temporary difficulties and sacrifices will not only greatly enhance their own political awareness, but provide a profound lesson for the liberation movements of the oppressed nations throughout the world.

An excellent situation prevails in Africa. It was because the racists in southern Africa were driven into a corner that Vorster of South Africa proposed "dialogue" between the minority white regime of Southern Rhodesia and the Zimbabwe national liberation organizations. This signifies only the weakness of the racists and not at all their strength. Through such tactics they intend to disintegrate the national liberation movement and to preserve the reactionary white rule. The recent Conference of Heads of State and Government of the Organization of African Unity penetratingly stated that "Vorster's detente maneuvers on Rhodesia are a transparent trick to frustrate majority rule and to disarm the freedom-fighters". The conference stressed the necessity of armed struggle, called on the Zimbabwe people to immediately intensify their armed struggle and expressed the determination to fight by every means...
possible the white racist regimes until their complete elimination. We warmly support this correct stand. We have always advocated the use of revolutionary dual tactics against the reactionaries' counter-revolutionary dual tactics. Armed struggle is fundamental; the people's armed forces must be strengthened and not weakened, negotiations or no negotiations. Deviations and detours may sometimes occur in the complicated struggle against counter-revolutionary dual tactics. But the people will sum up their experience, overcome difficulties and continue to advance. Through long and tortuous struggles the people of southern Africa will eventually win the complete liberation of the African continent.

2. The Korean Question

The independent and peaceful reunification of Korea is the common aspiration of the entire Korean people. Over the years the Democratic People's Republic of Korea has put forward many reasonable proposals and propositions for the peaceful reunification of the fatherland. Thanks to its initiative, an agreement was reached with the south Korean authorities in 1972 on the three principles for independent and peaceful reunification, which were affirmed by the U.N. General Assembly in 1973. However, Korea remains divided today, because the Pak Jung Hi clique, supported by the United States, has abandoned these principles and sabotaged the north-south talks.

Under the impact of the great victory of the Indo-Chinese peoples this year, U.S. imperialism became panic. It endlessly repeated the myth of a so-called "threat of a southward invasion from the north" concocted by the Pak Jung Hi clique, deliberately played up the tension on the Korean Peninsula and even declared that it would not hesitate to use nuclear weapons there. Backed and abetted by the United States, the Pak Jung Hi clique pursued its policy of national division with greater frenzy, issued a succession of "emergency laws", declared a state of war and intensified its suppression of the people in south Korea. It looked as if a Korean war were touch and go. As a matter of fact, that was much ado about nothing. It is now clear that the United States and the Pak Jung Hi clique have acted in this way merely to create a pretext and deceive the people of the world so that U.S. troops may hang on in south Korea and the division of Korea may be perpetuated. If there is a danger of war on the Korean Peninsula, it can only originate from the south Korean authorities that constantly clamor for "reunification by prevailing over communism", and absolutely not from the Democratic People's Republic of Korea which insists on independent and peaceful reunification.

The draft resolution on Korea submitted by the United States, Japan and other countries this year claims a "preparedness" to terminate the United Nations Command. But there is no mention at all of the withdrawal of foreign troops from south Korea. Obviously, its purpose is, under the cover of terminating the U.N. Command, to legalize the presence of U.S. troops in south Korea and create "two Koreas". The U.S. attempt to thrust the Pak Jung Hi clique into the United Nations is part of this scheme. Clearly, such a draft resolution can by no means lead to a peaceful settlement of the Korean question, no matter how nicely it is worded. It is absolutely unacceptable to us.

We have consistently held that the Korean question should be settled by the Korean people themselves free from any outside interference. The draft resolution on Korea submitted by Algeria, China and other countries proposes that the United Nations Command be dissolved and all the foreign troops stationed in south Korea under the flag of the United Nations be withdrawn, and that the Korean Armistice Agreement be replaced with a peace agreement signed by the real parties to the armistice agreement. It also puts forward a series of positive measures to remove tension between north and south Korea, prevent armed conflicts and promote the normalization of the situation. This proposal is entirely just and reasonable. It not only meets the eager desire of the entire Korean people but is conducive to the fundamental improvement of the situation on the Korean Peninsula and in Northeast Asia.

The United Nations Command must be dissolved. From the day of its formation it has been illegal and a tool of U.S. aggression. In fact, it has become a U.S. command long since.

However, the dissolution of the U.N. Command must be coupled with the withdrawal of all the foreign troops from south Korea. For what would be the point of merely changing the name while keeping everything else intact? Continued presence of U.S. troops in south Korea under whatever name contravenes the principles of the independent and peaceful reunification of Korea and will only aggravate the tension on the Korean Peninsula. The question of withdrawal of all the foreign troops from Korea should have been discussed and settled within three months after the signing of the Korean Armistice Agreement. This has been delayed for no less than 22 years because of obstructions placed by successive American administrations. And 17 years have passed since the Chinese People's Volunteers withdrew on their own initiative from the Democratic People's Republic of Korea to facilitate a peaceful settlement of the Korean question. Now there are no foreign troops in north Korea, but U.S. troops still hang on in south Korea. For how much longer does the United States intend to prolong such a state of affairs?
Korea cannot remain for ever in a state of armistice. The U.S. representative's idea for the United States and the south Korean authorities to propose to the parties to the armistice the convening of a conference to discuss ways to preserve the armistice agreement is of no avail. The Korean Armistice Agreement has been in existence for 22 years, and how much longer will it be preserved? Moreover, as is known to all, great changes have in fact taken place with regard to the parties to the Korean Armistice Agreement. The Chinese People's Volunteers withdrew from Korea long ago. Most components of the United Nations Command have dispersed to the four winds. So how can such a conference be convened? As for the exploration at such a conference of the possibility of a larger conference to negotiate a more fundamental arrangement, is it not even more impractical? After the armistice in 1953, under the provisions of the armistice agreement a political conference of a higher level should have been held to settle the Korean question. However, owing to sabotage by the United States, even its preliminary talks failed to produce any result. Subsequently in 1954, the Korean and Chinese sides made tremendous efforts in Geneva to urge the convening of a political conference of a higher level in the hope that a peaceful settlement of the Korean question could be realized. At the time, the U.S. representative, stubbornly and arbitrarily clinging to his own course, went so far as to refuse to reopen any discussions on the Korean question in the future. Thus, the United States single-handedly slammed the door to a political conference on the Korean question. In the actual circumstances at present, the practical way is for the real parties to the Korean Armistice Agreement to negotiate and sign a peace agreement to replace the armistice agreement. The facts over the past two decades and more prove that U.S. interference in Korea is the root cause of constant tensions in Korea. Therefore, the key to a peaceful settlement of the Korean question lies in the conclusion of a peace agreement to replace the armistice agreement and in the withdrawal of all U.S. troops.

The United States asserts that as there is no normal international boundary between north and south Korea, the armistice agreement and the demilitarized zone stipulated therein absolutely must not be changed. We cannot accept this view. Korea is only in a state of temporary division. Between north and south Korea there can be no normal international boundary but only a provisional demarcation line. Since both north and south Korea have agreed on the mutual non-use of force and on reunification by peaceful means, why should it be impossible for some necessary measures to be agreed on to settle this problem pending the peaceful reunification? It is groundless to assert that a war will break out in Korea in the absence of the armistice agreement.

The Chinese Delegation maintains that the draft resolution on Korea sponsored by Algeria and other countries is one that can solve the problem. We hope that the current session of the General Assembly will seriously consider and adopt this draft resolution.

### 3. The Middle East Question

Since the October war, the Middle East has reverted to a state of "no war, no peace". This is the result of the fierce and many-sided contention between the two superpowers carried on against the will of the Arab and Palestinian peoples.

During this period, disengagement agreements were signed between Egypt and Israel and between Syria and Israel. Recently, a second disengagement agreement has been signed by Egypt and Israel. Nevertheless, the Middle East question is far from being settled.

It is mainly the two superpowers that are to be held responsible for this state of affairs. In the two years since the October war, one superpower proposed a "comprehensive solution" and the other a "step-by-step solution" of the Middle East question, each trying hard to boost itself and denigrate the other and masquerade as a friend of the Arab and Palestinian peoples. In fact, while the United States has no intention of bringing about a thorough settlement of the Middle East question, the Soviet Union is still less inclined to do so. It may be recalled that when the October war in the Middle East was at its most critical juncture and thereafter, the Soviet Union withheld the shipment of arms already promised to Egypt and even pressed for the repayment of debts. How can one expect such a perfidious country to support in earnest the Arab people in their just struggle for the recovery of the lost territories and the restoration of the Palestinian national rights?

Both superpowers have the need to maintain a state of "no war, no peace" in the Middle East—brief fighting followed by a period of truce, with both war and peace kept under control. Taking advantage of this state of affairs, they contend for spheres of influence, places of strategic importance and oil resources in the Middle East. Taking advantage of the same, they sell munitions in order to reap fabulous profits and alleviate their own economic difficulties. Again taking advantage of this, they test new weapons in preparation for a new war on a larger scale. All this is done at the expense of the fundamental interests of the people in the Middle East.

Countless agreements on the Middle East have been reached inside and outside the United Nations in the past twenty-odd years. Now, in retrospect, is there any agreement that has been strictly observed by the Israeli aggressors, or that has brought about a basic change in the Middle East situation? None,
practically none. In the final analysis, it is not agreements on paper but the struggle of the people that will determine the future of the Middle East. What calls for close attention and vigilance now is that a superpower is taking advantage of the present situation to sow discord and attempt to undermine Arab unity. The Arab and Palestinian peoples must never be taken in.

The Chinese people have consistently supported the Arab and Palestinian peoples in their just struggle against the Israeli aggressors and have all along opposed superpower contention in the Middle East. We believe that the Palestinian and Arab peoples will continue to strengthen their unity, persevere in struggle and carry their fight against aggression and hegemonism through to the end.

4. The Question of Disarmament

Disarmament is an old question. At a time when there is a growing danger of a new world war, it is fully understandable that the people of all countries, and those of the third and second world countries in particular, should feel more concerned about this question. After the European security conference, the Soviet leadership has become particularly clamorous about “complementing political detente by military detente”, preaching that the most important task now is general and complete disarmament. This is making political profit out of the well-intentioned desire of the people of the world. It is a calculated fraud.

Anyone having respect for realities can see that in Europe there is no political detente at all but a fierce and all-sided contention between the two superpowers. Immediately after the conclusion of the European security conference the Soviet Union violated Norway's airspace. Is this not another proof that the so-called detente is just empty talk? To advocate in these circumstances the expanding, developing in depth and spreading of detente can only make people laugh their heads off.

Exploiting the developing countries' keen desire to develop their national economies, the Soviet Union recently has again trumpeted its proposal for a 10 per cent reduction of the military budgets of the five permanent members of the Security Council and the use of part of the funds thus saved to provide assistance to developing countries. The Soviet Union deems this proposal its masterstroke, and its representatives have tried to sell it to us here for no one knows how many times. But so far they have failed to inform us just how big the real Soviet military budget is. It would probably take several years to get this clear. And who knows how many more before military budgets can truly be reduced as proposed by the Soviet Union? This magnificent Soviet plan, to use a Chinese saying, is “drawing a pie to satisfy hunger”. If the developing countries were made to undertake the minimum obligation of not using nuclear-missile forces, and dismantle all their military bases, including nuclear bases, on the territories of other countries. But now the superpowers even refuse to undertake the minimum obligation of not using nuclear weapons against the non-nuclear countries and nuclear-free zones, and they must withdraw from abroad all their armed forces, including nuclear-missile forces, and dismantle all their military bases, including nuclear bases, on the territories of other countries. But now the superpowers even refuse to undertake the minimum obligation of not using nuclear weapons against the non-nuclear countries.

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Anyone having respect for realities can see that in Europe there is no political detente at all but a fierce and all-sided contention between the two superpowers. Immediately after the conclusion of the European security conference the Soviet Union violated Norway's airspace. Is this not another proof that the so-called detente is just empty talk? To advocate in these circumstances the expanding, developing in depth and spreading of detente can only make people laugh their heads off.

Exploiting the developing countries' keen desire to develop their national economies, the Soviet Union recently has again trumpeted its proposal for a 10 per cent reduction of the military budgets of the five permanent members of the Security Council and the use of part of the funds thus saved to provide assistance to developing countries. The Soviet Union deems this proposal its masterstroke, and its representatives have tried to sell it to us here for no one knows how many times. But so far they have failed to inform us just how big the real Soviet military budget is. It would probably take several years to get this clear. And who knows how many more before military budgets can truly be reduced as proposed by the Soviet Union? This magnificent Soviet plan, to use a Chinese saying, is “drawing a pie to satisfy hunger”. If the developing countries were made to undertake the minimum obligation of not using nuclear weapons against non-nuclear countries. But now the superpowers even refuse to undertake the minimum obligation of not using nuclear weapons against the non-nuclear countries. How can it be said that conditions are ripe for holding a world disarmament conference?

Historical experience merits attention. The more the imperialists diffuse a smokescreen of disarmament, the bigger is the danger of war. Before World War II, a large-scale international disarmament conference lasting nearly three years was held under the sponsorship of the League of Nations after nearly seven years of preparation, and hundreds of proposals and suggestions were discussed. But the results? Arms expansion instead of disarmament, and war instead of peace. The only effect of that conference was to put many countries off guard and as a result, they were caught unprepared by the outbreak of World War II and suffered a great deal.

We hold that the United Nations should not repeat the mistake of the League of Nations.

Nevertheless, as was expected, the Soviet Union tabled at this session of the General Assembly a proposal for the “complete and general prohibition of
nuclear weapon tests”. This is old ware in new wrappings and another of its tricks for maintaining nuclear monopoly. China’s stand on this question is clear to all and we will not repeat it. As regards the Soviet proposal for the prohibition of the manufacture of what it calls new types of weapons even more formidable than nuclear weapons, its aim is none other than to divert people’s attention from the immediate issues by talking about remote things. Let it be discussed by those who are prepared to manufacture such weapons. There is no need to bring it up here to scare people.

5. The Question of Development

Since the Sixth Special Session of the General Assembly, the third world countries have waged effective struggles and put forward a series of reasonable proposals and ideas for transforming the old international economic order based on exploitation. The oil-exporting countries have bravely stood up to superpower intimidation and threats, and kept a firm hold on their oil resources and their right to fix oil prices. Many countries have adopted measures against transnational corporations to regain their sovereign rights in varying degrees. Various associations of raw material-producing countries have been set up one after another. The third world countries have put forward a number of proposals, such as the integrated program for commodities and the indexation of prices, for the transformation of the present irrational international economic order. The situation of the struggle in the economic field against colonialism, imperialism and hegemonism is excellent.

There are two conflicting positions on the question of development. The position taken by the third world is for maintaining independence and self-reliance, transforming the old economic order of exploitation of the third world by a few big powers and establishing a new economic order on the principles of sovereignty, equality and mutual benefit. The other position, taken by the superpowers, stresses “interdependence” or “international division of labor” between the exploiting and the exploited countries in an attempt to preserve the old economic order. Are the industrially developed countries and the raw material-producing countries interdependent? Yes, they are. This interdependence has been in existence ever since the emergence of a single world market. The point is what kind of interdependence. It may be said that there is an interdependence between the horse and its rider. But we all know it is the horse that takes the burden and not the rider. As for “international division of labor”, it is in essence one and the same as “interdependence”. With the emergence of colonialism and imperialism, a new and international division of labor sprang up in the world that converted one part of the globe into a chiefly agricultural field of production serving the other part which was a chiefly industrial field. But to call such cosmopolitan exploitation internationalism is an idea that could only be engendered in the brains of the social-imperialists. Whether or not there is exploitation in the existing international economic relations and whether or not an end should be put to such exploitation — this is a real problem of great importance today.

Towards the demand of the third world for transforming the old international economic order, two differing attitudes are adopted by different industrially developed countries. One is dialogue, and the other confrontation. Since the use of oil as a weapon by the oil-exporting countries, one super-power has kept hurling abuse and waving the big stick at them and even threatened them with armed intervention in an attempt to coerce them into submission. The other superpower has chimed in, saying that oil prices should not be raised unilaterally and asserting threateningly that the aggravation of the oil problem may cause a new flare-up of international tensions. Both take an out-and-out imperialist attitude. We are firmly against this attitude. Facts show that this attitude, far from subduing the oil-exporting countries, only stimulated them to closer unity and hardened their fighting will. We are in favor of dialogue. In the past year and more, many second world countries have frequently tried dialogue with a number of third world countries, and some of these attempts have yielded positive results. Ties between the second world and the third world have been strengthened. This is a good phenomenon in the international economic life of today.

In the face of the worsening capitalist economic crisis and the shifting of crisis by industrialized countries, the third world countries have advanced such proposals as the integrated program for commodities, the indexation of prices and the democratization of the international financial institutions in order to improve their trade terms and develop their national economies. These are entirely justifiable and are minimum demands. But they have met with opposition from a few major industrialized countries. For they constitute a violation of the so-called free market system, which is allegedly sacred and inviolable. Instead, those industrialized countries have put forward a series of concrete proposals allegedly designed to “promote economic development”. As a matter of fact, the so-called free market of today has never been free since the emergence of monopoly capital. This market is free only for monopoly capital and the industrialized powers and not for the developing countries. In the sixties, for example, the prices of oil and many other raw materials were kept so low. Was that determined by supply and demand? No, it was determined arbitrarily, or “freely”, if you like, by big monopoly capital. To transform the old inter-
national economic order, it is imperative to touch this 
free market system of gaining profits at the expense of 
others. Otherwise, no matter how many concrete 
proposals the superpowers may submit or how much 
money they may promise, these in essence are nothing 
but a kind of aims and relief which can at best tem-
porarily mitigate a little the difficulties of the 
developing countries but will not help them shake 
off exploitation and control. The root cause of their 
poverty will still be there. The gap between the poor 
and rich countries will keep widening.

The oil weapon has opened up new vistas for 
the anti-colonialist, anti-imperialist and anti-hege-
monic struggle in the economic field. The key to the 
victories of the oil struggle lies in upholding unity 
and daring to touch what the industrial powers re-
gard as sacred and inviolable. All raw material-
producing countries should get organized and fight 
in defense of their proper interests. Some people 
accuse OPEC of being a monopoly organization, a 
cartel. Why don't they stop and think that cartels, 
trusts and transnational corporations were inventions 
of the industrial powers and that to date they still 
weigh down heavily on the developing countries? Are 
we to tolerate the injustice of the magistrates being 
allowed, to burn down houses while the common 
people are forbidden to use fire even to light lamps? 
All the developing countries should unite more 
closely. It is true that among the developing coun-
tries some are in the greatest need. Other countries 
should give them more help, and they have already 
begun to do so. The neediest and other developing 
countries share common experiences and face com-
mon tasks. To call the neediest countries the “fourth 
world” is groundless or ill-intentioned. There are 
no saviors in the world. To develop the national 
economy, a country must persist in independence and 
self-reliance. Political independence is not won easily, 
so it is essential to give play to state sovereignty to 
eliminate gradually but firmly the forces of im-
perialism and all forces of colonialism and neo-
colonialism. The old international economic order 
was evolved over centuries of colonialist and im-
perialist plunder and exploitation. It is impossible to 
thoroughly change it at one stroke. The Seventh 
Special Session of the General Assembly is a con-
tinuation of the struggle of the Sixth Special Ses-

dion. The struggle against exploitation will be a long 
one. United as one and persisting in our efforts, we 
developing countries will surely attain our goal.

Mr. President,

Before concluding my speech, I would like to 
state briefly our opinions on the review of the U.N. 
Charter. We are in favor of reviewing the Charter 
and making the necessary amendments. Nothing in 
the world is immutable. The situation within and 
outside the United Nations has changed, and it is 
only natural that the Charter should be amended ac-
cordingly so as to suit the changed situation. This 
is common sense. Basing themselves on the purposes 
and principles of the Charter, many countries have 
put forward views in principle on the revision of 
certain provisions of the Charter, such as expanding 

the power of the General Assembly, restricting the 
power of the Security Council, changing the com-
position of the Security Council, limiting or abol-
ishing the veto power of the states permanent members 
of the Security Council. We think that these views 
deserve serious consideration. Since the U.N. Charter 
was drawn up by men, why can't it be revised by 
men? But the superpowers are greatly upset by the 
changed situation within the United Nations. One 
superpower describes the democratic voting in the 
General Assembly as a “tyranny of the majority”. 
The other goes further; at the mere mention of the 
phrase “review of the U.N. Charter”, it flies into a 
rage and breaks into abuse, calling people in favor 
of reviewing the Charter “reactionary forces”. It 
mortally fears that it might be deprived of its priv-
ilege of abusing the veto power. We would advise 
this “natural ally of the developing countries” to 
calm down a bit and not get so exasperated. If you 
are sure that you have the truth, why are you so 
afraid of dissenting views? A review of the U.N.
Charter is the general trend and popular demand. 
We believe that a rational solution acceptable to all 
can be found so long as the nations, big and small, 
carry on patient consultations and repeated discus-
sions on the basis of the principle of equality for all. 
If anyone still resorts to deliberate obstructions, that 
can only help people see more clearly who are cham-
pions of the special privileges of the minority. There-
fore, we submit that the work of the review of the 
Charter should be continued.

Thank you, Mr. President.

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HOW can the people of arid mountain areas build hydroelectric stations with local strength? Chinglung county in Hopei province has found the answer.

Lying north of the Great Wall deep in the Yenshan Mountains, Chinglung is a stony area of 3,310 square kilometers, 80 percent of which is mountainous. Only ten percent of the land, most of it on slopes, is cultivable. Little rain keeps the county’s five rivers and many streams dry for ten months of the year, while the short rainy season floods them. In the past the peasants watched all this water flow past to the foot of the mountains while their fields on the slopes lay parched.

In the 1950s during the days of the agricultural cooperatives the people of the county started to build dams and canals and used waterwheels to raise water to their fields. But waterwheels were not powerful enough and only the lower slopes could be irrigated.

In 1958 came the General Line set out by Chairman Mao: “Go all out, aim high and achieve greater, faster, better and more economical results in building socialism.” Enthusiastically Chinglung’s people proposed using their limited water sources to run small hydropower stations which could supply electricity for pumping stations.

Some of the leaders, however, were under the influence of Liu Shao-chi’s revisionist line. They insisted that the only useful hydropower stations were big ones, that since there was so little water in the area it was better not to build any. Small stations were a waste of manpower and money. Thus, by 1966, when the cultural revolution started, only one small station had been built in the entire county.

During the cultural revolution the people repudiated the revisionist line and set out to find sufficient water sources for power stations. In the winter of 1968, under the leadership of the Chinglung county Communist Party committee, investigation teams were organized, several hundred people, mostly from the communes, to explore the mountains for water sources. They surveyed the county’s five rivers and some 20 small streams, talked with old peasants, and visited the county’s only hydropower station, one built in 1966 by the Tunghao Village brigade.

Though Tunghao lay on the bank of the Chinglung River, it had been a poor village with low-yield fields until they built their dam and set up an 84-kw. hydroelectric station. This supplied electricity for five pumping stations. These, together with gravity flow, enabled them to irrigate 72 percent of their mountainslope fields. The same year it was built they reaped a much bigger harvest.

The Tunghao station was a breakthrough and a good example for the rest of the county. From the results of the county’s survey of water sources a unified plan for water control and power was drawn up. Within two years over a hundred small and medium hydropower projects were begun.

The Masses’ Wisdom

Since 1968 the county has completed 79 small hydropower sta-
tions, 10 small or medium-size reservoirs, 32 storage ponds in the mountains and other waterworks. Although they were big projects for the local people and there were many difficulties, success was achieved by mobilizing the wisdom and strength of the people.

This was demonstrated in Szu-taitzu brigade. The water in a small stream in the brigade only flowed at 0.02 cubic meters a second. Nevertheless, the brigade members built a dam three meters high and set up a small turbine. It produced only enough electricity to light three bulbs. But it was the first time in history this mountain ravine had had electric lights and the people jubilantly called them "our night pearls". Several days later, however, the water in their small reservoir was exhausted and their "pearls" went out.

The brigade members wouldn't give up. They analyzed the problem, visited similar projects in other communes and six months later designed a bigger dam. Several hundred determined and enthusiastic people converged at the stream to build it. Seventy-two-year-old Sheng Yung-lien followed his two sons and daughters-in-law to help transport rocks. "Grandpa Sheng," the young people told him, "you mustn't do such heavy work." The old man insisted. "Everybody's come to build the power plant. It's for socialism, how can you want me to stay home doing nothing? I can't carry big rocks but I can lift little ones!"

Two winters later, water from a larger reservoir behind their 13-meter-high dam was running through canals to one third of their fields, aided by pumping stations powered by a 12-kw. turbogenerator. "Night pearls" gleamed in the homes of the 96 families scattered along the ravine. Even very small springs in the county were used. From one such spring in a team of the Tachangzu commune only a liter of water seeped out per second. "Hardly enough to water two cows," some people said, "how can it generate electricity?" But the team's 22 families turned out and in 20 days built a pond fed by the spring. Meanwhile, the Tientsin Electric Transmission Designing Institute had produced a 1.5-kw. mini-turbogenerator for the team and this — the smallest in the county — gave them electricity.

The county's masses pooled their ideas to solve the many problems they encountered on these projects. The Tuyuan River was such a problem. Its average flow is only 0.09 cubic meters per second, but during the rainy season it suddenly jumps to 1,080 cubic meters per second and floods the lower reaches. The people suggested blocking the river at a place called Shuihutung and building a large hydroelectric station.

This raised another problem: in winter, canals would freeze, stop the flow and prevent the generation of electricity. The masses suggested that by diverting the water through a tunnel cut through a mountain it would not freeze. When it was pointed out that this might take as long as five years, the people proposed sinking six shafts along the tunnel route and digging the tunnel there as well.

This kind of mass wisdom produced innovations of all kinds and the 1,700-meter tunnel, 2.8 meters in diameter, was finished in just over one year. Finally their hydropower station went up with generators totaling 1,375-kw. capacity. It has been in operation since last July.

Equipping Themselves

 Industrially backward Ching-lung county did not have enough

*The Institute's research work in mini-generators for such conditions is an example of the way China's science and industry support agriculture. See "Remote Areas Welcome Mini-turbogenerators" in China Reconstructs, August 1975.
money, machinery, materials or technical know-how to build small hydroelectric stations. But again the masses said, “We've got our two hands, no difficulties are going to stop us!”

The people in Shaoyingtzu commune used this spirit to tackle their problem. The Shaho River in the commune was usually only a sandy bed. The water sank through the sand and flowed underground. The commune decided to block this underground flow, force it to the surface and use it to feed a small hydroelectric station. But the commune didn't have enough funds. Some people suggested asking the state for money. The majority did not agree. “We should rely on ourselves as Chairman Mao teaches,” they pointed out. “Commune members shouldn't hold out their hands for help every time they run into difficulty.”

The commune's brigades and teams mobilized to more fully exploit their mountain resources, gather more medicinal herbs and work for larger yields of fruit and silkworm cocoons, and intensify their sideline occupations. The increased income that resulted gave them enough money, added to their public accumulation funds, to begin their projects.

There was not enough cement. Chao Jung, a young commune member, proposed using the locally abundant granite as a substitute. Dozens of young men apprenticed themselves to veteran stone masons and quarried 35,000 cubic meters of granite that took the place of 1,000 tons of cement. Two commune members went to other places to learn, then returned to make 5,000 kilograms of explosives and thousands of blasting caps.

The 250-meter granite dam rose only 1.5 meters above the riverbed but sank 9.6 meters through the sand to a layer of rock. This blocked the underground flow, filling the dry riverbed. Two sets of 40-kw. turbogenerators were run by three young peasant-
SOME FIGURES

Since the cultural revolution began in 1966, the number of small and medium hydropower stations in the countryside has increased rapidly. By the beginning of 1975, one third of China's total output of electricity was coming from these rural stations. In one year they were producing more electricity than all of China at the time of liberation.

At present, there are over 60,000 small and medium hydropower stations — ten times the number before the cultural revolution. More are being built every year than the number built from the liberation in 1949 to the beginning of the cultural revolution in 1966.

Small and medium hydroelectric stations, together with the major power networks built by the state, now provide electricity to offices, schools, clinics, production enterprises, etc. in 50 percent of the nation's agricultural brigades and 70 percent of the communes.

-electricians who had learned the job by apprenticing themselves to a peasant-technician in another small hydroelectric station.

Because all the hydropower projects in the county were built in the spirit of self-reliance shown by the Shaoyingtzu commune, within the past few years 80 percent of the funds for the county's water control projects were raised by the communes and brigades themselves. The state contributed only 20 percent. Using local resources, the county set up a small cement factory to help. It produces 10,000 tons a year.

The county also supplied itself with the equipment it needed. One factory which made only double-share plows and caldrons sent its workers to other factories to learn how to make water turbines. In the last few years it has produced over 400 turbines in 13 different models. A farm tool plant which only made hoes and sickles learned to make various types of generators and motors.

Collective Strength

To build hydropower stations and carry on farm work at the same time appears to be a contradiction. But the communes solved it by making full use of the strength of the big collective and organizing labor power rationally. A full-time construction corps of commune members works on the projects all year, while most of the commune members help out when they can during the busy farm seasons and join in large numbers during the slack seasons.

Unity and cooperation multiplied their strength. This was apparent, for example, in projects built on the Chiho River. The river has plenty of water but rock hills obstruct the current in a number of places and force the river into horseshoe bends, which in turn make the current too slow for generating electricity. A brigade located on one of these bends cut a 30-meter tunnel through the intervening rock hill at the narrowest point of the bend, straightening the course of the river and achieving a four-meter drop. The faster flow made it feasible to build a 20-kw. turbo-pump powerhouse.

A year later commune members suggested straightening more bends and building a big hydroelectric station. A proposal was made to the three neighboring communes who would also benefit from it to carry out the project together.

As soon as the news spread through the four communes, labor power, funds and tools were quickly apportioned and distributed in a rational way. When the project was begun, a thousand jubilant commune members, carrying red banners, set out from their villages for the worksite.

The spirit was of unity and cooperation. Every commune vied to do the hardest jobs. The eastern part of the dam, for example, was on a dry slope where the work was fairly easy. All four communes fought to do the job on the western end where low land and deep water made the work hard. In another example, when the Nientzukou commune, the smallest of the four, had not finished digging its section of the canal when the rest were done, the other three communes promptly sent help.

Working together the four communes bypassed three large bends with a tunnel 400 meters long. This created a 19.5-meter head drop for a 225-kw. hydroelectric station. Since January 1, 1974 the station has been supplying electricity without a hitch to the four communes.

Answers to LANGUAGE CORNER Exercises

一、(1) 我在这里愉快地生活了三年。
(2) 他们讨论问题讨论得很热烈。 
(3) 这些是张同志给我的礼物。

二、(1) 我写汉字写得不快。
(2) 这个问题他回答得很全面。
(3) 她唱歌唱得很好。

(He answered this question completely.)
(She sings very well.)
Mechanization is one of the benefits resulting from the Machiao People’s Commune’s stronger collective economy since it was set up in 1958. This is in line with what Chairman Mao teaches, “The fundamental way out for agriculture lies in mechanization.” Today the commune has tractors, rice transplanters, reapers and electrical equipment. Plowing, drainage, irrigation, spraying, threshing, milling and transport are basically mechanized. The commune has a farm machinery plant, an electric equipment repair and manufacturing plant and several farm machinery repair stations, and has trained technicians for them. Wide use of farm machinery has brought about a great increase in grain production.

Fields of the Machiao People’s Commune on the Whangpoo River near Shanghai.

Concrete boats made in the commune.
This commune plant makes and repairs transformers for rural use.

The Party secretary and members of the commune discuss improvements on a new machine for pulling up rice seedlings for transplanting.

An electric incubator.

Cotton is sprayed with a multi-head sprayer assembled at the farm machinery plant.
China's Third National Games were held in Peking September 12 to 28, 1975 in crisp autumn weather. On the day of the opening ceremony the Workers' Stadium was a riot of color. Red flags snapped under a clear sky. Long banners carried the slogans "Promote physical culture and sports and build up the people's health" and "Friendship first, competition second".

Posters greeting the Games were all over the city. Every day 200,000 spectators streamed to the capital's stadiums and sports grounds to watch the competitions and exhibitions of military sports and traditional sports of the minority nationalities. The city was alive with an atmosphere of unity and triumph.

The Achievements

Held ten years after the Second National Games of 1965, the Games were a review of China's progress in sports and the new mental outlook of sportsmen since the advent of the cultural revolu-
Staff Reporter

There were 31 teams from the provinces, municipalities, autonomous regions and the People’s Liberation Army—a total of 10,700 people representing 31 nationalities. For the first time a team from Taiwan province took part.

There were 23 events for seniors, including ball games, track and field, gymnastics, acrobatics, swimming, diving, water polo, weightlifting, shooting, archery, fencing, wushu (traditional martial art), cycling, traditional wrestling, Chinese and international chess and wei chi (go). Eight junior events included ball games, track and field, swimming and gymnastics. The opening ceremony featured 23,000 young people in a mass calisthenics display titled “In Praise of the Red Flag”. Military sports included model airplane flying, model boat sailing, parachuting, motorcycling and speedboat racing. Among the traditional sports were horsemanship by riders from Inner Mongolia, wrestling by Yunnan athletes and high swing and see-saw jumping by Korean women from Kirin province. There was also a children’s sports display.

Yen Kuei-li (right) and Yang Yen-chun of Peking in the women’s table tennis team event. They and team-mate Wei Li-chieh beat noted Honan players Chang Li and Ko Hsin-ai to win the title of this event.
While taking part in competition, the athletes continued their study of the theory of the dictatorship of the proletariat and criticized such bourgeois ideas in sport as "technique comes first" and "trophies above all". This contributed to the good results in the events. Three world records were broken, two equalled. One of the 7th Asian Games was smashed, 62 national and 64 junior national records were broken.

On the morning of September 15 in the small-bore center-fire pistol 60-shot event Tu Ning-sheng, a People's Liberation Army woman, scored 588 points to break the world record of 587 set by the Soviet athlete, Nina Stoljarova, in 1974.

The new record was broken on the afternoon of the same day by Li Ya-min, another PLA woman, with 591 points. The next day Tung Hsiang-yi, also PLA, set a new record with 592 points.

Thus a three-woman PLA team totalled 1,771 points to beat also the Soviet-held world record of 1,752 points in the women's group pistol event.

New Forces

In 20 events, 70 percent of all team members were under 22 years old. All the participants in the eight junior events were born after 1958. Young people and teenagers were the main force of the Games, a feature different from previous Games. This was the result of giving first importance to the physical training and sports for youth and teenagers as urged by Chairman Mao.

Among the young people were workers, commune members, soldiers, school graduates who have settled down in the rural areas, and also middle-school and primary-school pupils. Seven-year-old Liu Feng of the Chinghai province wushu team was the youngest contestant.

The newcomers showed unusual spirit and tenacity in the competitions, many setting records. Chin Tung-hsiang, an 18-year-old schoolgirl from Liaoning province, cracked the world record in the women's small-bore standard rifle 3 × 20 shot event. Liu Ya-chun, 13, won the women's individual all-round title for senior gymnasts. Chao Ching, 14, broke the national records in women's 200, 400 and 800 m. free-style swimming. Ning Yen-hua, 18, broke the national record in women's 200-m. track cycling. The seven members of Hunan's gymnastics team, winner of the women's team competition for seniors, averaged under 15, the youngest being only 11.

All 21 entrants in the men's 5,000-meter race finals were under 22. Hsieh Pao-chiang, 19-year-old record-holder of the men's 10,000-meter race, was from a commune outside Peking.

Hsieh had trained hard for the Games. One winter morning while he was jogging along a road, a factory worker cycling home after the night shift caught up with him. "We try to reach new targets in the factory every month," the worker said. "We hope you athletes work hard and set new records too." During the 5,000-m. race Hsieh was out in front all the way. Though he knew he would win, on the home stretch he thought of the worker's words and put on a burst of speed to breast the tape at 14 min. 11 sec. This cut 15.6 seconds off the national record and 23.81 seconds off the 7th Asian Games record.

Young athletes of the minority nationalities made a good showing. Patikuli, 15-year-old daughter of a blacksmith and one of the first women gymnasts of the Uighurs of Sinkiang, won fifth place in the women's individual all-round event. Her free exercise, done to piano music adapted from Uighur folk songs, was outstanding for lively rhythm and graceful movements of great strength.

In 1974 Patikuli, as a member of the Chinese middle-school students' sports team, attended an international middle-school sports meet in the Federal Republic of Germany. She won first place in the individual total of the women's gymnastics team event.

Lo Yu-hsiu, a 16-year-old Mongolian girl from Chinghai province, clocked 3 min. 9 sec. for the first 1,000 meters of the women's 3,000-m. race and shortened the national record by 5 seconds.
**Fine Sportmanship**

The spirit of "friendship first, competition second" shown by the athletes and coaches impressed spectators. Individuals and teams exchanged experience and helped one another improve skill and technique. Incidents demonstrating the spirit of unity were many.

When the Kansu team's bicycle tires were damaged, the Shansi team offered their spares. When several of the motorcycles of the Shansi team broke down, the Kansu team helped repair them. On the day of the women's 70-km. team cycling race, Yu Ting-hsiu of Kansu, a newcomer, was in the lead, with Fan Tsui-ying, a veteran on the Shansi team, right behind. They encouraged each other. It began to rain and at a slippery stretch the two fell down almost at the same time. Yu, though badly bruised, got up quickly and helped Fan. By the time they remounted, the others were far ahead. Determined not to let her own team down, Yu pedaled doubly hard to catch up. Her team won.

Traditional-style wrestling is a popular sport with a long history. In the past some athletes, influenced by the bourgeois idea of "trophies above all", jealously guarded the secrets of their special skills and would not practice in front of others. Now wrestlers practice together and discuss each other's technique. The men from Shansi and Anhwei exchanged their "secrets". During the heavy-weight contest Heilungkiang's Dogdn, a Mongolian, was matched against Sinkiang's Keng Hsiang-lin. Dogdn threw Keng to the floor but then started to fall himself. To keep his 116 kg. from hurting Keng, Dogdn broke his fall with one hand on the ground, risking an injury.

A special feature of the Games was to have 300 representatives from grassroots units outstanding in mass sports and 1,200 workers, peasants and soldiers comment on the contests and especially on the sportmanship and skills of the athletes, referees and coaches. Their criticisms helped implement Chairman Mao's revolutionary line in physical culture and sports, the principle of "friendship first, competition second" and good sportmanship.

Such critics helped the Liaoning football eleven when it beat the Shantung team 8:3. The Liaoning team had trailed 0:2 at the half. After the game worker-peasant-soldier critics pointed out to the Liaoning players that their impatience for victory had caused them to be rash and prevented them from playing in their best form. But it was good, the critics went on, that they had reviewed their play at half time and realized their error. The Liaoning team accepted the criticism readily, corrected themselves and went on to tie for first place with the Kwangtung team.

**Mass Basis**

To make the Games a bridge for still wider mass participation in sports, the 300 representatives in mass sports did more than comment on the competitions. They
included commune members, state farm workers, school graduates who have settled in the countryside, factory and railroad workers, miners, shop clerks, armymen, university and middle and primary school students, and representatives from kindergartens. They came from 19 nationalities. These people, through forums and mutual visits, exchanged experience in mass sports work. Many went to factories, shops and schools in Peking to share their experience. Representatives of Taching oilfield's women's extraction team and a PLA company on Chenpao Island on China's northeast frontier gave full-length reports to the other representatives and a Peking audience of 5,000.

A representative from Kweichow province was Tai Chang-chih, a 19-year-old girl of Miao nationality, captain of the women's basketball team of her production brigade and the first person from her village ever to come to the capital. Five years ago when she and five other girls began playing basketball, conservative people said, “Women on a basketball court? Your time would be better spent at home embroidering.” But the county sports committee and the brigade Party branch backed them and the team not only improved its game but attracted 18 more members. They also helped children of 12 and 13 learn the game. “It’s the Party and Chairman Mao’s concern for the national minorities that has made it possible for me to come to Peking,” Tai said.

Thirty percent of the Games contests were held in factories, mines, communes, army units, universities and middle schools, railroad stations, stores, research institutes and so on in and around Peking. Several table tennis matches were held in the No. 3 Deaf and Mute School, the Red Flag Rubber and Hardware Plant and a carpet factory, the last two staffed by disabled persons.

Several of the basketball matches were held at Hsing-kochuang brigade in a commune 40 kilometers out in the countryside. Commune members said, “This shows the concern of the Party and Chairman Mao for the peasants. It’s our busy season now and we don’t have time to go into Peking to watch the National Games. Now we can see some of the best games right in front of our door.”

The brigade members had built a court in their after-work hours. On the big day they got up early and finished their farm work before the games started. During the matches about 10,000 spectators ringed the court watching some of China’s best teams.

Table tennis teams from Chekiang, Hopei, Shanghai and Fukien played their matches for street cleaners at the west city sanitation headquarters. On the day before the opening of the Games the players from Hopei and other provinces had joined these people in sweeping the streets. The veteran workers were moved. In old China street cleaners were the most despised people in society. They lived in deserted temples and out-of-the-way places, couldn’t make
a living, and begged the leftovers of the rich. They were cursed as beggars. "In the old society we were the most downtrodden," one old worker said. "Now the teams of the National Games come to play for us, something we couldn't dream of in the old days!" During the matches two young street cleaners served as referees. Six cadres and workers formed a critics team.

**Kith and Kin**

The team from Taiwan province was made up of 279 athletes and physical cultural workers residing abroad or working in various parts of China. They came with love for the motherland and the desire to see Taiwan liberated. During their stay in Peking they were received by Party and government leaders and entertained by the State Physical Culture and Sports Commission, the PLA, Peking and Fukien sports teams. On the night of the Mid-autumn Festival, the State Physical Culture and Sports Commission and athletes of other teams celebrated the occasion as a reunion of kinsmen with compatriots from Taiwan.

Chen Yuan-ling, a 53-year-old chess player from Taiwan now living in Japan, met Tsai Tzu-min, a childhood friend from the same village. It had been 42 years. "What happiness to see each other in the capital of the motherland!" Chen exclaimed.

Two others from Taiwan who met were Huang Wen-fu and Yeh Fu-kuei, both in their forties. In Taiwan, Huang had been a miner and Yeh a cowherd. Both had suffered the oppression of the Kuomintang and the imperialists. Only after their coming to the mainland have they stood up as masters of the new society. Huang Wen-fu is now with the revolutionary committee of Fukien province and Yeh Fu-kuei is a cadre in the PLA. At an evening gathering sponsored by the PLA sports team the Taiwan compatriots listened to the song, "People of Taiwan, Our Own Brothers" and pledged to contribute more to the liberation of Taiwan and its reunification with the motherland.

The fine sportsmanship of the Taiwan athletes was highly commended by Peking spectators and the worker-peasant-soldier critics. Before Yeh Hsu and Yeh Li, young brother and sister players on the Taiwan table tennis team, left for Peking their mother had shown them a photo of their aunt who had been a noted short-distance runner in Taiwan. To make money, however, the capitalists forced her to train long hours. Worn out and exhausted, she fell ill, could not afford a doctor and died at 18. The contrast of the two societies made the brother and sister determine to win honor for their socialist motherland. They both did well in their matches.

The Taiwan athletes saw the vigorous growth of sports in the country. They also visited factories, schools, communes, scenic places and historical sites and witnessed the rapid advance of industry and agriculture and the good life of the people of different nationalities. "Our motherland is thriving and prosperous and the people are in high spirits," one Taiwan athlete said. "But the 16 million compatriots in Taiwan province are still suffering. Only the leadership of the Chinese Communist Party and Chairman Mao can save the people of Taiwan. Taiwan is a part of China and we are certain our compatriots there will be reunited with us."
Peking provided 197 places for the Third National Games. Thirty-two are public stadiums, gymnasiums and sports fields, some being large and well equipped. The other 165 are playing grounds and courts at factories, schools, army units, department stores and communes. Twenty-three events, plus exhibitions of military sports and minority nationality sports items, were held in these buildings and fields. This made possible a wider attendance at the Games.

The capital's sports facilities, built up over the years since liberation, enabled more than 200,000 people to watch the competitions and performances every day. Peking's development of sports facilities is typical of that in the rest of the country.

Under the reactionary rule of the Kuomintang, China had very little in the way of sports facilities. A few larger cities had small stadiums and gymnasiums. The biggest stadium only seated 10,000 and the largest gymnasium 3,000. Many had fallen into disrepair. Hsien-nungtan Stadium — old Peking's only stadium — had been used as a stable by Kuomintang troops and was in ruins. The few gymnasiums, indoor stadiums and swimming pools were almost all in the foreign concessions, the mansions of foreigners and rich merchants and the schools set up by the imperialists to penetrate and control China's cultural life. The working people could not enter them.

After the birth of the people's republic, the government allocated large sums for sports facilities. Stadiums increased from 16 to 151 today, gymnasiums from 13 to 113, swimming pools from 92 to 1,602, and playing fields with permanent stands and lighting from 5 to 1,841. The large stadiums and gymnasiums are mainly in the principal cities, including Peking, Shanghai and Tientsin and the capitals of almost all the provinces and autonomous regions.

The cultural revolution accelerated sports construction. Modern gymnasiums went up in Peking, Shanghai, Shenyang, Foochow, Nanking, Hangchow, Nanning and Huhehot. Medium and small ones were built in other cities and towns.

Gymnasium engineering and installation technique is progressing steadily. The Capital Indoor Stadium in western Peking, with a 99-meter span and open-space structure, was completed during the cultural revolution. Seating 18,500, it has air conditioning, heating and ventilation. Inside temperature can be adjusted according to the change of seasons. Games such as basketball, volleyball, handball, badminton are held here. The floor can be moved away automatically and an artificial ice rink for figure skating and ice hockey can be formed rapidly. There is enough space for 24 table tennis...
matches at one time. Radio and recording studio takes stadium events directly to the country at large.

The Shanghai Indoor Stadium, similar in structure to the Capital Indoor Stadium, was recently completed. It is round. Its span is 110 meters and its outer wall is made of glass windows. Seating 18,000, it provides the same facilities as the Capital Indoor Stadium, but has baskets and volleyball net posts that lower automatically into the floor, electrically-controlled movable stands, and photoelectric timing and scoring devices.

Peking's Workers' Stadium is near a factory area in the eastern part of the city. The largest in China, it seats 80,000. Some 300 rooms under the stands can house 1,500 sportsmen.

Cycling tracks, motorcycle tracks and parachuting towers have been built in some parts of the country. In northeast China, cities like Harbin and Tsitsihar in Heilungkiang province and Changchun in Kirin province are now constructing artificial rinks for ice hockey and speed skating in spring and autumn.

All provinces, municipalities and autonomous regions have shooting ranges. The Third National Games' air rifle and pistol shooting events were held in China's first multipurpose gallery, 84 meters long, 21 meters wide and 8 meters high, recently built in Peking. It has 66 target positions and electric target-returning devices. Meets for air and small-bore rifles as well as air and other kinds of pistols can be held here. The gallery has equipment for night training and competitions.

Socialist China is one of the developing countries. The large number of stadiums and gymnasiums built by the government are still not enough for the millions of people who now participate in sports activities. To meet this need, Chairman Mao's policies of hard work, self-reliance, industry and thrift and relying on the masses have been followed. The people themselves have built playing grounds and other sports facilities in their own localities everywhere.

On the grassland, for example, Taching oilfield workers have laid out 1,000 grounds for track and field events, ball games and skating. In Kwangtung province, there is a standard swimming pool in every commune in Tungkuan county: the county has a pool with a spectator capacity of 3,000, a diving pool with a 10-meter platform and a children's pool.

Kweichow province's Chenpa county, with 200,000 population, lies in the Tapa Mountains where level space is scarce. Under the county Party committee, the people in every organization in the county seat, including the county Party committee itself and the revolutionary committee, built a 10,000-square-meter playing ground by moving earth from a hill, levelling ground and constructing stone embankment supports—all within 20 months.

The Lingchuan County Machinery Factory in Szechuan province is outstanding for its promotion of mass sports. In the spirit of self-reliance, the workers cleared some old ditches and built a 50 × 25 m. pool and several basketball courts. They built seats for several thousand people on the adjacent mountain slope. They also opened a football field and an athletic field, made ping-pong tables, horizontal and parallel bars, rings and bar-bells. In the changing weather of the mountains, sports activities go on in this factory in all seasons.

Lunutan commune in Kwangtung province only has a population of 20,000, but they have built 68 basketball courts, 35 volleyball courts, two football fields and two athletic fields.

Places for mass sports, built by the people themselves, are found throughout the country. The masses' wisdom in making use of local natural conditions has resulted in sports facilities with unusual features. For example, Kwangsi's Wuming county has utilized local hot springs to make swimming pools, so that people there can swim in the open all year round. The city of Wuchow has a floating swimming tank on a tributary of the Li River. Because it is made of bamboo and timber, water depth can be maintained at swimming-pool standards whether the river rises or falls.
Creating New Orthopedics with Chinese and Western Medicine

Staff Reporter

In the teaching hospital of the Academy of Traditional Chinese Medicine in Peking recently, doctors were gathered to watch a young doctor in his thirties treat a woman from distant Heilungkiang province whose head was twisted to the right and who could not walk. She had received a severe blow on the head more than a month before and been told by several hospitals that there was brain damage. Previous treatment had failed.

Now after careful examination and discussion, the doctors concluded that the blow had caused upper spinal compression and a partial dislocation of the third and fourth cervical vertebrae. They decided on manipulative reduction.

The young doctor gently turned the woman’s chin to the right, then with the thumb of the other hand pressed on the displaced vertebrae. There was a sudden click as the vertebrae snapped back into place. Supporting her neck, the doctor asked her to try to walk. Slowly she stepped from one end of the room to the other. Three days later she was walking with ease.

The doctor was Feng Tien-you, a Communist Party member on the staff of an airforce hospital. Since he graduated in modern western medicine from an army medical college eight years ago, he has worked hard to integrate traditional Chinese medicine with western medicine as Chairman Mao has advised. He learned the techniques of massage from a folk doctor, studied Chinese medical literature to improve on traditional Chinese orthopedics and combined it with the good features of western medicine. This enabled him to create a new method of diagnosis and treatment with which he has cured many cases of bone and joint injuries. Recently the Ministry of Health arranged a special training course in Peking where Feng could teach his methods to doctors from other parts of China.

Correct Orientation

After graduation Feng Tien-you, assigned to the clinic of an airforce unit, was pleased to be able to live and work with pilots and ground crews. Among his patients were pilots and mechanics who could not work because of lumbago and associated leg pains. Neither western physiotherapy or nerve blocking nor traditional Chinese acupuncture, cupping or plasters gave anything but temporary relief. Feng was determined to find a new approach in the treatment.

One day in 1969 a pilot injured his back in the lumbar region. After two weeks in the hospital he still walked with his body bent to one side. Hearing that a folk doctor in the outskirts of Peking offered cures in a few visits, he asked to go and suggested that Feng go along. “Seeing is believing,” Feng thought to himself and went.

When they arrived at the production brigade’s clinic, many people were waiting in the courtyard to see the folk doctor. Inside, she would explore a patient’s spinal column, touch here, press there, and the patient would straighten up and leave. Feng was impressed by the fact that treatment for such bone troubles cost practically nothing. Patients only paid 10 fen for registration.

When the pilot sat on a bench and the woman had massaged his back for a while, he too straightened up and felt better. No schooling, Feng thought, but she can cure her patients. This was genuine skill.

The method the folk doctor used was a family tradition for generations — massage, a heritage of Chinese medicine created over several thousand years by the people in their long struggle against disease. The masses have continued to use it because it is effective in common sprains, fractures, lumbago and leg pains.

This visit made Feng see more clearly why Chairman Mao had said that “Chinese medicine and pharmacology are a great treasure-house and efforts should be made to explore them and raise them to a higher level.” He had also pointed out that Chinese medical workers should concentrate on the prevention and treatment of the most common diseases in order to serve greater numbers of the people. Dr. Feng had found direction for his medical work.

In a letter to the Party committee of his airforce unit he asked for a chance to learn the special skills of this folk doctor. He was given six months to study with her.
Learning Modestly

How to learn from a folk doctor who had never had any education? Doctors had come to learn her skills before but impatiently went away when she could not explain what she was doing in modern medical terms. A student of western medicine in college, Feng too thought that traditional Chinese medicine was vague and unscientific. Now he realized that he would have to get rid of these ideas before he could learn seriously.

Working with the folk doctor he saw with his own eyes how she cured patients with back and neck injuries, lumbago, leg pains and other crippling injuries. Certainly her methods — simple, effective and costing practically nothing — met the needs of the masses and were better than the western methods he had studied.

He also saw how the people cured themselves using indigenous prescriptions and folk remedies. Limited and imperfect as these might be, he realized that because they had stood the test of centuries they must contain some grains of scientific truth. As a medical worker in new China he should carefully analyze and preserve the best of this heritage. Using dialectical materialism and modern medical knowledge, he should explore, sift and improve it in order to help create China’s new system of medicine and pharmacology.

As he learned, Feng Tien-you’s faith in the folk doctor’s methods increased day by day. He watched her fingers closely, helped her with her medical practice and daily chores. He listened attentively to her explanations. Since Feng treated her with respect, she was more than willing to teach this new student all she knew. He began treating patients under her guidance.

During the day Feng worked with the doctor and at night reviewed what he had learned no matter how tired he was. He drew diagrams of her finger movements and consulted relevant literature. He analyzed her methods with his knowledge of anatomy, physiology, pathology and clinical medicine.

Breakthrough

Because Feng could combine traditional Chinese with western medicine, he found the scientific basis of the folk doctor’s methods within a few months of hard work.

Many workers, peasants and armymen suffered from lumbago, sciatica or leg pains because of the herniation of an intervertebral disc in the lumbar region, which presses on nerve roots. Though in recent years Chinese doctors have improved the western methods of traction and surgery and added the traditional methods of massage, the treatment was long, patients suffered a great deal and the problem often recurred.

With her many years of experience, the folk doctor had found simple and nimble manipulations which were effective. When she explored a patient’s back with her
thumbs, she could locate the sharp deviations of the spinous process of the vertebrae, and after she corrected the abnormal position with manipulation, the symptoms would diminish or disappear.

This was the key to her treatment of the herniation of lumbar intervertebral disc — correcting the alignment of the spinous processes of the vertebrae. Feng knew that most disc protrusions are closely interrelated with deviation of the spinous processes. He analyzed the methods that other massage doctors used and studied the dynamic balance that exists between the spinal column as a whole and the individual vertebrae. Anything disturbing this equilibrium can cause misalignment of the spinous processes. This is true not only in the protrusion of the lumbar intervertebral discs but also in other ailments which, however, can generally be distinguished from the former with finger exploration. With further studies Feng improved the folk doctor's methods, making them more effective and reducing the recurrence of the ailments.

To learn more and become more skilled, Feng Tien-you visited the orthopedic departments of many hospitals and a dozen bone specialists of the traditional school. He did not let any opportunity pass to learn from veteran doctors and from patients. He read much traditional Chinese and modern medical literature. Building on the basis of what he learned from the folk doctor, he developed a series of new methods combining traditional Chinese practice and modern orthopedics. His touch is light and dexterous, gives no pain to the patients and brings remarkable results in a short time. His methods require no equipment and little or no medicine.

Feng Tien-you has cured many patients in the armed forces, in villages, factories and government organizations. He has cured or alleviated pain in the shoulders, neck or arms in people who have suffered for years. Patients with shoulder periarthritis have been able to lift their arms again. Persons crippled by lumbago or leg pains have thrown away their crutches and gone back to their jobs. He has written over 100,000 words of lecture notes and taught his new methods to more than 200 doctors and medical workers.

Feng Tien-you regards his achievements only as a beginning. He believes that the development of medicine and man's understanding of it are unlimited. Feng still gets cases that do not respond to his treatment or that recur. But he knows that the answer is: continued study, investigation and practice.

**STAMPS OF NEW CHINA**

**New Commemoratives for Third National Games**

A SET of seven commemorative stamps was issued by the Chinese Ministry of Posts and Telecommunications to mark the opening of the Third National Games of the People's Republic of China on September 12, 1975. These stamps indicate the vigorous development of sports in China under the guidance of Chairman Mao's revolutionary line.

**Stamp 1, 8 fen.** A group of sportsmen marching forward triumphantly inspired by Chairman Mao's instruction, "Promote physical culture and sports and build up the people's health." Vermilion, light grey, sage-green, gold-yellow, brown and white.

**Stamp 2, 8 fen.** Sportsmen studying the theory of the dictatorship of the proletariat. Vermilion, green, light blue, white, brown and light yellow.

**Stamp 3, 8 fen.** Volleyball players learning from each other in the spirit of "friendship first, competition second". Vermilion, sage-green, green, black and white.

**Stamp 4, 8 fen.** A runner flashing past the finishing line. In the background are the images of a worker, a peasant and a soldier, symbolizing that sports serve the workers, peasants and soldiers. Orange-red, light orange, brown, drab, light sage-green and white.

**Stamp 5, 8 fen.** Basketball player against a background of different mass sports activities — swimming, calisthenics, mountaineering and running. Vermilion, light blue, light green, brown and white.

**Stamp 6, 8 fen.** Sportsmen of various nationalities against a background of horse-racing. Vermilion, blue, brown, green, sage-green, light yellow and white.

**Stamp 7, 35 fen.** Young sportsmen. Children in high dives in the background. Vermilion, green, sage-green, light blue, light grey, brown and white.

Size: 52 × 31 mm. Perf. 11½. Photogravured. Serial numbers: T6 (7-1 to 7-7).
The South China Sea surges wave upon wave,
Our fishing village loves to sing.

As we sing in praise of Chairman Mao,
The waves roll in sonorous harmony.

'THIS is one of the new songs popular with the fishing folk of the New Village production brigade in Huitung county, Kwangtung province.

Called Back Boat Village in the old days, New Village has been known on Taya Bay for several hundred years as home of fishermen's songs.

One moonlit night after this year's spring fishing season, New Village held a concert at its open-air theater on the beach. Young and old filled the space in front of the brightly lit stage. Performers were of all ages: veterans in their fifties, spirited young men and women and children.

The curtains parted to reveal a natural backdrop of blue sea and sky, distant boats in full sail, new houses in neat rows near the beach. A woman appeared on stage with graceful dance movements “rowing a boat” and singing to the accompaniment of erh hu fiddles, violins and the sona horn. The audience applauded enthusiastically. She was Su Mu-shui, long known along the coast for her ringing full-toned voice. Back in 1957 she and another local singer had attended a national amateur musicians' festival in Peking, where her songs were made into records. Today, at fifty, Su Mu-shui keeps on “singing fishing songs that lighten the heart”.

Many new songs given at the concert were about the good life in the socialist fishing village.

Yet in the old society Back Boat Village was without joy. The suffering fishing folk poured out their bitterness in song. One old, old song goes:

Fiercer than the Shark King of the sea
Is the fishing boss on land.
He takes our money and sucks our marrow,
When will we see the light of day?

The light of day came with the liberation. Fishing families now do not need to roam about in their boat-homes but have settled down by the sea in white-walled tile-roofed houses. From coastal fishing in small boats, they have gone on to mechanized deep-sea fishing in motorized craft. Modern equipment and collective strength enable them to bring in large hauls every year. The 1974 catch was 57 percent higher than 1973's and six times more than in pre-liberation days. This year's spring season again yielded big hauls.

As times have changed, so have the fishermen's songs. Bitter laments have given way to words of confidence and joy.

In Peking there is a lamp
That illumines the four seas.
Its flame brightens our lives
And keeps us from reefs in the fog.

Contrasting the new with the old, the people sing: “Every day our days grow happier/ Our hearts are bursting with new songs”. And new songs by the hundreds flow forth in praise of the concern shown by Chairman Mao and the Communist Party, the joy of a big catch and today's bright life. They can be heard at any time of the day on the boats, in the harbor and in the village homes.

THE village's eight amateur propaganda teams with their 210 members create their own numbers, which include vocal solos and duets, songs for large and small choral groups, folk operas and narratives for storytelling. They have also adapted model revolutionary theatrical productions for folk-style singing. Usually the whole village turns out for their performances.

Since the beginning of the cultural revolution seven amateur song-writing groups have come into being. Their activities have attracted the attention of drama troupes, propaganda teams and musicians from outside the area and province, who have come to collect songs or provide professional assistance.

The young people of the "Conch" group have written more than a hundred songs in the past two years, including "The Fishermen Sing in Praise of Chairman Mao" and "Our Fishing Village's New Look". More than twenty of them have been selected for publication by county and provincial literary magazines. The New Village amateur propaganda team's performance of their own songs at the Huiyang prefecture music festival last year won wide acclaim.
A number of nature preserves have been demarcated in various parts of China since liberation in 1949 for natural protection. Their existence has already done much to protect nature's heritage, make rational use of natural resources and improve the environment. They have also been a stimulus to scientific research and the development of agriculture and industry.

The Changpai Mountains Natural Preserve lies in the southeastern part of Kirin province in northeast China. Spanning the Yenpien and Tunghua prefectures, it is located in the heart of virgin forests and borders the Democratic People's Republic of Korea in the south and southeast.

The preserve has a great variety of wildlife and vegetation, as well as special geological, geomorphological, soil and climatic characteristics. All this, plus the existence of a crater-lake, high waterfall and hot springs, makes for complex natural conditions.

**Green Treasury**

On a recent visit to the area, we set out by jeep from the preserve's administration headquarters on the bank of the Ertaopai River to go deep into the forest. The road ran like a long covered passage through luxuriant trees. As it wound its way upwards from the foothills we noted a change in the vegetation with the rise in altitude and drop in temperature. It had all the characteristics of vertical distribution. The forest on the slopes between 600 and 1,000 meters above sea level was a mixture of conifers and broadleaf trees — mainly of pine, linden and oak, over a very extensive area. Pines, firs and other conifers covered the slopes from 1,000 to 1,800 meters, and these gave way to the dwarflike, gnarled-trunk Ermans birch from 1,800 to 2,000 meters. Above 2,000 meters was an alpine tundra zone.
covered with bushes, perennial herbs, lichens and moss. Altogether over 1,000 species of vegetation have been identified, 800 being of economic value.

Pine, with its many varieties, is the "king of the forest". The Chinese red pine grows 30 to 40 meters high and is nearly one meter in diameter at breast height. It is indigenous to the Changpai Mountains and a heavy timber producer. Of the broadleaf trees the Amur cork and Manchurian walnut are among the most valuable. Their wood is hard, smooth grained, and decay-resistant. It is a valued construction material.

Medicinal herbs are also found in abundance, including some of special value such as ginseng, asiabell, fritellaria and milk vetch. The dense forest is especially suitable for wild ginseng which does not survive in strong sun or heavy rain. A valuable tonic is made from the root which improves with age. At its best after several dozen years of growth it is collected in July or August when the plant's purple flowers or red berries make it easier to find.

Amur grapes, cowberries and tara vines from which good wine is made are among the many kinds of wild fruit and berries to be seen everywhere. Tunghua grape wine and Changpai Mountain cowberry wine are consumed domestically as well as exported.

Rich in Wildlife

More than 300 varieties of animals, birds, fish, amphibians and reptiles have been identified in the area. Eighty percent of the 200 species of birds play a role in forest protection. They include the woodpecker (the "tree doctor"), the broad-billed roller which lives on caterpillars, and the cuckoo, golden oriole and tits, all of which eat insects harmful to trees.

Animals of value include the sika deer, Northeast China tiger, sable, otter and lynx. Many are prized as fur-bearers, also for their meat and medicinal properties. Their habits are closely related to the surroundings in which they live.

The otter, which lives on fish, sleeps on the edge of the forest by the river at night and spends the day in the water, swimming and leaping as it feeds. In winter it dives through holes in the ice and when it catches a fish brings it out and eats it on the surface. Sometimes otters fight for a fish, making hissing sounds as they do so.

Wapiti (red deer) and sika deer, which move in herds, change their habitats with the season. In winter and early spring they roam along the brooks and low-lying sunny slopes in mixed forests of broadleaf and conifer trees. In late spring and early summer they eat the tender buds and young branches of poplars and willows. In mid-summer they eat a variety of luxuriant plants, go down to the rivers to drink and get salt by licking at saline and alkaline patches of ground. In the heat of summer they are active in the early morning and at dusk and rest in the shade through noon.

The stags shed and grow new antlers once a year. Shedding generally takes place around April or May and the new antlers reach full maturity in June. Tender pedicles removed in the growing period are a valuable tonic.

The Northeast China tiger is one of the largest tigers in the world, weighing as much as 300 kilograms or more. Solitary by nature, it roams along mountain streams and in dense forests, with no fixed abode. It lives mainly on herbivorous animals. In summer and autumn it is able to feed without having to move over large areas, but in winter when most animals take shelter and their tracks are covered by snow, the tiger moves over a wider area.

Sables, ginseng and deer's antlers are called the "three treasures" of China's northeast. The sable lives in the mixed broadleaf and conifer forests, building itself a den in a heap of stones, a hole in a tree trunk, or under a tree-root. It lives mainly on murine rodents, red pine seeds and a variety of berries. Its fur is thick, velvety, light, warm and lustrous.
In a 1,000-square-meter basin near the foot of the waterfall is a hot spring bubbling up from dozens of outlets. The spring’s water maintains a constant temperature of around 80°C and has a high hydrogen sulfide content making it beneficial for the treatment of rheumatism and certain skin diseases. It is planned to build a geothermal power station there.

Protecting the Preserve

Under the rule of the reactionary classes and imperialists before liberation this naturally rich and beautiful area was plundered and devastated. Felling was indiscriminate and large tracts of forest were destroyed. Animals such as the sable, sika deer and Northeast China tiger were rapidly approaching extermination through unrestricted hunting.

After the founding of new China in 1949, all forests were nationalized and policies for afforestation and forest protection implemented. People in mountain areas were mobilized to protect the forests and prevent fires. Surveyors were sent to map timber resources in the Changpai Mountains.

Magnificent Scenery

Another aspect of the preserve is its magnificent scenery. The main peak of the Changpai Mountains is a volcano which last erupted in 1702. Lava piled up around the crater and formed a huge cone which through the years became filled with water and is now known as Tienchih Lake (Heavenly Lake). This slightly oblong lake, which measures four kilometers from north to south, and three from east to west is surrounded by 16 peaks whose reflection in the blue water on a clear day forms a spectacular sight.

Through an opening on the north side of the lake, the water pours down a precipice to form a 68-meter-high waterfall.
Measures were taken for the protection of the wildlife. Strict prohibitions were put on the trapping of valuable and rare animals and experiments carried out in the domestication and breeding of deer and other animals in captivity. The numbers of rare animals began to increase.

The Changpai Mountains Natural Preserve was formally established in 1960 with a number of departments and a full-time staff. The government allocated funds for the necessary buildings, forest lookout towers, communication facilities, paved roads and a small hydro-power station. Personnel from schools and scientific research institutes under the central government and the Kirin provincial administration frequently visit the preserve to survey its resources and do research.

In its 15 years history, there has never been a forest fire in the preserve or severe damage to the trees by insects. There has been a marked increase in the wildlife, including an increase in the numbers of those animals formerly on the verge of extinction.

Mass Support

Mass support has been an important factor in guaranteeing the protection and development of the preserve, especially in forest-fire prevention and wildlife conservation. Pasted on the wall of every household is a list of precautions to be observed to prevent outbreaks of fire, and every family is supplied with fire extinguishers and other fire-fighting implements. Slogans, prominently displayed in public places, act as constant reminders: “To protect the forest and prevent fires is everybody’s job!” “Make our country green!” “Work for the benefit of future generations!” Wrapping paper used by shops and all mail bear stamps calling on people to protect the forest and prevent fires.

At a people’s commune at the foot of the Changpai Mountains bordering the preserve, we were told that the danger of fire was greatest in the spring and autumn. At these times propaganda cars and students’ propaganda teams toured the area alerting the people concerning fire hazards and mobilizing each household to be vigilant. Forest police and the commune’s people’s militia keep watch to see that no one carries anything that might cause a fire. Strict measures against fire are applied in units doing field work and civil aviation departments have planes on regular patrol over the forest.

Education of the people in the locality has imbued them with a deep consciousness that every bird, animal, tree and plant in the preserve belongs to the state and should be protected. When hunters see animals emerging from the restricted area they do not fire at them. PLA men often help young animals that have strayed back to their forest abode. During the few days we spent in the preserve, young wapiti and sika deer often crossed our path without showing the slightest sign of fear, showing they have become accustomed to the order of the preserve.

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DECEMBER 1975
一九六六年夏天, 大赛大队又一次
Yíjiǔliùnián de tiān, dàsuì dàduì yì qí
eighteen sixty year, Dachai team a second time

遭到大水灾。灾情比较严重。
zàodào dà shuǐzāi. Zhāiqíng bǐjiào yánzhòng.
Encountered a great flood. (The) disaster was rather serious.

当时，雪片一样的慰问信, 从祖国
Dāngshí, xuěpiàn yīgàng de wènxià, cóng zǔguó
At that time, snowflake-like letters from motherland

各地寄到大赛。一天，邮递员
ghè dì jìdào dàsuì. Yī tiān, yóudìyuán
each place (were) mailed to Tachai. One day, (a) mail carrier

把一个木盒子送到大赛小学,
bǎ yī ge mù hézi shì dào dàsuì xiǎoxué,
(they) delivered (to) Tachai primary school.

这个盒子是河北省一个小学寄来
zhège hézi shì hěbei shěng yīgè xiǎoxué jìlái
This box was from Hopei province (by) a primary school sent.

的。打开盒子一看, 里面装着
(de). Dǎkāi hézi yī kàn, lǐnǐn zhuāngzhāng
(When they) opened box one look, inside packed

五十枝铅笔, 五块石板, 三十把尺子,
wǔshí zhǐ qiānbǐ, wǔ kuài shíbǎn, sānshí bǎ chǐzǐ,
fifty pencils, five slates, thirty rulers,

十个纸夹, 另外在一个红包里
shí ge zhǐjiā, lèngwài yīgè hóngbāo lǐ
ten paperbinders, besides at a red paper package in

还包着七块五毛钱。学校党支部
huán bāozhē qī kuài wǔmǎoqián. xuéxiào dǎngzhībū
also wrapped 7 yuan 5 mao money. The school Party branch

决定让孩子们自己商量怎么办,
déngjué ràng háizi rén zì jǐ shāngliàng bànbàowéi,
decided to let children themselves discuss how to do,

相信他们能处理得很好。
xīnxiăng tāmen néng chǔlǐ dé hěn hǎo.
believing they could deal with (it) very well.

孩子们认真地回忆了一九六三年的
háizi rénzhèndì huíyì yījiǔliùnián de
The children conscientiously recalled 1963 year's

情况: 那年大赛遭到大水灾,
qíngjíng: Nànián dàsuì dào zāo dà shuǐzāi,
scene. That year Tachai suffered specially big flood.

七天七夜的大雨把房子冲倒
qī tiān qī yè de dà yǔ bǎ fángzi chōngdǎo
Seven days (and) seven nights big rain houses collapsed,

了, 庄稼冲毁了。当时, 国家看到
le, zhuāngjià chōnghuǐ le. Dāngguó kānle
At that time the state saw

大赛的灾情严重, 拨了救济粮、救济
Dāsuì de zāiqíng yánzhòng, bō le jiùjì liáng, jiùjì
Tachai's disaster serious, allocated relief grain, relief

款, 救济物资。可是村民们
kuǎn, jiùjì wùzhī. Kěsì mínzhěn
funds (and) relief materials. However the commune members

学习了毛主席关于独立自主
xuéxí le Máo zhǔfù guān yú dúlì zìzhǔ
studied Chairman Mao about independence

自力更生的教导, 什么也不要
zìlìgēngshēng de jiàodǎo, shénme dōu bù yào
self-reliance teaching, what (they) all didn't want.

他们白天扶苗, 晚上修房。
Tāmen báotiān fú miáo, wǎnshàng xiū fáng.
They (in) daytime straightened up shoots, at night repaired houses.

到秋天, 粮食获得了大丰收。
Dào qiūtiān, liángshí gòu fēngshōu.
By autumn grain got big bumper harvest.

经过几年努力, 把旧大赛建成新
jīngguò jǐ nián nǔlì, bā jiùdàsuì jiànwǎnchéng
Again through a few years' efforts, (they) old Tachai built into

社会主义新农村。
sīshìhuàshì xīn náncūn.
(a) socialist new village.

经过回, 孩子们认识到
jìngguò huí, háizi rén zhìdào
Through recollection, children realized (that what the)

长辈们首先考虑的是国家的利益、
chángzhě bèi wānshǐ kǎilǜ de guójiā de yìlì,
Our generation first considered was country's interest, the

zhāngbèilínmen shěxiàn kǎolǜ de shì guódàjì de liyì,
older generation first considered was country's interest,

人民的利益。大家决定: 听毛
rénmín de yìlì. Dāngjiā duìdìng: tīng máo
the people's interest. They all decided: (We will) listen to Chairman

主席的话, 向长辈们学习, 把河北
zhuxiū de huà, xiàng chángzhě bèi wānshǐ xuéxí, bā hěbei
Chairman's words, from older generation learn, Hopei
In the summer of 1966 the Tachai brigade was again hit by a severe flood. At the time letters of sympathy came to Tachai like snowflakes from every part of China. One day a mail carrier delivered a wooden box to the Tachai Primary School. The box was sent by a primary school in Hopei province. When the children opened it, inside they found 50 pencils, 5 slates, 30 rulers and 10 paperbinders and also 7.50 yuan wrapped in red paper.

The school Party branch decided to let the children themselves discuss what they should do, believing that they could deal with the matter very well.

The children recalled when Tachai was hit by a tremendous flood in 1963. A heavy rain for 7 days and nights had washed out houses and destroyed crops. Learning of the seriousness of the disaster, the government had sent relief grain, money and materials to Tachai. However, having studied Chairman Mao’s teaching about independence and self-reliance, the brigade members had not wanted anything. They straightened up the crops in the daytime and repaired the houses at night. When autumn came they got a bumper harvest. With a few years’ effort they turned the old Tachai into a new socialist village.

Through this recollection, the children realized that the older generation had put the interests of the country and the people first. They decided to heed Chairman Mao’s words and to learn from the older generation. They would accept the good will of their little friends in Hopei, but return the things and money.

The next day they wrote a letter of thanks, put the things and money into the wooden box again and mailed it back.

Notes

1. In Chinese a modifier is put after a verb to describe the condition of the action, as in Zhépéi mǎ páo de kuài 这匹马跑得快. (This horse runs fast). Nǎzhòng huá kāi de zāo 那种花开得早. (That kind of flower blooms early). Páo 跑 and kāi 开 are verbs and kuài 快 and zāo 早 are their modifiers called complements. The following points in this kind of sentences should be noted:

   (1) The particle de 得 links the verb and its modifier.

   (2) If the verb has an object, the verb must be repeated. De 得 and the complement follow the repeated verb. Tā huá chuán huá de hǎo 他划船划得好. (Literally: When he rows a boat he rows well).

   (3) If there is an adverb or negative, it precedes the modifier. Házīmén chū lí zhēng jiān shì chū lí de hén hǎo 孩子们处理这件事处理得很好. (The children dealt with the matter very well). Wǒ xiě zi xiě de hū hǎokàn 我写字写得不好看. (I write characters badly).

2. There are three particles 的, 地 and 得, all pronounced de, but used differently.

   的 is used after an attributive (modifier of a noun, explained in Lesson 6) as in rénmín de liyì 人民的利益 (the people’s interest).

   地 is used after an adverb to link it with the word it modifies, as in rénzhēn de huíyì 认真地回忆 (conscientiously recall), gāngāo xìngxìng de tǐhuò 舞蹈高兴地跳舞 (happily dance).

   得 links the verb with an adverb or other modifier when the verb comes first, as in bǐyú de jǐngcǎi 表演得精彩 (performed excellently); chū lí de hén hǎo 处理得很好 (dealt with it very well).

3. Zi 子. It is sometimes used alone and read zi to stand for érzi 儿子 (son). But more often it is read zi and used as a suffix to a noun. fángzi 房子 (house), hézǐ 盒子 (box), chǐzi 尺子 (ruler). Sometimes it is used after an adjective or a verb to form a noun as in pāngzǐ 胖子 (fat person), ěrzi 儿子 (dwarf), shuāzǐ 刷子 (brush), jiāzǐ 夹子 (clip).

Exercises

1. Fill in the spaces with the particles 的, 地, 得.

   (1) 我在这里愉快___生活了三年. (I have lived here happily for three years).

   (2) 他们讨论问题讨论___很热烈. (They discussed the problem heatedly).

   (3) 这些是张同志送给我___礼物. (These are the gifts which Comrade Zhang gave me).

2. Read the following questions aloud and answer in Chinese:

   (1) 你写汉字写得快不快?

   (Do you write Chinese characters quickly?)

   (2) 这个问题他回答得很全面 (quánmiàn complete) 吗?

   (Did he answer this question completely?)

   (3) 她唱歌唱得怎么样?

   (How does she sing?)

   (Answers on p. 27)
Spring Tea-picking Time
at Taihu Lake

A tea garden at the Tungting commune.

THE FAMOUS Pilochun tea gets its name from the appearance of the processed leaves — uniformly-sized light green snails. Gardens of it grow amidst tangerine, peach, arbutus and loquat orchards on the mountain slopes of the Tungshan peninsula in Kiangsu province's scenic Taihu Lake.

The peak of the picking season comes in early April when the peach blossoms around the lake are in full splendor. Every morning at daybreak over 4,000 young women from the Tungting commune come out with baskets on their back to pluck the leaves — just the tiny shoot near the tip of each branch and the tender leaf next to it. It takes 120,000 such leaves and buds to make a kilogram of this tea.

Meticulous care is required in roasting this high-quality product. As the moisture in the leaves evaporates, the fire must be gradually lowered. Only 150 grams are roasted at a time. Then skilled workers roll the leaves lightly between their palms for 30 minutes. The finished product retains the original tenderness. This tea's light, sweet fragrance when brewed is suggestive of the air around Taihu Lake when the flowers are in full bloom.

Sharp Contrast

Production team No. 2 of the Tungting commune's Weitung brigade is reached by a mountain path through orchards and tea groves. It is the commune's biggest tea producer. When I arrived the pickers had just returned and with great care were sorting and grading the leaves and buds into those for Pilochun and for the ordinary grades of green tea.

Team leader Chao Chiao-fu predicts that this year's production will more than double last year's. Like other peasants in the area, his family has been growing tea and fruit for generations. It is said that Pilochun was already being produced here 1,300 years ago. Before liberation, the avaricious traders and landlords, working hand-in-glove with the Kuomintang village heads, controlled the market. Buying the tea when the price was low, they delayed payment as long as possible so that they could use the cash for their speculations. By the time the peasants received their money, inflation had decreased its value and the price of rice had jumped several times, so that their payment...
bought much less. Under such ruthless exploitation and oppression tea cultivation on the peninsula declined steadily. By the time of liberation in 1949 the total output of all kinds of tea was only around five tons a year.

Since the tea producers joined other working people in becoming masters of the country 26 years ago, tea production has risen continuously. This year’s total output reached 40 tons, over seven times that at liberation. With the rise in production the living conditions of the peasants have steadily improved. In Weitung and four other brigades getting the highest yields, the 1974 total income of the commune members from collective production was more than twice their total income in 1958 before the commune was formed and four times that for 1949.

Collective Strength

Right after the commune was formed it began to set up new tea gardens and orchards on the barren mountains. Organized in a more powerful collective economy, more than ten thousand commune members cleared away brambles, blasted away rocks and terraced the slopes. With shoulder poles they carried rich lake mud up to the mountains. In three winters of hard work they added 100 hectares of tea gardens alone. In 1964, in response to Chairman Mao’s call “In agriculture, learn from Tachai” the commune members began to work in the spirit of the Tachai brigade — self-reliance, hard struggle and strict adherence to the socialist road. In two years they opened another 27 hectares of tea gardens.

The beginning of the cultural revolution in 1966 was a further stimulus to expanding tea gardens. The next year the biggest drought in a century hit the area. Though the growers carried water night and day, a third of the tea bushes dried up and died. Not willing to be defeated, the peasants discussed how the Tachai people had utilized the lessons learned from every disaster to improve their mountain region and decided to do the same. When the rains came they replaced all the dead plants with new ones.

They decided to irrigate the tea gardens. In the next three years the commune members and their cadres dug ditches and built ponds. With the commune’s accumulation fund they bought many pumps and installed 20 kilometers of pipes which raise water from the lakes and rivers into the hills. In spite of another drought in the autumn of 1971, the tea crop the next spring was excellent.

With water the mountain areas have developed more rapidly. In the past four years another 53 hectares of tea gardens have been added. The commune has also set up a nursery which supplies tea seedlings to the brigades.

Old tea gardens have been given new life. Poor cultivation and management before liberation had left the tea bushes with big trunks and weak branches which put out shoots few and far between. Improved methods of pruning, applying fertilizer and management have given the old bushes new life. They now branch out without growing in height, with an abundance of tender shoots and leaves within easy reach for picking.

A mechanized tea-processing plant has been set up. Now most of the leaves are processed by machine except for a small quantity still reserved for the hand-roasted highest quality product. This has lightened labor and greatly increased productivity. Tea processed by this means last year reached 30 tons; it meant a saving of 40,000 workdays. Manpower thus released is used to further transform the mountain areas and expand the production of tea and fruit.
Bird's-eye view of Tientsin.

Militia of the Tientsin Knitwear Mill on maneuvers in the city's air raid shelters.
TIENTSIN

—From imperialist beachhead to socialist port and industrial city

LI FU

TIENTSIN is China's third largest city. A communications junction between north and south, it is situated on the Pohai Gulf, at the gate to the fertile north China plain.

From the 13th century when China's feudal dynasties made their capital at Peking, only 130 kilometers to Tientsin's northwest, the city assumed strategic importance and developed into the largest trading port in north China. Imperialist troops, who forced open China's door with guns in 1840, afterward made five landings at Tientsin to march on Peking, finally forcing the corrupt Ching dynasty rulers to declare Tientsin a port open to foreigners and turning it into a beachhead for aggression against China.

Liberation came to Tientsin on January 15, 1949. As an army reporter I entered the city with the People's Liberation Army when the smoke of gunfire still filled the air. I found a city with a strong colonial imprint. The nine foreign concessions—British, French, Russian, American, Japanese, Italian, German, Austrian and Belgian—covered an area nine times greater than the Chinese part of the city. Each concession was a "state within a state". Many had their own army barracks, law courts, prisons, schools, churches and cemeteries. Chinese ricksha pullers had to buy nine different licenses to be able to pass through these concessions with their fares. All the most imposing buildings and luxurious homes with their well-cared-for lawns and gardens belonged to the foreign colonialists and the Chinese warlords and comprador-capitalists in their service. Banks, business firms, factories and stores of any fair size were run by foreign companies, as were streetcars, power and water supply companies. Gaudy signboards along both big and small streets advertised brothels, dance halls, gambling houses and bars. It was a consumer city, an evil city.

The gigantic task of socialist revolution and socialist construction could only be begun by the people of Tientsin, under the leadership of the Communist Party and Chairman Mao, after liberation. Step by step, they cleared away the leftovers from imperialism and built the city into a socialist industrial base and an important port for friendly communications between the people of China and other countries.

Independent Industry

In the past Tientsin's economic lifelines were in the hands of the imperialists and bureaucrat-capitalists. They imported equipment and machines, used local resources, hired local labor at extremely low wages and manufactured goods to be sold all over the country, reaping enormous profits. Or they semi-processed native produce and animal by-products and shipped them abroad. Consumer goods accounted for 90 percent of industrial production. Foreign capital monopolized the manufacture of textiles, cigarettes, rugs and other industries important to the city. Squeezed by imperialist economic aggression and oppressed by Kuomintang rule, national industries and handicraft production were practically bankrupt.

After liberation the people's government abolished all special privileges enjoyed by the colonialists, confiscated bureaucrat and comprador capital and enterprises and turned the latter into socialist state enterprises. In 1956 the socialist transformation of the system of private ownership in capitalist industry and commerce and in individual handicraft production was basically completed. Since then, the city's industry has developed rapidly on the principles of independence and self-reliance and Chairman Mao's teaching that coastal industry should be developed by making use of existing equipment and technical forces.

The Tientsin Steel Mill is an example of how an existing enterprise grew.

In 1949 I had gone to this mill to write about Pan Chang-yu, a worker who climbed into an open-hearth furnace and repaired it while the heat was still 700°C inside. The mill was built by the Japanese in 1943 to provide steel products for their war on China. It had an open-hearth furnace with
Celebration for oil brought up by Takang oil field's first offshore extraction platform.
A former marsh has become a city park.

Water-driven turbogenerators made at the Tientsin Generating Equipment Plant.

Testing quality at the Tientsin Accordion Plant.
a capacity of only 25 tons and a small rolling mill making barbed wire and nails. All heavy manual labor was done by Chinese workers but they were not allowed to learn anything about steelmaking. Output was low.

Kuomintang reactionaries took over the mill after the Japanese surrender in 1945. In three years it produced a pitifully small amount of steel, while the rolling mill made only coil steel. This was the sum total of Tientsin's steel industry before liberation.

After liberation the workers took over the mill. They repaired and expanded the small furnace and in the following year built an open-hearth furnace with a productive capacity of 90 tons. Output rose, quality improved, variety of products increased. The number of workers increased, they became more politically conscious and more skilled. Since 1958 the mill has added three smelting plants and four rolling mills and has been able to send some of its technical personnel to help set up three steel mills in other cities.

I found in my recent visit that the small furnace had long been replaced by huge open-hearth furnaces, top-blown oxygen converters, electric furnaces, and rolling mills of many kinds. The 300 products included heat-resistant and stainless steel. The 14,000 specifications of rolled steel ranged from tiny seamless tubing for injection needles to huge plates for 10,000-ton ships.

Pan Chang-yu, now concurrently secretary of the Party committee and chairman of the revolutionary committee of the No. 1 steel plant (the original mill in expanded form), told me Tientsin's production of steel was one hundred times more than in 1949.

"We've done it by sticking to two things," he said. "Self-reliant development under the Party's leadership, and the mass line. That means, mobilizing the working class in everything we do."

The Takang oil field is an example of the setting up of a new enterprise in Tientsin.

When I went to Takang in the summer of 1964 I found only a small makeshift wooden shed on a vast expanse of uninhabited saline and alkaline waste. I met the director of oil prospecting, a former army commander and a veteran of the liberation war. "The geological structure here is very complicated," he told me. "A great many faults, all very irregular, like a broken plate that had been kicked once. But it's a huge oil field."

In the pioneering spirit of the people who opened up the Taching oil field in China's northeast, workers, cadres and engineers set out to wake up the slumbering land at Takang. Not long ago I went again and found a new skyline — low white buildings housing oil wells dotting the area, a maze of oil and gas pipelines, tall derricks as far as one could see. A network of asphalt roads linked the oil field, refineries and workers' residential quarters complete with stores and hospitals. Since 1967 production of crude oil has been rising at an annual rate of 60 percent. Much of its natural gas has been channelled to the city for industrial and home use.

As north China's largest industrial center, Tientsin boasts 150 branches of industry, including steel, machine building, petroleum, chemicals, power, textiles, papermaking and the processing of foodstuffs. Close to a million of the 3,500,000 people living in the city proper are industrial workers. Annual value of industrial production is bigger than all of China for 1949, or equivalent to 26 times that of Tientsin at the time of liberation.

New Port

Hsinkang Port at Tientsin is the nearest sea approach to Peking and is commonly known as "gateway to the capital."

In 1939 the Japanese invaders pressganged 10,000 Chinese workers to build a harbor where the imperialist armies had landed in the 19th century. But after six years there was only one wharf where 3,000-ton ships could dock. Under the Kuomintang the chan-
New workers' housing project.

Shuttle-less weaving, a new technique, is being used at the Tientsin No. 2 Woolen Mill.

nel fell into disrepair and gradually silted up so that even light tugs could not reach the wharf.

Large-scale reconstruction after liberation began with the digging of a deep-water channel and reinforcement of the wharf. Today there are 12 new deep-water berths for ships of 10,000 tons and more. Six more deep-water berths are under construction. Loading and unloading are largely mechanized and equipment includes a 25-ton crane and a 150-ton floating crane. Floorspace of warehouses has also increased greatly.

Two long breakwaters stretch out to sea, protecting the deep-water channel through which Chinese and foreign ships sail to and fro in a steady stream. Railroad tracks linked to main lines from different parts of the country go all the way to the piers. Trucks and electric cars shuttle back and forth on the wharves. Tientsin's Hsinkang Port is host to ships from 114 countries and regions on five continents. The volume of cargo passing through is 34 times that of the early liberation days.

Rebuilding the City

Reconstruction of the city is guided by the principle of "serving production and the working people".

In old Tientsin modern civic construction was concentrated in the concessions. There was practically no running water or sewers outside those areas. Each concession had its own systems of roads, water supply and drainage, a characteristic of colonial cities.

The laying of 1,350 kilometers of pipes after liberation has

Li Chang-mou, a veteran worker and principal of the Tientsin Workers' Political Theory Spare-time School, tells young workers what he has gained through theoretical study.
brought running water to the whole city.

In the old days sewage and industrial waste water emptied through ditches into the Haiho River, which runs through the city and from which the city draws its drinking water. This made the Haiho a serious health hazard. After liberation the government put in 800 kilometers of sewers and unified the entire system so that none of the working people live alongside a filthy ditch any longer. Outlets to the Haiho were blocked and drainage canals dug along the two banks to divert treated sewage and industrial waste water to the surrounding countryside for irrigation.

Factories which discharge poisonous gases and liquids have been moved to the outskirts on the lee side of the city. A distribution gate at the point where the Haiho empties into the sea prevents inroads by the ocean tide and the mixing of ocean and river water.

Where the old ditches once lay a wide street encircles the city center along which tall buildings are now going up. Once the only paved streets were in the concessions while areas where the workers lived had only dirt roads. After liberation the government built 1,500 kilometers of asphalt streets, seven times the length of the old paved ones.

Expansion of the city has been done under unified planning. As the prevailing wind comes from the west, new industrial sections have been concentrated on marginal land on the city's north, east and south. In the steel section plants for smelting, rolling and manufacturing are clustered together. The same applies to mills for spinning, weaving, printing and dyeing in the textile section. Well-planned roads link them into one whole. Conveniently located but separated from the factories are more than a dozen workers' housing projects serviced by stores, hospitals, schools and kindergartens.

Back in 1949 I had visited docker Li Szu-yuan in his home. He and his family of six lived in a shack less than a meter high, one of many located close to a graveyard. The only “furniture” was an earthen kang (sleeping platform) and with it a wood-burning stove. The mud walls and ceiling of millet stalks were black with soot. We sat hunched on the edge of the kang while he told me of the family’s bitter life in the old society.

Today in place of these shacks are four or five-story apartment buildings with modern facilities and sunny balconies. Since liberation the government has put up housing projects totalling 7,860,000 square meters of floorspace. A million people — workers and their families — have moved into new homes. The city area has increased from 61 to 174 square kilometers.

Six of the seven parks in old Tientsin were in the concessions. Nineteen new ones have been laid out since liberation. Some of those near the workers' living quarters have been converted from reed-covered marshland.

Social Changes

The show window of old Tientsin was the shopping district centered around Chuanyeh Market. Its 400 stores prided themselves on their imported goods — British whiskey, French perfume, German hunting guns, Russian woolen blankets, Italian hounds, and later, all kinds of Japanese and American consumer goods. Colonialists, warlords, bureaucrats, compradors and other social parasites spent their lives in dissipation and debauchery while hoodlums and scoundrels lived by swindling and extortion.

The year following liberation the people's government closed down all brothels, dance halls, dope and gambling houses. The 16,000 prostitutes and 300 dance hostesses were given education and then either helped to return to their native homes or given jobs. All drug addicts were registered by the government and sent to hospitals or special institutes for treatment to break them of the habit. After re-education jobs were found for them.

In the process of socialist transformation of capitalist commerce, the 170 small stores in the old Chuanyeh Market became a department store serving workers, peasants and soldiers. All goods on display are China made. Service not profit is the motto, so customers are never cheated or exploited as they once were by the capitalist storeowners and speculative merchants.

In the old society Tientsin's cultural life consisted largely of operas extolling feudal ideology and foreign films of vulgar or nonsensical content. The struggle against imperialist, feudal and bourgeois ideology in literature and art began after liberation. The cultural revolution, the movement to criticize Lin Piao and Confucius, and the study of the theory of the dictatorship of the proletariat did even more to clear away feudal, bourgeois and revisionist cultural influences. Today films and theater productions portray the workers, peasants and soldiers, who are also the masters of culture.

The old site of a jai-alai court, which was in the Italian concession and where huge bets were placed, is the Tientsin No. 1 Workers' Cultural Palace. Here study classes on Chairman Mao's philosophical writings drew 270,000 people between 1970 and 1974. In the center's spare-time political theory school 4,000 workers are presently enrolled. Three hundred of this number specialize in Marxist-Leninist theory under the guidance of university teachers and back in their factories help their co-workers study Marxism-Leninism.

Young workers wishing to speed up their mastery of technology find the center's thirty spare-time classes in machine building, electronics and other fields very beneficial. There are also courses in voice training, instrumental music, dancing, painting, sculpture, creative writing and calligraphy. All classes are free. The center's cinema and theater draw daily audiences of five to six thousand. This healthy and many-faceted cultural life is a reflection of the profound social changes in Tientsin.