

# CHINA

P I C T O R I A L

6  
1973





# A Warm Wel



Chairman Mao shakes hands with President Ahidjo.

**A**T the invitation of the Chinese government, El Hadj Ahmadou Ahidjo, President of the United Republic of Cameroon, and his wife paid an official visit to the People's Republic of China from March 25 to April 2, 1973.

The Chinese people's great leader Chairman Mao Tsetung met with President Ahidjo in his study at Chungnanhai on March 26. Greeting President Ahidjo, Chairman Mao extended a warm welcome to him on his official visit to China. President Ahidjo said: I am glad to have the privilege of meeting Your Excellency Chairman Mao Tsetung and I would like to avail myself of this opportunity to convey to you the respect and friendship of the Cameroon people. They had a sincere and friendly conversation.

Present on the occasion were Premier Chou En-lai and others.

Premier Chou En-lai and President Ahidjo held talks in a cordial and friendly atmosphere on further developing the friendly relations and co-operation between China and Cameroon and on international issues of common concern. The two sides expressed deep satisfaction with the results of the talks. An agreement on economic and technical co-operation was signed between the two governments.

During their stay in China, President Ahidjo and his party visited factories, a people's commune as well as scenic spots and historical monuments in Peking, Shanghai, Hangchow and Canton, where they were heartily welcomed by the Chinese government and people.

The United Republic of Cameroon is a country with a long history. In 1960 and 1961 the two parts of Cameroon successively shook off colonial rule, won national independence and formed one state. In recent years, under the leadership of President Ahidjo, the government and people

Chairman Mao meets with President Ahidjo.





# come to Distinguished Guests from Cameroon

of Cameroon have further united their country and continued to advance along the road of safeguarding national independence and state sovereignty. In fulfilling the new five-year plan for the development of national economy, they lay stress on the necessity of first relying on their own efforts, attach importance to the development of agriculture, promote national dignity, carry forward their heritage of national culture and implement the Cameroonization of cadres, thus winning for Cameroon gratifying achievements in her steadily-progressing cause of national construction.

Externally, the government of Cameroon pursues a policy of non-alignment, stands for the strengthening of the unity and co-operation of the third world countries and the democratization of international relations, with all peoples taking active parts in international affairs on the principles of equality, independence and sovereignty, and opposes the attempts of the superpowers to decide the destiny of other countries.

Although China and Cameroon are far apart, the people of the two countries shared the common lot of being invaded and oppressed by imperialism and now confront the common tasks of opposing imperialism and colonialism and building their two countries. In the common struggle the people of the two countries sympathize with and support each other. Since the establishment of diplomatic relations between China and Cameroon, the relations between the two countries have already made satisfactory progress. Last year, government delegations were exchanged between the two countries. The current visit of the President will not only carry to a new stage the friendly relations and co-operation between China and Cameroon, but will certainly make a useful contribution to the Afro-Asian cause of unity against imperialism.



Talks between Premier Chou En-lai and President Ahidjo.

President and Madame Ahidjo and other distinguished Cameroonian guests receive a warm welcome from Premier Chou En-lai, Vice-Premier Li Hsien-nien, Vice-Chairman Hsu Hsiang-chien of the Standing Committee of the National People's Congress, Foreign Minister Chi Peng-fei, Minister of Economic Relations with Foreign Countries Fang Yi, Chairman Wu Teh of the Peking Municipal Revolutionary Committee and others, as well as 5,000 people at the Peking airport.

President and Madame Ahidjo and other distinguished Cameroonian guests visit the Great Wall.



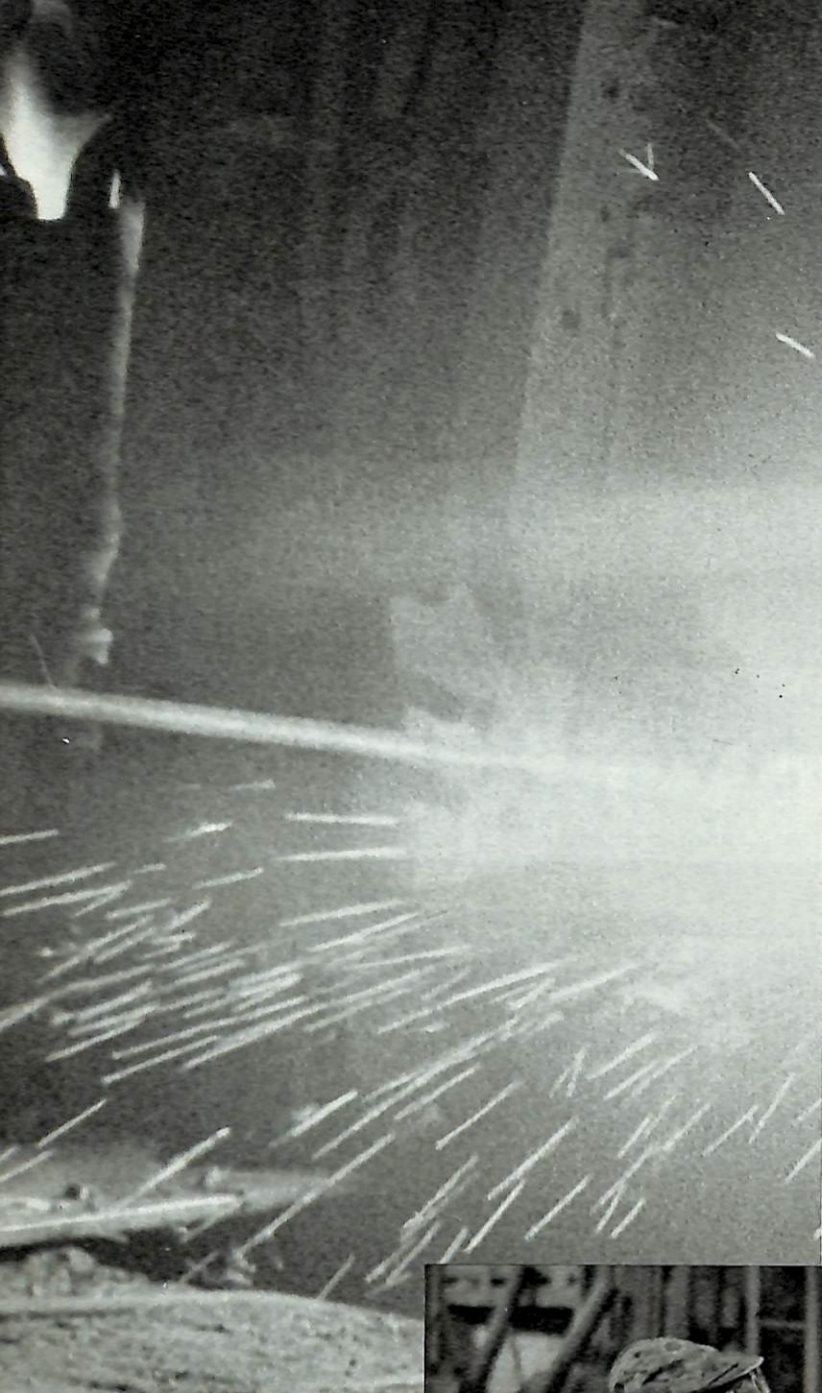




## Young Steel Workers Trained







Photographs by Sung Hsueh-kuang and Wang Teh-ying

SINCE 1969, 21 young people have come to work at the No.1 open-hearth furnace of the No.1 Steel Plant, Anshan Iron and Steel Company. In order to help them mature quickly, the plant Party committee has been educating and training them politically and technically.

It often invites veteran workers to tell them the histories of the plant and their families, and to teach technique.

These young workers have made rapid progress. Some of them have become leaders. Last year, the total output of the furnace set an unprecedented record, topping all the open-hearth furnaces of the same capacity in the plant. Steel quality reached the standards set by the state, and 560 thousand yuan was saved. The furnace was cited as the "Youth Vanguard Furnace" by the plant Party committee.

Working at the No.1 open-hearth furnace.

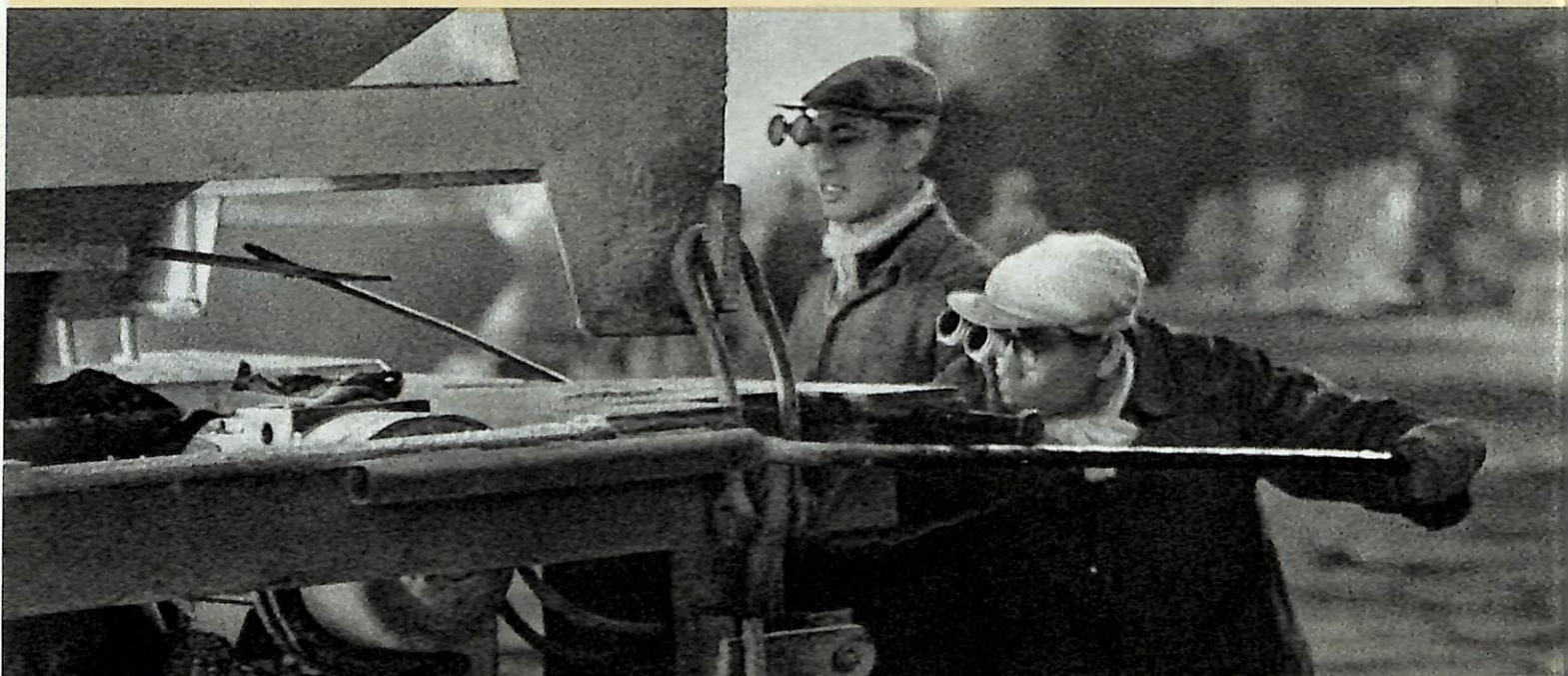


Deputy furnace leader Li Teh-chen is only 20.



Young worker Liu Lien-pang, deputy furnace leader, always tries to improve his skill.

Chu Pao-chang (left), 24 years old, has been promoted to second superintendent of the No.1 furnace. He is repairing the furnace together with Wen Chang-ching, chief superintendent.



Veteran worker Li Shao-kuei often gives young workers on-the-spot help, demonstrating and teaching.





# Chiangan Locomotive Depot

Photographs by Sun Shu-ching

**T**HE Chiangan Locomotive Depot is outside Hankow on the northern bank of the Yangtze River. It was a hotbed of the Feb-

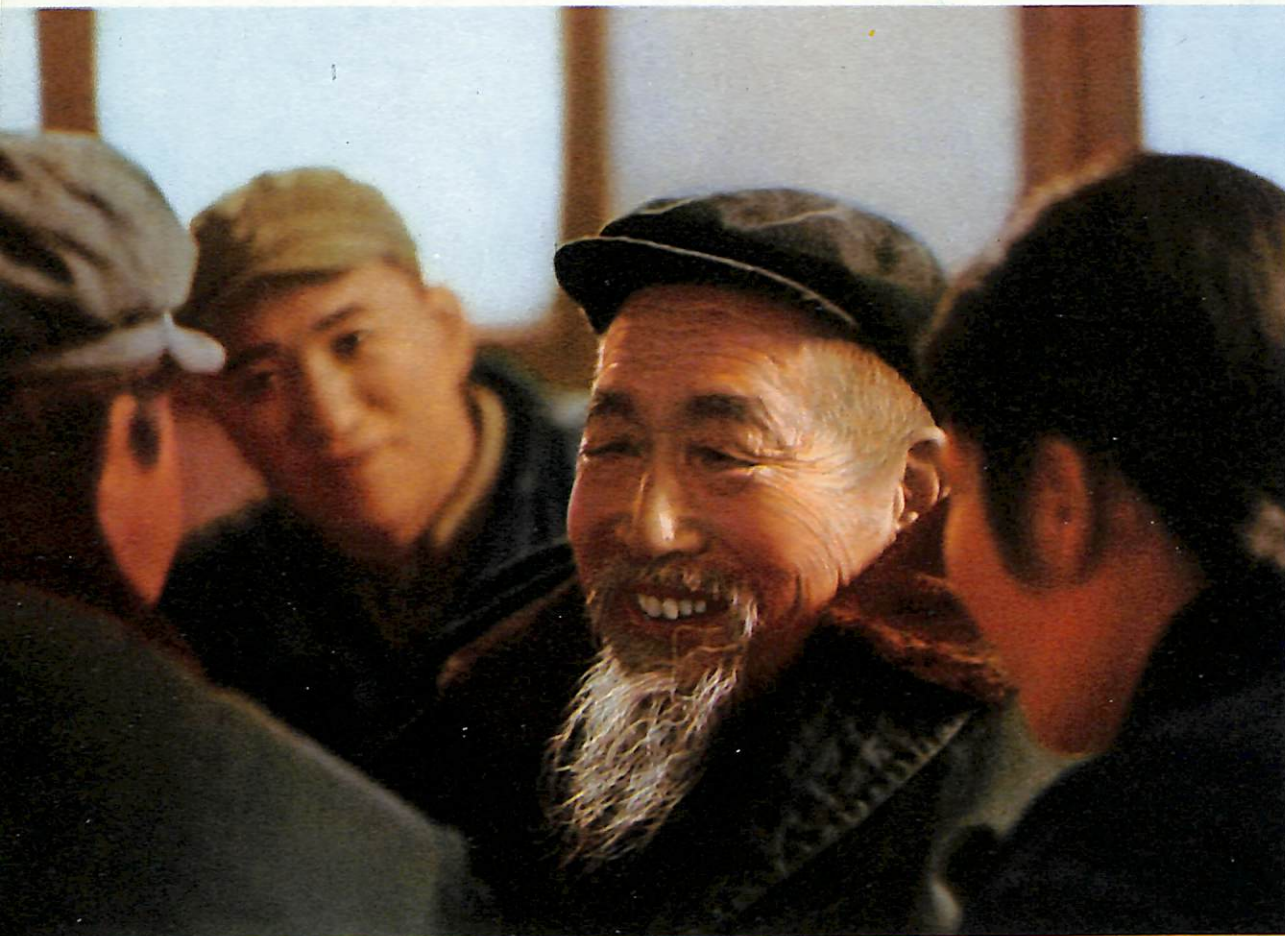
ruary 7 General Strike that shook the nation. On February 4, 1923, under the leadership of the Chinese Communist Party, workers on the Peking-Hankow Railway launched a gen-

eral strike for the right to organize a general trade union. Chiangan was then a communications hub at the southern end of the railway. Workers in the locomotive plant played an important role in the strike. On February 7, northern warlords Wu Pei-fu and Hsiao Yao-nan, backed by the imperialists, butchered the strikers at Changhsintien, Chengchow and Chiangan. Forty were killed at Chiangan, 13 of them engine drivers and stokers.

Wan Nung-shan, a picket during the February 7 General Strike, tells workers from the Chiangan Locomotive Depot about the struggle in 1923.

After Liberation, the plant was renamed the Chiangan Locomotive Depot. It handles all rail cargo between Hsinyang and Puchi — a distance of 350 kilometres on the Peking-Kwangchow line. Over the past 20 years and more, the workers and office personnel have carried on the revolutionary tradition of February 7 and made contributions to the socialist revolution and construction.

Following Chairman Mao's instruction on self-reliance, the workers refashioned their equipment and cut the time for medium repairs from 50 days to five. The locomotives were old





Right: A simple lathe machining wheels. During the Cultural Revolution, the depot made a number of simple tools to raise efficiency.

Lower: Hsiao Hsuan-fang (left), deputy secretary of the depot's Communist Youth League committee, is an outstanding electric-welder.







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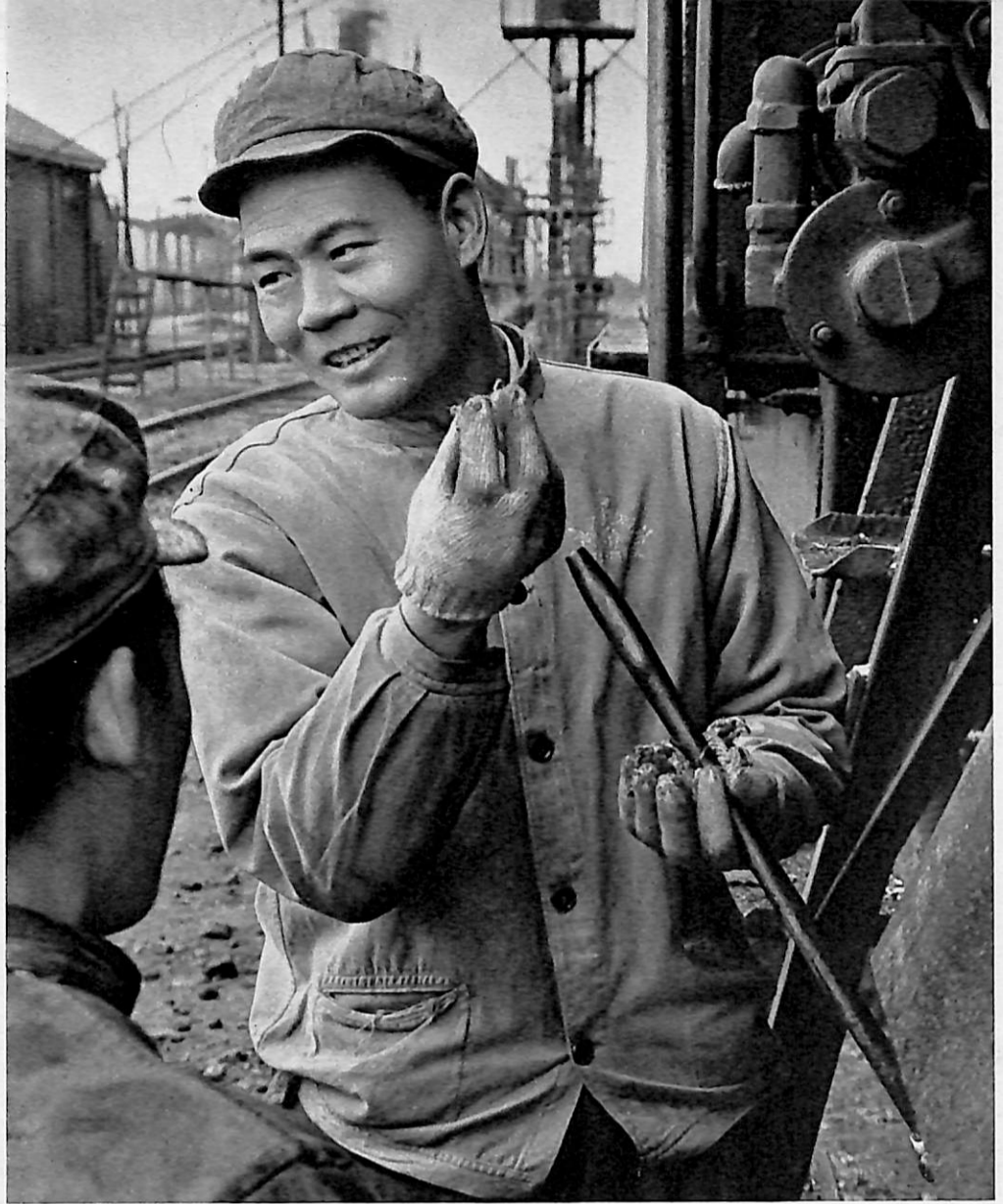
and burned a lot of coal. In recent years the workers, now masters of the country, repaired them and raised their haulage capacity by 60 per cent.

Under the guidance of Chairman Mao's general line of "going all out, aiming high and achieving greater, faster, better and more economic results in building socialism", locomotive crews have continuously improved efficiency. Advanced individuals and collectives have emerged. For instance, the 1091 Locomotive crew in the past 13 years has run 1,600,000 kms without an accident. Huang Yi-chen, Communist Party member and leader of 1479 Locomotive crew, does an excellent job for the revolution. His locomotive hauls a lot and runs fast, while keeping to the timetable without mishap.

The railway men have a spirit of hard work. They save every *jin* of coal and every drop of oil for the state. Many of the same tools have been used for over 20 years, kept in repair by the workers themselves.



Since the Great Proletarian Cultural Revolution, revolution and production in the depot have been getting better with each passing year. Last year the depot fulfilled the 13 main targets set by the state. Of these, 11 reached the highest figures in the depot's history. Compared with 1966, total haulage was 48.8 per cent higher, labour efficiency up 12.9 per cent, while coal consumption was 8.9 per cent lower. Like a fully laden train, the depot is rolling along the socialist rails full steam ahead.



③



④

- ① A technical exhibition contest. Competitions of this nature are held to train young workers.
- ② Huang Tsung-chuan, chairman of the depot's revolutionary committee, teaching technique to a young stoker during a physical labour stint. Cadres of the depot often work in the shops.
- ③ Huang Yi-chen, a Communist Party member and leader of the 1479 Locomotive crew.
- ④ 1091 Locomotive crew discussing maintenance work.
- ⑤ Retired veterans of the February 7 General Strike are leading a happy life. They are well cared for by the Party and government.

⑤







# “Work on the Yellow River





The Dragon's Gate on the Yellow River, located to the northwest of Hotsin County, Shansi, on the border between Shansi and Shensi. Hemmed in by mountains, the current is swift, but becomes open and broad beyond it.

**Must Be Done Well''**





Sketch Map of the Yellow River

Article by Jen Hua

**T**HE Yellow River, China's second largest, is notorious for the devastation it has caused.

Rising in the northern foothills of the Bayan Kara Mountains in Chinghai Province, the Yellow River flows east across mountains and grasslands in Chinghai and Kansu provinces, past Lanchow, industrial city in China's northwest, then turns abruptly north, forming a huge bend known as the Ordos which embraces part of the deserts and plains of Inner Mongolia and Ningsia. Then it turns south, tumbling its way through deep gorges in the loess highlands of Shensi and Shansi. Near Tungkuang it turns east, coursing over the vast plains of Shantung and Honan, and emptying eventually into the Pohai Sea at Litsin County. Its total length is 4,845 kms.

Beginning as a mere trickle, the Yellow River collects on its way the waters of 35 main tributaries and over a thousand lesser streams to form a torrential river with an annual flow of 48,000 million cubic metres. In its 745,000-square-kms drainage basin there are 300 million *mu* of farmland and over 100 million inhabitants.

For centuries, the Yellow River valley has been China's political, economic and cultural centre.

When the Red Army led by Chairman Mao arrived in northern Shensi in 1935, Yen-an became the beacon of the Chinese revolution. During the War of Resistance Against Japan and the War of Liberation, one revolutionary base after another was established in the Yellow River valley. To liberate the whole of China, the army and the people, led by the Chinese Communist Party, engaged the aggressors in hard-fought battles on both sides of the Yellow River.

The inhabitants of the Yellow River valley have long been harnessing and utilizing the Yellow River. During the Chin and Han dynasties, as early as the 3rd century B.C., the people in Ningsia and Shensi were digging canals for irrigation and fertilizing the soil with silt. On the

lower reaches, flood-control was the order of the day.

But control of the Yellow River was out of the question during the long years of reactionary rule under the feudal dynasties and the Kuo-mintang. Soil erosion was serious in the upper and middle reaches, while along the lower reaches floods were frequent. Yet drought was also common throughout the basin. All this brought the people untold sufferings. History records 26 major changes of course and more than 1,500 dyke breaches in the lower reaches in the 2,000 years prior to Liberation. Floods affected Tientsin in the north and Kiangsu and Anhwei Provinces in the south, spreading over an area of 250 thousand square kms.

The Yellow River carries the greatest amount of silt in the world — 37.6 kilos per cubic metre of water according to the Tungkuang Hydrological Station. Its upper and middle reaches drain the world's biggest loess highland — 430 thousand square kms, all of which are subject to soil erosion. After a rainstorm the topsoil is washed away and carried through gullies into tributaries and then into the Yellow River — a total volume of 1,600 million tons a year. As a result, the river bed rises continuously, making it an "elevated river" three or four, and in certain places as much as ten, metres above the ground.

Chairman Mao and the Party Central Committee have always been keen on harnessing the Yellow River. Chairman Mao inspected areas along it many times. In 1952 he issued the call, "**Work on the Yellow River must be done well**". In the 24 years since Liberation hundreds of thousands living in the Yellow River valley have turned out every year to work on taming the river. Much has been accomplished.

In the upper and middle reaches, water and soil conservation of a mass character is being carried out, while in the lower reaches dykes have been built for controlling floods. Reservoirs and sluice gates and

The People's Victory Canal in Hsinhsiung area, Honan, which Chairman Mao inspected in 1952, now waters 600 thousand *mu* of farmland. Work on it commenced in 1951.







Chairman Mao inspecting the Yellow River in 1952.

power stations have been constructed along the river and its tributaries for irrigation and power generation and for the comprehensive utilization of silt and water in the service of industry and agriculture.

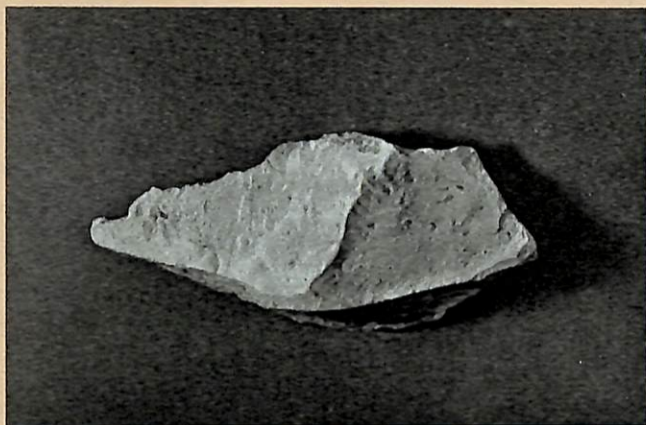
The Yellow River is beginning to behave itself. Its surging currents have been restricted by what is called the "Great Wall on water" — a dyke extending 1,800 kms along the lower reaches. The Yellow River

valley, long a calamity-stricken area, has undergone a tremendous change. Still, our accomplishments are far from the goals set by Chairman Mao. The Chinese people are determined and able to harness the Yellow River and make it work for socialism. A general picture of how this is being done will be provided in a series of articles on the Yellow River beginning with this issue.





# *Yellow River Valley — Cradle of*



Three-edged pointed tool unearthed at Lantien, Shensi. It was used by the Lantien Man for cutting, scraping and chopping.

Painted pottery basin with human face and net designs, unearthed at Panpo, Sian, showing a relatively advanced primitive art 6,000 years ago.



A village site of the Yangshao Culture at Panpo, Sian, giving a general picture of life in the primitive communes 6,000 years ago. Discovered in 1954, it was converted into a museum in 1958.





# Ancient Chinese Civilization

Article by An Chih-min  
Photographs by Wu Yin-po, Chen  
Yuan and Huang Tao-peng

THE ancestors of the Chinese people roamed the Yellow River valley as early as 500 thousand to 600 thousand years ago. The Lantien Men<sup>①</sup> and the Peking Men<sup>②</sup> of the paleolithic age hunted animals with crude stone implements and wooden clubs and gathered wild food. In battling nature they created the paleolithic culture. The more than 200 sites discovered around the Yellow River valley show that primitive men were fairly widely distributed there.

The Yellow River valley saw the rise of China's agriculture. The emergence of farming and animal husbandry marked a new phase in the history of mankind. In this vast loess region the soil is porous and fertile and can be worked with simple tools. The mild climate favours plant growth. These are pre-conditions for the birth and development of primitive agriculture. As men entered the neolithic age, they settled to a farming life, creating the richly varied Yangshao Culture<sup>③</sup> and the Lungshan Culture.<sup>④</sup> Over 2,000 village sites discovered illustrate how the primitive commune developed, declined and dissolved.

The Yangshao Culture was created during the flourishing stage of the matriarchal commune more than 5,000 years ago. Densely populated primitive villages dotted the banks of the Yellow River. Typical of these was Panpo, Sian. From its unearthed site, we can see something of the village layout and the life of its inhabitants. People built timber houses at close quarters, dug caches for storing grain, cut defensive moats around their villages, marked out communal burial grounds and erected kilns. Crude wooden or stone implements were used in farming. Millet was the staple, supplemented by vegetables. Pig and dog were the only domestic animals. Hunting and wild food gathering became subsidiary. Pottery making was fairly developed. An assortment of terra-cotta enriched life. Painted pottery was especially attractive, with sumptuous patterns and animal motifs.

The Lungshan Culture inherited and superseded the Yangshao Culture some 4,000 years ago. With the advent of the patriarchal commune, the economy made further advances. Villages were closer together, farm tools increased in number and variety, and domestic animals were basically the same kinds as today. Handicrafts were separated from agriculture; pottery making became specialized and attained a new



Animal-shaped pottery pot unearthed in Ningyang, Shantung, in 1959. A forerunner of the Lungshan Culture, this water container is typical of the plastic art of the neolithic age.



Black pottery *tou*, a bowl with a high base for holding food, unearthed in Weifang, Shantung, in 1960. It has a glossy surface and thin and uniform body, typical of the Lungshan Culture.

White pottery *kuei*, a water container, unearthed in Weifang, Shantung, in 1960. Made of *kaolin* clay, it is typical of the pottery of Lungshan Culture.







Inscribed ox shoulder blade used for divination in the Shang Dynasty, unearthed in Anyang, Honan, in 1971. The divining was done by scorching the carapace or animal bone and examining the cracks. Such inscriptions are the earliest writings discovered in China and the most ancient records extant.



*Szumuwu*, four-legged bronze pot, a cooking vessel weighing 875 kilos, marks the high level of bronze art in the Shang Dynasty. Generally a crucible held only 12.5 kilos of liquid bronze, so that an article of such scale calls for the simultaneous lading of over 70 crucibles.



Bronze *kung* with dragon pattern, a Shang Dynasty wine vessel unearthed in Shihlou, Shansi, in 1959.

level in technique. With the aid of the wheel, the potter was now able to achieve fairly uniform forms and thin, smooth bodies. The egg-shell pottery had a thickness of only one or two mm. Colour ranged from terra-cotta and grey to black and white, the latter being more popular. The wares were of different shapes to suit different uses. Improvement of tools created surpluses. The disparity in the scale of burials and the number of articles interred with the dead reflects the incipience of private ownership and classes. The primitive commune was disintegrating.

By the Shang Dynasty (16th-11th century B.C.) society entered the bronze age and slavery came into existence. Shang culture spread in the middle and lower reaches of the Yellow River. Discovery of the sites of large cities in Honan Province — at Erhilitou, Yenshi; Erhlikang, Chengchow and Hsiaotun, Anyang — indicates that town and countryside had become separate and class contradictions had sharpened. As farming continued its advance, the division of labour in handicrafts became more diversified. Bronze casting, pottery and bone article making, jade carving, spinning and weaving and

distilling of liquor flourished. But the means of production and the toiling slaves were owned by the slaveholders. Exploitation became heavier and heavier.

The Shang bronze culture is world famous — the weapons, tools and various kinds of containers, with their elegant forms and robust patterns giving expression to the spirit of the times. The potter's art too, became more refined. Apart from the grey utility wares, there now appeared exquisitely incised white pottery and glazed pottery, made of *kaolin* clay.

Remnants of Shang writing extant are most-

Notes:

① Lantien Man — Apeman fossils including lower jaw bones and skull caps and stone implements were unearthed at Lantien in 1963-1964. The Lantien Man lived from 500 thousand to 600 thousand years ago. The finds represent the earliest human fossils and cultural relics found in China.

② Peking Man — A primitive man living around Choukoutien near Peking some 400 thousand to 500 thousand years ago (see "Choukoutien — Home of the Peking Ape-Man", China Pictorial No.1, 1973)



Chifu bronze jar, a large Western Chou (c. 11th century-770 B.C.) wine vessel, was unearthed in Fufeng, Shensi, in 1960. Inside is a 57-character inscription.



Bronze square jar with cross-dragon pattern unearthed in Houma, Shansi, in 1961. A wine vessel of the Eastern Chou (8th century-3rd century B.C.), it blazed a new trail in the art of bronze casting.



ly inscriptions on oracle bones used for divination. More than 100 thousand pieces have been unearthed at a Yin Dynasty site in Anyang, and provide important materials for the study of the Shang-Yin Dynasty history.

Originating in the Wei River valley, a tributary of the Yellow River in Shensi, the Chou Dynasty succeeded the Yin rule in the 11th century B.C. Its domains extended far beyond the Yellow River valley, a fact fully borne out by archaeological finds. Feng and later Hao in Sian and Wangcheng and later Chengchou in Loyang were the then political, economic and

cultural centres, each preserving a rich store of cultural relics. Eastern Chou (8th century B.C.-3rd century B.C.) cities were enclosed by tall solid tamped-earth walls. Urban economy thrived as handicrafts and commerce developed. The art of bronze casting made rapid headway. The articles varied in form and their patterns developed from simple to complex. The inscriptions on them sometimes ran to 400 words apiece, providing important materials in the study of Chou society. The inscription on the *Hu*-tripod<sup>⑤</sup> recorded that the price of five slaves was equal to that of a horse plus a hank of silk.

This shows the absurdly low status of the slave.

The slave system broke down as a result of the continuous development of class contradictions, the ceaseless slave uprisings, the appearance of iron implements and the further growth of productive forces. Around the 5th century B.C. which saw the end of the Autumn and Spring Period and the start of the Warring States Period, feudal society began to prevail. From the unification of the country by the Chin Dynasty to the flourishing Han and Tang dynasties, the Yellow River valley remained the nation's political, economic and cultural centre.

③ Yangshao Culture — A culture belonging to the neolithic age of China and distributed in the middle and lower reaches of the Yellow River some 5,000 years ago. It was first discovered at Yangshao Village, Minchi County, Honan, in 1921.

④ Lungshan Culture — A culture of the late neolithic period some 4,000 years ago, first discovered at Chengtzeia in Lungshan Town, Licheng County, Shantung, in 1928.

⑤ *Hu*-tripod — A cooking vessel, *Hu* being the name of its maker.



# A Tour



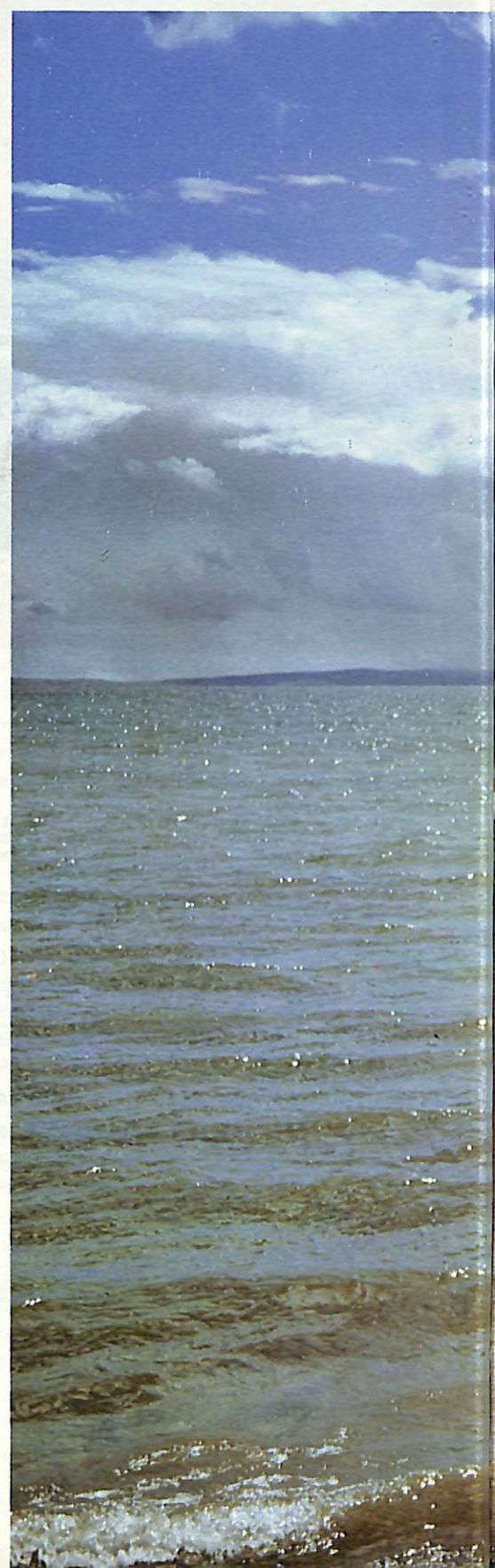
The source of the Yellow River, in the southwestern part of the Yokutsunglich Basin. Right: The spring.



Ngoreng Lake, 533 square kms in area.



A bridge built by the Kyareng Lake commune, Matod County. This is the first bridge in the upper reaches of the Yellow River.





# of the Source Of the Yellow River



A Series of  
Articles on  
the Yellow River  
(1)

Article by Jen Hua  
Photographs by Ju Sui-chu

**I**N China's history books there are many allegations regarding the source of the Yellow River. Some two thousand years before Liberation, various people claimed to have found

it, but they expressed conflicting opinions. A special team was organized in 1952 after the formation of the People's Government to seek the source once more. The members of the team braved severe conditions and finally found it in the Yokutsunglieh Basin, north of the Bayan Kara Mountains.

## The Source Region

Last September, several of us made tour of the places the survey team explored. After driving southwest about 500 kms from Sining, capital of Chinghai Province, we arrived at Matod, the first county town the Yellow River passes.

Kyareng Lake, the biggest lake in the source region of the Yellow River, 888 square kms in area.







The course of the Yellow River in the Yokutsunglieh Basin.

Matod is in the southern part of a basin between the Bayan Kara Mountains and the Puching Mountains. The Yellow River, passing southwest of the town, is smooth and clear here, less than one metre deep and some 40 metres wide. It's hard to believe that in its middle and lower reaches it becomes a roaring river bearing a large quantity of silt.

From Matod, we drove westward nearly 100 kilometres along a highway skirting the northern bank of the river. The water follows a regular course over a broad bed and scattered shoals. We passed the northern side of

Kyareng Lake, then came to a large meadow. The grass was short and withered, but purple gentian flowers were in full bloom.

Kyareng Lake is 20 kms east of Ngoreng Lake. After pursuing a haphazard course out of Ngoreng Lake, the Yellow River enters a valley, three hundred metres long, and divides into nine streams which flow into Kyareng Lake. The two lakes, though they look small on the map, are like boundless seas. Kyareng Lake has an area of 888 square kms, while Ngoreng measures 533. Pebbles can be seen clearly in the shallow water near the bank. The

light blue water turns dark blue towards the centre. When the lakes are calm, clouds in the sky and rocky mountains along the shore reflect with perfect clarity on the limpid surface.

Both lakes teem with fish. When we arrived the temperature had dropped to 10°C below zero. But we still could see schools of fish, each 40 or 50 cm. long, swimming in the sunlit shallows. A highland cold-water species, they have no scales. It is said that for a single fish to add a half kilo to its weight takes eight or nine years. The lakes have islets in their centres, each about one to two square kms in

Matod county town on the Chinghai-Tibet Plateau, more than 4,000 metres above sea level.







A weather station on the highland.

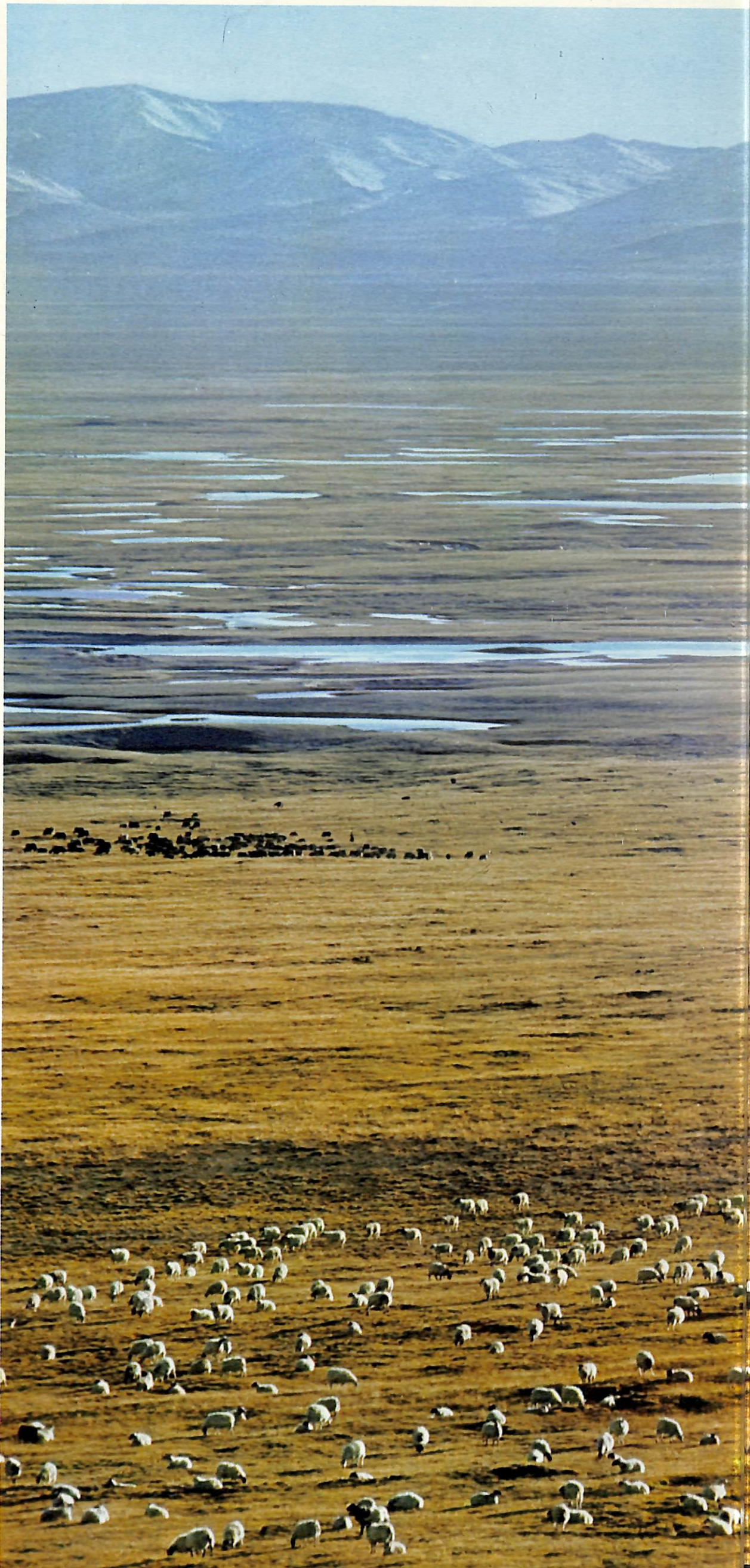
area. A great number of water fowls, mostly wild ducks and geese, rest there.

#### The Sea of Stars

West of Ngoreng Lake is a marsh. In fact, both sides of the Yellow River are marshy, interspersed with stretches of dense short grass, withered roots and rotted leaves. The surface is soft and treacherous for walking.

Another hundred kms west and we reached the Sea of Stars (Hsing Hsiu Hai). Tu Shih of Yuan Dynasty and La Hsi of Ching Dynasty were sent specially to find the source of the Yellow River. Both got to the Sea of

A hothouse of the Matod commune, 40 kms west of the source.







A view of the source region.



①

Stars. At that time the river often overflowed and brought disaster to farm production, diminishing state revenue. The feudal rulers in both periods sent explorers to find the source and offer sacrifices to propitiate the river god.

South and north of the Sea of Stars are mountains — the Paiyin Nuhsien and the Chuntse. The peak of the former looks like an upside-down lotus leaf, and that of the latter a square loaf. The river passes a broad meadow

between the two mountains, running slowly through a number of ponds, ranging in area from a few to several hundred square metres. Shining in the sun they look like stars. No wonder Tu Shih and La Hsi thought this the source of

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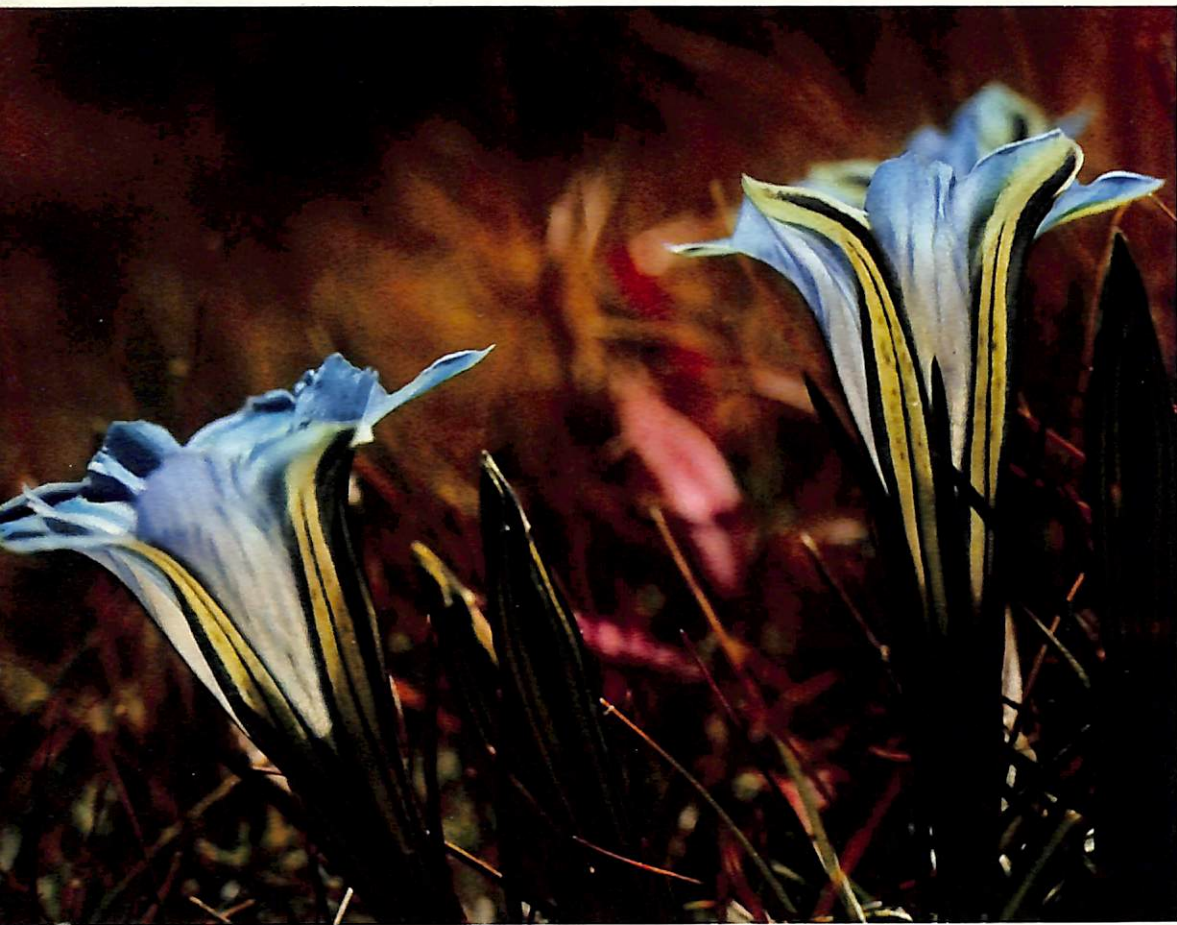
A great number of migratory birds rest here.



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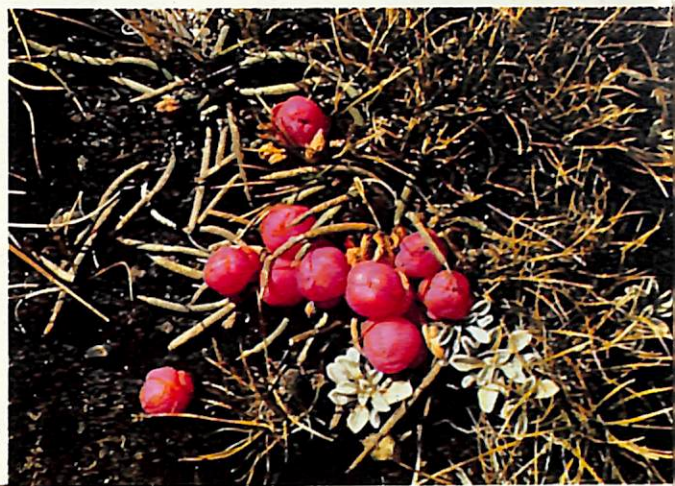
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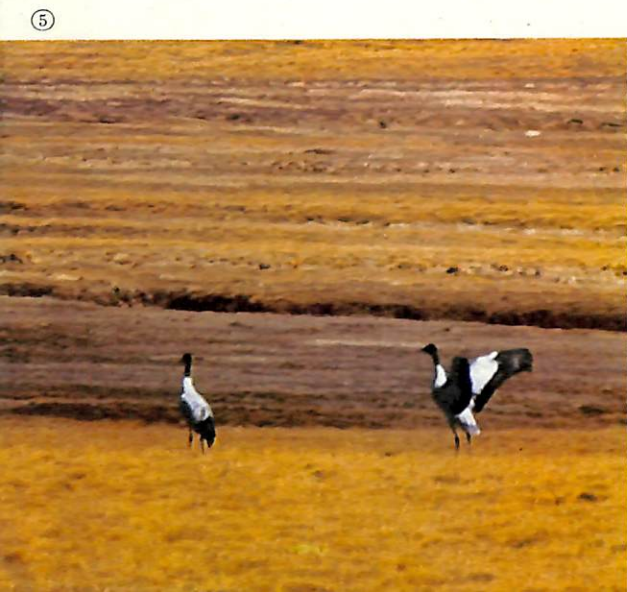
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Wild animals and plants:

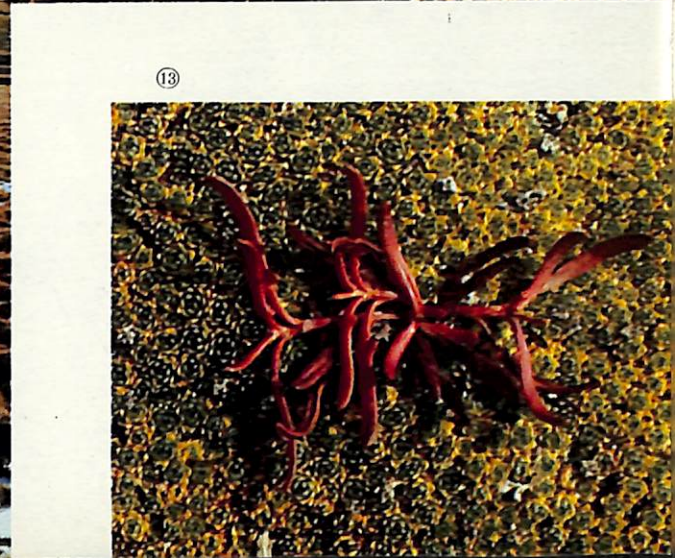
- ① Wild asses.      ② Brown-headed gull.      ③ Dzeren.
- ④ Ruddy shelduck.      ⑤ Black-necked crane.
- ⑥ Marshland. The plants are mainly *Kobresia*.
- ⑦ Gentian.      ⑧ *Thylacospermum*, a cushion plant.
- ⑨ *Rhodiola*.      ⑩ Alpine aster.      ⑪ *Reaumuria*.
- ⑫ The succulent bract of ephedra.
- ⑬ Rockjasmine, a cushion plant. On it are young sprouts of *Polygonum sibiricum*. They become red after being exposed to frost.



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⑬





Tsadhkog, a Tibetan herdsman's son.

the Yellow River.

#### New Life on the Barren Grassland

After crossing the Sea of Stars, we continued westward. Two days later, we came to Mayung, a Tibetan word meaning Yellow River ford. After we waded to its southern bank, we saw columns of smoke rising up from a mountain hollow. On coming nearer, we found a village.

It has nearly one hundred houses and is the centre of the Matod commune, Chhumar County. Many kinds of daily necessities were on sale in the store. Such a commune centre would be thought tiny in the populous eastern regions of China, but here it was like a busy town.

The Tibetan word "matod" means "upper reaches" because the Yellow River starts within the confines of the commune, which is vast. From north to south it measures 300 kms, and from east to west 90. It has three livestock-breeding brigades run by 2,000 or more Tibetan herdsmen.

The source region, 4,000-4,500 metres above sea level, is a tract of barren grassland, cold and never frost-free. The average annual temperature is 4.3°C below zero. One metre beneath the surface is a strata of frozen tundra. Grass is only 5 cm. high.

Owing to bad natural conditions, originally no one lived here. Later, cruel exploitation and oppression by the Kuomintang reactionaries and feudal headmen forced Tibetan herdsmen of Yuisru and Golog to leave their native places and moved to this barren area. They led a miserable life. After Liberation, and especially since the democratic reforms and the establishment of the people's communes in 1958, the Tibetan herdsmen, under the leadership of the Party, waged hard struggles against nature and vastly improved their productivity and livelihood.

In 1963 they had less than 50,000 head of livestock. Now they have over 150,000. The herdsmen's life is improving day by day. The three brigades all have full-time schools. Most of the production teams and groups have their own primary school moving with the herdsmen and their families. Newspapers and magazines are delivered and many families have transistor radios. An enlarged commune clinic is nearly completed. It has four doctors, graduates of medical schools in Peking and Sining. The herdsmen are no longer illiterate.

The commune has a reserve of 700 thousand yuan. Besides a veterinary station and sheep-dip pools, it has trial-planted 50 *mu* of forage plants on the wasteland over the past two years. Vegetables grown in the newly-built hothouses are doing well.

#### The Source

The true source of the Yellow River is on the southwestern margin of the Yokutsunglieh Basin, more than 300 kms west of the Matod county town. At a bend of a two-metre-wide river a spring bubbles like pearls from a ten-centimetre depth. To the west there is a hill with gentle slopes. This is the watershed of the Yellow and Karmj rivers. The seepage on the eastern slope drains into the spring; that on the west into the Koyang River — the upper reaches of the Karmj River. The river formed by the spring is called in Tibetan "Machhu" or Yellow River. It flows southwest to northeast through the 40-kilometre-broad Yokutsunglieh Basin, which is rich in water resources. Machhu gathers water from all sides and flows eastward

Cream separators are in common use.







The source region is high and cold, unsuitable to agricultural production. But it has large pastures. Since the establishment of people's communes in 1958, animal husbandry in the region has developed quickly.

through a valley. When it reaches the Mayung Ford it has become a ten-metre-wide river.

Tibetan word "yokutsunglieh" means "a pan for frying highland barley", a name given the basin by the local Tibetan people because of its shape. Surrounded by hills more than one hundred metres high, it has an area of some 300 square kms. Its luxuriant grass provides a fine winter pasture for the Matod commune. The basin abounds in water-fowl, dzeren, wild asses, rabbits and bears. There are also wild oxen, deer and Tibetan gazelles.

#### Matod County Town

We came back to Matod along the southern bank of the Yellow River.

In the past Matod was called "Huanghoyen" (Beside the Yellow River). Though it was a traffic hub on the road to Tibet, there was not a single dwelling before Liberation. When a team came to survey the Yellow River source in 1952, they found only a dozen adobe huts left by the P.L.A. on their way to Tibet. Now a small town with 500 or more people has appeared.

Matod County is a pure pasture region with an area of over 40 thousand square kms. Its

inhabitants are mainly Tibetans. Before Liberation the herdsmen suffered from feudal exploitation. The population was sparse and production backward. Now, compared with 1958, the population has increased by two times and livestock four times. The value of animal products sold to the state in 1971 was 14 times that of 1959. Besides political, economic and cultural organizations, schools, stores, a hospi-

tal and a post and telecommunication office, the county town has a weather station, a tannery, a machine repair plant, a power station and other small plants. A highway was built through the county in 1958, linking it with Sining and the pasture regions of northwestern Szechuan. Trucks loaded with various kinds of animal products, grain, building materials and equipment busily come and go along the highway.

A shepherd and his family.





# Hsinhui – Home of the Overseas



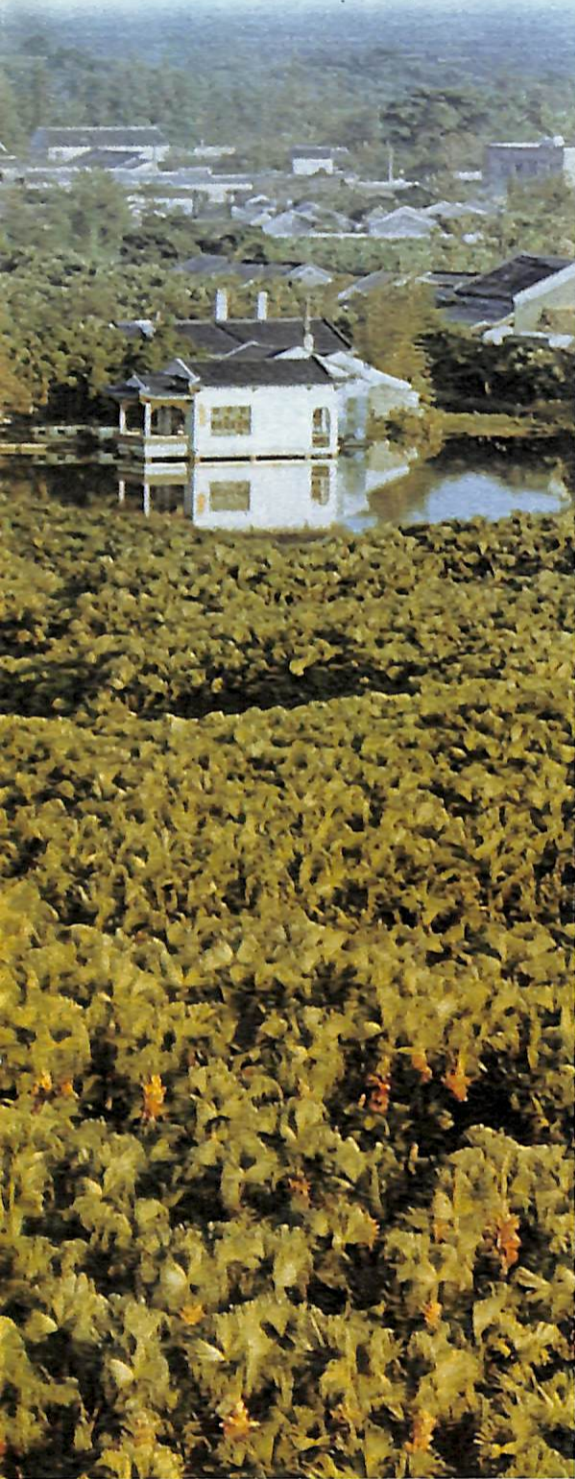
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# Chinese



① The town of Hsinhui.

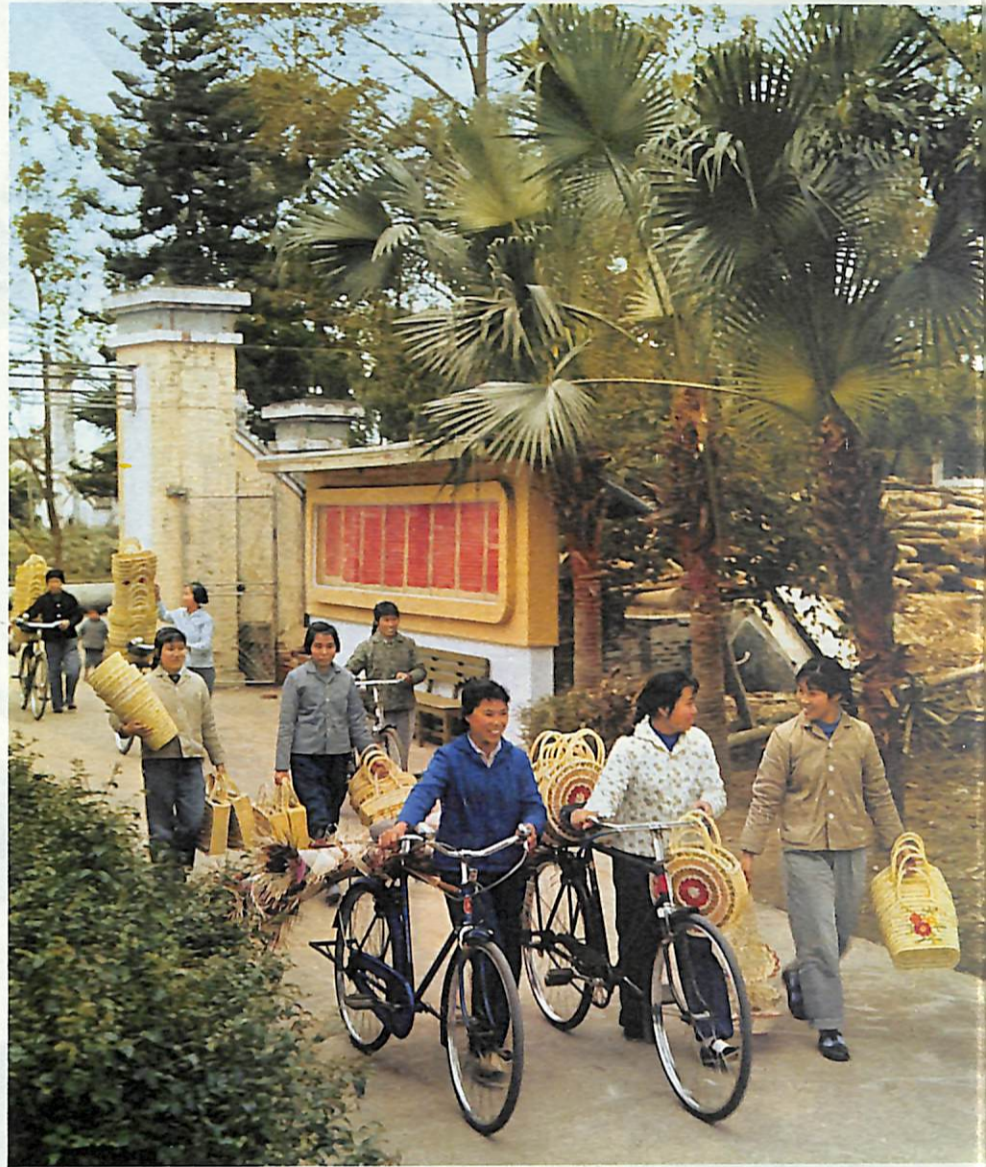
② A new consignment of walking tractors for the communes.



③

③ A good harvest for 1972 in spite of serious natural calamities.

④ Delivering palm-products woven at home to the Palm Arts and Crafts Company. In Hsinhui, palm leaves and their stems are crafted into various kinds of articles.



④

⑤ The new Kutou Mountain East-Is-Red Hydropower Station.

⑤







Metal working shop of the farm machinery plant. Its workers designed and manufactured most of the lathes — over 200 of them.



The Overseas Chinese Building accommodates visiting overseas Chinese, Chinese with foreign nationalities and compatriots from Hongkong, Macao and Taiwan.

Article and photographs by  
Kao Sheng-kang

**H**SINHUI, located southwest of the Pearl River Delta on the South China Sea coast, is a city with a history of 1,500 years.

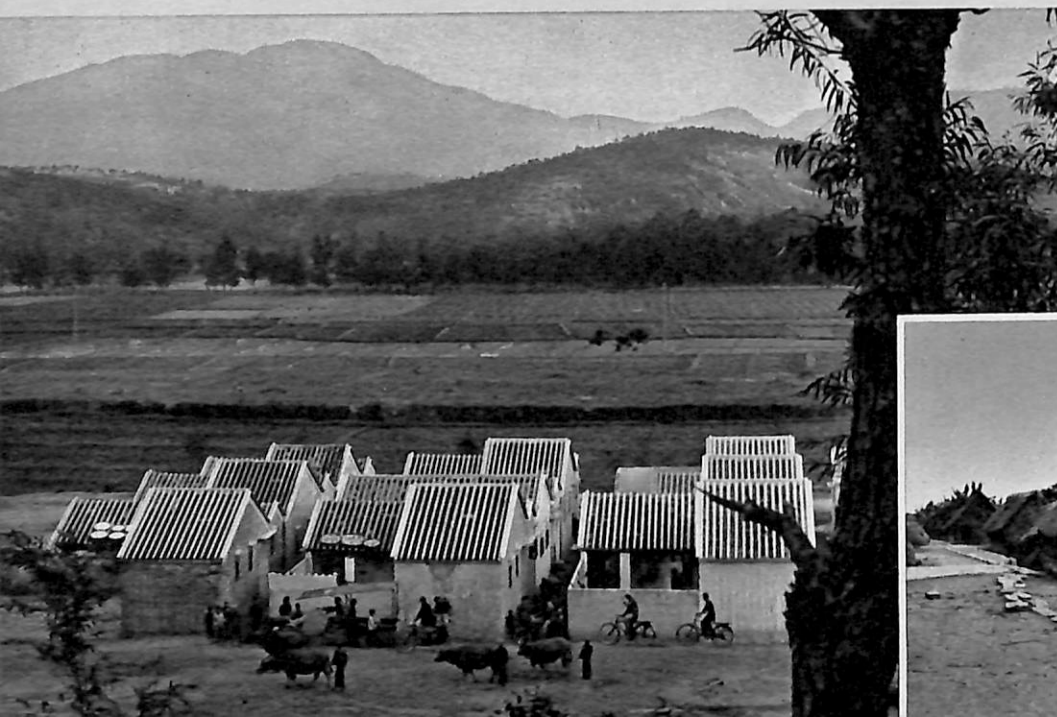
In the old days it always suffered from natural calamities. Production declined and epidemic diseases were rampant. The working people had a hard time keeping body and soul together. Many went to America, Europe, Australia or the Southeast Asian countries to seek a living. Hsinhui was known as a birthplace of overseas Chinese.

Figures show that the population of the county seat dropped from 120 thousand before the anti-Japanese war to just 27 thousand by the time of Liberation, as a result of natural calamities and massacres by the Japanese invaders and Kuomintang reactionaries. More than a third of the houses were destroyed. Debris and rubbish were everywhere.

After Liberation in 1949, led by the Party and the People's Government, people put their backs to the hard task of reconstruction.

Hsinhui now has more than 60 thousand inhabitants. In the centre of the county town stand the new Overseas Chinese Building, the People's Hall, a department store, a food market, a youth centre, workers' club, swimming pool and cinema. Apartment houses are going up one after the other, while ancient structures such as the Hsinhui Academy and the Confucian Temple have been refurbished.

Instead of the lone hospital staffed by three doctors, there are now a workers' sanatorium, a county people's hospital, a hospital of Chinese medicine, a Red Cross Society hospital, a maternity and child welfare hospital and an anti-epidemic station. Immediate medical needs



Huts of yesterday and tile-roofed houses of today.

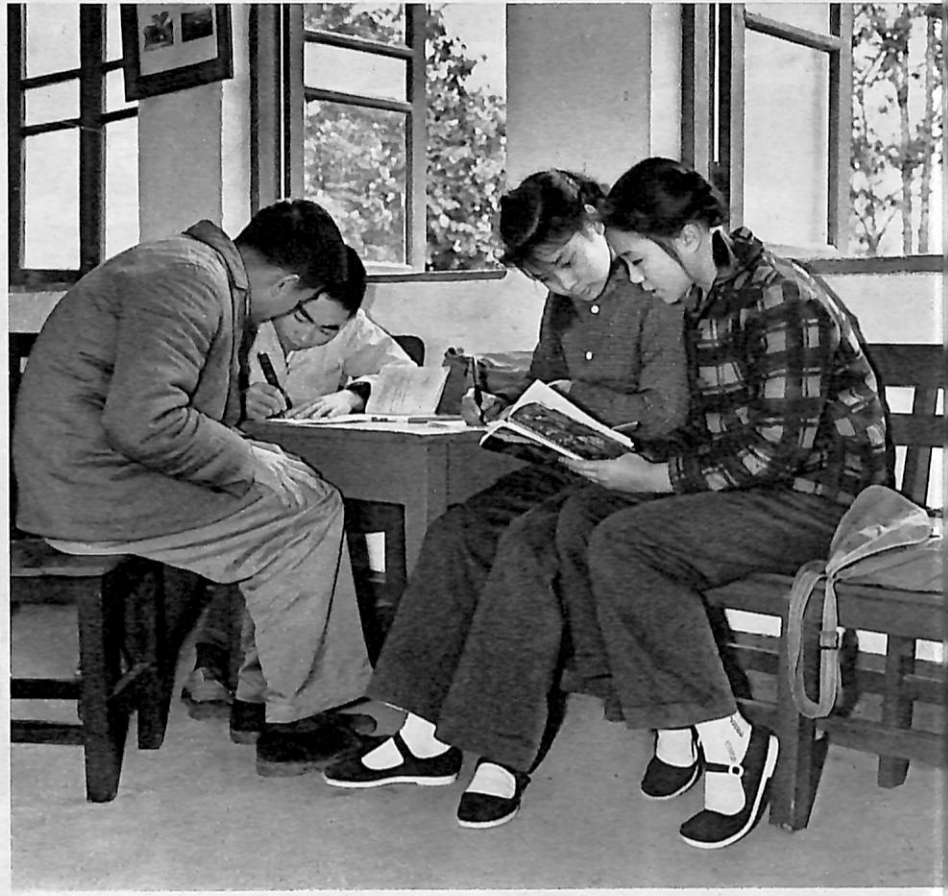




Ta-ao commune's experimental rice group — one of over 1,800 in the county — checking rice growth.



Instead of the six middle schools before Liberation, there are now 22 senior middle schools, to say nothing of the many more junior middle schools. Lin Hsiao-chien (2nd right) and Li Chin-chu (right), both children of overseas Chinese and seniors of the Chaoyang Middle School, reviewing their lessons.



A reservoir under construction.

of factories and mines, communes and farms throughout the county are attended to by more than a hundred attached clinics. On a once desolate site a people's park has been laid out, with groups of lichee, tangerine, orange, peach, plum, and pineapple. These beautify the surroundings and add to the income of the state.

The mountains have been afforested and the menace of torrents has been removed. Thirty hydropower stations have been built and 28 more are under construction. A start was made in 1970 for tapping the water resources of Kutou Mountain. To build farmlands with high stable yields, the commune members have extended and consolidated the sea-dykes and river-dykes and set up electric pumping stations. Last year nature dealt with them harshly but still they wrested a good crop of just under 1,000 *jin* per *mu*.

County-run industries prosper following the advance of agriculture. Before Liberation, the county had only a few simple processing shops. Today, in addition to the processing and machine-repairing factories owned by every commune, there are 34 county-run mines and plants. Among these are a nitrogenous fertilizer plant which puts out 5,000 tons of synthetic ammonia annually, a farm machinery plant producing 3,150 walking tractors every year, and an electrical machinery plant capable of manufacturing 1,000-kws turbine-generators with direct water-cooled stator and rotor. Big strides have been made in the famous palm-product manufacturing which is turning out 24 types of articles instead of only the seven or eight before Liberation. Today, the Hsinhui people are working with redoubled efforts to score even greater successes.







Chairman Mao and the Party Central Committee showed great concern for the people in the afflicted area and sent an investigating group. A member of the group reads a message of sympathy from the Party Central Committee.

## After the Earthquake

One of the fissures.



Article and photographs by Chin Yao-wen and Li Chang-chieh

A large earthquake, magnitude 7.9, took place on February 6 in Kantse Tibet Autonomous *Chou*, western Szechuan Province. Houses collapsed, people and animals were injured.

Chairman Mao, the great leader of China's various nationalities, the Central Committee of the Communist Party and the State Council all showed great concern. An investigating group was immediately sent. Medical teams and appropriate departments were organized to take part in the relief. The Szechuan provincial Party committee also sent in cadres from various departments and medical personnel. All worked at great speed. Medicine, wheat flour, sugar, brick-tea, clothing as well as *chingko* seeds for spring sowing were rushed in from all parts of

the country.

Chun Hua, a Tibetan in her sixties, told the P.L.A. men, "The earth shook fifty years ago. That was in the wicked old society. No one bothered to bury the dead or save the injured. The reactionary headmen kept demanding for unpaid labour. We had to sell our sons and daughters or flee. Some hanged themselves, others drowned themselves in the river. This time the ground shook even harder. Our houses tumbled down. But the P.L.A. has helped us put up sheds. The Party and the government has given us cotton-padded clothes and rice. We've enough to eat and wear. What a difference between the two societies! Chairman Mao's love is loftier than the Snowy Mountains!"

In the revolutionary spirit of "fearing neither hardship nor death", the P.L.A. marched day and night in severe cold to reach a village in



the centre of the quake-stricken area. One of the soldiers, Dorbe, a Tibetan, came from here. His commander told him to go home first and take a look. Just as he reached the ruins of his family's front gate, he heard some one calling for help from another house. Who should he help first, his own family or his neighbour? Dorbe turned and hurried to the spot the cry had come from. Two other soldiers went with him. A woman was screaming that her two-year-old daughter was buried beneath the wreckage of a collapsed roof. The walls,

though still intact, were trembling with aftershocks. And something had caught fire. The three P.L.A. men plunged into the suffocating smoke and dug the child out of the debris. When the mother took the little girl from Dorbe's arms, she was so moved she couldn't speak.

Teng Jung-kuei, Tibetan, deputy secretary of a county Party committee, was injured in the leg. Despite acute pain, he dragged himself around in the street directing rescue work. Lo Jung-chih, a Communist, also a Tibetan, went to save the grain reserve and *chingko* seeds of

his production brigade, totalling some 50 thousand *jin*, right after his house collapsed and his wife was hurt. During the incident, the Party members and the cadres invariably saved others first and rescued community property before their own.

Two weeks of relief work brought the area back to normal. Communist Party members took the lead in spring sowing. The commune members, Tibetans and Hans, were confident that they would overcome every difficulty and win a good harvest.

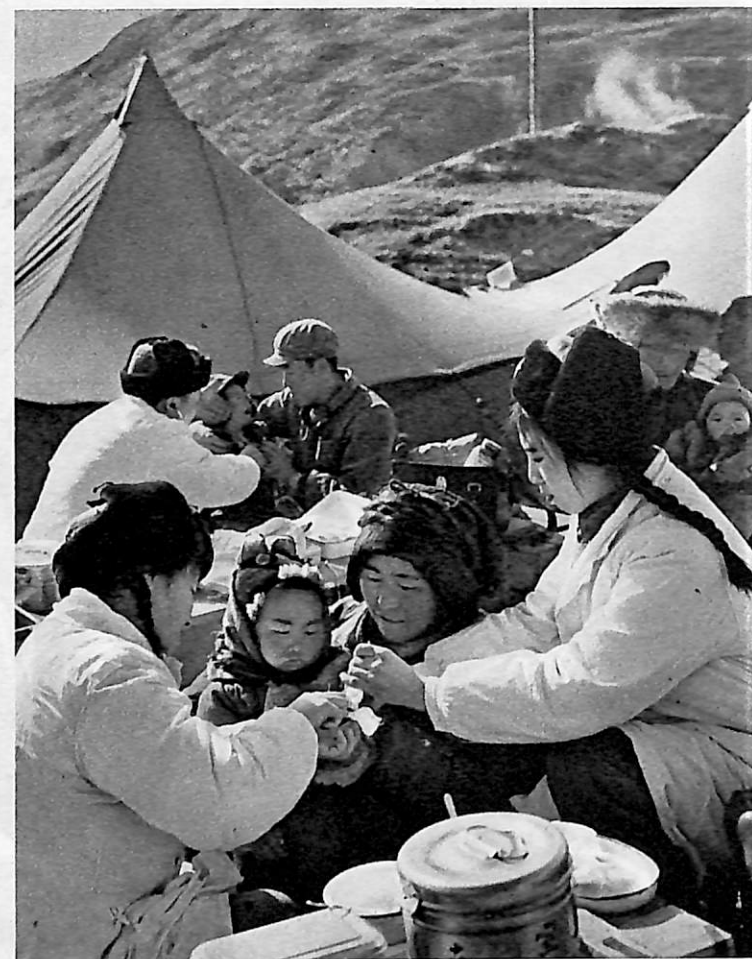
Planes dropping relief packages.



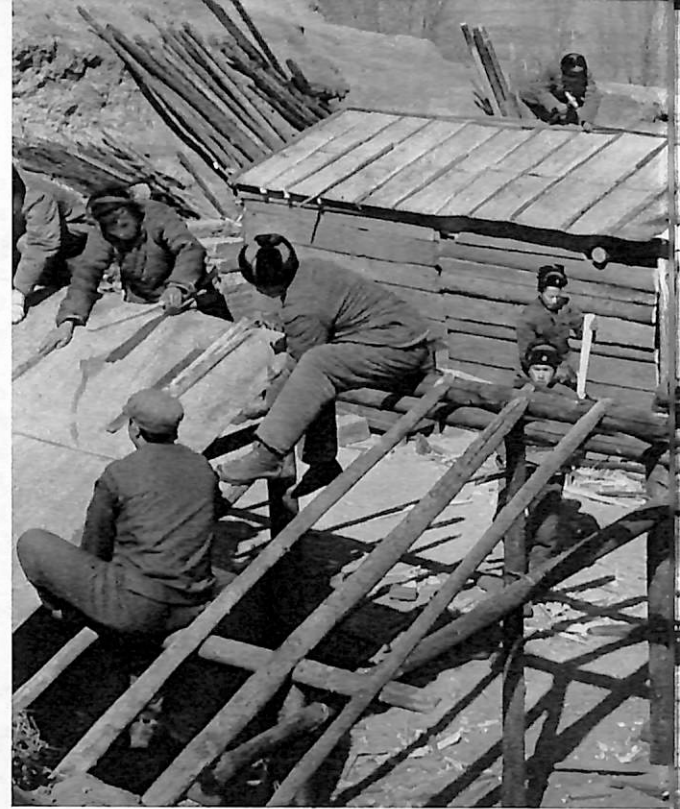
Relief goods were quickly handed out.



Medical care was provided.



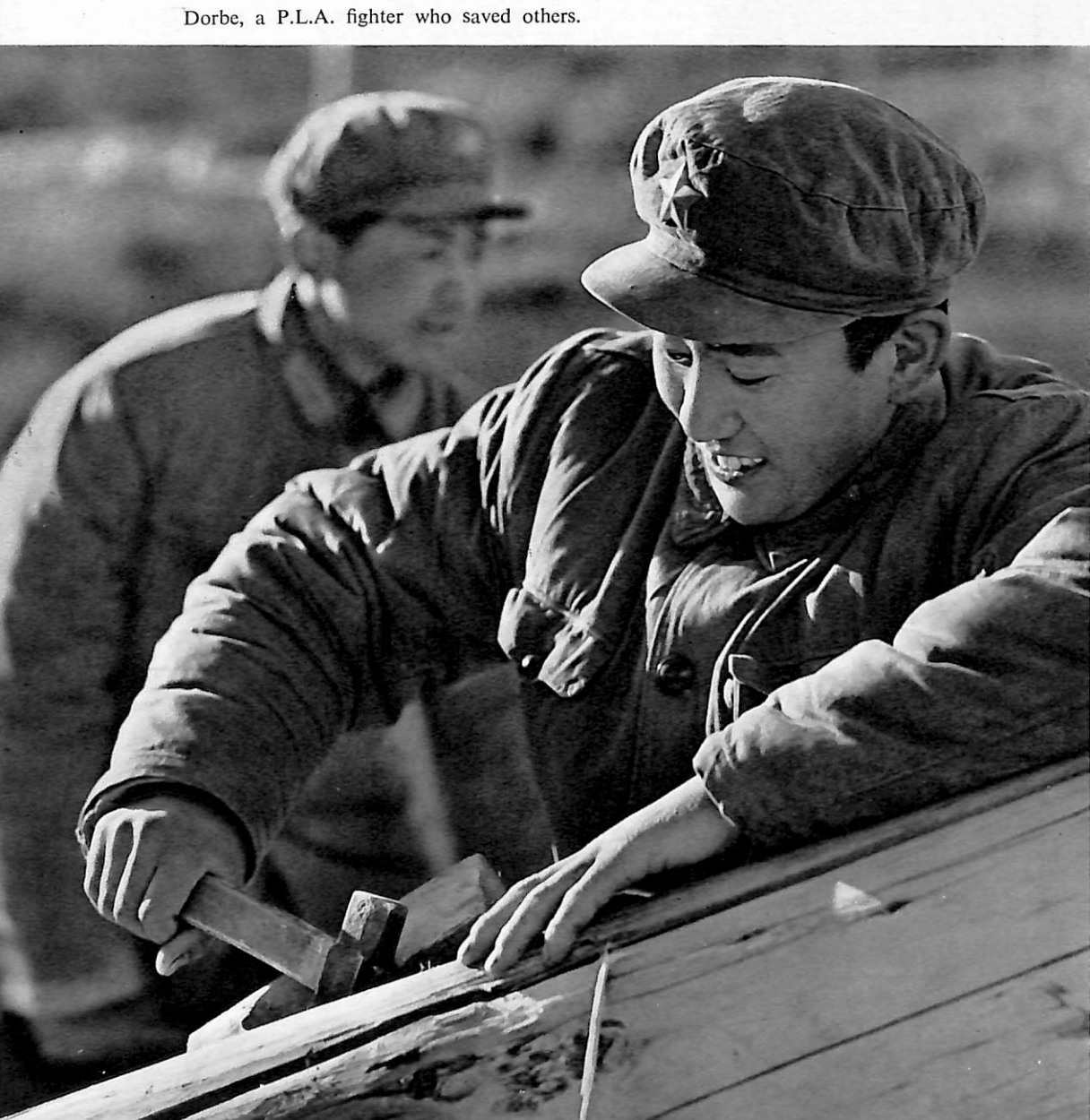




Repairing a highway.



Teng Jung-kuei (left), Tibetan, deputy secretary of a county Party committee, often came to direct relief work.







Armysmen and civilians put up wooden sheds for temporary shelters.



Armysmen and commune members carrying manure to the fields.



Working for a good harvest.



Chun Hua (right), a Tibetan in her sixties, expressing her gratitude to Chairman Mao and the Party Central Committee.





# China's Acrobatic Troupes Abroad

In Canada, whenever the performers of the troupe unfolded the streamer reading "Long live the friendship between the peoples of China and Canada", the whole theatre burst into thunderous applause.



Spectators in New York express congratulations and ask for autographs after a performance.



Peruvian spectators were intrigued by the "fishing" of the sleight-of-hand artist.





NOT long ago, the Shenyang Acrobatic Troupe of China visited Canada, the U.S.A., Chile, Peru and Mexico; the Peking Acrobatic Troupe of China toured Iran, Algeria, Sudan, Ethiopia, Egypt, Tunisia and Cyprus. They were accorded warm welcomes and cordial receptions. The two troupes travelled 100 thousand kms and gave one hundred and twenty performances to more than 300 thousand spectators. They have promoted mutual understanding and friendship between the Chinese people and the people of these countries.



With deep respect to the Chilean people for their glorious tradition of struggle against colonialism and imperialism, members of the Shenyang Acrobatic Troupe visit the harbour of Valparaiso.



Performing for teachers, students and parents at a middle school near Mexico City.







The visit of the Peking Acrobatic Troupe to Iran further enhances the friendship between the peoples of China and Iran.

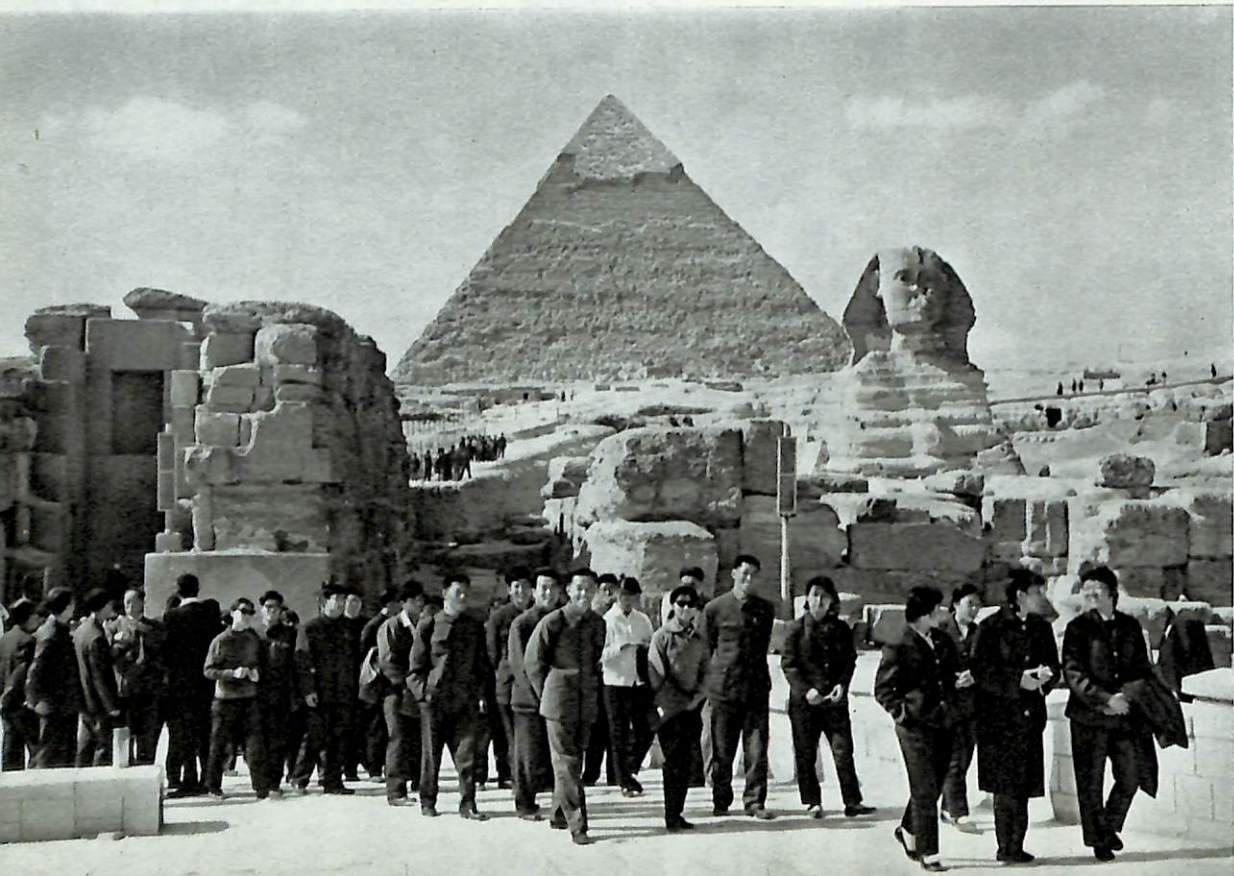


Performing for patients and staff of an Algerian hospital.



Sightseeing in Egypt.

Chinese and Ethiopian artists get together.







Learning from Sudanese musicians.



At a handicrafts workshop in Tunisia.



Cyprus children take a close look at the "lion" after a traditional *Lion Dance*.





# Stone- Carving



*Gold Fish, Chingtien.*





Article by Li Wei  
Photographs by Chin Yu  
and Pao Tsai-lu

CHINA'S stone-carving is a time-honoured art. It has a great variety of forms, including works in relief and in the round. Utilizing the natural colour, shape and texture of the stone, the craftsman produces superb works of art for the people.

Shoushan, Fukien Province, and Chingtien, Chekiang Province, are two producing centres. The Shoushan carvings are mostly round or in low relief, while those of Chingtien are pierced works. *Stampede*, Shoushan, makes good use of the red, yellow and white colours and conveys a thrilling atmosphere. *Gold Fish*, a Chingtien pierced work, uses the natural red and yellow to create lively gold fish and tropical fish. The heavy ears in *Millet*, also from Chingtien, are worked with meticulous cuts, using the creamy part of the stone. It symbolizes a bumper harvest.



*Millet*, Chingtien.



*Stampede*, Shoushan.





Cleaning the trucks before making camp.

## The P.L.A. Practises Its Traditional Industry and Thrift



Yuan Shun-hua (right), head of Squad Nine tells how he saves gasoline.

Oil used for cleaning parts is retained.





Photographs by Sung Hou-chun and Hsiao Ping

**L**AST year P.L.A. Ninth Motor Company saved more than 10 thousand litres of gasoline, while fulfilling all of its transport assignments.

Since 1963, China has been self-sufficient in petroleum. But the comrades of Ninth Company feel that's no excuse for becoming wasteful. There were a few comrades who at first thought it was enough for a motor company to carry out its transport tasks. They didn't realize the importance of saving gasoline. The Party branch of Ninth Company organized a discussion of Chairman Mao's teaching, "To make China rich and strong needs several decades of intense effort, which will include, among other things, the effort to practise strict economy and combat waste, i.e. the policy of building up our country through diligence and frugality". Senior leaders from higher units often came and spoke to the fighters about revolutionary traditions and their own experiences. The men soon realized that maintaining a good proletarian style — diligence, thrift, plain living and hard work — is indispensable to carrying out Chairman Mao's line on army building. "We must cherish the wealth created by the labouring people," the men said. "We have no right to waste even a drop of gasoline."

The Communist Party members and company cadres set a good example to other comrades. Yuan Shun-hua, leader of Squad Nine recalls a day when he was still a new soldier. He and his squad leader had just finished overhauling a truck. Yuan brought half a basin of gasoline for them to wash their hands. The squad leader poured back the gasoline and brought a basin of hot water and a cake of soap from the kitchen instead. Now that Yuan himself has become a squad leader, he too does his best to save every drop of gasoline.

The motor teams often travel long distances. Sometimes they must do their own cooking, en route. In the rainy season it is hard to kindle damp firewood, and a touch of gasoline is a big help. But the comrades of Ninth Company never use any. They would rather have their meal late than to waste a drop of gasoline. They plan their journeys carefully to provide for a minimum of stops. Many trucks have been equipped with homemade valves to hold back the flow of gas from the tank to the carburettor when the vehicle is running downhill. Squad Four, hearing that another unit was doing a very good job on saving gasoline, immediately went to learn its methods. Today, everyone in Ninth Company regards the saving of gasoline his personal responsibility.



Learning from a brother unit how to economize on gasoline.

Washing rags for further use.





# China's Climate

Article by Lin Chih-kuang

**S**ITUATED in the southeastern part of Eurasia with the Pacific Ocean to her east, China has a climate dominated by the monsoonal winds. Air masses of two opposite directions in winter and summer prevail over most of the land. Winter brings north winds and summer has south winds. These winds which interchange their directions seasonally in a year are called monsoons.

The winter monsoon comes from Siberia and the Mongolian People's Republic, where winter nights are long and the sunshine is weak. The air masses over these areas are very cold and dry. When sufficient cold air accumulates it explodes southward in a howling north wind, a cold wave. Dominated and influenced by such cold waves, the greater part of the country is cold and dry in winter, making China a comparatively cold country for its latitude. For instance, Huma County of China's Heilungkiang Province is almost the same latitude of London. However, the average January temperature in London is 4°C, while in Huma County it is 29°C below zero.

The summer monsoon includes both the southeast and southwest monsoons. The southeast monsoon arising over the Pacific Ocean influences mainly the eastern part of China. The southwest monsoon arising above the Indian Ocean influences China's southwestern regions. As it passes across the vast ocean surface, the summer monsoon brings abundant rains to the mainland. This is why the annual rainfall over the greater part of China is highly concentrated within the months of May to September. In ordinary years, the southeast monsoon moves the frontal rain belt northward to the lower and middle reaches of the Yangtze River in the middle of June and the rainy season in these areas begins. At the end of early July, the rain belt moves rapidly to north of the Huai River, bringing extensive areas of North China under heavy rain. When the monsoons are abnormal, drought or flooding occur over large areas.

The Moho region of Heilungkiang Province is above 53° north latitude. The climate there is that of the cold-temperate zone. China's southernmost land is the Tsengmu Reef, only 400 kms from the equator, with an equatorial climate.

China with her vast area has many kinds of terrain and climate. There are numerous peaks 7,000 or 8,000 metres high as well as low-lying land 100 metres below sea level. She has broad plains and extensive mountain ranges.



Winter in the Sunghua River valley in the Northeast.



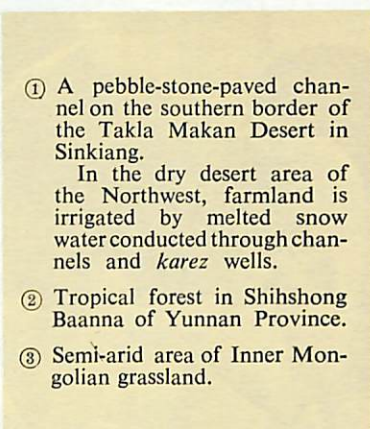
Early spring in the Yellow River valley. Farm workers spraying fruit trees with insecticide.

Many east-west ranges such as the Chinling Mountains and the Nanling Mountains block the cold waves from the north, and make the areas on the southern slopes warmer in winter. The Himalaya Mountains and the northeast-southwest ranges such as the Changpai Mountains, the Greater Khingan Mountains and the Taihang Mountains prevent the moist and warm summer monsoon from penetrating into the hinterland. As a result, rainfall is much heavier on windward slopes than on the other sides.

China has a wide variation in temperature. In winter the north is bound in ice and snow. Heilungkiang Province in the northernmost part has a prolonged winter of over seven months while in southern regions such as Kwangtung, Kwangsi and Yunnan, grass and trees are green all year round. Shihshong Baanna of Yunnan Province and Hainan Island of Kwangtung Province are tropical, complete with shady coconut trees. In the Yellow River and the Yangtze River valleys of central China, the seasons are sharply defined. The Yunnan-Kweichow Plateau in the southwest has a mild winter and a cool summer. In the "Spring City" Kunming, capital of Yunnan Province, flowers are in full bloom the year round. But northern Tibet at 4,000 or 5,000 metres above sea level is snow-bound from one end of the year to the next.

China has also an extremely varied pattern of precipitation. The annual rainfall in the southeast ranges from 1,000 to 2,000 mm. With 6,000 mm. Huoshaoliao in northeastern Taiwan Province has the heaviest annual average rainfall in China. The northwest hinterland, on the other hand, has an annual precipitation of less than 200 mm. or even no rainfall at all in some places. Farmland in this region is irrigated mainly by the melting snow or underground water conducted through *karez* wells. In the middle and lower reaches of the Yangtze River rainfall concentrates in spring, and summer is dry. The north, northeast and southwest China have dry springs and rainy summers. The northwest is always sunny while Szechuan and Kweichow in the southwest is cloudy and drizzly most of the time.

High temperatures and plentiful rainfall in summer over most of the country is conducive to high-yield crops, such as rice and cotton. Though the northwest hinterland is dry, its high temperature, strong sunlight and the wide difference in temperature between the day and the night are assets to plant growth. When water is provided, these factors contribute to high yields and good quality of the area's grain, cotton, melons and fruit. Owing to the varied climate China has rich plant resources.



① A pebble-stone-paved channel on the southern border of the Takla Makan Desert in Sinkiang.

In the dry desert area of the Northwest, farmland is irrigated by melted snow water conducted through channels and *karez* wells.

② Tropical forest in Shihshong Baanna of Yunnan Province.

③ Semi-arid area of Inner Mongolian grassland.



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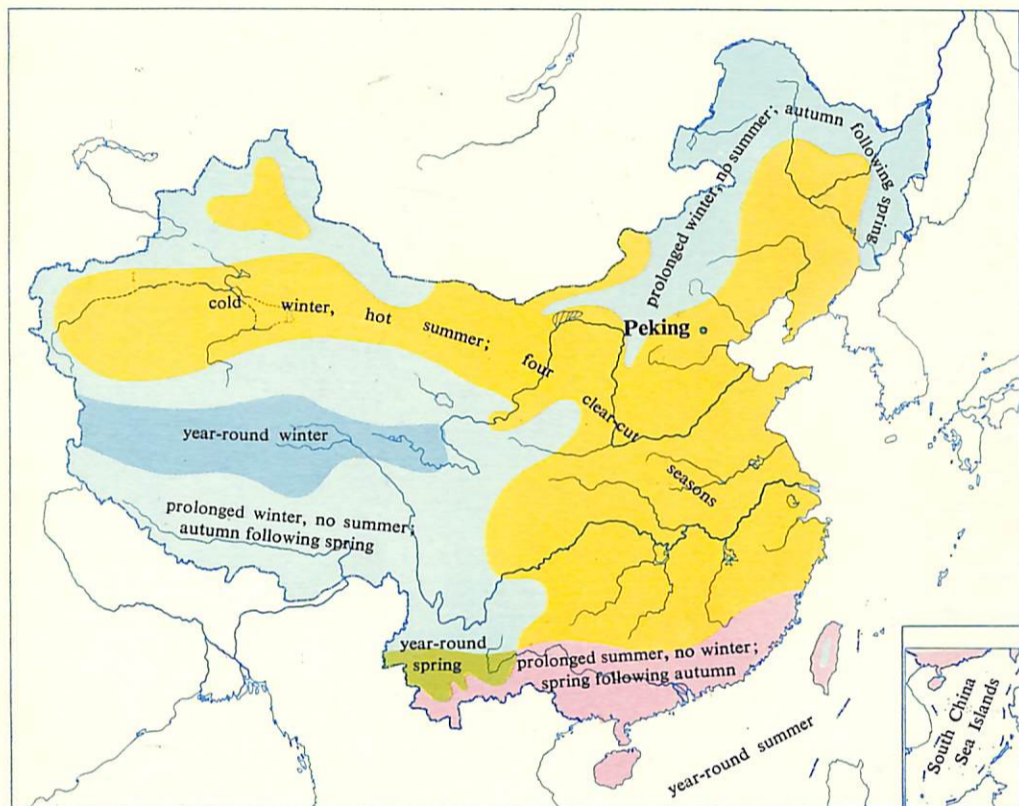
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Spring along the Fuchun River, Chekiang Province in the Yangtze River valley.

Sketch Map of Seasons in China



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③

Oil-palm, a tropical plant, thrives on Hainan Island even in winter.



On the Yunnan-Kweichow Plateau it's spring all year round.



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