

PEKING REVIEW

42

October 14, 1977

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President Ahidjo Visits China

Reminiscences of Chairman Mao

**Why Did the "Gang of Four" Attack
"The Twenty Points"?**

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北京周報

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President Ahidjo Visits China

HUA KUO-FENG, Chairman of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of China and Premier of the State Council, on October 6 met Ahmadou Ahidjo, President of

the United Republic of Cameroon, and the other distinguished Cameroonian guests accompanying him on an official visit to China.

The leaders of the two countries expressed pleasure at the development of the friendly relations between China and Cameroon since the establishment of their diplomatic relations and, in particular, since President Ahidjo's visit to China in 1973. They also expressed the conviction that these friendly relations will be constantly consolidated and developed by the joint efforts of the two sides.

On their arrival in Peking on October 4, President Ahidjo, his wife and their party were welcomed by Chairman Hua, Vice-Premier Li Hsien-nien and



President Ahidjo, in the company of Chairman Hua, waving to the welcoming crowds at the airport.

his wife Comrade Lin Chia-mei, Vice-Chairman of the Standing Committee of the National People's Congress Ngapo Ngawang-Jigme as well as several thousands of people in the capital. A welcoming ceremony was held at the airport.

On the evening of that day, the State Council gave a grand banquet in honour of President and Madame Ahidjo and the other guests. At the banquet Vice-Premier Li Hsien-nien and President Ahidjo delivered speeches. (For excerpts of the speeches see pp. 14 and 15.)

Vice-Premier Li Hsien-nien and President Ahidjo held talks in Peking. In the company of the Vice-Premier, President Ahidjo paid his respects to the

remains of Chairman Mao Tsetung at the Chairman Mao Memorial Hall. Accompanied by Vice-Chairman Ngapo Ngawang-Jigme, the President watched a sports exhibition. Vice-Chairman of the N.P.C. Standing Committee Teng Ying-chao called on President and Madame Ahidjo at the Guest House.

An agreement on economic and technical co-operation between China and Cameroon was signed in Peking on October 7.

That same day, President Ahidjo and his party left Peking on a visit to the southern parts of China.

On October 10, they left Nan-king by special plane for home via Shanghai.

While at the chicken farm, Chairman Hua said: To do a good job of chicken raising, attention should be paid to scientific research. When he learnt that the farm had sent people abroad to study and had already made some improvements by applying advanced foreign experience to their own conditions, he said: That's good! You should think of ways to make the hens lay more and bigger eggs and you should take preventive measures against diseases.

At the pig farm, he said: Attention should be paid to scientific research so as to increase the number of piglets per litter and the survival rate and make the pigs gain weight more rapidly. He also gave the instruction that the question of pig feed should be properly solved.

On October 4, the Peking municipal Party committee and the municipal revolutionary committee held meetings attended by 550,000 people to convey Chairman Hua's instructions, and issued the call to achieve self-sufficiency in the supply of eggs and pork in three to four years.

Vice-Chairman Teng Meets American Scientists

Vice-Chairman Teng Hsiao-ping on October 8 met with American physicists Dr. Chien-shiung Wu and Dr. Chia-liu Yuan and gave a banquet in honour of them and their son and daughter-in-law.

(Continued on p. 24.)

Chairman Hua Inspects Mechanized Chicken and Pig Farms

CHAIRMAN Hua Kuo-feng made an inspection tour of the Hunghsing (Red Star) Chicken Farm and the Experimental Pig Farm in the suburbs of Peking on September 22. During his inspection, he gave instructions concerning the mechanization of pig and chicken raising and the city's learn-from-Tachai movement. Chairman Hua wrote the inscription: "Sum up experience and promote the mechanization of pig and chicken raising to meet the people's needs."

At present, a large part of the eggs and pork supplied to the residents of Peking are shipped in from other parts of the country.

Early this year, Chairman Hua issued the following instruction: Speed up the mechanization of pig and chicken raising to achieve Peking's self-sufficiency in the supply of eggs and pork. This will not only relieve the pressure on transport and reduce losses but also supply fresh eggs and pork to the local people. It was under Chairman Hua's concern that the Hunghsing Chicken Farm and the Experimental Pig Farm developed.

Chairman Hua also stressed during his inspection that the spirit of self-reliance and hard struggle should be upheld in mechanizing pig and chicken raising.

and overall growth of the national economy and to consolidating the dictatorship of the proletariat, "The Twenty Points," guided by Chairman Mao's line, principles and policies, repudiated some of the fallacies spread by the "gang of four" and presented specific ways and means to rehabilitate industrial enterprises.

What was in the document that made the gang hit the ceiling? Here are a few passages from it:

1. "They also pay lip service to the Party's basic line but actually brush aside the struggle between the two classes and the two roads; instead of grasping this principal contradiction, they devote all their time to creating contradictions between one faction and another within the ranks of the people, as well as contradictions between veteran and new cadres. A few ring-leaders up to their ears in bourgeois factional activities scramble for power and gain, build up their own mountain strongholds, and create splits so that there is no peace in enterprises, localities and the Party."

2. "They wave the banner of opposing restoration of the old in order to restore old things, and wave the banner of opposing restoration while working to restore capitalism. They sabotage the revolution, disrupt production and get rid of good Party cadres, advanced and model personages as well as advanced collectives, so that bad elements hold sway while good people are pushed around."

3. In a few enterprises, "petty intellectuals who have not remoulded themselves and 'bolder elements' are in power. These people, who are politically ignorant and completely inexperienced in production, go in for high-sounding rhetoric, do no useful work and are ready at any moment to accuse people of 'restoring the old,' 'retrogression,' 'conservatism' or the like, thus suppressing the initiative of the cadres and masses." In some enterprises "bad elements are in power. Using the position and power they have usurped, they perpetrate whatever evils they please, win some people over to their side and corrupt them, and build up their own power base and influence. At the same time, they strike at good revolutionary cadres and workers by bringing up false charges against them, and

set up a dictatorship of the bourgeoisie to effect a restoration and retrogression." "The grave situation in these units has remained unchanged for a long time because it has the backing of some people behind the scenes." It is necessary "to shake up those leading bodies which are in the hands of the petty intellectuals who have not remoulded themselves and the 'bolder elements' and seize back power usurped by bad persons."

4. "There must be a concrete analysis of acts of rebellion and going against the tide. It is all-important to distinguish which class is to be rebelled against and determine the political nature of the tide to be stemmed. What is correct should be upheld; what is wrong, criticized. One must reject what is reactionary, and go on to examine and criticize it. One must especially guard against a few bad elements engaged in sabotage under the signboard of 'rebellion' and 'going against the tide.' Leading cadres must at all times stick to principle, and not test which way the wind blows. They must not be taken in by grandiloquent words or scared by frightening accusations, to say nothing of handing over power." "Anyone who uses 'rebellion' and 'going against the tide' as political capital to demand an official post or seek admission into the Party will get nothing; nothing but criticism."

5. "Without a powerful development of the social productive forces, the socialist system cannot possibly be fully consolidated; to push production under the command of revolution has nothing to do with the 'theory of the all-importance of the productive forces' or 'placing vocational work in command' and we must never criticize this as such."

6. As for "production management, rules and regulations—these are always necessary, and will be necessary even ten thousand years from now. The question is what line to follow and whom to rely on for carrying them out. To give up industrial management and rules and regulations in general inevitably leads to a state of anarchy."

7. "To write off or wreck overall planning will result in haphazardness which provides ground for the rampancy of capitalism, accom-

panied by disintegration and destruction of the socialist economy."

8. "Persevere in independence and self-reliance, oppose servility to things foreign and moving at a snail's pace, but never get complacent and conceited, lock the door against the outside world or refuse to learn things that are good from other countries."

All these were written in September 1975. What they were driving at is self-evident. The "gang of four" had spread so many fallacies, committed so many outrages, the aftermath of which was very serious. Weren't people entitled to make a bit of criticism? If the fallacies were not criticized and the problems brought on by the gang's sabotage left untackled, how could the dictatorship of the proletariat be consolidated and the socialist economy advance? Of course, as we read this document today, we find some understatements, and some points not correctly presented. For instance, in dealing with the contradictions between two factions, it merely exposed the question of bourgeois factionalism incited by the gang but failed to point out the essence of their crime, namely, reversing the relationship between ourselves and the enemy and instigating the bourgeoisie to attack the proletariat. Another instance is the presentation "petty intellectuals who have not remoulded themselves and the 'bolder elements'" — this failed to provide an adequate portrayal of the so-called "advanced elements" whom the gang relied on. These swashbuckling rascals were not exactly "politically ignorant" since they were quite capable of engaging in counter-revolutionary politics.

As counter-revolutionaries the "gang of four" and its hatchmen had keen noses. They clearly sensed that these statements were directed at them. So they said "The Twenty Points' are terribly bellicose." "There's a mailed fist between the lines." They falsely charged that the document aimed at "discrediting the Great Cultural Revolution," that "the attack is spearheaded against the proletarian revolutionaries" "in a vain attempt to detach those advanced elements daring to rebel and go against the tide from the ranks of the working class." They asserted: "The Twenty Points' says that some people who are able to make so much trouble that enter-

prises, localities and the Party can have no peace at all, have the backing of somebody else behind the scenes; this is a mad, head-on attack against the leading comrades of the Party Central Committee."

The "gang of four" and its henchmen used to call themselves "exponents of the Great Cultural Revolution," "proletarian revolutionaries" and "advanced elements rebelling against the revisionist line." But here they inadvertently identified themselves as reactionaries and wire-pullers at the root of the disturbances that had been undermining the revolution and disrupting production and bringing no peace to enterprises, localities and the Party.

What is a "fragrant flower" and what is a "poisonous weed"? Different classes have different answers to this question. As far as the revolutionary people are concerned, "The Twenty Points" is a fragrant flower; to the "gang of four," however, it was indeed a poisonous weed for it clamped down on the counter-revolutionary revisionist line they were pushing. Small wonder that they flared up and wantonly attacked it.

What Was the "Gang of Four" Against?

The "gang of four" used all the news media under its control to launch a large-scale counter-revolutionary attack on "The Twenty Points." What sort of things did they "criticize" and oppose?

One. The "Gang of Four" Was Against Chairman Mao's Directives on Studying the Theory of the Dictatorship of the Proletariat, on Stability and Unity, and on Pushing the National Economy Forward. An early draft of "The Twenty Points" once described these three directives from Chairman Mao as "the key link." (In subsequent drafts made after October 8 this was changed to "taking the Party's basic line as the key link.") The "gang of four," however, played this up, saying that this document "denies that class struggle is the key link," and "tampers with the Party's basic line" "in order to restore capitalism." This was out-and-out slander and a malicious false charge. Class struggle as the key link runs through the contents of "The Twenty Points." Having assembled numerous facts about the existence of class struggle and analysed the situation in the class struggle, it



Workers putting up posters criticizing the "gang of four."



A political study session before work.

pointed out that "the struggle on the industrial front between the two classes, the two roads and the two lines is extremely fierce," adding that it was necessary to grasp "this principal contradiction," "to uphold the Party's basic line, criticize the revisionist line, capitalist tendencies and bourgeois factionalism and resolutely deal blows at the class enemy's sabotaging activities." In expounding Chairman Mao's three directives, it clearly pointed out "the necessity for placing primary importance on studying the theory of the dictatorship of the proletariat to promote stability and unity, and develop production." All this was written down in black and white. Could it be that the "gang of four" were blind and failed to see it? Not at all. They were just opposed to Chairman Mao's three directives.

One of the despicable methods they adopted was to treat the three directives as mutually exclusive, so that whoever said that these three directives from Chairman Mao were closely interrelated, whoever spoke of conducting

study in the theory of the dictatorship of the proletariat, promoting stability and unity and developing the national economy, would be accused of practising "eclecticism," "tampering with the Party's basic line" and "denying class struggle." In fact the only kind of class struggle they favoured was one of the bourgeoisie attacking the proletariat. They branded good cadres who followed Chairman Mao in making revolution "capitalist-roaders" and spoke of them as the target of the revolution. On the other hand, those who took their cues from the gang — riffraff, gangsters, newborn bourgeois elements and counter-revolutionaries — were hailed as "revolutionaries." The aim of their kind of class struggle was to bring chaos to the country under the dictatorship of the proletariat, seize the supreme power of the Party and state and restore capitalism.

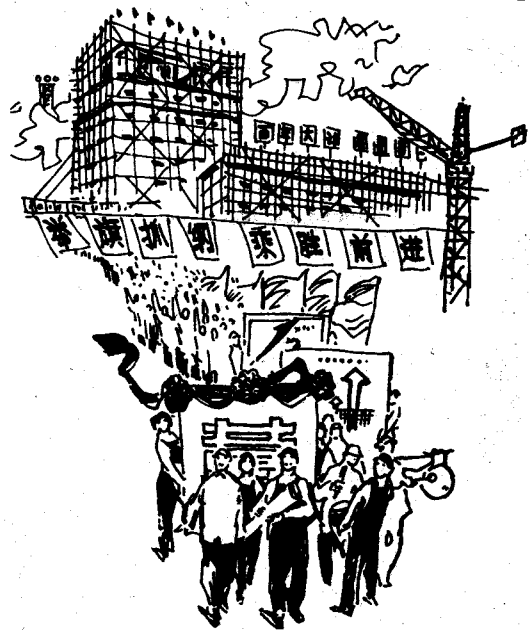
Two. Against the Realization of the Four Modernizations. "The Twenty Points" in its preamble responded to the call of the Second Plenary Session of the Party's Tenth Central



Banner over iron and steel plant:
"Working hard for socialism is glorious."

Committee and the Fourth National People's Congress to accomplish the comprehensive modernization of agriculture, industry, national defence and science and technology within this century so that our national economy will rank among the most advanced in the world. It also pointed out that the question of the speed of industrial development is a sharp and weighty political question. This the "gang of four" attacked vehemently, saying that "The Twenty Points" dwelt "solely on modernization without mentioning revolutionization, on the development of the productive forces without mention of effecting changes in the relations of production and the superstructure," that such "modernization is a fake, and opposing revolutionization is the reality," that "in the name of accelerating industrial development, capitalist restoration is accelerated" and so forth. "The Twenty Points" dealt extensively with the need to uphold the Party's basic line, to strengthen Party leadership, to rely on the working class wholeheartedly and to implement the **Charter of the Anshan**

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Task completed, construction workers reporting the good news to the Party committee.

Sketches by Chung Chih-hung

Iron and Steel Company (for contents of the charter see *Peking Review*, No. 14, 1977, p. 3). Wasn't all this for the purpose of persevering in the continued revolution under the dictatorship of the proletariat and strengthening the socialist superstructure and socialist relations of production? When the gang turned a blind eye to all this, its aim was to cover up its opposition to the four modernizations as if it was not opposed to modernization itself but only to modernization not under the command of revolutionization. Citing a few examples suffices to tear off its painted mask.

In the spring of 1975, when the Fourth National People's Congress reiterated Chairman Mao's magnificent plan for developing our national economy, Chang Chun-chiao immediately came forward to attack the four modernizations, which, he said, "means no more than growing several hundred million tons of grain and producing tens of millions of tons of steel." Yao Wen-yuan put it more brazenly. Commenting on a passage in "On the General Programme for All

Work of the Party and the Country" which said that we can certainly build our country into a powerful socialist state within this century, he wrote: "Is restoration so certain? A pipe dream!" Here obviously he slandered building a modern, powerful socialist country as "restoration" and a "pipe dream." One of the gang's trusted followers in Shanghai went so far as to shout: "What modernization, it's fascistization all right." An article published in the Shanghai *Wenhui Bao* said: "The so-called 'four modernizations' can be traced back to the 'foreign' pharmacy founded by Li Hung-chang* and his ilk." This is a frenzied attack on Chairman Mao, on his great call for the construction of a modern, powerful socialist country.

Three. Against the Socialist Planned Economy and Industrial Management. One of the important tasks of the dictatorship of the proletariat is to organize and manage the socialist economy. The proportionate and high-speed development of economy under the centralized leadership of the state and in accordance with a unified plan is the fundamental feature of the socialist system. Lenin pointed out: "**The transformation of the whole of the state economic mechanism into a single huge machine, into an economic organism that will work in such a way as to enable hundreds of millions of people to be guided by a single plan — such was the enormous organizational problem that rested on our shoulders.**" (*Extraordinary Seventh Congress of the R.C.P. (B)*, 1918.) He also stated: "**Without comprehensive state accounting and control of the production and distribution of goods, the power of the working people, the freedom of the working people, cannot be maintained, and that a return to the yoke of capitalism is inevitable.**" (*The Immediate Tasks of the Soviet Government*, 1918.)

In order to strengthen the unified state plan, "The Twenty Points" stipulated that "all localities and departments must have the overall interests in mind and safeguard centralization

* Li Hung-chang (1823-1901), a senior court official of the late Ching Dynasty, was leader of the "Westernization" group. He consistently fostered capitulationist and treasonable proposals, and attaining the position of decisive policy-maker in the Ching Government, paved the way for the imperialist penetration of China.

and unification" and that they must not "formulate policy at will or go against the state plan," nor should they "use materials and funds at random," "undertake capital construction projects that are not included in the plan" or "arbitrarily reset the prices of goods." These stipulations, claimed the "gang of four," were set to "curb" and "strangle" the enthusiasm and initiative of the local authorities and to "reverse the verdict passed on the 'direct and exclusive control of enterprises by the ministry concerned*.'" How absurd this is! According to the gang's twisted logic, strengthening the unified state plan means exercising "direct and exclusive control of enterprises by the ministry concerned" and bringing "enthusiasm and initiative" into play is possible only by violating the state plan. This shows that the kind of "enthusiasm and initiative" the gang wanted was nothing but capitalist recklessness in undermining the unified state plan. If "enthusiasm" like that were allowed to go unchecked, it would inevitably lead to capitalist laissez-faire.

For the purpose of fulfilling the unified state plan, "The Twenty Points" called for strengthening industrial management and drawing up or improving rational rules and regulations by relying on the masses. However, these proposals were vilified by the "gang of four" as "revisionist measures to control, curb and suppress" the workers. According to the gang, reliance on the masses was inconsistent with enforcing rules and regulations, and the workers' role as masters of the enterprises would be violated by the establishment of systems of responsibility. By such sophistry they incited anarchism and created confusion.

Four. Against Training a Contingent of Proletarian Technicians. Chairman Mao consistently urged people to strive to become

* This means a few top persons in the central ministries concerned could issue orders directly to enterprises in all parts of the country and exercise leadership over them. Enterprises of the same trade would thus make up a separate system operating by themselves, thereby liquidating the controlling power of the Party Central Committee and the local Party committees over the economy and negating the centralized leadership of the Party committees at various levels.

both red and expert. Yet, for the past few years, mention of this instruction of Chairman Mao's was virtually prohibited by the "gang of four." "The Twenty Points" included an item on this question, stressing the need to study certain subjects intensively and to place trust in scientific and technical personnel who were willing to serve the cause of socialism so as to bring their talents into full play. On this the "gang of four" heaped the calumny that it was advocating the "road of becoming bourgeois specialists" and the "line stressing reliance on specialists to run enterprises." Who did they direct their attack at?

As early as in 1955, Chairman Mao said: **"We have entered a period, a new period in our history, in which what we have set ourselves to do, think about and dig into is socialist industrialization, socialist transformation and the modernization of our national defence, and we are beginning to do the same thing with atomic energy."** "It is our task to adapt ourselves to this new situation, dig into our jobs and become experts." (*Speeches at the National Conference of the Communist Party of China, 1955.*) Again in 1957 in *On the Correct Handling of Contradictions Among the People*, Chairman Mao said: **"We should trust those [intellectuals] who are really willing to serve the cause of socialism and should radically improve our relations with them and help them solve the problems requiring solution, so that they can give full play to their talents."** He also especially stressed that the proletariat must have an army of intellectuals of its own, an army including all the intellectuals from the old society who take a firm working-class stand after having been genuinely remoulded, adding that **"the revolutionary cause of the working class will not be fully consolidated until this vast new army of working-class intellectuals comes into being."** (*The Situation in the Summer of 1957*). The "gang of four" attacked these concepts of Chairman Mao's that "The Twenty Points" publicized, thus exposing their true character as opponents of Chairman Mao.

Five. Against Introducing Foreign Advanced Techniques on the Basis of Independence and Self-Reliance. The "gang of four" also viciously

attacked passages in "The Twenty Points" on introducing and adopting advanced techniques from other countries. They groundlessly charged that it would "tie our industry's fate to the belts of foreign capitalists," turn our mines into "foreign concessions" and it "is a sell-out of our state sovereignty."

What after all did the document say that made the "gang of four" so furious? There were two points: One, the document said it was necessary to uphold the principle of integrating study with independent creativity and to import some advanced techniques from other countries in a planned way and selectively for our own use; the other, it proposed that, for the purpose of importing such techniques, we increase exports and, under conditions of equality and mutual benefit and in accordance with the usual practice of deferred payment or payment by instalments in international trade, have other countries supply us with complete sets of equipment to be paid for with coal and crude oil produced by us. What is wrong with these?

Chairman Mao consistently taught us that it was necessary to uphold the policy of maintaining independence and keeping the initiative in our own hands and relying on our own efforts, while at the same time it was necessary to learn from the successful experiences of other countries and combine learning with independent creativity so as to make foreign things serve China. In *On the Ten Major Relationships* Chairman Mao said: **"Our policy is to learn from the strong points of all nations and all countries."** **"In the natural sciences we are rather backward, and here we should make a special effort to learn from foreign countries."** To learn from and import some advanced techniques from other countries on the basis of maintaining independence and keeping the initiative in our own hands is advantageous to speeding up the development of our national economy and reinforcing our ability to develop the economy through self-reliance. Calling this "trailing behind others at a snail's pace" and "servility to foreigners," the "gang of four" simply confused black and white.

The policy of exporting industrial and mining products in exchange for complete sets

of equipment is a good policy which completely conforms to the fundamental interests of the proletariat. Lenin pointed out: **“Our chief interest is in obtaining as quickly as possible, from the capitalist countries, the means of production (locomotives, machinery, and electrical equipment). . . . We shall obtain the fundamentals that will help strengthen us; we shall stand firmly on our own feet, and shall win in the economic field.”** (*The Eighth All-Russia Congress of Soviets, 1920.*) Chairman Mao also pointed out on many occasions that we have coal, salt, iron ore and soy beans which we can exchange for goods from other countries. All the exports of important industrial and mining products and imports of complete sets of equipment in the past few years were approved by Chairman Mao. These were normal transactions conducted in accordance with the principle of equality and mutual benefit; no political conditions were attached, no foreign country was allowed to meddle in the business and management of our enterprises and no profits were handed over to foreign capitalists. What has this to do with “concessions” or “national betrayal”? It was sheer vicious slander for the “gang of four” to label the foreign trade policy of our socialist country laid down by Chairman Mao as one of capitulationism and national betrayal.

A Political Plot

The criticism of “The Twenty Points” and the other two of the so-called “three big poisonous weeds” was nothing but a political plot hatched by the “gang of four” to fabricate charges against Comrade Teng Hsiao-ping, who was then in charge of the work of the Party Central Committee, and a number of other leading comrades of the central authorities in an attempt to overthrow them and usurp the supreme leadership of the Party and state.

While the document was being prepared, responsible comrades of more than 20 enterprises and 12 provincial Party committees were asked for their opinions. They all warmly praised it, hoping it would be completed and released as soon as possible. In October 1975 when the document was submitted to the Political Bureau of the Party Central Committee for discussion, Yao Wen-yuan said that it was not

in proper shape, he had not yet seen it and he doubted whether it could be issued. As a matter of fact, he had seen the draft a month earlier and knew how opinions had been carefully sought out. Clearly, the purpose of his remarks was to obstruct discussion of the document.

However, early in 1976, the “gang of four” suddenly took a fancy to the document. Although it had never been discussed or issued, they searched out a hand-written copy, had it printed and distributed it in Shanghai for criticism. Not long after this, the gang’s hatchetmen in Fukien Province sent Wang Hung-wen a copy of an early draft of the document that was being privately circulated. The gang immediately ordered it printed in large numbers and organized criticism of it. Meanwhile, in Tsinghua and Peking Universities, then under the gang’s control, still another copy containing numerous errors was printed and circulated for criticism. After that, articles criticizing “The Twenty Points” began to appear in newspapers and periodicals.

This counter-revolutionary farce was premeditated, its staging carefully planned and organized. It was closely integrated with the “gang of four’s” whole scheme for usurping Party and state power and linked from start to finish with the counter-revolutionary aim of overthrowing a large number of central leading comrades.

From the very outset, the “gang of four” considered the criticism of “The Twenty Points” a bombshell in their attack against the comrades in the central authorities. They branded the document “a programme for restoring capitalism,” slanderously called Comrade Teng Hsiao-ping an “unrepentant capitalist-roader,” and contrived pretexts for striking down other central leading comrades. Chang Chun-chiao charged that the document “has put forward a revisionist line, complete with principles and policies; it peddles rubbish that has long ago been criticized, such as material incentives, profits in command, direct and exclusive control of enterprises by the ministry concerned, reliance on specialists to run factories, the ‘theory of the all-importance of the productive forces,’ the ‘theory of the dying out of class struggle’; and

its application of eclecticism is really unsurpassed," and so on and so forth. In criticizing the document, the media under the gang's control all danced to Chang Chun-chiao's tune.

After June 1976, when Chairman Mao was seriously ill, the gang stepped up their conspiratorial activities to usurp the supreme leadership of the Party and state. At the national meeting on planning work in July, they personally directed their trustees in Shanghai and Liaoning Province to attack leading comrades of the Party Central Committee and the State Council. In a *Renmin Ribao* editorial on August 11, Yao Wen-yuan castigated Comrade Hua Kuo-feng and other central leading comrades for their efforts in organizing anti-quake and relief work, accusing them of "using anti-quake work to suppress revolution." He added that "the ringleaders of the opportunist lines in the Party have always tried to make use of the temporary difficulties resulting from natural calamities to switch the orientation of revolution and restore capitalism." Here Yao Wen-yuan openly directed the spearhead of his attack at Comrade Hua Kuo-feng. On August 13, the gang ordered publishing houses in various parts of the country to publish the pamphlets compiled by the mass criticism group of Peking and Tsinghua Universities in criticism of "The Twenty Points" and the other two documents. On August 23, in a *Renmin Ribao* editorial, they called for bringing about a "high tide" in the criticism of the so-called "three big poisonous weeds." The following day, in the same paper, they published in the name of Hsinhua and *Renmin Ribao* correspondents a reportage on how criticism was carried out at Tsinghua University, in which the three documents were likened to Khrushchov's secret report and Lin Piao's "Outline of the '571 Project'" for a counter-revolutionary armed coup d'etat. They claimed that the criticism of the "three big poisonous weeds" "is a stunning blow at the capitalist-roaders who are still going the capitalist road."

In the short period from August 13 to October 6, *Renmin Ribao* alone published 110 articles criticizing the so-called "three big poisonous weeds." Most of them, written under pressure, did not represent the convictions of the authors themselves, who were in fact opposed to criticizing "The Twenty Points."

The "gang of four" published the pamphlets criticizing the "three big poisonous weeds" behind the backs of Chairman Mao and the Party Central Committee. They regarded this as a victory for their schemes and were for a time beside themselves with joy. They declared that the three pamphlets were "Central Committee documents though not put out in its name" and that their issuance was "an important strategic plan of Chairman Mao and the Party Central Committee." The publication of the three pamphlets, they said, was a matter "impinging on the overall situation," and "on big questions of the international communist movement and on not only the present but the future." "It surpasses all other work in importance and commands everything else." See how arrogant they were!

It was a big lie to say the issuance of the three pamphlets was "an important strategic plan of Chairman Mao and the Party Central Committee." The gang calculated that by launching such a tremendous offensive they would be able to overwhelm the masses, deceive some people into following them and achieve a fait accompli so that they could blame Comrade Hua Kuo-feng and other central leading comrades for either preparing or supporting the "three big poisonous weeds." Once the charge was established, the gang would then be able to overthrow all these leading comrades and take their places. Ambition had blinded them to reality. Like all reactionaries, they invariably overestimated themselves and underestimated the strength of our Party, the proletariat and the masses. Their boisterous melodrama served only to expose them. Originally people had no idea what sort of monstrosities were being referred to as the "three big poisonous weeds," but on reading them they learnt the truth. Indignant, they declared that the three documents were by no means "big poisonous weeds" but expressed exactly what was on their minds, and that the criticisms made by the "gang of four" were the real anti-Party, anti-Marxist big poisonous weeds. Contrary to the gang's expectations, criticism of the so-called "three big poisonous weeds" did not help them realize their wild ambitions of seizing the supreme leadership, but instead expedited their downfall!

Vice-Premier Li Hsien-nien's Speech

(Excerpts)

PRESIDENT Ahidjo is an old friend of ours. In 1973 His Excellency the President paid his first official visit to our country, of which cordial memories remain alive in the minds of our people. Our people's great leader and teacher Chairman Mao had a sincere and friendly meeting with His Excellency, and our respected and beloved Premier Chou En-lai held cordial talks with His Excellency. That visit marked a brilliant chapter in the annals of relations between our two countries. The revisit of His Excellency the President and Madame today gives us an opportunity to renew our friendship and fills us with exceptional joy and warmth.

This visit of His Excellency the President coincides with an important moment in China's history. In the no ordinary year of 1976, we stood a severe test and won the great, historic victory of smashing the "gang of four." Today, led by the Party Central Committee headed by our wise leader Chairman Hua and holding high the great banner of Chairman Mao, we Chinese people of various nationalities are inspired by the 11th Party Congress and are following its line and working hard to realize the strategic decision of grasping the key link of class struggle and bringing about great order across the land and to turn China into a great, powerful and modern socialist country by the end of this century.

At present, the situation in great Africa is excellent, just like that in the whole world. Since the end of World War II, movements for national independence and liberation have made sustained and irresistible advance, and one flag of national independence after another has been hoisted in Africa. In the flush of victory, the great African people are driving the imperialist colonial forces to a corner of southern Africa and encircling them. The Vorster and Smith racist regimes are being increasingly isolated and put in the passive position of having to re-

ceive blows. But the enemy will not lightly quit the stage of history; they will certainly put up a last-ditch counterattack and struggle. Recently, many heroic freedom fighters in Azania were unwarrantedly killed in prison. The Chinese Government and people most sternly condemn such fascist atrocities of the reactionary Vorster regime and express firm support for the people in southern Africa in their just struggle for national liberation. We are deeply convinced that the national-liberation struggle in southern Africa will win final victory and all the great African people will stand up so long as the African countries and people strengthen their unity, persist in struggle, maintain high vigilance and guard against the tiger while repelling the wolf.

Under the leadership of President Ahidjo, the Cameroonian Government and people are steadily advancing along the road of national independence. Externally, Cameroon pursues a policy of non-alignment, opposes imperialism, colonialism, hegemonism, Zionism and racism, supports national-liberation movements and maintains that the affairs of Africa should be settled by Africans. His Excellency President Ahidjo has constantly condemned the superpowers for their rivalry, expansion, aggression, interference and subversive schemes in Africa and called on African states to heighten their vigilance. Cameroon has maintained good-neighbourly and friendly relations with other countries, actively promoted African unity, worked for the peaceful solution of disputes between African countries free from interference by foreign forces and actively stood for the strengthening of the unity and co-operation of third world countries. The above-mentioned just stand of His Excellency the President has won extensive praise and respect among the people of China and all other countries. The influence of Cameroon has been steadily growing in Africa and in the world as a whole. At home, His

Excellency. President Ahidjo has devoted his efforts to strengthening the country's unification and national unity, thus laying a good foundation for Cameroon's national development and prosperity. The Cameroonian Government has advocated the Cameroonization of cadres and investments, attached importance to the development of agriculture and put forward the slogan "self-centred development." It has achieved marked successes in developing the national economy and building the country. We sincerely wish the fraternal Cameroonian people continuous new successes on their road of advance.

Both China and Cameroon are developing countries belonging to the third world. Our similar lot and common desires link us together. We have always sympathized with and supported each other in the just struggle against imperialism, colonialism and hegemonism. The friendship between our two peoples is sincere, and the development of the friendly relations and co-operation between our two countries is satisfactory. We are sure that this second visit by His Excellency President Ahidjo to our country will open up fine prospects for the further development of the friendly relations and co-operation between our two countries.

President Ahidjo's Speech

(Excerpts)

WE find ourselves once more in China, filled with the emotion one usually has on setting foot in a country with such a rich history, inspired by the everlasting memory of Chairman Mao Tsetung whose passing away, one year ago, constitutes an immense loss commensurate with his great role in the service of China's development and his contribution to the history of mankind.

It is true that of late your country has gone through particularly distressing times with the loss of such eminent personalities like Mr. Chou En-lai, the venerable Premier, and Mr. Chu Teh, Chairman of the National People's Congress. They were both prominent leaders of the Chinese people and great comrades-in-arms of Chairman Mao Tsetung.

We like to seize the opportunity of our presence here to renew our most sincere condolences to the Chinese people for these painful losses.

On the other hand, it is our pleasure to note that through a happy turn of events, our second visit to China falls immediately after the 11th Congress and the meeting of the new Central Committee of the Chinese Communist Party.

These important assemblies which were held in an orderly manner, in discipline and enthusiasm were a great success and they provide

us the opportunity to sincerely congratulate the Chinese people, the new leaders of the Party and, more especially, Chairman Hua Kuo-feng for having succeeded in maintaining the unity and cohesion of the Party and, consequently, of the Chinese nation. This undoubtedly shows that the clear and efficacious policy of the great helmsman shall be pursued in the interest of the great people of China.

By mobilizing the Chinese people for this "extraordinary leap forward which will place the country and its economy in the forefront of the world's nations by the end of this century," by setting order, economic development and strengthening of national defence as its objectives, by laying emphasis on the determination to "strengthen unity with the oppressed peoples and nations of the whole world, to strengthen the links with third world countries . . . in order to build a joint force against hegemony, by deciding to establish and to foster relations with all countries on the basis of the Five Principles of Peaceful Coexistence," your 11th Congress has demonstrated the basic concerns shared by many countries and Cameroon in particular, and has thus facilitated our co-operation at the bilateral and international levels.

Indeed, Cameroon, like China, after shaking off the colonial yoke and eliminating division

imposed from outside after the Peaceful Revolution of May 20, 1972 — the result of a long march towards regained national unity, is now pursuing a policy of self-reliant development whose goal is to ensure the full development of Cameroonians in all spheres. This policy which is carried out by Cameroonians for Cameroonians corresponds, if I may repeat, to your firm resolve to count mainly on yourselves even if the national effort must be shored up by international co-operation.

Speaking about co-operation and Sino-Cameroonian co-operation in particular, it is our pleasure to say that it is sincere, realistic and just, and it gives us entire satisfaction insofar as it is carried out under the best conditions for the mutual benefit of our people and the respect for our sovereignties and national identities, and with a common conviction that our goals are the same despite our different systems because our common objective is to ensure the total advancement of the people whose destiny has been placed in our hands.

Indeed, the common interest of our peoples should encourage us to further strengthen our various bonds within the context of peaceful coexistence, independence and mutual respect. This is why China and Cameroon, which both belong to the group of third world countries and participate also in the great family of Afro-Asian solidarity are working wholeheartedly to defend just causes in the world.

These just causes include the new world economic order which must lead to consideration being given to the legitimate aspirations of the third world to equity and concerted progress, the democratization of international relations which must guarantee the effective participation of all peoples in defining the common destiny of mankind; they include, lastly, the struggle for the triumph of justice, equality and freedom in the world. More specifically, if you permit us to stress on this point, these just causes mean the respect for the sovereignty of peoples having non-interference as a corollary, especially at a time when Africa is the theatre for influence despite its deep desire for peace, independence, justice and progress.

We are of the opinion that peace, equality, justice and freedom which are absolutely necessary for the advancement and development of

all peoples are indivisible, and must be respected everywhere in the world, particularly in Asia, the Middle East and Africa. But it is unfortunate that such is far from being the case.

Thus, while we can rejoice at the fact that after a heroic struggle, the people of Indochina have regained control of their destiny, the situation in the Middle East continues to require our efforts in order to guarantee peace in this area of the world by ensuring the liberation of occupied Arab territories and the national rights of the Palestinian people.

In southern Africa, the conservative racists who are supported by numerous acts of complicity and now resort to nuclear blackmail, arrogantly refuse to let the majority have the free exercise of its unalienable rights in Namibia, Azania and Zimbabwe where a retrograde racial discrimination and blind terror prevail in spite of condemnation by all right-thinking people. Confronted with such arrogance, we must show proof of the same determination to give our whole support by whatever means to the oppressed majority in its struggle against domination, for the respect of its legitimate rights, dignity and majority rule.

Equally, numerous hotbeds of tension, fanned by foreign interference which we must condemn energetically, risk, if we are not careful, to increase and intensify fratricidal wars on our continent.

Africa, a continent which has suffered most from colonialism and racial domination, must understand that discord and wrangling can only but weaken it, divert its energies from its important task of total liberation and development of its peoples and that conflicts between African states must be settled through peaceful means as dictated by African wisdom.

It is our pleasure to underscore the important role played by the People's Republic of China in the pursuit of the objectives that our states have jointly or severally assigned themselves within the context of Afro-Asian solidarity which is an essential link in the vast assembly of third world countries. It goes without saying that our burning desire is to see this important contribution, which we fully appreciate, further reinforced in the interest of peace, justice and world progress.

Reminiscences of Chairman Mao

September 9 this year was the first anniversary of the passing of our great leader and teacher Chairman Mao. The country's newspapers published many articles in memory of his revolutionary activities and his close ties with the people. Following are excerpts from some of the articles. — Ed.

Where "The East Is Red" Originated

THE east is red, the sun rises. China has brought forth a Mao Tsetung. He works for the people's happiness, he is the people's great saviour." This is the first verse of *The East Is Red*, a song composed by a folk-singer Li Yuyuan (1903-55) in Shensi Province's Chiahsien County, northwest China, to express the love of the Chiahsien people as well as the people of the whole country for Chairman Mao and the Communist Party of China.

In the War of Liberation (1946-49), on August 16, 1947, Chairman Mao, Vice-Chairman Chou En-lai and the Party Central Committee temporarily withdrew from Yen-an and arrived in Chiahsien County. During the 98 days of his stay, Chairman Mao directed the well-known Shachiatien campaign which reversed the war situation in northwest China.

In Chiahsien, Chairman Mao passed through more than 30 villages and towns, including Chu-kuanchai and Shenchuanpao. Today, Chiahsien's veteran Party members, guerrilla fighters and old poor peasants often recall the days 30

years ago when Chairman Mao lived together with them.

The incursions of the Kuomintang reactionary troops and natural disasters had brought great suffering, so that at that time the Chiahsien people were living in dire poverty. Chairman Mao ate sorghum gruel the same as the local people. Uneasy about this, the county Party committee secretary Chang Chun-hsien went to see Chairman Mao on behalf of the people of the whole county and brought him two sheep. But Chairman Mao said that since the local people were very poor he would rather eat what they did, and wrote a note giving the sheep to the sick and wounded soldiers.

After the Shachiatien campaign, Chairman Mao and Comrade Chou En-lai consulted with Chang Chun-hsien. Could the Chiahsien people sustain another battle? Chang replied that the Chiahsien people were fully determined to support the front. He told Chairman Mao how much grain and how many sheep the county had, adding that if the grain and sheep were not enough, they would slaughter donkeys and oxen. Hearing this, Chairman Mao asked how they would plough their fields the next spring without donkeys or oxen. He told Chang that no matter what difficulties the army faced, the peasants should not slaughter even one draught animal.

Chairman Mao lived for a month in Chu-kuanchai, a village of about 30 households. On learning that one of the peasants, Chu Wen-chun, was ill, he sent a doctor to see him and



Chairman Mao working with the peasants in northern Shensi.

Oil painting by Shang Teh-chou

arranged for other people to help him through the wheat-planting season. Today, many commune members recall how Chairman Mao, learning that many households had almost no grain left to eat, sent people to organize them to help each other solve their difficulties together, one household after another.

Chairman Mao lived and worked in Shenchuanpao for over 50 days. The villagers will never forget the events of that time. It was a busy autumn harvest time. As soon as Chairman Mao arrived, he sent the soldiers to help gather in the crops. Later, during the planting season, Chairman Mao ordered the departments under the Party Central Committee to allocate wheat, which the army had managed to save, to family members of martyrs and army men and to peasants who lacked seed grain.

Chairman Mao resided in 13 villages in Chiahsien County at different times. Whenever

he left, he and the other comrades always cleaned the rooms and courtyards they had occupied, returned all borrowed articles and paid for anything damaged according to its price. All this left a deep impression on the local people.

That autumn, the Chiahsien county Party committee held a cadres' meeting. Chairman Mao paid them a special visit and wrote an inscription for them which read: "**Take the side of the largest majority of the labouring people.**"

Fifty Years Ago

COMRADE Yang Kai-chih is the elder brother of revolutionary martyr Yang Kai-hui (1901-30), close comrade-in-arms and wife of Chairman Mao. Events of 50 years ago still live vividly in Comrade Yang's memory.

Yang's father, Yang Huai-chung, was teaching ethics and philosophy at the Hunan Provincial No. 1 Normal Institute during the years 1913-18 when Chairman Mao studied there. Chairman Mao and some progressive students often visited the Yang family where they discussed state and world affairs. The whole Yang family respected him and supported Yang Kai-hui in taking the revolutionary road together with him.

Yang Kai-hui died a martyr's death in 1930 at the hands of the Kuomintang reactionary butchers. In accordance with Chairman Mao's instruction, the three children were sent to a Shanghai kindergarten run by the underground Party organization. Later, owing to the enemy's sabotage, the three children became dispersed and lost contact.

After 1927 the family of Yang Kai-chih lived in the midst of the white terror for 22 years. After the liberation of Changsha, provincial capital of Hunan, on August 5, 1949,

Yang Kai-chih sent a telegram to Chairman Mao. In his reply dated August 10, Chairman Mao first stated how glad he was that old Mrs. Yang, his mother-in-law, was in good health, and then went on to tell them that both boys "An-ying and An-ching are in Peiping (present-day Peking). An-ching is still in school. An-ying may go back to Hunan to work. They both want to see their grandmother." In the message, Chairman Mao also expressed his concern about how the Yang family was getting along.

At the bidding of Chairman Mao, the boys went to Hunan, one in 1950, the other in 1951, to see their relatives and to visit the grave of their mother. When old Mrs. Yang died of illness in 1962, Chairman Mao sent the family a message of condolences. In it, he wrote, "As to the burial, let her rest in the same grave with my dear wife, Comrade Yang Kai-hui." He added: "Our two families should be considered as one, one without any distinction between the members."



Chairman Mao and Comrade Yang Kai-hui.

Oil painting by Hsu Pao-chung and Li Tse-hao

In Chairman Mao's Home Town

Chen Yu-ying, a nursemaid in Chairman Mao's family 50 years ago, is now 82. She recalled how warm Chairman Mao and his wife Comrade Yang Kai-hui were towards her when she first went to work at their house in December 1926. Comrade Yang Kai-hui said to her: You come to help us and we are all on an equal footing, as friends. At that time, Chairman Mao often worked late into the night. Sometimes Chen went out to get him something to eat and invariably Chairman Mao insisted on giving her a portion. On October 14, 1930, Chen was arrested together with Comrade Yang Kai-hui and her eldest son Mao An-ying. After the death of Yang Kai-hui, Chen and the boy were rescued.

After the country-wide liberation in 1949, Chen Yu-ying went to Peking four times at Chairman Mao's invitation. During a two-hour talk with Chairman Mao in June 1957, she spoke at length about Comrade Yang Kai-hui's unyielding spirit in the teeth of the enemy's threats and torture. When she touched on Yang Kai-hui's deep love for the Chairman and her hopes for their son, An-ying, tears welled up in Chairman Mao's eyes and he said with deep feeling: Kai-hui was such a fine person! And An-ying's a good boy! He also told Chen: You had shared weal and woe with Kai-hui. Seeing you today — it seems as if I have seen Kai-hui again. Why not come to Peking every year to see how construction is advancing here.

At Spring Festival 1958, Chairman Mao asked Chen's daughter to spend the holidays in the capital. Noticing her thin clothes, he asked his secretary to buy warmer ones for her. In 1960, he told the General Office of the Party Central Committee to send her a copy of the just-published Volume IV of the *Selected Works of Mao Tsetung*. This girl, who had once gone out begging with her mother before liberation, was then a student at the Wuhan Art College in Hupeh Province.

THE old folks of Shaoshan, Chairman Mao's home village in Hunan Province, will never forget how Chairman Mao and his wife Yang Kai-hui led the peasant movement there half a century ago. In early 1925, Chairman Mao went from house to house to talk with the poor peasants in the day time, while evenings were spent in teaching the whys and wherefores of revolution at one or another of the 20-odd peasant evening schools which he had set up.

The truth of Marxism roused the people. One summer evening in 1925, four poor peasants were admitted into the Chinese Communist Party. Chairman Mao presided over the pledge-taking ceremony, which was held in the attic above his bedroom, and announced the establishment of the Shaoshan branch of the Party. With Mao Fu-hsuan, who joined the Party in 1922, as secretary, this Party branch was one of the first staunch bastions of the proletariat in China's countryside.

In January 1927, Chairman Mao went back to Shaoshan to investigate the peasant movement. There were by then more than 230 Party members in that area.

During the years of revolutionary wars, the five earliest Party members nurtured and tempered by Chairman Mao in Shaoshan all laid down their lives for the revolution. They displayed the Communist Party members' sterling quality of steadfastness to the end. Six members of Chairman Mao's family died heroically in the revolutionary struggle. They are: Chairman Mao's wife and close comrade-in-arms Yang Kai-hui, his two younger brothers Mao Tse-min and Mao Tse-tan, his cousin Mao Tse-chien, his eldest son Mao An-ying and his nephew Mao Chu-hsiung. The fight for the cause of communism waged by the family members of Chairman Mao has set a brilliant



Chairman Mao's home
in Shaoshan.

example for the Shaoshan people as well as for the whole country.

During the first Spring Festival following country-wide liberation in 1949, Chairman Mao sent his eldest son An-ying back to Shaoshan to call on the people of the village. An-ying propagated the Party's policy on land reform, and mobilized the Shaoshan people to struggle against the landlords and divide the land.

The Shaoshan poor and lower-middle peasants wrote a letter to Chairman Mao in 1955 telling him about the progress they had made in the mutual aid and co-operation movement in the wake of land reform. Chairman Mao wrote back: "Very glad to hear that the mutual aid and co-operation movement has made headway. Hope you continue your efforts."

On June 25, 1959, to the great joy of the local people, Chairman Mao returned to his native village after a 32-year absence. Group after group of villagers came to see him. Wherever he went, there were scenes of jubilation. There he met Ho Chu-ying, aged widow of Mao Fu-hsuan, the first secretary of the Party

branch of Shaoshan. Claspng her hands, Chairman Mao said to her: Mao Fu-hsuan was a good comrade who sacrificed his life for the revolution. He died in glory.

Chairman Mao also inspected the Shaoshan People's Commune, encouraging commune members to take up scientific farming and strive to increase grain output. He advised the cadres to persist in seeking truth from facts and to consult the masses whenever problems cropped up. In the morning of the 26th, he visited the Shaoshan school, and inquired about the revolution in education there. Before leaving he posed for a picture with the teachers and students.

That evening, Chairman Mao had a dinner with veteran Party members, and members of the poor-peasant association, self-defence corps, children's corps and women's association. Chairman Mao was in such high spirits that he couldn't go to sleep, and he wrote a poem entitled *Shaoshan Revisited* in which he extolled the brave, revolutionary spirit of the Shaoshan people. The full text of the poem reads as follows:

Shaoshan Revisited

— a "Lu Shih"

June 1959

I visited Shaoshan on June 25, 1959 after an absence of thirty two years.

Like a dim dream recalled, I curse the long-fled past —

*My native soil two and thirty years gone by.
The red flag roused the serf, halberd in hand,
While the despot's black talons held his whip aloft.*

*Bitter sacrifice strengthens bold resolve
Which dares to make sun and moon shine in new skies.*

Happy, I see wave upon wave of paddy and beans,

And all around heroes home-bound in the evening mist.

Cherishing Memories of Chairman Mao

THE noted physicist Chien San-chiang likes to recall an unforgettable meeting with Chairman Mao in January 1955 when the Chairman presided over a special meeting to study the development of China's atomic science.

Having listened to the reports, Chairman Mao inquired about some related matters and pointed out: So long as we have people and resources, all sorts of miracles can be performed. He spoke on the utilization of atomic energy, and the inner structure of the nucleus. He explained, with a gesture: An atom is a unity of opposites because there is the nucleus and the electrons; in the nucleus there is again a unity of opposites, the protons and the neutrons. One divides into two — this is a universal phenomenon. Protons, neutrons as well as electrons are also divisible. Now this has not been proved by scientific experiment, yet under advanced experimental conditions, it will be proved. Chairman Mao added with a smile: Do you believe this? If you don't, anyway I do. Now the philosophical concept of the "infinite divisibility of matter" has been supported by evidence from a series of scientific experiments.

Chiang Szu-chang, a doctor from the P.L.A. General Hospital, joined the medical team set up specially for Chairman Mao from December 1974 until his passing away. Chiang said: I've been practising medicine for 40 years, but I've never seen a patient like Chairman Mao who was so staunch and optimistic in the face of pain and discomfort. During his illness, Chairman Mao persisted in work and study as before, sometimes continuing at a stretch for over ten hours a day. Even while he was seriously ill, he still asked others to read books to him.

Chairman Mao never winced or groaned while undergoing painful treatment, but instead, often talked with a sense of humour to ease the tension and worry of the medical personnel. He said: It doesn't hurt. Don't worry, take your time. When the severe earthquake struck Tangshan July last year, Chairman Mao was in a critical condition. News of the losses in lives and property brought tears to his eyes. He was deeply concerned about the people's safety and well-being until his last breath.

Forty years ago, partly paralysed microbiologist and popular science writer Kao Shih-chi went to Yanan, capital of the revolutionary base areas. He still remembers vividly his first meeting with Chairman Mao. He was introduced to Chairman Mao at a New Year's party in 1938 and the Chairman shook hands with him warmly. Under the Chairman's concern, the authorities provided him with a nurse to look after him and a secretary to help him, so that he might work better for the revolution. When he was admitted into the Communist Party in 1939, he reported it to the Chairman, who immediately wrote back encouraging him to strive to be a model Party member and to fight for the realization of the lofty ideal of communism.

On recalling Chairman Mao's teachings, this veteran scientist expressed his determination to continue his efforts to write more popular science books for young people to help train a contingent of promising scientists for the motherland. He wants to do all he can to realize the magnificent plan set forth by Chairman Mao and Premier Chou — the modernization of agriculture, industry, national defence, science and technology by the end of this century.

Carry Through the Struggle to Repudiate The "Gang of Four"

OCTOBER 6 this year was the first anniversary of the smashing of the "gang of four." To mark the occasion, newspapers in Peking and elsewhere published an editorial by *Renmin Ribao*, *Hongqi* and *Jiefangjun Bao*.

Entitled "Carry the Great Struggle to Expose and Criticize the 'Gang of Four' Through to the End," the editorial said that on October 6 last year, Chairman Hua led the nation in smashing the "gang of four." The development of the situation over the past twelve months has been better than anticipated. Marxism-Leninism-Mao Tsetung Thought has been popularized on a still wider scale than before, the people's political understanding has been raised to an unprecedentedly high level, a lively political situation is beginning to take shape, the people's enthusiasm for socialism formerly smothered by the gang has burst forth like a volcano and both revolution and production have taken on a new look. All this, the editorial added, demonstrates that the present struggle to expose and criticize the "gang of four" is of great significance and far-reaching influence.

The editorial went on to point out that we have achieved great successes thanks to our efforts in steadfastly implementing the Party's policies and relying on the masses to concentrate our attack on the gang and the handful of its sworn followers. In a few areas and units, however, the leadership is still lagging behind the masses. Hence the tardy development of the movement there. This situation must be quickly changed. The advanced units should,

on their part, carry on their work in a deep-going and meticulous way.

After the crushing of the "gang of four," we have first of all focused our efforts on exposing and criticizing the gang's political scheme to usurp Party and state leadership and then brought to light and criticized the history of the four as a bunch of counter-revolutionaries. The editorial called on the whole nation to press ahead and fight the third battle successfully, which is to expose and criticize the ultra-Right essence of the gang's revisionist line and its various manifestations. The influence of the gang's revisionist line is widespread and has manifested itself in various fields including economy, politics, ideology, culture, military and Party affairs. Members of the gang reversed the relationship between ourselves and the enemy, trumpeted idealism and metaphysics and had for a time confused people's minds. It is therefore an arduous and long-term task to deepen the exposure and criticism of the gang both theoretically and with regard to the question of line, and do away with the gang's pernicious influence.

It is essential, the editorial added, to expose and criticize the gang in the light of the actual conditions of each area and unit and set to rights things that were turned upside down by the gang.

Marxism develops in the course of struggle, the editorial pointed out. The current struggle will help popularize and develop Marxism-Leninism-Mao Tsetung Thought. Only through struggle can we gain better results in studying Marxism and get an accurate and comprehensive understanding and grasp of the system of Mao Tsetung Thought.

The editorial called on the Party committees at various levels to take the current struggle as the central task and the people to thoroughly eliminate the pernicious influence of the "gang of four" in all fields.

All-Out Drive for 100 Days

ALL-OUT Drive for 100 Days" was the title of an editorial carried on September 20 in *Renmin Ribao*. It called for still greater efforts in the remaining 100 days of this year to fulfil in an all-round way the annual state production quotas and to strive to outstrip these quotas by as wide a margin as possible.

Inspired by Chairman Hua's strategic decision to grasp the key link of class struggle and bring about great order across the land, the editorial said, the Chinese working class has through hard struggle in the first six months of this year succeeded in putting an end to the situation in which production was bogged down and in some cases plummeted as a result of the interference and sabotage by the "gang of four." Thus a turn for the better, which is of great significance, has been effected. Under the guidance of the correct line of the 11th National Congress of the Party, workers on the industrial, communications and transport fronts have launched mass campaigns to learn from and catch up with advanced units and individuals. The situation is excellent.

The editorial pointed out that though we have achieved considerable success, there remain many difficulties and our task is arduous. But these are merely difficulties we are bound to meet on our road of advance. We Communists always take an optimistic attitude

towards difficulties and have the ways and means to overcome them. Leading bodies at various levels should mobilize the masses, rely on them and lead them to surmount whatever difficulties that may crop up. Still greater efforts should be made in fuel production, power generating, transport and the production of raw materials and light industrial goods and products for aiding agriculture, because their rates of increase still fall far short of the needs of socialist construction.

The editorial called on leading bodies at all levels to act in accordance with dialectics. They must, while giving priority to key projects and strengthening the weaker links, ensure a balance in all fields of work so as to fulfil the 1977 plan in an all-round way. The editorial called for better arrangements of the day-to-day work for the remaining 100 days. At present, it added, taking the situation of the nation as a whole, coal production, electricity generating and transport are the weak links. Determined efforts should be made to boost power output in a relatively short period of time. All capital construction projects in the power industry scheduled to be commissioned this year should be put into production as quickly as possible. Moreover, plans should be mapped out to practise economy in the use of electricity.

In conclusion, the editorial called on the nation to combine revolutionary vigour with a scientific approach and work in a down-to-earth way to bring to fruition the task of achieving some initial successes this year as set by Chairman Hua.

(Continued from p. 4.)

Dr. Wu and Dr. Yuan came to China to visit relatives and tour the country. They arrived in Peking on September 16. Fang Yi, Member of the Political

Bureau of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of China and Vice-President of the Chinese Academy of Sciences, met and feted them the following day.

Vice-Chairman Teng on October 10 met and had a cordial conversation with Professor Lee C. Teng, American high-energy accelerator specialist, and his wife Nancy H. Teng.

Friendship Notes

Visit to a Newborn Island Country

The warmth and hospitality of Papua New Guinea made a strong impression on the Chinese Chungking Acrobatic Troupe, which visited that newly founded country in the south Pacific in mid-July. The troupe gave 12 performances during their 18-day stay there. Wherever they went they found friendship.

The opening performance took place in the Hubert Murray Open-Air Stadium in Port Moresby, capital of Papua New Guinea, on a rainy, windy evening. Despite the adverse weather, the stadium was packed. The stage props were soon wet and slippery and the wind made the balancing acts even more difficult. But with the spectators applauding and shouting their encouragement, plus the firm determination and skilled technique of the acrobats themselves, performances were successfully carried out one after another. *Kicking Bowls on a Dangling Ladder* is not at all easy. While perched on a ladder dangling continuously, the performer toes nine bowls and a flower vase on to his head, after which he must kick a bouquet into the vase. Just at this critical moment in the item, some puffs of wind suddenly dangled the ladder more precipitously. Unperturbed, the performer chose a moment when the wind abated and lightly flipped with his right toe the flowers into the vase. This took the spectators by storm.

Every effort was made to give as many people as possible a chance to see the show; special performances were given for the pupils of the primary and middle schools of Port Moresby and the city of Lae. Rural areas, universities and hospitals were also covered. The skill of the performers was rated high by the audiences, but what interested them more, as many of the spectators remarked, was the acrobats' healthy expression and optimism, which "sincerely reflected the industriousness, bravery and wisdom as well as the revolutionary spirit of the Chinese people." The Acting President of the University of Papua New Guinea said to the troupe: "To gain independence politically and economically, our young people must have a spirit of independence. Our inviting you is precisely for the purpose of learning from your young people's spirit."

The government leaders and people of all walks of life of Papua New Guinea contributed to the success of the performances through their support and co-operation. Many hospitable friends on their own initiative helped the troupe transport luggage and stage props. The day before the arrival of the troupe at Port Moresby, an army engineering corps gave up its weekend leave to help speed up the construction of a stage in a stadium. The stage was ready the next day. Dockers of Port Moresby moved four big, heavy containers to form a barricade against the strong wind

which was causing a certain amount of difficulty.

Songs and Dances of Bangladesh

The Bangladesh Cultural Delegation which paid a visit to Peking not long ago brought both friendly feelings of its people for the Chinese people and a richly varied programme of dances and songs.

The *Manipuri Dance*, a tribal dance from the Sylhet area, is performed by a group of girls dancing gracefully during a serene, tropical evening under a full silvery moon, expressing their confidence in a bright future. When it was presented this time, the director introduced a new feature at the end of the item—six of the dancers, each holding a silver plate of flower petals, danced down from the stage and scattered the petals among the audience to express their friendliness to the Chinese people.

The militant dance *Call of the People* pictures the heroism of the Bangladesh people in fighting against the colonialist forces. When the bugle call to march pierces the darkness of the night, wives in red sari are calmly sharpening battle-knives in the moonlight. With both hands, they present these to their husbands who are preparing to leave, and encourage them to defend their home villages and motherland. On the battlefield flashing with knives and swords, the brutal enemy is finally defeated. The wives welcome the fighters back with garlands, and a victory celebration is held. The whole dance



One performance by the Bangladesh Cultural Delegation.

is particularly memorable for its many powerful and splendid anaglyph-type stage poses.

There are at least 64 kinds of hand gestures in the ancient Bangladesh dance to express rich ideas and sentiments. Up to 500 shades of meanings can be expressed by combining hand, eyebrow and eye movements. The dance *Jhankar* was choreographed according to ancient dance techniques to the accompaniment of musical instruments.

The Bangladesh people are good at singing as well as dancing. The Cultural Delegation presented many songs during its tour. In the item *The Sun Rises From the East*, singers sang fervently and movingly: "The time to smash fetters has come, and the days of oppression are drawing to an end; let's hold our banner high and frustrate the enemy's plot." Living among the people over a long period, the Bangladesh folk singers are quite familiar with their demands, aspirations, sorrows and joys. They often play the ectara (one-stringed musical instrument) and sing in

the moonlight for the villagers who have been working in the fields all day, to help dispel their fatigue and encourage them to work harder.

The Chinese people are not strangers to Bangladesh culture and art; friendly contacts between the two peoples has a history of over a thousand years. In 1965, artists of the Chinese Tung Fang Song and Dance Ensemble learnt some dances from their Bangladesh counterparts then visiting China. The Bangladesh *Ankle-Bell Dance*, which they learnt to perform, was retained as an item in the repertoire of the present Cultural Delegation, and ranked high among the most memorable performances.

Cultural Interflow

An arts and crafts exhibition from Florence, Italy, was held between August 5 and 14 in Hangchow. While there, members of the exhibition group visited the Hangchow Tapestry Mill, the West Lake Bamboo Ware Factory, the Chekiang Museum and scenic spots around West Lake.

Earlier on, the exhibition was on view in Nanking.

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At the exhibition hall of Chungshan Park in Peking, crowds of visitors viewed with great interest a collection of Yugoslav posters showing the social and political outlook of the country. It is scheduled to be shown in other parts of China.

Sports Exchanges

- In August, the Chinese men's volleyball team toured Chile, Ecuador and Argentina and the Chinese men's basketball team visited Chile and Mexico.

- The Chinese men's and women's youth volleyball teams paid a visit to Canada in mid-August. Before this, they took part in the volleyball championships of the Pacific coast in Hawaii, U.S.A. Early in September, they attended the first world youth volleyball championships in Brazil.

- On football fields in Peking, the skills of the African football players were greeted with stormy applause from Chinese spectators. This was when the Guinea (Bissau) national football team, the Chad national football team and the army football team of the Sudan visited the Chinese capital.

- A visit to China was once made by delegations of Japanese players of baseball and softball, favourites of the Japanese people. And not long ago, China dispatched a baseball study delegation and a women's softball delegation to Japan. Studies and matches further

strengthened mutual understanding and friendship.

Chinese University Sportsmen in Sofia

China attended the Universiade '77 held in Sofia between August 12 and 28. The last such international contest China attended in Italy in 1959 was the first universiade ever held.

Of the ten items of competition embracing track and field events, swimming, diving, gym-

nastics, basketball and volleyball, China took part in the women's basketball and volleyball matches, men's gymnastics and some of the men's and women's track and field events. The Chinese men's gymnastic team ranked third in the team event, while the women's volleyball and basketball teams came in fifth.

While in Sofia, the Chinese sportsmen met many friends of physical culture circles and made many new acquaintances

including athletes attending the games and Bulgarian spectators. Many people expressed their hopes that China would attend more international contests like this and that they themselves would have a chance to visit China.

The Chinese athletes paid their respects to Georgi Dimitrov, the great leader of the Bulgarian people and an outstanding activist of the international workers' movement, at his tomb.

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The United States, too, has over the past few years actively improved its strategic nuclear weapons and developed new ones, including MX mobile ICBMs and Trident strategic missile-submarines. At the same time, it is concentrating on the production of cruise missiles. Therefore, in the SALT II, the Soviet Union has kept pressing for limitation on this new type of weapon. The United States, however, has persistently demanded that the Soviet Backfire bomber be included in the ceiling of strategic weapons agreed upon by both sides, while excluding the U.S. cruise missile from it. Thus, each side is trying to achieve military supremacy by developing its own strength and restricting its opponent.

Under such circumstances, the U.S. decision to produce cruise missiles immediately caused great concern in Moscow. *Pravda* in an article attacked the United States for "beginning a new round of the arms race" and "moving on to the path of stepping up military preparations." But the attack did not stop Washington. The U.S. President announced as another move the production of neutron bombs to be used as tactical nuclear weapons and expressed his readiness to deploy them in Western Europe.

As the nuclear strength of the two superpowers is roughly on a par and the Soviet expansion of conventional forces continues, more

and more people in the United States are beginning to see as a real possibility the outbreak of a large-scale conventional war in Europe, the focus of the superpowers' contention. Therefore, while developing new nuclear weapons, the United States is also intensifying the development and production of conventional weapons. Its expenditures on "the forces for general tasks" will increase from 38,200 million dollars in the current fiscal year to 42,000 million in the 1978 fiscal year mainly for the renewing of equipment and building of ammunition reserves.

The ultimate purpose of the two superpowers in their frenzied arms race is to seize world hegemony by means of war. As a matter of fact, while intensifying arms expansion, both are making intense war deployments on a global scale, primarily in Europe. The Soviet Union has deployed most of its naval vessels in waters around Western Europe, strategically encircling it from the seas with a view to cutting U.S.-European sea connections and the supply of strategic raw materials and oil to Western Europe once war breaks out. Besides, more and more frequently the two superpowers have staged large-scale military manoeuvres very close to real war. In their rivalry for domination over Europe, both sides are locked in fierce competition along the southern flank of Europe — the Middle East, the Mediterranean and the African areas. The factor for war as a result of superpower rivalry is obviously on the increase.

ROUND THE WORLD

DEMOCRATIC KAMPUCHEA

Growing All the Grain It Needs

Since the war ended, the Kampuchean people under the correct leadership of the Communist Party of Kampuchea have developed agriculture in a big way through their own efforts. They have scored a major achievement — growing all the food grain they need.

After liberation in April 1975, the Communist Party of Kampuchea adopted a policy of taking agriculture as the foundation with stress on the development of paddy-rice production. The problem of labour was solved rapidly by the Party mobilizing large numbers of people in the cities to go to the countryside. At the same time, big efforts were made to develop livestock breeding, draught oxen in particular. The country to-

day has over one million head of cattle and half a million buffaloes. Large numbers of farm tools were made by organizing handicraftsmen to make use of discarded war material. This was a factor in the rapid rehabilitation and development of agriculture.

Attaching great importance to transforming the relations of production, the Communist Party of Kampuchea has vigorously unfolded a movement for agricultural co-operation. Agricultural co-operatives emerged in liberated areas as early as during the revolutionary war. Since the nationwide liberation, the agricultural co-operatives have grown both in number and scale. Co-operatives with 100 to 200 households have been expanded to include 700-1,000 households. The liberation of the productive forces has opened up broad prospects for agricultural development.



Agricultural co-op members at the threshing ground.

“Transform Kampuchea’s rivers and mountains!” “Be the master of the waters!” These are the battle cries of the Kampuchean people. About one-third of the country’s cultivated land is levelled and irrigated. By 1976, one-tenth of the paddyfields were producing two crops. These efforts contributed to bumper grain harvests. Kampuchean-grown grain now feeds the country’s approximately 8 million people and a surplus is exported.

BANGLADESH AND INDIA

Agreement on Sharing Ganges Water

On September 29 in New Delhi, Bangladesh and India reached an agreement on sharing the Ganges water. It includes interim arrangements between the two countries for sharing the water at the Farakka Barrage and for finding a solution to the long-term problem of augmenting its flow.

The agreement provides that during the period of minimum volume of flow (55,500 cusecs) from April 21 to 30 every year, India will draw water at that point at the rate of 20,800 cusecs or 37.5 per cent, and Bangladesh at the rate of 34,700 cusecs or 62.5 per cent.

India built the Farakka Barrage near the Bangladesh border in 1971, diverting the river water into the sea at the port of Calcutta and washing away filthy mud there. This brought serious losses in irrigation, navigation and fishery to Bangladesh, which lies in the lower reaches of the Ganges.

An agreement on the joint exploitation of the water re-

sources was reached between Bangladesh and India in May 1974. It stipulated that before a solution acceptable to both sides was sought to the question of apportioning the water of the international river Ganges, India would not use the Farakka Barrage. However, India has violated the agreement by unilaterally withdrawing water from the Ganges at this point. Thus, the sharing of the Ganges water is a major problem between the two countries. In recent years, negotiations on the question have been held on many occasions between the two governments.

ARGENTINA

Soviet Fishing Fleet's Intrusion Into Territorial Waters Protested

The Argentine Foreign Ministry handed the Soviet Embassy in Buenos Aires a note on September 24 and one on the 27th protesting against intrusion into Argentine territorial waters and illegal fishing by Soviet vessels.

On September 22 the Argentine navy found 19 Soviet fishing vessels with no flags, poaching within the country's 200-mile territorial sea limits. Four of them were captured. The Argentine authorities confiscated the fish and fishmeal aboard the trawlers. The vessels are still under detention at Puerto Madryn, a port 1,100 kilometres south of Buenos Aires.

On September 26 Argentine warships took another Soviet vessel into custody for fishing within the country's territorial waters. It was one of a large Soviet fleet which had escaped

pursuit by the Argentine navy on September 22.

Argentina declared its 200-mile territorial sea limits in 1966. The Argentine Foreign Ministry demanded that the Soviet Union stop its illegal fishing activities, which "infringe national legislation with respect to sovereignty."

However, on October 1 a large Soviet fleet was discovered to have intruded into Argentina's territorial waters for fishing in the San Jorge Gulf off the coast of Patagonia and two of them were captured. On that day the Argentine authorities again lodged a strong protest with the Soviet Union.

Intrusion into Argentine territorial waters by Soviet vessels poaching for fish three times within ten days has completely exposed the Soviet fishery overlords.

ZAGREB

40th Anniversary of Founding of Communist Party of Croatia

A meeting commemorating the 40th anniversary of the founding of the Communist Party of Croatia was held on September 27 in Zagreb, capital of Yugoslavia's Republic of Croatia. It was attended by Josip Broz Tito, President of the League of Communists of Yugoslavia; Stane Dolanc, Secretary of the Executive Committee of the Presidency of the Central Committee of the L.C.Y.; and others.

Addressing the meeting, Milka Planinc, President of the Central Committee of the League of Communists of Croatia, recalled

the founding of the Communist Party of Croatia under the direct leadership of President Tito and its subsequent struggle. "In its tough yet triumphant course," she said, "the Yugoslav working class led by the Communist Party has grown from an oppressed class denied of its rights to the leading force of the revolution."

She noted that "in new, socialist Yugoslavia, it has taken Croatia a few decades only to become a modernized industrial Republic from an underdeveloped agricultural land."

In his speech at the meeting, President Tito reviewed the course of the revolutionary struggle of the Yugoslav Communist Party and the Croatian Communist Party. "All the Yugoslav people — the Serbians, the Croatians, the Slovenians, the Macedonians, the Montenegrins, the Bosnians and the Herzegovinans — have taken part in our struggle. This is why we succeeded in standing up to all the trials and tribulations of the war and winning ultimate victory; this is the greatest exploit performed by our Party."

Dealing with the international situation, President Tito said: "Today, the world is again on the brink of an international conflict." More and more conflicts had been provoked among the non-aligned countries from without, he added.

He appealed for the resolution of the existing issues among non-aligned nations by means of negotiations and expressed the wish to see more countries join the ranks of the non-aligned states.

ON THE HOME FRONT

Child Health Care

REGULAR physical checkups for expectant mothers mark the first step of children's health care in China.

Modern delivery methods, which are being popularized step by step, plus prenatal checkups and post-natal care all effectively ensure infant viability. In the old days when the labouring people were cruelly oppressed by the imperialists and domestic reactionary rulers, however, mortality rate for babies under 12 months in some places, especially in villages, ran as high as 200 per thousand due to crude and unsanitary methods of midwifery and shortage of medical services. This was also brought about by such factors as poverty, feudal and superstitious ideas and lack of knowledge about hygiene.

Tetanus, a disease most responsible for infant deaths before liberation, is now a rare oc-

currence. Infant mortality in the rural areas of northeast China's Holung County, inhabited mainly by the Korean nationality, has plummeted from 75 per thousand in the early liberation days to 9.2 in 1976.

China carries out the child health work in compliance with Chairman Mao's teaching of "taking good care of the children's health," and follows the principle of "giving treatment early when there is disease and taking beforehand preventive measures in the absence of disease."

A child is given a BCG vaccination immediately after birth, and at the age of from two months to seven years receives regular prophylactic inoculations against a dozen or so diseases such as smallpox and measles. A certain kind of sugar-coated pill is given at regular intervals to children from two months to seven years old to prevent infantile paralysis. All vaccines and med-

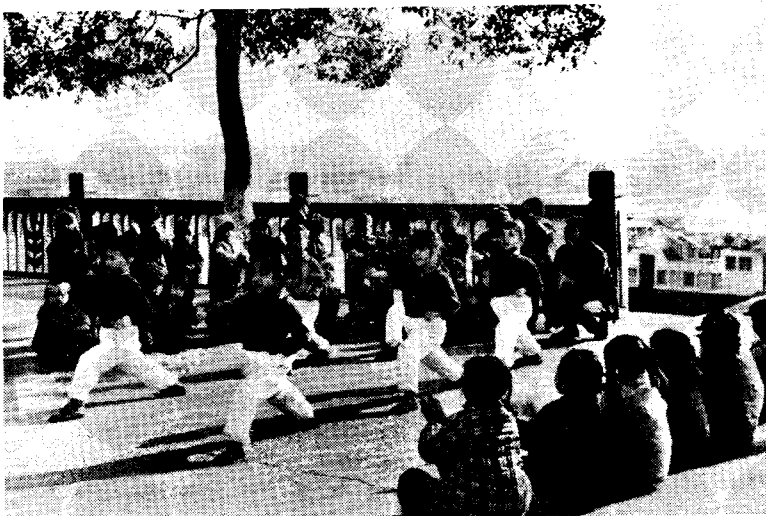
icines are provided by the state free of charge. Inoculations and dispensing of medicines in the rural areas are taken care of by barefoot doctors who are at once medical practitioners and farm labourers; while in the cities, these functions are performed by health stations set up in residential quarters.

More and more nurseries and kindergartens have mushroomed across the country. Many factories and government organizations in the cities have set up their own. Day-nurseries run by neighbourhood committees are common in the urban areas. Rural nurseries and kindergartens are set up during busy farming seasons in production brigades. The 1.8 million barefoot doctors there are playing an important role in child health care at the grass-roots level.

The labouring people in old China could hardly keep themselves from hunger and cold, let alone provide their children with rational nourishment. Physical growth of many children suffered when they were forced to do physical labour inappropriate to their age for a living. Still worse, they were prone to fall victim to disease. At that time there were only three children's hospitals in China with a total of 173 beds. Large numbers of children died of starvation and illness.

Today the situation has completely changed. Many big and medium-sized cities throughout the country have their own children's hospitals and there are paediatrics departments in the polyclinics.

Combining traditional Chinese medicine with Western



Keeping themselves fit.

medicine in treating acute paediatric appendicitis, the Peking Children's Hospital devised a method which markedly shortens the time for hospitalization, checks fever quickly and avoids unnecessary laparotomy.

The Peking Friendship Hospital has succeeded in using mainly traditional Chinese medicine instead of antibiotics in the treatment of infantile pneumonia. Among the 600 cases of bacterial pneumonia the hospital has handled over the last four years, only two deaths occurred. Thus the idea of relying solely on antibiotics to treat pneumonia has been changed.

Better and better health services and improved people's livelihood have resulted in a marked rise in children's physical standards. In 1975 the Chinese Academy of Medical Sciences' Paediatrics Institute organized medical workers of nine cities and their suburban areas to make an anthropometric survey of 270,000 children under 17 years. Compared with the similar data of pre-liberation or post-liberation surveys, measurement of weight, height as well as chest and head circumferences all showed improvement in the survey. This clearly demonstrated that initial successes have been achieved in New China's efforts to improve children's health.

In north China's big city Tientsin, physical checkups — followed by medical treatment when indicated — are given to 900,000 preschoolers every year. When the city made an investigation of 2,000 infants in factory-run nurseries in spring this year, not a single case of rickets or malnourishment was discovered.

Over the last several years, barefoot doctors in east China's Jutung County have co-ordinated with commune clinics in providing comprehensive medical checkups annually for 90 per cent of the preschool children. They have achieved good results in treating trachoma with a locally available medicinal herb *Cortex phellodendri* and in dealing with intestinal worms with a dosage made from the tender skin of the roots of *Melia azedarach*. Statistics from this county show that the rate of incidence of diseases common and recurrent among children was reduced from 45.1 per cent in 1973 to 27.8 per cent in 1976.

Lively sports activities have helped build up the children's health. Setting-up exercises performed to music broadcast over the radio have been popularized by the state for children of different ages; and kindergarten kids in many areas have learnt how to do eye-protection massage. In recent years many cities have organized children's sports competitions which include such recreational items as running-races, relay-races, ball-bouncing and rope-skipping. Primary school pupils in the cities and countryside go in for basketball, football, Chinese boxing and swordplay and track-and-field activities.

Northeast Forest Area

STRINGS of railway cars loaded with logs are constantly moving out to various parts of the country from the Greater Khingan Mountains whose vast slopes are covered by primeval forests.

The Greater Khingans in the northernmost province of Heilungkiang have one of the

largest forest areas in the country. Dense stands of larch, Mongolian pine and birch covering more than 130,000 square kilometres have made the place famous as a "green treasure house." In this region the frozen period lasts for eight months a year, with the coldest temperatures falling to 50 degrees below zero. The rich virgin forests lay neglected in pre-liberation days, the trees dying and rotting year after year. After the founding of New China, the area was surveyed and on this basis plans were worked out for its exploitation and use.

There are now scores of forest farms dotting this formerly wild area. Many railway branches and highways have been built and all the work of felling trees, loading and unloading logs, transport and sawing lumber mechanized. Each farm has a town or a major residential quarter with a population between several thousand and a hundred thousand. Besides rows of neat houses, there are stores, schools, hospitals, workshops processing farm and side-line products and timber processing plants. Every forest farm runs hundreds of felling centres around which many new villages have sprouted.

Workers' wives and other dependents living on the farms have been organized to go in for agriculture. During busy planting or harvest seasons lumberjacks help with the farm work, and during tree-felling seasons peasants join forestry work. Now, the forestry farms and agricultural farms have altogether reclaimed 46,000 hectares of land for growing grain or vegetables and raising livestock.