

PEKING REVIEW

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March 31, 1978

Raise the Scientific and Cultural Level of the Entire Chinese Nation

Hua Kuo-feng

Basic Principles of "Manifesto of The Communist Party" Always Remain Fresh

Real Deeds, Yes; Hollow Statements, No!

"Renmin Ribao" Commentator on Sino-Soviet relations

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Chairman Hua Speaks at National Science Conference

Speaking at a plenary session of the National Science Conference on March 24, Chairman Hua Kuo-feng issued the call to the whole Party, the whole army and the people of all nationalities throughout the country to make determined efforts to "raise the scientific and cultural level of the entire Chinese nation." (For full text of his speech see p. 6.)

Before this plenary session, representatives to the conference held lively discussions at group meetings on Vice-Chairman Teng Hsiao-ping's speech and Vice-Premier Fang Yi's report.

Chairman Hua's speech was also discussed after it was delivered.

The nation's media gave wide coverage of the conference. Letters, cables and

presents have been pouring in from all over the country since March 18, the day the conference opened. Working personnel of the conference have been busy handling the vast numbers of letters and cables sent in expressing support for the conference. Among the presents mailed from various parts of the country are scientific treatises, a prescription of traditional Chinese medicine handed down for four generations, calligraphy, paintings, scripts as well as seals carved to mark the occasion. The representatives were greatly moved to learn that a boy and his younger sister had sent two red scarves to be presented to the two oldest scientists at the conference.

Vice-Premier Li Visits Bangladesh

The relations of friendship and co-operation between China and Bangladesh have steadily

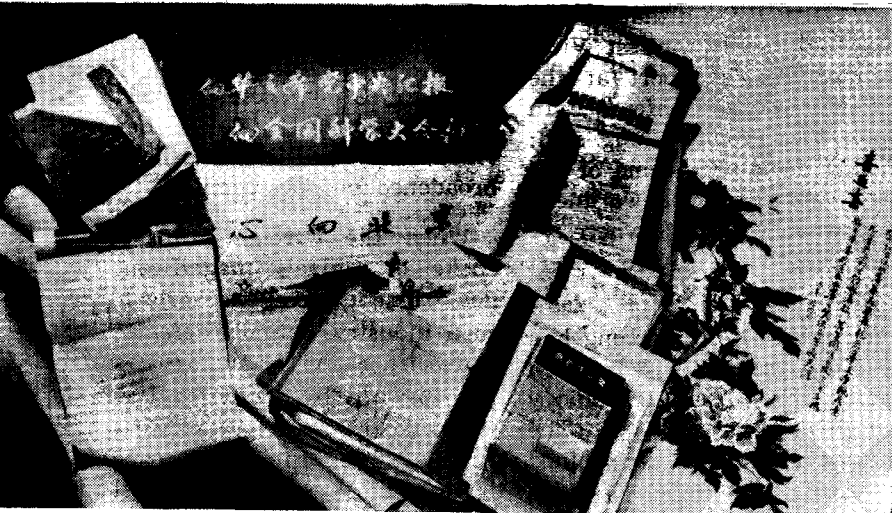
developed since President Ziaur Rahman's visit to China at the beginning of last year. The recent visit to Dacca by Vice-Premier Li Hsien-nien is a new milestone in the relations between the two countries.

After a successful visit to the Philippines, Vice-Premier Li took a rest in Kunming, a big city in southwest China, before he flew by special plane to Dacca on March 18. Accompanying the Vice-Premier and his wife were Foreign Minister Huang Hua and his wife as well as other Chinese officials.

On their arrival, Vice-Premier Li and his party were accorded a warm welcome at the plane-side by President Ziaur Rahman and his wife, top government officials and high-ranking officers of the three services.

That evening, the President and his wife gave a grand banquet in honour of the Chinese guests in the brightly lit Presidential Palace. Both host and guest made heartwarming speeches at the banquet in praise of the rapid development of friendship between the two countries. They also expressed their opinions on problems of common concern. (For highlights of their speeches, see box on p. 4.)

Leaders of the two countries held fruitful talks during the visit which lasted four days. On March 21, the last day of the visit, Foreign Minister Huang Hua and Bangladesh Adviser to the President in Charge of the Ministry of Planning Mirza Nurul Huda signed two agree-



Gifts of manuscripts, blueprints, verses and paintings sent to the conference by people from all parts of the country.

The people of Bangladesh wish to live in peace, freedom and dignity. They are committed to a policy of creating an environment of enduring peace and stability in the South Asian subcontinent so that its peoples can devote all their energies and their resources towards providing for the people the basic conditions of a decent life. — Ziaur Rahman

It is heartening to us as well as to the other countries of the third world that the friendly people of your great country share with us the vision of a world order free from imperialism, colonialism and hegemonism in any form. — Ziaur Rahman

Having suffered long from imperialist and colonial oppression, the South Asian countries all highly treasure independence. Faced with the arduous task of building up their countries, they all need an environment of peace and stability. But the intense rivalry between the superpowers has for a long time caused intransquillity in this region and posed a grave threat to the independence and security of the countries here. — Li Hsien-nien

We always maintain that all countries, big or small, are equal and that big countries should not bully small ones and strong countries should not pressure weak ones. Whether a country treats others as equals or seeks hegemony is a major criterion for judging whether that country follows the Five Principles of Peaceful Coexistence. It is also one of the criteria for telling a genuine socialist country from a sham one. — Li Hsien-nien

ments on economic and technical co-operation and on scientific and technical co-operation on behalf of their respective governments.

While in Bangladesh, Vice-Premier Li placed a wreath on the National Memorial for Martyrs, visited the Rice Research Institute and the industrial exhibition, and went sightseeing along the Buriganga River aboard a ship. A mass rally was held in Dacca to welcome the Chinese guests. As a tribute, the Chairman of the Dacca Municipality presented a gold key to Dacca city to Vice-Premier Li.

Before concluding his visit, Vice-Premier Li gave a banquet on the evening of March 20 for President Ziaur Rahman and his wife as well as high-ranking officials. In his toast, the Vice-Premier expressed his heartfelt thanks for the warm welcome

and hospitality accorded him and his party during the visit.

Vice-Premier Teng Meets Guests

When he met Vice-Premier Teng Hsiao-ping on March 23, Mr. Friedrich Zimmermann of West Germany said that he had read with great interest Vice-Premier Teng's report at the National Science Conference. In reply, Vice-Premier Teng said: "I only dealt with some of the facts and our backwardness. Only when we admit where we lag behind can we exert ourselves to forge ahead."

What Vice-Premier Teng had in mind was the gap between China's science and technology and advanced world levels. The Chinese people are determined to learn from others' strong points and close the gap as quickly as possible.

Mr. Zimmermann who is First Vice-Chairman of the Christian Democratic Union — Christian Social Union Parliamentary Group and Chairman of the Christian Social Union Caucus in the Bundestag came to China with his wife and party on a visit at the invitation of the Chinese People's Institute of Foreign Affairs.

In their exchange of views on the international situation, Vice-Premier Teng said to Mr. Zimmermann: "We hope that there is a powerful Europe. Farsighted European statesmen also hope that China will become powerful."

* * *

Vice-Premier Teng met with Norwegian Foreign Minister Knut Frydenlund and his party on March 25. Speaking of bilateral issues and international questions of common concern, Vice-Premier Teng said: "Since the establishment of diplomatic relations between the two countries in 1954, there have been no incidents, not even the slightest dispute, between our two countries. We have problems in common."

Mr. Frydenlund said: "Short as our visit to China is, her views on world questions have broadened our perspective."

When the Foreign Minister spoke of China's magnificent goal of modernizing her agriculture, industry, national defence, and science and technology, as put forward by the Fifth National People's Congress, Vice-Premier Teng said: "To approach the present world level in science and technology is not an easy thing. We should not

shut ourselves from the outside world, but should be adept at learning from others. We must learn from other countries whatever is advanced, including advanced science and technology. We will maintain exchanges and co-operate with all advanced countries, including Norway."

* * *

When meeting with a delegation of the Japanese Socialist Party, Vice-Premier Teng pointed out: "The conclusion of a China-Japan peace and friendship treaty can be done easily as long as it is seen from a political and a long-term point of view." To the delegation's leader Ichio Asukata and deputy leader Shoichi Shimodaira and its members, Vice-Premier Teng said: "China's attitude towards the conclusion of such a treaty is consistent and clear, that is, we should take the joint statement of the governments of the two countries as the basis, and not retreat from it."

Mr. Ichio Asukata said that his delegation had come to visit China on the basis of the Narita statement that Japan and China consider it necessary to oppose hegemonism practised by the two superpowers. It is correct, he continued, to conclude the Japan-China peace and friendship treaty at an early date when the two superpowers are now engaged in arms expansion and war preparations, causing intranquillity in the world.

Vice-Premier Teng said to the Japanese guests that the Chinese and Japanese people should live in friendship and so

should the people of all Asian countries, so that the Pacific will truly be an ocean of peace.

South Asian Tour

The Delegation of the Chinese People's Association for Friendship With Foreign Countries led by Wang Ping-nan ended its friendship visit to India on March 23. Thus the delegation concluded its visit to the three South Asian countries of India, Pakistan and Bangladesh.

Pakistan was the first leg of the delegation's itinerary. It arrived in Islamabad, capital of Pakistan, on February 20 and later visited Rawalpindi, Peshawar, Lahore and Karachi. Speaking at the banquet given in honour of the delegation, General Mohammad Zia-Ul-Haq, Head of the Government, praised the close friendship between China and Pakistan and happily recalled his visit to China last December.

On February 28, the delegation flew from Karachi to Dacca on a visit to Bangladesh. The friendly relations between the peoples of China and Bangladesh date back to more than a thousand years ago. As early as the seventh century, the famous scholar of the Tang Dynasty Hsuan Chuang visited Bangladesh. After the founding of New China, Premier Chou En-lai visited Dacca in 1956 and 1964. Since the establishment of diplomatic relations in October 1975, the relations between the two countries have steadily developed. On March 3 when President Ziaur Rahman received the delegation, he told delegation leader Wang Ping-nan that his visit to China in

January last year had strengthened the friendly relations between both countries and he expressed the conviction that they will continue to develop in the days to come.

After a week-long visit to Bangladesh, the delegation arrived in India on March 7 which had contacts with China more than 2,000 years ago. The delegation made this visit at the invitation of the All-India Dr. Kotnis Memorial Committee. The late Dr. Kotnis had done splendid work in China's liberated areas under the leadership of the Chinese Communist Party during the War of Resistance Against Japan; he was indeed a symbol of friendship between the two countries. On March 14, members of the delegation happily met Dr. Kotnis' brother and sisters.

In the more than two weeks between its arrival in New Delhi on March 7 and departure from Calcutta on March 23, the delegation visited several cities and placed a wreath at Gandhi's tomb. They met Indian Minister of External Affairs A.B. Vajpayee, Members of Parliament, Vice-President and Chairman of Rajya Sabha of India B.D. Jatti, and Indian Prime Minister Morarji Desai. Delegation leader Wang Ping-nan conveyed the regards of Premier Hua Kuo-feng to the Indian Prime Minister. During their conversation, both sides reviewed the history of friendship between the two peoples and expressed the wish to promote their friendship which, as both sides held, would be conducive to stability in Asia and peace in the world.

Raise the Scientific and Cultural Level Of the Entire Chinese Nation

(Speech at the National Science Conference
on March 24, 1978)

Hua Kuo-feng



Comrades!

This National Science Conference convened by the Central Committee of our Party has been in session for seven days. At the opening session, Comrade Teng Hsiao-ping made a speech and Comrade Fang Yi delivered a report, both being very important and very good. Comrades attending the conference have discussed them in earnest and have all expressed hearty support. Everyone is greatly encouraged, in high spirits and free from anxiety. A national plan for the development of science and technol-

ogy will be worked out and advanced collectives and individuals on the scientific and technical front commended at this conference. We are all fully confident that the conference will be a great success and will have a tremendous and far-reaching impact on the development of our science and culture, the growth of our national economy and the building of a modern, powerful socialist country.

The Central Committee attaches great importance to this conference. Shortly after the smashing of the anti-Party "gang of four" of Wang Hung-wen, Chang Chun-chiao, Chiang Ching and Yao Wen-yuan, it convened the Second National Conference on Learning From Tachai in Agriculture and later the National Conference on Learning From Taching in Industry. Even then, the Central Committee was considering the convocation of a science conference after those on agriculture and industry. We officially announced this decision in the political report to the 11th Party Congress. Later the Central Committee issued a circular to the whole Party and the whole country on holding the conference. It is the first time in the history of our Party and our People's Republic that the Party Central Committee convenes a conference of such a gigantic scale and broad representation in order to mobilize the whole Party, the whole army and the people of all na-



The National Science Conference plenary session at the Great Hall of the People.

tionalities throughout the country to march towards the modernization of science and technology. This is an important measure adopted by our Party to carry out the general task for the new period in our country's socialist revolution and socialist construction. Ours is a conference of tremendous, immediate and historical significance.

Our country has basically eliminated the chaos created by the "gang of four" and is moving towards great order across the land. This has come about through a great, deep-going political revolution aimed at exposing and criticizing the "gang of four" over the last year or so, through the collective efforts of the Party and the people on the political, economic, military and cultural fronts and through the several historic conferences for carrying forward the revolutionary cause pioneered by our predecessors and forging ahead into the future — the 11th Party Congress, the Fifth National People's Congress and the meeting of the Fifth National Committee of the Chinese People's Political Consultative Conference. Now, the line and the

general task for the new period have been clearly formulated. The new Constitution has been promulgated. The fundamental tasks and policies for various fields of work, the three-year and eight-year plans and a 23-year outline for the development of the national economy have been mapped out. Although some specific regulations, policies and plans are yet to be worked out or improved, our major political guideline, namely, grasping the key link of class struggle and bringing about great order across the land, has in the main been set. What is required at present is to follow the line, policies and plans already laid down and to work hard and in a down-to-earth manner, sweep away interference, surmount difficulties and fulfil the tasks before us step by step.

The general task laid down for the whole Party and the whole people in the new period by the 11th Party Congress and the Fifth National People's Congress has been written into the fundamental law of the state. The task is: To persevere in continuing the revolution under the dictatorship of the proletariat, carry forward

the three great revolutionary movements of class struggle, the struggle for production and scientific experiment, and make China a great and powerful socialist country with modern agriculture, industry, national defence and science and technology by the end of the century. It shows that we must follow the road of socialism unswervingly, grasp the three great revolutionary movements simultaneously and accomplish the splendid goal of the four modernizations. The world has witnessed different roads to modernization. There is capitalist or imperialist modernization and revisionist or social-imperialist modernization. What we want is socialist modernization, to be attained by steadfastly continuing the revolution under the dictatorship of the proletariat. Only this kind of modernization conforms to the common aspirations and the fundamental interests of the people of all our nationalities. Only this can bring genuine happiness to our people and gladden the people the world over.

Socialism is the only way out for China. This was proved long ago by hard realities. In old semi-colonial, semi-feudal China, many persons with lofty ideals sought to develop science in China and make the country independent, strong and prosperous, but they all failed. Not until the Chinese Communist Party led the people of the whole country in winning complete victory in the new-democratic revolution and in establishing the socialist system did China build up a fairly modern industrial base, which provides the conditions for going on to the four modernizations. The "gang of four" were sworn enemies of socialism. They opposed the four modernizations in a criminal attempt to subvert the dictatorship of the proletariat and restore capitalism. If China were to follow the counter-revolutionary revisionist line of the gang, it could only be reduced to a colony or semi-colony of social-imperialism and imperialism. To achieve the four modernizations, China, an independent and socialist country, must adhere to Chairman Mao's thought and persist in continuing the revolution under the dictatorship of the proletariat, which means sticking to the socialist road. For us, socialism and the four modernizations are inseparable from each other. Only by persevering in socialist revolu-

tion and continuing to transform that part of the superstructure and the relations of production not in correspondence with the growth of the productive forces can we constantly promote the four modernizations. Only by building up a modern agriculture, industry, national defence and science and technology can we provide our socialist system with a powerful material base, steadily consolidate and develop this system, effectively defeat capitalism at home and find ourselves in a stronger position to resist aggression by social-imperialism and imperialism from abroad.

The general task for the new period calls for hard work in every field by the whole Party, the whole army and the people of all our nationalities. Here I would like to go into one question in particular, that is, the necessity for greatly raising the scientific and cultural level of the entire Chinese nation.

The people of all nationalities in our country are industrious, brave and rich in creative talent. Under the guidance of Marxism-Leninism-Mao Tsetung Thought, our people have acquired many highly valuable capabilities in revolution and construction, performed great deeds and made tremendous progress in the course of their long and arduous struggle. Now, we must start a new and sustained study movement in order to extend our battle with nature, march towards the four modernizations and fulfil the general task history has assigned us in the new period. It is necessary to raise the study of Marxism-Leninism-Mao Tsetung Thought to a new level and, at the same time, strive to improve our general educational standard, acquire modern scientific knowledge and master the skills and the methods of management which are indispensable to modern production. Raising the scientific and cultural level of the entire Chinese nation is a colossal task facing all our people. It is a task of strategic importance. Unless it is accomplished, our general task for the new period cannot be fulfilled.

The "gang of four" wilfully undermined our socialist undertakings in science and culture and they even babbled that "the more knowledgeable, the more reactionary" and that "it is preferable to have labourers with no culture." What they practised was a fascist

cultural autocracy, sinister and rotten to the core. Owing to their disruption, the enthusiasm of the scientific and cultural workers and the masses was dampened, our scientific and cultural undertakings fell far short of the needs of our socialist revolution and construction, and the gap between the level of science and technology in China and advanced world levels, which had narrowed at one time, widened again. This teaches us by negative example that raising the scientific and cultural level of the people is not a matter solely of imparting knowledge but is a great class struggle. We must carry through to the end the struggle to expose and criticize the "gang of four," eliminate the pernicious influence of their counter-revolutionary revisionist line, and clear the way for raising the scientific and cultural level of the entire Chinese nation.

It is in the vital interest of hundreds of millions of people to raise the scientific and cultural level of the entire Chinese nation. This can be achieved only by drawing in and relying on vast numbers of people, and only by effectively organizing all the people on every front on a country-wide scale. What we need is thousands upon thousands of skilled workers, skilled peasants and other skilled working people with both socialist consciousness and the ability to master modern production techniques, enormous numbers of revolutionary intellectuals in different trades and professions and revolutionary cadres capable of managing modern economy and modern science and technology. We need mighty contingents for industry, agriculture, science and technology, culture and national defence — people who are both red and expert and who are particularly good at fighting. It won't do to have only a small number or a section of the people; hundreds of millions of people, the entire Chinese nation, must reach a much higher level.

Obviously, if our workers lack scientific and cultural knowledge and fail to learn new production skills, they can hardly master modern industrial production processes. If our rural people's commune members lack scientific and



Vice-President of the Chinese Academy of Sciences Chou Pei-yuan (second from right) speaks at a group meeting.

cultural knowledge, do not know how to use electricity, machinery, chemical fertilizer, insecticides, etc., or have no knowledge of scientific farming, they cannot keep themselves abreast of the needs in modernizing agriculture. If our P.L.A. commanders and fighters lack knowledge of modern military science and techniques, they cannot use modern arms and equipment and cannot organize and direct modern warfare well. On the other hand, if hundreds of millions of people grasp such knowledge and skills, they will become competent workers, peasants and army men and large numbers of technical specialists, innovators, inventors and scientists will emerge from among them. We should therefore pay great attention to raising the scientific and cultural level of the whole nation. The modernization of science and technology should not be regarded as a matter only for scientific and technological organizations, nor should it be left to a few people in research institutions or universities. The most powerful base and inexhaustible source of strength for the modernization of science and technology in our country are the masses of the people in their hundreds of millions who, fired with enthusiasm, are determined to do away with blind faith, emancipate their minds, rid themselves of inferiority complex, call up the courage to break new ground and to think, speak and act, and exert themselves in study and work.

While we stress the need to rely upon the masses in their hundreds of millions, we must also make vigorous efforts to expand our ranks of professional scientists and technicians. We already have a working-class contingent of

scientists and technicians who are both red and expert. We should unite all revolutionary and patriotic scientific and technical workers. Effective measures should be taken to train new forces and expand the professional contingent quickly. It is necessary to raise the level of the professionals and train large numbers of scientists and technicians who are top-notch by world standards. We hope our scientists and technicians will keep raising their political consciousness, serve socialism wholeheartedly and integrate with the workers, peasants and soldiers while at the same time devoting themselves to their professional work, constantly improving their capabilities, combining personal effort with collective wisdom and striving to reach the summits of science and technology. We also hope that more and more people will have a better understanding of Marxism and firmly establish a proletarian, communist world outlook through studying Marxist theory and through class struggle and practical work. In that case, we will be speaking the same language, not only the common language of patriotism and the socialist system but increasingly that of the communist world outlook. The professional contingent is the vanguard and the backbone in raising the scientific and cultural level of the entire Chinese nation. It has the duty of taking the strongholds of science and technology and popularizing scientific and technological knowledge among the people. Our people's armed forces have always had a system under which there is a "three-in-one" combination of the field armies, the regional forces and the militia, forming an impregnable bastion in people's war. This should be applied to the scientific and technical field as well: The hundreds of millions of people who are studying diligently to master science and culture can be likened to a vast militia force on the front of science and technology, while the ranks of professionals are like the field armies and the regional forces. A general rise in the scientific and cultural level of the masses will provide the base and conditions for the professionals to make advances and the professionals,

for their part, will guide the mass forces, crystallize their experience and wisdom and raise their standards. This should be the system under which our country's scientific and technical forces operate; it is the road to victory through people's war on our scientific and technological front. Advancing our science and culture is a people's cause. By spreading scientific and cultural knowledge to raise the level of the entire nation, combining popularization with the raising of standards and integrating professional with mass forces, we will form a mighty army for science and culture and greatly speed up our socialist modernization.

The education of young people is another very important aspect that merits special attention in raising the scientific and cultural level of the entire Chinese nation. The young people are our successors in the proletarian revolutionary cause. Starting from an early age, they should develop themselves physically, foster communist values and work style and show heroism in the interests of the collective. They should also cultivate, from an early age, the good habit of loving, studying and using science. Our Party and our state must show particular concern for the healthy growth of the young people, make a good job of running primary and middle schools, universities and other types of schools at various levels, open all kinds of channels for study, create the conditions for bringing up the young people as labourers who have both socialist consciousness and culture, and constantly train from among them scientific and technical personnel who are both red and expert. As talented young people keep

Yang Lo (first from left) and other young scientists trained after the founding of New China are determined to achieve new successes.



coming to the fore in large numbers, our science and technology will flourish.

The task of raising the scientific and cultural level of the entire Chinese nation involves higher demands on our cadres, first of all on leading cadres at all levels. Chairman Mao taught us: "Conditions are changing all the time, and to adapt one's thinking to the new conditions, one must study. Even those who have a better grasp of Marxism and are comparatively firm in their proletarian stand have to go on studying, have to absorb what is new and study new problems." Leading organs and cadres at all levels should be good at adapting themselves to the requirements of our advances in socialist modernization and must improve their methods of leadership and of work. Far from being weakened, political and ideological work should be strengthened in the new period of development in our socialist revolution and construction. Our Party has fine traditions in political and ideological work; we should carry them forward and eliminate the pernicious influence of Lin Piao and the "gang of four." We should do our political and ideological work in a more meticulous and deep-going way so as to constantly prevail over the ideological influence of the bourgeoisie and other exploiting classes, overcome the force of habit characteristic of the petty producer and make our political and ideological work an important guarantee for bringing about socialist modernization. Politics is the commander, the soul in everything, and it won't do not to grasp political and ideological work; but neither will it do if we concern ourselves solely with politics and remain laymen, without any knowledge of technical and professional work. Chairman Mao taught us in all earnestness in 1958: "We must exert ourselves, we must study and carry through to the end this great technological revolution which history has assigned us. This question should be brought up for discussion among the cadres, and a cadre conference should be called to discuss what else we have in the way of capabilities. In the past we had the capabilities of waging war and carrying out



Taching Oilfield representatives pledge to scale new heights in science and technology.

land reform, but these capabilities alone are not enough now. 'We must acquire new ones and achieve a real understanding of professional work, of science and technology, or we cannot possibly exercise effective leadership.' Following Chairman Mao's instructions, quite a number of our comrades have pitched in and obtained very good results in their study. But there are some comrades who have failed to understand the profound significance of Chairman Mao's instructions. When Lin Piao and the "gang of four" were engaged in disruption and sabotage, dishing up all sorts of fallacies and creating much confusion, they suppressed or attacked all those who paid attention to professional work or production. At that time, it was out of the question for people seriously to tackle modern science and technology. Now many cadres have emancipated their minds and are diligently studying politics, economics, military affairs, professional work and technology, and the situation is most encouraging. Cadres at all levels in various professions and trades should do the same. Our cadres holding leading positions or doing political and administrative work on the scientific and technological front in particular should devote greater energy to study and, in the light of the characteristics of scientific and technical work, should do a good job in political and ideological work, organization and management, and rear service work. We should respect the labour of the intellectuals and show concern for them politically and for their work and life as well. We should get close to them, understand them, be familiar with them and forge close friendships. We should create

favourable conditions for their work and give full scope to their initiative and creativity. Our comrades must do well in all these respects and ensure the comprehensive and correct implementation of the Party's line, principles and policies so as to make new contributions to our socialist revolution and socialist construction.

In order to raise the scientific and cultural level of our nation, it is necessary to reiterate Chairman Mao's slogan of learning from foreign countries. Our principle is to learn the strong points of all nations and countries, to learn from them all that is truly good in politics, economics, military affairs, science, technology, literature and art. While upholding independence and self-reliance, we should learn from other countries analytically and critically. We have always opposed the slavish comprador philosophy which holds that anything foreign is good, while nothing Chinese is any good, fancying that even the moon looks better over foreign lands, and that China can only move along at a snail's pace behind other countries. The "gang of four," out of malicious intent, slandered our effort to learn from foreign countries as "slavish comprador philosophy." This was nothing but turning matters upside down and confusing right and wrong. Their purpose was to create counter-revolutionary opinion so that they could usurp Party and state power and overthrow the central leading comrades who correctly followed Chairman Mao's principle of learning from foreign countries. If we indiscriminately refused to learn from foreign countries, China would remain backward for ever. What socialist modernization could one speak of then? It is obvious that all nations and countries in the world have strong points and weaknesses. They should learn from one another, drawing on the strong points of others to make up for their own weak points, so as to make steady progress. Can we refuse to study Marxism because its birthplace was in the West? Can we refuse to learn from the Great October Socialist Revolution because it took place in Russia? As for natural science and technology, we are behind advanced world levels. We admit our backwardness but we refuse to lag behind; we must catch up. This requires us to be good at absorbing whatever is good in things foreign, take them over and turn them to our account, and combine our learning from foreign countries with

our own inventiveness so that we can catch up with and surpass advanced world levels as soon as possible. We should learn from foreign countries now, but should we do so when we overcome our backwardness and become advanced? Yes, because even then other countries will still have points worth learning, and we should still learn from them. What is wrong with that? After 10,000 years, we must still learn from others!

The first eight years are the key to accomplishing the four modernizations in 23 years, that is, by the year 2000. This is true also for raising the scientific and cultural level of the entire Chinese nation. We should work out plans for the next three and the next eight years and an outline for 23 years. From now on, we should encourage diligent efforts throughout our society to study politics, raise the level of education and learn science and technology. Science means honest, solid knowledge and allows no hypocrisy and complacency. Only with honesty, modesty and perseverance can one really learn something. It is imperative for all our people to foster and develop the habit of studying hard. It is an honour to love to study, and it is a shame to refuse to study. It is an honour to be red and expert, and it is a shame to refuse to make progress. It is an honour to work hard and contribute more to socialism, and it is a shame to indulge in ease and comfort, dislike labour and live off socialism. Our entire country should be turned into a great school.

Tremendously raising the scientific and cultural level of the entire Chinese nation is not only a prerequisite for the four modernizations. We should look at its significance in a still deeper, broader and longer perspective.

As the scientific and cultural level of the entire nation rises, we shall be able to use Marxism-Leninism-Mao Tsetung Thought still better to arm the cadres and the masses. In natural science, neither theory nor experiment can be cut off from materialism and dialectics. We should urge all research workers in natural science to make conscious use of the Marxist world outlook to guide their work, and at the same time to spread materialism and dialectics far and wide among the masses through study of science and technology and participation in scientific experiments. Marxism has its source

in the entire reservoir of human knowledge. It was by drawing critically on all the knowledge provided by previous science that Marx confirmed his revolutionary conclusions. That is why raising the scientific and cultural level is very important in studying Marxism, in gaining a deeper understanding of it and in applying it in a still better way.

Raising the scientific and cultural level of the whole nation will help arouse the masses to participate in managing the economic, cultural and educational undertakings as well as affairs of the state. It will also help develop socialist democracy in the political life of the country. Lenin put it this way: We are perfectly aware of what Russia's cultural under-development is doing to Soviet power — which in principle has provided an immensely higher proletarian democracy — how this lack of culture is reducing the significance of Soviet power and reviving bureaucracy. The Soviet apparatus is accessible to all the working people in word, but actually it is far from being accessible to all of them. And not because the laws prevent it from being so, as was the case under the bourgeoisie; on the contrary, our laws assist in this respect. But in this matter laws alone are not enough. A vast amount of educational, organizational and cultural work is required; this demands a vast amount of work over a long period. How profound are these words of Lenin's! The task we set today of raising the scientific and cultural level of the entire nation is closely related to a full development of socialist democracy.

In socialist society, we must create the conditions for gradually narrowing the differences between town and country, between industry and agriculture and between physical and mental labour. From a long-term point of view, tremendously raising the scientific and cultural level of the entire nation means training in the whole nation hundreds of millions of working people who have both socialist consciousness and culture. They are the kind of working people who are politically minded and are educated, who can combine mental labour with physical labour, who are both red and expert with an all-round development, and who are at once worker-intellectuals and intellectual-workers. This is the direction for our advance.

Comrades! On the eve of the founding of New China, our great leader Chairman Mao said: "We can learn what we did not know. We are not only good at destroying the old world, we are also good at building the new." What we are now engaged in is this great cause of building a new world.

Our country has a long history of thousands of years. Our nation once created a splendid science and culture. In the last few hundred years, owing to the corruption of the feudal system and aggression by colonialists and imperialists, science and culture fell behind in our country. Since the founding of the People's Republic of China, with its advanced socialist system and under the leadership of the Communist Party, there has been rapid progress in our science and culture. The economic and technical blockade enforced by imperialism failed to strangle us; the tearing up of contracts and withdrawal of specialists by Soviet revisionists failed to subdue us. We have developed our science and technology independently through our own efforts. Have we not made our own atom bombs, hydrogen bombs and man-made satellites? Have we not trained a contingent of outstanding scientific and technical workers who are both red and expert? Our people have deep respect for the many scientists who have made important contributions to science and technology in China, including the late Comrades Li Szu-kuang and Chu Ko-chen. Facts past and present show that we Chinese too have a head and two hands and are no stupider than others. The key lies in a correct line. Delays and setbacks in the development of our science and technology resulted from interference and sabotage by the counter-revolutionary revisionist line of Liu Shao-chi, Lin Piao and above all the "gang of four." Now that the "gang of four" has been smashed following the shattering of the two bourgeois headquarters of Liu Shao-chi and Lin Piao, Chairman Mao's proletarian revolutionary line can be implemented correctly and in an all-round way. Class struggle, however, is protracted and we will still have to remove obstacles from our path. But the greatest hindrance to our advance has now been cleared away. Several hundred million people are now marching towards the modernization of science and technology and thousands of contingents of professional scientific and technical workers

are sweeping forward without hindrance. We are fully determined to accomplish the important tasks facing the scientific and cultural fronts in the new period and we are entirely confident of success. We will emerge as a nation with a high standard of culture in the world.

Comrades! By comprehensively and correctly implementing Chairman Mao's revolutionary line, we can give full scope to the superiority of the socialist system, fire the enthusiasm of the masses of people for studying new things and building a new world, unite all forces in society that can be united with and get them organized, and march forward under a unified plan to the common goal. This is the basic guarantee for

the sure triumph of our cause. As we advance, we must study many things we do not know and overcome many difficulties. We can learn anything, provided we rely on the initiative of the masses. No difficulty can deter us so long as we rely on the united strength of the masses. Our slogan is: Study, study and once more study; unite, unite and once more unite. Let the whole Party, the whole army and the people of all our nationalities hold high the great banner of Chairman Mao, rally closely round the Party Central Committee, make concerted efforts to raise tremendously the scientific and cultural level of the entire Chinese nation and successfully fulfil the great historic mission of building a modern and powerful socialist state.

Real Deeds, Yes; Hollow Statements, No!

by "Renmin Ribao" Commentator

ON March 20, TASS released an item in the form of an official notice under the title, "On Soviet-Chinese Relations," making public the letter of February 24 from the Presidium of the Supreme Soviet of the U.S.S.R. to the Standing Committee of the Chinese National People's Congress suggesting that the two countries issue a joint statement on the principles of mutual relations. TASS did not have the courage to make public the contents of the Chinese reply note dated March 9, but launched a malicious attack on the principled stand stated in that note of the Chinese Foreign Ministry, and made fact-distorting comments on Sino-Soviet relations, trying to shift the blame on to China for the worsening relations between the two countries.

Under such circumstances, the Chinese side decides to make public the Chinese Foreign Ministry's note to the Soviet Embassy in Peking as was entrusted by the Standing Committee of the N.P.C. and publish the full text of the letter from the Presidium of the Supreme Soviet of

the U.S.S.R. to the N.P.C. Standing Committee, so that all who are interested in Sino-Soviet relations may know the truth.

How should one evaluate the Soviet suggestion that China and the Soviet Union issue a joint statement on the principles of their mutual relations? It may be described as "singing the same old tune," as a Chinese saying goes. We have had the pleasure of reading such hollow statements more than once. In 1971, the Soviet Union submitted to the Chinese side a so-called draft treaty for the non-use of force by both sides, which boils down to one empty sentence: "Both parties to the treaty undertake not to use force in any form or threaten the other side with the use of force in settling disputes over their mutual relations."

In 1973, the Soviet Union again put forward a draft treaty of mutual non-aggression, which also boils down to an empty sentence, though slightly different in wording: "Each party to the treaty pledges itself not to invade the other

party on land, sea or air with any types of arms or threaten it with such invasion.”

It is a universally recognized principle that no country should use force or the threat of force in interstate relations. In view of the existence of border disputes between the two countries and after the repeated outbreaks of armed conflict provoked by the Soviet Union, the Chinese side first advanced this principle and an understanding was reached at the meeting of the Chinese and Soviet Premiers on September 11, 1969,* who agreed with each other that the two countries should not go to war over their border issues and that Sino-Soviet boundary talks should proceed in the absence of any threat. They also agreed that, to this end, the two parties should first of all conclude an agreement on such provisional measures as maintaining the status quo on the border, preventing the outbreak of armed clashes and disengaging the armed forces of the two sides in the disputed border areas.

But the Soviet side went back on the understanding reached by the Premiers of the two countries and ensured by specific measures. It refused to sign the agreement and, instead, insisted on a treaty devoid of any practical measures. The Chinese side naturally cannot agree to such a proposition.

* On September 11, 1969, Premier Chou En-lai met Kosygin, Chairman of the Council of Ministers of the U.S.S.R., in Peking and had an exchange of views with him on the boundary question, trade and other questions in the relations between the two countries. In view of the repeated occurrence of armed conflicts along the Sino-Soviet border, in order to truly and strictly maintain the status quo of the border and avert armed conflicts, the Chinese side further proposed that the armed forces of the Chinese and Soviet sides disengage by withdrawing from, or refraining from entering, all the disputed areas along the Sino-Soviet border, that is, those areas where the two sides disagree in their delineations of the boundary line on the maps exchanged during the 1964 Sino-Soviet boundary negotiations. To relax the situation along the border between the two countries and enable the Sino-Soviet boundary negotiations to be held free from any threats, the Chinese side put forward the proposal that the Chinese and Soviet sides first of all reach an agreement on the provisional measures for maintaining the status quo of the border, averting armed conflicts and disengagement. An understanding on this was reached by the Chinese and Soviet Premiers. — *Ed.*

Now, the Soviet side, repeating the same tactic, declares its readiness to improve its relations with China and suggests the issuance of a joint statement on the principles of mutual relations, while refusing as before to put the understanding of the Premiers of the two countries into effect. How can this “advance the cause of normalization of our relations”? A promise is weightier than one hundred bars of gold. When the Soviet side has cast aside the solemn understanding reached by the two Premiers which is spelt out in specific measures, how can the Chinese people be expected to believe that a hollow statement on the principles of mutual relations as suggested by the Soviet side is of any real worth and not a propaganda stunt?

The TASS item attacking the Chinese stand turns things upside down by a stretch of the language. A refutation is therefore called for.

TASS asserts that the Chinese side “repeated unacceptable preliminary conditions” with regard to improving Sino-Soviet relations. What are these “preliminary conditions” the Soviet Union regards as unacceptable? That TASS has deliberately equivocated to hide the truth provides much food for thought.

As is known to all, China is the victim in regards to relations between the two countries. It is the Soviet leadership who extended the ideological divergence to interstate relations so as to exert pressure on China. It is the Soviet leadership who used force against China and provoked border conflicts. And again, it is the Soviet leadership who threatened China with force by beefing up its military force along the Sino-Soviet borders and stationing its troops in the People’s Republic of Mongolia.

In view of these facts and lessons acquired over the years, the Chinese side knows very well that the Soviet leadership never keeps its promise. Therefore, we have asked the Soviet side to take concrete actions in improving mutual relations, namely, first of all to sign, in accordance with the understanding reached by the Premiers of the two countries, an agreement on maintaining the status quo on the border, averting armed clashes and disengaging the armed forces of the two sides in the disputed border

areas, and then proceed to settle the boundary question through negotiations; and to withdraw its armed forces from the People's Republic of Mongolia and from the Sino-Soviet border, so that the situation there will revert to what it was in the early 60s.

Has not the Soviet side time and again declared against the use of force or threat of force in the relations between the two countries? If it is sincere, it should carry out the understanding reached by the Premiers of the two countries and withdraw its troops from the Sino-Soviet border and the People's Republic of Mongolia.

But the Soviet leadership today has gone so far as to turn down these elementary and justified demands of the Chinese side and even branded them as unacceptable preliminary conditions. Does this not show that the Soviet leadership is insisting on posing a threat of force to China? Since the Soviet leadership has called for a declaration against "threatening each other with the use of force," then why should the implementation of this principle become "unacceptable"? Doesn't it show that the Soviet leadership is not prepared in the first instance to translate its statement into reality?

TASS says that the Session of the Fifth Chinese National People's Congress indicates that "hostility to the Soviet Union continues to be elevated to the rank of state policy of China." This is a vicious attack on the Fifth National People's Congress which has the unanimous support of the Chinese people. The Fifth National People's Congress reiterated the consistent principled stand of the Chinese Government on the question of Sino-Soviet relations. The Chinese people have always cherished fraternal revolutionary friendship for the Soviet people. The disputes over principles between China and the Soviet Union were provoked by the Soviet leadership betraying Marxism-Leninism. These disputes must be carried on for a long time. But we invariably maintain that disputes over principles should not obstruct the two countries from maintaining normal state relations on the basis of the Five Principles of Peaceful Coexistence. The question now arises from the hostile stand towards China obdurately taken by the Soviet leadership, its refusal to take any practical measures to solve the real issues that have

worsened the relations between China and the Soviet Union, its persistence in using the threat of force against our country and its continued subversive activities against this country. Since the smashing of the "gang of four" by our Party, the Soviet leadership has never stopped its attacks on the domestic and foreign policies of our country in a vain attempt to make us alter the revolutionary line of Chairman Mao's. All this only shows that obdurate hostility towards China is the Soviet leadership's "state policy."

TASS also asserts that China's statements on desiring to improve relations with its neighbour "are not backed by practical deeds" and that its "words are obviously at variance with deeds." The Chinese side has made unremitting efforts to improve relations with this neighbour, the Soviet Union, in order to normalize relations between the two countries, and has advanced feasible and concrete proposals on many occasions, including proposals for settling the border question. However, what we see is that the Soviet side has, time and again, refused to solve practical questions outstanding between the two countries but is obsessed with fixing up hollow treaties and statements to hoodwink the Soviet people and the world. The Soviet Union has a record of many perfidious and self-contradictory deeds in its relations with China. The well-known understanding of the Chinese and Soviet Premiers was reached personally between the heads of government of the two countries, but over the ensuing eight years facts have shown that the Soviet Union has not kept its word. It has not only refused to put this understanding into practice but also denied its existence on many occasions in an attempt to write off this understanding. Isn't this a typical instance of words at variance with deeds? How can it win the confidence of people if it does not alter its inconsistent attitude?

Karl Marx said in his *Critique of the Gotha Programme*: "Every step of real movement is more important than a dozen programmes." We would like to present the Soviet side in all seriousness with this famous saying of Marx's. Improvement of Sino-Soviet relations calls for real movement, not hollow statements. Let us wait and see whither the Soviet leadership will go.

(March 26)

Chinese Foreign Ministry's Note to The Soviet Embassy in China

Yu Chan, Vice-Minister of the Chinese Foreign Ministry, entrusted by the Standing Committee of the Chinese National People's Congress, on March 9 delivered to the Soviet Ambassador to China, Vasily S. Tolstikov, a note of the Chinese Foreign Ministry to the Soviet Embassy in Peking. The note was a reply to the "suggestion" of the Soviet side that the two countries issue "a joint statement on the principles of mutual relations" and that "a meeting of representatives of both sides" be held for this purpose.

The Soviet "suggestion" was stated in a letter from the Presidium of the Supreme Soviet of the U.S.S.R. to the Standing Committee of the Chinese N.P.C. The letter was delivered by Viktor F. Maltsev, Soviet First Vice-Foreign Minister, to Tien Tseng-pei, Charge d'Affaires ad interim of the Chinese Embassy in Moscow, on February 24 this year. A copy of it was delivered by Ambassador Tolstikov to the Chinese Foreign Ministry on February 27.

On March 20, TASS released to the public the text of the letter of the Presidium of the Supreme Soviet. Following is the full text of the Chinese Foreign Ministry's note to the Soviet Embassy in Peking with that of the Soviet letter as an appendix which has been published in the Chinese newspapers.

The Chinese Foreign Ministry's Note to The Soviet Embassy in China

The Soviet Embassy in the People's Republic of China:

The Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the People's Republic of China is entrusted by the Standing Committee of the National People's Congress to reply to the letter of February 24, 1978 from the Presidium of the Supreme Soviet of the U.S.S.R. as follows:

China and the Soviet Union used to be friendly neighbouring countries, and our two peoples have forged a profound friendship in their long revolutionary struggles. Responsibility for the deterioration of the relations be-

tween our two countries to what they are today does not lie with the Chinese side; China is the victim.

It is known to all that there exist differences of principle between China and the Soviet Union. The debate over these differences will go on for a long time. However, proceeding from the fundamental interests of the Chinese and Soviet peoples, the Chinese side has always held that the differences of principle should not impede the maintenance of normal state relations between the two countries on the basis of the Five Principles of Peaceful Coexistence. And to this end it has made unremitting efforts.

In September 1969 the Chinese Premier and the Soviet Chairman of the Council of Ministers held talks in Peking and reached an understanding on the normalization of relations between the two countries. The Chinese side has ever since abided by this understanding and for its full implementation has earnestly and patiently held boundary negotiations with the Soviet side for as long as eight years. However, the Soviet side not only is unwilling to implement the understanding reached by the heads of government of the two countries, it even denies the existence of the understanding itself. As a result, the boundary negotiations remain fruitless to this day. In the mean time, the Soviet Union has unceasingly increased its armed forces on the Sino-Soviet border and in the People's Republic of Mongolia, and there is not the slightest change in the Soviet policy of hostility to China. In these circumstances, the Presidium of the Supreme Soviet of the U.S.S.R. has proposed in its letter that the two countries issue a hollow statement on principles guiding mutual relations, a statement which does not solve any practical problem. Its purpose in so doing is obviously not to improve Sino-Soviet relations but lies elsewhere.

If the Soviet side really desires to improve Sino-Soviet relations, it should take concrete actions that solve practical problems. First of

all, it should sign, in accordance with the 1969 understanding between the Premiers of the two countries, an agreement on the maintenance of the status quo on the border, averting armed clashes and disengaging the armed forces of the two sides in the disputed border areas, and then proceed to settle through negotiations the boundary question; and it should withdraw its armed forces from the People's Republic of Mongolia and from the Sino-Soviet border so that the situation there will revert to what it was in the early 60s. When you refuse to take such minimum actions as maintenance of the status quo on the border, averting armed clashes and disengaging the armed forces of the two sides in the disputed border areas, what practical purpose would it serve to issue a worthless "statement of principles guiding mutual relations" except to deceive the Chinese and Soviet peoples and the world public! When you have a million troops deployed on the Sino-Soviet border, how can you expect the Chinese people to believe that you have a genuine and sincere desire to improve the relations between our two countries? Isn't it fully reasonable to ask you to withdraw your armed forces from the Sino-Soviet border and restore the situation that prevailed in the early 60s?

The normalization of relations between China and the Soviet Union is the common desire of our two peoples and it accords with their fundamental interests and those of the people of the world. For its part, the Chinese side will, as always, make efforts towards this end. What the Chinese side likes to see is real deeds and not hollow statements.

The Ministry of Foreign Affairs avails itself of this opportunity to renew to the Embassy the assurances of its high considerations.

Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the
People's Republic of China
Peking, March 9, 1978

Appendix:

**Letter From the Presidium of the U.S.S.R.
Supreme Soviet to the Standing Committee
Of the Chinese N.P.C.**

The Standing Committee of the Chinese
National People's Congress:

Soviet-Chinese relations assumed over the recent years a nature that cannot but cause serious concern. The existing state of affairs leads to the

creation of the atmosphere of mutual distrust, to the heightening of tensions in interstate relations. The vital interests of the Soviet and Chinese peoples require adoption of definite practical measures aimed at normalizing Soviet-Chinese relations in accordance with the aspirations and hopes of the peoples of the Soviet Union and the People's Republic of China.

The Soviet Government repeatedly advanced concrete proposals aimed at bringing the relations between the U.S.S.R. and the P.R.C. back to the road of good neighbourliness, and expressed the U.S.S.R.'s readiness to normalize relations with China on the principles of peaceful coexistence. The Government of the People's Republic of China for its part had officially stated that the P.R.C. could build relations with the U.S.S.R. on the principles of peaceful coexistence. The Soviet people sincerely wishes to see China a friendly prosperous power.

The Presidium of the U.S.S.R. Supreme Soviet, expressing the will and aspirations of the Soviet people, is once again stating its readiness to put an end to the present abnormal situation in the relations between the U.S.S.R. and the P.R.C. and to stop the dangerous process of further aggravation of relations which may lead to serious negative consequences for our countries and peoples, for the destinies of peace in the Far East, in Asia and throughout the world.

In order to materialize the desire expressed by the two sides to base their relations on the principles of peaceful coexistence and embody it in a tangible international act, the Presidium of the U.S.S.R. Supreme Soviet is suggesting that our countries come forward with a joint statement on the principles of mutual relations between the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics and the People's Republic of China. It is believed in the Soviet Union that a joint statement that the sides will build their relations on the basis of peaceful coexistence, firmly adhering to the principles of equality, mutual respect for sovereignty and territorial integrity, non-interference in the internal affairs of each other and non-use of force could advance the cause of normalization of our relations.

We suggest that if the very idea of making such a statement is acceptable for the Chinese side a meeting of representatives of both sides should be held at a sufficiently high level to agree on a mutually acceptable text of the statement in the shortest possible time.

The Soviet Union is prepared to receive representatives of the People's Republic of China. If the Chinese side deems it expedient that Soviet representatives should arrive for the aforementioned purpose in Peking, we agree to this. On our part, we are prepared to consider proposals of the P.R.C. aimed at normalization of Soviet-Chinese relations.

The Presidium of the U.S.S.R.
Supreme Soviet
February 24, 1978

Peking Review, No. 13



Basic Principles of "Manifesto of The Communist Party" Always Remain Fresh

by Fan Jo-yu

FEBRUARY this year was the 130th anniversary of the publication of the epoch-making *Manifesto of the Communist Party*. The history since the publication of the *Manifesto*, which marked the birth of Marxism, is the history of the world's proletariat fighting for the realization of the truth embodied in it and the history of the struggle between Marxists and their open enemies as well as those who style themselves as Marxists but actually oppose Marxism. One hundred and thirty years is not a short span to evaluate a piece of work. Time has not in the least diminished the validity of the basic principles of the *Manifesto*; they remain as fresh as ever.

Marx and Engels who wrote the *Manifesto* pointed out that it was a complete theoretical and practical programme for the Communist Party. Lenin said that although it was not long, its value was equal to many volumes of great works. From the experience they have gained in study, proletarian revolutionaries tell us that the *Manifesto* is the first book beginners should read in studying Marxism and that in the course of studying Marxism they should read it again and again. The *Manifesto* is the crystallization of the basic principles of the three component parts of Marxism — philosophy, political economy and scientific socialism.

The first Chinese translation of the *Manifesto* appeared in 1920. Chairman Mao once said: "In the winter of 1920 I organized workers politically for the first time, and began to be guided in this by the influence of Marxist theory and the history of the Russian Revolution. During my second visit to Peking I had read much about the events in Russia, and had eagerly sought out what little Communist literature was then available in Chinese. Three

books especially deeply carved my mind, and built up in me a faith in Marxism, from which, once I had accepted it as the correct interpretation of history, I did not afterwards waver. These books were the *Communist Manifesto*, translated by Chen Wang-tao* and the first Marxist book ever published in Chinese. . . ." Then he added: "By the summer of 1920 I had become, in theory and to some extent in action, a Marxist." (See Edgar Snow's *Red Star Over China*.)

Many Chinese cadres had heard Chairman Mao say that he used to read the *Manifesto* several times a year.

What Chairman Mao said above fully accords with his thesis in his *Reform Our Study*. He pointed out that in China many outstanding personages had fought for a long time in quest of the truth that would save the country and the people and finally "found Marxism-Leninism, the best of truths, the best of weapons for liberating our nation. And the Communist Party of China has been the initiator, propagandist and organizer in the wielding of this weapon. As soon as it was linked with the concrete practice of the Chinese revolution, the universal truth of Marxism-Leninism gave an entirely new complexion to the Chinese revolution."

According to proletarian revolutionaries of the older generation, the publication of the *Manifesto* in China helped the progressive people at that time to begin to understand that they

*Chen Wang-tao (1891-1977) was a well-known person in Chinese cultural and higher educational circles. He was a Member of the Standing Committee of the Fourth National People's Congress, a Member of the Standing Committee of the Fourth National Committee of the Chinese People's Political Consultative Conference and Chairman of the Revolutionary Committee of Fudan University in Shanghai.

The author is a noted theoretical worker.

should use the thesis of class struggle embodied in the book to explain Chinese history, apply the proletarian world outlook to observing the destiny of the state and in re-examining their own activities. The *Manifesto* played the role of a programme in the founding of our Party and educated the first group of its cadres. What merits particular attention was that Chairman Mao developed Marxism by combining the basic principles of the *Manifesto* with the concrete practice of the Chinese revolution. Chairman Mao time and again expressed the wish to write a preface and explanatory notes for the *Manifesto* in connection with the experience gained in the Chinese revolution. It is regrettable that this wish was not fulfilled.

Today, in commemorating the 130th anniversary of the publication of the *Manifesto*, the whole Party, the whole army and the people of the whole country are responding to the call of the Party Central Committee headed by Chairman Hua to conscientiously study Marxist philosophy, political economy and scientific socialism and to criticize the "gang of four" from these three aspects. To study the *Manifesto* in such a revolutionary situation is therefore of great significance.

The *Manifesto* is a work of scientific socialism. The prefaces to the German edition of 1883 and to the English edition of 1888 pointed out that the basic thought running through the book was historical materialism. After summing up the main contents of the *Manifesto*, Lenin said: "With the clarity and brilliance of genius, this work outlines a new world-conception, consistent materialism, which also embraces the realm of social life; dialectics, as the most comprehensive and profound doctrine of development; the theory of the class struggle and of the world-historic revolutionary role of the proletariat — the creator of a new, communist society." (Karl Marx.) The *Manifesto* embodies the Marxist world outlook.

The book explains the emergence and development of the bourgeoisie and the proletariat — the two antagonistic classes in the capitalist society — and the struggle between them. Analysing the capitalist society with historical materialism, it arrives at the scientific conclusion that "its [the bourgeoisie's] fall and the victory of the proletariat are equally inevitable."

This conclusion is the essence of the book. The preface to the German edition of 1890 pointed out: The Communist Manifesto had as its object the proclamation of the inevitably impending dissolution of modern bourgeois property.

The inevitability of the fall of the bourgeoisie and of the victory of the proletariat is decided by the development of the material productive forces and is independent of man's will. But the proletariat must not sit and wait for the spontaneous realization of this historical inevitability. It must get organized and promote this realization by revolutionary activity for liberation. Therefore the *Manifesto* says that the struggle between the proletariat and the bourgeoisie will inevitably lead to the proletariat's consciousness for organizing its own political party which is composed of the advanced elements of the working class and which should be adept at understanding the conditions for the liberation of the proletariat, its course of action and its general outcome. This party is one which will fight to the end for the realization of communism and will never give up before achieving this goal. It is a party which carries out the struggle under the guidance of the theory of scientific socialism. With such a revolutionary Communist Party, the inevitable fall of the bourgeoisie and the inevitable victory of the proletariat will be accelerated.

The *Manifesto* points out that the struggle between the proletariat and the bourgeoisie will certainly develop into a proletarian revolution. The first step of the proletarian revolution is to overthrow the rule of the bourgeoisie by violence and seize political power so that the proletariat will become the ruling class and win democracy. For the proletariat to be the ruling class means the exercise of proletarian dictatorship. And to win democracy means democracy for the proletariat. Without proletarian dictatorship, there will be no democracy for the proletariat, and to win democracy, the proletariat must exercise proletarian dictatorship, which is the only way to the realization of communism — the ultimate goal of the Communists.

Truth develops amidst its struggle against fallacies. Ever since the publication of the *Manifesto*, its basic principles have been tampered with and attacked by class enemies of various descriptions who oppose Marxism. They

oppose its theoretical basis of the world outlook based on dialectical materialism and historical materialism, the conclusion drawn by Marx and Engels by applying this world outlook to analysing social history, and the objective law revealed in the *Manifesto* that the fall of the bourgeoisie and the victory of the proletariat are inevitable. In our struggle against the "gang of four," the main content is still around the question of upholding or opposing the proletarian world outlook, upholding or opposing the basic principles of scientific socialism, and upholding or opposing the scientific conclusion that the bourgeoisie is bound to fall and the proletariat is sure to triumph.

It is now 130 years since the *Manifesto* was published. In some highly developed capitalist countries no proletarian revolution has yet taken place, and the Soviet Union, the world's first country to win victory in the proletarian revolution, has become a social-imperialist country. All this only shows that there are twists and turns on the road of revolution.

Brussels

130th Anniversary of Publication of "Manifesto of the Communist Party"

THE *Manifesto of the Communist Party* was drafted by Marx and Engels in Brussels and published in February 1848. To mark the 130th anniversary of the publication of this brilliant document of the international communist movement, the Central Committee of the Marxist-Leninist Communist Party of Belgium held a meeting in the capital on March 4, attended by more than 400 leaders and representatives of Marxist-Leninist Parties and organizations from six European countries.

In his speech at the meeting, First Secretary of the Marxist-Leninist Communist Party of Belgium Fernand Lefebvre said: "What an uncommon road has been traversed in the past 130 years! The ranks of Communists have expanded." Marxist-Leninist Parties and or-

ganizations "are coming into being and growing. They have vitality. They possess the future." He pointed out that one of the most fundamental characteristics of the Communists is proletarian internationalism. There is a red line which links the *Manifesto of the Communist Party* by Marx and Engels with the theory of the three worlds elaborated by Chairman Mao.

Complex as the social and historical phenomena are, the fact remains that the basic contradictions between the productive forces and the relations of production and between the economic base and the superstructure in the capitalist world cannot be solved by the capitalist system itself. And although there still are many obstacles on the road of proletarian revolution, the world's economy and politics today provide more favourable conditions for proletarian revolution than at the time when the *Manifesto* was published. The world is progressing and its future is bright. No one can change this general trend in the development of history.

Marx and Engels solemnly proclaimed to the whole world 130 years ago: "Let the ruling classes tremble at a Communistic revolution. The proletarians have nothing to lose but their chains. They have a world to win."

We are firmly convinced that this revolutionary prophecy will be fulfilled.

this concept is embodied in the theory of the three worlds elaborated by Chairman Mao."

Chairman of the Central Committee of the Revolutionary Communist League of Britain Chris Burford pointed out at the meeting that the principle of proletarian internationalism as expounded in the *Manifesto of the Communist Party* "now asserts itself with the same force in Chairman Mao's great theory on the differentiation of the three worlds." "The theory of the three worlds provides for us a very clear orientation in the complex international class struggle."

Secretary of the Marxist-Leninist Party of the Netherlands C. Petersen said: "The publication of the *Manifesto of the Communist Party* 130 years ago, the Great October Revolution 60 years ago and the publication of Mao Tsetung's theory of the three worlds — each and every one of these events has propelled history by leaps and bounds."

Chairman of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of Germany Christian Semler said: "Chairman Mao's theory of the differentiation of the three worlds enables us to make an analysis of international class forces in accordance with the proletarian viewpoint and opens for us the way towards formulating our strategy for the socialist revolution."

Political Director of the French paper *l'Humanite Rouge* Jacques Jurquet said at the meeting that the theory of the three worlds is theoretically based on the basic analysis of the *Manifesto of the Communist Party*. "Those who fail to perceive the links between the theory of the three worlds and the *Manifesto of the Communist Party*, whose ideas were enriched by Lenin in 1920, cannot possess a correct understanding of the proletarian strategy for the present-day world revolution."

German C.P. and Worker-Peasant Party of Turkey

Class Line of International Communist Movement

ROTE FAHNE, organ of the Communist Party of Germany, last December published a statement of the Communist Party of Germany and the Worker-Peasant Party of Turkey issued

after talks between them. The statement stresses that the unity between the two Parties is based on Marxism-Leninism-Mao Tsetung Thought and proletarian internationalism. It points out that the two Parties are fighting together against modern revisionism — the main enemy of the workers' movement.

"Our two Parties," the statement says, "hold fast to the theory of the differentiation of the three worlds as advanced by Comrade Mao Tsetung. This theory is the class line of the present-day international communist movement." It illuminates the revolutionary road for the proletariat and the oppressed people of the world, gives the world's people fighting hegemonism a clear answer to the question of "who are our friends and who are our enemies" and charts the path of uniting with all the forces that can be united in the international united front against the two superpowers' imperialism, colonialism and hegemonism.

"As neighbours of the Soviet Union and the sphere under its domination," the statement continues, "our two countries in particular are threatened by Soviet social-imperialism." It stresses that the proletariat and people of the two countries as well as all countries and all people of the world must get united to oppose the two superpowers, first of all, Soviet social-imperialism, to put off the outbreak of a new world war and get prepared against a possible war.

Portugal C.P. (M-L) and Spanish Workers' Revolutionary Organization

Joint Statement

A DELEGATION of the Portuguese Communist Party (Marxist-Leninist) led by its General Secretary Heduino Gomes (Vilar) arrived in Madrid on a visit from February 26 through 28 at the invitation of the Central Committee of the Spanish Workers' Revolutionary Organization.

The two Parties issued a joint statement at the end of the delegation's visit. The statement said: "The two Parties held talks, in a most friendly and cordial atmosphere, on the

domestic situations of their two countries, international events, the international communist movement and other questions.”

“The relations between Communist Parties,” it reiterated, “should be based on proletarian internationalism, on the defence of the principles of the thought of Marx, Engels, Lenin, Stalin and Mao Tsetung, and on respect for each other’s independence and equality.”

It continued: “The Communist Party of Portugal (Marxist-Leninist) and the Spanish Workers’ Revolutionary Organization are determined to further enhance the ties between them, herefrom to strengthen the ties between the people of the two countries as well as the ties between the working class of the two countries.”

“The two Parties reiterate full support for Chairman Mao’s scientific theory of the dif-

ferentiation of the three worlds and hold that the theory is a guide for Communists of all countries to formulate correct revolutionary strategies,” the joint statement went on. “Both Parties express support for the Communist Party of China headed by Comrade Hua Kuo-feng and support for socialist China — a great proletarian ally of the world’s people. Both Parties hold that realization of the goal of making China a modern powerful socialist state before the end of the century, put forward at the 11th National Congress of the Communist Party of China, is very beneficial to both China and the anti-imperialist cause of the world socialist revolution. The two Parties reaffirm their consistent support for the struggle being waged by the people of all countries for safeguarding independence and against social-imperialism, superpower hegemonism and imperialism.”

The Middle East

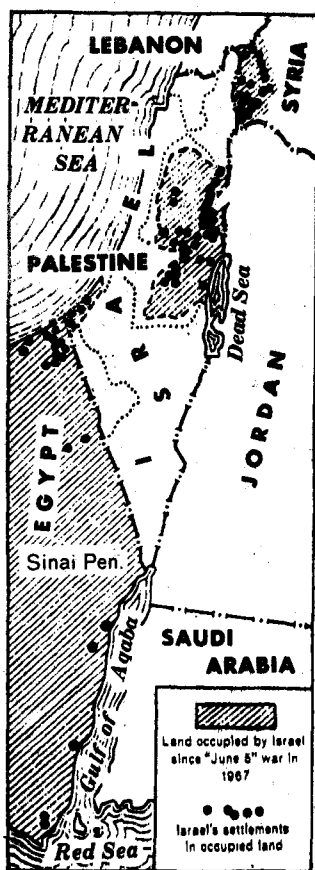
Refuting Begin

THE Israeli Zionist chieftain Menachem Begin recently turned up in the United States mouthing a lot of absurdities. These, like his past statements, show that he is bent on expansion and aggression and continues to be hostile to the Arab people.

One of Begin’s absurdities is that the occupation of the territories of other countries is justified. During the 30 years since its founding on May 14, 1948, the “state of Israel” launched four wars of aggression and occupied more than 70,000 square kilometres of land including the whole of Palestine and parts of Egypt and Syria. Not long ago, it occupied a large part of southern Lebanon. The history of the “state of Israel” is a history of infamous aggression. Begin, however, claimed in New York and Washington that the occupation of its neighbours’ territory was for the

defence of Israel’s “security,” and that Israel was exercising “its inherent right to self-defence.” He declared that Israel would not commit itself to any agreement calling for the withdrawal of its troops.

The territory of any country is sacred and inviolable. The Arab states will not cease fighting until they have recovered their lost territories. Peace cannot be realized in the Middle East until Israel returns these lands. However, Begin clamoured: “Under no circumstances shall we return to the lines of 4th of June 1967 because such a return may mean the beginning of the end of the Jewish state.” We may remind Begin and his colleagues of the fact that Hitler dished up the theory of “lebensraum” to justify his expansion. He succeeded in seizing more than half of Europe. Nevertheless, he came to a bad end.



Another absurdity is that the Israeli violation of other countries' sovereignty is justified. He indicated that Israel would evacuate the lands it has occupied if all his prerequisites were met, but he insisted that the Israeli "settlements" there must be allowed to remain. For many years the Israeli authorities have pursued a policy of setting up "settlements" in the occupied Arab territories to perpetuate its occupation. Moreover, they are still not satisfied with the 105 "settlements" they have so far set up, and hope to build more. According to the British journal *The Economist*, they

plan to increase the number of their "settlements" to 150 in the next three years.

The reason why Begin is so keen on these "settlements" lies in their location in areas of strategic importance and their airports which can be used for military purposes. Begin made the point plain when he said that "the settlements will be put under the protection of an Israeli defensive force" and "all Israeli settlements will remain as they are, and it will be an Israeli defensive force which will guard their security, and no other force will do so." Begin further stated that "we propose a wide security belt around Israel, around its south, not only for this generation but for the generations to come."

The Israeli authorities think it proper to build a series of "security belts" — the "settlements" — in violation of the sovereignty of other countries. But one wonders if they would agree to their neighbours' claim to build a series of "settlements" and "security belts" in Israel.

A third absurdity of Begin's is that the Israeli persecution of the Palestinian people is justified.

The Israeli authorities, not satisfied with the territory ceded to them on the strength of the United Nations' resolution of partition, have driven nearly a million Palestinians out of their ancient homeland and settled down there in their stead ever since the first day of their "statehood." They stubbornly rejected all proposals for restoration of the Palestinians' legitimate rights, especially an independent Palestine state which Palestinians have the right to found on their own land. A communique issued after an Israeli cabinet meeting presided over by Begin last February 12 declared: "Such a [Palestinian] state would amount to a mortal danger for the existence of the State of Israel."

Here one cannot help but ask whether Israel is endangered by the Palestinians or the Palestinians are persecuted by the Israelis. The fact during the last 30 years is that so many Palestinians are rendered homeless by Israel while those who remained in Israeli-occupied areas have been living under brutal repression and the existence of the Palestinian nation as a whole is in grave danger. Begin and his like, however, are blaming the Palestinians for "endangering" the occupationists!

Begin arrogantly declared that the Palestinians can only live in "limited autonomy" on the West Bank of the Jordan River and the Gaza Strip and even this part of the Palestinian territories have to remain under the civilian and military control of Israel. What it means is that the Palestinian cause of liberation must be written off once and for all, the displaced Palestinians can never return to their homeland and those in the occupied areas should continue to groan under Israeli bayonets. This is really too much to bear!

The 30-year history of Zionism shows that its policy of aggression and expansion and its fascist atrocities have carried Israel into a blind alley. It is condemned unanimously by world public opinion as well as all Arab people. Internally, it is ridden by crises as a result of ever increasing military expenditure, growing debts, spiralling prices and wave after wave of strikes. The Israeli ruling circles will meet their doom

Chinese Representative's Statement at U.N. Security Council Session

THE United Nations Security Council on March 19 adopted a resolution calling upon Israel immediately to cease its military action and withdraw its forces forthwith from all Lebanese territory. The resolution calls for strict respect for the territorial integrity, sovereignty and political independence of Lebanon within its internationally recognized boundaries. Under the terms of the resolution, the Security Council decides to establish a United Nations interim force for the purpose of confirming the withdrawal of Israeli forces and assisting the Government of Lebanon in ensuring the return of its effective authority in the area.

The resolution was adopted with 12 votes in favour, two abstentions. China did not participate in the voting.

Chinese Representative Lai Ya-li pointed out in his statement that the draft resolution neither condemns the Israeli armed aggression against Lebanon nor supports the just struggle of the Arab and Palestinian people. China has always held a different position in principle on the question of sending the United Nations force, because such a practice may pave the way for the superpowers' interference. China therefore expresses its reservation and has decided not to participate in the voting on the draft resolution.

Lai Ya-li said: The Chinese delegation has listened attentively to the statements made by the representatives of Lebanon

and other Arab countries and of the Palestine Liberation Organization. We fully support the complaints and condemnation they have made in categorical terms against the Israeli Zionists' aggression. The Chinese delegation expresses profound sympathy and solicitude to the Lebanese and Palestinian people. We express our utmost indignation at the aggression and brutal crimes committed by the Israeli Zionists.

He said that the two superpowers have long been engaging in overt and covert struggle over the Middle East question for the same purpose of controlling the Middle East and impairing the national rights of the Arab and Palestinian people. The only difference between them lies in the fact that while one superpower supports Israel openly, the other does so in the guise of a "natural ally" of the Arab people and under the signboard of "supporting national-liberation movements." It is with the connivance and support of the two superpowers that Israel has for years time and again launched wars of aggression against the Arab countries, occupied vast tracts of Arab territories and made large numbers of Palestinians homeless, thus reducing the situation in the Middle East to a state of great tension.

Lai Ya-li pointed out in conclusion that though Zionists can be wild for a time, it is the hundreds of millions of Arab people who eventually determine the destiny of the Middle East.

some day should such a state of affairs continue. Though Begin and his like also say they "desire" and "pray" for peace, they have launched a large-scale invasion of Lebanon and have continued their advocacy of aggression. What a discrepancy between their words and deeds!

The day will certainly come when the Israeli ruling circles will be repudiated by peoples of all countries and punished by the Israeli people if they do not repent but persist in their policy of aggression and expansion.

(A commentary by Hsinhua Correspondent)

A Visit to Four Countries

by the Chinese Journalists' Delegation

A CHINESE journalists' delegation, which included a staff member of *Peking Review*, visited Syria, Tunisia, Somalia and Burundi from the latter half of November to the end of December last year. The warm welcome and hospitality accorded the delegation in the capitals and provinces by government officials and ordinary people greatly impressed members of the delegation, who were particularly moved by the national pride of the people who had won their independence after long years of the anti-imperialist and anti-colonialist struggle and by their firm resolve to safeguard their national independence, develop their national economies and cultures, and oppose hegemonism, aggression and expansionism. Third world countries, with big or small territories or populations, are not to be trifled with. They are all forging ahead.

Determined to Recover The Golan Heights

We were warmly welcomed by our Syrian friends when we arrived in Damascus, the capital of Syria, a front-line country in the struggle against Israeli Zionist aggression. Way back in ancient times China and Syria, linked by the "Silk Road," carried on trade and cultural exchange. Today, friendship and co-operation between the two countries are being steadily strengthened. Many Syrian friends expressed appreciation of China's support for the Arab countries' cause of unity in struggle.

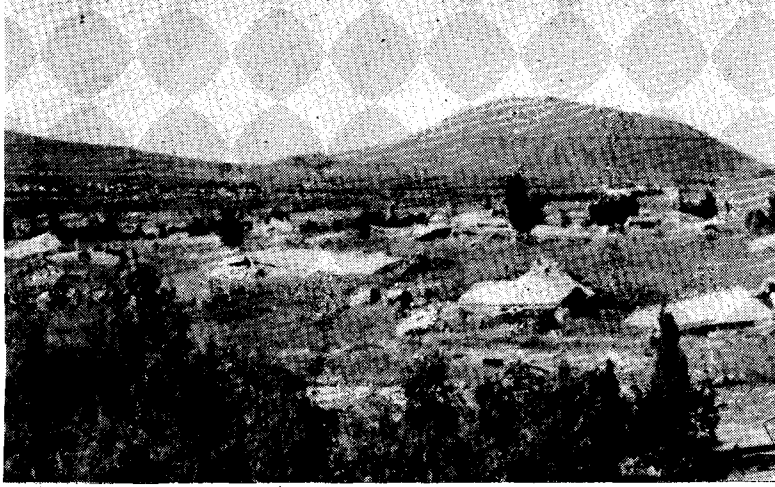
In the morning of our second day in Damascus, we drove to the Golan Heights. We headed southwest from the capital, passing many olive groves, vineyards and large expanses of

luxuriant pastureland as we gradually climbed towards the Heights. A Syrian friend pointed to a martyrs' cemetery by the road and said: "Buried here are fallen heroes of the October War." After driving for about an hour, we saw a big placard in front of us reading: "Welcome to El Quneitra!"

El Quneitra, the provincial capital of Golan, is 73 kilometres from Damascus. An official of Golan Province accompanied us to see the shell-blasted buildings. He gave us a brief account of what had happened to El Quneitra as we went along. El Quneitra was once a flourishing city in western Syria with a population of 55,000. In 1967 Israel invaded and occupied it and drove out all its inhabitants. In May 1974, a ceasefire agreement was signed and the Israeli aggressors sacked and completely destroyed the city before they withdrew.

The official said with indignation: "The Golan Heights is our sacred territory. The soil here is fertile, the climate mild and the rainfall ample. It's the famous agricultural and livestock region of the country. The Golan Heights is the western gateway of our capital; but today the Israeli aggressors occupy three-quarters of it. Damascus is within reach of their long-range guns. Just think, how can we tolerate this! We are determined to recover the Golan Heights!"

Picking our way through ruins overgrown with weeds, we were soon confronted by a barbed-wire entanglement running north and south. It was the military demarcation line between Syria and Israel. About a kilometre west



Golan Heights under Israeli occupation.

of the entanglement was a hill—a commanding height Israel had occupied for many years. The hill bristled with antennae, radar, fortifications and guard posts. Our Syrian friends pointed to rows of new housing in the distance and said: “Those are their so-called settlements. The inhabitants are Jews who in recent years emigrated from the Soviet Union.”

While one superpower supplies Israel with the latest-type weapons, the other superpower furnishes it with an endless stream of “immigrants.” Both superpowers have done their utmost to create a situation of “no war, no peace” which is advantageous to their aggression and expansion at the expense of the Arab countries’ territories and people. The reason why the Middle East question has not been resolved over many years is the superpowers’ contention for spheres of influence and their pursuit of hegemonism.

The oil refinery in Homs, north of Damascus, was heavily damaged in the October War. Savage air attacks by the Israeli aggressors destroyed an oil refining workshop, two desulphurizing workshops and 50 per cent of the oil storage tanks. Heedless of danger, the workers extinguished the raging fires and worked day and night to repair the equipment so that within 40 days the oil refinery was back in production. When we visited it, signs of enemy destruction could still be seen. Next to the new oil storage tanks were the bombed-out old ones. The roads were lined with burnt trees and blasted towers. These scars of war and the monument to martyrs standing at the front gate serve to remind people never to forget the brutality of the aggressors and the

heroic fight waged by the Syrian people. The president of the refinery’s trade union told us: “Our will is strong. We must safeguard our rights and interests at all costs.”

The situation of “no war, no peace” naturally brings difficulties to Syria’s efforts at development and construction. Nevertheless, the Syrian people, under the leadership of President Assad, have made headway in developing the national economy and culture. Good-quality high-

yielding cotton provides ample raw material for the textile industry. The development of grain production will soon enable Syria to be self-sufficient in food. The country is making great efforts to expand higher education and study the Arab people’s achievements in science throughout history.

The Syrian people won independence after long years of fighting. In the struggle against Zionist aggression they have made sacrifices and contributions to the common cause of the Arab people.

We are convinced that the Arab people, united as one and persevering in struggle, will attain the Arab nation’s just goal—the return of the Golan Heights and all the lost lands of Arab states to the embrace of their motherland.

Giving Full Play to the Anti-Imperialist, Anti-Colonialist Tradition

Flying west over the Mediterranean from Damascus, we crossed the Tunisian border and began to see below us more and more blocks of trees forming a network of forests in the desert. This was the result of the hard-working Tunisian people’s fight to transform the desert. As we flew north, the sandy yellow wasteland was replaced by a sea of trees. When we stepped on the soil of scenic Tunisia with its mild climate, we were immediately overwhelmed by the warmth and friendship which greeted us.

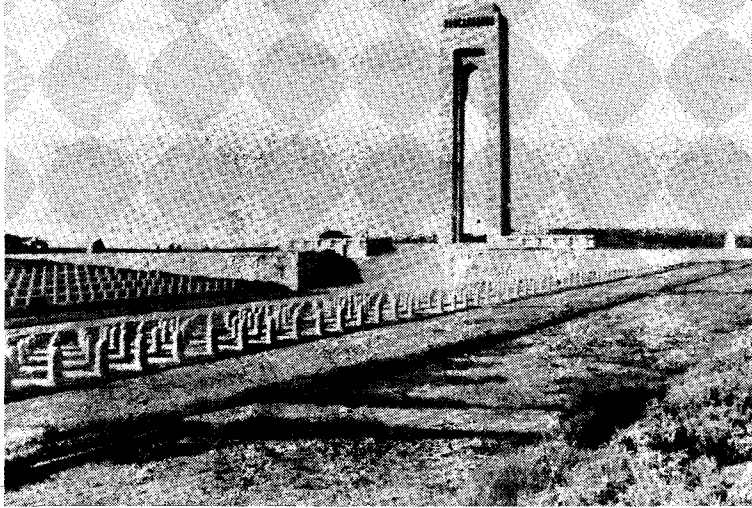
We happened to be in Tunisia on the 25th anniversary of the death of Ferhat Hashed, a famous Tunisian national-liberation fighter who was murdered. At the airport and everywhere along the roads flew the national flag of Tunisia—a red flag with a white disc containing

a red crescent moon and a five-pointed red star—in respect and memory of this martyr. After 1881 when their country became a colony, the Tunisian people waged a long struggle and suffered enormous sacrifices. Today, as Tunisia marches ahead along the road of development, its people are not forgetful of their past; they are determined to give full play to their glorious revolutionary tradition and safeguard their hard-won independence.

Ksar-Hellal in Monastir Province was where the Neo-Destour Party, which led the Tunisian people in the struggle to win national independence, held its first congress on March 2, 1934. The site of the congress was an ordinary courtyard with a palm tree in the centre. It was under this tree that 60 delegates held a day-long meeting and kindled the flames of struggle. After the meeting, the colonialists arrested Bourguiba who had presided over the meeting and other delegates. Hearing about this the angry people poured into Moknine Village, then a colonialist post, to stage a demonstration. The colonialists opened fire on the demonstrators and caused many casualties. The many valuable historical materials on display in the exhibition hall today serve to inspire the younger generation to continue to march on.

In 1956 Tunisia attained independence, but the struggle against colonialism was not over. The important northern port of Bizerte was still in the hands of the colonialists. Many heroic sons and daughters of Tunisia laid down their lives for the recovery of Bizerte. During our visit there, we laid fresh flowers before the monument to the martyrs in the fight against the colonialists in 1961. Large bas-reliefs on two sides of the towering marble monument vividly record the history of the Tunisian people's struggle against colonialism. The thousands of white tombstones testify to their dauntless spirit in defying brute force.

Since independence, Tunisia has achieved heartening progress in eliminating colonialist influence and in developing the national economy and culture. In foreign affairs, Tunisia follows a policy of non-alignment, strives for equality in international relations and opposes



Monument to the martyrs in Bizerte.

hegemonism. As an Arab, Mediterranean, African, non-aligned and a third world country, Tunisia has wide contacts with various countries in the world and plays an important role in international affairs. It supports the national-liberation movements in different parts of the world, proposes making the Mediterranean a lake of peace, strives for unity among the Arab states and advocates settling disputes through dialogue and consultation. Tunisia's foreign policy and stand are admired by the Chinese Government and people.

In 1977 Tunisia launched its new five-year plan and, taking agriculture as the mainstay of the national economy, the government is endeavouring to bring about self-sufficiency in food grains. Tunisian friends often use the phrase "economic take-off" to describe Tunisia's use of its own natural resources and personnel to realize the plan for industrialization and attain the goal of dispensing with foreign aid in the future.

During our short visit, we felt the Tunisian people's deep friendship for our people. This brought to our minds a verse from the late Vice-Premier and Foreign Minister Comrade Chen Yi's poem *Tunisians Say*:

*Chinese guests come from afar,
Warm welcomes greet them everywhere.
This is not at all strange,
Not at all strange!
A common destiny, a common task
Gives us a common language.*

(To be continued.)

ROUND THE WORLD

U.S.A.

Coal Miners' Strike

The 110-day strike of 180,000 U.S. coal miners ended on March 25. It was the longest of the nine nationwide coal miners' strikes in 35 years.

The demands for coal are growing as the energy crisis in the United States deepens. The monopolies are trying to deprive the miners of their right to strike so as to ensure stable coal production and step up exploitation of the workers. But the militant miners got going the big strike under the slogan of "no contract, no work."

As soon as the strike broke out, the mine owners tried to sabotage and suppress it and the U.S. Government also stepped in. On February 12, President Carter ordered owners and miners to the White House for negotiations. After Carter had set down four deadlines for "decisive action" and under pressure from the government, mine trade union chiefs reached an agreement with the owners on February 24 to end the strike.

In announcing the agreement reached, President Carter urged the miners to endorse the contract without delay and threatened that if it was vetoed, he would take "drastic legal action" to end the walkout. The miners, however, on March 6 voted down by a margin of more than two-thirds the new contract containing stipulations against strikes.

After the miners' veto, the U.S. President summoned a cabinet meeting and announced that the Taft-Hartley Act would be invoked to send striking miners back to work. Still the workers refused to go back and the mine owners were compelled to withdraw their suppressive provisions.

The strike has dealt U.S. monopoly capital a heavy blow. Some 120 million tons less coal were produced. Total direct loss sustained by the coal industry and railway transport amounts to 3,500 million dollars.

U.S. SENATE

Panama Canal Neutrality Treaty Approved

The U.S. Senate on March 16 ratified the "Treaty Concerning the Permanent Neutrality and Operation of the Panama Canal."

After more than 70 years of struggle by the Panamanian people, the U.S. Government was obliged to sign the treaty on September 7 last together with the new Panama Canal Treaty. The permanent neutrality treaty stipulates that after the validation of the new Panama Canal Treaty, Panama and the United States should guarantee permanent neutrality of the canal, and that in time of peace and in time of war, the canal shall remain secure and open to transit by the vessels of all nations. In the "Statement of Understanding" issued on

October 14, 1977, the two countries agreed that once the neutrality of the canal is threatened or damaged, both countries have the right to take action, but this does not imply that the United States has the right to intervene in Panama's internal affairs. Warships of the two countries have priority over other vessels for rapid passage in time of need or emergency. Prior to the U.S. Senate's approval of the Panama Canal neutrality treaty by a two-thirds majority vote, some amendments and reservations to this treaty were made which mainly concern the continued U.S. military presence in the Canal Zone after the year of 2000 and the defence of the canal.

Romulo Escobar Betancourt, Panama's chief negotiator, declared in a recent statement over Radio Panama that his country would study these amendments and reservations "to see if they violate the intent of the treaties." Torrijos, Head of the Panamanian Government, in his letter of reply to U.S. President Carter pointed out: "Panama deems unacceptable any reservations (to the treaty) which impair national dignity, distort or alter the objectives of the treaty with the intent to prevent the effective exercise of Panama's sovereignty over all its territory, the handing over of the canal (to Panama) and the pulling out of (U.S.) armed forces on December 31, 1999."

While the U.S. Senate decided to put the new Panama Canal Treaty to the vote in April, Panama had already officially confirmed the two treaties last October according to plebiscite results.

ON THE HOME FRONT

Peasant Theatrical Festival

THE Ministry of Culture recently convened a national conference on mass cultural work in north China's Hsiyang County. The conference called for vigorous development of mass cultural activities in rural areas so as to serve the high-speed growth of agriculture and enrich peasants' cultural life.

The Tachai Production Brigade, the national pace-setter in agriculture, is located in the county. As a result of learning from Tachai, Hsiyang has become a famous Tachai-type county. Following the large-scale transformation of mountains and rivers, Hsiyang's grain production increased many fold and the people's livelihood improved markedly.

Like Tachai, cultural life in Hsiyang County for the peasants is becoming richer and richer. Some 120,000 out of the 200,000 people in the county take part in various spare-time cultural activities. During the conference, the county held a three-day peasant amateur theatrical festival.

Peasant amateur troupes performed in the county town during the daytime, while colourful lantern processions were held in the evening. The processions, which extended for two kilometres, moved amid the beating of drums, clanging of gongs and explosion of firecrackers, drawing spectators from communes all around and from other places. The number of onlookers topped 20,000 at the peak.

The whole county town was festooned with lights and streamers. Displayed along the main street were models showing the terraced fields carved out by the Tachai Production Brigade on its hillsides, and the biggest water conservancy project now under construction in Hsiyang.

Forty peasant theatrical groups selected from the county's 20 communes performed operas, concerts, dances, ballads, shadow plays, swordsmanship and other folk items at ten sites in the town. Among the items, there was one which combined singing and acting performed by four elderly peasants now in their 60s, called "going all out for the four mod-

ernizations." Twenty-four peasant girls choreographed and performed a dance in praise of Chairman Hua Kuo-feng.

An art exhibition was on display at the county town during the theatrical festival. On show were more than 100 works including traditional Chinese paintings, oils, woodcuts and water colours by peasant painters of Hsiyang. Another exhibition showed musical instruments made by local peasants, including violins, violas and traditional Chinese stringed, plucking or woodwind instruments.

The county cultural centre displayed original manuscripts of literary works by local peasant writers, together with collections of folk songs, poems, paintings, works of instrumental music, plays and ballads written by Hsiyang peasants and put out by various publishing houses.

Such large-scale amateur art festivals are held twice a year in this county in Shansi Province, the first soon after the Spring Festival, before the coming of the busy season, and the second after the summer harvest. The items on the repertory of the latest county festival were selected from more than 2,000 items presented by 6,000 peasant amateurs and primary and middle school pupils. It is on such basis of the masses that China's proletarian literature and art is developing steadily.

New Technique in Oil Drilling Popularized

THE Ministry of Petroleum Industry has recently run two courses in the North China Oilfield to popularize a new drilling technique.



A performance during the festival.

The speed of oil drilling has a direct bearing on the development of the petroleum industry. High-pressure jet oil drilling came into being in the 1960s and was further developed in the 1970s; this method is much faster as compared with other drilling methods. As early as the 1960s, China mastered this technique. Later, due to the interference and sabotage by Lin Piao and the "gang of four," it could not be popularized.

Taking part in the courses were leading cadres, technicians and leaders of drilling teams from various oilfields. After finishing their studies, they returned to their own oilfields to popularize the technique. Altogether 153 people were attending these classes. While learning theoretical knowledge in class, they linked theory with practice, made designs and discussed them, and took part in drilling a well from start to finish. Graduates of the second group made great progress. The average mark was 89.2, many got 100 and some even contributed original ideas of their own.

According to statistics from seven wells sunk by high-pressure jet oil drilling, average drilling speed for a single well increased by 270 per cent as compared with drilling a well by other methods.

Serve the People

Medical Workers Serve as Tutors. Medical workers of the Children's Hospital of Harbin, capital of northeast China's Heilungkiang Province, give make-up lessons to in-patient children suffering from chronic diseases,

to help them keep up with their classmates upon returning school.

The 300-bed hospital began doing this five years ago when it was found that some sick children had difficulty in passing their examinations. Every morning, after giving the children physical checkups and medicine, the medical workers organize the children into groups and they themselves took on the job of tutoring.

Risking His Life to Save Others.

A train was roaring by the railway station at Loyang, a rising industrial city in central China. A country woman, who knew little about urban traffic regulations, got off another train at the station and was crossing the tracks with a five-year-old child in her haste to leave — heedless of the approaching train.

An accident seemed imminent when Chao Shu-wen, a P.L.A. soldier, caught sight of this and sprang into action. With a few swift leaps, he carried the child on to the platform, only to find the locomotive plowing headlong towards him five metres away. He quickly wheeled about just in time to push the country woman on to the platform. The train swept past, barely grazing him as he jumped aside and lay face downwards.

The army unit in which Chao Shu-wen serves recently conferred a second-class merit title on him.

Reunion After 36 Years of Separation. A Peking police station received a letter in November last year from Wang Su-ying, a peasant woman of Hopei Province, asking for help in

finding a younger sister whom she had not seen for 36 years. The three sisters had been separated before liberation when Su-ying, who was the oldest, and the youngest girl were sold in Hsuanhua, Hopei Province, after the death of their parents. The two were reunited after liberation. Both have jobs and their children are either working or in school. But for many years they could find no trace of the lost second sister.

Their family, as Su-ying remembered, lived at a place called Kuantungtien in Peking, and the middle sister was called Hsiao-erh. But she did not know what her parents' names were.

Ku Yung-chih, a young policeman, immediately went into action on receiving the task to organize a search. At first his efforts were fruitless as he conferred with the old families at Kuantungtien. Then he invited the residents to a dozen or so meetings at which he sought to uncover clues as to the whereabouts of the second sister. The local people were also asked to make wider inquiries. Many setbacks and failures followed. But eventually with the help of a worker, he found the missing sister's eldest daughter, who told him that her mother was working in Szechuan.

The police station cabled Hsuanhua and Szechuan at once. As if waiting for their own kith and kin, people of the station arranged living quarters for the coming reunion. Their warm care resulted in a happy get-together of the sisters at the capital after 36 years of separation.

中國民航



CAAC

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on March 31, 1978

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	03.45	dep.		arr.	19.55	
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* There was a typographical error in the timetable published in our last issue.

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