

PEKING REVIEW

8

February 24, 1978

北
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周
報

**Developing Coal Industry at
High Speed**

**Farm Mechanization: Targets
For 1980**

***Soviet Military Intervention in the Horn
Of Africa Provokes World Indignation***

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北京周報

BEIJING ZHOUBAO

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Prospecting to Be Speeded Up

Prospects are good for developing high-grade iron ore deposits in China, agreed delegates to a recent national geological conference in Shanghai.

Delegates were mostly geotechnicians working in the mountains, deserts and on the sea. They exchanged experience, studied relevant data, discussed and drew up a long-term plan for geological work.

Prospecting for high-grade iron ore mines is a major task. Geologists discussed at length the rich data on iron ore deposits from various parts of the country and related geophysical and geochemical features. Veteran geologists read 16 papers on prospecting for iron ore deposits.

The conference decided to strengthen research in basic geological theory. By applying the theory of geomechanics advanced by the renowned scientist the late Li Ssu-kuang, the Taching Oilfield was discovered within four years. Later, more oilfields were discovered. This speed of development had few precedents. Efforts will be made for major research breakthroughs in basic geological theory so as to speed up ore prospecting.

Workers' Communist Party (M-L) of Norway Greeted

The Central Committee of the Communist Party of China sent a message of congratulations on

February 17 to the Central Committee of the Workers' Communist Party (Marxist-Leninist) of Norway on the 5th anniversary of its founding. The message said:

"The Workers' Communist Party (Marxist-Leninist) of Norway is a youthful and vigorous Party which has grown up in the fierce struggle between the two lines in the international communist movement. Your Party has over the years held high the banner of revolution and made marked contributions by waging indomitable struggles against modern revisionism and against the two hegemonic powers, the Soviet Union and the United States, Soviet social-imperialism in particular, for the defence of Norway's national independence and state sovereignty, against monopoly capital and for the realization of socialism. Moreover, your Party works energetically to integrate the universal truth of Marxism-Leninism with the concrete practice of revolution in your country and has gained remarkable successes in propagating Marxism-Leninism, strengthening your work in Party building and maintaining close ties with the masses.

"At present, the international situation continues to develop in a direction favourable to the people of all countries. We are deeply convinced that your Party will win greater victories in the protracted revolutionary struggle in the days to come.

"Our two Parties have established a revolutionary friendship and solidarity through common

struggles. We are fully confident that this militant friendship and solidarity, based on Marxism-Leninism and the principle of proletarian internationalism, will be further consolidated and developed."

In Memory of Edgar Snow

On February 15 *Renmin Ribao* devoted nearly a whole page to publishing a signed article and two photographs to mark the 6th anniversary of the death of Edgar Snow, a faithful friend of the Chinese people.

The article recalled the unforgettable friendship he had forged with the Chinese people. It described events from 1936 when he, as a young correspondent, travelled by donkey to the northern Shensi revolutionary base area of Paoan to the day when he breathed his last.

Edgar Snow's friendly contacts with the Chinese people over dozens of years, the article said, constituted a moving and praiseworthy chapter in the annals of friendship between the Chinese and American peoples.

The article paid tribute to his world-famous book *Red Star Over China*.

Snow came to China on three occasions after he left China in 1941 for 19 years. On each occasion, Chairman Mao and Premier Chou invited him to be their guest at their homes. Snow gave lectures, wrote books and letters to help the American people understand New China.

When he was suffering from cancer, Huang Hua, then Chinese Representative to the

United Nations, and Chen Chih-fang, who was Chinese Ambassador to Switzerland, went to visit him on many occasions, bringing with them Premier Chou's letters for him. The Chinese Government sent a medical team made up of his good friend Dr. George Hatem and Chinese medical workers to look after him.

Chairman Mao was very grieved when he learnt of his death. In his message of condolences to Mrs. Snow, Chairman Mao said: "He exerted unremitting efforts throughout his life and made important contributions in promoting the mutual understanding and friendship between the Chinese and American peoples. His memory will live for ever in the hearts of the Chinese people."

Sino-Japanese Long-Term Trade Agreement

"It's fine that China and Japan have signed a long-term trade agreement. Trade between China and Japan has bright prospects." This was what Vice-Premier Li Hsien-nien said on the afternoon of February 16 when he met the delegation of the Japanese Committee for a Long-Term Trade Agreement Between Japan and China.

Yoshihiro Inayama, the committee's president, said with joy to the Vice-Premier: "The long-term trade agreement we signed this morning is of great importance to widening the channel for Japan-China trade."

Vice-Premier Li also said: "We will accomplish before the end of this century the modernization of agriculture, in-

dustry, national defence and science and technology which was envisaged by Chairman Mao and announced to the whole world by Premier Chou En-lai. We rely on our own efforts but we do not exclude broader trade relations and stronger economic co-operation with friendly countries on the basis of equality and mutual benefit and supplying each other's needs."

Toshiwo Doko, the committee's chief adviser who is 82 this year, expressed his wish to make still greater efforts to further expand Japan-China economic and trade relations.

The signing ceremony took place in Peking on the morning of the same day.

The agreement was signed in the spirit of the Joint Statement of the Governments of China and Japan and their trade agreement and on the basis of equality, mutual benefit, supplying each other's needs and balance between imports and exports. It will remain valid for eight years from 1978 to 1985. During this period, exports from each side will total about 10,000 million U.S. dollars. According to the agreement, China will export petroleum and coal and Japan will export technology, complete sets of equipment and building materials.

Bank of China Issues Traveller's Cheques

The Bank of China began issuing traveller's cheques in Renminbi (RMB) on January 20 in two denominations, 50 and 100 yuan.

This is aimed at facilitating foreign tourists travelling in China and overseas Chinese, Taiwan compatriots and compatriots in Hongkong and Macao who come to visit their relatives. These cheques are valid only in China for six months from the date of purchase. To purchase or cash them, one has only to produce identification papers and sign for them. There is no limit to the amount of purchase.

The cheques may be cashed at more than 400 places in China, including branches of the Bank of China and designated branches of the People's Bank, hotels, shops and airports. There are eight such places in Peking and over 300 in south China's Kwangtung Province.

The Bank of China has entrusted its Hongkong branch and agent banks and their 140-odd branches and agents in the Hongkong and Macao areas to sell these traveller's cheques.

Over 300,000 yuan (RMB) worth of traveller's cheques were sold in Hongkong on the first day. A number of foreign banks have expressed their willingness to serve as commissioned agents.

IN THE NEWS

- Vice-Premier Teng Hsiao-ping met U.S. Democratic Senator Henry Jackson on February 16.

- Premier Hua Kuo-feng sent a message on February 17 to Sheikh Saad al-Abdullah al-Salem, congratulating him on his nomination as Heir Apparent and appointment as Prime Minister of the State of Kuwait.

Developing Coal Industry at High Speed

by Hsiao Han

CHINA today still relies mainly on coal for fuel. Development of the coal industry, therefore, has a direct bearing on the speed of national economic growth.

A Brief Review

Large-scale mining of coal began in China about a century ago. Prior to country-wide liberation in 1949, however, coal production was of a very low level because of the predatory method of mining employed by the Kuomintang reactionaries and foreign imperialists who controlled all the major coal mines; moreover, the equipment and techniques in use were

backward and outdated. At that time, all the big mines were located north of the Yangtze River, which was why distribution of the coal industry was extremely irrational. National output was very low in the years immediately before liberation.

Things began to change after liberation. The Party and the People's Government have always attached great importance to restoring and developing the coal industry. While expanding and renovating the old mines which have rich deposits and are close to the major industrial regions, such as the Kailan Coal Mine in Hopei Province, the Tatung Coal Mine in Shansi Province, the Fushun and Fuhsin Coal Mines in Liaoning Province, we have built many big and medium-sized shafts in Honan Province's Pingdingshan, Shantung Province's Feicheng and Ningsia Hui Autonomous Region's Shihtsuishan, all of which have become new mining centres. Efforts have also been made to develop medium and small coal mines in Kwangtung, Hunan and seven other provinces south of the Yangtze; the total output of these nine provinces today is 3.6 times that of 1965, the year preceding the start of the Great Cultural Revolution. This has resulted in a more rational distribution of the coal industry.

Thanks to 28 years of hard work, coal output has gone up 16-fold as compared with the early post-liberation years, ranking third in the world as against tenth in 1949. After the smashing of the "gang of four," coal output, washed and dressed coal production and tun-



Comrade Hsiao Han giving awards to a model miner.

The author is Minister of Coal Industry.

nelling footage in 1977 were respectively 12, 9 and 10 per cent higher than in 1976.

Speeding Up

With the quickening of the pace of socialist modernization, various sectors of the national economy need a bigger supply of coal. Though big advances have already been made, China's coal industry remains a weak link of the national economy with comparatively backward techniques and a low level of mechanization.

Chairman Hua has called on the whole nation to speed up the development of the basic industries, saying that determined efforts must be made to produce more coal and electricity and improve communications and transport, for only thus can industry as a whole move ahead and truly achieve a high speed of development. He has more than once given instructions regarding the restoration and development of the Kailan Coal Mine, which was seriously damaged in an earthquake in 1976, and called on the miners there to produce 50-60 million tons of coal every year.

China abounds in coal with ascertained deposits ranking among the world's largest and a wide variety distributed in various parts of the country. Under the leadership of Chairman Hua and the Party Central Committee, we are determined to develop the coal industry at a record pace in our history.

Our goal is to double the present output after ten years of hard work, produce as much again as in 1987 by the end of this century and bring about mechanization and modernization of the coal mines at the earliest possible date.

Measures

How are we to achieve this goal? The answer lies in following the principle of self-reliance and hard work and adopting effective measures.

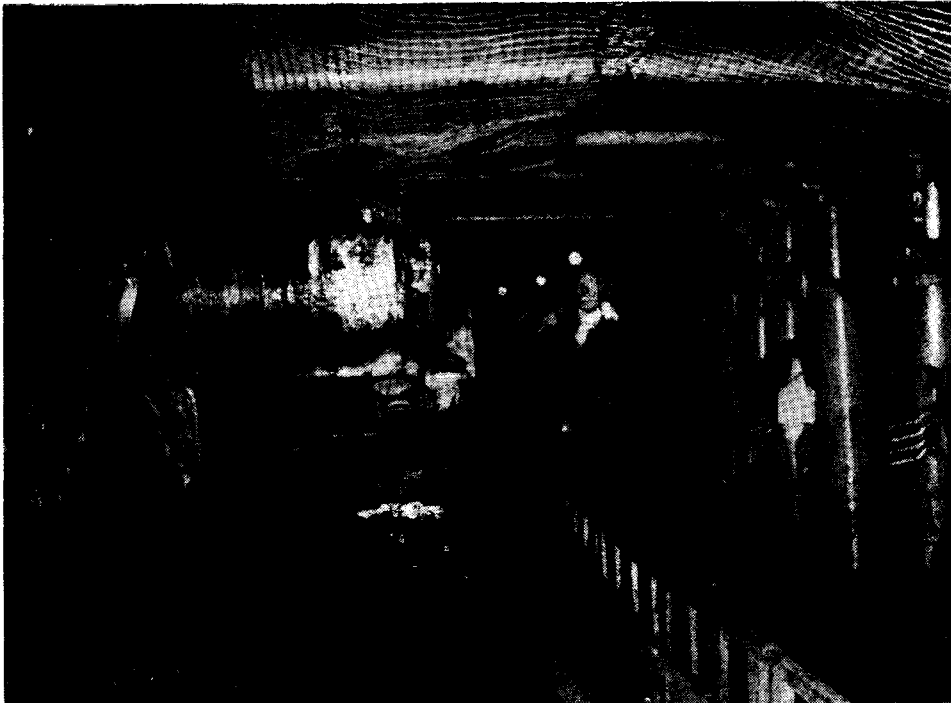
Tap the Potential of Old Mines. The 100-year-old Kailan Coal Mine's annual designed capacity

was 12.6 million tons. By renovating its old equipment and technological processes and increasing the output at the work face and the rate of recovery, it succeeded after six years in raising its annual output to 25.6 million tons. Kailan thus became two of its old self in terms of output before it was struck by the earthquake in 1976. Kailan's method of development needs only one-third of the investment for building shafts to expand production to this level, and it takes less time and gives quicker results. This experience is now being popularized in other mines and it is expected that in the next eight years one-third of the increased amount of coal every year will be produced in this way.

Develop and Transform Small Mines. There are more than 20,000 small coal mines in 1,100 of the more than 2,000 counties in China. Last year, output of these county-, commune- or brigade-run mines accounted for one-third of the nation's total. Located in various parts of the country, they play an important role in promoting the economic development of the rural areas. Our plan is to build coal mines in three to five years in all counties where coal is available and at the same time step up the technical transformation of existing coal shafts.

Improve Distribution of the Coal Industry. The situation in which coal is shipped from the north to areas south of the Yangtze has been changed to a considerable extent but not completely, and the distribution of collieries in some coal-producing areas is still not balanced. So in the next ten years we plan to build step by step a number of large coal mining bases mainly in east, central-south and northeast China, and at the same time expand the Kailan, Tatung and several other big coal centres. Our aim is to make northeast, north, east, central-south, northwest and southwest China basically self-sufficient in coal in about ten years.

Seek More Energy Resources and Promote Multipurpose Utilization. China is rich in fuel resources of low heat value such as stone coal



A chain coal-cutter in operation at Kailan.

and oil shale, in addition to huge quantities of gangue in the mines. In recent years, much experience has been gained in exploiting and using these resources in various localities. Take for instance Chekiang, Hunan and Hupeh Provinces which have mined nearly 30 million tons of stone coal for ordinary steam boilers and cooking stoves and for some trades which usually need high-grade fuels. Kailan, Nanpiao and other coal mines have achieved good results in making gas, bricks and briquettes from gangue.

Mechanization

The key to speedy development of the coal industry lies in mechanization.

Many coal mines have in the last few years geared their efforts to this requirement. Although labour productivity and some major economic and technical standards in China's coal industry today compare unfavourably with the world's advanced levels, our coal miners and staff members are determined to catch up with and surpass advanced world standards in the shortest possible time.

Our target is to basically mechanize work in the mines in ten years, with the major mines equipped with coal-cutters and tunnelling machines, continuous transport facilities, automatic coal lifting, washing and dressing machines and computerized communications and dispatching systems. We must rely on the strength and wisdom of the masses to attain this goal in the light of China's actual conditions and at the same time we should learn from the strong points of other countries and import some of the world's most advanced techniques and equipment.

Measures must be taken to raise the scientific and technical level of the miners so as to meet the needs of mechanization.

At present, workers and staff members in the coal industry are bringing about a new upsurge in the mass movement to learn from the Taching Oilfield and catch up with the Kailan Coal Mine. This is an important guarantee for developing our coal industry at top speed. And a good start was made last January when state plan for coal production was fulfilled three days ahead of schedule.

On the Question of Profit

by Hsu Ti-hsin

SOcialist enterprises must make profits and provide an increasingly large amount of fund for the state to ensure the high-speed development of socialist construction and build China into a powerful modern socialist country as quickly as possible. This is quite obvious, but the "gang of four" maliciously created confusion on this question. To achieve their object of undermining the socialist economy, members of the gang deliberately equated profit made by socialist enterprises with that gained under the capitalist system and slandered the making of reasonable profits by socialist enterprises as a revisionist way of doing business. Such fallacies, once spread far and wide, seriously hampered the growth of our national economy.

Two Different Kinds of Profit

Profit gained by socialist enterprises differs in essence from that made under the capitalist system. After years of scientific research and study, Marx proved with comprehensive evidence that capitalist profit is only a transformation of surplus value. Such profit is based on the capitalist ownership of the means of production and its precondition is the exploitation of workers by capitalists. Therefore it embodies class antagonism. Victory in the socialist revolution has done away with the capitalist ownership of the means of production as well as surplus value and capitalist profit.

With the socialist mode of production as the basis, we have eliminated the capitalist form of surplus labour, surplus value and capitalist profit. But this does not and should not mean that we should at the same time eliminate surplus labour provided by the working people in the process of production. Marx expressed this idea clearly when he said: "**Surplus labour**

in general, as labour performed over and above the given requirements, must always remain." (*Capital*.) Engels also said: "**A surplus of the product of labour over and above the costs of subsistence of the labour, and the formation and expansion of a social production and reserve fund out of this surplus, these were and these are the basis of all social, political and intellectual progress."** (*Anti-Duhring*.)

What Marx and Engels said tells us clearly that in the process of socialist production the working people invariably provide the state and society with surplus labour over and above their own requirements. Without this surplus labour (surplus product), it would be impossible to expand socialist reproduction or satisfy the multifarious needs of the state and society. If that were the case, it would be difficult to carry on socialist construction and uphold the dictatorship of the proletariat, and the transition to communism would be out of the question.

True, the surplus labour (surplus product) provided by the working people under the socialist system exceeds their own and their families' direct needs; it is, however, absolutely necessary for the proletarian state and the overall and long-term interests of the working class and other labouring people.

Why do we still call these gains of the socialist enterprises derived from surplus labour (surplus product) profit? This is because commodity-money relations still exist under the socialist system and surplus labour (surplus product) has to express itself in value-form. When these gains of an enterprise are viewed in contrast with its total fund, the value-form of these gains is changed into the form of profit. Through this we can check the economic results

of the management of our enterprises and evaluate their contributions to the state, thereby prompting the enterprises to make careful calculations, practise business accounting, reduce costs and increase profits.

Marxism tells us that socialist accumulation, which is the only source of funds for socialist expanded reproduction, comes by and large from the net income (including profit and tax) of the socialist enterprises. It is thus clear that, to carry out socialist expanded reproduction at high speed, every socialist enterprise must not only pay the prescribed taxes but also endeavour to provide the state with an increasing amount of profit.

But the socialist enterprises' profits and taxes are not only used for socialist expanded reproduction. After being redistributed through the state budget, part of them becomes the accumulation fund, while the other part becomes an important component of the consumption fund. This consumption fund is used, as Marx pointed out in *Critique of the Gotha Programme*, to cover "the general costs of administration not directly belonging to production" and to provide funds "for the common satisfaction of needs, such as schools, health services, etc.," and "funds for those unable to work, etc." That is to say, it must not only cover the various kinds of costs of administration of the state under the dictatorship of the proletariat (the wages of government office workers included), but satisfy the increasing needs of the entire socialist society for developing science, education, health work, culture and art (including the wages of personnel working in these fields) and provide social insurance funds for the aged and for other relief purposes.

Therefore, it is extremely important for socialist enterprises to hand to the state profits and taxes, because this not only affects socialist expanded reproduction but the existence and development of all other departments not engaged in material production and every aspect of life in the country as well. It also has a bearing on the speed of socialist construction and the consolidation of the dictatorship of the proletariat.

On the question of profit, the "gang of four" spread many lies, falsely charged others

and kicked up a fuss in an attempt to foment counter-revolutionary opinion. Their purpose was to throw the whole country into disorder so that they could exploit the situation to seize power and restore capitalism.

Profit and "Putting Profit in Command"

The "gang of four" and their followers alleged that the making of profits by the socialist enterprises amounted to "putting profit in command."

"Putting profit in command" is a method used by the Soviet revisionist renegade clique to restore capitalism in their country. They maintain that among the planned targets of socialist enterprises, profit is the central target and that profit is the basic motive force in their development. We are resolutely opposed to such revisionist rubbish, but we stand for socialist enterprises making profits on the basis of all-round fulfilment of state plans. These are two concepts different in principle.

First, the aim of socialist production is to meet the increasing needs of the state and the people, whereas production under capitalism and revisionism is for profit. So every socialist enterprise must take production of various kinds of material wealth as its task and must not onesidedly stress profit.

Secondly, production in socialist enterprises is arranged according to the state plan and the principle "plan first, price second" is followed. That is to say, for the sake of overall interest the state may sometimes fix a low price for some products and thus make only a little profit; and the state sometimes even allows certain losses.

Thirdly, socialist enterprises must first of all ensure the quality of their products and try to improve it continually. With this as the precondition, they do their best to increase production, practise economy, cut down the cost and make more profits. It is quite obvious that the greater the amount of such profits the better, for it is a proof that these enterprises are operating efficiently and are making greater contributions to the state and people. This has nothing in common with "putting profit in command."

Farm Mechanization: Targets for 1980

— An interview with a responsible member of the
office in charge of farm mechanization

At the third national conference on farm mechanization held in Peking last month (see our issue No. 2, 1978), a concrete plan was drawn up for the basic mechanization of farm work by 1980. To make clear some questions relating to this task, our correspondent interviewed a responsible member of the office in charge of farm mechanization under the State Council. — Ed.

QUESTION: China is striving to achieve the basic mechanization of farm work by 1980. Could you explain what exactly does this mean?

ANSWER: In view of the actual conditions in our country, to achieve mechanization of farm work we must have machines for cultivation, farmland capital construction, drainage and irrigation, plant protection, transport, harvesting, processing farm and sideline products, in addition to chemical fertilizers, insecticides, plastic sheets for nursing seedlings, machinery for forestry, animal husbandry and fisheries, the building of small power stations, and semi-mechanized farm implements.

With regard to the level of mechanization to be reached by 1980, our targets are: Machines will be used in about 70 per cent of the main work in agriculture, forestry, animal husbandry, side occupations and fisheries throughout the country; the number of large and medium-sized tractors, large and medium-sized tractor-drawn or tractor-mounted attachments, walking

tractors and drainage and irrigation machinery will be 70, 110, 36 and 32 per cent greater respectively than the present figures; and annual output of chemical fertilizers will increase by 58 per cent.

When we speak of the 15 items and 70 per cent of the main work mentioned above, we have the whole country in mind. Some provinces may top the targets while others may fall short of the mark. Our level of farm mechanization as a whole is comparatively low, so we cannot make comparisons with those countries where farm work has been highly mechanized. We stress "main work" and "70 per cent" instead of "all the work" and "100 per cent." That's why Chairman Mao put the word "basic" before mechanization, that is, basic mechanization of farm work.

Of course, we will continue to move towards higher goals after 1980.

QUESTION: By the way, will you please tell us what are the characteristics of China's agriculture? And what is the present situation with regard to farm mechanization?

ANSWER: To get a clear picture of the present situation, it is necessary to give a brief review of the past. Because of long years of imperialist plunder and Chiang Kai-shek's reactionary rule, industry in general was very backward in old China, not to speak of the farm machinery industry. For centuries Chinese peasants

depended on sheer muscle and simple iron tools for farm work.

After liberation in 1949 and, in particular, since the establishment of the people's communes in 1958, rapid progress has been made in farm production and in the manufacture of farm machinery. China today has more than 1,600 factories making farm machines. With the exception of Tibet, all the provinces, municipalities and autonomous regions have their own factories making tractors, walking tractors and prime movers. Twenty-six of them are now able to manufacture large and medium-sized tractors. Institutions for scientific research on farm machinery have been set up in all provinces, municipalities and autonomous regions except Tibet and in most prefectures and counties.

China has a vast territory with varying natural conditions for farm production, and the crops planted differ from place to place. Instead of sticking to one and the same pattern in mechanizing farm work, the various localities in the north or in the south, in the hilly areas or on the plains, should take into consideration the different local conditions and do what is most urgently needed, what gives the best results in increasing output and what is most effective in reducing labour intensity.

Let's take Shantung Province for instance. In the course of mechanizing farm work it puts the accent on ploughing, sowing or planting, harvesting and threshing, and on growing wheat, maize and sweet potato, the province's three major crops sown or harvested during the summer and autumn busy seasons. For areas in the south where paddy-rice is grown, their main task is to make or get the right type of machines and attachments for use in the paddyfields. Hupeh Province has innovated a device like a small flatboat for ploughing muddy fields and doing other work when different farm implements are attached to or mounted on it. This is now being popularized in 13 provinces south of the Yangtze River.

Since our country has little cultivated land—less than two-fifteenths of a hectare per capita—and there are more hilly areas than plains, many places are now engaged in batch production of walking tractors and making special machines for intercropping which is

a customary way of farming in China. In the pastoral areas, the emphasis is on mechanizing irrigation, fodder cultivation and raking and transport facilities. Under the centuries-old yoke of serfdom, the people on the Tibetan Plateau used to work with the most primitive farm tools like wooden ploughs and harrows. They must first improve the iron tools now in use and introduce farm machinery step by step.

QUESTION: Why is it that farm mechanization is a great revolution in the countryside?

ANSWER: It is quite obvious that the mechanization of farm work will help raise labour productivity, reduce labour intensity and increase farm output. But we should not look at this question purely from the economic angle. Chairman Mao referred to farm mechanization as our Party's fundamental line in agriculture. In *On the Co-operative Transformation of Agriculture*, he said: "We are now carrying out a revolution not only in the social system, the change from private to public ownership, but also in technology, the change from handicraft to large-scale modern machine production, and the two revolutions are interconnected." After the establishment of the people's communes throughout the country, he stressed in 1959 that "the fundamental way out for agriculture lies in mechanization." Obviously, without mechanization, the difference between industry and agriculture cannot be gradually reduced and the worker-peasant alliance cannot be consolidated even though we had agricultural producers' co-operatives and later people's communes.

The achievements of those places where farm work has in the main been mechanized testify to the correctness of Chairman Mao's thesis. With labour productivity multiplied and the capability to combat natural adversities markedly increased as a result of farm mechanization, these places have thrived as never before with an all-round development of agriculture, forestry, animal husbandry, side occupations and fisheries. From their own experience the peasants have come to realize the profound changes farm mechanization has brought to the rural areas and the superiority of socialist modern agriculture over the small-peasant economy. For this reason, they have

become more conscious than ever in getting rid of the ideas of private ownership characteristic of small producers and more determined to take the socialist road.

QUESTION: Are there any struggles over farm mechanization?

ANSWER: The "gang of four" always undermined our efforts to mechanize farm work. Here I'll only give three examples.

First, Chairman Mao pointed out that farm work should in the main be mechanized in 20 to 25 years and he issued the call that "the whole Party must fight for the fulfilment of this great task." Chang Chun-chiao, however, opposed Chairman Mao's call and said: "Farm mechanization is not a task for the Party committees; it should be taken care of by those departments concerned." In other words, Party organizations at various levels should not show any interest in farm mechanization which, according to him, is the concern of production departments only. This of course is tantamount to abandoning Party leadership and letting things take their own course.

The second instance is the national conference on farm mechanization held in 1971. To mark the occasion, *Renmin Ribao* prepared to publish an editorial entitled "The Fundamental Way Out for Agriculture Lies in Mechanization." But Yao Wen-yuan, a member of the "gang of four" who controlled the mass media at that time, queried: "Can farm mechanization be realized in the main by 1980? I don't think it's possible." So this editorial was pigeonholed

until after the smashing of the "gang of four," and it was published during the Second National Conference on Learning From Tachai in Agriculture in December 1976.

The third example is the fuss kicked up by Chiang Ching. Several years ago, we imported a complete set of equipment for producing 300,000 tons of synthetic ammonia a year so as to quicken the pace of farm mechanization. Chiang Ching, however, decried this as "comprador slavishness" and "national betrayal" and even wanted the Taching Oilfield to dismantle the plant which was then nearing completion.

In fact, the task of farm mechanization suffered as much from the interference and sabotage by the "gang of four" as from Liu Shao-chi who advertised that "mechanization should precede the co-operative transformation of agriculture" and used this as the pretext to slash a large number of co-ops. Later, Liu Shao-chi asserted that "there is no need to mechanize farm work because China has a big population and little land" and that "intensive and meticulous farming rules out farm mechanization." All these fallacies were severely criticized by Chairman Mao.

On the question of farm mechanization, Chairman Mao issued many instructions which can be compiled into a booklet. But for many years in the past the Party Central Committee did not issue a single document that truly embodied Chairman Mao's teachings concerning farm mechanization because of interference and obstruction by Liu Shao-chi, Lin Biao and the "gang of four."



QUESTION: With 1980 only three years away, do you think it possible for us to reach our goal?

ANSWER: Time is really pressing and our task is heavy, but there are also favourable conditions. These can be summed up as follows:

First, we have the correct line and a series of relevant principles and policies laid down by Chairman Mao. A short time ago, *Renmin Ribao* published *A Letter on Farm Mechanization* written by Chairman Mao on March 12, 1966. (See our issue No. 52, 1977.) In this letter, Chairman Mao set forth in explicit terms the strategic concept that farm mechanization "should be linked with getting prepared against war, getting prepared against natural disasters, and doing everything for the people" and laid down the principle that "the task of mechanization should be performed by the provinces, municipalities and autonomous regions mainly through their own efforts." With the stumbling block removed following the downfall of the "gang of four" in October 1976, initial successes were achieved in economic construction in the past year and the enthusiasm of the people throughout the country for farm mechanization soared to a new high. Development in 1977 was faster than in any previous year. Herein lies the fundamental guarantee for realizing farm mechanization.

Next, the nation's total output of large and medium-sized tractors from 1965 through 1976 increased at a progressive annual rate of 19.3 per cent. Last year, more than ten kinds of farm machines showed 20 to 100 per cent increases over the year before. With the exception of a few places, all the provinces, municipalities and autonomous regions now have their own iron and steel plants, chemical fertilizer plants, coal mines, cement works and power stations. While 90 per cent of the people's communes and 70 per cent of the production brigades are now running more than one million industrial enterprises, 97 per cent of the counties have set up farm machinery factories which do repairs as well. All this provides a solid foundation for mechanizing farm work.

Finally, we have a dozen or so years of experience behind us and a number of typical

examples in bringing about mechanization through self-reliance. Take for instance Shantung Province in the north where the level of mechanization in 1974 was more or less the same as in other parts of the country and the amount of chemical fertilizers applied was below the nation's average level. Great changes, however, have taken place there in the last three years. Its tractor-ploughed and irrigated acreage has expanded from 28 and 48 per cent respectively to 48.6 and 60 per cent and the amount of chemical fertilizers applied is now well above the nation's average level. Between 1970 and 1976, the province's total grain output increased at an average annual rate of 8.5 per cent. Advancing at such a pace, Shantung Province will surely reach the targets set for farm mechanization by 1980.

Now let's look at the situation in the Kwangsi Chuang Autonomous Region in the south where the farm machinery industry and other conditions for the mechanization of farm work were relatively poor in the past. But great changes have also taken place there. It now ranks seventh and ninth respectively in the output of tractors and internal combustion engines and fifth in the amount of chemical fertilizers applied. What has been achieved so quickly in Shantung and Kwangsi should and can be accomplished in other parts of the country too.

When objective conditions are available, subjective efforts play a decisive role.

QUESTION: Are there any problems or difficulties in mechanizing farm work?

ANSWER: Of course it is no easy job to reach the targets set for 1980. Our chief difficulty today is shortage of rolled steel. We must improve the quality of farm machinery and turn out a whole range of farm implements. Some new problems have cropped up in the course of the vigorous development of farm mechanization. For instance, since the various localities now undertake to design and manufacture farm machines on their own without a unified standard, there are so many models and specifications that spare parts are not interchangeable. This makes it difficult for us to

make full use of available machines. But measures for improvement were discussed and adopted at the recent conference on farm mechanization.

In the next three years, attention should be paid to bringing into play the initiative of both the central and local authorities. While the 1,700 farm machinery research institutes in China are stepping up scientific research on farm machinery and launching mass movements to improve farm machines and attachments, we should work out a reasonable division of labour among the farm machinery factories and at the same time co-ordinate their efforts so that they will move towards specialization with each producing one or two spare parts or components. Our aim is to turn out more and better farm machines and spare parts and components and thus quicken the pace of farm mechanization.

China today is still not well-off and its targets for farm mechanization are of a low level. Nevertheless, I think it fit to quote here what Lenin said in 1919: "If tomorrow we could supply one hundred thousand first-class tractors, provide them with fuel, provide them with drivers . . . the middle peasant would say, 'I am for the communia' (i.e., for communism)." (*Eighth Congress of the R. C. P. (B.)*) Stalin also said: "The 50,000 tractors which you are to produce for our country every year will be 50,000 projectiles shattering the old bourgeois world and clearing the way for the new, socialist order in the countryside." (*Tractor Works, Stalingrad.*) We now have several hundred thousand tractors, not just fifty or one hundred thousand. With such a good foundation, we have full confidence in achieving our goal by 1980 and pressing ahead towards still higher targets.

Running Key Schools Well

THE Ministry of Education recently decided to take proper measures to ensure that a number of key primary and middle schools be run well.

Now there are 20 such schools under the direct charge of the ministry, located in Peking, Tientsin, Shanghai, Yenan, Taching and Tachai, the pace-setters in industry and agriculture, and other places. The Ministry of Education has also requested other ministries under the State Council, the big and medium-sized cities, and the various provinces, prefectures and counties to run a number of key primary and middle schools.

Leadership over these schools will be strengthened. Help will be given them in setting up competent leading bodies, experienced teachers will be assigned to work there, neces-

sary rules and regulations will be worked out and their libraries and laboratories will be replenished to ensure that teaching in these schools will be carried on according to plan.

The stress in teaching differs in key schools run by the various industrial enterprises. In those run by departments of petroleum, metallurgy, coal, and geology, for instance, stress will be put on subjects related to their special lines, and the students will take part in productive labour in these fields so that they will become professionally competent when they grow up.

These schools will be well distributed while the needs of both town and country are being taken into consideration. Special consideration will be given to areas where workers are concentrated, so that more children of the labouring

people can go to schools. Ordinary schools should be run according to the requirements set for key schools, and the really good ones will later also be classified as key schools.

Chairman Mao said that there would be no policy without special emphasis. At present, to run a number of key schools well by providing them with good teachers and material and financial help is an important measure in raising the standard of teaching and training competent people at an early date to meet the urgent

needs of the country. Moreover, to run the key schools well and sum up and popularize their experience gained in the educational revolution will help promote primary and middle school education as a whole.

As early as 1953, Chairman Mao gave the instruction to run some key middle schools. This was done and large numbers of students qualified morally, intellectually and physically were trained. But Liu Shao-chi, Lin Piao and, in

New Teaching System for Primary and Middle Schools

THE Ministry of Education recently promulgated the Draft Plan for a Ten-Year Full-Time Teaching System for Primary and Middle Schools.

According to this plan, full-time primary and middle school education will take ten years, that is, five years for primary school and five years for middle school. In the case of the latter, the first three years will be devoted to teaching junior middle school courses and the last two years to teaching senior middle school subjects. The new system stipulates that the school year begins in autumn. Wherever conditions permit, the enrolment of six-year-old or six-and-a-half-year-old children in primary schools should be gradually enforced.

The draft plan provides details regarding the tasks, period of schooling, basic principles for drawing up teaching programmes, arrangements concerning the students' main and subsidiary tasks, total volume of activity and curricula of primary and middle schools. While the students' main task is to study, they should also learn other things, and education must be combined with the three revolutionary movements of class struggle, the struggle

for production and scientific experiment. Time for political study and other courses should be carefully divided and teaching plans should be fulfilled according to requirements. Students should be organized to learn industrial and agricultural production and military affairs and to criticize the bourgeoisie. School-run factories and farms (or branch schools in the countryside) should be well administered and the schools should have regular links with factories and rural production brigades. In this way study is combined with production and scientific research and the students can be educated by the workers, peasants and soldiers to enhance their political consciousness, foster a correct attitude towards physical labour, master a certain amount of knowledge and technique in industrial and agricultural production, and acquire the rudimentary knowledge of a people's war.

With regard to primary and middle school education, the principle of paying attention to both popularization and the raising of standard should be adhered to, and there should be full-time schools, part-work and part-study schools and spare-time schools.

This draft plan is for those primary and middle schools whose tasks are to raise the standards and whose curricula are complete.



Pupils of the Tachai Brigade Primary School.

particular, the "gang of four" pushed a revisionist line which undermined educational work and wrought great damage to key schools.

The "gang of four" vilified that these schools trained "revisionist buds and intellectual aristocrats." This of course is wrong. With regard to the question of for which class the students are trained, the key lies in the political line followed by the schools. By following Chairman Mao's principle that "education must serve proletarian politics and be combined with productive labour," and that it must "enable everyone who receives an education to develop morally, intellectually and physically and become a worker with both socialist consciousness and culture," and by combining education with class struggle, the struggle for production and scientific experiment, the key schools will surely train students who are both red and expert.

The "gang of four" also babbled that running key schools was "bourgeois education for geniuses." This is also groundless. The prerequisite of "bourgeois education for geniuses" is class antagonism. Prejudiced by ideas typical of the exploiting classes, the bourgeoisie think that their children are born clever and

should attend "schools for geniuses." These schools of course reject children from worker or peasant families and exercise the cultural despotism of the bourgeoisie. All this has nothing in common with our key primary and middle schools which mainly enrol students who are qualified morally, intellectually and physically from families of workers, peasants and other labouring people.

We uphold the materialist theory of knowledge as the reflection of reality and oppose idealist apriorism. Differences in intellect exist objectively and they are by and large differences resulting from different environment, practice and education and are also connected with the adeptness in learning. Rich knowledge and great ability come from diligence and ingenuity at learning. Far from opposing "reaching the pinnacles of knowledge," we treasure and show respect for talents. We use various means to discover talents and give them training so that they will become proficient in building socialism.

In disseminating the fallacy that "running key schools must lead to revisionism," the "gang of four" aimed at undermining socialist education and destroying our lofty goal of modernizing agriculture, industry, national defence and science and technology.

At present, the movement to criticize the fallacies spread by the "gang of four" and eliminate their pernicious influence is continuing all over the country. Key primary and middle schools ravaged by the gang are being restored and developed.

Explanatory Notes to Volume V of "Selected Works of Mao Tsetung" (7)

National People's Congress

(See p. 16, Vol. V, Eng. Ed.)

The National People's Congress is the highest organ of state power in the People's Republic of China. As early as January 1940, Chairman Mao in *On New Democracy* pointed out that "China may now adopt a system of people's congresses, from the national people's congress down to the provincial, county, district and township people's congresses, with all levels electing their respective governmental bodies."

Article 12 of the Common Programme of the Chinese People's Political Consultative Conference adopted in September 1949 stipulated: "The state power of the People's Republic of China belongs to the people. The people's congresses and the people's governments at all levels are the organs for the exercise of state power by the people. . . . The highest organ of state power in the country shall be the National People's Congress. The Central People's Government shall be the supreme organ for exercising state power when the National People's Congress is not in session." Article 13 provided that "pending the convocation of the National People's Congress which shall be elected by universal franchise, the plenary session of the Chinese People's Political Consultative Conference shall exercise the functions and powers of the National People's Congress."

The First National People's Congress, which was elected by universal franchise, held its first session in Peking from September 15 to 28, 1954. The more than 1,000 Deputies attending the session included representatives of all the democratic classes and democratic parties in China, model workers in industry and agricul-

ture, combat heroes of the armed forces, noted personages from the literary, art, scientific and educational fields, representatives from industrial, commercial and religious circles, and representatives of minority nationalities. Among the Deputies were political and social activists of various periods since the Reform Movement of 1898. The youngest of the Deputies was 18 and the oldest over 90. It was a people's congress without precedent in Chinese history.

The session successfully fulfilled its tasks — adoption of the first Constitution of the People's Republic of China, election of the Chairman of the People's Republic of China and the Standing Committee of the National People's Congress according to the Constitution, setting up of the State Council and election of President of the Supreme People's Court and the Chief Procurator of the Supreme People's Procuratorate. Chairman Mao was elected Chairman of the People's Republic of China. On the proposal of Chairman Mao, the session appointed Comrade Chou En-lai Premier of the State Council of the People's Republic of China.

From beginning to end, this session fully demonstrated the true democratic nature of our political system and unity of the people of the whole country on the basis of democracy. As Chairman Mao pointed out in his opening address, the session "is a milestone marking the new victories and advances of our people since the founding of our People's Republic in 1949."

The First Session of the Second National People's Congress was convened April 18-28, 1959; that of the third, December 21, 1964-January 4, 1965 and that of the fourth, January 13-17, 1975.

The Organic Law of the Chinese People's Political Consultative Conference

(See p. 16.)

Drawn up and adopted by the First Plenary Session of the Chinese People's Political Consultative Conference (C.P.P.C.C.) on September 27, 1949, the law stipulated that the C.P.P.C.C. is the organization of the democratic united front of the entire Chinese people. Its aim is to unite all democratic classes and all nationalities throughout China by establishing the unity of all democratic parties and groups and people's organizations for the purpose of opposing the enemies at home and abroad and establishing and consolidating the People's Republic of China of the people's democratic dictatorship led by the working class and based on the worker-peasant alliance. The law also had stipulations on the participating units, the method of choosing delegates, and the functions and powers of the plenary session, the national committee and local committees.

The Organic Law of the Central People's Government of the People's Republic of China

(See p. 16.)

This law was adopted by the First Plenary Session of the C.P.P.C.C. on September 27, 1949. It had stipulations on the composition of the Central People's Government of the People's Republic of China as well as its functions and powers. According to the law, the Government of the People's Republic of China is a government of the system of people's congresses based on the principle of democratic centralism. Prior to the convocation of the National People's Congress to be elected by universal franchise, the plenary session of the Chinese People's Political Consultative Conference shall exercise the functions and powers of the National People's Congress, elect the Central People's Government Council of the People's Republic of China and vest it with the authority to exercise state power. The Central People's Government is made up of the Central People's Government Council which sets up the Govern-

ment Administration Council, the People's Revolutionary Military Council, the Supreme People's Court and the People's Procurator-General's Office. The Central People's Government Council represents the People's Republic of China in international relations and assumes the leadership of the state apparatus at home.

The Constitution of the People's Republic of China, which was adopted by the First National People's Congress at its first session in September 1954, stipulated that the National People's Congress is the highest organ of state authority in the People's Republic of China; and the State Council of the People's Republic of China, that is, the Central People's Government, is the executive organ of the highest state authority; it is the highest administrative organ of state.

The Common Programme of the Chinese People's Political Consultative Conference

(See p. 16.)

The Common Programme was adopted by the First Plenary Session of the Chinese People's Political Consultative Conference on September 29, 1949. The C.P.P.C.C. is composed of the representatives of the Communist Party of China, all democratic parties and groups and people's organizations, all regions, the People's Liberation Army, all national minorities, overseas Chinese and other patriotic democratic elements. Representing the will of the people of the whole country, it adopted the Common Programme which defines our country's state system, goal and tasks, government structure, military system, and policies for economy, culture, education, nationality and foreign affairs. As a programme of the people's revolution and national construction, it embodied the common goal and principles and policies which all the democratic parties, people's organizations and the people of all nationalities in the country, under the leadership of the Communist Party of China, must jointly observe for a certain period of time, and it formed the political basis for unified action. For a time the Common Programme

played the historical role of a provisional constitution for China.

The conferences of people from all circles

(See p. 30.)

In the early post-liberation period, before the election and convocation of the local people's congresses of various levels, conferences of people from all circles were convened to exercise the functions and powers of the people's congresses as a temporary form of the people's participation in state administration. Consultative committees of the conferences of people from all circles were set up at the provincial and municipal levels to help the People's Government carry out the decisions made by the conferences and various work relating to revolution and construction when the provincial and municipal conferences of people from all circles were not in session.

Push for regional autonomy

(See p. 49.)

National regional autonomy means the establishment of administrative organs for national autonomy in charge of local nationality affairs in areas where minority nationalities live in compact communities. This is the Chinese Communist Party's basic policy in solving questions concerning the nationalities in our country. The Common Programme adopted by the First Plenary Session of the Chinese People's Political Consultative Conference in September 1949 stipulated: All nationalities within the boundaries of the People's Republic of China are equal. Regional autonomy shall be exercised in areas where national minorities are concentrated and various kinds of autonomy organizations shall be set up according to the size of the populations and regions.

The 1954 Constitution of the People's Republic of China laid down further provisions

concerning national regional autonomy and the political, economic and cultural construction of the various minority nationalities, ensuring the exercise of autonomy in areas where minority nationalities are concentrated. The organs of self-government in national autonomous areas not only exercise the functions and powers of local organs of state, but may administer their own local finances within the limits of the authority prescribed by the Constitution and the law, organize their local public security forces in accordance with the military system of the state, and draw up statutes governing the exercise of autonomy or separate regulations suited to the political, economic and cultural characteristics of the nationality or nationalities in a given area. The form of each organ of self-government in national autonomous areas may be determined in accordance with the wishes of the majority of the people of the nationality or nationalities enjoying regional autonomy in a given area. In performing their duties, the organs of self-government employ the spoken and written language or languages commonly used in the locality.

All national autonomous areas are inalienable parts of the People's Republic of China. They are administratively classified as autonomous regions, autonomous prefectures and autonomous counties. China now has five autonomous regions — the Inner Mongolian Autonomous Region, the Sinkiang Uighur Autonomous Region, the Ningsia Hui Autonomous Region, the Kwangsi Chuang Autonomous Region and the Tibet Autonomous Region — and 29 autonomous prefectures and 69 autonomous counties.

Implementation of the policy of national regional autonomy is conducive to the realization of equal rights among the various nationalities, the consolidation of the unification of the motherland, the strengthening of unity both between the various nationalities and within a nationality itself and the gradual promotion of political, economic and cultural development of the various minority nationalities; moreover, it helps bring into play the enthusiasm of the various nationalities for building socialism.

(To be continued.)

Soviet Military Intervention Provokes World Indignation

FIERCE contention between the two hegemonic powers, and especially Soviet intervention and instigation, has steadily aggravated the dispute between Ethiopia and Somalia over Ogaden. Lately, with a massive flow of Soviet arms and men into the Horn of Africa, the flames of war in this region are spreading, engulfing the Horn of Africa in mounting tension.

Flames of War in Ogaden

To date, Ethiopia has dispatched 40,000 men of its regular forces, plus 80,000 militiamen, to the Ogaden region, while the Somalia-backed Western Somali Liberation Front has 30,000 to 40,000 troops there. Somalia's own regular troops too have joined in the fighting. As announced on February 6 by Fikre Selassie Wogderess, Secretary-General of the Ethiopian Provisional Military Administrative Council, Ethiopian troops have been closing on Ogaden in attacks from all directions. It is reported that since early February, Ethiopian troops have launched offensives and pushed their positions forward by more than 100 kilometres along the railway line linking Addis Ababa and Djibouti right up to the town of Adi Galla on the line.

A communique of the Western Somali Liberation Front dated February 8 said that Soviets and Cubans had a part in the Ethiopian counter-offensive. It has been disclosed that no less than 3,000 Cubans and over 1,000 Soviet personnel have been involved in both air and ground operations in the Horn of Africa. In addition, several thousand more Cuban soldiers on board Soviet warships cruising along the Red

Sea coast are ready to land at a moment's notice.

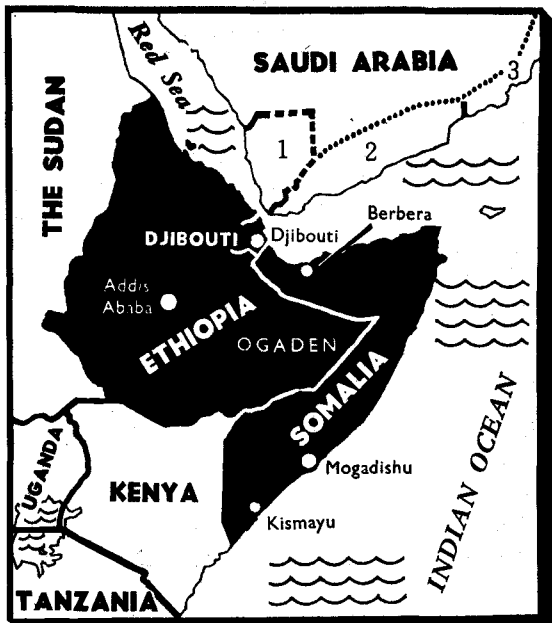
Historical Background

The Ogaden dispute between Ethiopia and Somalia is an issue left over from the last century by the colonialists of the West. Somalia stands for national self-determination by the Somalis living in the region and gives support to the Western Somali Liberation Front founded in Ogaden in 1963 for national self-determination and independence. Ethiopia maintains that Ogaden is a part of Ethiopian territory.

Many African countries as well as the Organization of African Unity hold that the two countries concerned should settle their dispute through peaceful negotiations or through O.A.U. mediation, and have worked for this accordingly. Then there is the Soviet Union, which, prompted by its hegemonic drive for control of the strategic Horn of Africa and taking advantage of the dispute, does its best to sow discord between the two countries and fish in troubled waters. At first, it waved the banner of "assistance" and "support" in an attempt to turn Somalia into a bridgehead for expansion in the Horn of Africa and the Indian Ocean. Later on, as U.S. military presence there was ousted, it hurriedly elbowed its way through to Ethiopia to fill the "vacuum," while switching its "support" to the country with still greater fervour. Its large shipments of arms and men to the Horn of Africa have exacerbated the Ethiopian-Somali dispute, creating a situation where both sides are using Soviet arms in the hassle.

"Russians, Go Home!"

Massive military intervention by the Soviet Union and Cuba in the Horn of Africa has been strongly denounced by the Somali side. On Feb-



1. THE YEMEN ARAB REPUBLIC 2. THE PEOPLE'S DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC OF YEMEN 3. OMAN

ruary 12, in Mogadishu, the Somali capital, 50,000 people rallied and demonstrated, shouting "Russians, Go Home!" Some of the placards carried by the demonstrators read: "Down with social-imperialism!" "Down with the Soviet Union!" and "The peace-loving people of the world must know the Soviet Union and Cuba are aggressors!"

The mass rally was held in the wake of an announcement made earlier on the morning of the same day about the decisions of the Central Committee of the Somali Revolutionary Socialist Party, which met on February 8 and 9. Somalia, the decisions said, has decided to carry out nationwide general mobilization and institute a state of emergency for resisting the naked invasion masterminded by the Soviet Union. The decisions also demanded a ceasefire and withdrawal of foreign troops from the said region to ensure a lasting peace in the Horn of Africa.

President Mohamed Siad Barre of Somalia who addressed the rally urged the Somali people "to be ready to defend the national independence and sovereignty of your country." "The Somali people," he declared, "will never accept domina-

tion by any country." "They will never bow to arrogance and hegemonism; they are ready to defend their national independence and sovereignty at all costs." "Somalia will never surrender to the Soviet Union."

Anxiety of Neighbouring Countries

Some African and Arab countries have shown grave anxiety over the situation in the Horn of Africa brought about by the Soviet Union's pouring oil on the flames. They hold resolutely that this intervention from the outside world must be stopped.

Egyptian President Anwar Sadat expressed his worries about Soviet involvement in the Horn of Africa to U.S. Senators in Washington on February 7. One U.S. Senator quoted President Sadat as saying: "The Soviets are now moving to Berbera which was the Soviet base in Somalia." "After the Soviets knock out Somalia, they will then turn on Sudan and Egypt."

Sudanese President Nimeri said: "The Soviet Union is trying to exploit the situation in an attempt to establish a foothold in the Horn of Africa so as to facilitate its infiltration into the continent and occupy it bit by bit. It is also attempting to establish a base to watch over the oil states, as it will face a shortage in its oil resources towards the 80s."

In sending large quantities of arms into the Horn of Africa, he added, "the Soviet Union wants to teach the Somalis a lesson and make them an example to other African states for expelling Soviet military experts." "Sudan will be the next target of the Soviets," President Nimeri warned, "but it will teach them a lesson they will never forget."

In Conakry, Guinea's President Sekou Toure pointed out that "there are zones of tension, but the most dangerous zone today is the Horn of Africa, where war is spreading. What we regret in the relations between Ethiopia and Somalia is the intervention of foreign powers which consider it their right to end conflicts between African states in any way they prefer."

Seyni Kountche, Niger Head of State and President of the Supreme Military Council, felt disheartened and disappointed with the big powers' attitude towards Africa. At a time when certain areas of Africa are suffering from star-

vation, he observed, the big powers have flooded other parts of the African continent with costly, sophisticated weapons, in order to provoke fighting among Africans.

Speaking to the press in Abidjan, the capital of Ivory Coast, Zairian President Mobutu Sese Seko condemned the intervention of foreign powers in Africa. These powers, he noted, have fanned the flames of war in Africa and tried to split Africa in order to maintain their interests on this continent.

Recently a number of African and Arab newspapers have published commentaries and articles exposing and repudiating underhand Soviet activities in Africa.

The *Zambia Daily Mail* in a February 10 article entitled "Kremlin's Crime in the Horn" pointed out that, flouting public opinion of the world, Africa included, the Russians are making ready to take huge risks to enable themselves to succeed in their intervention. Such is "Russia's crime in the Horn of Africa, and those who see it for what it is have a duty to denounce Soviet military intervention just as American military intervention in Viet Nam was denounced."

The *Voice of Africa*, a Senegalese journal, wrote: "The Soviet presence in Africa, direct or through the Cubans, poses a real problem. One wonders whether it is... a new attempt to colonize the continent." Noting that "the first exclusive concern of the U.S.S.R. in our continent is military presence," the journal called on the African countries to be on guard.

In the Kuwaiti paper *Al Qabas*, a signed article published on February 14 said that the Soviet and Cuban troops' intervention in the issues which have arisen in the Horn of Africa directly threatens most of the Arab countries. Both the contention and collusion between the Soviet Union and the United States in this area, it said, are aimed at dividing the Arab people.

Reactions From the West

Western political circles and opinion have been worried about Soviet expansion in the Horn of

Africa. French President Valery Giscard d'Estaing stressed that the big powers should discontinue their shipment of arms to the region. Italian Foreign Minister Arnaldo Forlani said: "One cannot expect that the West will tolerate any blockade of the sea lane which is essential and vital to the Western economy. It is necessary to look for a settlement through negotiation. This is why Italy is working for this end." British Foreign Secretary David Owen told reporters that "any introduction of conflict to the territory of Somalia would be a very grave event."

UPI reported in a February 10 dispatch that "Britain and other Western countries already protested to Moscow about the involvement of Cuban troops in the Horn of Africa." The U.S. paper *Chicago Tribune* said editorially on February 9 that the Soviet Union has flung itself into a reckless gamble to win control of the strategic Horn of Africa, and has thus posed a challenge which the Carter administration will have to face.

The West Berlin paper *Der Tagesspiegel* carried on February 5 an article entitled "Brezhnev's African Adventure," which pointed out that the outbreak of war in the Horn of Africa "is due to the imperialist policy pursued by the Soviet Union. Moscow desires to control the Red Sea and the Suez Canal which is the sea route and oil transport line vital to Western Europe." But the Africans, it added, "do not want to see neocolonialism replacing colonialism that has once been overcome."

Mass rally in Mogadishu on the afternoon of February 12.



Praiseworthy Position

THE Foreign Ministers of the nine European Economic Community countries discussed the Horn of Africa, the Middle East and other problems of common interest at a meeting held on February 14 in Copenhagen. In dealing with the situation in Africa and the Middle East, the meeting reflected the West European countries' desire to increase contacts and co-operation with third world countries and to oppose Soviet big-power hegemonism. This position is helpful to the common cause of the third world and West European countries in their united struggle against hegemonism.

The situation in the Horn of Africa has become a focus of the world attention. At the meeting, the nine foreign ministers agreed that African problems should be settled by African countries themselves free from the influence of external forces. They supported the efforts of the Organization of African Unity for a negotiated settlement. French Foreign Minister Louis de Guiringaud emphasized the need for the withdrawal of foreign troops from the Horn of Africa. This position of the West European countries is positive and therefore praiseworthy. It conforms with the aspiration and interests of the African countries. Without superpower interference and if Soviet military personnel and mercenaries are totally withdrawn, then disputes left over by history between African countries can be settled in a proper way through peaceful negotiations.

The key to the settlement of the Middle East problem lies in ending superpower interference and sabotage, Israeli withdrawal from occupied Arab territories and the restoration of national rights to the Palestinian people. At present, the Israeli Zionists are holding on to their policy of aggression and expansion and putting up all sorts of obstacles during the negotiations. Moreover, they have set up one settlement after another on occupied Arab soil. This truculent and unreasonable stand is resolutely opposed by Egypt and other Arab coun-

tries. At the Copenhagen meeting, all the foreign ministers expressed appreciation for Egyptian President Sadat's initiative in seeking a solution to the Middle East problem and stood for a comprehensive settlement. They held that the Israeli settlements prejudice a reasonable solution. This position supports the Arab people in their just struggle against Zionism.

Over the past few years, the European Economic Community has improved and strengthened political and economic relations with African and Arab countries. The E.E.C. countries believe that strengthening unity among themselves, "speaking with one voice" and broadening co-operation with third world countries is the only effective way to counter superpower hegemonism, when they are confronted by superpower menace, particularly Soviet aggression. The E.E.C. has supported the position that African affairs are the African people's concern. When the Soviet Union sent mercenaries to invade Zaire last March, the foreign ministers of the E.E.C. issued a statement opposing any attempt by any country to establish spheres of influence in Africa. The E.E.C. also expressed support for the right of the Palestinian people to return to their homeland.

The Middle East and Africa flank Europe. Soviet aggression and expansion in these areas are aimed at outflanking Western Europe and taking over the whole of Europe. Therefore, strengthening ties and co-operation with Arab and African countries as well as other third world countries accords with the vital interests of the West European countries.

Soviet Pilots Fly Cuban "Air Defence" Missions

SOVIENT pilots are flying MIG interceptors on missions over Cuba, say Western news reports. This has made the West sit up and opened the eyes of a number of appeasers.

This move by the Soviet Union of making itself the master and others its pawns — freeing more Cuban pilots for intervention in the Horn of Africa — also pushes Soviet "air defences"

to the very gates of the United States. No wonder some Western newspapers say this is one of the most serious domestic defence crises confronting the United States since the Cuban missile crisis of 1962.

It is ridiculous for the Soviet weekly *New Times* in its No. 6 issue to rant at those in America who are drawing public attention to

Soviet military threat against the United States and calling on the Carter administration to "part with the 'Soviet threat' bogey," throw it "out of big politics" and "build bridges of mutual understanding" with the Soviet Union. Soviet MIG pilots are now knocking at the gates of the United States to "build bridges." Even if the United States considers this to be "bogey," will it be able to exorcise it?

Report From Yugoslavia

Unity Among Nationalities

by Chinese Journalist Group

A GLITTERING torch of silver threads in Belgrade's "May 25 Museum" dominates the exhibited gifts presented to President Tito since the years of war. It symbolizes the love of the Yugoslav people for their President and the solid unity of the nationalities of Yugoslavia.

In the spring of 1970, young runners of different nationalities carried the torch in relays to all parts of the country before it was presented on May 25 to the President as a birthday gift from the people of the whole country.

Building a Federal State

Many pictures in museums throughout the country show the Yugoslav Communist Party's slogan "wipe out fascism, freedom belongs to the people" scrawled on the walls in towns and villages by people of different nationalities in their own languages during the period of German fascists' occupation. The same slogan was inscribed on the flags of the partisans formed by the various nationalities.

At the Second Session of the Anti-Fascist Council of the National Liberation of Yugoslavia, held by 250 representatives of the nationalities on November 29, 1943 in Jajce in the liberated area, a resolution was passed, which says: "With a view to putting into effect the principle of sovereignty of the people of different nationalities in Yugoslavia; with a view to making Yugoslavia the real motherland of the people of

different nationalities; and in order that Yugoslavia will never be a hereditary state for any privileged group any more, Yugoslavia is and will be built on the principle of federation which will guarantee complete equality among the Serbian, Croatian, Slovenian, Macedonian, Montenegrin, and Bosnian and Herzegovinan peoples." The resolution explicitly stipulates full national rights for all minority peoples.

In the postwar period, the League of Communists of Yugoslavia headed by President Tito has abided by the policy of equality and unity among all nationalities. United as one, the Yugoslav people have rebuilt their war-devastated homeland. And in accordance with the principle of national equality, a federal state consisting of six republics and two autonomous provinces was founded.

Equality Among Nationalities

Muminagic, Vice-President of the Assembly of the Republic of Bosnia-Herzegovina, told us during our visit to the republic: "There are mainly three nationalities in our republic: Muslim, Serbian and Croatian. Each nationality is represented by three members in the 9-member presidium of the republic. The President of the Assembly of the Republic is chosen from one nationality, the President of the League of Communists of the Republic from another and the Premier from the third. It is the same with the three Vice-Presidents of the

assembly and with the Presidents of the three chambers of the assembly. In the case of the League of Communists of the Republic, the President is a Croatian, the Vice-President a Muslim and the Secretary of the Executive Committee a Serbian."

Rudi Kolak, Vice-President of the Federal Assembly, told us: "Under our constitution, all nationalities are equal in the Federal Assembly. For instance, the Republic of Montenegro has a population of more than 500,000 while the Republic of Serbia over eight million. But they have an equal voice in voting. Only by ensuring the complete equality among nationalities can Yugoslavia hope to achieve unity."

When we visited the Federal Assembly Building with the Vice-President as our guide, we were told that each deputy has the right to speak in his native language and there is simultaneous interpretation.

During our tour, we also learnt that each nationality is represented more or less in proportion to its number, in the leadership of assemblies, government departments, social and political organizations and organizations of associated labour from the federal down to the grass-roots level. When recruiting workers or staff members, the organizations of associated labour must also take the matter of nationality into consideration.

Accelerating Development of the Under-Developed Areas

Yugoslav leaders stressed that political equality must be supplemented by economic equality. At the 10th Congress of the League of Communists in 1974, President Tito pointed out that accelerated development of the under-developed republics and the Kosovo Autonomous Province in particular is "an important condition for the different nationalities to attain true equality within our socialist community."

An eloquent testimony to the help given by relatively developed republics to the under-developed is a chart we saw at the Social Planning Institute of the Serbian Republic. It shows that in 1975, the credit fund allocated for the development of the under-developed republics and the Kosovo Autonomous Province reached more than 2,600 million dinars from Serbia and the Vojvodina Autonomous Province, over 2,400

million dinars from Croatia and over 1,200 million dinars from Slovenia.

Under the 1947-51 Five-Year Plan, the Federal Government took care to invest more in the under-developed regions. In 1965, the credit fund for the development of economically under-developed republics and regions was founded. According to the estimates of the Federal Social Planning Institute, nearly 1,600 million U.S. dollars were spent on aiding the under-developed regions between 1966 and 1970. Long-term low-interest credits granted these regions between 1971 and 1975 totalled more than 1,500 million U.S. dollars, of which 500 million went to Kosovo, the most under-developed.

In addition, the Federal Government appropriated over 760 million U.S. dollars as subsidies to these regions for the development of culture, education and public health. Between 1971 and 1975, the fund provided by the Federal Government to the under-developed regions amounted to 3.2 per cent of the gross national product of the five years.

Thanks to their own efforts and the help rendered by the developed republics, the growth rates of industry and agriculture of the under-developed regions are well above the average for the country.

Impressive progress has also been registered in the fields of culture, education and public health in the under-developed and multinationality areas. In 1974, university and college enrolment in the country was 5.1 times that of 1948, while for the Republics of Bosnia-Herzegovina and Macedonia, the increase was by 30 and 37 times respectively. In the case of Montenegro and Kosovo, the comparison has hardly any meaning because the number of university students there was negligible in 1948. Similarly, the number of physicians in the under-developed areas in 1973 was 8.8 that of 1950 compared with 5.5 times for the whole country.

Vojvodina is a province inhabited by many nationalities. Only three of its 44 districts are inhabited by a single nationality. All the rest are inhabited by at least three nationalities. In the provincial capital of Novi Sad, the radio and television programmes are broadcast in five languages. Government subsidies are granted to the newspapers issued in minority languages. Each nationality there has its own primary and

middle schools where teaching is done in its own tongue.

Talking about the topic of economic and cultural equality, Krtenic, Vice-President of the Socialist Alliance of the Working People of Vojvodina, told us that the League of Communists of Yugoslavia has "unflaggingly worked for equality among the Yugoslav nationalities. Some people asked, 'Isn't the price to be paid for it too high?' But the League has told us: 'If equality among the nationalities is not attained,

if we refuse to pay this price, we'll have to pay an even higher price some day!'"

His remarks gave us a further insight into why the Yugoslav nationalities hold their brotherhood and national unity so dear. The remarks reminded us of what we heard from our hosts again and again: One of the most significant postwar achievements in Yugoslavia is the fact that all nationalities live in brotherhood as completely equal partners and have become the real masters of their own house.

Ailing U. S. Economy

THE U.S. economy began a hesitant recovery in the second quarter of 1975 following its sixth major postwar 1974-75 economic crisis. Even after this cyclical economic recovery entered its third year in 1977, the economy remained flabby, still beset with difficulties.

Sluggish Recovery

U.S. GNP in 1976 was up 6 per cent, but the annual growth rate dropped to 4.9 per cent for the whole of last year and was only 4.2 per cent for the fourth quarter. The index of the growth rate of industrial production fell from 10.2 in 1976 to 5.6 per cent last year. It is worth noting that in August 1977, the U.S. industrial production index declined instead of rising. The Carter administration had to concede that the U.S. economy was in a state of temporary stagnancy.

As everybody knows, the renewal and enlargement of fixed capital is an important material condition for the cyclical growth of the capitalist economy. The phlegmatic recovery and strong fluctuation of the U.S. economy last year were inseparably connected with inadequate fixed capital investments. U.S. private fixed capital investments last year, though showing an increase, were still lower than the 1974 level. Moreover, most of these enlarged investments were allocated to the auto industry and secondary enterprises such as food and oil supply service undertakings and a swingeing

portion went to non-productive projects. Investments in such major industrial sectors as electronic computers, iron and steel, textile, tyres and rubber have shown signs of sluggishness. This shows how feeble is the basis of this U.S. economic recovery!

The stock market is a barometer of the capitalist economy. Most days last year, prices on the New York stock exchange were plummeting and the average price index for 30 kinds of industrial stocks on the Dow Jones Index, which reflects the economic situation of U.S. industrial monopoly companies, twice fell to a new low in nine days from late October to early November, that is, about 20 per cent lower than early last year.

Iron and Steel Crisis

Owing to the slow uplift of the U.S. economy and the ready sale of iron and steel products of its aggressive competitors — Japan and Western Europe — the home market for U.S. iron and steel products was inactive. U.S. iron and steel products consumed by U.S. manufacturers in the first half of 1977 stayed at the low 1976 level, that is, annual consumption of over 60 million tons, or 20 per cent less than in 1973-74. Thus there were a large excessive iron and steel capacity, a big production slump and serious undercapacity operation, which led to large numbers of iron and steel works either closing down or cutting back production. U.S. raw steel output last year re-

mained at the low 1976 level. The utilization rate of iron and steel production facilities was about 80 per cent and the mid-September figure was less than 75 per cent. The Youngstown Sheet and Tube, the second largest tube manufacturing enterprise in the United States, closed down most of its plants in Youngstown, Ohio, where its general company is. Bethlehem Steel and Armco Steel, two of the country's five largest iron and steel enterprises, stopped production in Johnston, Pennsylvania; Lackawanna, New York; and Middletown, Ohio. U.S. Steel, the country's largest, and other iron and steel companies also declared a reduction in installation capacity.

The iron and steel industry holds the balance in the U.S. economy and its crisis has scared the U.S. authorities who lamented the seriousness and urgency of the situation and scurried to hold emergency meetings to find remedial measures. The crisis is still developing. One consequence of the production slump and the closing down of factories is that 60,000 steelworkers were laid off last year.

Overproduction in Agriculture

The United States reaped another good crop in 1977 following two previous rich harvests. Official estimates put the 1977 output of wheat and corn at above 2,000 million and 6,300 million bushels respectively. Grave overproduction has led to a drastic fall in prices. For wheat, it was less than 2.5 dollars a bushel last mid-November, or over 50 per cent less than three years ago. U.S. farm income was slashed. According to official figures, aggregate farm income in the United States last year was only 20,600 million dollars, that is, 2,000 million less than the previous year. Large numbers of small and medium-sized farms ran up heavy debts and were on the brink of bankruptcy because they failed to meet production costs. This brought farm owners in Washington and 30 or so states out into the streets with their tractors and other farm vehicles to demonstrate and demand higher prices for farm products.

Inflation and Unemployment

Inflation and high unemployment, two intractable problems of the U.S. economy, remain very acute. In the first half of 1977, food prices rose at an annual rate of 13.6 per cent; heating, 19.2 per cent; medical fees, 10.1 per cent; gas

and electricity charges, 11.4 per cent. Overall consumer prices for the whole year went up 6.5 per cent as against 4.8 per cent in 1976.

Official statistics showed that unemployment in 1977 remained as high as 7 per cent and about 7 million people were out of work. Trade union statistics put the actual number at nearly 10 million. Youth unemployment was even more serious. Unemployment rate for the blacks was twice as high as it was for whites. The rate for young whites was 14.8 per cent, that is, one out of every seven was jobless; and for young black people it was as high as 50 per cent, that is, one in two was out of work. Real income reduction and high unemployment hit hardest the millions of U.S. young, aged and disabled.

The struggle by U.S. working people against monopoly-capitalist exploitation and oppression continued to grow last year. In the last quarter, for instance, there was a two-month general strike by dockers on the U.S. eastern seaboard and the Gulf of Mexico, which piled up container goods worth thousands of millions of dollars in some ports, and dealt a heavy blow to U.S. import and export trade. In early December last, thousands of coal miners went on strike, started by those in West Virginia and Ohio.

Grim Prospects

Last year, the pace of U.S. economic pickup clearly slowed down and the various types of contradictions grew sharper. What are the prospects for the U.S. economy this year? U.S. businessmen, economists and officials generally predict that business investments, consumer spending and new housing starts will be reduced, the iron and steel and agricultural crises will remain unsolved and the economic growth rate will drop some more. Unemployment will not improve and the inflation rate will probably rise. Oil imports, trade and international payment deficits will remain at last year's high levels. The contradiction in trade and currency policy between the United States on the one hand and Japan and West European countries on the other can hardly be alleviated and the U.S. dollar will be further depressed. Some anxiously forecast a new economic crisis in the United States next year at the latest.

(Continued on p. 29.)

ROUND THE WORLD

M-L COMMUNIST PARTY
OF FRANCE

Third Congress

At its 3rd Congress held recently the Marxist-Leninist Communist Party of France discussed and adopted a political report, the Party's strategic programme and 23 resolutions and motions concerning current affairs, elected a new central committee and adopted a document entitled "Appeal to the Workers."

The communique of the Congress carried in the January 28 issue of *l'Humanite Rouge* said that the Congress "marks a success in the Party's political unity in defining a proletarian line against the French capitalist bourgeoisie and the hegemonic attempts of the two superpowers, especially the principal danger — Soviet social-imperialism."

The "Appeal to the Workers" adopted unanimously by the Congress calls on the French workers "to strengthen unity in the immediate struggles" and in their domestic struggles, to fight for better living and working conditions and against dismissals and unemployment, against price rises, against exploitation of farm labourers, against elimination of small peasants, against racism, repression and infringement of liberty; and internationally, to support actively the struggle of the oppressed people and countries of the third world who are fighting against the aggressive schemes, domination, oppression and plunder carried out by the

Soviet Union and the United States today, to fight against the superpowers and to unite with the peoples of Europe against the danger of war and particularly against Soviet threats while combating capitulation.

ZIMBABWE PATRIOTIC FRONT

Smith's "Internal Settlement" Fraud Condemned

The Zimbabwe Patriotic Front and its leaders condemned the "agreement in principle" the racist Smith regime recently reached with some Zimbabwean nationalists.

Smith claimed on February 15 that an eight-point "agreement in principle" had been reached in talks with some Zimbabwean nationalists in Salisbury on the "internal settlement" of the Zimbabwe problem. The agreement on the principles of a "constitutional programme" reached by the two sides stipulated that in the 100-seat parliament, 28 seats will be reserved for the whites, who account for less than 5 per cent of the total population, and 20 of these 28 seats will be directly elected by the whites so as to safeguard their interests. The agreement also stipulated that property and land will not be nationalized or confiscated. It has been disclosed that the two sides will continue negotiations on the establishment of a "transitional government," the drafting of a "constitution," the founding of the armed forces and the holding of an "election."

The Zimbabwe Patriotic Front on February 16 declared in a communique that the "agreement in principle" was a betrayal of the rights of the Zimbabwean people. The Smith regime's so-called "internal settlement" is null and void, the communique said, and the Patriotic Front will intensify its armed struggle for the liberation of Zimbabwe until final victory. In an interview with the press on February 16 Robert Mugabe, co-leader of the Patriotic Front, said, "The only way to the restoration of the dignity of the Africans is armed struggle."

An article in the latest issue of *Zimbabwe People's Voice* said that the gun is the only language Smith and Vorster can understand. The Zimbabwean people "have unequivocally chosen the path of the gun as the only feasible means of regaining their squandered heritage." "What has been taken by the gun and violence can be regained only by the same means," the article stressed.

Reuter reported that as soon as the "agreement in principle" was issued, it was "met by an almost universal chorus of doubt or outright rejection." Only the racist South African regime "welcomed the news without reserve." The agreement has sparked deep resentment among many blacks in Salisbury, who complained the whites would retain too much power.

CARIBBEAN SIX

Support Belize Independence

Prime Ministers of all six independent commonwealth

Caribbean countries in a February 7 joint statement reiterated their commitment to firmly safeguard the principle of self-determination and support the right of the people of Belize to independence and territorial integrity.

The joint statement was issued by the Prime Ministers of Guyana, Trinidad and Tobago, Jamaica, Barbados, Grenada and the Bahamas at the request of the Government of Belize.

The statement said that "all Caribbean people, holding firm to the principles enshrined in the United Nations Charter, fully support the resolutions passed at successive U.N. meetings in which the right of the people of Belize to self-determination, independence and territorial integrity has been overwhelmingly approved."

Belize in Central America covers an area of 22,000 square kilometres and has a population of 140,000. The territory is still under British control. A recent announcement by Belize Premier George Price said that talks held in London to resolve the Belize problem had collapsed.

HELSINKI FOLLOW-UP

Third Soviet Draft Rejected

The Helsinki follow-up resumed on January 17 has deadlocked over the controversial "final act" of the conference. The "draft final act" tabled by the Soviet Union on several occasions at the conference was rejected by most participating nations.

At the outset of the resumed conference, the Soviet Union dished up its three-page draft as opposed to a "draft final declaration" put forward jointly by Yugoslavia, Switzerland, Sweden and six other neutral countries. The Soviet draft, with the stock themes of "detente" and "disarmament" that Moscow has been strenuously peddling in recent years, met with widespread opposition from the small and medium-sized European countries, neutral and other countries.

On February 6 the conference decided to set up four informal groups in charge of drafting the final act. On February 10 Moscow tabled another draft which delegates from the Western and neutral countries described as infeasible

as the first one, and was, therefore, still unacceptable.

On February 14, the Soviet Union came up with its third draft, which was immediately turned down by the Western delegates who pointed out that it was as unacceptable as the previous two.

On February 15, European Economic Community Foreign Ministers unanimously agreed to support the draft proposed by neutral and non-aligned countries at the Belgrade conference "as the basis for a formal communique to be issued at the end of the 35-nation talks." Chief Soviet Representative Yuli Vorontsov that day announced that he would not take part in the talks for a draft on human rights.

The squabble over making up the "draft" centres on the West's insistence on writing into the draft an article on the respect for human rights and the Soviet Union's stubborn opposition to it. The draft itself is not worth a rap. Soviet attempts to bring out a "plausible" document while opposing the "human rights" article show that there are raw spots in Moscow's "socialism" and its "detente is irreversible" concept which no one should touch.

(Continued from p. 27.)

U.S. President Carter, in a recent annual economic report, called for a 25,000-million-dollar tax cut to stimulate the stagnant economy with a view to allaying the serious unemployment problem. He asked Congress to adopt his energy bill in order to reduce oil imports, narrow the trade deficit and stabilize the U.S. dollar. He also called upon businessmen and workers for "voluntary" wage and price restraints to hold down inflation. But these are

conflicting objectives and none will be attained without forfeiting another. Carter himself had to admit the problem confronting the United States today was more complex and difficult than ever. After Carter's economic report came out, there was a further decline in New York stock exchange quotations, which shows a lack of confidence even on the part of U.S. businessmen in the Carter administration's prescription for curing the ailing U.S. economy.

—by Kuo Wu-hsin

ON THE HOME FRONT

Natural Gas Chemical Plant Built

IN Yunnan Province, southwest China, a modern chemical plant using natural gas as raw material has been built and put into operation.

This plant can produce 300,000 tons of synthetic ammonia and 480,000 tons of urea per year, which means one million tons of standard chemical fertilizer. Used on croplands, this amount will increase grain production by some three million tons under ordinary conditions. As the plant is highly automated, heat can be fully utilized. For instance, it takes only 15 kwh of electricity to produce one ton of synthetic ammonia. With low consumption of raw materials and power, the plant has fairly high labour productivity.

Building of the plant began in October 1974, and the project was completed within three years. It went into trial-production last September and was turning out urea within a month. At the end of last year, all its technical standards fulfilled the designed requirements and the plant went into regular operation.

Chinese and Foreign Classics Published

FOR a time when the "gang of four" were on the rampage, publishing work in China was seriously impaired and

there were scarcely enough new books available to the public. Publishing houses are now doing their utmost to change the situation by putting out as many good books as possible. Bustling activity is prevailing in bookstores, where Chinese and foreign classical works formerly banned by the gang are as great an attraction as books of modern and revolutionary themes.

Chinese Classics. To date, all but one set of *The Twenty-Four Histories*, a collection of Chinese dynastic histories covering a period of some 4,000 years up to the Ming Dynasty (1368-1644), have come off the press. The work of collating and punctuating these history books has been accomplished by the Chunghwa Book Company, and this marks a big event in China's history circles.

Other classical books already off the press include: *Tzu Chih Tung Chien*, another large historical work which appeared in the 11th century; the etymological *Shuo Wen Chieh Tzu* which interprets the meaning, structure and pronunciation of Chinese characters; and collected works of Li Po, a great poet of the 8th century. Shanghai has begun to publish a collection of 50 literary classics. The first one available is a collection of poems by Li Ho (8-9th century), a poet whose works were characterized by his

romantic style. The famous classical novels *The Scholars* and the *Tales of the Three Kingdoms* have also been republished in Peking.

Foreign Classics. In addition to the Chinese classics, China has put out a number of Chinese versions of foreign academic works since the overthrow of the "gang of four." These include: Mignet's *History of the French Revolution*, Lewis Morgan's *Ancient Society*, a collection of Cornelius Tacitus' *Life of Agricola* and *Germany*, Alfred Wegnet's *The Origin of Continents and Oceans*, Hegel's *Science of Logic*, two volumes of selected works of Albert Einstein, as well as Volumes 1-3 of Cabet's novel *Voyage en Icarie*.

Newly published foreign literary works include: *Arabian Nights*; Schwab's *Myths and Epics of Ancient Greece*; Heine's *Germany, a Winter's Tale*; Hugo's *Les Miserables*; Turgenev's *Virgin Soil*; the selected poems of Georg Weerth, whom Engels called the first and most important poet of the German proletariat; some of Shakespeare's plays in individual paperback; *Lenin*, a long poem by Mayakovsky, a writer of the early period of the Soviet revolution and Gorki's reminiscences about the proletarian revolutionary teacher Lenin. Also available are Korean film scenarios, selected stories of the Japanese writers Sawako Aliyosi and Yasusi Inoue, and selected poems of Iqbal, the most famous Pakistani poet of modern times.

During his lifetime, Chairman Mao often exhorted the Chinese people to learn from the strong points of foreign countries. Publication of these foreign classics helps the Chinese people understand the history and culture of other countries, carry forward and assimilate foreign literary legacies.

Raising Fish for Cities

IN recent years many of China's cities have gone in for raising fish on a fairly large scale.

According to statistics from 135 large and medium-sized cities, the total area of the newly-built fishponds in the past four years in the suburbs of these cities equals one-third of the country's total area of fishponds before 1973.

In many cities, the supply of fresh fish has improved. Formerly Hofei city of Anhwei Province, east China, lacked favourable conditions for fish raising. Since 1974, however, some 440 hectares of fishponds have been built in its suburbs. The output of fresh fish in 1977 was 2.27 times that of 1975. Besides, the supply of live fish has also increased.

In Wusih city of Kiangsu Province, east China, which has a long history of raising fish, the area of newly built fishponds in the last four years exceeded its former total area of fishponds. The output of fish went up 52 per cent. Harbin, capital



A new variety of common carp which reaches a weight of 7.7 kg. within a year and a half.

of Heilungkiang Province, northeast China, built fishponds by exploding ice in its suburbs and has doubled its output of fish since 1974.

Medical Briefs

- Not long ago orthopedic surgeons of the Shanghai No. 6 People's Hospital restored the function of a 9-year-old peasant boy's left upper arm which had become crippled as a result of a bicycle accident early last year. This was achieved by removing a 7-centimetre-long segment of the boy's fibula with its blood vessels and grafting it on to the injured arm. This successful operation represented a new development in orthopedic microsurgery in the country.

After three months of treatment, recuperation and exercise following the operation, the boy could raise his left arm high and could hold a basinful

of water with both hands. The function of his leg was not affected.

It was the Shanghai No. 6 People's Hospital which in 1963 succeeded in rejoining a worker's severed right fore arm, an operation never before performed in China.

- The hospital affiliated to the Shanghai No. 1 Medical College has succeeded in transplanting a kidney of a fresh corpse to a young worker. The kidney has been functioning for more than two years now. During 27 months after the operation, the patient developed symptoms of rejection of the heterotransplant on more than 30 occasions and signs of infection in his windpipe, urinary duct and gastro-intestinal tract. But all this was overcome through efforts of the medical workers who combined foreign advanced experience with traditional Chinese medicine.

SCIENCE PERIODICALS FROM CHINA

Chinese Medical Journal (in Chinese)	monthly
Chinese Medical Journal (in English)	bi-monthly
Scientia Sinica (in Chinese)	bi-monthly
Scientia Sinica (a foreign-language edition with articles mainly in English)	bi-monthly

Periodicals in Chinese (with abstracts of main articles and table of contents in English)

Acta Archaeologica Sinica	quarterly
Acta Astronomica Sinica	twice yearly
Acta Botanica Sinica	quarterly
Acta Entomologica Sinica	quarterly
Acta Genetica Sinica	quarterly
Acta Geophysica Sinica	quarterly
Acta Mathematica Sinica	quarterly
Acta Microbiologica Sinica	quarterly
Acta Palaeontologica Sinica	quarterly
Acta Physica Sinica	bi-monthly
Acta Phytotaxonomica Sinica	quarterly
Acta Zoologica Sinica	quarterly
Architectural Journal	quarterly
Oceanologia Et Limnologia Sinica	twice yearly
Physica Energiae Fortis Et Physica Nuclearis	bi-monthly
Scientia Geologica Sinica	quarterly
Vertebrata Palasiatica	quarterly

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