

smaller nations, particularly the middle powers," and showed how the Dumbarton Oaks draft had been amended. These amendments were intended to remove the economic and social causes of international friction. The great powers supported most

of these amendments. "The veto rights of the Big Powers," he concluded, "were not removed as many nations wished; nevertheless, the achievements have been great, and the small powers played an effective and invaluable part."

A New Era for the Press in China

By Woo KYATANG (吴嘉棠)

IN the bright era of freedom ahead of us, China's newspapers and newspapermen must face a new responsibility.

To a great measure, this country's future rests on the shoulders of newspaper editors, who, as the spokesmen of the people, can mould public opinion so as to affect governmental policies.

Looking immediately ahead, we see three tasks which demand the immediate attention of the country's newspaper editors.

First, they must help the Chinese government as well as the Allied governments in laying the groundwork for a workable form of international security.

Second, the newspapermen of the nation must do everything within their power to help the National Government bring about immediate and effective national harmony.

Third, the newspapermen of China must lead the people in a nation-wide program of post-war reconstruction.

To do these three things, we need not only an honest press, but also a responsible and courageous press. We must have in the news columns accurate and unbiased reporting, and in the editorial columns fair and wise leadership. In other words, we must have in our new China a press that is truly wide-awake, wide-awake to the problems that are around us and wide-awake to the opportunities of national service which are crying for attention.

Perhaps in saying all these things I really mean to say that China needs a new type of newspaperman. It is true that all over China there are newspapermen who are high-principled and well-trained and who consider their positions on a public journal as positions of public trust. But there are far too many people connected with newspapers—editors, reporters and publishers—who do not have the moral backbone to stand up under stress. And as a result you see as a sad example the condition of the Shanghai press prior to Japan's surrender.

In order to have the kind of newspapers which will be of service to our nation and our people, we must, first of all, have newspapermen who know not only the practice but also the ethics of journalism. Too many of our newspapermen go into newspapering with the same motive and outlook as going into the peanut-vending business—with profit and material gains as the only objective. If that is the case, this type of so-called newsmen has no right to stay in journalism. They might as well start their peanut-vending business or some other type of activities which does not call for high moral responsibilities.

China's journalistic outlook will indeed be a sad one if we should have again in that profession men who are prepared to render lip service to all causes and be faithful to none. We must purge from the profession those men who, for money or for

fame, are willing to sell not only their conscience but also their country.

From this day onward, it will be fashionable to talk about freedom of speech plastered on the walls from Canton to Mukden. You will hear "freedom of speech" shouted by long-haired demagogues from one soap-box to another. And pretty soon in a moment of sane quietude, you will ask yourself what all these slogans mean.

They do not mean a thing as long as they remain slogans. Freedom of speech is a not a gift all wrapped up and ready for use which comes just for the asking and for the slogan-yelling. It is something to be worked for, for which we must make sacrifices.

Freedom of speech is a responsibility as well as a privilege. It is much like a deadly and precious drug—you can use it to kill as well as to cure.

As I see it, freedom of speech can be a blessing to this nation and at the same time it might be a curse. It all depends upon one thing: Whether we will have newspapermen who have the moral caliber and technical training to handle it so that freedom of speech will become an active force for national unity and national good.

Much as I dislike to see newspapers which are tied to governmental apron strings, I would rather have that in China than irresponsible and unscrupulous men in editorial chairs who would stir up hatred and dissent in the guise of freedom of speech.

By and large, the duties of newspapers and newspapermen in the future are the same old duties of newspapers and newspapermen in the past. We must protect the interests of the common man. We must work for a universal form of education for all of China. We must campaign for a system of public health and disease-prevention which will protect the poor as well as the rich. We must try to direct the people's and the government's attention toward the formulation of a plan which will give a minimum level of financial security to all Chinese people.

These duties of the press are as true now as they were true thirty years ago. Whether these duties will mean anything or not in the future depends upon the earnestness and determination with which newspapermen in China seek to discharge their assignments. Furthermore, it depends upon the degree of trust the Chinese public has in its press.

Having gone through a blood-bath and eight years of unmitigated suffering, China's newspapermen, I feel, are prepared, more than ever, to work in a way which will fulfill the demands of the new era.