

Editorial

In the first issue of this journal, we cited the present fact of Chinese power as sufficient justification for launching a specialist quarterly on China. Now, five years later, that power has again been dramatically displayed by the explosion of an advanced form of nuclear device, and in this anniversary issue three specialists examine the background to and the implications of China's possession of the bomb.

It would perhaps be artificial for a journal that is continuously examining through its contributors all aspects of Chinese developments to pause, even at an anniversary, for an across-the-board survey of the current scene. Instead, we have chosen to ask just four questions about the fifteen years of Communist rule. Have those fifteen years of power changed the Communist leadership's vision of the world? How has China's position in the world been changed during those years? What effects have they had on the Chinese people? And on the Chinese state? Within that framework, our four contributors have explored what to them has been most interesting and relevant.

Over the past five years, the field of contemporary Chinese studies has expanded encouragingly. With the support of the growing numbers of Chinese specialists, this journal has attempted above all to decrease our ignorance. Expanding with the field, The China Quarterly has been to some extent a reflection of and a comment on its strengths and weaknesses. But ultimate responsibility for fulfilling our aim is ours and on this occasion we renew the invitation to our readers to comment continually and critically upon the journal.

The Legacy of China

Edited by Raymond Dawson

This latest addition to the 'Legacy' series satisfies the demand for a general survey of what the world owes to China in the major realms of the spirit and intellect. The first general account of Chinese civilization to give proper recognition to scientific and technological achievements, its new and more accurate perspective guarantees its place as a standard work which will be of interest both to scholar and layman. '... a collection of exceptionally fine essays by distinguished scholars.' *NEW STATESMAN Illustrated 30s net*

Mao and the Chinese Revolution

Jerome Ch'ên

Taking account of Mao's part in the Chinese Revolution and the establishment of the People's Republic, the author dispassionately analyses Mao's life and times and studies, in particular, the Maoist pattern of revolution, and Mao's own writings on this subject, which are quoted extensively. The events of particular interest are the establishment of the first and second United Fronts, the Stalin-Trotsky controversy, the schism between the Kuomintang and the Communist party and the saga of the Long March. Dr Ch'ên also provides new information and corrects some of the factual mistakes about Mao's life. A collection of thirty-seven of Mao's poems complement the account of Mao as a man of action. *42s net*

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