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LEAD

President's old house gives way to people's homes

Along with the project for building 10 000 flats in Pyongyang, the construction of the Pothong Riverside Terraced Houses District is underway on the picturesque riverbanks.

The construction of dwelling houses is part of the consistent people-oriented policy of the DPRK, but the on-going construction plan has a special meaning and impact.

The district is being built in the site where President Kim Il Sung's house had been located.

The President had used the house for a long time before the then Kumsusan Assembly Hall was built.

In the post-war period, the President turned down the proposal for building a new house for him, saying his primary concern was to build dwellings for the people. It was only in the mid-1950s when residential districts were constructed circling Pyongyang and people were moving into their new homes that a proposal

for reno-vating his residence was submitted. However, the designers of it had to change its design several times.

The President instructed them not to decorate the house with marble and imported building materials but to furnish it in a simple Korean way as he pointed out the direction of modifying the design.

Later, the second and third drafts were rejected in succession and the final design was too plain to be called that for a residence of a head of state.

According to information available, the President told architects at that time that he was planning to build a children's palace in Pyongyang on a large scale and they could design it as large and elegant as they pleased.

Since then, numerous architectural structures and residential districts were constructed in the city, including the Pyongyang Students and Children's Palace. However, the house of the President remained

the same for a long time.

Therefore, for the Korean people, the house was not just an ordinary house but a beloved place which was associated with the memories of the leader of the people.

Nevertheless, the respected Comrade Kim Jong Un decided to build luxury apartments for people at the site of the house.

As he inspected the site last March, he said that the President would be pleased if he knew that the house would be removed to build modern terraced houses to be provided to the people, and added that the Pothong Riverside Terraced Houses District would become the most civilized urban area with outstanding scenic beauty in Pyongyang.

The luxury houses which are to be built within this year under the direct guidance of the Central Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea will be supplied to ordinary working people.

By Han Kwi Hun PT

RELATIONS

Historic summit giving push to Iran ties

This year marks the 32nd anniversary of President Kim Il Sung's meeting with the Iranian President.

In February 1979 the Islamic Republic of Iran enforced an independent foreign policy resolutely to oppose and reject interference and aggression moves of Western countries. It positively strived for building an independent economy and achieving political consolidation and stability of the country.

At the time, the DPRK was rendering positive support and encouragement to the country in its efforts to build a new society.

Under the circumstances, the then President Seyed Ali Khamenei (present leader of the Iranian Islamic revolution) visited the DPRK between May 14 and 17 1989 at the invitation of President Kim Il Sung.

When the Iranian President arrived in Pyongyang, Kim Il Sung made sure that the talks were put off in consideration of the fatigue of the Iranian leader who made a long journey.

Three rounds of talks were held between the top leaders of the two countries during his visit to the DPRK.

At the talks, the two sides had an in-depth exchange of views on the development of friendly relations between the two countries as well as internal and external issues.

Kim Il Sung deepened friendship with Khamenei as he told him about the experience and lessons obtained in building socialism in the DPRK.

of the country.

As he looked round the Sinhong Dam and a generator room of Tanchon Power Station Unit 5, he stressed the need to thoroughly ensure scientific accuracy and safety in preparing for the trial operation of the generator and scrupulously manage the hydraulic structures.

And he made the rounds of nitrogen workshop No. 2 and a site for assembling a new gas generator at the Hungnam Fertilizer Complex.

The field consultative meetings discussed measures to detail correct assignments to relevant units in order to attain the goals in each stage without fail, carefully organize

After offering deep thanks to the DPRK President for inviting him and giving a warm reception, the Iranian counterpart expressed his satisfaction with the promotion of friendly and cooperative relations between the two countries in different fields and his belief that the bilateral ties of friendship would continue to deepen.

As he addressed a rally in Pyongyang, the Iranian President laid bare the hegemony-seeking moves of the imperialists and said that the destiny of a nation is never decided by big powers, but by its people themselves. He added that the great Korean people proved such experience under the wise leadership of President Kim Il Sung.

The Pyongyang summit between the DPRK and Iranian leaders served as a landmark which further strengthened the bonds of friendship and cooperation between the two countries.

Today, the bilateral ties are steadily promoted.

The DPRK and Iran have strengthened mutual support and cooperation in the effort to oppose all manner of domination and subordination on the international arena, champion independence and defend global justice.

The two countries are eager to build up mutual support and solidarity in the struggle to defend their national sovereignty and development and interests and bring prosperity to their peoples.

By Om Ryong PT

INSPECTION

Premier Kim inspects different sectors



Premier Kim Tok Hun (centre) on a visit to the Phyongri Cooperative Farm in Suncheon, South Phyongan Province.

Premier Kim Tok Hun, who is member of the Presidium of the Political Bureau of the Central Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea, inspected the Suncheon Cement Complex and the construction site for creating the C1 chemical industry.

As he looked round the Suncheon Limestone Mine which is responsible for the supply of key raw material for cement production at the complex, he referred to the need to set

a realistic goal for increased production and take realistic measures to hit it so as to ensure the smooth supply of cement needed for the construction of 10 000 flats in Pyongyang and to actively introduce efficient working methods and put the work including the one for forming mining benches and increasing the transport capacity on a long-term and three-dimensional basis.

At the construction site

for building the C1 chemical industry, he took measures to make elaborate technical preparations in all production processes and increase the proportion of home-made equipment and locally available raw materials in close cooperation with scientific research institutions in order to consolidate the material and technical foundations for developing the chemical industry.

The field consultative meetings discussed the issues of taking thoroughgoing scientific and technological measures to complete the project for increasing the capacity of the Suncheon Cement Complex as early as possible and of supplying custom-built equipment in time by those units in charge of manufacturing equipment needed for building the C1 chemical industry.

And he visited the Phyongri Cooperative Farm in Suncheon City to learn in detail about its immediate farming.

The Premier also inspected several units in the eastern area

ANNIVERSARY

Theatrical troupe seventy-five years on

“The 75-year history of the National Theatrical Troupe can be said to reflect the history of development of the DPRK,” said Ri Ji Yong, director of the troupe.

The central art performance troupe, the predecessor of the theatrical troupe, was formed on May 22 1946, the year after Korea’s liberation.

At the time of its establishment, the performance troupe was comprised of some 50 dramatic actors and actresses from all across the country, and they produced and staged drama *Thunder* in two to three months. The work reflected the personality traits of General Kim Il Sung, anti-Japanese legendary hero, as a great man and the popular feeling for him.

There were also the works adapting national classics and those representing the fulfilling life of the Korean people who became masters of land and factories in the liberated country.

During the Fatherland Liberation War, the actors and actresses of the troupe went on tours of battlefields, urban, rural and other areas in the rear and also the liberated areas to give performances with the help of cars’ headlights and bonfires, thereby greatly inspiring the service personnel of the Korean People’s Army and other Koreans to the victory in the war.

Each song resounding through postwar reconstruction sites and

each of pulsating realities of socialist construction turned into a play and drama.

The works that were created and performed in those years represented the people’s deep admiration for President Kim Il Sung, and pulsed with the spirit and stamina of the generation who won the war and gave birth to Chollima, a legendary winged horse, to usher in the Chollima era.

The DPRK’s dramatic art experienced a renaissance in the late 1970s.

Under the wise guidance of Chairman Kim Jong Il, the creative and performing artists of the theatrical troupe broke new ground by introducing the conveyor system solid stage arts to stage revolutionary drama *The Mountain Shrine* which had been written by the President during the anti-Japanese revolutionary struggle.

It was a landmark event which announced the birth of a new type of drama.

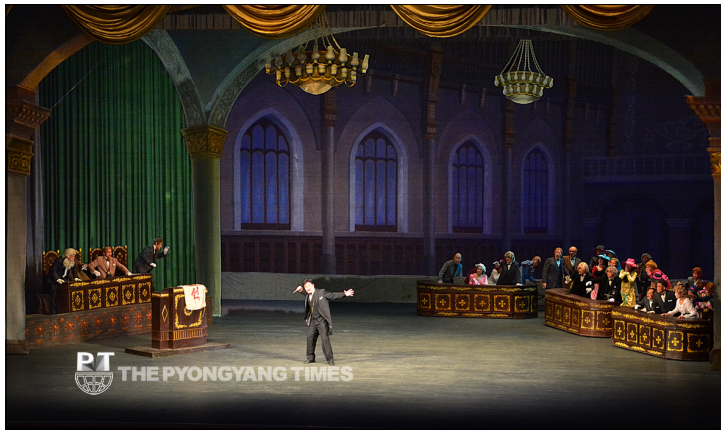
It was followed by the creation of other revolutionary dramas *Blood at an International Conference*, *A Letter from a Daughter*, *Three Pretenders* and *Celebrations* and they were performed to a full house.

The theatrical troupe has been staging *Blood at an International Conference* since last April.

The troupe reproduced light comedy *An Echo among the Hills* in 2010 and staged it on over 500 occasions. It achieved tremendous popularity and was awarded Kim Il Sung Prize.

Afterwards, it completed drama *We Will Recollect Today* as a monumental masterpiece and the work was honoured with Kim Il Sung Prize, too.

By Ri Sung Ik PT



JON KWANG HUN

A scene from revolutionary drama *Blood at an International Conference*.

INAUGURATION

Waterway, hospital projects completed



An opening ceremony of the waterway is held on Tuesday. The canal runs between the Tongraegang reservoir and Honggondo tideland in North Phyongan Province.

A waterway project between the Tongraegang reservoir and Honggondo tideland has been completed in North Phyongan Province.

The provincial population removed hundreds of thousands of cubic metres of earth and built structures in well over a hundred places to finish the dozens of kilometre-long waterway project in a short time. As a result, a solid groundwork has been provided to increase grain production by supplying water for irrigating the vast expanse of fields in the Honggondo tideland and Sonchon County.

An opening ceremony of the waterway took place on the spot on Tuesday.

It was attended by Mun Kyong Dok, chief secretary of the North Phyongan Provincial Committee of the Workers’ Party of Korea,

Nationwide

Hundreds of young people in Jagang volunteer for difficult sectors



Upon receipt of the historic letter the respected Comrade Kim Jong Un sent to the 10th congress of the youth league, young men and women in Jagang Province continue to volunteer to work at difficult and labour-consuming sectors.

Hundreds of them went to work at the construction site of the third stage for building the City of Samjiyon, coal and other mines, cooperative farms and other major workplaces for economic construction in the province and branch schools in mountain villages as well.

Area under aronia cultivation on the increase

The DPRK has secured more than 550 hectares of area for the cultivation of aronia which is of great economic value during the spring tree-planting period.

South Hamgyong, Jagang and North Hwanghae provinces gave definite precedence to sapling production and, on this basis, created vast areas of aronia fields this year.

Factory boosts blueberry goods production

The Samjiyon Blueberry Drinks Factory of Ryanggang Province overfulfilled its first half-yearly economic plan by 10 percent as of early May.

It developed and introduced several valuable technical innovation plans to remarkably increase productivity.

As a result, the quality of such goods as wine, sweet

jelly and sweet bread made using blueberries has been improved to be sought-after by people.

Power stations scale up output

Large-scale hydropower stations in Jagang Province are increasing electricity production.

The Kanggye Youth Power Station increased electricity production 2.5 times more than the same period of last year as of mid-May.

The Huichon Power Station boosts output by renovating different measuring and protecting facilities.

Huge area of land put under plough, grain production area increased

The DPRK has brought over 900 hectares of land under the plough and remarkably increased grain production area so far this year.

Different districts of Pyongyang turned uncultivated land into cropland to obtain dozens of hectares of new land.

Unsan County, South Phyongan Province, finished the building of a hundreds-of-metre-long section of waterway in a short span of time, thereby turning into paddies the dozens of hectares of land.

Hundreds of flats built in North Phyongan



Modern dwelling houses for hundreds of families have been built in Kusong City of North Phyongan Province.

Each of the houses built cosily on a sunny place is provided with all living conditions.

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Kye Myong Chol, chairman of the North Phyongan Provincial Rural Economy Committee, officials concerned, employees of the Amnokgang area irrigation office, builders and working people in Sonchon County.

Mun Kyong Dok, in his speech at the ceremony, said that the Amnokgang area irrigation office should responsibly manage the irrigation facilities including the dam of the reservoir and intake tower and make effective use of water and that the agricultural workers in charge of tideland farming should take responsible care of rice-seedling beds, do rice transplanting meticulously and fertilize land and tend the crops scientifically and technically, stressing the need to make the irrigation system prove its worth so as to hit the grain production target for this year without fail.

The South Hamgyong Provincial People’s Hospital has been renovated

as a comprehensive medical service centre.

An opening ceremony took place on Wednesday.

It was attended by officials concerned in the province, cities and counties, doctors and nurses of the hospital and residents of Hamhung City.

Ri Jong Nam, chief secretary of the South Hamgyong Provincial Committee of the Workers’ Party of Korea, delivered a keynote speech, followed by other speakers.

They expressed their resolve to turn preventive and curative medical care into selfless, devoted service for the people to ensure the workers and other people in the province substantially benefit from the socialist public health system.

After the ceremony, the participants looked round the hospital.

County shapes its own future



Last year Hoechang County of South Phyongan Province ranked as one of the best units and was highly appreciated in the national meeting to sum up the forest restoration campaign and general mobilization campaign for land administration and the judgment of cities and counties over comprehensive regional development.

The *Pyongyang Times* reporter Yun Kyong Il interviewed chairman Kim In Chol, vice-chairman Kim Yong Su and department director Kwon Chang Man of the county people's committee about the growth prospects of Hoechang County.

Recently your county ranked high at the national reviews for regional development in succession. I want to know what the key to success is.

Kim In Chol: The secret is that our county achieves its development to suit its regional features.

As you know our county is in the central part of the DPRK. Over 80 percent of its areas are covered with forests with steep slope and the areas 200-800 metres above sea level make up over 90 percent. And over a dozen large and small rivers flow in it with a total length of over 180 kilometres.

The county designs its healthy development with the main emphasis placed on making

effective use of forests and rivers.

It has introduced a forest-in-charge management system involving all its institutions, enterprises and residents as part of an effort to turn all the mountains into useful ones. In applying the system it ensured that half of the income from it is paid to it and the rest of it goes to those in charge to effectively provide the forest resources while benefitting the tenders as well. As a result, all the mountains in the county are thickly wooded with chestnut, pine nut and other good species of trees. Millions of trees have been planted this spring. The planned 10-year afforestation goals will be attained this year and then we will launch into the forest transformation campaign, the next-stage goal. Seedling production is going on successfully as part of its preparations.

A great deal of energies have also been directed to forest protection as well as afforestation to make the green forests which were planted with great efforts thicker with the passage of time. Dense forests are beneficial to the county population as they help prevent flood damage and the loss of soil. And the rich harvest of wild fruits from the forests are used to improve the people's livelihood. At the moment the

local industry factories have a large stock of raw materials for production.



Kim In Chol, chairman of the Hoechang County People's Committee in South Phyongan Province.

Kim Yong Su: We've also alleviated the shortage of electric power, an essential prerequisite of economic growth.

The county has pushed ahead with power station construction projects on the small rivers for over 20 years. Several power stations have already been built including Jongsan power station units 1 and 3 and the Ryangjong Youth Power Station.

At the same time it equipped institutions, enterprises and residential districts in the county with coal gasification generators and power

generation facilities based on solar panels to establish double and triple power supply systems. As a result, the county's total power output far exceeds several thousand kWh and it is enough to satisfy the needs for electricity in local industry factories and households.

Will you explain what the real benefits of the conservation of forests and rivers the county population enjoys are?

Kwon Chang Man: We can cite the supply of essential consumer goods before anything else.

The county provides all families with soybean sauce and paste, soap, toilet paper and other daily necessities every month.

The local industry factories meet the needs for all kinds of bowls, dishes and other containers, furniture, desks and chairs and school fixtures with their products.

The county also fills the need for power at institutions, industrial establishments and families with electricity generated at its minor power stations without relying on the national grid.

The county has achieved marked successes in land administration and fish farming, hasn't it?

Kim Yong Su: Yes, it has. It stepped up the technical upgrading to bring all roads up to the standard. It also provided safety facilities and built retaining walls in every bend of its many mountain passes that connect it to other regions to improve road safety.

Nearly 30 big and small bridges were newly built or reconstructed to make them wider and heavy-duty and ensure traffic safety.

Mobile flowerpot stands and those in various shapes were set up along with flower beds and flowerpot stands in streets and parks and on bridges to decorate them with flowering

plants.

Kindergartens and schools in the county were modernly renovated and cosy and cultured single-storey houses built in several rural communities.

Kwon Chang Man: Our county built a breed fish farm several years ago and secured various species of fishes including carp, Ryongjong fish, rainbow trout and grass fish. Tens of thousands of fries were produced there and supplied to factories, enterprises and farms in the county last year.

Would you mind telling me about the future development prospects of the county?

Kim In Chol: We will work hard to provide the county population with much more substantial benefits.

First of all, we will put steady efforts into turning all mountains in the county into strategic resources which will bring more profits to the economic growth and improvement of the people's living standards. To this end, we will plant several thousand hectares of pine nut forests and hundreds of hectares of *Evodia daniellii* forests and grow sunflower and castor-oil plants in a large area to provide raw materials for the local industry factories properly in the period of the new five-year plan for national economic development.

Multi-storey apartment houses for over 200 families are to be built in the township area and other modern dwelling houses in the rural communities this year to hit the phased goals in the new five-year plan. The reconstruction of the county water supply network will also be completed this year.

At the same time, minor power stations will supply enough electric power to local industry factories and families. Due attention will also be paid to the development of fish farming.



Local factories, new public buildings and cosy dwellings show the appearance of Hoechang County undergoing a face-lift.

ROAD

Energy-saving road repair technology introduced

Researchers of Pyongyang University of Architecture have recently developed a new kind of asphalt emulsion for road restoration which can save much more materials and energy than ever before.

It is important to well repair and maintain roads because asphalt roads are broken or damaged due to different factors in the course of using them for a long time.

To this end, the restoration of asphalt roads is done by taking out damaged parts of roads and applying heat to them so as to pave again. But the smoke coming from asphalt heating pollutes the environment and gives much negative influence on human body.

It is a cationic asphalt emulsion that overcomes such shortcomings. An asphalt emulsion is a thick liquid

mixture emulsified by using emulsion, and is divided into two, cationic and anionic asphalt emulsions, according to physical properties.

Paek Nam Hyok, PhD, associate professor and director of the green environment technology exchange centre of the university, and his research group developed the cationic asphalt emulsion by relying on domestic materials.

The previous mixture for repair, which was used in the past to pave roads, was required to ensure over five centimetres of thickness of pavement surface since it was charged with negative electricity. The damage and abrasion of road can be overcome even when 1 cm of thickness is ensured, as the use of the new asphalt emulsion enables the mixture to take the electropositive

charge while improving the combining power with the pavement surface.

When road repair is made with the help of hot asphalt mixture, it requires 170-180°C of high heat and no small quantity of fuel.

“According to information available, much fuel (a ton of coal or two cubic metres of wood) is used to heat five tons of mixture. In case of repairing pavement road by using cationic asphalt emulsion, it can be done properly if 5°C of temperature is ensured, while saving a large quantity of fuel,” said Paek.

This cationic asphalt emulsion mixture, which won the certificate of products of advanced techniques last year, can be used effectively for wearing course and waterproof blocking layer of foundation course.

By Jong Chol PT

PROFILE

Sci-tech diffuser sticks to his rule in invention

The blocks produced at the waste disposal factory belonging to the Moranbong district urban beautification station are much sought after.

Its lead developer is Kim Kwang Chol (pictured), diffuser at the Moranbong District Committee of Pyongyang Municipality of the General Federation of Science and Technology of Korea.

The construction sector seems to be unrelated to Kim who had worked at the pharmaceutical sector under the Ministry of Public Health.

“But it was not unfamiliar to me. Most of my inventions are additives that are closely connected with chemistry. Chemistry forms the basis of pharmacology I majored in,” said Kim.

Such cross-disciplinary science was no problem to him as he had studied hard during his days at Sariwon College of Koryo Pharmacology.

While doing his pharmaceutical job, he paid attention to recycling urban waste.

To safely dispose of different kinds of household refuse while preventing environmental pollution is a matter of great social concern.

He volunteered to resolve it and buckled down to research into recycling urban waste. In the course of this, he channelled his main efforts into developing additives.

He succeeded in developing an additive for waste disposal



by drawing on his experience of making a concrete accelerator using waste from the Sangwon Cement Complex. And by putting the additive into such solid waste as coal cinders he completed the block for construction.

Though no cement is mixed, the block is as hard as the ordinary block made from cement and gravels and it costs one tenth of that. The method of building this block was soon introduced in the Moranbong district urban beautification station and transferred to other stations in the city.

Encouraged by the success, he stepped up a study of the recycling of plastic waste which takes a large proportion in urban rubbish.

In this course, he developed different kinds of adhesives, oil coating material and filling material for vehicle painting.

In particular, the adhesives

for manufacturing plywood, plastic goods and ironware are turned out without heating and using any electrical method, but their qualitative indices are ensured and they cause no pollution, thus attracting the attention of experts.

He expanded his research from recycling to the development of various kinds of detergents and rust inhibitor for vehicles and the study of the bounce of table-tennis ball as well.

All his studies are based on locally-available materials. For instance, he developed a method of substituting wild grass abundant in local hills for foaming agent and dispersant which constitute major qualitative indices of various detergents.

“While continuing invention for 10 years, I came to realize that the resources in our country are all treasures,” Kim said.

Everything should be made from domestic materials and using no or less funds, electricity and special facilities—this is the rule he maintains in his invention.

That’s why his developments are always welcomed by users and everyone regards him as a treasure, said Paek Chol Hun, secretary general of the committee.

Today many people visit him to ask for advice from across the country.

By Jong Hwa Sun PT

HYGIENE

Progress made in environmental hygienic research projects



RYU KWANG HYOK

An additive analysis experiment is underway at the environmental hygiene institute of the Academy of Medical Sciences.

“It is the desire of mankind to ensure clean environment. Our institute works intensively to comprehensively evaluate and predict the effects that air, water, soil and other environmental factors exert on human body,” said Jong Sang Hyon, director of the environmental hygiene institute of the Academy of Medical Sciences.

The institute developed a real-time atmospheric environment measuring device and introduced it into different industrial establishments and regions, and is working on research to establish the national atmospheric environment measuring system and health and influence appraisal system.

And it is exerting itself to make an immediate appraisal of environmental health influence in new industrial establishments and their vicinity.

It conducts the security test of various foodstuffs and additives that have been developed in the

country.

It is saving reagents, labour and time as compared to previously by establishing the rapid testing method based on immunochromatography to this end, said Han Hyok Chol, staffer in charge of science.

In addition, it developed a real-time water quality measuring apparatus, as well as programs for evaluating environmental health risk, classifying additives for foodstuffs and establishing the safety management information system.

The scientific council which meets every week at the institute has played an important role.

Meanwhile, the institute, in collaboration with other units, pushes the research into and inspection of reference value by indices so as to map out national environmental appraisal standards scientifically and comprehensively.

By Kim Il Jin PT

ADDITIVE

Gluten additive production line established

The Pyongyang Wheat Flour Processing Factory has recently set up the gluten additive production process for improving the quality of processed wheat flour products.

The additive increases the bulkiness of dough and makes foodstuff have viscoelasticity, thus promoting its toughness and chewiness.

“We have technically proved that when starch and protein are separated from the dough, which is used in the production of dried yeast, it makes it possible to produce quality gluten while improving the quality and actual extract rate of dried yeast,” said Kim Kwang Il, a technician of the factory.

The separation method, which uses the property of protein

with strong water absorption and hydrogen bonding capacities and that of starch which is washed well by water, makes it possible to maximize the separation efficiency of gluten which accounts for 80 percent of wheat flour protein.

The factory also conducts research to use gluten in the production of various other foodstuffs including boiled fish-paste and soy sauce.

It is now pushing the development of new technologies to make calcium acetate with such by-products as eggshell and use it in the production of functional foods.

By Chae Hyang Ok PT



Child health brings bliss to family, society

State bears full responsibility for childcare

In the DPRK the state takes full responsibility for the care and education of all the children.

A decision was adopted on bringing up children at state and public expense as a state policy just after national liberation in 1945, and the DPRK adopted the Law on the Nursing and Upbringing of Children in April 1976 and the enforcement regulations of the law in July 2014 as a Cabinet decision.

Such state policies equally benefit all children, irrespective of the social status or merit of their parents and the quantity and quality of their work.

Nurseries and kindergartens are rationally distributed near their workplaces to offer convenience to working women, and they are classified into daily, weekly and ten-day nurseries and kindergartens.

Baby homes and orphanages for triplets and parentless children have wonderfully



been built in Pyongyang and provinces.

A well-knit material supply system for nursery and kindergarten children has been established from Pyongyang to provinces, cities and counties under the slogan "All the best things for the children!" to supply nutritious foods needed for their growth.

Infants suffering from minor illnesses that can be treated without being hospitalized or weak children

get medical care and undergo recuperation at children's wards.

Nurses take maternal and scientific care of children, including hygienic and nutrition care.

Thanks to the well-organized system of training nurses and kindergarten teachers, they are systematically trained to acquire the qualities of mothers and competent educators.

The state policies and benefits for children have continued to be pursued and granted over the past 70 years and the benefits are growing more with the passage of time.

Our officials, nurses and kindergarten teachers, who directly take charge of health and nursing and upbringing of children who are valued so much by the country, are working hard to bring them up well.

Ri Kyong Sim, director of the Nursery Department of the Ministry of Public Health

Information service beneficial to children's health

The Korean Association for Supporting the Children developed a support program for promoting children's physical growth and has widely popularized it.

"In the past, importance was attached to the preschool period worldwide in identifying the cause of change in children's physical growth and adopting necessary measures, but in recent years the focus of attention has been 'catch-up-growth' at school age," said Kim Myong Chol, secretary general of the Korean Association for Supporting the Children.

"In particular, research has been intensified to make out the internal causes of changes in adolescence, such as rapid growth, development of genital organs including genital gland and secondary emergence in the process of growth, and coincident changes in organic growth and functional development and to take scientific steps for promoting physical growth."

According to him, the criteria for evaluating the physical growth of school-age children and other young people were developed in the country in the past, but they lacked the analysis of causes related to nonfulfilment, fulfilment and overfulfilment and scientific measures.

The association has resolved these problems by dint of the new app.

When a series of information is input into a computer, such as the user's height and weight, photos of his front and palms, the amount of meal and characters, the



Logo of the Korean Association for Supporting the Children

app evaluates the state of height and weight, nutrition, merits and demerits and the like, rates them as fulfilled, overfulfilled or unfulfilled and presents relevant measures.

The mother of a student at Ryusong Junior Middle School in Central District, Pyongyang, said the app is nice as it analyses the growth of children in the light of hygienics and medical genetics to show the users the positive and negative factors contributing to physical growth and enable them to take scientific steps to promote the growth of children.

The app enables the association to offer such cooperation as the provision of necessary information by conducting real-time monitoring of physical growth of school-age children and other young people and follow-up study, said Kim Jong Min, staffer of the association.

The association has also developed apps for eye test and eye training for children to offer information service.

By **Ri Myong Jun PT**

Nursery takes motherly care of children

"Every nurse makes devoted efforts as they take motherly care of children," said Ri Son Hui, head of Woesong-dong Nursery No. 1 in Central District, Pyongyang.

The nursery admits children residing in Woesong-dong and those of women working at institutions and enterprises in and around the dong.

Nurses put special efforts into taking care of their health and nutrition in a scientific and

responsible manner according to the indices set by the state.

According to Ri Son Hui, children are given vitamin A and vermifuge on national immunity days and are inoculated against measles, parotitis and pertussis before and after their first birthdays, while being given necessary amounts of vermifuge and complex trace elements every year.

At the time of admission to the nursery, children undergo

“**Every nurse makes devoted efforts as they take motherly care of children.**”

Ri Son Hui, head of Woesong-dong Nursery No. 1 in Central District, Pyongyang

thorough check-up by the director, doctor and nurses and appropriate steps are taken for those who have something wrong even a bit.

Those who have minor illnesses and need not be hospitalized are treated by the doctor in the ward, and newcomers, those who were absent for over a month and those who are suspected of having communicable diseases undergo medical observation and treatment in the isolation ward.

Nurses sterilize rooms, bedding and toys three times

every day and make sure that children wash their hands after playing outside and using toilet and before having a meal.

"We have children gargle with the water solution prepared with vinegar or salt and bicarb and disinfect their rooms every evening and it is very effective hygiene," said doctor Kwon Ok Sil.

Children take three meals and snacks at the nursery every day.

Cooks process food to be easily digestible by children according to nutrition indices.

"My son loses appetite at

home, but enjoys his meal at the nursery. So I learned recipes from nursery cooks. They display utmost sincerity in preparing children's meals," said Ri Yon Mi.

Nurses measure the height and weight of infants under two years of age once a month and those of older ones quarterly.

Under the responsible childcare system, nurses take responsible care of children in their charge until they leave the nursery.

By **Pang Un Ju PT**



KIM YONG CHAN

Children play with construction toys at Woesong-dong Nursery No. 1 in Central District, Pyongyang.

EDUCATION

Early singing lessons give a head start to gifted students



PAK KWANG HUN

Students are under training as part of the early vocal music course at Tongan Senior Middle School in Central District.

After the early vocal music course was established for the first time in the DPRK on May 20 1983, such classes were set up in Pyongyang and each province and now a well-organized system for training promising singers is in operation on a nationwide scale.

“Early vocal music education has fully demonstrated its validity and vitality. It is an essential process for training talented vocalists and you need to complete early vocal music course to be an accomplished singer,” said People’s Teacher Ri In Hui, one of the pioneers of such education.

Early vocal music education

begins to be given to students at junior middle schools, specifically those at the age of 12.

The early vocal music course of Tongan Senior Middle School in Central District, Pyongyang, is comprised of junior and senior middle school students and is a model unit in the DPRK.

Through the course, students receive general education and education in basic vocal music theories and practical training as well.

According to Ri, she was not sure whether the change of vocalism would be right for students before the age of the

change of voice when she was initiating the early vocal music course, but practice proved her method right.

“The change of vocalism before voice transition is helpful to protecting vocal cords and facilitates voice change. Especially, the early change of vocalism makes it possible to open up the trainees’ vocal path earlier and give them singing education appropriate for the vocalization and timbre of each student earlier after voice transition,” said Jo Myong Sun who has been engaged in training future singers for more than 20 years.

It is very important to have a sense of sound in singing as it requires vocalists to understand their vocal organs in a scientific way and develop vocalism on that basis.

Teachers grasp in detail each student’s changes in vocal cords, musical ranges and timbre to apply appropriate teaching methods.

To this end, they constantly update teaching schedules and put teaching contents and methods on a more scientific footing.

All such work can be successful only when teachers devote their efforts and passion.

By Kim Rye Yong PT

HOSPITAL

Medical achievements to save children’s lives

The Okryu Children’s Hospital has introduced minimally invasive treatment methods in clinical practice to achieve good results.

It has recently established another treatment procedure for treating hydronephrosis.

Hydronephrosis is a disease that generally causes a renal function disorder due to a blockage in urethra and requires the surgical removal of kidneys in serious cases.

Abdominal surgeons of the hospital who conducted research in the direction of preserving patients’ internal organs succeeded in establishing a new technique for moulding their damaged parts and applied it to clinical practice. They proceeded to develop such surgical interventions as plastic surgery for anal atresia and ectopic anus, surgery for vesicoureteral regurgitation and excision for hepatoma.

According to Kim Mun Ho, chief of the abdominal surgery department, it can treat almost all disorders of children’s abdominal system.

The new minimally invasive treatment methods are appreciated as being of great clinical significance as they reduce patients’ burden concerning operation and dosage, the treatment period is shorter and they cause no complication.

Kim Thae Song, son of Nam Kung Song living in Ryongchudong No. 1 of Ryongsong District, Pyongyang, was diagnosed with duodenal

atresia and so he underwent an operation at the department two days after birth.

Nam recalled she fretted as she heard from a nurse that her baby vomited up even the initial breast milk after birth. “I anxiously waited for operation to be over. But surgeons of the hospital fully cured my baby without any mark of surgery.”

By Sin Pyol PT



RYANG KUM CHOL

An abdominal surgical operation is conducted at the Okryu Children’s Hospital.

EMBROIDERY

Girl stitches her way in embroidery

There is a girl student who is good at doing embroidery at Hero Kangdong Senior Middle School in Kangdong County, Pyongyang.

Her name is Kim Hyon I (pictured). The 14-year-old began to develop her taste for embroidery during her kindergarten days.

Seeing her grandmother, who was conversant in doing embroidery, the girl became curious about it.

“The Korean embroidery with a long tradition reflects the nature of Korean women who are simple, honest, diligent and gentle in appearance but sturdy in spirit. I wanted to hand down such a tradition to my granddaughter,” said Ri Sun Ok, grandmother of Hyon I.

Hyon I quickly acquired the technique of embroidery. She was so assiduous and strenuous that even adult villagers were astonished by her high skills.

After Hyon I entered a primary school, teachers accompanied her to visit national exhibitions in order to inform her of noble colour of the Korean embroidery, vivid and fine pattern and diverse manual embroidery techniques.

As a result, she began to represent in embroidery pieces everything she saw, heard and felt with the passage of time.

When she turned to 12, she tried hard to embroider Mt Paektu, but in vain. Though



she worked for several months, she could not produce desired embroidery.

“At that time, my grandmother told me that everyone cannot contain the grandness and mystery of Mt Paektu unless they climb the mountain, and led me to the mountain,” said Hyon I.

She was filled with creative excitement as she saw spectacular views in the mountain, including the sunrise on it and majestic appearance of the peaks on it.

Finally, she came to produce a fine embroidery representing Mt Paektu.

Besides, she brought out other excellent embroideries on different themes.

Among them, some works were highly appreciated at the national fine art exhibition and other shows.

By Choe Yong Nam PT

YOUTH

Young people feel proud of their labour assistance

“After ground-breaking for the construction of 10 000 flats in Pyongyang, many young people have volunteered for the youth shock brigade for night assistance and devoted themselves to the construction project,” said Kim Kwang Hyok, official of the Pyongyang municipal youth league committee.

According to him, the members of the youth shock brigade work in their jobs by day and take part in construction by night to devote their sincere sweat.

Among them are youths from the Pyongyang Foam Prefab Factory and those who participated in the construction of the City of Samjiyon.

“When I heard the news of the construction project for an ideal street for bringing happiness to the people, I made up my mind to contribute my labour to the building of dwelling houses as an enjoyer of such well-being. So I have volunteered for the night assistance youth shock

brigade to devote even my mite to the construction,” said Kim Chon Mi, nurse from the Phyongchon District People’s Hospital in Pyongyang.

“Although it is laborious, it is delightful and worth doing,” she added.

As they carry out daily assignments without fail, the shock brigade members display admirable traits.

According to Kim Kwang Hyok, many of them offer to do most labour-consuming work and after finishing their work take unknown trouble to make preparations for the following day’s work. And there are those who compose poems and draw sketches to encourage other members during breaks and who give assistance materials to shock brigade members and other builders.

The night assistance youth shock brigade activities are adding vim and vigour to the construction site.

By Kim Kum Myong PT

CHINA

Self-reliance sought in sci-tech

China has channelled big efforts into developing high technology by setting self-development relying on science and technology as a strategic pillar of national development.

Above all, it directs efforts to building up its sci-tech force.

Xi Jinping, general secretary of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of China, referred to the need to strengthen the country's strategic sci-tech force, actively develop industrial internet and speed up the digitization of industry at a

meeting of the Political Bureau of the Party Central Committee on April 30.

In the country, exemplary sci-tech personnel who love the Party, state and socialism are actively discovered and publicized and broad sections of scientists and technicians are encouraged to emulate them.

China, which set it as the strategic pillars of national development to achieve qualitative development of education and self-development by relying on science and technology, concentrates efforts

on sci-tech progress so as to implement the 14th five-year plan.

The country also shows deep concern for the field of basic science and technology and has made rapid progress in the application and innovation of science and technology for years.

Last March, Premier Li Keqiang pointed to the need to increase investment in basic research, enhance the capacity of sci-tech innovation and consolidate the foundation of basic research and its application. In particular, broad

sections of young people should study hard to acquire basic knowledge, he added.

President Xi Jinping also pointed to sci-tech innovation as he inspected different areas of Fujian Province between March 22 and 25.

The country inspires scientists to redouble efforts and works to protect intellectual property rights and promote cooperation with all countries in sci-tech fields as it aspires to jointly spur the development of human civilization.

By Min Chol PT

OUTRAGE

Bloodbath inflames anti-Israel sentiment across the world

Most recently, Israel blocked by force the pilgrimage of the Palestinians to Al-Aqsa Mosque in East al Quds during Ramadan, injuring hundreds of people. And then it made a decision on forcibly evacuating the Palestinians from the areas where they are living while claiming its ownership, giving rise to further bloodshed.

However, Israel continues to brutally kill the innocent Palestinians including children by mounting indiscriminate attacks on the Palestinian Resistance Movement in the Gaza Strip.

The reckless act of invasion by Israel has sparked unanimous

denunciation from the Islamic world and international community.

Cuban President Miguel Diaz-Canel, in an article posted on his Twitter account on May 14, denounced the military attack staged by the Zionists as a blatant violation of human rights, demanding the Israeli authorities stop such an act of aggression.

The Lebanese President in a statement on May 11 said Israel's repressive policy will amplify the spirit of resistance of the Palestinians.

On the same day, the external relations committee of the National Assembly of People's Power and the Ministry of

Foreign Affairs of Cuba and the Iranian Foreign Ministry denounced the Israeli act of aggression as a flagrant violation of the UN Charter and international law and called on the international community to put an end to Israel's military attack on the Palestinians.

The Jordanian Foreign Minister, in a telephone conversation with the UN special coordinator for Middle East peace process on May 15, blamed Israel for the escalating Palestine-Israel dispute, saying it should stop illegal military attack at once and such an act is plunging the entire Middle East into a danger of dispute.

The Egyptian Foreign Minister,

in a video-conference of the UN Security Council on May 16, said the Israeli military attack is gravely threatening the regional peace and security. Mideast peace cannot be established without a right solution, he noted.

Meanwhile, public protest demonstrations continued to take place in Jordan, Syria, Iraq, Kuwait and other countries. The protesters bitterly criticized Israel for the brutal murder, saying blood is flowing in al Quds, the West Bank and Gaza Strip.

They appealed to the international community to stop the Israeli act of aggression as early as possible.

By Om Ryong PT

IBD

We are part of the solution

Biodiversity has great significance in sustainable economic development of each country and environmental protection and exerts an important effect especially on the protection of ecological environment.

However, the overall global ecosystem is losing balance due to population growth, excessive exploitation of natural resources, climate change, natural disasters and others and biodiversity dwindles rapidly.

According to a survey, 75 percent of land environment and 66 percent of marine environment have changed over the past half a century and areas of wetland on the earth decreased by 35 percent from 1970 to 2015, and such destruction of natural habitats has made over 900 biological species extinct on the globe.

And the number of wild animal species decreased by

about two thirds in about 50 years and over 33 percent of sea mammals are on the verge of extinction.

According to environmentalists, all the coral reefs are most likely to vanish in the mid-21st century due to the sea water temperature rise caused by global warming and there is growing concern that marine resources may be drained in Asia and Oceania by 2048 as a consequence of disorderly fishing, sea pollution and others.

The UN set May 22 as International Biodiversity Day in order to prevent widespread destruction of biodiversity and conserve and make sustainable use of it. International organizations and all countries select different themes and organize various events to mark the day every year.

The UN has selected "We are part of the solution" as the theme for this year's IBD

35 percent

Estimated areas of wetland on the earth decreased from 1970 to 2015

and calls on all peoples across the world to pay primary attention to the protection of ecosystem, the base for human life, through the sustainable development of natural resources.

A signatory to the convention on biodiversity, the DPRK has positively adhered to the principles and requirements of the convention for both the present and future generations and to serve not only national but also regional and international interests.

It has established a broad legal framework for the protection of biodiversity.

It adopted the law on fisheries

on January 18 1995, the law on the protection of useful animals on November 26 1998 and the law on nature reserves in September 2009. It has set from March to July a period of protecting useful animals and April and July as months for protecting marine resources every year and encouraged the protection of biodiversity as a national and social drive in every spring and autumn general mobilization period for land administration.

And it has designated many nature reserves including biosphere reserve, nature reserve, animal reserve, plant reserve, migratory bird (wetland) reserve and marine resources reserve throughout the country, conducted surveys and management of these areas regularly and promoted scientific research for the protection of biodiversity.

It also encourages international exchanges and cooperation for the conservation of biodiversity.

By Song Jong Ho PT

Briefly

Uganda

President appeals for African unity

Ugandan President Yoweri Kaguta Museveni in his recent inaugural address said that African countries have long failed to achieve unity to be subjected to foreign interference, which has hindered the development of the continent.

It is necessary to bring about political unity and economic integration in order to ensure strategic security of Africa and achieve its prosperity, he stressed.

Belarus

Foreign minister critical of historical revisionism

The Belarus foreign minister criticized some countries for their recent attempts at distorting history and destruction of monuments dedicated to the people who liberated Europe from fascism.

Referring to the fact that his country regularly issues statements against the destruction of monuments together with the collective security treaty organization and CIS member nations, he said it is necessary to tell the younger generations and society what is history.

France

Demonstrators call for action against climate change

Street demonstrations were staged on May 9 all at once in several cities in France including Paris in protest against the authorities who pay little attention to the prevention of climate change.

Tens of thousands of protesters condemned the authorities for taking no action to prevent climate change, saying that the bill which was approved in the lower house of parliament last week can never be a solution.

Egypt

Suez Canal expansion in the pipeline

The Egyptian President approved the plan for expanding the Suez Canal on May 11.

According to the plan, an expansion project is to be carried out at the 40km-long section in the south of the canal in two years.

The section is to be 40 metres wider and one metre deeper.

UK

GDP slumps

According to the central bureau of statistics of the UK on May 12, the country's GDP decreased by 6.1 percent in the first quarter of this year as against the same period of last year.

THE PYONGYANG TIMES

CLUB

Pyongyang produces many notable aces

The Pyongyang Sports Club is working hard to maintain its tradition after producing world-level aces such as Kim Kwang Suk, Kim Chol Hwan, Hong Un Jong and Hong Su Jong in the past.

Young and talented players are still in the spotlight including Kim Su Jong who flaunted her gymnastic skills in the 18th Asian Games and other international competitions.

The sports club is known as a formidable power to other clubs in wrestling and judo which are

its mainstay events.

Pak Yong Mi, winner of the 2019 world wrestling championships and three-time Asian champion, Kim Jin A who won four gold medals in international judo competitions in 2019 alone and many other players consolidate their position on the domestic front.

In addition, the activities of newcomers in their teens and early 20s are prominent to the joy of enthusiasts.

Over 80 players of the sports

club are now active as national team members, including all of its divers, and it has continued to hold domestic championships for five consecutive years in artistic gymnastics.

Such successes are unthinkable apart from the unique selection system of players.

“Athletes want to play in renowned sports clubs and prestigious sports clubs try hard to pick out those who cut a conspicuous figure in matches.

“However, we train players by ourselves when they are young. And we see their potentials first without laying stress only on their records in the selection of reserve players,” said Kim Yong Jun, deputy chief in charge of technology at the Pyongyang Sports Club.

In the training of reserve players the club directs efforts to consolidating their power, rather than seeking their short-term success, and the vitality of this training system has been proved by Kim Su Jong, Kim Jin A, Pak Yong Mi and other successful players.



PAK KWANG HUN

Gymnasts are under group training at the Pyongyang Sports Club.

By Yun Ki Song PT

FOODS

Delicacies of Chongnyu Restaurant

Chongnyu Restaurant is one of the renowned eateries in Pyongyang.

Since its inauguration in the 1980s, the restaurant has retained popularity. It tells that the quality of foods and service is at a high level.

“We serve many Pyongyang cold noodles and other traditional dishes. Lots of national foods have been registered as signature dishes,” said Kim Myong Sun, deputy manager of the restaurant.

Pork stew is one of them.

In general, stew is noted for its high nutrition as it can be boiled by adding various materials, and the food has a delicate flavour for the combination of different tastes.

In order to cook the pork stew tasty, Yun Chung Song, cook with unusually special ability in the cooking, said, it is required to season the pork with spices after giving a flavour to the stew. Mix pork with such materials as mushroom, bok choy, parsley and potato, boil them with hot sauce in the end and it will make perfect stew,

she added.

Mung-bean pancake is one of the famous dishes of the restaurant.

The pancake is prepared by soaking mung beans in water, husking them and grinding them softly until they bring out milky colour. Put fat in the middle of

the pancake before frying them in oil. It is crispy and nice-smelling and has soft tastes.

As the Koreans have liked soup or broth in their dietary life since olden times, they often have catfish soup at the restaurant.

In order to cook catfish soup, it needs to draw out basic soup



CHAE MYONG RIM

From the top left clockwise: Meat and noodles in flat vessel, catfish soup, fried slices of pumpkin, roasted pork fillet and an assortment of bread.

By Choe Yong Nam PT

PICTURE

Glimpse of 18th-century Korean countryside



Korean painting *Cattle Drover* drawn by renowned Korean painter Kim Tu Ryang.

The picture portrays a cattle drover, who sleeps soundly under a tree after tying up a bull to a willow during a break in the daytime in midsummer.

The Korean painting *Cattle Drover* is a masterpiece by Kim Tu Ryang, a renowned Korean painter, who lived between 1696 and 1763.

The figure in the picture is fast asleep on a grass field under the shade of a willow with drooping branches, forgetting all his worldly cares. It represents the wearisome work of peasants and the spiritual world and life of diligent and simple people who became strong under such conditions.

The front part of his unlined summer jacket is unfastened, revealing his belly. The belly seems to move up and down on his breathing and his snoring seems to be audible, which amuses viewers.

The large, lifelike bull at the centre of the picture seems to cautiously chew the cud as it rolls its big eyes for fear of awaking its master. This well represents the obedient yet

strong disposition and character of the draught animal and the good workmanship of the diligent and devoted drover who takes good care of the bull.

The artist gave a humorous touch to the picture by depicting the massive fat bull first to reflect the contemporary people's interest in cattle and by devoting a smaller section at one part of the picture to the drover.

The pictorial representation of the painter is featured by the concise composition of the picture with abridgment of the background, the allusion of a luxuriant tree through the portrayal of a few branches and the gentle harmony of the whole picture along with the delicate delineation of the bull, which gives a feeling of intimacy.

Kim Tu Ryang came close to the life of peasants to select the object of delineation there and gave a true-to-life portrayal to it, thereby contributing to expanding the sphere of themes of the pictorial art and developing realistic painting.

By Han Kwi Hun PT

and remove mucus and blood completely from the fish.

In the soup, the appetizing

fish flesh, bean curd, potato and other subsidiary materials go well with each other and it has hot taste for the seasonings made with crown daisy or parsley and red pepper and makes diners' mouth water.

The eatery is widely known as many people like to have an assortment of bread consisting of sponge cake, pie, roll cake and yeast bread at the restaurant.

“Still vivid in my memory is the day when I relished the bread together with my mother when I was young. Though decades have passed since then, the good taste has never changed even a little,” said Ra Un Hui living in Yokjon-dong of Central District, Pyongyang.

Most of the bakers are in their 30s and they make painstaking efforts to carry forward the workmanship of their seniors.

