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RR SHIFT EMPHASIS FROM RECONSTRUCTION  
 TO IMPROVED SERVICE, REDUCTION OF FARES

ACCIDENTS MAR RR ACHIEVEMENTS IN FIRST QUARTER -- Canton Nan-fang Jih-pao, 30 Apr 50

Peiping, 27 April (Hsin-hua) -- China's railroads have succeeded in exceeding their transport goals for the first quarter of 1950 and by so doing have terminated their past dependence on national subsidies. Moreover, northern and southern railroads have advanced a total of 60 million catties of rice to the national reconstruction investment fund and paid a total of 32.1 billion yuan into the depreciation fund for April 1950 as payment of the business tax for the first quarter of 1950.

The first quarter of 1950 marked a turning point in the nation's railroads as the emphasis shifted from reconstruction to transportation service. An average of 9,947 cars were loaded per day during that period, exceeding the quota by 3 percent. The Northeast exceeded its quota by 16 percent; the Tientsin bureau, handicapped by a spring vacation for coal miners which reduced coal shipments, completed only 99 percent of its quota; the Tsinan bureau, 87 percent; the T'ai-yuan bureau, 90.5 percent for standard gauge, 110.4 for narrow gauge; the Cheng-chou bureau, because of interruptions caused by continuous improvements in line facilities and operational methods, only 43 percent; the Shanghai bureau, 115.2 percent; and the Heng-yang bureau, 94.4 percent.

During the first quarter, the time required between successive loadings on the nation's railroads was shortened to an average of 3.68 days, which was lower than the standard of 3.72 days set in 1950 plans. As a result, costs were lowered, income increased, and expenditures reduced.

One weak point in the quarter's operations was the frequency of accidents and malfunctions. Altogether, 7,072 mishaps were reported, of which 46 percent involved locomotive maintenance. This record is an indication that inspection procedures and line-maintenance operations need to be improved.

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At a conference of bureau chiefs, held 20 - 25 April, the record for the first quarter was reviewed and plans were drawn for the second quarter. It was decided that the average number of cars to be loaded per day would be 9,680, that the reloading rate for May 1950 would be 3.35 days, and that maintenance would be improved.

PASSENGER SERVICE TO BE IMPROVED -- Shanghai Wen-hui Pao, 5 Apr 50

April has been designated by the Ministry of Railroads as national passenger service improvement month. The various regional bureaus have been instructed to give special attention during this month to improvements in equipment and service that will result in greater safety, speed, and comfort for railroad passengers. In Shanghai, a number of new trains will be added; 70 to 80 second-class cars will be placed in service. Five first-class day coaches will be converted to second-class sleepers.

Trains at terminals will be opened for boarding one hour before the time of departure.

CH'U-CHIANG RR BRIDGE COMPLETED -- Canton Nan-fang Jih-pao, 6 May 50

The rebuilding of the railroad bridge at Ch'u-chiang (Shao-kuan) was started in March 1950 and completed on 12 April 1950, when test runs were made and it was found to be satisfactory. This 250-meter long bridge has eight spans and is the largest on the Canton-Hankow line.

Immediately following the liberation, in November 1949, the CCF Railroad Engineer Corps built a temporary bridge which has been in service up to this time.

RR CHANGE TO SUMMER SCHEDULES -- Canton Nan-fang Jih-pao, 25 Apr 50

Canton -- The Central Ministry of Railroads has decided to put a new summer schedule into effect on 25 April 1950 for trains throughout the country. Accordingly, the Canton Railroad Bureau will operate on the new schedule generally, with the exception of the Canton -- Shen-ch'uan (Chinese section of the Canton -- Chiu-lung) line and the Canton -- San-shui line which will remain as heretofore. The new condensed timetable as below:

| <u>Train</u>                | <u>Departure Station</u> | <u>Time</u> | <u>Arrival Station</u>        | <u>Time</u> | <u>Running Time</u> |
|-----------------------------|--------------------------|-------------|-------------------------------|-------------|---------------------|
| No 10<br>Through<br>Express | Canton<br>(East Sta)     | 1600        | Shanghai                      | [not given] | 62 hr               |
| No 9<br>Through<br>Express  | Shanghai                 | 0815        | Canton<br>(East Sta)          | [not given] | 62 hr               |
| No 52<br>Express            | Canton<br>(East Sta)     | 0820        | Wu-ch'ang on<br>following day | 1954        | 35 hr, 34 min       |
| No 51<br>Express            | Wu-ch'ang                | 0900        | Wu-ch'ang on<br>second day    | 1954        | 34 hr, 54 min       |
| No 172<br>Ordinary          | Canton<br>(East Sta)     | 1820        | Wu-ch'ang on<br>second day    | 1945        | 40 hr, 25 min       |
| No 171<br>Ordinary          | Wu-ch'ang                | 2130*       | Canton on<br>second day       | 1445        | 41 hr, 15 min       |

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The running time for express trains between Canton and Shanghai has been shortened by 5 hours. The running time between Canton and Wu-ch'ang has been shortened by 6 hours for both express and ordinary trains. The saving in time is attributed mainly to strengthened bridges which do not require as much slow-down when crossing as before. Every effort will be made to maintain punctuality in train movements. Improved third-class coaches on ordinary passenger trains between Canton and Wu-ch'ang, will replace inferior coaches; and dining cars and sleepers are to be attached to the extent of availability. These trains will carry local passengers without baggage.

One through ordinary train each day has been added between Wu-ch'ang and Nan-ch'ang, in both directions.

## SOUTH CHINA RR CUT FARES -- Hong Kong Wen-hui Pao, 29 Apr 50

Peiping, 28 April -- The Ministry of Railroads has announced a reduction of passenger fares in the South China area comparable to that of North China beginning 1 May 1950. The present third-class passenger fare per kilometer will be lowered from 135 yuan to 115 yuan, and when adjustments are made, the fare from Shanghai to Canton will be reduced from 152,600 to 130,000 yuan, and the cost from Peiping to Shanghai will be cut from 145,100 to 138,000 yuan.

## CANTON REDUCES BUS, BOAT FARES -- Hong Kong Hsing-tao Jih-pao, 25 Apr 50

Canton -- Due to lower operating costs and with the hope of stimulating travel during slack periods, the passenger fares and freight charges on river steamers and motor buses out of Canton are being substantially reduced. For example, by steamer from Canton to the destinations indicated below, the fares are:

| <u>Destination</u>     | <u>Former Fares</u><br>(in yuan) | <u>New Fares</u><br>(in yuan) |
|------------------------|----------------------------------|-------------------------------|
| Macao                  | 150,000                          | 120,000                       |
| Wu-chou                | 145,000                          | 115,000                       |
| Ch'ing-yuan            | 60,000                           | 48,000                        |
| Chung-shan             | 120,000                          | 80,000                        |
| Shih-ch'iao to Ta-kang | 20,000                           | 15,000                        |

Beginning 22 April 1950, the bus fares from Canton were reduced by 25 percent, and are now as follows:

| <u>Destination</u>        | <u>New Fares</u> (in yuan) |
|---------------------------|----------------------------|
| Hsin-t'ang                | 24,000                     |
| Tung-kuan                 | 36,000                     |
| Hou-chieh                 | 51,000                     |
| T'ai-p'ing                | 63,000                     |
| Huang-sung-kang           | 75,000                     |
| Hsin-ch'iao               | 81,000                     |
| Hsi-hsiang                | 86,000                     |
| Nan-t'ou, and Shen-ch'uan | 90,000                     |

## PEIPING CITY WALL CUT -- Peiping Kuang-ming Jih-pao, 4 Apr 50

Peiping -- Work has already been started by a body of troops under the direction of the municipal Public Works Department on the construction of two openings in the Peiping city wall on either side of the Hsi-chih-men to facilitate traffic to and from the Peiping-Suiyuan Railroad Station, Tsing-hua and Yen-ching Universities, the Summer Palace, and other places of interest in the Hsi Shan (Western Hills). It is expected that improvements will be completed within 2 months.

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BEGIN TIENSIN-DAIREN SHIPPING SERVICE -- Shanghai Wen-hui Pao, 4 Apr 50

To improve the shipping industry in North China, the Tientsin branch of the China Merchants Steamship Company has begun scheduled shipping service between Tientsin and Dairen. Ships are scheduled to leave Tientsin on the 1st, 11th, and 21st, and from Dairen on the 6th, 16th, and 26th of each month. The first ship on this scheduled service left Tientsin on 1 April.

GOVERNMENT TAKES OVER YANGTZE PILOT SERVICE -- Hong Kong Ta Kung Pao, 6 May 50

Hankow, 5 May -- Upon recommendation of the Yangtze River Shipping Control Bureau, the Central People's government has decided to take over control of the pilot-service system for Yangtze River shipping which has been in operation for the past 100 years. The government intends to revise the whole system and to train pilots for adaptation to the new system. Service under the new system will go into effect in May on the section between Hankow and I-ch'ang, and in June on the Wu-sung to Hankow and I-ch'ang to Chungking sections.

TAIWAN STARTS ROAD REPAIRS -- Hong Kong Hsing-tao Jih-pao, 1 May 50

Taihoku, 30 April -- The Taiwan provincial authorities announced today that engineering work on the highway between Chureki, Shinchiku Hsien, and Toyohara, Taichu Hsien, has already been started. The project, which was undertaken to improve the communications network in the central part of the province, is scheduled to be completed by the end of this year. An announcement was also made that repair work on five major highway bridges has been started. Whether or not the repair work on the Seira bridge was undertaken has not been confirmed.

CANTON BUSES TO USE CHARCOAL GAS -- Hong Kong Kung-shang Jih-pao, 6 May 50

Canton, 5 May -- The Canton Public Bus Control Bureau is converting 157 of its busses to use charcoal gas instead of gasoline to cut down fuel costs. The conversion is expected to be completed by the end of July 1950.

According to a responsible person in the Control Bureau, 17 busses have already been converted, and the cost of fuel of each has been cut from 158,000 yuan to 118,000 per day.

RAISES STATUS OF SHANGHAI POST OFFICE -- Shanghai Hsin-wen Pao, 11 Apr 50

Shanghai -- Today, an order of the Central Ministry of Posts and Telecommunications raising the status of the East China Postal Administration, in Shanghai, to the East China Branch of the General Postal Administration of the Ministry of Posts and Telecommunications went into effect. The same order appointed Jung Chien-sheng as Acting Commissioner, and Ch'en I-hsien as Acting Deputy Commissioner of this branch office of the Administration.

The Shanghai Post Office has arranged for a shift of postal employees to go on duty at 0100 each day so that mail for Shanghai arriving by train or other means late the preceding day may be sorted and delivered before noon of the following day. Deliveries may thus be hastened by as much as 12 hours.

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