

# Peking Broadcast Lauds Changes

TOKYO (AP) — President Nixon probably didn't read it, but Communist China's official news agency published a long article today telling how Peking has changed in the 23 years it has been closed to most Americans.

Besides detailing advances in industry and living standards, the article, broadcast by the official New China News Agency, said the Communist government has paid great attention to protecting and repairing historical relics.

But, it declared, "the palatial buildings of the reactionary rulers of the past are recreational centers for the working people today."

**IT EMPHASIZED** that when they were built, they were "built by Chinese working people."

The agency said more than 70 large ancient buildings were restored to their former grandeur after the Communists took over in 1949.

The Peking that Americans knew in the past "was a colonial city," the agency said, because of "imperialist aggression and the reactionary rule of feudalism and bureaucrat-capitalism in the past century."

Later, it said, "the renegade, hidden traitor and scab Liu Shao-chi," China's purged former president, advocated dismantling old Peking and building a new city. Instead, the agency said, Peking's people repaired old buildings and expanded around them.

**PEKING HAD** only a few

factories before 1949, it said, but now has nearly 200 large industries with more than 1,000 workers each. The city's population has nearly quadrupled in the last 20 years, it added. Peking has about 7 million residents now.

Slums have been eliminated, school-aged children are all in school, workers have good medical care, gas for cooking and heating has been brought in and "Peking residents all have housing, though space is still limited," the agency said. Rent and charges for running water and electricity average 5 per cent of income, it said.