

The Crux of the Visit -- Talks With Chou

[No byline; source not given.]

Peking

Although President Nixon is scheduled to meet Communist party Chairman Mao Tse-tung during his week in China, the President's most substantive talks will be conducted with Premier Chou En-lai and a small group of technicians in the Peking leadership.

The President's encounters with Mao, which will probably take place in Peking and in the resort city of Hangchow, are likely to be largely ceremonial. The 78-year-old chairman is said to be frail. Moreover, his conversations with foreigners usually tend to be general philosophical discussions.

Chou En-lai, on the other hand, is the man who manages China on a day-to-day basis, and his talk with Mr. Nixon is bound to focus on practical matters.

POWER

Mao's advanced age and the recent disappearance of Marshal Lin Biao, formerly his parent