the Kuomintang is that it is a federation of many varying interests for a common purpose. Inevitably, therefore, there is some variation in emphasis at different periods, and China is not the only member of the United Nations to be experiencing a Conservative reaction at the moment.

In considering the relations of the Kuomintang and the Communists it is essential to remember their origin and history. Originally, both formed part of the Nationalist movement. The split came at the end of 1927 when the Nationalists expelled their Soviet advisers and instructors and launched an attack upon the Communists within the party. The Communists seceded, and organized themselves independently, in bitter hostility to their former colleagues. Following Chiang Kai-shek's defeat of the rebel war lords, he attacked the Communists. Neither side gave much quarter, and

eventually the Communists were compelled to undertake their famous march to Shensi, where they have been established ever since.

Fighting between the two wings of the Chinese Revolution continued intermittently until 1937, when the imminence of war with Japan led to a truce, and collaboration for national defence.

After seven and a half years of war, however, enthusiasm for collaboration is wearing thin on both sides, and neither party has so far abated its pretensions to be the sole architect of China's future. This is more than a matter of prestige. It is the direct consequence of the doctrines to which each party adheres. It is important that Western critics should appreciate this. The issue is not, as it was in Great Britain in 1940, whether the Left Wing party will join the Government, but which of two rival

