Report From the 10th Asian Games

Scientific Societies in Full Swing
Xu Jinhang (right), a senior engineer, is a specialist in environmental protection. She has completed a dozen scientific research projects and been awarded a United Nations gold medal.

Associate research fellow Liu Huanxin studying desert plants with her students, both post-graduates.

Lu Deyu (second from right), an associate research fellow, conducts an experiment, transplanting a rabbit nucleus.

Outstanding Woman Scientists

Zhang Yinghua, also an associate research fellow, and her colleagues have succeeded in developing a new variety of optic fibre for telecommunications.
HIGHLIGHTS OF THE WEEK

China Makes Fresh Progress in Democracy

- Motivated by the government’s efforts to expand socialist democracy, the wind of change is blowing through China as scholars begin to air their views and challenge some long-held ideas. Our political editor reviews the scene in the “Notes From the Editors” section (p. 4).

Li’s Visit Cements Sino-Korean Friendship

- President Li Xiannian’s four-day visit to the Democratic People’s Republic of Korea reinforces China’s strong ties with that country (p. 6).

Scientists Lend a Helping Hand

- To boost the country’s modernization programme, the China Association for Science and Technology has geared its academic activities to supporting economic construction and social development. It does so by participating in the government’s projections and by assisting the poor with technical guidance (p.14).

Success at the Asian Sports Games

- With fiercer competition and generally better showing at the recent 16-day Asiad in Seoul, Chinese athletes came out as the top gold-medal winner with South Korea a close second (p. 26).

Ningbo—A Great East China Harbour

- An on-the-spot report highlights the changes in Ningbo, one of China’s 14 open cities. This Zhejiang port where the central government has decided to place over 20 major construction projects will take on a new look before 1990 (p. 20).
NOTES FROM THE EDITORS

Fresh Progress in Democracy

by Our Political Editor An Zhiguo

All this year, as the economic reforms have developed, a democratic wind has been felt blowing through this huge country— an effect of the Chinese government's efforts to expand socialist democracy. The Chinese Constitution explicitly stipulates that the Chinese people are the masters of the state and should enjoy freedom of speech and freedom of the press as well as the right to manage state affairs through various channels.

The first stirrings in this direction were in the theoretic and academic fields. For a long time, it was an unwritten rule that the policy of "Letting a hundred flowers bloom and a hundred schools of thought contend," set forth by the CPC Central Committee in 1956, applied only to academic issues; political ones were not included.

In May this year, to commemorate the 30th anniversary of the institution of the "double-hundred" policy, some Chinese scholars published articles pointing out that it is not possible to draw a clear line between academic and political issues. Such a distinction amounts to a ban on discussions of political issues.

Thanks to the discussion, this "unwritten law" was discarded. Wan Li, CPC Central Committee Political Bureau member and vice-premier of the State Council, said in July that academic issues are hardly separate from political ones, and that the "double hundred" policy should also be applied to political issues (see BR, issue No. 29). A Renmin Ribao (People's Daily) commentary pointed out that it is not enough just to allow people to discuss political affairs; they should be encouraged to express their own views on the issues involved, and opportunities and conducive conditions should be created. This is a new concept for the public, said the commentary, but it must be accepted to promote an advanced socialist democracy in China.

The nature of democracy in China has also been publicly examined by theoreticians. Gong-ren Ribao (Workers' Daily) published an article by Wu Guoguang on August 1, stating that it may be fair to say the Chinese people lack a democratic heritage and the qualities for democracy, but it is not acceptable to assume therefore that democracy in China should be delayed. Wu said it is better to say people lack the quality of democracy because China lacks such a heritage than to say China should delay democracy because people lack democratic qualities. Practice was the only way to improve the people's democratic qualities.

Although phrases such as "let the people speak out," "allow free discussion" and "heed the opinions of the masses" are often heard in China, Chinese scholars have complained that they are used merely as a method of leadership, not a way to the realization of real democracy. In his article Tang Jiahui expanded on this idea saying that democracy is the foundation of our socialist country: it should not be charity that is handed down by the leaders and can be withdrawn at any moment.

Scholars have pointed to social defects in today's China and lashed out against the vestiges of feudal ideology that are harming China's building of democracy. In his article, Su Shaozhi, director of the Marxism-Leninism-Mao Zedong Thought Research Institute of the Chinese Academy of Social Sciences, said that many problems plaguing work-units in the current reforms are rooted in their failure to fully guarantee the people's right to speak out and to make decisions. He said that some of our leaders promote only their favourites, thus inverting theory and practice, for the people are supposed to be the masters and the leaders public servants.

Su said that this was the manifestation of the vestiges of feudal ideology and lack of democracy. He proposed that the system under which Chinese officials are elected should be perfected; the candidates should compete for posts; and voters should have several choices.

The progress China has made is seen in actual contention between different schools. For example, a Chinese scholar who was criticized several years ago for his article on humanitarianism and the question of alienation, wrote again this year to defend and reinforce his position. In the article the author proposed to debate with a very authoritative theoretician who had criticized him. Not long ago, the Joint Publishing Co. in Hong Kong compiled the articles he had published since 1978 into a book under the title "In Defence of Humanitarianism."

Certainly, people are happy about this favourable wind of freedom and discussion. Still they are hoping that China will perfect its legal system to guarantee the masses' democratic rights.
Peace: Keynote of National Day Celebrations

China's 37th National Day came and went last week like any other holiday. But beneath the seemingly lukewarm celebrations in this UN International Year of Peace there ran a desire stronger than ever for peace and stability in a world plagued by war and conflict.

Anything that represented peace and happiness became a focus of attention. Young people pressed around the counters in shops selling tapes trying to get the song “Let the World Be Filled With Love,” dedicated to the International Year of Peace and sung by a hundred pop singers from all parts of the country.

The great square at Tiananmen, or the Gate of Heavenly Peace, was packed with crowds admiring flowers arranged in grand designs. A three-metre tall peacock made with an assortment of flowers signified happiness and peace. A five-metre tall dragon made out of a thousand pots of yellow chrysanthemums symbolized the Chinese people themselves. “This is the first year the huge square has been splashed with the colour of flowers, which include 160 different species and 100,000 flower pots,” said a florist from the Beijing Flower Company.

Tiananmen Square is a place of great political and historical significance for Chinese people. It was there, on October 1, 1949, that Chariman Mao Zedong proclaimed the founding of the People's Republic of China and it has been the centre of National Day celebrations ever since.

On either side of the square were large portraits of Marx, Engels, Lenin and Stalin. A portrait of Sun Yat-sen, forerunner of China's democratic revolution, that overthrew the last Chinese emperor in 1911, was placed in the centre.

The crowds, dressed in festive costumes relaxing in their newly found affluence, came from around the country. “We'd never be able to see such a gorgeous scene without coming to Beijing,” said Liu Binli, a 70-year-old farmer from Henan Province.

Fireworks in the Workers' Stadium and an evening party in the Great Hall of the People ended a joyful day.

Premier Zhao pointed out that the Resolution on the Guiding Principles for Building a Socialist Society with Advanced Culture and Ideology adopted at the Sixth Plenary Session of the 12th Party Central Committee, which was convened recently, would have a far-reaching effect on China's further advance in the fields of culture and ideology.

Zhao reiterated that China sincerely hoped the Taiwan authorities would proceed from the interests of the entire Chinese nation and seriously consider the mainland's proposal to reunify the country on the principle of "one country, two systems."

“We also hope that they will, in compliance with the popular will, allow Taiwan to establish trade,
transport and postal links with the mainland so that family members on both sides of the Taiwan Straits, separated for 37 years, will be able to meet and enjoy family reunions before reunification is achieved,” he said.

Peace and development are the shared aspirations of the people of China and the rest of the world, Zhao said. China will firmly adhere to an independent foreign policy of peace. “We are striving to develop friendly relations and co-operation with all other countries on the basis of the Five Principles of Peaceful Coexistence. We are also ready to establish good-neighbourly and friendly relations with all neighbouring countries,” he added.

**Li's Visit Cements Sino-Korean Friendship**

The Chinese Party and government firmly support the proposals of the Korean party and government put forward this year for the reunification of the country, said Chinese President Li Xiannian on October 5 in Pyongyang.

President Li, also a member of the Standing Committee of the Political Bureau of the Chinese Communist Party Central Committee, paid a four-day official goodwill visit to Korea at the invitation of Kim II Sung, general secretary of the Central Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea (WPK) and president of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea (DPRK).

The North Korean proposals included the ending of military exercises by both sides during north-south talks, the holding of tripartite talks between the military authorities of North and South Korea and of the US forces stationed in South Korea, and the establishment of a peaceful nuclear-free zone in the Korean peninsula.

Li said that the US government and the South Korean authorities must respond actively to these proposals by stopping annual large-scale military exercises, and exploring seriously with the DPRK practical means of relaxing the situation in the Korean peninsula in order to create a favourable atmosphere for discussion of a peaceful solution to the reunification of Korea. “We are sure that ultimately a united and peaceful Korea will emerge,” he said.

President Li and his party arrived in Pyongyang on October 3 and were warmly greeted at the Sunan Airport by Kim II Sung. A big welcoming ceremony was held at the airport. Later, in Kim Il Sung Square, in the city centre, a choir sang songs of greeting and thousands of people performed national dances of both Korea and China.

At a banquet hosted by Kim, he extended a warm welcome to the Chinese President in the name of Workers' Party of Korea, the government of the DPRK and the Korean people.

On Sino-Korean relations, Kim said that the two countries and their peoples have had a durable, traditional and unbreakable friendship. “In recent years,” he continued, “the relations between our two countries have been developing to a new, higher stage, adding a brilliant chapter to the glorious history of their friendship, and a solid foundation has been laid on which they will flower forever from generation to generation.” President Li's visit would further strengthen the friendship between Korea and China, he added.

Li Xiannian replied that Sino-Korean friendship could withstand any kind of trial and would develop in the future. “Our peoples will benefit and our friendship will contribute greatly to peace in Asia and the world,” he added.

Leaders of the two countries held talks on October 4, during which President Li briefed the Korean leader on the results of the Sixth Plenary Session of the 12th Central Committee of the Chinese Communist Party held on September 28. President Kim also briefed the Chinese leader on the economic development of Korea and the main tasks of Korea's third seven-year plan.
Chinese, E. European Parties Renew Ties

Relations between the Communist Party of China (CPC) and Communist Parties in East European countries are becoming much warmer after a quarter of a century on ice. The recent visit to China by Polish leader General Wojciech Jaruzelski, and the scheduled visit of the leader of the German Democratic Republic Erich Honecker later this month, have drawn worldwide attention to this fact.

"China is willing to have contacts with, engage in dialogue, and to develop all-round relations with East European countries," said Wu Xingtang, spokesman of the International Liaison Department of the Central Committee of the CPC, at a press conference on October 3.

For a long time China has enjoyed very good relations with Yugoslavia and Romania, and China hopes such relations will develop further. Meanwhile, political, economic and cultural relations, as well as personnel exchanges, between China and the other countries of Eastern Europe have also taken a turn for the better.

China started to restore inter-party relations with other countries, including East European countries in 1977. It is now continuing the process in various ways and with great flexibility.

So far the Chinese Party has established good relations with, or contacted, more than 80 communist parties and organizations the world over.

"Both East and West European countries," Wu said, "are forces for preventing war and safeguarding world peace. That's why we have attached great importance to developing relations with them."

Wu also said that it was a common international practice for political parties around the world, whether with similar or different characteristics, to conduct exchanges.

"We wish to contact all those parties which would like to have contacts and exchanges with the Chinese Communist Party," Wu noted.

But it is not yet realistic to talk about the restoration of party-to-party links with the Soviet Union, according to a leading official of the International Liaison Department. He pointed to the "three major obstacles" between the two neighbouring countries—the Afghan and Kampuchean issues and the large number of Soviet troops massed along the Chinese border.

In any case, relations between the two parties and countries can never be as warm as they were in the 1950s, he said, even when the three obstacles are removed and state relations are normalized.

"The CPC will strictly conform with Marxism and follow the principles of independence, complete equality, mutual respect and non-interference in each other's internal affairs in developing party-to-party relations," the official said.

Local Laws Benefit China's Reforms

To perfect China's legal system, great attention has been paid to formulating local decrees and regulations in the last few years. From November 1979 to the end of this June, 744 laws and regulations had been enacted by legislative bodies in the 29 provinces, municipalities and autonomous regions, according to the latest statistics provided by the General Office of the Standing Committee of the National People's Congress (NPC).
First Chinese-Made Offshore Oil Platform

The first Chinese-made modern offshore oil platform was completed on September 20 in the Chengbei Oilfield in Bohai Sea and delivered to the Japanese Chengbei Oilfield Development Co.

The Constitution and other relevant national laws stipulate that local governments at provincial level are authorized to make local decrees on the basis of national laws. Each such local legal document must be lodged with the Standing Committee of the NPC.

Local laws mostly concern the powers of local authorities in the fields of politics, finance and the economy, and policies on science and education, culture, health, and ethnic minorities. Of the 744 local decrees, 279, or 37 percent, are economic and financial regulations governing the import and use of advanced technology, Sino-foreign joint ventures, urban administration, market trade, environmental protection, and the control of prices and land usage. This indicates that the open policy and the economic reform have encouraged the systematization of the country's economic laws, essential to China's modernization.

Almost all local laws are closely related to China's overall economic and social life, and play a unique role in helping reinforce existing national laws and decrees. China's coastal provinces, as well as the big cities like Shanghai and Beijing, are drafting more regulations to improve the local climate for foreign investment. A recent example is "Regulations on Applications for Examination and Approval of Sino-Foreign Joint Ventures, Co-operative Enterprises and Foreign Businesses in China" issued by the Shanghai municipality on August 1.

Facing up to the challenge of the new technological revolution and the advance of modern culture, Chinese policy-makers have decided to raise the intellectual level of the entire nation in the shortest possible time, beginning by making primary and secondary education compulsory throughout the country. Local decrees have been issued in many provinces and cities, including Hebei, Shanxi and Shanghai, to assist in the implementation of the Law on Compulsory Education.

In the course of the reforms, problems inevitably arise and they differ from place to place. As the state has not made sufficient national laws to deal with all these problems itself, local laws help to iron them out.

In China, women and children are supposed to be under the protection of the whole of society. Special decrees to care for them have been made in Shanghai, Shanxi, Inner Mongolia, Qinghai and Ningxia. These decrees strictly prohibit any sexual discrimination against women through notorious malpractices such as placing obstacles in the way of their professional promotion or their admission to institutions of higher learning. It is now illegal to mistreat women who have given birth to female babies, or to try to determine the sex of a foetus. It is also illegal to abandon a baby. Foundlings must be taken care of by local authorities.

National laws may even be adapted by local governments to suit the particular conditions of different places, especially the autonomous localities where people of ethnic minorities live in compact communities. Fifteen autonomous regions and prefectures in the provinces, including Inner Mongolia, Ningxia, Guizhou, Xinjiang and Tibet, have now issued their own regulations concerning the Law of Marriage in the light of their particular conditions. The regulations chiefly change the legal age for marriage from 22 for males and 20 for females to 20 for males and 18 for females, but the adaptation
only applies to ethnic minorities.

China has long tried to control the growth of her population. Strict limitations on family size have finally made this possible. But many local governments are approving regulations to allow some couples to have more than one child. Those who enjoy this privilege are couples of returned overseas Chinese, couples made up of only sons and only daughters or couples from ethnic minorities.

On the whole, these decrees are working well, and it is gratifying to note that local legislation is playing a more and more important role in the country's legal system.

by Dai Gang

Poor Transport Worries Beijing Public

One-third of Beijing's public bus and trolley-bus drivers and conductors are fed up with their jobs, and two thirds say they are ready to move to other jobs if they get the chance.

Poor public transport services have become a worry for the authorities in the Chinese capital, who often receive letters of complaint. Some people from other parts of the country even link the poor services with a so-called "capital" chauvinism. The municipal authorities have made attempts to improve the situation. But so far their efforts have not come to much. Why is this?

A recent survey reveals that the inadequacy of the staff is perhaps one of the main reasons. Beijing's public transport system has developed very rapidly over recent years. The number of drivers and conductors increases by about 2,000 each year on average. Some 89 percent of drivers and conductors are people aged between 20 and 40. They have received insufficient cultural, professional and political education. Of those employed in public transport, only one in 300 is a university or college graduate and only 4 percent are Party members. Moreover, there is not a single technical school for the training of drivers and conductors. Most young people are pushed to the "frontline" after only a few days' rudimentary training.

Another reason may be the insufficient understanding shown by the public to the work of drivers and conductors. One bus conductor said, "To be a conductor means I must sacrifice some of my personal interests. The whole year round, I cannot have regular meals. I have to give up family reunions on public holidays, and often have to work long hours in the cold of winter and the scorching heat of the summer."

Drivers and conductors face other difficulties, too. For instance, there is a serious shortage of housing for them. Of the more than 40,000 drivers and conductors, over 10,000, or 27 percent, have inadequate housing. Some families live with three generations under one roof. They also have difficulty finding places in kindergartens for their children.

The most serious problem is perhaps that public transport companies have no resources to solve these problems themselves. Due to increasing losses caused by low fares and rising wages, rising oil prices and maintenance costs, their losses make it impossible for them to run economically, let alone improve the welfare and working conditions of their staff.

Public transport workers in Beijing do their best. They should be respected. Everyday the passenger volume in the city reaches 8.8 million, which means every driver and conductor serves 2,000 people. This is very challenging work, and their enthusiasm for it will certainly be dampened if even a small number of passengers show impoliteness towards them.

News in Brief

From October 1 middle and primary school teachers have to hold professional qualifications, according to a decision of the State Education Commission. Those who have no teaching diploma from a teachers' college or university can obtain certificates by examination after one year's experience in a school. Examinations will be held every year in all provinces and autonomous regions. This is part of the effort to introduce nine-year compulsory education throughout the country.

With 253,000 milk cows, Heilongjiang Province in northeast China now turns out 28.7 percent of China's dairy products, making the province the country's largest dairy producer. This is the result of a policy advocated by the provincial government in recent years to encourage cattle breeding by the state, collectives and individuals. Dairy products of the province are now supplied to consumers in Beijing, Shanghai and other big cities.

The Chinese Academy of Sciences has built a total of 84 field stations around the country, manned by over 1,000 scientists. These stations have made important contributions to scientific research, preventing natural disasters and promoting economic development.
PHILIPPINES

Aquino’s Trip to the US Successful

On her return from the United States, Philippines President Mrs. Corazon Aquino described her trip as a great success. But she stressed that her people would still have to rely on their own efforts to propel their country forward.

From coast to coast, the people of the United States have been moved by the visit of Philippines President Mrs. Corazon Aquino, the once unfriendly replacement of former President Ferdinand Marcos, who had been one of Washington’s closest allies for more than 20 years. During her 10-day stay in the United States, Aquino’s public appearances drew large crowds, many people wearing the yellow clothing or waving the yellow banners that symbolized the popular groundswell that ousted Marcos.

Speaking to a joint session of the US Congress, Corazon Aquino told her audience of the misfortune that befell her with the assassination of her husband, and of her country’s economic plight due to its enormous maturing debt. Her half-hour address was described as “the finest speech I’ve heard in my 34 years in Congress” by Speaker of the House Tip O’Neill. The House of Representatives responded by passing a bill granting her government US$200 million in emergency aid, though it later failed to get through the Senate.

In a private White House meeting with President Reagan, Aquino convinced him that her government would continue to observe the current agreement covering the two large US military bases in the Philippines, the Subic Bay Naval Station and the Clark Air Base, until 1990. Feeling bullish on both the Philippines and the “close personal relationship” he had just established with Aquino, Reagan agreed to provide the Philippines with US$100 million in economic and military aid as the first installment of a US$505 million package approved by Congress when Mrs. Aquino took office.

The president also tried her best to persuade US investors to seek their fortune in the Philippines because her government was stable and her country worth supporting.

Aquino discussed with the leaders of the World Bank and the International Monetary Fund more liberal terms for the repayment of the Philippines’ foreign debts, now in excess of US$26 billion, of which the current US$2.2 billion in annual interest alone takes nearly half the country’s export earnings. Leaving her economic ministers behind in the US, Aquino said she was confident the IMF would take into consideration her request for a rescheduling of her country’s debt, given the credibility and stability of her government.

It is expected that the Philippines and the United States will now enjoy a good relationship. As leader of her fledgling government, Corazon Aquino does not want to make policies to suit the Washington, though the US is her biggest aid donor and trading partner. Having been criticized for being too soft on communist insurgents, Aquino is still waving an olive branch while resorting to force. As for the country’s economic problems, she said, “We Filipinos should not just sit back and wait for assistance to come. We must rely on our own efforts so that our country can advance.”

by Jiang Wandi

TURKEY

Relations With US Soured?

An important member of NATO, Turkey has recently been warned by the US that it will suspend military aid if a dispute over military and economic co-operation between the two countries is not settled soon.

According to recent reports in Turkish newspapers, the US government has warned Turkey that it may cut off aid next year unless the latter pays off its outstanding military debts as early as possible.

Turkey’s debts to the US relate to past military aid. Including interest, they will amount to around US$400 million by the end of the year. Projected US aid to Turkey this year is US$490 million. That means actual military aid will be slashed to only US$90 million this year if Turkey is to pay back the US$400 million it owes.

Diplomatic sources in Ankara believe that Turkish pressure on Washington for a new Defence and Economic Co-operation Agreement (DECA) between the two countries irritated the US Congress. Hence the warning to Turkey.

Turkey officially notified the
Reagan administration on September 18 that it wanted DECA to be amended and updated. Turkish Foreign Ministry sources said that talks on a new DECA had to be completed in three months. If no results were obtained by then, Turkey has the right to terminate the accord by notifying the US 30 days in advance.

The five-year co-operation agreement was signed in March 1980 and came into effect in December of the same year. It allows US armed forces to use Turkey's 12 military bases in return for US aid. It should have expired on September 18 last year, but the two governments could not find a new, mutually acceptable form of aid and co-operation since they differed on important matters affecting the defence co-operation between the two countries. As a result, they consented instead to prolong the agreement for another year.

The Turkish government asked for radical changes in DECA, including the conclusion of a formal treaty to secure US aid. In response, the Reagan administration has neither refused outright nor given a positive answer, arguing that Turkey's wide-ranging demands, which concerned several departments of the US government, must be studied closely, and a reply could not be given in a short time.

The recent decision of the US Congress to cut back aid to Turkey has further offended Ankara. "Turkey has NATO's second-biggest military force. It has made important contributions to NATO's defence in a sensitive region. In addition, Turkey needs to modernize its army in order to create a credible deterrent," one Turkish official said. But the deep-rooted friendship between Turkey and the US must be viewed in a broad and long-term perspective, and any developments which may adversely affect their relations must be avoided, he added.

So it seems Ankara will not go so far as to abrogate DECA, and Washington will not cut off aid to Turkey as it has threatened. 

by Hua Youzhong

STOCKHOLM CONFERENCE

East and West Move a Step Closer

The agreement reached at the Stockholm conference contributes to easing East-West relations.

The agreement on confidence and security building measures reached in late September by the 35 countries participating in the European Disarmament Conference in Stockholm contributes to the easing of tension in Europe and the improvement of East-West relations.

The final document adopted at the Stockholm conference reiterates that participants will not resort to armed force, and disputes must be solved by peaceful means. It also specifies regulations for the advanced notification of military exercises and on-site inspection.

This agreement among the members of the European Disarmament Conference was acclaimed by the Western world as the first East-West security accord since the beginning of the 1980s, and the first major agreement since 1979, when the second strategic nuclear arms conference was held.

Attended by 33 European nations (except Albania) and by the United States and Canada, the meeting aimed at building confidence between the North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO) and the Warsaw Pact by reducing the risk of accidental military clashes.

When the conference began in January 1984, the United States and the Soviet Union had suspended disarmament talks and were embroiled in serious disputes over medium-range missiles. For a long time the meeting made no progress because of disagreements over procedural matters. Only after the US-Soviet summit last November did it begin substantive discussions and documents were drawn up on the basis of a compromise proposal put forward by neutral states.

Significant progress was made over the last two months as concessions were made both by the United States and the Soviet Union. The latter agreed to the notification, observation and on-the-spot inspection of its military activities. Moscow also conceded to limit notification of military activities to operations on the ground, postponing discussion of exercises in space until later.

Washington responded with several concessions. It agreed to inform the Warsaw Pact of all troop movements from America to Europe; to give notification of exercises involving more than 13,000 soldiers instead of a smaller figure; and to reduce inspections to three a year, pledging not to abuse the right of inspection.

The world has reacted positively to the results of the conference. West German Chancellor Helmut Kohl said the Stockholm accord showed that with patience and persistence mutually acceptable agreements can be arrived at despite the difficulties in East-West relations and arms control.

Compared with the final document adopted at the European Security Conference held
in Helsinki in 1975, the current accord has moved one step forward. First, the 1975 document required only the voluntary notification of military activities while the 1986 one has binding force on all signatory nations. Secondly, the Helsinki agreement limited inspection to an area 150 miles within the Soviet Union’s western border. The new Stockholm agreement, however, makes the whole territory of Europe—from the Atlantic to the Urals, a distance of more than 1,000 miles—subject to inspection. Thirdly, Moscow has given up its former stand regarding supervision and examination. These are viewed as the most important achievements of the conference and its contribution to the International Peace Year.

However, the concessions made by the Soviet Union and the United States are very limited ones and differences between them still exist on the actual implementation of the document. Worldwide, agreement on disarmament is still a long way off.

by Zheng Dexin

CHILE

Political Situation After the Ambush

The Chilean government declared a state of emergency immediately after an armed ambush on President Pinochet’s motorcade. This has added a complicating factor to the already turbulent situation in Chile.

Chilean President Augusto Pinochet escaped unhurt in an armed attack that took place 19 miles east of Santiago, capital of Chile, when the president was returning from his weekend home in the foothills of the Andes Mountains on September 7. After this incident a state of emergency was declared.

Since September 8 thousands of Chilean troops and security agents have been patrolling the streets of Santiago and rounding up political dissidents. Armed with machine-guns and supported by tanks, they have surrounded two “leftist” slum areas of the city. Checkpoints have been set up in the main streets to stop and search vehicles and passengers. Door to door searches have also been made in an attempt to find those who ambushed Pinochet. Within 72 hours of the attack, hundreds of people, including opposition party leaders, were arrested. The military government closed down six opposition newspapers, and the British Reuters and Italian Ansa News Agency. Following this the government expelled some foreign journalists and clergymen.

The assassination attempt on the Chilean president has added another dimension to a turbulent situation. How it will affect the democratic process is well worth watching. Some people believe street violence will increase in the future, pushing the country to the verge of civil war. The government recently discovered at least 10 ammunition depots containing thousands of rifles and dozens of tons of explosives. Nevertheless, there is reason to believe that with time the concerted political struggle of the Chilean people will remain dominant.

For historical as well as ideological reasons the opposition parties do not see eye to eye on the present situation, and their attitudes towards the government. Hence they have no common political platform and their protest activities are largely uncoordinated. However, as the new momentum towards democracy built up over the last two years—particularly since the Haitian people overthrew the Duvalier family and former Philippine President Marcos was expelled—the various opposition groups of Chile have begun to unite more and more. At the beginning of July there was a general strike in Chile, the first since Pinochet came to power in 1973. Jointly sponsored by 18 opposition organizations, it had the backing of more than 90 percent of Chile’s workers. After the armed attack on the president, the Christian Democratic Party, the Socialist Party and nine other parties jointly signed a document reaffirming their call for “complete democracy,” and asking the military government to transfer power peacefully to the people.

There is concern about what the reaction of the government will be to the armed raid on the president. After his narrow escape, Pinochet told reporters that “there would be tough new laws on terrorism.” Pinochet, who said he would stay in office until 1989, has also hinted he might remain until 1997.

During his 13-year rule Pinochet has had the support of the military, especially of the army which he himself commands. It is sometimes reported that the military junta has differing views on the terms of office of the president, but there is no sign that Pinochet will be abandoned by the military. After the September 7 incident Regiment No. 5 stationed in Punta Arenas in southern Chile issued a communique condemning the killing of an opposition journalist, and the commander of Military District No. 7 also circulated a similar statement, but these were isolated events.
Chile's democratic movement is promoted by the powerful democratization current on the South American continent. Argentina and Brazil have both restored civilian rule in recent years. After the September 7 incident, the governments of Argentina, Brazil, Mexico and Peru issued statements condemning the ambush, but expressing concern over the way the Chilean government suppresses its people. On September 9 more than 60 politicians from Latin American countries accompanied a group of Chilean exiles on their return home by air, but they were not allowed to enter the country.

A spokesman of the US State Department, worried about the imposition of martial law, has stressed that the government of Chile must make the effort to rebuild an atmosphere for the democratic process. US officials have also visited Chile to press the government to restore peace and transfer power as quickly as possible.

by Wu Yongheng

The Yemen Arab Republic, situated in the southwest corner of the Arabian peninsula, has a recorded history going back three thousand years. Yet the country was quite backward when its people overthrew the autocratic rule of the Imam and established a republic in 1962. Now the economy is growing steadily—at a rate of 6 percent in 1984—and per-capita income is in excess of US$500 a year.

In 1962, the country had only 3 schools with 6,000 students. Now there are more than 5,000 schools of different kinds catering for 1 million students. Sana University, established after the 1962 revolution, has more than 30 departments and 10,000 students.

Before the revolution, Yemen had not even a single decent hospital. Now there are 33 and also 235 clinics. In 1962, there was only one 231 kilometre bituminous road in the country. Now a network of roads has been built, 2,774 km. in all, connecting the main cities and towns. Where before there were only a few handicraft workshops, there are now 600 factories large and small around the country, processing food and medicines, turning out construction materials, textiles and metal products to meet domestic demand and also for export. Yemen still imports some food but it is basically self-sufficient in vegetables and fruit.

The Yemen government has decided to give priority to tapping the country's oil and mineral resources as a way to promote the economy. The first oil well was sunk in July 1984. In April this year, the first oil refinery went into operation, able to handle 10,000 tons annually, enough to meet one third of Yemen's needs. A second oil refinery is now being built. When that comes into operation, the country will be self-sufficient in oil. The Yemen government is also planning to build a 400-km. pipeline so that it can begin to export oil in 1988.

In recent years, Yemen has been adopting an open policy to attract foreign capital and technology. It is encouraging more than one million nationals living abroad, industrialists and businessmen, to invest in the country, especially in the basic industries such as energy, transport and communications.

Given the recession in the world economy and the sharp decline of oil prices—which has seriously affected the economies of the Arab oil producing nations—the government has been taking measures to cut back its expenditures and the scale of state construction. It has adopted a trade policy of "guided imports" and "guided consumption," under which only certain essential daily necessities can be imported. This is helping to save foreign exchange and protect home industries.

The Yemen government has paid much attention to the training of managers and qualified technical personnel of its own, naming 1986 the "year of training qualified persons." Educational funds for this year amount to 13 percent of total government expenditure and more and more Yemeni technical personnel are replacing foreign ones.

The government's domestic and foreign policies also contribute to the steady economic development. At home, the Yemen government is carrying out a policy of "strengthening unity, displaying democracy and developing the economy," with the stress on the unity and stability of the country and the people's participation in government affairs. In foreign affairs, the government is adopting policies of neutrality, non-alignment and good-neighbourliness to create a peaceful environment.

by Li Dasi

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ARAB YEMEN

Steady All-Round Growth Registered

The people of the Arab Republic of Yemen have made significant progress in their efforts to consolidate the country's independence and develop its economy and culture.
China's Scientists Vindicate Their Vocation
by Our Correspondent Wei Liming

The China Association for Science and Technology (CAST) has 1.8 million members working across the country. Since China set out on its modernization path at the start of this decade, these people have gained much credit by participating in the government's economic and social projections and by helping the poor Chinese rise out of poverty. No longer considered "stinking" as they were during the "cultural revolution," intellectuals have come to be held in high esteem by the whole society.

Summer time will begin throughout the country tomorrow. The time will be officially set back one hour at two o'clock after midnight,” said Central TV's announcer during prime time on May 3, 1986.

Daylight saving time was first recommended by standing committee member of the council of the Beijing Energy Society Associate Professor Xie Xingjian, Engineer Xia Guangyu and Senior Engineer Dou Xinyuan. “In one year, this could save as much electricity as a 300,000 kw power plant could generate. No doubt, it will benefit China’s industrial and agricultural production, communications, transport, and people’s health,” they argued in their recommendation to the society, an affiliate of CAST.

Last February, the Beijing Energy Society forwarded their recommendation to Premier Zhao Ziyang. “This suggestion deserves much attention,” Zhao said. In April, after careful deliberation, government leaders and energy experts decided on May 4, 1986 as the beginning of “summer time” this year.

A “Brain Trust”

CAST is a non-governmental organization, whose members work in 138 societies all over the country. In the last few years it has geared its academic activities to the country's economic construction and social development by helping the government formulate its strategies and assisting the backward regions with technical guidance. They are an advisory body to the government and friends of the people.

“Chinese scientists and technicians do not hesitate to speak their mind and advise the government in its decision making, because the government encourages academic freedom,” said Zhu Yajie, director of the council of CAST. “The government has stated explicitly: ‘Whoever speaks out what is in his mind deserves reward.’”

The first national energy forum held in 1979 was an example of this. More than 100 energy experts, instead of parroting the optimistic estimates of China’s energy sufficiency as was often the case in the past, pointed out that China may also be facing an “energy crisis.” This might, during the “cultural revolution,” have been repudiated as “speaking badly of China.” Here, incredibly, it was praised by Deng Xiaoping as “full of insight.” A later forum, where the specialists suggested solutions to the energy crisis, was praised by Zhao Ziyang.

The government’s trust in scientists has reawakened their enthusiasm for scientific research. In 1981 through the joint efforts of more than 500 energy experts, CAST prepared a 600,000-word report on an energy development programme, in which they listed ten principal problems and suggested their solutions. Many of their opinions have been accepted by government departments in making energy policies.

Zhu Zhongjie, deputy secretary-general of the All-China Environmental Science Associ-
ation, is proud of his participation in formulating government policies. Since 1984 he has attended the quarterly discussions of the State Council Environmental Protection Committee chaired by Vice-Premier Li Peng. “It is a valuable reciprocal arrangement,” Zhu says. “We learn how the government makes decisions and they get to know our views.”

In December 1984, the All-China Environmental Science Association prepared a 30-point report on the environmental pollution that might result from the economic restructuring and suggested some countermeasures. Many of their suggestions have been included in the government’s environmental protection policies.

Academic Perseverance

Fracture mechanics, which began in the 1950s, made great advances in the world in the 1960s, while China was suffering the disastrous “cultural revolution.” As a result, China knew almost nothing of fracture research. In 1971 when the suggestion was made that China begin research in this field, it was quashed with the attitude that fracture research was not worthwhile. No organization saw fit to sponsor a symposium.

In 1974, a group of 40-odd fracture enthusiasts initiated the first-ever fracture mechanics symposium, at which they detailed some of the losses fractures had caused to lives and property. Their research has been built upon by many scientists, and symposia have since been held once every two years.

Shi Guangyi, director of the general office of the All-China Mechanics Association, says fracture mechanics has made much headway, theoretically and in application. Fracture experts have, for example, revived a 5,000 kw steam turbine rotator, which had stood idle for years because of fracture caused by casting defects. China’s fracture experts have, after years of research, also turned out a safe reliable device to examine potential fractures in oil storage tanks.

Shi says the academic symposium is a “window” through which new developments can be exchanged, and more importantly, science can be made more popular.

Technical Consulting

In early 1981, China’s largest imported project, the Baoshan Iron and Steel Complex in the Shanghai area, was grinding to a halt. Whether to continue or to stop halfway became a national talking point. The problem was that the foundations had moved. Some said the foundations would eventually drift into the nearby Changjiang (Yangtze) River. This generated quite a bit of concern which reverberated right up to the central authorities. After a careful study, the complex’s advisory committee, made up of 28 experts in civil engineering, metallurgy, mechanics, corrosion, industrial management and economics, put forward plenty of evidence that the problem was not that serious. Furthermore, these experts produced a solution, which was easy, safe, cheap and, of course, constructive not destructive.

In 1982 the advisory committee suggested the iron and steel complex should use Changjiang River water and leave the Dianshan Lake for Shanghai’s residents. Their suggestion was adopted. As a result, not only were 50 million yuan saved but so was a source of drinking water for Shanghai’s residents.

CAST’s good service was given the seal of approval of Premier Zhao Ziyang when he said: “Technical consulting is an important element in gearing
science to economic and social development.”

Apart from tendering technical advice to the state’s key projects, branches of CAST also give advice to industrial enterprises. Their contributions have proved invaluable. For example, in the last few years, the association’s branches in Sichuan, Anhui and Liaoning provinces have given technical services or have introduced new technology to more than 10,000 enterprises, which helped them make bigger profits.

**Know-How Above All**

The economic reforms in the countryside have undoubtedly improved the standard of living, and many farmers have become affluent. However, quite a few farmers, especially in the remote and frontier areas, still live below subsistence level, and helping them out of poverty is an urgent requirement. CAST has 3.5 million local branch members whose main job is “popularization of science” and they have played an unprecedented role in helping the poor.

Agro-technology has changed the face of Jiangdu County, in east China’s Jiangsu Province. Last year, its average per-capita income went rapidly up to 520 yuan. However, over 8,200 rural households, or 3.4 percent of the county’s total, are finding it hard to make ends meet.

Aware of this problem, the Jiangdu County Scientists and Technicians Society conducted a survey in 1983 and found that these households’ trouble was less a problem of too many mouths to feed and lack of man power and more one of awareness: they were ignorant of scientific management and farming methods.

So the society organized all the county’s technicians, craftsmen, skilled cadres and specialized households—more than 3,200 people—into over 1,200 “help the poor” groups.

Lin Yuhua is a farmer in the county’s Zongchun Township. Her husband died several years ago, leaving her with three small children. She claimed her poverty was caused by the inauspicious location of her husband’s grave and a small stream in front of her house. Despite her continuous prayer, the god failed to send relief.

In 1983, Wang Deji, director of the Township Agro-Technical Station, signed a technical assistance contract with her. He instructed her on a number of things including how to grow rice and sugarcane. By the year’s end, she had made more than 2,600 yuan, 4 times as much as she made in 1982. “Believe in technique, not ghosts,” she told the villagers.

Another poor family was the Li family of nine in Zhenwu Township. Li Wantong is crippled and his children are too small to help him with farming. He had tried hard. He tried melons, his melon plants did not bear fruit. He bred silkworms, they died. His fellow villagers called him “a general of failure,” and his wife kept quarrelling with him. His luck turned when in 1984 local technicians and village cadres offered him funds and helped with a fish pond of 1.3 hectares. He put 100,000 fish fry into the pond, and made 5,000 yuan net. His fellow villagers shared his triumph. “The general of failure won a battle this time,” they said. And a smile appears in his wife’s face.

In the past three years, the county’s scientists and technicians helped 1,843 households out of poverty, and many became quite well-off.

**Brotherhood**

Many scientists and technicians have become nationally known for their readiness to help the poor. One of them is Sun Peijie, a farmer-turned-agro-technician and a member of the Laixi County Scientists and Technicians Society, Shandong Province.

Before the economic reforms, Sun’s family of four worked hard all year round and lived hand-to-mouth. In 1982, he contracted a third of a hectare of farmland to grow “Jufeng” grapes on a trial...
Xueliang, a farmer, came to him for every penny. That’s a fact.

Despite the local saying, “Tricks of the trade are harder to get than gold and silver,” Sun was enthused. He said to his neighbours: “Whoever wants to grow ‘Jufeng’ grapes, I’ll give him full support, I’ll teach him the know-how and sell him seedlings at a discount.” He agreed to sell seedlings on credit to those who had no ready money. People from 38 households in his and nearby villages came to his training classes. Zhou Mingguang, a farmer living 6 kilometres away, missed three of the lectures. Sun went to Zhou’s home and helped him catch up. Much moved, Zhou said: “Master Sun, you bring not only the knowledge but the brotherliness.” Without reservation, Sun passed on all four grape-growing secrets he had learned from his experiences to anyone who was interested.

Sun has never looked back. He now helps interpret the government’s rural policies for his fellow villagers. One day Sun Xue-liang, a farmer, came to him saying he wanted to grow grapes but was worried in case the current policies changed before he would benefit. Sun simply said: “If you suffer any loss because of a change in policy, I will compensate you for every penny. That’s a fact.” With that assurance, Sun Xue-liang started a vineyard on 0.13 hectares. He succeeded and earned a handsome return of 7,000 yuan.

Sun has not stopped there. In spring last year Sun called together the village’s 27 better-off households to discuss how to assist the other 41 families to get rich quickly. They divided themselves into groups, each responsible for seedlings, or funds or techniques. Sun volunteered to assist the family of Tang Jian-nan, the poorest in the village. Because of mental trouble, Tang had been hospitalized and his wife had to care for him. So their farmland lay fallow. Sun planted a vineyard on a tenth of a hectare on Tang’s land, which produced over 5,000 yuan that autumn. It all went to the Tangs, and Sun did not take a penny.

Sun’s generosity extends beyond his village area. Under his guidance last year, the village of Linrui, a hundred kilometres away, planted his grape strain over three and a third hectares, earning 480,000 yuan, or more than 10,000 yuan for each of its households. In that one year, the village changed from being the poorest in the area with a farmer in 1984 making only 145 yuan, to being the richest. With a “long purse,” young men find it easier to build a home. Towards the end of last year, 17 “big boys” in their late 20s and early 30s in the village married.

Technical Training

In the winter of 1982, Di Lianjun, a 22-year-old farmer in Hebei Province, lost 1,200 yuan gambling. His mother cursed him and his wife went back to her mother’s, leaving their small child behind. Di decided to try his luck again, this time at mushroom growing. But he did not know what he was doing and his mushrooms became covered in mildew and died.

A few days later, his township opened a mushroom training class. Di attended and mastered the skill. He went to the Hebei Provincial Micro-Biological Research Institute and bought some special mushroom spawn with which he grew 4,800 bagfuls of fungus and sold them for 1,500 yuan. Di told his gambling friends: “You would do better to stop playing with money and start to making money with science.” Inspired, several of his gambling partners have now joined him in a specialized mushroom growing and shipping team.

Since the winter of 1984, the Hebei Provincial Scientists and Technicians Society has joined with the Youth League Committee and the women’s federation to give technical training to 6 million former middle school graduates working in farming, and to mobilize 34,000 scientists and technicians to give lectures, prepare textbooks or offer technical services to farmers. It has also organized tours for 500,000 farmers-turned-specialists and craftsmen to show their skills and share their experiences with local farmers.

Having been given technical knowledge, many young people have begun farming scientifically and become quite prosperous. The county government of Kuan-cheng, one of the poorest in Hebei Province, has pledged “to train a technician for each family and find each family a way to prosperity.”

To this end, the county government has trained more than 10,000 young people in various technical skills since the third quarter of last year.

Exchanges Foster Science

As Chinese scientists and technicians woke up from their long years of isolation from the outside world they found that they had fallen far behind the rest of the world. Swift developments outside motivated them to do all they could to catch up. CAST has begun emphasizing on-the-job training for scientists and exchanges with foreign countries. Great success has consequently

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Great success has been achieved in narrowing the gap between Chinese science and that of the advanced world.

Itinerant Training

Between 1982 and 1984 a lecturing group of professors and senior engineers visited Guizhou, Yunnan, Qinghai, Ningxia, Gansu, Xinjiang, Inner Mongolia and other border provinces in southwest and northwest China. The group was organized by the China Survey Society and was intended to introduce new geodestic and aerial photographic survey techniques.

Lectures attracted huge crowds. In Guiyang, a 500-seat meeting hall was so crowded that some people had to stand at the back. In Kunming 400 extra benches had to be added to the hall. All the listeners were from local survey units at the prefectural and county levels and some of them took two days by bus to get to the provincial capital for the lectures. In Urumqi, the capital of Xinjiang, some professors, associate professors and senior engineers made a special trip from cities several hundred miles away. "We work in a border area with poor transport facilities," they said. "We are short of information on new technology. This is the first time we have had such lectures."

Zhou Ji, deputy head of the training section of CAST, said that since 1980 societies within the association have run various kinds of training courses for their scientific workers.

Most scientific and technical workers in Beijing are college graduates of the 1950s and 60s and about 2,000 senior scientists and technicians are in their fifties. Most of them are unfamiliar with the new science and technology and know nothing about economic, scientific or technical management. It is essential for them to keep abreast of the advanced science and technology of the world.

The Beijing Society of Science runs training classes for about 50,000 people a year. It emphasizes what is most urgently needed in China. As the computer is spreading, the Beijing Society of Science has, in the last two years, opened computer classes for 9,000 scientists who had not encountered it at college.

According to Zhou Ji, hundreds of thousands of people have attended the lectures on new theories and technologies. Eighty-six scientific and technical schools and colleges have been restored or built and 400,000 people have had systematic advanced study there. These lectures and training classes inform scientific personnel on the latest research results at home and abroad. At the same time these lectures help popularize the new theories and technologies more widely.

Bridges and Links

The Changjiang (Yangtze) and Huanghe (Yellow) rivers carry 2 billion tons of silt into the sea each year. Chinese scientists have taken advantage of this to experiment with silt. They did well, and made some new discoveries. In 1978 the China Water Resources Society established a silt research committee. In 1979 the committee felt ready to propose arranging scientific exchanges with other countries.

In 1980 the committee held the first international river silt symposium in Beijing and invited 110 specialists from 14 countries.

The foreign experts learnt of China's latest achievements in silt research and the Chinese scientists learnt a lot from their foreign colleagues. The United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO), at its 22nd congress in 1983, decided to set up the International Silt Research and Training Centre in China. UNESCO, the UN Development Programme, the UN Environment Programme, and the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations sent representatives to the centre. Some other well-known foreign scholars have also been invited to work as its advisers.

Since its activities were revived in 1978, CAST has signed agreements or established relations with more than 20 academic groups and organizations in countries such as Britain, the United States, Japan, Australia, Canada, Czechoslovakia, Hungary, Poland and India.

China has hosted 155 international academic symposia in the last six years, held more than 600 bilateral meetings with other countries, attended by 10,000 foreign scholars and 30,000 Chinese experts.

Exchanges with foreign countries have strengthened China's position within international scientific and technical organizations. CAST and other scientific societies and committees have between them joined 96 world scientific and technical organizations. They belonged to only 20 in the past. More than 200 Chinese scientists have taken up posts in these organizations.

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China's open policy has obviously contributed much to improving international academic exchanges, said Xie Xide, chairman of the Shanghai Society of Science and president of Fudan University. Both private contacts and more formal international links have been greatly strengthened.

Soon after the restoration of Sino-US relations at the end of 1978, a delegation from the American Association for the Advancement of Science (AAAS) visited China. Renee Fox, on the delegation, was Xie's schoolmate at Smith College. With help from her, Xie restored her contacts with the college and went to the United States to attend a meeting for the first time since she left the country for home in 1952. The head of the delegation helped a group of Chinese scientists to get to an international symposium. Later, the head and Fox visited China twice more at the invitation of CAST. In the last few years, Xie said, Chinese and foreign scholars have visited each other and endeavoured to improve scientific and technical exchanges between China and other countries. These exchanges are highly valued in China.

The number of Chinese participating in international meetings has been increasing year by year. Over the last few years more than 1,200 scientists in 360 groups have been sent to study or attend international symposia abroad by CAST. These scholars have delivered 20,000 academic papers and their names have appeared in pamphlets published by some international meetings.

Song Jian, a systems engineering expert and minister in charge of the State Science and Technology Commission, spoke highly of CAST. At the association's recent third national conference Song reiterated that there is no model to follow in developing high technology. To keep up with the world's scientific and technical developments China should strengthen international interflows in which CAST has played a pioneering role.
Ningbo — A Promising Harbour in East China

by Our Special Correspondent Wang Xi

Last May, a spate of news about Ningbo, Zhejiang Province, swept Beijing’s press. Most newspapers in the capital published reports on the prospects of the port city along the East China Sea coast about 1,800 kilometres from Beijing. Deng Xiaoping and Zhao Ziyang showed great interest in its development and some other leaders went there on inspection tours. Specialists also went to survey its harbour. Now the central government has decided that over 20 large and medium-sized construction projects be undertaken there during the Seventh Five-Year Plan period (1986-90) involving the expansion of the harbour’s wharf, renewal of railway and road links between Hangzhou and Ningbo, the construction of an airport terminal, and the building of a large thermal power plant and a petrochemical works. Total investment in all these works will be 4.6 billion yuan, the most generous deal ever offered by the government to a city with a population of 600,000.

The city’s Beilun harbour is one of the best in the country, 20 to 30 metres deep, capable of taking 120,000-ton ocean-going ships. Ships of 150,000 tons can also use the harbour when the tide is in. It is ice- and silt-free. Along the 17-kilometre coastline of the Beilun harbour, 50 berths can be built for ships of 30,000-50,000 tons. Its annual loading and unloading capacity is 26 million tons at present, and is expected to reach 50 million tons within five years and 60 million tons by the end of the century (perhaps 100 million is possible in the long term). According to the plan worked out by the Ningbo municipal government, Ningbo is to be built into an important industrial city and trading port in East China, starting with the construction of the harbour, which will in turn boost industrial development.

Last June, when the whole city embarked on its large-scale construction programme, the Beijing Women Journalists Association sent a nine-member delegation, including the writer, to visit the city at the invitation of Geng Dianhua, mayor of Ningbo.

Old City Takes on a New Look

We set off from Shanghai by the steamer Fanxing. After hours, we arrived at Ningbo.

Streets in the city look trim and neat but a bit narrow. Beyond high-rise buildings that flank many avenues are small, old houses with no sewage system.

Dr. Sun Yat-sen, forerunner of the Chinese revolution, visited Ningbo in 1916, five years after the Revolution of 1911 which overthrew the Qing Dynasty. He saw only a small platform at the
railway station, together with a few huts, as he stepped from the train. He crossed a floating bridge supported by a dozen barges. The river was dark blue. Dr. Sun stayed that night at a school. Nearly 50 years have elapsed since then and today the city is well on the way to becoming modernized.

Opposite the Ningbo Hotel, where we stayed, an international three-star hotel is under construction. It is the Asian Huayuan Guest House, an 11-story building on a 11,200 square metre site, a joint venture between the Ningbo Travel Service and two Hong Kong firms being built by the city’s No. 2 Construction Co. Two lines of words on a high-raised board in front of the construction site read: “This project, scheduled to be completed in 667 days, is expected to be finished within 270 days.” More than a year ahead of schedule! This is the “Ningbo Speed,” the pride of the Ningbo people.

In Ningbo, people used to say, “Travelling under the sun, one could not find a place better than Jiangxia.” Jiangxia, a street, was once prosperous, full of old-style Chinese banks and shops, warehouses and fish agents during the middle of the 19th century (1851-74), when the domestic and foreign trade of Ningbo harbour was at its peak. Since then, Jiangxia has symbolized Ningbo. I paid a visit to the street, located at the junction of the Yongjiang River and two other rivers. It is very short and narrow. I could find no shops, except for a big fish market.

Things are not so lively in Ningbo at the moment and according to officials of the city’s bureau of commerce, there are too few facilities to meet people’s needs. Local people grumble a lot about the lack of bath houses and tailor’s shops for example. But it seems Ningbo is picking itself up and making a start on those neglected public works.

Xiaogang Development District

Each of China’s 14 coastal open cities has its own development district to attract foreign investment and advanced technology, and where favourable treatment is granted foreign investors. Ningbo’s Xiaogang Development District is 18 kilometres from the
downtown area and 10 kilometres from the Beilun Harbour. On the opposite side of the river is Zhenhai Harbour. They are linked by highways.

The district is designed to cover 3.9 square kilometres. About 500 acres of farmland were taken over from local farmers. Since construction began on March 25 last year, about 1,300 residents have moved out to the new community, where farmers have built new housing of about 20,000 square metres on which they have lived for many years.

We visited the new housing. I went into the home of Ho Youmei, about 40, and her husband, who is one of the directors of a sandstone factory. They have one child. Their new house is a two-story concrete building with six rooms having a total floorspace of about 150 square metres. It has a glass front door and the floors and walls are painted. Ho told me that she spent 20,000 yuan building the house. The government gave her 9,100 yuan compensation for her old house and lost crops. She cheerfully showed me over her rooms to admire her fashionable furniture and new electrical appliances. I guessed they could not have done it for less than 20,000 yuan. Today the average monthly wage of a worker in the urban areas is about 100 yuan. In comparison, the income of Ho's family seems well above the average and they can be considered well-off. Moreover, this middle-aged couple can be sure of finding jobs with even higher pay when Xiaogang has been developed.

In just one year, the infrastructure of the Xiaogang District has been completed, including the levelling of fields, laying underground pipes and building auxiliary installations. A group of villas for foreign businessmen's use has been put up. The machinery is soon to be installed in the 21,000-square-metre factory buildings.

The investment environment in Xiaogang is ideal. About 142 groups of businessmen from 54 countries have visited it and held talks with relevant offices on the establishment of factories there. Seven contracts on joint ventures have been signed between the city and entrepreneurs from Hong Kong, the United States and France, covering the production of video tapes, copper valves, canned food, beer malt and colour print.

The district is also actively developing economic cooperation with other enterprises within the country. Laser and other new technologies and new materials have been introduced in those factories jointly operated with counterparts under the Chinese Academy of Sciences.

Over the next few years, the population will grow from 2,600 to 30,000. The district will become a knowledge- and technology-intensive city.

I interviewed Zhang Yuxiang, Party secretary for the district, who is in his 60s. He is a veteran revolutionary who fought as a guerrilla in the Siming Mountain area of eastern Zhejiang Province. He retired recently as secretary of the Party
Committee of Wenzhou city but last February he was invited to the district to help Chen Zhiqiang, vice major, with his work for a short time. But now he is so involved in the work that he cannot leave it. In the last few months he has worked hard to overcome various difficulties, sometimes sitting up all night. He says humorously of himself: "I cannot do much now. I just give the final nod to things and guard the door." A Party secretary certainly has to make decisions, but guarding the door? He told us that at the weekend he lets local workers go home while he stays on duty. He counts his days off like the story-teller in “The Arabian Nights.”

Qiujia, a Satellite Town

Located about 8 kilometres to the east of Ningbo city, the satellite town of Qiujia has a population of 24,000. We drove along the newly built railway from Ningbo to Beilun Harbour. On the way, we were enchanted by the beautiful scenery with its patchwork of fields interlaced with by roads and rivers. Since the rural reforms began, the small towns that link the cities with the countryside have developed rapidly. Decades ago, Qiujia had only a “street” on the west bank of a river scattered with a few fish mongers’ stalls. Today it is an attractive town. It has a main street flanked by many high-rise buildings, forming the business centre. A 1,800-square-metre five-story block of flats built here for sale (a new practice in China) was sold out immediately on completion last spring. The industrial area is to each side of the town.

In recent years, the grain yields of Qiujia have steadily surpassed the quota for sales to the state. Thirty-eight rural enterprises are doing brisk business in addition to 18 household workshops. The town-owned cold storage plant sells poultry to Japan, Hong Kong and Macao. The quality products of the Western Suits Factory are well-known.

According to Party secretary Zhao Zhonggui, the proportions of industry and agriculture in the towns’ economy in 1985 were 84.4 percent and 15.6 percent respectively. Of the 10,800 workers, 66.3 percent worked in industry, commerce and service trades and 33.7 percent in agriculture. The increase in the number of the former shows that the level of industrialization in the rural areas of Qiujia is no lower than the well-developed cities of Suzhou, Wuxi and Changzhou in southern Jiangsu Province. The per-capita income in 1985 averaged 822 yuan. The contrast between urban and rural areas is not so great. Farmers who have left farming work in other trades in the town. The process of modernization has not involved any great influx of workers.

Ningbo tailors have had a good reputation around the country for a long time. Many first-rate tailors working in Beijing and Shanghai came from Ningbo. We visited the Western Suits Factory. which opened three years ago. Wang Fuying, 45, director of the factory, has earned the praise of local people since she re-vamped her factory. In 1984, a Western dress craze swept the whole country in which many enterprises, shops and even some government departments ordered Western suits for their employees. The factory received many orders and its output steadily rose. Though overjoyed by the flood of business, Wang never lost her head and foresaw that the fashion for Western dress would die away. The number of rural enterprises was also increasing rapidly. If her factory was to withstand the fierce competition of the future, it would have to be placed on a firmer footing. Wang went to Shanghai to seek the co-operation of the Shanghai Western Suits Factory, an old factory producing the famous brand products of Bells and Peak.

In 1985 the two factories merged on the basis of equality and mutual benefit. The Qiujia Western Suits Factory was renamed the Shanghai Western Suits Factory, Ningbo Branch, specializing in making Bell brand dresses under the guidance of eight...
skilled workers from the parent factory. In a year of co-operation, production developed steadily, sales were brisk, and the bonuses and other rewards for employees increased. The factory is now planning to set up new workshops.

Co-operation among factories is proving a good way to develop the economy. Of the 34 factories in the town, 13 co-operate with enterprises elsewhere.

**Chiang Kai-shek’s Hometown**

**Xikou Town** in Fenghua County, Ningbo, is an ancient town with a long main road, leaning against the beautiful Xuedou Mountain to the north, and facing the Shanxijiang River to the south. It is a summer resort well known in old China as the native town of Chiang Kai-shek, the Kuomintang leader who ruled China for 22 years (1927-49).

Now the town’s mile long road has been widened and is bustling with activity, with more than 200 local products on sale. The renovated home of Chiang’s family has been opened to the public.

Chiang was born in 1887, in the Yutai Salt Shop owned by his father and grandfather. A corner stone with an inscription by Chiang himself to mark the location of the old shop is still preserved intact. We also visited the Fenggao House where Chiang and his son Chiang Jingguo used to stay. The house is elegant in Chinese style with carved columns and painted beams. It has a floorspace of 1,850 square metres and was built when Chiang returned home in 1929. In the garden are sweet-scented osmanthus and ginkgo trees. Since the founding of the People’s Republic of China in 1949, the house has been kept in repair and was completely renovated in 1980.

Chiang’s mother Wang Caiyu died in 1921 when Chiang was the frontline commander-in-chief of the second corps of the Guangdong Army in Guangzhou. Governmental bureaucrats of old China used to have big funerals for their deceased parents to demonstrate the glory and dignity of their families. Chiang built a mausoleum in Xikou to show his filial obedience to his mother.

Since Chiang’s native home was opened to the public, visitors have swarmed in. Some are tourists from Hong Kong and Macao. Some come just to take photos. If the Taipei authorities had accepted the proposal for establishing communications, navigation and commerce between Taiwan and the mainland, put forward on September 30, 1981 by Ye Jianying, then chairman of the Standing Committee of the National People’s Congress, in his speech on the peaceful reunification of the motherland, the Chinese people living on the other side of the Taiwan Straits could have joined the crowds of visitors.

**University and Merchants**

Ningbo has no university. In recent years, about 2,000 middle
school graduates have had to leave the city to attend college each year. When they graduated most did not return home to work. Only 4 per thousand of the population has received a higher education, a lower figure than the average of the province and the nation. This is a big problem, especially for such a developing city.

Yue Kong Pao, president of the board of directors of the Hong Kong Globe Shipping Group and a well-known shipping magnate, is also aware of this critical problem. As a native of Ningbo and enthusiastic about the development of the city, he put up the money to establish a university of science and technology, at which economics, trade, the arts and law will also be taught. An agreement was signed between the city government and Pao, who will be the honorary president of the board of governors.

The building of the university is in full swing. By last June the first stage had been completed in less than a year, including teaching buildings, dormitories, a sports field, a dining hall and a hostel, covering about 60,000 square metres. The first 280 students started their studies on September 1 this year.

Ningbo was one of the earliest port cities in China. It first became important in foreign trade in the Tang Dynasty (618-907), when Shanghai was no more than a barren seashore. Ningbo people are well known for their business acumen all over the country and abroad. "No market without Ningbo merchants," as the old saying goes. For a long time they have been known as the Ningbo Group. About 73,000 Ningbo people now live abroad in more than 50 countries. (The figure could be hundreds of thousands if their offspring are included.) Many of them are scientists, businessmen and civic leaders. They all cherish feelings of affection for their motherland.

Some of their forebears supported Dr. Sun Yat-sen's Revolution of 1911 and financially assisted China's War of Resistance Against Japanese Aggression (1937-45). Since the opening of Ningbo to foreign investment and trade, more than 10,000 people of Ningbo origin have come back to visit the city. Some have invested in Ningbo in joint ventures or cooperative projects, and some others have helped introduce foreign technology and capital.

In the summer of 1984, Deng Xiaoping said we should pay more attention to the role of overseas Ningbo people who have already made their mark abroad. Last April, Deng met Yue Kong Pao, Kuan-cheng Wong and Henry Ying Tung Fok and expressed his appreciation of their contributions and support. Deng even said that Ningbo people the world over should be mobilized to help with the construction of Ningbo.

Given its favourable conditions, Ningbo is likely to lead other coastal cities in China in its rapid pace of development.

Finding Skills

Ge Hongsheng, Party secretary of Ningbo city, told us that there were two big obstacles to the construction of the city: lack of funds and shortage of skills. It is estimated that about 20,000 technicians in various fields would be needed to equal, in terms of their percentage of the general population, the present figure for Shanghai by 1990. For this purpose, the city has engaged 850 technicians on favourable terms from all over the country. Vocational and professional training is also organized for workers and farmers.

It is interesting to look at the reforms in the personnel and labour system being made here. The selection and promotion of talented people to higher positions by way of recommendation by the broad masses is now the practice. This is a break with the traditional selection and promotion by the city personnel department alone. Experimental trials of the new method were first carried out in selected units at municipal level and then introduced to other organizations and departments at county and district level. Important positions such as director of the municipal planning commission, head of the price control bureau, chief of the bureau of forestry and directors of two key projects—a paper mill and the above mentioned Asian Huayuan Guest House—were filled in this way.

When the Ningbo Daily carried this news on September 30, 1985, the whole city was astir. Was such a method of appointment possible? Some people were sceptical. But others took an active part in the nominations. There were also those who even recommended themselves. Within two weeks, a total of 171 candidates had been put forward for the five positions.

After interview and written tests, only 32 candidates were left for further examination, including writing an essay. Finally, Song Xiaoren, former deputy director of the planning commission, was engaged to be the director of the commission. Chen Gang, 31, taken on as price bureau chief, graduated from the department of economics of Hongzhou University in 1982. He is the youngest of the five. Now, they have all proved competent in their respective posts.

Following in the steps of the city government, 55 factory directors in light industry were also recruited within two months. After a probation period of four months, they will take up leading positions. Their average age is 32.9, the youngest being 23.

This reform shows that there is talent to be found among the masses. The problem is only how to find it. So the shortage of skills is a problem that can be overcome.
Successes At the Grand Asian Sports Games

by our Correspondent in Seoul Wei Liming

At the 10th Asian Games held in Seoul from September 20 to October 5, China gained the most gold medals. Athletes from other countries also performed with credit.

At the opening ceremony the games’ flag, with a burning sun in its centre symbolizing the solidarity and fighting spirit of the Asian people, was raised amidst deafening applause of some 100,000 spectators, 4,797 athletes and sports officials.

In the 35 years since the games’ torch was kindled in New Dehli in 1951, many Asian countries have won independence and made great strides in economic development and improved living standards. Many have begun paying more attention to physical culture and sports, starting a new era for Asia’s sports.

China Moves Ahead

On the very first day of the games, the exciting news arrived from Seoul’s Taenung International Shooting Range that China’s marksmen had captured the first gold and broken an Asian record in the men’s 10-m air rifle event by winning a score of 1,739 points, 21 over the previous record. Two more golds were won that day in the men’s free 50-m pistol shoot and the men’s 100-km bicycle team time trial race.

China’s physical culture and sports have been growing vigorously since 1982 when the Chinese athletes won the most gold medals at the 9th Asian Games for the first time, leaving the Japanese, who had always been ahead on the golds score, far behind. China’s gains can be traced back, according to a high-ranking official of the State Physical Culture and Sports Commission, to the fact that “China spends 800 million yuan every year on developing sport schools and popularizing sports among the masses.”

China’s efforts paid off at the 1984 Los Angeles Olympics, where China, who was taking part for the first time, won 15 gold medals.

China sent a 514-member sports delegation to Seoul, many of them world champions or world record holders. Gymnast Li Ning, a triple-gold winner at Los Angeles, walked off with golds in the all-round, rings and floor exercises and became the first four golds winner as he and his teammates captured both the men’s and women’s team events. Their accomplishments and sportsmanship were both appreciated in Seoul.

Chen Cuiting, the rising star of Chinese gymnastics, captured the heart of Seoul. Just 15 and only 1.30 metres tall, Chen walked into Seoul full of confidence and walked out again with three golds in the all-round, floor and team events. Neat and sharp in her movements, Chen won herself the name of “Asia’s Nadia Comaneci” and “a young flying swallow.”

China’s ambitious boat racing team sailed through the competition to win all but one of the eight golds, while its divers swept the board winning all the gold medals. At Seoul’s shooting range, sharpshooter Xu Haifeng, China’s first Olympic gold medallist in Los Angeles in 1984, made history again in Seoul by winning three single-event golds and the men’s free pistol team gold together with teammate Qiu Bo.
In weightlifting, He Zhuoqiang, a 52-kg-class gold medallist, stood side by side on the winners' podium with his Chinese teammates in the 56-kg, 60-kg, 67.5-kg and 75-kg class events. President of the International Weightlifting Association Mr. Gottfried Schodl spoke highly of Chinese weightlifters when he said: “It was not unexpected that Chinese weightlifters should score such great achievements here in Seoul. I saw China’s weightlifting on the rise at Los Angeles.” He suggested regular weightlifting invitational tournaments either in China or elsewhere in Asia to help Asian weightlifters catch up with their European rivals in the shortest possible time.

**New Breakthrough**

China’s swimming record has not been so distinguished. At the New Dehli Asian Games four years ago, the Japanese carried away 21 of the 31 golds in swimming, and China only three. Intensive training and careful coaching have since created a group of Chinese teenage swimming stars. On September 21, the first day of swimming in Seoul, Jin Puying swam his way to the first gold in the men’s 100 metres while Chinese woman swimmer Yan Ming fulfilled her long-cherished dream of being a champion by winning the golds in the 400-m medley, 400-m free style and 800-m free style. Her teammate, 15-year-old Qian Hong won the winner’s title in the 100-m butterfly and the 400-m free style relay.

China’s swimming has broken the Japanese monopoly on Asia’s swimming pools. Chinese swimmers and divers took 14 golds, 12 silvers and 7 bronzes, chalking up 13 Asian swimming records in the process.

“The key to China’s success in swimming,” said Mu Xiangxiong, coach of the Chinese swimming team, “lies in a new set of training methods better suited to the Chinese swimmers and divers.”

“I will not rest on the laurels I have gained in Seoul,” said Yan Ming. “Rather, I will continue to strive for the world record.”

Altogether, Chinese athletes won 94 of the total 269 golds in addition to 82 silvers and 46 bronzes.
Higher Jumping, Faster Running

The several darkhorses at this Asian Games are a testament to the sporting headway which has been made in various Asian countries. On the night of September 24, China's men's table tennis team, the world champions, led by the world top seed Jian Jialiang, lost to the south Korean team by 4:5 in the team event, while the Chinese women's team also lost to the south Korean team by 1:3 for the first time since 1973.

Commenting on this defeat, Xu Yingsheng, the deputy chief of China sport delegation, and a former China pingpong representative, said, "In the past few years, China's team has been short of creative skills. This impressive defeat shows the closeness of China to the other Asian powers. It's high time the Chinese table tennis team had a shake-up."

On the golf course, 16-year-old Filipino Ramon Brobio defeated the South Korean veteran Kim Ki-Sup, winning the first gold for the Philippine team.

China, Japan and South Korea were dominating the shooting range when, in the last few days, the Thai team snatched two of the gold medals when no one was looking as it were, gaining Thailand's second golds, the first having been won over 10 years ago. Thai State Olympic Committee secretary-general Charouck Arirachakaran said the Thai Government does take sports seriously and has invited several foreign coaches to instruct its athletes in badminton, gymnastics, volleyball and table tennis.

At the grass hockey field, the world hockey king Pakistan defeated India but lost to South Korea by 1-2 for the first time in 20 years.

On the track, India's "flying woman" P.T. Usha was true to her reputation and won the women's 200-metre race, only 0.03 second faster than her challenger, Philippines' Lydia de Vegaa.

Compared with previous records, a big advance was noted this time. At the first Asian Games in 1951, the winning men's 400-metre sprinter covered the distance in 50.07 seconds, in 46.65
In the high jump, the men's high jumper cleared the bar at 1.93 metres at the first Asian Games. At the last Asian Games four years ago, China's Zhu Jianghua raised the record to 2.33 metres. Two years ago, Zhu improved his record twice at world tournaments, jumping about 40 centimetres higher than the first Asian record.

This Asian Games is considered but a prelude to the 24th Olympiad, which will be held in Seoul in 1988.

Friendship & Expectations

The seven-member Maldivian delegation is the smallest delegation. They competed only in table tennis. Though they lost all their six matches, their delegation leader Umniya Moosa noted, "Yes, we lost the games, but we have gained in confidence, experience and friendship."

Madame Moosa is the former national table tennis champion of the Maldives, and the only woman delegation chief. She said that table tennis is very popular among the 170,000 people of this Indian Ocean island.

Many of the delegation leaders said they came to Seoul to promote their sports as well as their friendship with other countries.

Omani delegation leader Muhammad Mubarak told Chinese reporters that sports is an important element to world peace. Oman is a peace-loving country, it hopes to establish friendly relations with all other people.

Assistant to Qatari delegation chief Chusan Aaleyan said that through these games Asia could show the world its new outlook and its international importance. To prepare for the 10th Asian games, Qatari athletes had some intensive training abroad. Its sprinter Talal Mansoor won the men's 100-metre in 10.30 seconds, the first gold medal for Qatar.

Because of the absence of some Asian countries from the games, they could not give a complete picture of Asian sports. Still, the fact remains that Asian sports are still a far cry from world-class and only South Korea broke a world record this time in archery. At the 23rd Olympic Games in 1984, only four Asian countries won gold medals. That in the track and field and swimming events, the Asian medal total was nil does not do credit to the biggest continent in area and population. China's delegation chief Yuan Weimin said, "Every Asian athlete should be aware of his or her own responsibility to push Asian sports up to world level." It is hoped that further progress will be made at the 11th Asian games when it is held in Beijing in 1990.
Press Communique on Jaruzelski’s Visit to China

At the invitation of the Chinese government, Wojciech Jaruzelski, first Secretary of the Central Committee of the Polish United People’s Workers’ Party and Chairman of the State Council of the Polish Republic, paid a working visit to China from September 28 to 30, 1986.

During his visit, W. Jaruzelski met Hu Yaobang, General Secretary of the Central Committee of the Chinese Communist Party, Deng Xiaoping, Chairman of the Central Advisory Commission of the Chinese Communist Party, Li Xiannian, President of the People’s Republic of China, and Premier Zhao Ziyang. The meetings proceeded in an atmosphere of sincerity, mutual respect and mutual understanding.

Chinese and Polish leaders expressed their satisfaction with the friendly co-operation between their two countries based on mutual respect, equality and mutual benefit, and with the smooth development of friendly relations over recent years in particular. Both sides spoke highly of the two countries’ political dialogue and believed such dialogue should continue.

The two sides attached great importance to the ties established between the National People’s Congress of the People’s Republic of China and the Parliament of the Polish People’s Republic and agreed that relations between the two countries’ social and political organizations, particularly between the Chinese People’s Political Consultative Conference and the Patriotic Movement for National Rebirth of the Polish People’s Republic and between the trade unions, friendly associations, women’s and youth organizations, should be strengthened to help increase the traditional friendship and mutual understanding between their peoples.

The two sides also expressed satisfaction with the rapid growth of bilateral economic, trade, scientific and technological relations, attributing much to the contributions made by the respective Economic, Trade, Scientific and Technological Co-operation Commissions of the two governments in fostering co-operation in these fields and determining the future direction of co-operation.

They stressed the necessity of developing new and more effective means of co-operation, including co-operation in production and in joint ventures.

They decided to strengthen the two countries’ contacts in the fields of culture, art, science, education, public health and sports, and between press institutions, and to extend co-operation in these fields. They stressed that there were good prospects for the two countries to increase co-operation in other various areas, too.

During Comrade W. Jaruzelski’s visit, the two sides signed an agreement on co-operation in culture and science. Jaruzelski and Zhao Ziyang attended the signing ceremony.

Chinese and Polish leaders exchanged views on a wide range of international issues, deeming it most urgent for all nations to stop the arms race and preserve world peace. They also believed that all countries, despite their unequal sizes and strengths, could and should contribute to world peace. Both sides said that international relations should be based on peaceful coexistence, without the use of arms or the threat of force and conflicts and tensions in various regions should be settled as far as possible by peaceful means. They expressed their appreciation of and support for the role of the non-aligned movement in striving to eliminate the danger of war, create a new international economic order and find a fair solution to the debt problems. They also praised the achievements of the recent Harare summit of non-aligned countries.

The Chinese and Polish leaders also briefed each other on the social and economic situations in their own countries, and had an indepth exchange of experiences in socialist construction, especially on economic restructuring.

The Chinese side highly appraised the achievements of the Polish people in recent years in overcoming difficulties, stabilizing the social and political situation, restoring and developing the national economy and carrying out economic reforms.

The Polish side paid high tribute to the Chinese people’s achievements in socialist construction and expressed its appreciation of their successes in the implementation of the modernization programme and development plan. On the eve of the 37th anniversary of the founding of the People’s Republic of China, Comrade W. Jaruzelski expressed his best wishes to China’s top leaders, Chinese Communists and the Chinese people for the successes of China’s socialist construction.

W. Jaruzelski invited Hu Yaobang, Zhao Ziyang and Li Xiannian to visit Poland. The invitations were accepted with pleasure.

The Chinese leaders invited W. Jaruzelski to come to China again for an official visit at a time convenient to him. Zhao Ziyang also asked him to convey an invitation to Zbigniew Messner, chairman of the Council of Ministers of Poland, to visit China. These invitations were both accepted with pleasure.

The Polish side expressed its appreciation and gratitude for the hospitality extended to them by the leaders of the PRC and the Chinese people.
Professor Fei’s Ideas for Political Reform

“HUASHENG BAO”
(Voice of Overseas Chinese)

Fei Xiaotong, a well-known Chinese sociologist, recently stated that an important place should be given to people’s supervision in China’s political life to supplement the leadership of the Communist Party of China. This was the key to reforming China’s political structure, he stressed.

“China needs to work out measures, including legal guarantees, to protect people who exercise their right of supervision, not least the press, which must be given the right to play a full supervisory role. Moreover, the people’s congresses and the people’s political consultative conferences must be given a full role,” Fei said.

On the people’s congresses, Fei stated that a delegate should speak on behalf of his constituency, and the people’s congress should have the right to impeach or address inquiries to government officials, which was the very least right of a people’s congress. He lamented: “It is very easy to be an official in China today, and there are too many of them. Many are not held responsible for their mistakes, even when heavy losses of millions of yuan are involved.”

The crucial point is to raise people’s political consciousness, Fei pointed out, because China’s superstructure was based on the former small-scale farmer economy. For a farmer to become a worker, he must cast off his farmer consciousness—without that there is little hope of reforming the superstructure. The farmer’s idea of good politics does not go beyond having a fine emperor and honest and upright officials. This is not modern thinking and with it we cannot even begin to talk about people’s supervision.

Taking an optimistic view of the future course of Chinese democratization, Fei Xiaotong said: “A start has been made to the work of changing farmers into workers with the development of village-run or town-run enterprises. In the last five years, more than 60 million farmers have become workers.”

Beijing: From Industry to Services

“BEIJING RIBAO”
(Beijing Daily)

The future of Beijing lies in its service industries. So it is essential for the city to shift its future emphasis from industry to the service trades. Although Beijing had a long history as the political and cultural centre of numerous dynasties, it was always dependent on the rest of the country to feed its population because of backwardness in developing a commodity economy in feudal society. In order to maintain their state apparatus and extravagant life style, the feudal ruling classes extorted money, grain and building materials from the whole country.

As a result, Beijing became a consumer city, without modern industry to speak of. Only after 1949 have the city’s various industries developed.

It is estimated that 90 percent of the city’s revenues came from its industries, mostly from the iron, steel and petrochemical industries in the late 1970s. But judging from the problems which have cropped up in recent years, such as pollution, water shortage and undesired urban expansion, it would be unwise for Beijing to expand its heavy industry any further. Instead, the city needs to develop its textiles, electronics and printing industries—and its service industries in particular.

This is because modern technology has enabled both industry and agriculture to raise their productivity, creating a surplus labour force. These people can be employed in the service trades. Socialized production calls for all manner of specialized service companies and rental firms. The country’s growing market-oriented economy, with its new economic relations between consumers and producers, will inevitably promote the service trades.

The service industry occupies an important place in the overall national economy of most economically developed countries. In some better-off countries, 65 percent of the gross national product (GNP) comes from the service industry, and people in the professions make up about 70 percent of the employed popul-
Yet in Beijing, only 34 percent of the working population are in the service trades, and their contribution to the city’s gross product is only 27 percent. People have difficulty eating out, finding a tailor, getting a hair cut, taking the bus and making telephone calls. In the next 15 years or so, the proportion of the city’s working population in the service trades must increase to 50 percent.

As the nation’s capital and the centre of political and cultural activities, Beijing is a magnet for the Chinese as well as for people from the rest of the world. It is estimated that there are more than 1 million non-residents in Beijing on any single day. This influx has created a need to develop the city’s commercial facilities, hotels, offices, transport and telecommunications facilities, banks, etc. Beijing is also known for its numerous historical sites and places of interest both in the city itself and out in the suburbs. Therefore tourism should have a high priority in developing the city’s service industry. Beijing has roughly one-fifth of the nation’s scientific and technological staff working at various scientific research institutes and institutions of higher learning in the capital. This rich human resource, if properly utilized, could benefit the city substantially. But to use it, Beijing needs to set up more “intelligence-intensive” industries and information centres. These neither pollute the environment nor require much investment.

Beijing is fully capable of making the needed changes—to update many of its existing service facilities in preparation for the many more visitors that will surely come from all corners of the globe.

Because of lingering feudal ideas, people do not want to give away their bodies, even at a high price. It is very gratifying that some state and Party leaders and scientists have set an example by donating their remains. But things are going too slowly to keep pace with world developments in this field.

Urgent measures are needed to strengthen work in this field. For example, the Chinese Academy of Science, the Academy of Social Sciences, the Ministry of Public Health and other departments concerned should organize an advisory committee for a “life bank,” establish a centre for the operation of such a bank, form “life science research institutes” and distribute publicity materials. They should also draft regulations for a “life bank,” fix a legal definition of brain death, train qualified technicians and raise the technical level of clinical practice. Courses in life science should be opened at medical colleges and in universities.

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**Needed: a ‘Life Bank’**

“**GONGREN RIBAO**

(Workers’ Daily)

On March 3, 1982, Beijing Ribao (Beijing Daily) reported that forty-eight deputies to the Beijing Municipal People’s Congress had decided to donate their bodies to the state after death for medical use. One year later, 24 Party and state leaders, scientists and social activists jointly initiated a “Give-Your-Body-to-Medical-Science” campaign. The article was carried by Renmin Ribao (People’s Daily). Some workers in medicine and other fields have also set a good example in this respect.

It is necessary to encourage the transplantation of organs in the study of ways to prolong life. However, it is not easy to establish organ banks.

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Hear nothing, see nothing, say nothing.
Sino-Soviet Trade Mounts

Trade between China and the USSR has grown since 1984. The 1985 trade volume was 61 percent more than 1984, amounting to US$1.9 billion. China's imports amounted to US$940 million, and exports US$960 million, with a favourable balance of US$20 million.

Since the beginning of 1986 further advances have been achieved. By the end of August, contracts were signed for 96 percent of the US$2 billion worth of trade specified in the bilateral trade agreement for 1986. Excluding price reductions, this is a net increase of 14 percent over 1985.

Imports from the USSR include steel products, timber, aluminium, automobiles, machine tools, forging equipment, refrigerators, refined oil and chemical fibre, while exports cover tungsten and other ores, soybeans, maize, tangerines, apples, meat, canned food, light industrial articles, textiles, handicraft articles and hand tools.

It is said that the Chinese textile industry is willing to accept Soviet designs and the two governments are discussing running Sino-Soviet joint ventures.

Compared with the overall economic status of the two countries, the increase in trade is negligible. The reason for the slow development lies in the difficulty of selling Soviet machinery electrical products and instruments. They are generally not as good as Western products, while their prices are almost on a par with those of the West. The Chinese government has taken measures to encourage imports from the USSR and East European countries and put limits on the use of free foreign exchange for imports of Western goods, but with no significant result.

Yue Haitao

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Beijing Tourist Service Improves

An inspection group led by a vice mayor has started to improve tourist services in Beijing.

The emphasis is on the proficiency of guide-interpreters, the fulfilment of tour plans, prices charged for goods and services, and the services provided by hotels, restaurants, scenic spots and taxis. The inspection group has made public the telephone numbers of departments in charge in case anyone has a complaint. In addition, the system of rewards and penalties for relevant staff has been strengthened.

Song Wencheng, director of the Beijing Travel and Tourism Bureau, said that the current inspection is expected to improve tourist management. At the same time Beijing needs more tourist facilities, he said.

The Civil Aviation Administration of China has bought a number of large passenger planes from abroad. At present, Song said, Beijing has 68 hotels, with 17,000 rooms servicing foreign tourists (including tourists from Hong Kong and Macao). Of these, 8,000 are permanently taken up by foreign firms. During the tourist high-seasons, all the remaining rooms are occupied. Song said a number of low and medium-grade hotels are under construction. By 1990, there will be 40,000 hotel rooms exclusively for foreign

Chinese and foreign guests praise the Great Wall Hotel in Beijing for its good service.

CHEN ZONGJI

OCTOBER 13, 1986
tourists, plus apartment houses and office buildings with 4,000 suites.

Beijing received 0.93 million foreign tourists in 1985, a five-fold increase over 1978, and an increase of 15 percent between January and July of 1986 over the same period in 1985. The 1985 income from tourism amounted to US$330 million, 8.3 times up over 1978, and a 40 percent increase has been registered from January to July, 1986, over the same period last year.

Linyi Cries Out For Development

The completion of the Yanzhou-Shijiu Port railway and the Shijiu Port has greatly improved the climate for investment in Linyi Prefecture in southern Shandong Province.

Linyi has a population of 10.84 million. It covers 21,600 square kilometres and abounds in building materials: granite, marble, limestone and gypsum. The deposits of limestone, used for cement, come to 700 million tons, with 320 million tons already determined. Marble deposits are estimated at 4.78 million cubic metres, granite at 2.1 billion cubic metres, gypsum at 4 billion tons with 300 million tons determined, river sand at 800 million tons, and diamond deposits at 10.37 million carats.

The Shandong provincial government has decided to turn Linyi into the largest building materials base in east China. Joint development projects are under discussion with Italian and French firms. Four specialists from Britain have been working for six months locating diamond deposits.

Linyi also ranks among the nation’s largest peanut producers, and its fruit yields accounted for 350,000 tons in 1985. These included apples, pears, haws and chestnuts. Since 1984, the local government has encouraged rabbits breeding for the meat and fur. In 1985, Linyi produced 880 tons of rabbit wool. An official in the prefectural government said Linyi welcomes co-operation in funds and technology with foreign firms for quick development of its building material and food processing industries.

Embroidery Enjoys Growing Sales

The Wuxian Embroidery Centre has increased its exports in recent years; from US$4 million in 1984 to US$5.6 million in 1985, and the 1986 figure is expected to reach US$6 million.

Wuxian products are sold to 27 countries and regions, with Japan as the biggest buyer accounting for 70 percent of the total exports. At the top of the export list are embroidered kimonos and waistbands. Momoe Yamaguchi, the Japanese film star, ordered her wedding gown from Wuxian. Twenty percent of the embroideries consisting chiefly of everyday articles go to the European and American markets, the remaining 10 percent are exported to Southeast Asia and the Middle East.

The Wuxian Embroidery Centre produces pillow cases, cushions, scarves, capes, handkerchiefs and neckties; underwear, children’s clothes, bathrobes, pyjamas, women’s slit-skirt dresses and stage costumes; drawn works and tablecloths of twisted colour threads; pearl-embroidered clothings; and single- and double-sided embroideries.

Sun Zhongfang, director of the embroidery centre, told Beijing Review that his factory’s products, known as Suzhou embroidery, found a ready market in the USSR and East European countries during the 1950s. Following the recent increase in trade between China and these countries, he hoped Suzhou embroidery would regain its market. The factory is preparing to update its equipment and technology with a view to expand for its markets in Europe and America.

The 2,000-year-old Suzhou embroidery originated in Wuxian County and is one of the four most famous embroidery schools in China, the other three being Hunan, Sichuan and Guangdong. The Wuxian Embroidery Centre has 60 designers and 410 managerial personnel who oversee the work of 100,000 part-time workers at 70 processing centres.

Yue Haitao
Traditional Chinese Painting by Shen Guangwei

Born in Weifang, Shandong in 1950, Shen Guangwei is now working at the Weifang Popular Art Centre. Noted for his free style, he is good at painting flowers, birds, palm trees and grape vines.
Canna soap, produced by the Tianjin Perfumed Soap Factory, was awarded the "High-Quality Product" title by the Ministry of Light Industry in 1979. With a lustrous aroma the soap comes in various colours such as blue, green and rose. Canna soap will keep your skin fresh for hours.

The Tianjin Perfumed Soap Factory also produces Panda brand Sandalwood Soap, Plum Blossom Sandalwood Soap, Hundred-Flower and Canna Tourist Soaps.

Orders and enquires are welcome.

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