Our Differences With the Dalai Lama

TIBET OPENS UP TO THE WORLD
Husband taking good care of his wife and son.

Sheltering in my mother's raincoat.

Cradle in the rain. Photos by Tong Shizeng
HIGHLIGHTS OF THE WEEK

Policies Towards Dalai Lama
- Due to distorted imperialist and colonialist propaganda over a long time and the separatist activities of the Dalai Lama in recent years, there has been much misunderstanding in the West about Tibet and its relationship with the rest of China. Senior officials of the State Nationalities Commission discuss differences with and government policies towards the Dalai Lama (p. 14).
- On his inspection tour to Qinghai Province, Bainqen Erdini Goiyi Gyaincain (the Panchen Lama) condemned the Lhasa riot on October 1, and said the few Lamas taking part in the riot by no means represent the majority of living Buddhas and Lamas (p. 5).

Tibet Opens to the Outside World
- The haven of peace on the Roof of the World has finally flung open its doors. This is the first instalment of notes by our correspondent on Tibet’s expanding tourism, trade and cultural exchanges with other countries (p. 16).

Reform Spurs Economic Development
- In the eight years since China began to reform its economy, the country has speeded up the pace of economic growth, increasing its social productivity, and improving its living standards all around (p. 21).

Acid Rain Harms Forests
- Acid rain has caused considerable damage to forests in southwest China, especially Sichuan Province. China makes desulphurization equipment, but the high cost of the equipment has deterred people from using it (p. 7).
Helping Tibet Train Its People

by Dai Yannian

About 4,000 pupils from Tibet are studying in over 20 middle schools in inland cities. Their number is set to increase in the future. This education is part of efforts by the rest of China to aid Tibet’s development.

At a conference in September in Beijing, the State Council highly appreciated this work and formulated plans to help Tibet train more personnel.

Tibet’s economic and cultural development is slow due to its geography, and social and historical background. The state has been aiding Tibet since its peaceful liberation in 1951. Since the “cultural revolution” (1966-76), Tibet has pursued a realistic and flexible policy.

In 1984, the State Council called a conference to discuss the region’s economic development. It was decided that China’s more developed provinces and cities should help Tibet build 43 projects in energy, communications, municipal works, tourism, commerce, culture, education and health. These projects have been completed and are operating.

Such economic and cultural aid is, without doubt, important to Tibet’s construction. But it is the Tibetan people themselves who are the decisive factor in boosting the region’s development. The projects built with aid from the state and various provinces and cities have to be managed mainly by local people. Without appropriate cultural and scientific knowledge it will be impossible for Tibetans to assimilate and develop any new technology introduced from outside. Therefore stress is being laid on aiding Tibet intellectually. In a sense, this will be even more significant than economic aid.

Helping Tibet intellectually includes sending teachers, scientists and technicians from the more developed areas to work in the region, and more importantly, helping Tibet train its own people.

In recent years, the central government has done a great deal to help Tibet’s economic and cultural development. The work of giving intellectual support to Tibet should allow more Tibetans to achieve their potential and help create a new, prosperous Tibet.

This is done by sending outside teachers to help develop Tibet’s education and enrolling Tibetan students into inland schools.

In the 1950s, Tibet began sending children to study at the Central Institute for Nationalities in Beijing. Many leading Tibetan cadres and professionals have experienced campus life here. In 1985, middle schools outside Tibet began to set up Tibetan classes, while some middle schools are run specially for Tibetan pupils. The children were chosen through examination from among the primary school graduates who applied in their own autonomous region.

The government of the Tibet Autonomous Region is responsible for assigning Tibetan-language teachers to these schools. The pupils, who are 11-14 years old, have first to complete the one-year preparatory course, and after graduating from the three-year junior middle school, most of them enter secondary technical schools or secondary vocational schools in the locality, a small number go to senior middle schools or universities. All of them are required to return to work in Tibet after graduation.

Only the better schools outside Tibet are chosen to train Tibetan students. Central and local governments have allocated funds to these schools to build more teaching and living facilities. The state is responsible for the tuition and living expense of the students.

The educational level of the Tibetan students at first is far lower than their counterparts from other areas, but after the preparatory course and in the middle schools, they catch up, leaving their Tibetan friends at home behind. Some have become the best nationwide. Tibetans at all levels of society rejoice at the admission of their children to outside schools.

Although an education system which ranges from primary schools to institutes of higher education has been established in Tibet, in general teaching quality needs improvement. Some schools in developed areas are assigned to help develop Tibet’s schools. For example, Tibet University, Agricultural College and Institute for Nationalities are being run with the help of the Beijing Institute of Economics and nine other institutes of higher education; the secondary school of agriculture and animal husbandry, the secondary school of finance, the school of arts and six other secondary technical schools in Tibet are aided by universities and colleges affiliated to ministries and commissions under the State Council. Seven provinces and cities including Hunan and Tianjin are responsible for helping regular secondary schools in Lhasa, Xigaze, Nagari, Qamdo.
and three other areas in the Tibet Autonomous Region.

The aid involves sending outstanding teachers to teach in Tibet, to help the region train teachers and school managerial personnel and to give technical guidance to local school laboratory construction. Liaoning Province, Tianjin and three other provinces and cities help train a number of teachers for Tibet each year. The state assigns a number of graduates and postgraduates from teacher-training institutions to Tibet each year. They can be transferred back to other areas after eight years of service in Tibet.

A major task for schools in Tibet is to inherit and carry forward the fine traditions of Tibet in accordance with the Chinese government's policies of equality, unity, mutual help and common prosperity for all ethnic groups. These schools emphasize Tibetan history and culture in their syllabus. Institutes of higher learning and secondary technical schools aim to train senior and middle-level professionals. The best should master advanced science, technology and culture, as well as Tibetan culture such as Tibetan language, literature, philosophy, history, arts, medicine and astronomy.

Tibetan schools mainly teach the Tibetan language and at the same time help students get a basic grounding in Mandarin so that middle school graduates can cope with demands of living in modern Tibet. At the secondary technical school and higher education stages, the students continue to raise their Tibetan and Mandarin skills. Where conditions permit, students can learn a foreign language to help them gain access to modern science and technology.

The work of giving intellectual support to Tibet should allow more Tibetans to achieve their potential and help create a new, prosperous autonomous region.

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**China Rejects US Senate Move**

The Chinese government has expressed its strong indignation and protest over a United States Senate resolution on the so-called "Tibetan question" which openly urges the US administration to meddle in Tibetan affairs.

A Foreign Ministry spokeswoman said the October 6 resolution, which "confounds black and white and confuses right and wrong," is another serious incident engineered by a small number of people in the US Congress.

The spokeswoman told reporters at the weekly news briefing on October 7 that Tibet is an inalienable part of Chinese territory. The affairs of Tibet are entirely China's internal affairs in which no other country or people has the right to interfere.

"We strongly demand that the US Congress immediately stop all its interference in China's internal affairs in the overall interests of safeguarding the friendly relations between the two countries," she said.

The Senate approved a resolution condemning "human rights violations" in Tibet by the People's Republic of China. The resolution came after disturbances in the Tibetan capital of Lhasa on September 27 and October 1 in which six people were killed and 19 others injured during demonstrations demanding an "independent Tibet."

The resolution said the United States "should make the treatment of the Tibetan people an important factor" in its conduct of relations with China, and even urged President Ronald Reagan to meet the Dalai Lama to express US support for him.

It urged the US ambassadors to China and India to "work closely with the Tibetan people to find areas in which the United States government and people can be helpful."

In reply to questions about foreigners' involvement in the recent demonstration in Lhasa, the spokeswoman said a very small number of foreigners took part in the riot aimed at undermining the unity of China and all its nationalities. No foreigner has been arrested, she said.

"We will never permit any foreigners to interfere in China's internal affairs and pursue in China unlawful activities or any other activities incompatible with their status," she added.

On October 8 the Foreign Affairs Commission of the National People's Congress of China issued a statement which said a handful of people in the US Congress have, on several occasions over a period of time, interfered in China's internal affairs and badly hurt the feelings of the Chinese people. This has become a negative factor detrimental to the further development of Sino-US relations.

The statement demanded that the US Congress stop such activities and make sure they would never happen again.

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**Panchen Lama Condemns Riot**

Bainqen Erdini Qoigyi Gyaingtse (the Panchen Lama) has sternly denounced the handful of splittists for staging the October 1 riot in Lhasa, saying that it is a criminal act designed to undermine the unification of China and the country's political situation, which is characterized by stability and unity.

"The principal culprits must be severely punished according to law, and manipulators behind the scenes should be uncovered," he said on October 8.

The Panchen Lama, vice-chairman of the Standing Committee of the National People's Congress, made the remarks at a meeting called by the Standing
Committee of the Qinghai Provincial People’s Congress to welcome him on his inspection tour of Qinghai.

“In engineering the riot in Lhasa, the splittist clique abroad has two sinister aims in mind,” he said. One is to echo and coordinate their splittist activities abroad in an attempt to show to the world that there are people inside China supporting them, and the other, to tempt the Party and government to abandon their policies on religious freedom, which have won strong support from the masses of Tibetan people, and oppose religious believers to the government.

“The few lamas taking part in the riot can by no means represent the majority of living Buddhas and lamas, who oppose the incident and safeguard the unification of the country and unity of all Chinese nationalities.” he said. He added that the splittists were isolated and everything in Lhasa is returning to order as the central and regional authorities have dealt with the incident firmly and properly.

He said, “I am very glad to see that the Tibetan people, including well-known religious leaders, have unanimously condemned the riot. This shows that the majority of Tibetans are opposed to splittism and want to safeguard the integrity of the motherland and its stability and unity.”

The Panchen Lama said Tibet is an inalienable part of China’s territory. “No one can alter this fact for it conforms to the fundamental and long-term interests of the Tibetan people.”

He urged religious people in Tibet to distinguish between right and wrong and base their religious activities on patriotism.

“I have since 1980 visited all areas inhabited by Tibetans in the country except three prefectures— Ngari in Tibet and Yushu and Golog in Qinghai. I myself have seen everywhere that the Party’s policies on religion and nationalities affairs have been well and correctly implemented since 1978. The wrongs resulting from the ‘cultural revolution’ have been redressed; the Tibetan culture and customs respected; and the economy and education developed in the Tibetan areas. Tibetans enjoy an ease of mind and show warm support for the policies. In such a situation, any riot incited by the splittist clique abroad with the support of imperialists and reactionaries is bound to be unpopular and doomed to failure,” he said.

Great Changes Seen in Tibet

People who left Tibet in 1959 will find on their return all the major monasteries under state protection, all the roads in Lhasa paved with asphalt, the face of the capital transformed by huge new projects, and residential districts clean and pleasing.

“Earthshaking” is the word often used by Tibetans who have returned in recent years to describe the changes in Tibet. When they left nearly 30 years ago, there was not a single street worthy of the name in Lhasa. But these changes are only superficial. More profound changes have taken place in the social, economic and cultural life of the Tibetans.

Even up to the 1970s, Tibetan peasants still let yaks do the threshing with their hoofs. Now modern farm implements and tools can be seen everywhere in the countryside. In 1980, the autonomous region’s 225,300 hectares of cultivated land yielded 500,000 tons of grain—2.2 times the 1952 level.

Despite the adverse weather conditions which befell the world’s highest plateau last year, Tibetans were still able to harvest 450,000 tons of grain and 23.2 million jin (11.6 million kg) of rapeseed. The region also boasted 22.58 million head of livestock on its 800 million hectares of grassland.

Tourism, a key sector of Tibet’s economy, has been thriving. The number of foreign tourists in 1985 was 10 times the 1984 figure, and 1986 saw the 1985 figure double to 30,000. Tibet earned 29 million yuan (US$7.8 million) from foreign tourists last year. Tourism has also stimulated the development of the service sector. The region has seven tourist com-
Acid Rain Harms Southwest Forests

A study team of scientists has found that acid rain has caused extensive damage to forests in southwest China, especially Sichuan Province.

The Maocaoba pine forest, located in Sichuan’s Fengjie County, used to cover a 6,000-hectare mountain area. Now, 90 percent of the trees have died. On Nanshan Hill in Chongqing, Sichuan, the biggest city in southwest China, a 1,800-hectare forest of dense masson pine has been reduced almost by half.

Scientists believe acid rain has killed the trees in these areas. A rich sulphur mine is located within the Maocaoba forest and sulphur processing plants have been set up by the county, villages and even individuals. Because of poor management, backward technology and poor equipment at the plants, a lot of sulphur dioxide is emitted during the processing, causing acid rain. No living grass can be seen for about one square kilometre around the plants. In Chongqing, a combination of acid rain and acid fog is thought to account for the decline of the forest.

Generally, rainfall containing a pH value of less than 5.6 is called acid rain. The lower the pH number, the higher the acid composition. Acid rain does not only harm plants; it also affects humans, as well as buildings and vehicles.

According to Chen Zhiyuan, an engineer working for the China National Environmental Protection Agency, Chongqing and Guiyang, the capital of Guizhou Province, are the main acid rain areas in China. The acid composition of rain in these areas is sometimes as high as in some European countries and the northeastern United States. A survey showed that the annual average pH value in the Chongqing-Guiyang area is 4 in...
the worst places and 4.5 in the suburbs and surrounding countryside. In Sichuan and Guizhou provinces, most of the annual precipitation is acid rain. Other acid rain areas include the Guangxi Autonomous Region, Zhejiang and Hunan provinces and Shanghai, all in the south of China, Chen said.

Acid rain is generally thought to be closely related to industrialization. In China, it is also related to poor-quality fuel, topography and weather, Chen said. Acid rain is easily formed in basin and valley areas where there is little wind. and Sichuan is typical of this kind of topography. In both Sichuan and Guizhou, the sulphur content of coal—China's main fuel—is higher than in other regions. "No wonder these areas have acid rain," he said.

Chen said a major difference between China's acid rain and that in the northeastern United States is that the latter moves across a wide area. "The US's acid rain has always crossed the US-Canadian border, bringing about international friction." Canada has its own acid rain, which moves down to the United States, but in most cases, it is US acid rain that moves up to Canada, because the south wind blows more frequently than the north wind, he said.

In China, the acid rain areas are less windy, so rain is rarely "exported" to other regions. Complaints by some Japanese that acid rain in Japan came from China are ridiculous, Chen said. "It is true that there is wind blowing from west to east, but it is a high-altitude wind and such wind generally has lower acid content. Besides the wind is from north China where there is no acid rain," he said. "The acid rain in China is locally formed and it falls locally."

Acid rain is not a new problem and it is getting more serious as China gradually becomes industrialized. "We have done something to control the problem, but not enough. Greater effort is needed; otherwise we may catch up to other acid rain countries. That is not the kind of catching up we want," he said. In an attempt to control acid rain by legal means, China's National People's Congress passed the country's first air pollution prevention law on September 5. China makes desulphurization equipment, but the high cost of the equipment has deferred people from using it. "People have to realize that acid rain will cost them more than the equipment," he said. The Chongqing authorities have understood this and are going to urge enterprises to install desulphurization equipment. Chen added.

by Li Haibo

School Dropouts
A Major Problem

Dropping out of school has become a serious problem in China as an increasing number of educated people are needed to build a modernized country.

An investigation showed that about 685 or 3.14 percent of the students in 33 middle schools in the Hedong District of Tianjin dropped out in 1985. The dropout rate in Beijing, China's political and cultural centre, is among the lowest in the country—about 1.2 percent in 1984, and 0.9 percent in 1985. Dropouts are chiefly students in their second and third years of junior middle school. The dropout rate in urban areas is much lower than in the countryside.

The reasons why students drop out are many-sided and complicated, said Li Taijun, director of the Shabaizhuang Middle School in Beijing and Tian Guoyu, headmaster of the Beijing No. 20 Middle School.

Because of China's single-track education system, most schools are inclined to concentrate on students who will go on to further education instead of developing students' special skills, Tian said. Since the final goal of students is to enter college or university, there is sharp competition for the limited number of college and university places. Students are put under great psychological pressure which adversely influences their studies. Those who lose confidence in themselves fall far behind, he added.

In China, schools and classes are divided into key ones and ordinary ones. The best students enter the key schools and the ordinary schools are left with the rest. Some poorer students cheat on the entrance examinations. Director Li noted. His school checked new students this term and found that some who scored marks of more than 180 on their entrance examination only got 120-140 on a re-test. The textbooks used in middle school are beyond these unqualified students' depth. Some who cannot catch up are unwilling to study any longer, he said.

Students in ordinary schools or backward classes feel looked down upon by their families and society. They lose their self-esteem and their desire for improvement, and may give themselves up as hopeless and fool around instead of doing their lessons. They start to cut classes and eventually drop out. Tian explained.

Another important factor leading students to drop out is the idea that studying is useless and only money is important, both Li and Tian agreed. Junior middle school students know little about society and their thinking is shallow. They are easily influenced by the unhealthy tendency in society to worship money. Every day they see and hear how much money private business people earn and they are attracted to that life.

"A teacher earns only about a hundred yuan a month, but I can
get more than a hundred yuan a day from selling tomatoes,” one student said. Many parents, especially uneducated ones in the countryside, only consider their immediate interests. They allow their sons or daughters to drop out to earn money, Li said.

Some people even come out and say that money should be worshipped instead of knowledge. “What is knowledge worth?” they ask. Li thought this is the result of China’s long-time discrimination against knowledge and intellectuals.

“Since knowledge hasn’t gained the respect it deserves, students are unclear in their goals and attitudes towards their studies. And their parents have not realized that it is important for them to urge their children to study hard,” Li said.

Also, because the situation of intellectuals remains somewhat difficult, those without knowledge do not feel ashamed of themselves and imbued with a desire to study.

Finally, both schools and parents contribute to the dropout rate. Teachers concentrate on instructing them, leading students to run away from school and home.

What do the dropouts do? Some take temporary jobs. Some follow their parents into business or sideline production. Some even make trouble in society and go astray, Li and Tian noted.

Since China passed its compulsory education law last year and all middle schools improved their educational methods, the dropout rate has declined. But the problem is still serious in some rural middle schools and has yet to be solved fundamentally. Only when society’s attitude to knowledge changes, and people of knowledge and talent are respected not only in words but in deeds, will students want to obtain knowledge and pay more attention to their education.

Weekly Chronicle
(October 5-11)

POLITICAL
October 5

- The Chinese air force shoots down a Vietnamese MIG-21 jet fighter after it twice intruded into China’s territorial air space over Longzhou Prefecture.

- Wang Yingfan, deputy director of the Department of Asian Affairs of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, makes representations to Nguyen Minh Phuong, the Vietnamese ambassador to China, about the brazen intrusion, pointing out that it was a serious provocation to China.

October 6

- Chinese Premier Zhao Ziyang tells Yang Hyong Sop, visiting chairman of the Korean Supreme People’s Assembly Standing Committee, that China’s political reform will be carried out under two guiding principles: It must be instrumental to China’s stability and unity, and proceed step by step under the leadership of the Party; and it must go in the direction of separating the functions of the Party from those of the government.

ECONOMIC
October 7

- China and the United Nations Development Programme choose a few underdeveloped counties in China for an experiment to lift them out of poverty. Dushan County in Guizhou Province will be the first to receive the aid. About US$400,000 will be used to develop its cattle and sheep pastures, 270 hectares of sesame fields, a pine-needle powder plant and a big farm.

CULTURAL
October 6

- China’s new national library building opens to public. Located in Beijing’s western suburbs, the new library covers 140,000 square metres of floor space and has 33 reading rooms offering 3,000 seats.

The National Library of China, also known as the Beijing Library, was founded in April 1909.

SOCIAL
October 5

- Chung Chun-shen, 29, a news reporter from Taiwan’s Ren Chian magazine, arrived in Beijing from Tokyo on October 3 to see the sights and trace his family roots on the mainland.

Chung, the third Taiwanese reporter to visit the mainland in recent weeks, said he came at his own expense.

FOREIGN RELATIONS
October 9

- A Chinese Foreign Ministry spokesman says it is natural for the Foreign Affairs Office of Tibet to require a small number of foreign correspondents resident in Beijing to leave Tibet because they failed to go through the procedures for news coverage in Tibet, violating the Chinese government’s regulations.

He says this is by no means a restriction on the free communication of information as a US State Department spokesman described, and the United States had no right to draw that conclusion.

October 11

- At the state banquet in honour of the visiting Janos Kadar, general secretary of the Hungarian Socialist Workers’ Party, Zhao Ziyang, acting general secretary of the Chinese Communist Party, says China treasures Sino-Hungarian relations and believes that mutual ties will not only benefit reform and socialist construction in both nations but also help maintain world peace. The Chinese government intends to further promote friendly and co-operative relations with Hungary.

Kadar is visiting China from October 10-14 at the invitation of Zhao.
WORLD BANK-IMF

Difficult Tasks Lie Ahead

The recent annual meetings of the World Bank and the International Monetary Fund helped the major industrial countries co-ordinate their economic policies. But the world still faces many financial problems.

The World Bank-International Monetary Fund annual meetings in Washington concluded on October 1 with something to celebrate—a near consensus was reached on the thrust of policies concerning the world economy. IMF Director Michel Camdessus said the talks were "very constructive."

Finance ministers and central bankers attending the meetings focused their attention on two key issues—economic policy coordination among the major industrial countries and resolving the debt problems of the developing countries.

The two issues are intertwined. The industrial countries, with 18 percent of the world's population, account for 79 percent of the world's gross national product (GNP). Most of the developing countries' exports go to the industrial nations, either as raw materials or semi-manufactured products. Therefore, a recession in the industrial world causes deep hardship in the third world.

The United States, which has a GNP higher than the combined total for Japan, Federal Germany, France, Britain, Italy and Canada, is trying to shrink its budget and trade deficits. That would significantly reduce world demand and would bring a recession if there were no "symmetrical" expansion of other economies. Hence the need for economic policy co-ordination.

Japan and Federal Germany have already revalued their currencies to help reduce their trade surpluses, and have made changes in fiscal and tax policy to boost domestic demand. These are welcome developments to both industrial and developing countries.

The other major issue addressed at the meetings was international debt. The external current account deficit of African countries rose from US$4.2 billion to US$15 billion last year, and external debt servicing claimed more than 35 percent of their export revenue. Brazil and Mexico are each saddled with foreign debts of more than US$100 billion. All of these countries have experienced reduction in investment, GNP growth and living standards, as well as higher inflation and unemployment compared with several years ago.

Costa Rican Finance Minister Fernando Naranjo spoke on behalf of Latin American countries, the Philippines and some Caribbean countries at the opening session of the meetings, calling for new strategies to revitalize the countries' economies so they and other third world countries can repay their mounting debt to developed countries.

Chinese State Councillor and Governor of the People's Bank of China Chen Muhua said China believes the solution to the international debt problem "lies in the economic development of the debtor countries. Debtors, creditors, international financial institutions and commercial banks should bear common responsibilities.

"The practice of servicing debt at the expense of development leads nowhere," she added.

"What is more important right now is to find ways to alleviate the debt burdens on debtor countries with every possible means to at least allow them some breathing space."

She also called on the industrial countries to roll back trade protectionism, particularly measures against export products of...
developing countries, so that "conducive conditions can be created for the latter's export growth and economic development, and the solution to the debt problem."

US Treasury Secretary James Baker made two announcements. First, he said the United States had dropped its opposition to a general capital increase for the World Bank, a move that will pave the way for the bank to increase its annual lending to developing countries to about US$20 billion a year by the 1990s. He also said the United States had agreed to adding price indicators for commodities, including gold, to the indicators used for economic policy co-ordination among major industrial countries.

Japan, which has the second-largest economy in the industrial world, has also taken steps to help resolve international economic problems. It recently sped up the funding of the World Bank's concessionary loan capital by contributing its full share of US$2.15 billion in advance. Subsequently it signed a co-financing package with the World Bank to offer the debt-plagued Philippines US$300 million in long-term, low-interest, untied loans.

France supported the demands by developing countries during the meetings. French Economy Minister Edouard Balladur not only called for interest-rate reductions for the low-income developing countries, but also announced France's intention to contribute its full share of US$500 million to the IMF structural adjustment facility, which assists those countries.

The initiatives and actions by the industrial countries reflect the realization that the international community, especially the developed countries, should move quickly to resolve international economic problems. The developing countries also showed a great sense of responsibility and spirit of co-operation during the meetings. Most third world financial leaders expressed their governments' willingness to carry out policy adjustments and economic structural reforms to make their economies more efficient.

However, some important issues were left unresolved by the meetings. Commercial banks, which have reduced their loans to developing nations to a historical low in the past two years, may not go along with the sentiment of the meetings. The international community will have work hard to convince the banks to increase their financial flows to debtor countries. Interest rates, which have fallen in recent years, have started to rise again in recent weeks, adding to the burden of middle-income heavy debtors. Commodity prices, which have been at the lowest level in half a century during the past two years, have made marginal gains in recent weeks. But the uncertainty about world economic growth makes another downturn in prices likely.

by Zhao Zijian

SOVIET UNION

Arctic Plan Gets Mixed Reception

Mikhail Gorbachev's Arctic proposal to reduce military activities in northern oceans has won acclaim in the West. But it has also aroused some concern.

Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev has announced that the Soviet Union is in favour of drastically reducing the level of military confrontation in the Arctic and North Atlantic areas and turning the Arctic into a peace zone.

Speaking on October 1 in the Soviet port of Murmansk, Gorbachev said that as an initial step, "the Soviet Union proposes consultations between the Warsaw Treaty Organization and the North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO) on the restriction of military activity and scaling down of naval and air force activities in the Baltic, North, Norwegian and Greenland seas and on the spread of confidence-building measures in these areas." He said the Soviet Union is willing to remove submarines equipped with ballistic missiles from the Soviet Baltic fleet. The Soviets have already unilaterally dismantled medium-range missile launchers on the Kola Peninsula near the border of Finland and Norway, as well as a substantial number of such launchers in the Leningrad and Baltic military districts.

Other measures in the six-point programme include:

— The establishment of a nuclear-weapon-free zone in Northern Europe, which the Soviet Union would guarantee;
— International co-operation to develop the north's resources, for example, a single energy programme for all of Northern Europe;
— The holding in 1988 of a conference of countries bordering on the Arctic to co-ordinate scientific exploration in the region;
— A joint plan to protect the environment of the north; and
— The opening to foreign ships of the Soviet northern sea lane, the shortest route from Europe to the Far East, with the Soviet side providing the services of icebreakers. This point is conditional.
on progress in international relations.

The Soviet leader has surprised the West with his new thinking, which seems passive and enjoyed peace and stability since proposals.

times puzzled by the Soviet opinion over the United States, appears to be gaining the upper against compromising the ability comed the idea as "an important nation and concern. Norway, on the end World War II, greeted ihe hand in winning support of world peace campaign, the Soviet Union ("Star Wars" programme) of the region and agreed to the separation of an intermediate-range missile pact from a blanket disarmament package including tactical and strategic weapons and the Strategic Defence Initiative ("Star Wars" programme) of the Reagan administration. In its peace campaign, the Soviet Union appears to be gaining the upper hand in winning support of world opinion over the United States, which seems passive and sometimes puzzled by the Soviet proposals.

Northern Europe, which has enjoyed peace and stability since the end World War II, greeted the Soviet offer with both appreciation and concern. Norway, on NATO's northern flank, welcomed the idea as "an important step forward," while warning against compromising the ability of the 16-nation NATO alliance to keep open North Atlantic shipping lanes vital to Northwestern Europe in time of war or other crisis. In the event of war, NATO would rely on these sea lanes to rush reinforcements of equipment and troops from the United States, Canada and Britain to sparsely populated Northern Europe.

Finnish President Mauno Koivisto said the Soviet proposal is constructive and could have important and far-reaching consequences for security and cooperation in Northern Europe. He said the idea "opens up new prospects" for co-operation in the region. The Finnish government especially appreciated the Soviet support of the idea of turning Northern Europe into a nuclear-weapon-free zone, put forward first by Finland.

A NATO official in Brussels said, "We are all in favour of any confidence-building measures with the Warsaw Pact. If what Gorbachev says is translated into a concrete proposal, we will look at it. But this is a key area for us and we set a priority on being able to reinforce the northern flank in times of crisis. That consideration is paramount."

The United States said it has little interest in the Soviet plan, but that US officials are studying Gorbachev's proposal. "There are consultations going on between the various government agencies," one Washington official said soon after Gorbachev's statement. "We have no reaction for the moment."

US-Soviet rivalry extends into Northern Europe. The Soviet Union has massive military stockpile on the Kola Peninsula, and 65 percent of the Soviet Union's strategic submarines are concentrated at Murmansk, which has become the largest naval base in the world. The United States, to counterbalance the Soviet strength, has also increased its military presence in the region. It is in everyone's interest that the two superpowers reduce their military confrontation not only in Northern Europe but throughout the world.

by She Duanzhi

HUNGARY

Speeding Up Technological Development

Steps taken by Hungary in recent years have enabled the country to carry out a scientific and technological revolution.

Hungary has made great efforts since the 1960s to end its historical backwardness in science and technology. And it has scored great success. But because the world's science and technology has been developing by leaps and bounds, the disparities in scientific and technological development between Hungary and major Western countries have again increased in the 1980s.

Much of Hungary's industrial plant and equipment is already obsolete or outmoded; scientific research institutes are relatively poorly equipped; and the level of technical skills is low. This has seriously affected scientific and technological progress and has hindered economic development.

In light of this situation, the 13th Congress of the Hungarian Socialist Workers' Party, which took place in March 1985, held a special discussion on the question of science and technology. The congress pointed out that speeding up the development of science and technology is essential for the economy, and stressed that the state must vigorously promote progress in this area so as to catch up with advanced world levels as rapidly as possible. A communiqué from the Party Central Committee's full session last December said the state should speed up the development of technology that will enhance competitiveness and facilitate the reform of the productive structure. To effectively promote the development of science and technology, the communiqué said, the government should exert influence on economic management in three ways. The long-term plan for the national economy should define the task of scientific
and technological development and point out a basic direction; the middle-term plan should define priority items; and the government should provide economic incentives to industrial enterprises to raise their technological level.

With the help of economic experts and scientists, the Hungarian government has worked out a middle-term scientific and technological development programme for the Seventh Five-Year Plan period, which began in 1986. The chief aims of the programme are: to research and adopt technologies that can help industries economize and use raw materials and energy efficiently; to develop technologies for making use of waste and recycled materials; to widely adopt electronic and microelectronic technology; and to develop and use bioengineering. The programme's overall goal is to speed up the modernization of profitable technology.

Hungary stresses that scientific research must serve production and complement the development of technology. The country has taken several steps to ensure that this occurs. Besides formulating a middle-term scientific and technological development programme, it has worked out a number of central economic development outlines as well as nine plans for action. The economic development outlines mainly set out tasks for technological development and structural reform in selected departments. The action outlines involve a wide range of activities including developing electronics, microelectronics, automation and remote control technologies; finding ways to economize on energy and raw materials; and use recycled materials; developing bioengineering; and making full use of natural resources.

The government encourages scientific research institutes to make their achievements available to productive enterprises. If an enterprise's profit increases because of a new invention, the enterprise is expected to pay a part of its added profit to the research institute that developed the invention.

The government also contributes financially to scientific research. Scientific and technological development funds account for 3 percent of Hungary's national income every year. In addition, Hungary seeks to strengthen co-operation with other countries as one way to acquire the world's advanced technology.

by Lu Cunshu

BRAZIL

Getting Closer to the Soviet Union

The recent visit to Brazil by the Soviet foreign minister is a result of policy adjustments by both sides. Brazil's open foreign policy was key to the visit.

Brazil greeted a Soviet foreign minister for the first time September 26-30. Brazilian President Jose Sarney and Foreign Minister Roberto de Abreu Sodre met Eduard Shevardnadze for talks on bilateral relations and some major world issues including peace, nuclear disarmament and international co-operation. The two sides signed several long-term co-operation accords in the fields of economy, trade, science and technology, and issued an extensive joint communique.

The visit reflected a significant move by Brazil to improve relations with the Soviet Union.

For nearly 20 years, relations between the two countries stagnated. The military-backed government that took power in 1964 was decidedly pro-American and sought to ally itself with the United States. At the same time, the government was wary of the Soviet Union, whose communist ideology it saw as a great threat.

Political and economic relations between Brazil and the Soviet Union remained frozen until the mid-1970s when Brazil adjusted its foreign policy as a result of domestic pressure for democratization and changes in the international situation. Since the 1970s, the United States has lost influence while the third world has been playing an increasingly dynamic role in world affairs. Brazil, while keeping up its traditional ties with the United States and other Western countries, began working to improve its relationship with the third world, especially its Latin American neighbours. President Sarney carried forward the new policy. The resumption of diplomatic relations with Cuba in 1986 and the improvement in relations with the Soviet Union since he took office in 1985 have caught the world's attention.

At the end of 1985, former Brazilian Foreign Minister Olav Setubal paid his first visit to the Soviet Union and discussed ways of expanding trade. Visits by Brazilian government, parliamentary and trade delegations followed. The Soviet Union sent a senior official from the Presidium of the Supreme Soviet, its deputy minister of foreign trade and some cultural groups to visit Brazil before the recent official visit by the foreign minister. Shevardnadze also visited Argentina and Uruguay during what was his first tour to South America.

The Soviets and Brazilians both see the potential for further development of bilateral relations. They agreed to make joint efforts to expand and diversify trade. They also called for more communication and exchanges in the fields of education, culture and sports, and for mutual visits by the two countries' top leaders.

by Wu Zhihua
Our Differences With the Dalai Lama

For a long time, there has been much misunderstanding in the West about Tibet and its relationship with the rest of China due to distortion and propaganda by imperialists and colonialists. This situation has been aggravated in recent years by the separatist activities of the Dalai Lama and other Tibetan exiles. For these reasons, many people have written to us to find out about what is really happening in Tibet.

To help readers better understand the basic situation and the policies adopted by the central government, our correspondents directed some frequently raised questions to senior officials of the State Nationalities Commission. In this issue we run the first instalment in a series covering the resulting dialogue.

Question: Some people abroad assert that Tibet was historically an independent state over which China had no sovereignty. What are your views on this?

Answer: Tibet is an inalienable part of China's territory. This is the outcome of historical developments.

During the seventh century, friendly exchanges between the Han and Tibetan nationalities were well developed. In the Yuan Dynasty (1206-1368), Tibet was officially incorporated into Chinese territory. Its political and religious systems were determined by the central government. Later, although dynastic changes took place at the centre, Tibet’s local government was repeatedly replaced and foreign powers invaded Tibet and interfered in the internal affairs of Tibet, none of this could ever change the fact that Tibet has ever since remained part of China. Seven hundred years of history have proved that the decisions made by the Tibetan people are far-sighted.

Up to now, no countries in the world (Britain, the United States and India included) have ever declared that Tibet is an independent state. (For expositions on this issue, please read BR Notes From the Editors, issue No. 41, 1987 and “Tibet: History and Anecdotes” in issues Nos. 24 and 26, 1983. — Ed.)

Q: What is the fundamental difference between the stand of the central government and the Dalai Lama?

A: The main issue is safeguarding the unification of the motherland and unity of China’s various nationalities. We consistently hold that Tibet is an inalienable part of Chinese territory and we are opposed to separation. The Tibetan people also resolutely oppose any split.

Q: How do you view the idea of a “greater Tibetan autonomous region” suggested by some close supporters of the Dalai Lama?

A: The idea is unrealistic and unattainable for three main reasons. (1) Although bordering one another on the map, the regions (including Tibet and some areas in Sichuan, Gansu, Qinghai and Yunnan) where Tibetans live in distinct communities have not been unified in history because of separation by the mountainous terrain. (2) In the past, the uneven economic and cultural development of the various regions stifled the possibility for a unified economic region. (3) In determining the size of an autonomous region, not only should the rights of minority nationalities be safeguarded and national unity be strengthened, but the regional administration and economic and cultural growth should also be considered. A self-governed region encompassing all Tibetan communities and covering such a vast area would not help its economic and cultural development. On the contrary, it would exert an unfavourable influence on the region’s autonomy.

Q: Would it be considered a violation of the law if someone in Tibet raised a cry for its independence?

A: Favouring separatism in Tibet is against the Constitution of our country, the common will and the fundamental
interests of the people of Tibet and other nationalities. It would divide the motherland and sabotage national unity. It would meet with dissent from people of various nationalities in our country and patriotic fellow-countrymen abroad. As for the legal question, the nature and seriousness of the case would need to be considered. Generally speaking, it is an ideological problem. But separatist activities and efforts made to undermine the unification of the motherland are violations of the law and will be dealt with in accordance with judicial procedures.

Q: How do you view the Dalai’s tour of other countries?

A: The Chinese government has stated its position through diplomatic representations to the countries concerned. The Dalai Lama is not just a religious figure but an exile engaged in political activities abroad. We are opposed to his political activities in other countries and to any of his statements which are detrimental to the unification of the motherland and unity among all its nationalities. Whatever the form, meetings between officials of any country with the Dalai Lama and his representatives in any capacity will not be acceptable to the Chinese government.

Q: What policies will the central government adopt towards the Dalai Lama?

A: Our general policy is that all patriots belong to one big family, whether they rally to the common cause early or late; their past misdeeds will be forgiven. We welcome them to return to visit or settle down, and they are free to come and go. There are basically five policies in connection with the Dalai Lama:

1. Our country has entered a new period of long-term political stability and economic growth. All nationalities are united in a spirit of better co-operation. The Dalai Lama and his followers are intelligent people and they should recognize this. If they cannot accept it, they may wait and see for a few more years.

2. The Dalai Lama and the people he sent here to make contacts with us should speak frankly and sincerely. They should not play hide-and-seek or do business with us. Let bygones be bygones. It is better to forget what happened in 1959.

3. We sincerely welcome the Dalai Lama and his followers to return and settle down in the country. We hope they will be able to contribute to safeguarding the unification of the motherland, promoting unity between the Tibetan and Han and other nationalities, and the realization of the four modernizations.

4. If he returned to settle down in the country, the Dalai Lama would enjoy the same political treatment and living conditions he had before 1959. A senior official of the Party Central Committee once said by then he would propose that the Dalai Lama be elected vice-chairman of the Standing Committee of the National People’s Congress and after consultation, be elected vice-chairman of the National Committee of the Chinese People’s Political Consultative Conference. But he should not simultaneously hold posts in Tibet. Young people have now been elected to the leading posts in Tibet and they are doing very well. The Dalai Lama will naturally be free to regularly tour Tibet. Proper arrangements would also be made for his followers. They need not worry about their work and living standards, which will be much improved with the recent headway made in the country.

5. On his return, the Dalai Lama may issue a short statement to the press. The content of the statement will be decided by himself.

Since 1979, with the approval of the central government, the Dalai Lama has sent four groups of visitors, two delegations each composed of three members and several groups of his relatives, about 40 people in all, to visit the country and get in touch with the central government. They expressed again and again their wish to improve relations with the central government. They now is what stance the Dalai Lama will assume. What should be pointed out is that his recent activities aimed at creating an independent Tibet and undermining the unification of the motherland run counter to his wish to improve relations with the central government. Therefore, we should not only listen to what he says, but also watch what he does.

Q: What formalities will the Tibetans in foreign countries need to go through if they wish to return to the country?

A: Tibetan compatriots residing abroad are welcome to return regularly to tour Tibet and other parts of the country and visit their friends and relatives. Since 1979, large numbers of Tibetan compatriots have visited China for these reasons. By the end of 1986, the figure totalled 6,000. Tibetan compatriots who have become foreign citizens just have to apply to the Chinese embassy or the consulate stationed in their country for an entry visa. They are, generally speaking, free to tour through any part of the region they like.
I didn’t expect to see so many foreigners in the street when I arrived in Lhasa. It was August, the best season on the Tibetan plateau and foreign tourists had come in droves from Chengdu by Chinese civil aircraft to visit the “Roof of the World,” a region with an average elevation of over 4,000 metres above the sea level. In Tibet tourists have many unique experiences. They can either kowtow at the monasteries, dance in the discos with the local young people or enjoy Tibetan opera with the local residents at the bazaar. During their travel, they may even have to push the bus along with the Tibetan passengers when it gets stuck in the mud. The open policy has opened the gate to “Shangri-La.”

Expanding Tourism

It was a sunny day after days on end of cloudy, drizzly weather in Lhasa. I came across many foreigners enjoying the sun in a compound. They were in sleeveless tops and shorts and some were even stripped to the waist. Upon inquiry, I found that I had entered the “Yak Hotel,” an establishment run by local residents who had pooled together funds to set up the business. Manager Gongjie told me that the hotel has 172 beds and is occupied mainly during the peak season. Most of the guests are young lodgers who pay ten yuan (US$2.7) each day for a bed in the big room or 15 yuan for a separate room. It is much cheaper than living in a guesthouse. The hotel has a full-time interpreter and nine attendants have received short-term foreign language training and are able to use everyday English in conversation. There are 34 bicycles and one Toyota field car available for hire. Gongjie showed me round the rooms which are furnished with wooden beds, bright and lustrous kudians (Tibetan settees which can be used for beds), cupboards and tables decorated with landscape paintings showing flora and fauna of a distinctive Tibetan style. In the courtyard and on the balconies were some sofas where tourists sat sunbathing. Some were talking, others were writing letters. The manager told me that Lhasa has five hotels like this run by collectives.

In recent years it is no longer unusual to see foreign tourists ride bicycles or horses, or take a stroll in the streets of Lhasa. Between 1980 and 1984, Tibet hosted an average 1,500 foreign tourists each year. In 1985 alone, 15,000 foreigners came to Tibet and the figure soared to 30,000 in 1986. The government of the autonomous region has decided to develop tourism and encourage state, collective and individually run tourism enterprises.

To receive foreign tourists the
The region has established special offices in Beijing, Xian, Chengdu and Golmud. The regional committee of the Chinese People’s Political Consultative Conference in Lhasa runs training courses for interpreters and tour guides, and the financial and tax departments have mapped out a series of preferential tax exemption policies, low-interest loans and increased profit retention by enterprises. The autonomous region has 11 state-owned tourist hotels, seven hotels operated by collectives and 33 individually operated hotels with a total of 3,000 beds. The number of taxis is also multiplying, as are the horse and tricycle-renting businesses offered by the department of tourism.

Last year Tibet’s department of tourism sent representatives to make business contact with travel agencies in ten provinces and municipalities and arrange board, lodging and transport for tour groups. Tibetans participated in the tourist photo exhibition held in Australia and the international tourist fair in Hong Kong. The travel corporation of the autonomous region has forged business ties with some 20 foreign travel agencies and tourist departments in other parts of the country to draw more customers.

Wang Xiaoshu, deputy director of the Tourist Bureau for the autonomous region, said that at the recent tourism fair, people from many travel agencies abroad dubbed the route from Zham (a border city adjacent to Nepal) to Lhasa the “golden tourist line.” The route has many cultural relics and places of historical interest.

Sports tourism, in particular mountaineering, is one of the obvious attractions of Tibet. The Tibetan plateau is studded with numerous mountains and magnificent towering peaks. In 1980 the Chinese government declared nine peaks open to the outside world, including Mount Qomolangma (Everest). Last year another 12 were added to the list. All this has boosted the growth of tourist mountaineering in Tibet. From 1980 to the end of last year, 50 mountaineering groups have climbed Mount Qomolangma on the Tibetan side. Nineteen mountaineers from nine countries reached the top. According to statistics from the department of tourism, 30 sports groups visited Tibet in 1984. The figure soared to 53 in 1985 and 81 in 1986, and the number of people entering Tibet in 1986 was 74 percent higher than for the previous year.

Tibet teems with tourism resources, but it is only in recent years that the region has begun to utilize them. Many problems still exist. The department of tourism has an acute shortage of interpreters and guides. The region has only a few tour routes, but even these have only inadequate transportation facilities. There is a lack of souvenir items for tourists. Efforts are, however, being made to improve the conditions for tourists. Consideration has been given to the development of air routes in the region to solve transportation problems, and the department of tourism is consulting with civil aviation department to increase air links with other parts of the country.
Foreign tourists chat with the owner (right) of private inn in Shigatse.

According to Li Shiping, an official from the foreign trade management office of the region’s foreign economic relations and trade bureau, Tibet started shipping out commodities through the coastal ports in 1981, the main exports being animal by-products and Chinese medicinal herbs. Tibet has maintained direct trade ties with Europe, the United States, Japan and Southeast Asian countries. In January 1986 Tibet hosted trade talks in Hong Kong. In 1981 foreign exchange value created by commodity exports through coastal cities reached US$110,000, and this figure jumped to US$2.67 million in 1986.

Trade Exchanges

Before 1980, trade between Tibet and other countries was limited to border trade. After 1980 the central government implemented special, preferential policies in a bid to speed up economic growth in Tibet. With regard to foreign trade, the central government has given Tibet more decision-making power. The local government can, for example, work out its policies in line with local conditions, sign and issue licences, and buy and sell whatever Tibet needs. The tariff for border trade is lower than in coastal cities. All foreign exchange earnings obtained from the export of products can be retained by the local financial department. These flexible policies have allowed foreign trade to gain much headway in Tibet.

Border trade has also experienced an upward trend. In 1981 the export volume for state-owned companies totalled 4.06 million yuan, compared to 19.2 million yuan in 1986. Its main items are sheep, wool and rapeseed. The new state policy resulted in the turnover of border trade between civilians reaching 70 million yuan in 1986.

Economic Co-operation

In 1986 the Foreign Economic Relations and Trade Bureau of the autonomous regional government hosted more than 40 delegations from 20 countries, all keen to invest in Tibet. So far letters of intent for 24 projects have been signed, and foreign specialists have been sent to make further investigations into some of these projects. They involve geothermal
energy exploitation, fishery, mining, and the construction of a brewery and cashmere mill. Three jointly funded Tibet-overseas projects have already been completed. They are the Lhasa Hotel, the largest tourist hotel in Tibet jointly funded with the Holiday Inn Co. of the United States; the Tibet Hotel in Chengdu, a co-operative project with Hong Kong businessmen; and the China Tibet Qomolangma Tourist Co. Ltd., also a joint venture with Hong Kong business people. In the first month after it started business in Hong Kong, the Qomolangma Tourist Co. received 7,000 applicants for tours to Tibet.

Chris Schlittler, the American general manager of the Lhasa Hotel, said that most of the hotel’s staff are locals and they have made marked progress since they started work two years ago.

According to officials of the Foreign Economic Relations and Trade Bureau, Tibet encourages foreign investment and technological input. The terms for investment in Tibet are in principle more favourable than those in coastal cities. Detailed stipulations are still being drafted and they will soon be available for publication.

**Cultural Exchanges**

With its doors now flung open wide, Tibet is attracting an increasing number of visitors from all over the world. In the last two years over 80 people in 14 official cultural delegations and groups have visited the region, and many expressed admiration for its culture, customs and scenery.

Tibetan artists have also visited other countries and achieved great success. In 1983, the Tibetan Drama Troupe paid its first visit to Japan and gave 40 performances in 20 prefectures. In September last year the troupe was invited back, again receiving a warm
welcome. Last March the troupe visited the United States at the invitation of the US-Asian Friendship Association. According to news reports, its New York appearance stirred up a “Tibet craze” in the city.

Last April, a fortnight-long exhibition of Tibetan tangka relics (religious art work including paintings, embroidery, brocade and patchwork) and the first Sino-French Tibetan studies symposium were held simultaneously in Paris. At the symposium scholars from the two countries presented 19 papers, promoting Sino-French relations and Tibetan studies in both countries. The tangka relics exhibition was an eye-opener to the French people. At the opening ceremony, the curator of the French State Museum of Natural History said the people of France and Western Europe were very honoured to have this opportunity to view treasures from the Roof of the World on the banks of the Seine. Visitors were impressed by the bright colours and exquisite workmanship of the exhibits.

Last July the China Tibetan Music Art Troupe attended the International Court Music Art Festival in London. Tudeng, noted ballad singer and head of the Lhasa Song and Dance Ensemble, performed excerpts from King Gesar (a 10 million-word ancient folk epic orally passed down through generations in Tibet) The one-hour performance charmed the audience of 300 even though they could not understand the language. This was the first visit to Britain by a Tibetan music art troupe, and Tibetan ballad singing was totally new to the British. A BBC live telecast of the troupe’s performance allowed the experience to be shared by both British and overseas television audiences.

An official of the region’s cultural bureau said that Tibetan Literature, a journal sponsored by the Tibet Association of Writers and Artists, is sold in Japan, the United States and 21 other countries in Europe and Southeast Asia. The medical diagrams published by the Tibetan People’s Publishing House have also aroused a great deal of attention from overseas specialists.

To foster international cultural exchange, an exhibition of modern art by an American artist was held in the autonomous region’s exhibition hall in late 1985. This is the first foreign art exhibition ever held in Tibet. Wu Jinghua, secretary of the autonomous regional Party committee, said the exhibition was of a high artistic level. However, its political significance was of even more consequence because it encouraged the opening of Tibet’s doors and broadened the vision of the Tibetan people. The exhibition hall now offers a variety show with works by young Tibetan artists. They include tangka art works, modern oils and abstract works which also attract numerous foreign tourists.
Reform Spurs Economic Development

by Zhang Zhongji, Qiu Xiaohua and Yan Kalin

Eight years have elapsed since the Third Plenary Session of the 11th Party Central Committee in December 1978 when China first began to open up to the outside world, stimulate its national economy and implement the policies of reform. During this time China has witnessed a rapid development in social productivity and improvement in living standards, and a rate of economic growth far exceeding that of the 30 years prior to 1978.

Steady Increase. The most stable and vigorous development of the national economy has been registered for the period. In the 30 years from the founding of New China in 1949 to 1978, economic construction experienced several ups and downs. The “big leap forward” of 1958-60 held back economic construction, and the ten years of turmoil from 1966 to 1976 brought the national economy to the brink of bankruptcy. The careless importation of technology and goods in 1977 and 1978 led to a serious imbalance between the various economic sectors, which resulted in a major readjustment.

Implementation of the policy of opening to the outside and stimulating the national economy has achieved remarkable results since its inception in 1979. The gross value of social product increased by 1,193.8 billion yuan between 1979 and 1986 (an average annual increase of 10.3 percent), compared to an increase of 684.6 billion yuan for the 30 years before 1978; gross industrial and agricultural output value went up by 950 billion yuan (a 10.1 percent increase for each year) against 560 billion yuan from 1949 to 1979. Out of the 30 years before 1978, six showed a decline in economic development. But since 1979, a steady national economic development has been registered. In contrast to international economic instability, the Chinese economy has registered stable growth.

Economic Strength. The last eight years saw the swiftest development in China’s economic strength, as indicated by the sharp rise in the national per-capita income. In the 30 years before reform, the per-capita income increased by 270 yuan, an average increase of nine yuan a year, in terms of comparable prices. In the last eight years, however, it rose by 33 yuan a year and reached 740 yuan in 1986, calculated on prices for that year.

In the 30 years before 1978, the national income increased by 300 billion yuan, less than 10 billion yuan a year. It has since risen by 308 billion yuan, an average increase of 38.5 billion yuan a year.

The 1986 state revenue topped 226 billion yuan, double that of 1978. It averaged a 9.2 percent annual growth as compared with the previous 7.2 percent increase. The extrabudgetary funds of the various departments and enterprises more than quadrupled that in 1978 to reach 167 billion yuan in 1986.

Agriculture. The 1979-86 period also recorded a rapid expansion in industrial and agricultural production. Before 1978, agricultural production had been at a standstill for a long time. Production elements were geared to develop heavy industry. Since 1979 rural reforms freed hundreds of millions of farmers from the trammels of the old system and boosted their enthusiasm for production. In these eight years, the total agricultural output value (not including that from rural and tertiary industries) rose by 6.6 percent a year as compared with 3.2 percent before 1978.

The production of main farm produce also rose. The yearly grain output increased from 100 million tons to 300 million tons in the 30 years before 1978 and increased further in the last eight years to 400 million tons. Cotton was exported instead of imported. The output of edible oil, sugar, fruits, pork, mutton and beef was doubled.

Industry. The total industrial output value rose from 400 billion yuan to 1,000 billion yuan in this period. The production of consumer goods such as televisions, washing machines, refrigerators and cassette tape recorders showed rapid development. Production of bicycles, wristwatches, sewing machines, cameras, sugar, machine-made paper and paperboard also expanded markedly. The variety and quality of heavy industrial goods improved. These achievements improved the three-way balance of agricultural, light and heavy industries (with each constituting about a third of the total output) to suit the country’s economic development.

Commerce. Before 1978 all commerce on the mainland was controlled by the state. Commodity sales increased slowly due to limited circulation channels and sales centres. Since 1979 the circulation system has been reformed with state-run commerce still holding the dominant position. The new open policy aims to develop diverse economic forms and management systems, reduce intermediate links and open up more circulation channels. The policy has produced a significant impact. The volume of retail sales increased at an average annual rate of 15.5 percent between 1979 and 1986 as against 6.9 percent before 1978. The number of commercial, catering and service centres increased from 13 for every 10,000 people in 1978 to 104 in 1986. Employees in these fields rose from 63 to 247 per 10,000 customers. Of the total...
volume of retail sales, the percentage sold by state-owned commercial centres dropped from 34.6 in 1978 to 39.4 in 1986, sales through collectives (including rural co-operatives) decreased from 43.3 to 36.4, while sales by jointly run co-operative and private businesses (including those owned by individual farmers and non-agricultural people) increased from 2.1 to 24.2 percent.

**Foreign Economic Exchanges.** China's new open-door economy has strengthened the country's ties with the international market. Exports and imports for 1986 reached US$73.85 billion, 3.6 times the 1978 figure, or a 17.3 percent annual increase compared with a 9.5 percent increase in the 30 years before 1978. The proportion of exports and imports in the total national income rose from 11.8 percent in 1978 to 33.1 percent in 1986. In the last eight years China has imported US$29.2 billion in foreign capital and introduced more than 10,000 new technologies from abroad. More than 7,000 foreign-invested enterprises have been established, one-third of which have been put into operation. The number of tourists to the mainland of China increased from 5.7 million in 1980 to 22.82 million in 1986, with the foreign exchange income from the tourist industry jumping up from US$600 million to US$1,500 million. The business volume from overseas labour services and contracting projects rose from US$170 million to US$970 million.

**Capital Construction.** From 1979 to 1986, fixed asset investments in enterprises owned by the whole people amounted to 875.4 billion yuan and the average annual investment was 3.7 times that in the 26 years from 1953 to 1978. Enterprises gradually turned their attention to expanding production through launching new projects to upgrading technology and improving management. From 1953 to 1978 fixed asset investments and funds for updating equipment amounted to 142.8 billion yuan. The figure reached 308.6 billion yuan in the 1978 to 1986 period, a 2.2-fold increase. The newly added value of fixed assets reached 432.6 billion yuan, 1.8 percent more than the total in the 30 years before 1978.

**Living Standards.** Before 1978, farmers earned an average net income of about 100 yuan a year. This increased to 424 yuan in 1986, an annual 15.5 percent increase (13.2 percent after allowing for price rises) as compared with the 2.9 percent increase before 1978.

Average annual expenditure by urban residents reached 828 yuan in 1986, an increase of 512 yuan over the 1978 figure of 316 yuan. This represents an annual growth rate of 12.8 percent, or 7.8 percent after taking into account price rises. Workers’ wages averaged 1,329 yuan in 1986, or 2.2 times the 614 yuan of 1978. After allowing for price rises this comes to a 5.5 percent annual increase, as compared with less than 1 percent before 1978.

Savings deposits by urban and rural residents amounted to 223.76 billion yuan in 1986, a 10.6-fold increase over the 1978 figure. The average per-capita savings deposits increased about 11 times, from 21.9 yuan to 211.7 yuan.

As living standards improved, more and better food and clothing have become available to the people.

Living conditions also improved. Half of the rural families have moved into new houses and the per-capita living space increased from 8.1 sqm in 1978 to 15.3 sqm in 1986. The per-capita living space for urban people rose from 4.2 sqm to 8 sqm. The percentage of families with housing problems was reduced from 38.6 in 1978 to 11.2 in 1986.

Education facilities and medical care available to city residents have greatly improved. In 1986 university graduates accounted for 0.178 percent of the population, as opposed to 0.089 percent in 1978. There were, on average, 21.8 hospital beds for every 10,000 people compared with 19.4 in 1978. Daily newspaper sales were up to 5.1 for 100 people as against 3.6. Each person acquired 7.2 books and magazines in 1986 instead of 4.8 in 1978. Film, television, sports and the arts were fostered to enrich the lives of the people.

**Process of Reforms.** During the eight-year reform, the implementation of the rural responsibility system, which is based on linking remuneration with output, has resulted in a major shakeup of the structure of agricultural production and fired the enthusiasm of the farmers. It has also freed rural labour forces and developed the commodity economy. The commodity rate of farm production increased from 45 percent in 1978 to 58 percent in 1986. Rural enterprises have mushroomed. Problems of food and clothing, which were unsolved during the 30 years before reform, have basically been remedied. The commodity economy has brought to an end the seclusion of rural areas to allow a rapid industrialization and urbanization.

Urban reform fell into two main stages—experiment and popularization. Enterprises were invigorated mainly through delegating more decision-making power to them and implementing various forms of contract and responsibility systems. At the same time, reforms were also carried out in planning, financing, taxation, pricing, commerce, labour and wage structures. These reforms served to improve enterprise management and production and expand the socialist market. The function of the state in economic management has changed and various forms of ownership and management systems have been developed. Trans-regional and trans-departmental co-operation has been strengthened. The national economy is operated on a more rational base.
FACTS AND FIGURES

Economic Changes in Rural Areas

Since 1979 various kinds of responsibility system have been applied in the countryside, the most important type being the contract system. In 1985 associations between households began to appear. The rural industrial structure has been rearranged, township enterprises have made rapid progress, the proportion of goods sold as commodities is increasing and farmers' incomes are growing.

The Rural Contract Responsibility System

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<th>1983</th>
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<tr>
<td>Number of production teams implementing the contract system</td>
<td>5.863 million</td>
<td>5.69 million</td>
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<tr>
<td>Proportion of all production teams</td>
<td>99.5%</td>
<td>100.0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Number of production teams implementing the all-inclusive contract system</td>
<td>5.764 million</td>
<td>5.636 million</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Proportion of all production teams implementing the responsibility system</td>
<td>98.3%</td>
<td>99.1%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Number of households implementing the contract responsibility system</td>
<td>179.854 million</td>
<td>183.979 million</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Proportion of total rural households</td>
<td>97.1%</td>
<td>97.9%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Number of households implementing the all-inclusive contract system</td>
<td>174.957 million</td>
<td>181.455 million</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Proportion of the number of households implementing the responsibility system</td>
<td>97.3%</td>
<td>98.6%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Rural Household Associations in 1986

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Number of associations</th>
<th>Number of people involved (10,000)</th>
<th>Total annual income (100 million yuan)</th>
<th>After-tax net income (100 million yuan)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>47.81</td>
<td>422.48</td>
<td>163.00</td>
<td>60.98</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Agriculture</td>
<td>7.87</td>
<td>48.19</td>
<td>17.66</td>
<td>9.51</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Industry</td>
<td>23.04</td>
<td>254.22</td>
<td>99.85</td>
<td>32.37</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Building</td>
<td>3.42</td>
<td>59.85</td>
<td>14.49</td>
<td>6.44</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Transport</td>
<td>7.01</td>
<td>25.62</td>
<td>15.06</td>
<td>6.84</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Others</td>
<td>6.47</td>
<td>34.60</td>
<td>15.94</td>
<td>5.82</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Total Rural Output Value and Its Composition

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Total rural output value</td>
<td>2037.54</td>
<td>7554.23</td>
<td>100.0</td>
<td>100.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total output value of agriculture</td>
<td>1397.00</td>
<td>4013.01</td>
<td>68.6</td>
<td>53.1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total output value of rural industry</td>
<td>396.50</td>
<td>2380.79</td>
<td>19.4</td>
<td>31.5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total output value of rural building</td>
<td>134.74</td>
<td>591.93</td>
<td>6.6</td>
<td>7.8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total output value of rural transport</td>
<td>34.50</td>
<td>245.40</td>
<td>1.7</td>
<td>3.3</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

OCTOBER 19, 1987
Total output value of rural commerce and catering establishments | 74.80 | 323.10 | 3.7 | 4.3
--|---|---|---|---

Note: This table is calculated on the basis of the prices for that year.

### Total Output Value of Agriculture and Its Composition

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Value (100 million yuan)</th>
<th>Percentage of the total</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Total output value of agriculture</td>
<td>1397.00</td>
<td>4013.01</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Crops</td>
<td>1071.64</td>
<td>2498.30</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Forestry</td>
<td>48.06</td>
<td>201.19</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Animal husbandry</td>
<td>209.27</td>
<td>873.54</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sideline production</td>
<td>45.96</td>
<td>164.36</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fishery</td>
<td>22.07</td>
<td>275.62</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Township and Village Run Enterprises

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Number of enterprises (10,000)</th>
<th>Number of people employed (10,000)</th>
<th>Percentage increase</th>
<th>Percentage increase</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>152</td>
<td>152</td>
<td>2.826</td>
<td>4.392</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Agricultural enterprises</td>
<td>50</td>
<td>24</td>
<td>-26</td>
<td>608</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Industrial enterprises</td>
<td>79</td>
<td>88</td>
<td>11.4</td>
<td>1.734</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Communication and transport enterprises</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>33.3</td>
<td>104</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Building industry</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>60.0</td>
<td>236</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Others</td>
<td>12</td>
<td>24</td>
<td>100.0</td>
<td>144</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Growth of Rural Private Industrial and Commercial Businesses

| | 1981 | 1986 | Percentage increase |
|---|---|
| Number of households involved in private industrial and commercial businesses | 961,000 | 9.2 million | 860% |
| Number of people involved | 1,218 million | 14,383 million | 1080% |

### Rural Commodity Rate and Farmers' Incomes

| | 1978 | 1986 |
|---|---|
| Commodity rate of agricultural and sideline products | 45.2% | 58.0% |
| Commodity rate of industrial products | 53.7% | 68.1% |
| Farmer households' per-capita net income from production | 122.9 yuan | 374.7 yuan |
Provisions for Supervision and Control Over the Quality of Import Commodities

This is the first comprehensive set of regulations governing the quality control of imports into China. Effective as from October 1, 1987, the provisions were issued jointly by the State Administration for the Inspection of Import and Export Commodities, the State Economic Commission, the Ministry of Foreign Economic Relations and Trade and the Customs General Administration of China.

Chapter I General Principles

Article 1
With a view to strengthening the supervision and control of the quality of import commodities and protecting the legitimate rights and interests of parties concerned in foreign trade and the interests of consumers, these provisions are hereby formulated in accordance with the relevant laws and regulations of the state.

Article 2
Supervision and control shall be tightened over the quality of import commodities (including commodities imported by way of introducing foreign capital and in all kinds of trade forms, the same below) in all links of work including examination and approval of import items, signing of contracts, storage and transportation, inspection and acceptance and lodging of claims.

Article 3
The State Administration for the Inspection of Import and Export Commodities (hereinafter referred to as the State Administration for Commodity Inspection) is responsible for the inspection, certification, and quality supervision and control of import commodities throughout the country in an unified manner.

The import and export commodity inspection bureaus and their subsidiaries in various provinces, autonomous regions and municipalities (hereinafter referred to as the commodity inspection authorities) are responsible for the inspection, certification and quality supervision and control of import commodities in areas under their respective jurisdiction.

The inspection of import medicines, sanitary inspection and quarantine of foodstuffs, quarantine of animals and plants, calibration of weighing and measuring instruments, supervision over the safety of boilers and other pressure vessels, and the inspection and supervision of ships shall be conducted by relevant supervision and inspection organizations according to the related rules and regulations provided by the state.

Chapter II Inspection, Testing, Supervision and Control

Article 4
The state practises unified management and division of labour with individual responsibility with regard to the inspection, testing, supervision and control of the quality of import commodities.

All import commodities shall undergo inspection or testing within the prescribed time limit. Those without undergoing inspection and testing shall not be permitted to be installed, put into operation, marketed or otherwise used.

Article 5
Upon the arrival of import commodities which are included in "the List of Commodities Subject to Inspection Enforced by Commodity Inspection Authorities" (hereinafter referred to as "the List of Commodities") or of import commodities that should be certified by the commodity inspection authorities as prescribed in foreign trade contracts, receivers or end-users (including units ordering the goods, the same below) or foreign trade transportation units (including foreign trade transportation companies and other forwarding agents, the same below) shall apply to the commodity inspection authorities at the arrival ports or stations for inspection and testing in due time.

Article 6
The state practises the quality license system for import commodities that involve safety, health, environmental protection, labour protection and quality supervision and control of import commodities in areas under their respective jurisdiction.

The inspection of import medicines, sanitary inspection and quarantine of foodstuffs, quarantine...
Catalogue") shall be published six months prior to its enforcement by the State Administration for Commodity Inspection and the competent departments of the relevant supervision and inspection organizations.

Samples submitted for examination and production conditions of commodities listed in "the Catalogue" shall be examined and tested by the commodity inspection authorities and related supervision and inspection organizations in accordance with the state safety laws and regulations and standards; those that are proved up to standard shall be approved and issued "safety mark" or permitted for registration. Commodities which have not obtained "safety mark" or permission for registration are not allowed to be imported.

Foreign factories or firms, which export to China for the first time commodities listed in "the Catalogue" should, directly or through their agents, apply to the State Administration for Commodity Inspection or its subsidiaries or related supervision and inspection organizations for "safety marks" or registration, accept examination and pay fees according to prescribed rates.

Commodities listed in "the Catalogue" shall, after arrival, be subject to compulsory inspection and testing. If the goods are proved not up to standard, the related units shall be required to conduct disposal to render them harmless under supervision or ordered to return or destroy such goods; if two batches of goods in succession are proved not up to standard, the "safety marks" or registration shall be revoked. The State Administration for Commodity Inspection and the competent departments of the related supervision and inspection organizations shall issue notices on the approval or revocation of "safety marks" or registration.

Article 7
Upon the arrival of commodities that are not included in "the List of Commodities" and "the Catalogue," the receivers or end-users should report to the commodity inspection authorities in their own areas and carry out inspection themselves or entrust the designated units to conduct inspection. If the commodities are proved up to standard, they should close the cases with the commodity inspection authorities by producing the inspection reports. Should problems be found, the inspection site should be preserved, and applications should be filed in good time with the commodity inspection authorities for re-inspection.

Article 8
For some important import commodities, inspection before shipment and supervision over manufacturing or loading may be conducted in the exporting countries according to the provisions of the contracts provided it does not violate the related laws of the exporting countries. However, the inspection after arrival shall be the final and the work of inspection and acceptance at home and abroad should be well connected.

Article 9
The state shall institute the commodity inspection mark system for import commodities. Foreign factories and firms or their agents may apply to the commodity inspection authorities for commodity inspection marks. After inspection and testing, the commodities proved up to standard are permitted to have corresponding commodity inspection marks attached and when these commodities are imported, they may be subject to sample inspection or exempt from inspection as cases may require.

Article 10
The state shall institute the system of accreditation of laboratories undertaking inspection and testing of import and export commodities. 1. Chinese and foreign laboratories (including inspection and testing organizations) may apply to the State Administration for Commodity Inspection and its subsidiaries for laboratory accreditation. The accredited laboratories may undertake designated inspection and testing and produce laboratory reports. The commodity inspection authorities shall supervise and examine the testing work of the accredited laboratories and, if a laboratory is found to have fallen short of the requirement, shall revoke its accreditation certificate.

If the import commodities are for sale on the home market, the receivers shall have their inspection and testing organizations approved by the commodity inspection authorities.

2. The accreditation work which falls under the responsibility of other related departments shall be handled according to relevant regulations.

Article 11
The State Administration for Commodity Inspection is responsible for collecting and processing information on the quality of import commodities. The foreign trade departments, receivers and end-users, the People's Insurance Company of China, the Bank of China and the foreign exchange control departments should timely inform the commodity inspection authorities of the quality of import commodities and the settlement of claims overseas. After comprehensive analysis, the commodity inspection authorities will timely feed back the information to related
Related departments shall institute the system of tracking down the quality of certain important import commodities.

**Article 12**

All import commodities shall be declared with and put under the supervision and control by the customs. The customs shall examine and release the import commodities included in "the List of Commodities" against the seals of the commodity inspection authorities on the customs declarations of import commodities.

The customs should examine the import commodities in the presence of the receivers or their agents and, after the examination, put seals upon the related containers or packages and keep careful notes on the examination for the record.

**Article 13**

The departments for the administration of industry and commerce are responsible for the supervision and control of the import commodities in the field of domestic circulation. No circulation is allowed on the domestic market in one of the following cases:

1. Import commodities, which are listed in "the Catalogue," bear no "safety marks" or marks of registration;
2. Import commodities, which are not listed in "the Catalogue," obtain no notice of "up to standard" issued by the commodity inspection authorities or related inspection organizations or bear no "up to standard" marks of the producers and inspection reports given by receivers or end-users.

For import commodities for sale on the domestic market, the selling units are responsible for repairs, replacements or refunds.

**Article 14**

The state encourages the whole society to supervise the quality of import commodities. The import examination and approval units, foreign trade departments, storing and transportation units, receivers and end-users, the commodity inspection authorities and other related supervision and inspection organizations should hear from the masses of end-users' and consumers' opinions and comments on the quality of import commodities and answer inquiries about the quality of such goods.

**Chapter III  Liability for Quality**

**Article 15**

Import examination and approval units should strictly implement the system of examination and approval of import commodities. Careful examinations shall be made of commodities concerning safety to ensure that they fully meet the related safety laws and regulations and standards of the state before approvals are given for import.

**Article 16**

Foreign trade departments are responsible for signing contracts and held accountable for the contracts they sign. In cases of foreign trade departments acting as import agents, the receivers and end-users shall be responsible for the technical clauses provided that these clauses have been confirmed by them.

Before signing import contracts, foreign trade departments should, together with receivers and end-users, enquire into the credit rating of foreign factories and firms and the quality of their products and study the drafting of import contracts, inspection standards and quality assurance clauses in order to select the best to import.

Import contracts (including contracts for importing used equipment) should, according to relevant state laws and regulations, include specific clauses on quality, packaging, inspection, claim, quality assurance and arbitration. When necessary, they should also incorporate such clauses as the sellers provide inspection standards and other technical data and part of the payment should be deferred until the validity period of claim expires. If there are technical standards to follow, orders should be placed according to domestic or international standards. In cases of sales by samples, the samples shall be examined and tested and sealed, after transactions are concluded, by both sellers and buyers or by the commodity inspection authorities and designated inspection organizations with their signatures.

After signing import contracts, foreign trade departments should keep abreast of the progress of the arrival of import goods and provide receivers and end-users with copies of import contracts and related inspection standards and other data.

**Article 17**

Transportation units should deliver the import commodities safely to the places of hand-over and storage within the time limit prescribed in the contracts. They should strictly implement the hand-over system and take careful notes of surface damages and short shipment, place goods with surface damages separately and keep them properly. Foreign trade transportation units at the customs entry should issue timely notices of goods arrival to receivers and end-users and the commodity inspection authorities and timely declare damaged goods with the commodity inspection authorities for inspection.

Storaging units should, according to related
state regulations, do well in receiving, keeping and despatching goods.

**Article 18**

Cargo tallying units should check the number of import commodities in the order of batch numbers of shipping documents, making sure that the figures are accurate with clear differentiation of goods in good condition and damaged goods, and provide timely the commodity inspection authorities and other related departments with tallying documents for damaged goods and short shipment.

**Article 19**

Receivers and end-users should set up inspection and acceptance organizations, fix inspection measures and carry out acceptance work in strict accordance with the provisions of contracts and relevant state regulations. If the commodities are found not up to standard, applications for re-inspection should be filed with the commodity inspection authorities and related inspection organizations generally one month prior to the expiry date of the validity period of claim (including extended period for claims, the same below).

The commodity inspection authorities and other related inspection organizations should carry out timely inspection of the import commodities subject to inspection or submitted for re-inspection and issue certificates within 20 days after the date on which applications are filed for inspection.

**Article 20**

Foreign trade departments and foreign trade transportation units are responsible for lodging claims of import commodities. If import commodities are found not in conformity with the foreign trade contracts with respect to quality, quantity and weight and packages or the provision of the state safety regulations or if they are found damaged or short in quantity and weight, for which foreign parties concerned are responsible, foreign trade departments or foreign trade transportation units should lodge claims within the validity period of claim in accordance with the following provisions:

1. If the import commodities are found not up to standard in quality, specifications or property or damaged in original packages or short in weight and quantity due to reasons of designing, manufacturing and packaging, foreign trade departments shall claim against the consignors (sellers) on the strength of the inspection certificates issued by the commodity inspection authorities.

2. If import commodities are found damaged or short in weight and quantity, for which foreign carriers are responsible, foreign trade transportation units shall claim against the carriers on the strength of inspection certificates issued by the commodity inspection authorities and the tallying documents signed by the carriers.

If the liability rests with foreign railways, foreign trade departments, foreign trade transportation units or the receivers and end-users should report to the railway bureaux at the place of arrival, which shall lodge claims through the entry border railway bureaux on the strength of the commercial notes and other related documents; in cases of international through railway transport, claims may also be put forward through railway departments.

If the liability is found to rest with foreign aviation and post transport departments, it is up to the civil aviation administration or post offices to lodge the claims on the strength of certificates of air accidents or post office certificates of damages or shortages and the inspection certificates issued by the commodity inspection authorities.

3. If the import commodities underwritten by foreign insurance companies are found damaged or short in weight and quantity, foreign trade departments shall be responsible for lodging the claims on the strength of the certificates issued by the commodity inspection authorities. If the commodities are insured or reinsured by the People's Insurance Company of China or if the settlement of claims is entrusted to the People's Insurance Company of China, receivers and end-users may claim against the local subsidiaries of the People's Insurance Company of China according to the provisions of the insurance clauses and at the same time assign the rights and interests to the insurance company.

**Article 21**

Various regions and departments, especially import examination and approval units and foreign trade departments, receivers and end-users and storing and transportation units should exercise strict control over the quality of import commodities, supervise and help units under their administration to set up the quality control responsibility system and implement various measures, and check regularly the work of control over the quality of import commodities.

**Article 22**

If the quality problem of import commodities is due to the responsibility of domestic parties concerned, the departments concerned shall be held responsible according to their division of responsibility:

1. If, due to the responsibility of foreign trade departments, it results in errors in contracts and causes difficulties in inspection and acceptance or if the commodity inspection certificates are received before the expiry date of the validity period of claim but claims are not lodged in time, thus losing the
right to claim and causing economic losses, foreign trade departments should be responsible for compensation and responsibility shall be affixed on those directly responsible.

2. If, due to the responsibility of transportation units, the import commodities are not shipped to the destinations within the time limit prescribed in the transportation contracts or the commodities are damaged or found short in weight and quantity, transportation units shall be held responsible for paying the demurrage or covering the actual losses according to the transportation contracts and other relevant provisions, and responsibility shall be affixed on those directly responsible.

If damages and shortages are due to ill keeping by storing units, the storing units shall be responsible for compensations, and responsibility shall be affixed on those directly responsible.

If economic losses occur due to the fact that foreign trade transportation units fail to send the notices of goods arrival to receivers and end-users or fail to apply for inspection at the port of arrival when damages are found and thus lose the right to claim, foreign trade transportation units shall be responsible for compensation, and responsibility shall be affixed on those directly responsible.

3. If, due to the responsibility of the receivers and end-users, errors occur in contract clauses and in claim negotiations and due to failure in examining and accepting the goods in time, failure to apply timely to the commodity inspection authorities for inspection, and failure to submit to foreign trade departments commodity inspection certificates, the right to claims is lost, or damages or shortage occur due to carrying by themselves, ill keeping or misuse, receivers and end-users themselves shall be held responsible, and responsibility shall be affixed on those directly responsible.

4. If grave losses occur due to ineffective control and supervision by the departments in charge of import examination and approval, foreign trade departments, receivers and end-users and storing and transportation units, responsibility shall be affixed by the competent departments concerned on those directly responsible.

5. If, due to the detection of duty on the part of the commodity inspection authorities or related inspection organizations, certificates are delayed or there are errors in the certificates and therefore quality problems occur or the right to claim is lost, thus causing economic losses, the commodity inspection authorities or related inspection organizations shall be responsible for affixing the responsibility on those directly responsible.

Article 23

When disputes arise in claim among foreign trade parties, they shall be handled according to the relevant provisions of the “Foreign Economic Contract Law of the People’s Republic of China”; when disputes arise over the liability for quality among the domestic parties concerned, they shall be handled according to the relevant provisions of the “Economic Contract Law of the People’s Republic of China.”

Chapter IV Rewards and Punishments

Article 24

Units or individuals which have always attached importance to the quality of import commodities, earnestly supervise and control the quality of the commodities in all links of work and have made outstanding achievements shall be commended or rewarded by the departments in charge.

Article 25

Punishments shall be meted out according to relevant state regulations by the competent departments within their terms of reference in one of the following cases which violate articles of the provisions:

1. That willfully imports and sells commodities bearing no “safety marks” or unregistered commodities listed in “the catalogue”;  

2. That sells, without approval, commodities not listed in “the catalogue,” which bear no “up to standard” marks, inspection reports or “up to standard” notice;  

3. That evades, by illegitimate means, quality inspection and supervision by the commodity inspection authorities and related supervision and inspection organizations and presumptuously installs, puts into operation, sells or otherwise uses the import commodities;  

4. That causes grave losses due to the loss of the right to claim as a result of error in work; and  

5. Other law-breaking acts.

Article 26

Criminal responsibility shall be affixed on government functionaries who violate articles of these provisions and the criminal law.

Chapter V Supplementary Articles

Article 27

The right to interpret these provisions resides in the State Administration for the Inspection of Import and Export Commodities.

Article 28

These provisions shall go into effect as of October 1, 1987.
Ten Manifestations of Intellectual Waste

"JINJIXUE ZHOUBAO"
(Economics Weekly)

Forceful efforts are now being made to put an end to wastage in production, circulation and consumption, but some consideration should also be given to the wastage of intellect. This is not only a waste of wealth, but also a waste of resources. There are ten main manifestations of squandering intellectual resources.

1) Learned knowledge unsuited to job requirements. Higher education is often very divorced from practice. Teaching materials are on the whole dull and uninspiring. After completing their studies, graduates find that the knowledge they have acquired does not meet practical demands and many of them have to learn again from scratch.

2) Jobs unsuited to special training. Though China is now short of scientists and technicians, a large number of educated people are still being assigned to jobs unsuited to their special training. One of the reasons for this is the inadequate system of personnel distribution. There is little opportunity for people to choose jobs according to their education, special skills and hobbies. Furthermore, qualified personnel find it difficult to transfer to other units because personnel affairs are controlled by the departments and units where they work.

3) Uneven distribution. More scientists and technicians live in large cities than in small cities and towns. More of them work in institutions of higher learning and scientific research departments, rather than in the frontline of production. The number of scientists and technicians working in large factories and mines far exceeds the number involved in village and township enterprises and agricultural production. The uneven distribution of expertise means that qualified personnel often find they haven’t enough work to do, or that they cannot contribute effectively. Conversely, in areas where there is a serious shortage of qualified people, normal production and development are greatly impeded.

4) Structural imbalance. This can involve either imbalance to the horizontal or vertical structure. Horizontal imbalance refers to the improper ration of people engaged in liberal arts to those in scientific and technological fields. For a long time, science was regarded as superior to liberal arts, politics as superior to economics. As a result, some departments have a relative surplus of scientists and technicians, while there is a definite shortage of specialists in liberal arts and more particularly in economic management. Vertical imbalance is manifested in the uneven proportion of qualified personnel in high, middle and low levels. For many years, China has emphasized the developments of higher education and training for scientists and technicians. However, secondary schools and training centres for middle-grade technicians were largely neglected. Many factories are now experiencing a shortage of skilled and technical workers because of this situation.

5) The single-job system. Scientists and technicians have a wide range of possibilities for accomplishment and contribution to society. However, they are faced with many limitations on obtaining second jobs. Generally speaking, qualified personnel cannot use their knowledge and special skills to serve more than one trade or unit.

6) Duplicated scientific research. Scientific and technical personnel are often researching areas that have either been studied by others or are out of date, because many enterprises pay little attention to the collection and storage of relevant data. Communication channels are often blocked and there is no exchange of information between enterprises. Qualified personnel have no possibility for part-time jobs, co-operation or interaction.

7) Research results in store. The closed nature of China’s scientific and technical research system separates research results from industrial and agricultural production and gives scientists and technicians little chance to cooperate with production units in tackling key technical problems. As a result, many research results are held back permanently in scientific research institutions. In the meantime, enterprises are unable to get the research results they urgently need and apply them to production.

8) A profusion of meetings and documents. Managerial cadres at various levels are still spending most of their time and energy dealing with inefficient meetings, and much of the time expended by office staff of government organizations is devoted to preparing for these meetings. This means that large numbers of cadres cannot apply their knowledge and ability to practical areas.

9) Enthusiasm to offer advice to the state and enterprises pent up. The policy of “pooling wisdom and effort” has effectively displayed the collective force of the Chinese people in the past, but the interests of individuals and collectives, and labour and enterprise have not been adjusted for a co-operative working relationship. The situation in which everyone can offer advice to the state and collectives has not really emerged in many places.

10) Retarding intellectual development. One of the major defects in China’s development of intellectual resources lies in overlooking preschool education. At present, the facilities for preschool education are backward and the number of preschool
intellectual wastage have seriously affected the development of China's national economy. It should therefore be a priority to study the causes behind the problem so that a solution may be achieved quickly.

(July 26, 1987)

Modernize People's Thinking First

"SHEHUI KEXUE BAO"
(Social Sciences)

Tian Sen, a research fellow of the Chinese Academy of Social Sciences, recently said at a lecture in Nanjing that to accomplish China's modernization, people's thinking must modernize first.

Tian believes that modern Chinese people must adapt their thinking to the development of the commodity economy and should cultivate the following nine senses.

Sense of competitiveness. They should dare to make their lives better through hard work and have the courage to become useful through hard study.

Sense of initiative. With the spirit of bold exploration, they should be constantly open to new ideas.

Sense of knowledge. It is the epoch of knowledge and information. The key to bringing about a great advance in society lies in developing people of talent and high quality.

Sense of scientific leadership. Modern leaders must be good at working out consistent scientific systems.

Sense of time.

Sense of information. Information is money. With this sense people are ready to change information into commodities.

Sense of business. They should spare no efforts to develop commerce and the service trades and give importance to the status and efficiency of the tertiary industry.

Sense of management. Modern people must be adept in management and making profits while developing the cultural level

innovations. Live today for the future.

4. Have a strong consciousness of democracy and a sense of being the master. Be concerned about society and imbued with self-confidence.

5. Seek to continually acquire new knowledge.

6. Have the consciousness to contribute to society.

7. Seek truth, have a strong desire for accomplishment, and be able to adapt oneself to social progress.

8. Think scientifically and pay attention to diversified developments.

9. Strive for efficiency and be practical.

10. Respect the personality of others.

11. Be warm, sincere, frank and open.

12. Have a scientific and healthy way of life. (August 6, 1987)

A Town at the Source of Changjiang

"ZHONGGUO HUANJING BAO"
(Chinese Environment)

Setting out from the ancient plateau city of Xining and travelling westward along the Qinghai-Tibet Highway, one will arrive at Golmud, a new city on the Gobi Desert. Then turning north and crossing Mount Kunlun, the traveller will be in a prosperous small town named Tuotuohe, at the source of the Changjiang (Yangtze) River.

The Tuotuo River, the main source of the Changjiang, flows in the Tanggula Mountain area of the Qinghai-Tibet Plateau which is more than 4,700 metres above sea level. The climate is harsh and the air has only 60 percent as much oxygen as the air at sea level. All year round it blows and snows. In the small town, row upon row of buildings line the criss-crossing streets. At the northern edge of the town, a bridge traverses the Changjiang.

Like a spring breeze, the policy of developing the commodity economy has given the small town a new outlook. Farmers from various parts of the country have set up grocery shops, inns and photo and other service shops along the streets. The town fair features a dazzling variety of fashionable clothes and daily necessities.

The streets of the town offer a panoramic view of the beauties of the “Roof of the World.” The endless grassland stretches to the horizon, dotted with the white of the flocks of sheep and the black of grazing yaks. The lakes and moors gleam in the sunlight. North of the town, the peaks of Tanggula Mountains point to the blue sky. To the south stands the lofty Mount Kunlun, powerful and majestic, its snowy peaks rolling from northwest to southeast. West of the town, more snowy peaks rise and fall in the distance.

(August 6, 1987)
**Rules for Checking Import Goods Quality**

In order to improve the supervision of import commodity quality and protect the lawful rights and interests of consumers and foreign trade units, China put into effect its first comprehensive measures on October 1. The Procedures for Supervision of Import Commodity Quality were issued jointly by the State Administration of Import and Export Commodities Inspection, the State Economic Commission, the Ministry of Foreign Economic Relations and Trade, and the General Administration of Customs.

In the past, China lacked overall controls on import quality and only a few single managerial measures existed. With the introduction of the open policy in 1979, China’s export and import trade increased steadily. Import commodities have on the whole met with quality requirements over the past years, but there have also been some problems with substandard commodities.

During the 1981-85 period, the number of substandard import commodities uncovered by inspection departments amounted to 41,000 batches, about 10.3 percent of the total quantity inspected. Last year 18,000 batches or 11.3 percent were below standard. These figures indicate the necessity to strengthen supervision of import commodity quality.

With 28 articles in five chapters, the document reaffirms the original single-item managerial procedures as shown in the Trial Provisions for Inspection of Import Complete Equipment. The document stipulates that the state recognizes work done by domestic and overseas laboratories involved in import and export commodities inspection, and also sets down specific sanctions against units and individuals violating them.

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**China, Switzerland Set up Hotel**

The Dragon Spring Hotel, opened early this month, is the second Chinese-Swiss cooperative venture. Situated in Mentougou District to the west of Beijing, the hotel was established jointly by Movenpick Hotels International, the Hong Kong-based Tak Wing Investment (Holdings) Ltd. and China’s Beijing Jinxi Economic Development Corp. The hotel is a Chinese resort-style building conveniently situated for visits to the Great Wall, the Ming Tombs and the Summer Palace.

The contract was signed by the three sides in December 1985. It was built in early 1987 and started trial-operations in March of the same year. The total investment is US$14 million with Chinese capital accounting for 68.5 percent and the overseas, 31.5 percent. Profits will be distributed according to investment contribution.

The hotel will be managed by a board of five directors, three representing the Chinese party and two, the Swiss. The board chairman is Chinese and the general manager is Swiss.

Evan Paviskis, general manager of the hotel, said that Switzerland invested in China because China is internationally recognized as a developing tourist area and a destination tourists are keen to visit.

He added that his hotel will mainly cater for groups and individual guests will only account for 10 percent. During its trial operation between March and September, the hotel had a 50 percent occupancy. By 1988, this is expected to reach 70 percent.

In addition to the Dagron Spring Hotel, the Swiss side is also involved in the construction of
another joint venture—the Movenpick Beijing Airport Wineshop near the Shoudu Airport. The wineshop is expected to begin operation in 1988.

### Book Binding For Export

Some of China's hard-cover books exhibited at the Moscow International Book Fair in September this year were made by the Tongzhou Bindery in the eastern suburbs of Beijing.

Tongzhou Bindery is a small enterprise of only 70 people. With the recent development of China's book-exporting industry, the bindery, well-known for its rebinding of paperbacks into hardbacks, began to attract foreign customers. Up to now, it has established business relations with more than 20 state-run and university-owned libraries in the United States, Federal Germany, Singapore and some other foreign countries. James K.M. Cheng, librarian for the Oriental Library at the University of California, Los Angeles spoke highly of the neatly bound covers and harmonious designs. The bindery has topped Hong Kong and Taiwan in terms of product quality, commented the librarian.

Zhao Yang from the China Publication Trading Corp., who is in charge of contracting jobs for the bindery, said that the bindery has not been hindered by bad quality since 1984 when it began to take on foreign business. By the end of June this year, the factory produced a total of 100,000 hardboard covers for foreign customers. Some well-known home publishing houses, such as the China Book Company, Joint Publishing Company and Cultural Relics Publishing House have also established business relations with the factory.

by Han Baocheng

### China Exports Wild plant products

Since January 1986, China's Gansu and Shanxi provinces have exported to Japan and Switzerland more than 200 tons of seabuckthorn juice. 150 kg of seabuckthorn oil and 250 cases of seabuckthorn wine as well as 6.5 tons of seabuckthorn health drink. This year Gansu Province has signed a three-year agreement with Japan for exporting 600 tons of seabuckthorn juice. And it has also concluded an agreement with a British company for exporting 10 tons of seabuckthorn oil.

China is rich in seabuckthorn resources. Its area of about 670,000 hectares of seabuckthorn ranks as the largest in the world. In 1986, the area of man-made seabuckthorn forest land totalled 106,000 hectares.

Seabuckthorn is a wild plant growing in mountain areas. In the past it was only used for water and soil conservation and as forest fuel, but since 1985 the nutritional and medical properties of seabuckthorn and its economic value have come to be recognized. The seabuckthorn fruit is rich in nutrient properties. It contains soluble sugar, organic acid and carotene as well as vitamin E, B1, B2 and P. Its VC content is as high as 800mg/100g, the highest for any type of fruit or vegetable. Seabuckthorn fruit also contains such nutrient substances as amino and fatty acids, and can be used as a nutritional health food and an agent for curing diseases.

Since 1985, China's 150 factories have turned out over 200 kinds of seabuckthorn products including seabuckthorn juice, drinks, wine and seabuckthorn oil and cosmetics. Product quality has improved. And China is researching into the use of seabuckthorn in the medical field and into the extraction of seabuckthorn pigment.

### News in Brief

- On October 9, the Bank of China issued floating-interest bonds worth US$200 million in the London Stock Exchange. The issue term is 5 years, and 30 foreign banks and security companies are in charge of the sale.

An agreement on original credit was reached between the Chinese and British governments in mid-June. This is the first time China has raised money on the London market in 40 years. The funds will be mainly used to develop China's petrochemical industry.

- The 1987 International Aviation Exhibition will be held from October 14 to 20 at the China International Exhibition Centre. Advanced equipment like electronics, aircraft, and airport and military facilities produced by over 200 companies from 18 countries and regions including Canada, Brazil, USSR, France, Federal Germany, Japan, the United States, Britain, Switzerland, China and Hong Kong will be exhibited. Over 60 technical seminars also will be held during the exhibition.

The exhibition is jointly sponsored by the China Council for the Promotion of International Trade, the China National Aero-Technology Import and Export Corp. and the China Promotion Ltd. of Hong Kong.

- The China large industrial technology export fair will be held in the Hong Kong Exhibition Centre from December 4 to 13. The fair will include exhibitions of over 1,500 advanced technologies in the space, aviation, nuclear and electronics fields.

Sponsored by China Machinery and Equipment Import and Export Corp., China Advertising Co. Ltd and the Hong Kong Trade Development Bureau, the fair will have representatives from 21 companies including the China Great Wall Industry Co.
No Change in Tourist Costs

According to the head of the price department in the State General Administration for Travel & Tourism, charges on tourists in 1988 will not be changed.

Next year the prices for plane ticket on CAAC (Civil Aviation Administration of China), various admission tickets and tourist bus fares will stay at 1987 levels.

China's general price and consumption levels decide its tourist prices. Although in recent years many new first-class hotels have been built and many hotels have added extra facilities, the fees for the services are still controlled by the government (except in joint ventures and co-operatively run hotels) and they are lower than in countries of Southeast Asia and Hong Kong. This is the main reason for the increase in overseas tourists over recent years.

China's tourist charges are based on the service which China can provide and the changes in international tourist market. Compared with developed countries, CAAC's rate of on-time arrivals is lower and China's road conditions and guides are inferior. That is why we keep our prices lower.

Since April this year, China's travel services have pegged their prices to the US dollar. Thus their charges will not be influenced by the exchange rate. With the fall of the Renminbi yuan, China has increased its Renminbi tourist prices four times between 1983 to 1987. If prices are calculated on the basis of US dollars, then there were not only no price increases in the last four years, but the present-day price is even a bit lower than four years ago. For example. In 1981 the price of a double room of medium standard was 40 yuan Renminbi a day in Beijing and Shanghai, about US$24 in the annual average exchange rate of the time; this year the price is 80 yuan, only about US$22 at the current exchange rate. In 1979, a plane ticket from Beijing to Shanghai cost 150 yuan, which was US$100 at the time; in 1987 that ticket costs 274 yuan which is only US$74 according to the average exchange rate in the first half of this year.

So China's tourist prices being calculated in US dollars is to the advantage of foreign tourists, foreign travel services and various middlemen who do business with China. In the past, they had to settle accounts with Chinese travel services in Renminbi; now using US dollars things should be more convenient.

On September 15, CAAC established a new concession in the Xiyuan Hotel for the sale of individual plane tickets.

The service sells international and domestic individual CAAC plane tickets. A similar system has been in operation in east Beijing at the Beijing and the Great Wall hotels for some time.

News in Brief

According to a survey by the State General Administration for Travel & Tourism, in the first half of this year Beijing ranked second for tourist service among 14 cities, (previously Beijing was fourth). In another tourist service competition between seven tourist cities, Beijing came first.

A new air route, Beijing—Shanghai—Vancouver, opened on Sept. 7. The China Swan International Travel Company met its first 181 passengers for the route at the Beijing International Airport, all members of a group organized by the Canadian Swan Tourist Company Ltd.

It is reported that a tourist service centre will be open in the Beijing International Airport by the end of this year. This centre will book rooms, buy international and domestic railway and plane tickets, and arrange other transportation means for foreign tourists.
A girl from ancient times flying to the sky (paperboard).

ART PAGE

Engravings by Hao Zhiguo

Hao Zhiguo, born in 1945 in Shanxi Province, is now an artist cadre at the Oil Worker Culture Centre in the North China Oilfield in Renqiu, Hebei Province.

Hao, a self-taught painter who had worked as a bulldozer-driver, specializes in woodcuts and paperboard engravings in a national style.
Clothings and Ornaments of China's Miao People

Edited by the Cultural Palace of Nationalities in Beijing after considerable on-the-spot investigations, the work is the first full-length picture book to introduce the clothing and ornaments of China's Miao nationality.

The publication contains 370 colour pictures of the traditional clothing and artwork of the Miao people, supplemented by simple descriptions. More than 20 distinct styles are classified according to the geographical distribution of the Miao nationality in western Hunan, eastern Guizhou, mid-south Guizhou, Sichuan-Guizhou-Yunnan border area and Hainan Island. The work also lists alternative names for Miao populations in various regions, the distribution of their dialects and the development of their economy.

This tastefully printed and decorated picture book is available in both Chinese and English versions. It represents a major contribution to researchers in such fields as ethnoology, archaeology, history, folklore and folk arts and crafts.

Size: 26 cm. x 33 cm. Pages: 212 Hardcover
Price: US$30, with an additional 10 percent for separate postage

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