

# BEIJING REVIEW

- Chinese Frontier Troops Begin Withdrawal
- Chinese Women Discuss Life and Work



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## CHRONICLE

Feb. 24

• The national conference of secretaries of provincial committees of the Chinese Communist Youth League closes in Beijing. The conference sets forth that study and work for the realization of the "four modernizations" is the major subject for China's youth in the new era.

Feb. 26

• Vice-Premier Deng Xiaoping meets with Ta-keji Watanabe, President of the Kyodo News Service of Japan. The Vice-Premier gives his views on a number of questions including the situation on the Sino-Vietnamese border, Sino-Japanese relations and China's "four modernizations."

Feb. 28

• Premier Hua Guofeng meets W. Michael Blumenthal, U.S. Secretary of the Treasury. Premier Hua says: "Sino-U.S. friendly relations will grow step by step." Secretary Blumenthal says that talks have proceeded very well in the past few days and that a foundation has been laid for closer bilateral economic relations.

March 1

• The Chinese Foreign Ministry in its note to the Vietnamese Embassy in Beijing proposes once again to the Vietnamese Government that negotiations be held as soon as possible.

• Premier Hua Guofeng meets with Hassan Mohamed el Tohamy, Special Envoy of President Sadat and Deputy Prime Minister at the Presidency. Premier Hua says that China resolutely supports the Egyptian, Palestinian and other Arab people in their just struggle to recover their lost territories and restore their national rights.

March 2

• Comrade Hua Guofeng meets with Branislav Ikonik, Vice-President of the Federal Executive Council of Yugoslavia. Both are of the opinion that relations between the two countries and the two Parties will develop further with concerted efforts from both sides.

March 4

• In his meeting with Eric Varley, British Secretary of State for Industry, Premier Hua Guofeng says that Sino-British relations have been getting better and better. "We can learn from and help each other," he adds. He expresses his appreciation for Britain's stand that it brooks no intervention by a third country in developing its relations with China.



## Exhibition in Memory of Zhou Enlai

March 5 this year was the 81st anniversary of the birth of the late Premier Zhou Enlai. The exhibition in memory of Premier Zhou, housed in the Museum of the Chinese Revolution on the eastern side of Tian An Men Square, will henceforth be open to the public, according to a decision by the Party Central Committee.

The exhibition consists of four parts:

- Comrade Zhou Enlai: A great Marxist and a model in integrating theory with practice. Exhibits in this part include some of his works, reports and instructions written on documents.

- An outstanding leader of the Party and the state. On display are documents of Party and state policies which Premier Zhou formulated in conjunction with Mao Zedong and other comrades.

- A model in safeguarding unity and placing the interests of the whole above everything else. This part shows how he combated the sabotage activities of Lin Biao and the "gang of four," defended the Party's cause and protected the veteran cadres during the Cultural Revolution.

- Exhibits in this part show Premier Zhou's communist spirit of being modest and prudent, of working hard and perseverance in struggle, and complete devotion to the Party's cause.

Previews began in January 1977. To date, 4 million people

have seen the exhibition. Practically every day in the last two years the exhibition halls were packed with visitors—something unprecedented in the history of Chinese exhibitions. Now that the exhibition is open to the public, the wish of the people of the whole country has been fulfilled.

In its March 5 editorial, *Renmin Ribao* gave a high appraisal of the contributions and lofty character of Premier Zhou. It called on the entire Chinese people to learn from him. (See p. 8 for full text.)

## Another Call to Taiwan Authorities

In settling the question of Taiwan returning to the motherland, the status quo and the present system in Taiwan will be respected, the opinions of the people of all walks of life there will be taken into consideration, and reasonable policies and measures will be adopted so as not to cause any loss to the people on that island. Their way of life will not be changed, and their living standard will remain as before and will be further improved along with the development of production and construction in the motherland.

These principles and policies were reiterated by Liao Chengzhi, Member of the Central Committee of the Chinese Communist Party and Vice-Chairman of the Standing Committee of the National People's Congress, when he spoke at a meeting called by the National Committee of the Chinese People's Political Consultative Conference in commemoration of

the 32nd anniversary of the "February 28" uprising by the people in Taiwan. The meeting took place at a time when Sino-U.S. relations have been normalized and the return of Taiwan to the motherland has been put on the agenda. Attending the meeting were more than 200 people from various circles and compatriots of Taiwan Province origin in Beijing.

Speaking on behalf of the C.P.P.C.C. National Committee, its Vice-Chairman Xu Deheng invited people of all walks of life in Taiwan to visit the mainland, and added that arrangements will be made for people on the mainland to visit Taiwan, so that they can exchange views on the question of reunifying the motherland. This is yet another proposal to the authorities and people in Taiwan following the earlier ones made by the departments concerned for trade, postal and telecommunication services and economic, scientific, cultural and sports exchanges between the mainland and Taiwan.

The Message to Compatriots in Taiwan issued by the N.P.C. Standing Committee on New Year's Day embodies the basic stand with regard to the reunification of the motherland (see *Beijing Review*, No. 1, 1979) which is the common aspiration of the people of China, the Taiwan compatriots included. If the Taiwan authorities place the national interests above everything else, the return of Taiwan will be realized smoothly. The earlier the people of the whole country join their efforts, the faster they will turn their motherland into a powerful modern country. For this

represents the will of the people and the general trend.

## Tibetan Compatriots Abroad Welcome Home

"We hope that Tibetan compatriots abroad, including Dalai Lama, will return to the motherland as soon as possible to reunite with their kinsfolk and take part in building up the country."

This message was conveyed by Ulanhu, Member of the Political Bureau of the Central Committee of the Chinese Communist Party and Head of the Department of United Front Work, at a gathering in Beijing on the eve of the Tibetan New Year which fell on February 27. For the first time in the past dozen years or so, the Tibetan people in Lhasa and Beijing celebrated it in accordance with their national customs. They danced and sang at the get-togethers, gave *hata* (silk scarfs) as presents and toasted each other with *qingke* (barley) wine.

Ulanhu stressed that Tibetans abroad willing to come back are welcome. If they want to settle down after returning home, the state will make proper arrangements for them. As for those who return only for a short visit, they will be given a warm send-off upon leaving China. Whoever living abroad wants to come to visit their relatives will be provided with all necessary facilities and will be free to leave the country again. The Party and government mean what they say, Ulanhu added.

At the get-together in Beijing, Panchen Erdeni said: "I feel warm and happy in the great socialist motherland, and I'm

proud of this!" He urged Dalai Lama and other Tibetan compatriots abroad to have a clear assessment of the situation and return to the embrace of the motherland at an early date.

## Regulations for Arrest And Detention

With a view to speeding the work of law-making, the Standing Committee of the National People's Congress adopted on February 23 the Regulations of the People's Republic of China Governing the Arrest and Detention of Persons Accused of Crimes. Consisting of 15 articles, these regulations have replaced those published in 1954.

When Lin Biao and the "gang of four" could do what they pleased, the regulations governing the arrest and detention of persons accused of crimes were completely ignored. People were wilfully detained or arrested without the least regard for the laws, and the rights of citizens were seriously undermined.

Article 1 of the new regulations stresses that the objective is "to safeguard the socialist system, maintain public order, punish criminals, and protect citizens' freedom of person and their homes from encroachment."

The new regulations reaffirm that no citizen may be arrested except by the decision of a people's court or with the sanction of a people's procuratorate.

The regulations stipulate that immediate arrest can be made by the decision of a people's court or with the sanction of a people's procuratorate when the principal facts related to the

crime or crimes committed are established and the crime or crimes are such that the criminal is liable, if convicted, to be sentenced to a term of imprisonment or when the arrest is deemed necessary.

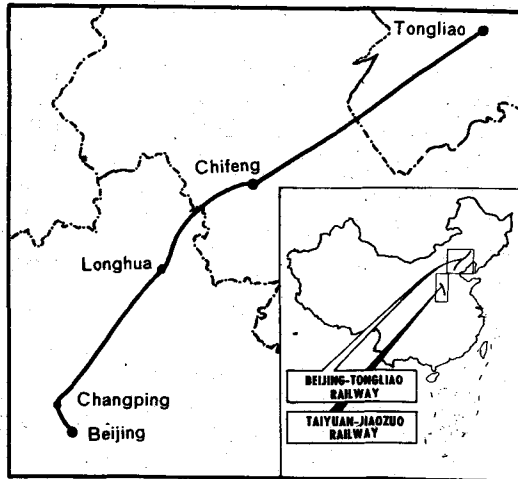
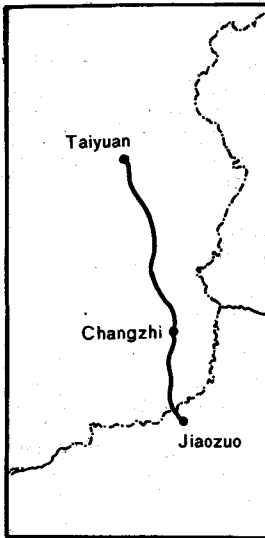
Before a warrant is obtained, according to the regulations, public security organs may detain persons accused of a crime or major suspects in emergency cases. If the arrest of such detainees is deemed necessary, the public security organ concerned should submit the evidence against them to the corresponding people's procuratorate within three days after the detention, or, in special circumstances, the time of detention may be extended for another four days. The people's procuratorate has to approve or reject the appeal for arrest within three days after being notified of the detention. If the appeal is rejected, the public security organ must release the detainees immediately.

The regulations also stipulate that interrogation must start within 24 hours after any arrest or detention is made and that the arrested or detained persons must be released immediately if no positive evidence is available.

## Two New Railways

Two more lines have appeared on China's railway map. One runs from Beijing to Jilin Province's Tongliao and the other from Taiyuan in Shanxi Province to Jiaozuo in Henan.

The former starts in Changping County on the outskirts of Beijing and passes through Longhua in Hebei Province and Chifeng in Liaoning Province to Tongliao. Together with two



**SKETCH MAP OF TAIYUAN-JIAOZUO AND BEIJING-TONGLIAO RAILWAYS**

spur tracks, the total length is 870 kilometres. Its completion has eased the transport pressures on the Beijing-Shenyang Railway which was until now the sole trunk line linking the capital with the northeast.

The latter is linked with the Jiaozuo-Zhicheng-Liuzhou Railway which was completed earlier (see *Beijing Review*, p. 8, No. 2, 1979). This 209-kilometre-long new north-south trunk line runs parallel to the one from Beijing to Guangzhou. Its opening to traffic facilitates the transport of coal from Shanxi and Henan Provinces to the coal-poor provinces south of the Changjiang River.

Another line under construction in Jilin Province connects the Huolinhe open-cast coal mine in the north — one of the eight big coal mines now being opened up\* in China — with Tongliao in the south. Work on this 400-kilometre-long railway line began towards the end of 1977 and to date 83 kilometres of the track have been laid.

The above-mentioned three railway lines run through

mountainous areas with very complex geological conditions. There are 110 tunnels and 460 bridges along the Beijing-Tongliao line and 56 tunnels and 55 bridges along the Taiyuan-Jiaozuo line.

Since country-wide liberation in 1949, China's railway construction has made great headway, but it still falls far short of the needs of modernization. Work on the new lines is now going full steam ahead. Among the difficult projects now being undertaken are the Qinghai-Xizang (Tibet) Railway and another line across the southern part of the Xinjiang Uygur Autonomous Region.

### **Guidelines for Economic Construction**

What are the guiding principles for China's economic construction today? *Renmin Ribao* dealt at length with this topic in its February 24 editorial. Following are the salient points:

**Readjustment: Why and How.** Since the downfall of the "gang of four," the national economy

has rapidly recovered and the situation is becoming better and better. But the disproportionate development which in some cases is quite serious among the various branches of the economy needs to be rectified without delay. In the coming two years, therefore, efforts will be focused on restoration, readjustment and consolidation, the aim being to pave the way for greater and faster development in the future. The current tasks include:

- First and foremost, efforts should be made to increase agricultural production.

- Boost the production of coal, electric power and building materials and improve transport — these being the weak links in the economy. Attention should also be paid to the construction of houses and schools which the people urgently need today.

- Develop those trades and branches of the economy that will produce quick results, earn more profits and foreign exchange and that can compete on the international market so as to accumulate more funds, import advanced techniques and quicken the pace of construction.

- The proportion of investments for iron and steel should be reduced.

In order to do a good job in readjustment, it is necessary to emancipate the mind and make a reassessment of those policies and principles which Lin Biao and the "gang of four" sanctified and forbade others to discuss. The principle of "taking steel as the key link" is a case in point.

**Not an Unalterable Principle.** "Taking steel as the key link" is not an unalterable principle. It's true that a big country like China needs more steel. When there is a great demand for steel in industrial development and when it is the central link in the entire national economy, the slogan "taking steel as the key link" plays an important role. But this is by no means an objective economic law which must be followed at all times. To increase the output of iron and steel, it is necessary for heavy industrial departments to undertake the work of setting up a number of ancillary industries. For years China has made big investments in steel, financially and in terms of materials and manpower, but the gains have been slow. A major reason is that the supporting industries, such as the fuel and power industries, are not adequately developed. Moreover, when the quota for steel is high, investments in heavy industry will inevitably increase at the expense of agriculture and light industry.

**Guard Against Conservatism and Rashness.** Generally speaking, differing views on the scale of economic norms and construction are a question of understanding and should not be regarded as a struggle between two political lines. However, starting from the late 50s, there has been criticism only of Right conservatism, but not of impetuosity and rashness. During the Cultural Revolution, Lin Biao and the "gang of four" arbitrarily attacked the Party's policy of readjustment after the three years (1959-61) of economic difficulties as Right deviationist tendency. The result was that many cadres were

afraid only of "conservatism" but not of rashness. Even today, this "Right-phobia" still affects people's thinking. In construction, for instance, they overstress the size and speed without considering the amount of materials and money available. Enormous wastes are caused in this way because of the lack of planning and preparation work. Some people who are aware of the infeasibility of a plan dare not speak up for fear of being stigmatized as "Right opportunists."

Some argue that to combat conservatism means to support the people's enthusiasm and to oppose advancing rashly means to dampen their enthusiasm. But the fact is that advancing in a rash manner disrupts the overall economic balance, causes disproportionate development among the various economic branches and is therefore harmful to the fundamental interests of the masses. If this is not rectified, it dampens the people's enthusiasm more than anything else.

**Overall Balance.** This is essential in economic work as a whole. Whether the objective law of planned, proportionate and high-speed development of the socialist economy is followed or not and whether the superiority of the socialist system is brought into full play, all hinges on the work done in effecting an overall balance between the various economic departments. To achieve this, it is essential to use Marxism-Leninism-Mao Zedong Thought as the guide, take practice as the sole criterion for testing the truth, and sum up both the positive and negative experiences of the three decades. It is also essential to broaden our

horizons, learn from the experience of economic development in other countries, dare to face the reality and existing contradictions, and to study and solve problems in economic construction today.

## **A Reappraisal of "Hai Rui Dismissed From Office"**

The Beijing opera about Hai Rui, an upright 16th century court official, has been restaged recently in the Chinese capital. Thirteen years ago, it was slandered as a "poisonous weed," and its playwright and a large number of scholars, writers and artists involved were framed and brutally persecuted. Today their wrongs have been duly redressed.

Jiang Qing, Zhang Chunqiao and Yao Wenyuan, three members of the "gang of four," were responsible for this frame-up. Relevant materials found last year in Zhang Chunqiao's former office in Shanghai testified to the fact that the frame-up was directed at the people, especially the intelligentsia, and the aim was to "seal up the lips" of the people and smother dissenting voices so that the gang could keep public opinion under control and realize their scheme of usurping supreme power in the Party and state.

Hai Rui was an official who dared to champion the interests of the people and speak up for the oppressed. Historical records show that he was fearless in enforcing the law with justice, upholding the truth in the presence of the emperor and criticizing the abuses of the court.

Beginning from June 1959 Wu Han, a noted historian and then deputy mayor of Beijing,



Hai Rui in the opera.

published articles advocating Hai Rui's spirit of outspokenness. Later, at the request of the Beijing Opera Company in the capital, he wrote the drama *Hai Rui Dismissed From Office*. His conscientious attitude and historical-materialist approach enabled him to successfully project on the stage the image of an upright court official of the 16th century. First staged in 1961, the opera was a success, and was well received by dramatists and historians alike.

A few years later, however, Jiang Qing hatched a plot and sorted out this drama as the target of her attack. When she failed to enlist support in Beijing, she went to Shanghai where she found two cohorts in Zhang Chunqiao and Yao Wen-yuan. In November 1965, Yao published his signed article "A Criticism of the New Historical Drama *Hai Rui Dismissed From Office*."

This article set a precedent for fabricating charges against innocent people. It brought groundless charges against this drama and wilfully linked history with the present reality. In the opera there was a scene in which Hai Rui forced the gentry to return the land seized from the peasants. This, Yao Wen-yuan charged, was actually "telling the people's communes to return the land to the individual peasants." The scene in which Hai Rui redressed the wrongs suffered by innocent people was, according to Yao, actually the playwright's attempt to "oppose the dictatorship of the proletariat on behalf of counter-revolutionaries." And "returning the land" and "redressing the wrongs," Yao alleged, were the focal points of today's struggle between the proletariat and the bourgeoisie. In this way, this historical drama was seized upon by Jiang Qing and her cohorts as evidence of a deliberate attack on the dictatorship of the proletariat.

On academic and literary issues, the principle of "letting a hundred flowers blossom and a hundred schools of thought contend" should be applied, and there should be free discussions on questions of right and wrong before arriving at the right conclusion. In accordance with this principle, debates between differing views should be encouraged, and people who have expressed wrong views should be made to see their mistakes by persuasion, not coercion, still less by the method of "finishing them off with a single blow." But careerists like Jiang Qing, Zhang Chunqiao and Yao Wen-yuan were from the very start out to

attack innocent people and fabricate bizarre charges against them.

It has been found that even before Yao's article was published, Zhang Chunqiao had already drawn up his "plan of operation" to criticize the opera *Hai Rui Dismissed From Office*. Immediately after Yao's article was published, they started collecting what they called the "reactions and tendencies" among the intellectuals and in society as a whole. Zhang Chunqiao also ordered the Shanghai newspaper *Wen Hui Bao* to hold forums so that those opposing Yao's views would speak out. He told the leading dailies in that city to publish their statements, and then said to his trusted aides: "Splendid! Now we have targets to hit at."

Eight well-known scholars who spoke at the forums were the first batch to come under attack. Several thousand historians, writers, artists and Party workers throughout the country were subsequently involved. Many were branded counter-revolutionaries "opposing the Great Cultural Revolution." The celebrated Beijing opera actor Zhou Xinfang, who had played the role of Hai Rui in

(Continued on p. 27.)



# To Honour the Memory of Premier Zhou, Act as Premier Zhou Would Have Us Act

*Renmin Ribao* Editorial

**Comrade Zhou Enlai was a great Marxist. Together with Comrades Mao Zedong, Zhu De and others, he had led the Chinese proletariat and the fine sons and daughters of the Chinese nation in founding our Party, our army and the People's Republic. He was a long-tested, outstanding leader of the Party and the state and the closest comrade-in-arms of Comrade Mao Zedong.**

**The best way to commemorate Comrade Zhou Enlai is to conscientiously learn from his revolutionary spirit and to work and live in the manner that he did.**

TODAY is Comrade Zhou Enlai's 81st birthday, and on April 5 it will be the third anniversary of the revolutionary activities of the masses in Beijing who on that day in 1976 had gathered at Tian An Men Square to mourn the passing of their late Premier Zhou and to demonstrate against the "gang of four." In the circular issued by the Central Committee of the Communist Party of China about this year's activities in commemoration of Comrade Zhou Enlai, it stressed that "activities to commemorate and learn from Comrade Zhou Enlai must give expression to his behests and style of work." In this spirit, the Party Central Committee has decided that the exhibition at the Museum of the Chinese Revolution on the life of Comrade Zhou Enlai, rearranged and enlarged, be officially opened to the public, and that Comrade Zhou Enlai's writings be compiled and publication begun early next year. The Party Central Committee is also continuing to study and work out an appropriate plan for the construction of a memorial hall for Comrade Zhou Enlai and other revolutionaries of the older generation who had made most outstanding

contributions in the history of the Party. We warmly hail and firmly support these decisions which well reflect the desire of the people in their hundreds of millions.

Comrade Zhou Enlai was a great Marxist. Together with Comrades Mao Zedong, Zhu De and other proletarian revolutionaries of the older generation, he had led the Chinese proletariat and the fine sons and daughters of the Chinese nation in founding our Party, our army and our People's Republic. He was a long-tested outstanding leader of our Party and state. Comrade Zhou Enlai had been Comrade Mao Zedong's indispensable assistant and closest comrade-in-arms throughout the protracted revolutionary struggles. For more than 50 years, the two fought shoulder to shoulder from south to north, and worked together in national construction and handling the affairs of the state. Comrade Zhou Enlai had made indelible contributions to the Chinese revolution and socialist construction, to strengthening the unity of the international proletariat and the people of the world, to the struggle against hegemonism and to promoting the development of the international communist movement. Comrade Zhou Enlai had devoted his whole life to the Party and the people, and has been held in high esteem in the Communist Party of China, among the Chinese people, and internationally. The whole Party, the whole army as well as the people of all nationalities in the country love him dearly; the people of the whole world respect him with all their heart. Comrade Zhou Enlai was and still is the pride of the Chinese Communist Party, the pride of the Chinese nation.

Comrade Zhou Enlai was a great moral inspiration to the Chinese Communist Party and the Chinese people. The Tian An Men Incident in





Premier Zhou Enlai.

by Giorgi Lotti,  
Italian photo-  
grapher (1973)

April 1976 which captured nationwide and, indeed, worldwide attention was truly a mammoth revolutionary mass movement launched by the Chinese people to defend Comrade Zhou Enlai and denounce the "gang of four." For he was the man who had stood firmly in the way of the "gang of four" trying to usurp the supreme leadership of the Party and state. When Comrade Zhou Enlai was alive, the gang had maliciously tried to defame him; after his death, the gang had forbidden the nation to mourn him. This perverse behaviour of the "gang of four" had provoked the whole nation to utmost indignation. The mighty masses roared and their anger burst out like an erupting volcano. In front of Tian An Men, at the foot of the Monument to the People's Heroes, the sons and daughters of the Chinese nation demonstrated their love with wreaths and their hatred in acrimonious poems, delivered their historic verdict which sounded the knell for the "gang of four" and provided the ideological and mass basis for the victory of the October struggle led by the Party Central Committee with Comrade Hua Guofeng at its head.

Today the main goals of the revolutionary mass movement at Tian An Men Square have been attained and have become tangible realities, namely, overthrowing the "gang of four," defending Premier Zhou, carrying forward the Party's democratic traditions,

terminating the nationwide upheaval and building China into a powerful socialist country with modern agriculture, industry, national defence and science and technology. Comrade Zhou Enlai's spirit lives for ever among us and there is great enthusiasm among the Chinese people to remember him and to learn from him. This is a tremendous spiritual wealth which, when properly guided and handled, is bound to transform itself into a powerful material force.

Throughout his life Comrade Zhou Enlai was averse to publicity about himself, and intensely disliked the kind of publicity which set him apart from the masses, the Party, the Party Central Committee and Comrade Mao Zedong and gave prominence to him alone. When he was still alive he had repeatedly expressed the hope that nothing of the country's wealth or the people's time should be spent to commemorate him, but the country's financial and material resources and all the people's efforts should be devoted to building a powerful socialist country. This was Comrade Zhou Enlai's virtue. In our activities to honour the memory of Comrade Zhou Enlai, we must take care not to do anything contrary to his wishes or compromise his image. It is with this consideration in mind that the Party Central Committee, in line with the tradition the Party has upheld in the last few decades and reiterated at the recent Third Plenary Session of the 11th Central Committee, deems it inappropriate suggestions

made by the public such as to erect bronze statues of the late Premier or name a park after him. This should be made clear to the masses.

The best way to commemorate Comrade Zhou Enlai is to conscientiously learn from his revolutionary spirit and to work and live in the manner that he did. We should learn from his spirit of consistently seeking truth from facts and integrating Marxism-Mao Zedong Thought with concrete conditions; his lofty quality of boundless love for and loyalty to the people and serving them wholeheartedly; his democratic way of doing things, his modesty, prudence, hard work and plain living, his strict adherence to discipline and setting a strict personal example. The whole Party, the whole army, the people of all nationalities and all young people in the country, leading cadres of the Party, government and army at all levels in particular, should take Comrade Zhou Enlai as an example and work hard in building China into a powerful socialist country with modern agriculture, industry, national defence and science and technology.

Today, on this new Long March and in learning from Comrade Zhou Enlai, we should particularly promote his spirit of placing the interests of the whole above anything else. Throughout his life he was far-sighted and a man of great principle, and always took the whole situation into account and proceeded from this. He was both a great statesman and a great soldier; he rendered most distinguished services to his country and won nationwide recognition, but he remained as modest as ever. He was open and aboveboard, willingly endured all kinds of personal injustices so as to be able to bear heavy responsibilities. He was strict with himself and magnanimous in his dealings with other people. With the view to uniting comrades and stabilizing the overall situation, he would rather humbly acquiesce and bear the blame than show the least bit of complaint. He was a selfless man who dedicated his whole life to society without asking anything, however little, in return. It was Comrade Zhou Enlai who helped preserve a part of the best of the Party membership, rallied the hundreds of millions of our people together and thus averted a big split of the Party and state during the great havoc wrought by Lin Biao and the "gang of four."

This year is the first year of our Party shifting the focus of its work to modernization.

There are many problems that need to be settled in different fields and many difficulties. Our cadres and people must therefore learn from Comrade Zhou Enlai's noble quality of taking the interests of the whole into account, and correctly handle the relations between the whole and the part, between the state, the collective and the individual. Our economy is just beginning to look up and a period of readjustment is still required before we can forge ahead in big strides. Our people's livelihood is still very poor. In particular, there is the question of properly arranging the work and lives of several million middle-school graduates who for many years have been working hard in the countryside. Their reasonable requests should be met, but not all of these can be met within a short time.

The whole country has just been put back into the right hands and there are so many things crying out to be done. Only by accelerating the pace of the four modernizations, putting the national economy swiftly back on to the right course can difficulties of one kind or another in the people's livelihood, on the basis of continuous development of production, be gradually surmounted. This is where the fundamental interest of the 800 million people lies; this is the overall situation. No problem whatsoever can be resolved out of the context of the four modernizations, which embody the whole situation. We must be like Comrade Zhou Enlai, have the overall picture in mind, take the whole situation into account, endure personal injustices and take up our heavy responsibility, and work hard to make our country strong and prosperous. Only when the whole nation works with one mind for the same goal and work together in unity can our country become powerful and strong; only then can our lives be improved.

In learning from Comrade Zhou Enlai, we should promote democracy as he did. He was an outstanding exponent of our Party's democratic style of work. He maintained close ties with the masses and paid attention to investigation and study; he was sensitive to the people's needs and aspirations and good at accepting their opinions. Wherever the masses met with difficulties in their living or complained about defects in our work, he was always on hand to listen to their suggestions and to help them overcome difficulties. He was an outstanding example of modestly making self-criticism. When problems cropped up at work, he always courageously shouldered the responsibilities and

never shifted them on to others, still less on to the masses. In this respect quite a number of leading comrades are not up to the mark. Some of them seldom go among the masses to listen to criticisms and suggestions and they even fear and keep themselves away from the masses. Such a state of affairs must be resolutely changed.

The revolutionary mass movement that took place in Tian An Men Square tells us that the masses are the real heroes. We Communists should not be afraid of the masses, but should go among them. We should not fear but promote democracy. We should welcome criticisms from the masses so as to enlist their assistance. Likewise, we should tell the masses about the difficulties in our work so as to obtain their understanding. We should be convinced that the overwhelming majority of the people are reasonable. Only a very small handful of people have their own ax to grind and are bent on making things difficult for the leadership. When the great majority of the people are with you, it is easy to work on the few. The thrust of the "April 5" movement was against the "gang of four." Everyone of us must see this clearly. The gang has been overthrown and its bourgeois factional setups have been demolished and the leading bodies at all levels, after being readjusted, strengthened or reorganized time and again, are not what they were when the gang held sway. We should not overlook this fact.

We must carry forward the democratic spirit displayed in the "April 5" movement, concern ourselves with affairs of the state and exercise the power invested with us by the Constitution to supervise the functionaries of state organs, while supporting their work, paying attention to observing discipline and maintaining order in production, at work and in society at large. When there is no order and everyone goes his own way, it is anarchism, and not democracy. At the moment, the Vietnamese regional hegemonists are making frenzied provocations in our border areas and we are being forced to counterattack in self-defence. Although our counterattacks in self-defence will soon be successfully accomplished, the defence of our frontiers remains a serious task for a long time to come. At home, there is still class struggle and class enemies. We must not do anything which grieves our own people and gladdens the enemy.

March 9, 1979

In learning from Comrade Zhou Enlai, we should personally set an example as he did. He matched his words with deeds, first doing whatever he asked of others and never doing anything that he asked others not to do. He worked hard and led a plain life, sought nothing for himself but gave his all to the interest of the public, was a man of high integrity and resolutely opposed anything which smacked of privilege. He kept to the principle of seeking truth from facts, abhorred empty talk, detested bragging, worked hard and willingly without a word of complaint and in a down-to-earth manner, while always giving the credit to others and taking the heaviest work on himself. He was always the first to take upon himself the most arduous hardships and the last to enjoy and he always shared weal and woe with the masses. Comrade Zhou Enlai's noble spirit of setting an example by his own conduct is what every revolutionary cadre, leading cadres above all, must have. If a leading cadre says one thing and does another, using fine-sounding words but giving a poor performance in deeds, he will not have prestige and no one will listen to what he says.

We all feel badly today about our social ethics being corrupted by Lin Biao and the "gang of four." If we are to change social practices, we must, first of all, change the practices within the Party, and to change the practices within the Party, we must begin with the leading cadres. As the saying goes, the rank and file follow the practices of the leadership. When the style of work of the leading cadres and the Party is sound, social practices will daily be improved and we will be sure of attaining the grand goal of the four modernizations.

It is now three years since Comrade Zhou Enlai departed from us. He left no property and no children; no tomb has been erected for him and even his ashes are scattered. He seemed not to have left us anything, but he will always live in our hearts. His spirit is immortal, his virtues will always be remembered by us. His glorious image inspires us to race against time and work diligently, devote all our energies to production, work and study and dedicate ourselves heart and soul to the four modernizations, so that we will, with outstanding achievements in productive labour, work and study, speed the realization of the four modernizations.

(March 5)

# Authorized Statement by Xinhua News Agency

— Chinese frontier troops start withdrawal

**T**HE Xinhua News Agency was authorized by the Chinese Government to issue the following statement on March 5:

The Chinese frontier troops have attained the goals set for them since they were compelled to launch a counterattack in self-defence on February 17 against ceaseless armed provocations and incursions of the Vietnamese aggressors against China. The Chinese Government announces that starting from March 5, 1979, all Chinese frontier troops are withdrawing to Chinese territory.

The Chinese Government reiterates that we do not want a single inch of Vietnamese territory, but neither will we tolerate incursions into Chinese territory. All we want is a peaceful and stable border. We hope that this just stand of

the Chinese Government will be respected by the Government of Viet Nam and the governments of other countries in the world. We warn the Vietnamese authorities that they must make no more armed provocations and incursions along the Chinese border after the withdrawal of the Chinese frontier troops. The Chinese Government solemnly states that the Chinese side reserves the right to strike back again in self-defence in case of a recurrence of such Vietnamese activities.

We have always held that disputes between nations should be settled peacefully through negotiations. The Chinese Government proposes once again that the Chinese and Vietnamese sides speedily hold negotiations to discuss ways of ensuring peace and tranquillity along the border between the two countries and then proceed to settle the boundary and territorial disputes. We sincerely hope that the Vietnamese side will respond positively to our proposal. The Chinese Government is prepared to give serious consideration to any proposals that will help to safeguard peace and tranquillity in the border areas and resolve the disputes concerned.

Between the Chinese and Vietnamese peoples there is a traditional friendship which is not only in the interests of our two peoples but also in the interests of the people of Southeast Asia, of Asia as a whole and of the entire world. The Chinese people highly value their friendship with the Vietnamese people. Although this friendship has in recent years been damaged to our distress, we eagerly hope that it may be restored. We hope that the Vietnamese authorities will take the fundamental interests of the two peoples at heart and stop pursuing their hostile anti-China policy so that the Chinese and Viet-

## Chinese Frontier Troops Begin Pullout on March 5

**A**FTER attaining their set objectives, Chinese frontier troops in Guangxi and Yunnan, who were compelled to strike back in self-defence against the Vietnamese aggressors, have been ordered to withdraw completely to Chinese territory starting on March 5, 1979.

In the 16 days since February 17 when they launched the counterattack from the areas of Longzhou and Jingxi in Guangxi and Hekou and Jinping in Yunnan, they dealt devastating blows to Vietnamese armed forces in the Dong Dang-Lang Son area, the Cao Bang-That Khe area and the Lao Cai-Cam Duong area.

name people may live together in friendship from generation to generation.

We believe that our positive and constructive stand will enjoy widespread international sympathy and support. At the same time, we hope that all countries and people that love

peace and uphold justice will take measures to urge the Vietnamese authorities to stop promptly their aggression against Kampuchea and withdraw all their forces of invasion back to their own territory so as to serve the interest of the peace, security and stability of Southeast Asia and of Asia as a whole.

## Chinese Foreign Ministry's Note To Vietnamese Embassy

— Proposing once again to the Vietnamese  
Government to hold speedy negotiations

The Embassy of the Socialist Republic of Viet Nam in China:

The Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the People's Republic of China presents its compliments to the Embassy of the Socialist Republic of Viet Nam in China and has the honour to state as follows:

On February 17, 1979, the Chinese Government issued a solemn statement in which it proposed that the Chinese and Vietnamese sides speedily hold negotiations to discuss the restoration of peace and tranquillity along the border between the two countries and proceed to settle the disputes concerning the boundary and territory. It is to be regretted that the Vietnamese side has failed to make a positive response to this proposal of the Chinese side.

However, the Chinese Government still hopes to see a settlement of the disputes between the two countries through peaceful negotiations. To this end, the Chinese Government would like to propose once again to the Vietnamese Government that each side appoint a vice-minister of foreign affairs as its representative to meet as soon as possible at a mutually agreed place for concrete negotiations on ending the current border conflict between

the two countries and any constructive measures that can ensure peace and tranquillity along the border between the two countries, and then proceed to settle the disputes between the two countries concerning the boundary and territory. The Chinese side would welcome Vietnamese ideas about the level, venue and other matters of the negotiations between the two sides.

This proposal of the Chinese Government accords with the will and interests of the Chinese and Vietnamese peoples in maintaining relations of peace and friendship, and also meets the earnest desire of the majority of the countries in the world and international opinion to see a cessation of the border conflict between China and Viet Nam and an assured peace between the two countries. It is hoped that the Vietnamese Government will give serious consideration and make a positive response to the Chinese Government's sincere proposal.

The Ministry of Foreign Affairs avails itself of this opportunity to renew to the Embassy the assurances of its highest consideration.

The Ministry of Foreign Affairs of  
the People's Republic of China  
Beijing, March 1, 1979

## Lao Cai—Bridgehead for Vietnamese Provocations

**L**AO Cai, the capital of Viet Nam's Hoang Lien Son Province, was taken on February 19 by Chinese frontier forces in Yunnan in their counterattack.

Lao Cai is separated from the Chinese town of Hekou by the Nanxi and Honghe Rivers. A bridge linking the two countries crosses the Nanxi River. The people on both sides of these rivers used to be bound by ties of traditional friendship, forged through inter-marriage and trade.

This friendship has been deliberately destroyed by the Vietnamese authorities who steadily intensified preparations to invade China. Back in 1977, they began forcing Lao Cai's Vietnamese residents to evacuate and driving Chinese nationals back to China, to create what they called a "sanitary district."

Then, large numbers of Vietnamese troops and their "youth shock brigades" moved in. They turned the emptied houses into emplacements for attacking China. We correspondents inspected one house after another along the

streets of Lao Cai. Inside there was almost nothing apart from military supplies. Walls between courtyards facing China were all pierced and concrete floors were badly broken. Through the holes, it was possible to pass from every room along the streets to the bunkers under the tower on the Vietnamese section of the Nanxi River Bridge.

There were openings in all the walls facing the Nanxi River. We noticed straw mats under these embrasures, on which Vietnamese soldiers had slept or been positioned to observe or shoot. From a prone position under an embrasure overlooking the Nanxi River, we looked across to China and saw people strolling in front of the Hekou railway station. Only a few days earlier, their lives had been at the mercy of Vietnamese guns positioned here.

Leaving the living quarters, we came to a nearby height which was dotted with pillboxes and blockhouses and crisscrossed by trenches and bunkers. Facing Hekou was an emplacement, from where, a cadre of our frontier troops said, a 57mm. gun had continually shelled the town. This emplacement was the nearest to Hekou and posed the greatest threat. There was evidence that this solidly built artillery position had been used for a long time. Similar gun emplacements were found in the hills all around.

Then we came to a hill which, a cadre of the frontier forces told us, had been hollowed out by Vietnamese troops. Beneath the solid emplacements built on the hill with reinforced concrete were concrete-paved tunnels in double layers leading to the edge of the Honghe River.

"These defence works were not built in one day," said the cadre bitterly. "It is obvious that when we were talking about Vietnamese and Chinese being comrades and brothers, they were already preparing to attack us, extending these fortifications right under our noses."

In the pillboxes and bunkers left by the Vietnamese troops large quantities of weapons, ammunition and rice have been found. Most of the weapons and ammunition were made in China. The word "China" was printed on the rice sacks and even the rice bowls bore the Chinese slogan "people's communes are good." While holding Chinese weapons and eating Chinese rice, the



Resting beside a sugarcane field Chinese frontier troops don't eat any of the sugarcane but drink water from their own canteens. The Chinese forces strictly abide by discipline during their counterattack.

Vietnamese troops turned their guns on China. Isn't this conclusive evidence of the perfidy of the Vietnamese authorities?

*(Xinhua correspondents)*

## The Battle for Khau Ma Son Mountain

**A**FTER an intensive bombardment, Chinese frontier troops overwhelmed the Vietnamese troops entrenched on Khau Ma Son Mountain on February 27, thus clearing the way to Lang Son, the capital of Lang Son Province.

As Khau Ma Son Mountain provides a natural northern screen for Lang Son, it is a key position for attacking or defending the city. Vietnamese troops entrenched on the mountain, had fired over 1,000 shells on China's Youyiguan, inflicting heavy casualties. Indignant at Vietnamese provocation, the Chinese soldiers were determined to punish the enemy as they set out for the battle to take Khau Ma Son Mountain.

Chinese tanks spearheaded the attack on Height 303. Thanks to their covering fire, Chinese infantrymen charged forward and captured enemy positions on Height 303 in about ten minutes.

The Vietnamese forces on the mountain began firing heavy artillery at Height 303. Ling Xufu, captain of tank No. 5 of the First Tank Company, calmly directed the tankmen to fire 60 shells in quick succession, which knocked out enemy artillery positions and blockhouses.

Chinese Guangxi border forces in their self-defensive counterattack in Lang Son area.



Standing on his turret, gunner Xiao Chengshun used his anti-aircraft gun to silence one enemy position after another and then guided the tanks across anti-tank trenches. On the way he caught sight of a hidden Vietnamese anti-tank position and eliminated it with hand grenades. When the tanks reached a minefield, Chinese sappers moved forward to clear the mines.

Well co-ordinated actions by Chinese infantry and tank forces enabled them to capture all the heights around Khau Ma Son Mountain before they made the final assault on the main peak. The enemy put up a desperate fight from the commanding height, firing from all pill-boxes and hidden bunkers. The summit was enveloped in smoke that blurred visibility. At this critical moment, the leader of the Second Tank Company Li Decai drove his tank towards the enemy positions and pinpointed them with bursts of tracer bullets for his comrades to knock out. The enemy firing positions were destroyed one by one. Finally two signal flares reporting victory rose from the top of Khau Ma Son Mountain.

*(Xinhua correspondents)*

## Distributing Grain to Vietnamese Inhabitants

**T**HE Chinese Guangxi and Yunnan border forces have distributed grain to Vietnamese inhabitants in the border areas which they captured from the Vietnamese Government and troops in their self-defensive counterattack.

The words "People's Republic of China" were printed on the sacks found in Vietnamese military storehouses, showing that the grain was given by China as aid to the Vietnamese people. But the Vietnamese authorities held it back as military supplies in their armed provocations against China.

The Chinese troops distributed the grain to Vietnamese inhabitants according to their needs, ranging from a few dozen to some 50 kilogrammes per household. Chinese soldiers delivered the grain to the doorsteps of old folks who had difficulty walking about.



Shelling Vietnamese aggressors.

Vietnamese inhabitants in Thong Nong, Ha Guang, Ban Lao and Bat Sat Districts told Chinese border troops that they were only given enough grain rations to last for a few months of the year because the Vietnamese authorities, bent on expanding their military might, paid no heed to the people's well-being.

Local inhabitants said that Vietnamese soldiers and security personnel often took away their grain and cancelled the rations of those who refused to support the Vietnamese authorities' opposition to China. Many families had gone hungry for quite some time, they said.

Many Vietnamese inhabitants were moved to tears when they received rice from Chinese frontier troops.

*(Xinhua correspondents)*

## Life Returns to Hekou

**A**FTER Chinese frontier troops counterattacked the Vietnamese authorities' armed provocations, the inhabitants of Hekou, China's border town in Yunnan Province, who had been forced to flee because of Vietnamese attacks are gradually returning home. People now cheer that Hekou, which is separated from Vietnamese territory by the Nanxi River, has revived.

Before the counterattack started on February 17, Hekou was practically a ghost town because of endless Vietnamese

shooting and shelling. When some correspondents went to see an old woman living by the river, someone on the opposite bank shouted in Vietnamese: "Get that one wearing glasses!" The correspondents quickly ducked and the bullets whined close overhead. It was reported that at the beginning of the year the Vietnamese authorities had ordered their armed border personnel to shoot at anything that moved on Chinese territory—from trains and motor vehicles down to cows, dogs, pigs and chickens. The day before our arrival, a water buffalo grazing by the river was killed by machine-gun fire from the Vietnamese side of the river.

We saw with our own eyes the close-packed bullet holes which riddled the hide of this buffalo. Viet Nam's constant shooting and shelling made Hekou's inhabitants fearful of walking about, and their production and life were greatly affected.

Today, Hekou with its shady trees has regained its beautiful, peaceful look. Its shops, stores, hotels, restaurants, bookstores and barber shops have all reopened and the streets are filled with people even when it rains. Brightly lit at night, the town is once again flourishing.

Rail traffic has also reopened and trainloads of people returning to the town keep pouring out of the railway station. The inhabitants are busy repairing houses damaged by Vietnamese shelling, levelling shell craters or cleaning up their courtyards. Old and young in

Chinese frontier troops distribute rice to Vietnamese inhabitants in Cao Bang area. The rice was given by China as aid to Viet Nam.





a family who had been separated because of the Vietnamese attacks, could be seen joyfully telling each other their different experiences during their separation.

Once in a while military vehicles of the Chinese frontier forces would pass through the

streets which rifle-carrying militia now patrol. One militiaman said: "Only by teaching the reactionary Vietnamese authorities a lesson for undermining Chinese-Vietnamese friendship, can we live in peace."

*(Xinhua correspondents)*

## World Economy

# A Rugged Road

— Economic difficulties in major Western capitalist countries

SOME Western industrialized countries have experienced a sluggish recovery since the summer of 1975 from the economic crisis of 1974 and 1975, the worst since World War II. Their annual growth rate of gross national product (GNP) in 1977 was 40 per cent below 1976. And this sluggishness persisted over the last year. What's more, these economies were plagued by unchecked price hikes and large-scale layoffs. Unemployment was worse than in the pre-crisis period, with the total figure in some countries surpassing the peak crisis figure.

### **U.S.A. Faces a Potential Economic Recession.**

The real GNP growth rate of the United States last year was 3.9 per cent, or 30 and 20 per cent less than 1976 and 1977. The productivity for private enterprises last year only rose by 0.4 per cent, the smallest rate since the crisis of 1974. And 1978 also witnessed a slowdown in the fixed industrial capital investment and private consumption, the major motive forces for developing the American economy. Last year, the U.S. enterprises' investment in new factories and equipment was only 4.5 per cent higher than 1977, far below the real growth rate of the previous two years' capital investment — 8.6 and 11.8 per cent. Since last May private consumption has flagged while the price index for consumer goods increased by 9.2 per cent, doubling the annual price increase rates of the previous two years. The employment situation in the United States improved in 1978, but began to deteriorate in December, with layoffs exceeding 6 million, larger than the figures for October and November. According to the U.S. Department of Commerce, the national foreign trade deficit

total last year hit 28,450 million dollars, 1,900 million more than 1977. This deficit is a key factor in the slump of the dollar for 18 months. The U.S. Government last November adopted a package of measures to shore up the dollar, but they could not check decline. The obviously deteriorating economy has led to loud grumbles in the U.S. Congress since last fall about the likelihood of another economic recession at home this year.

### **Japan's GNP Growth Rate Down.**

The growth rate of Japan's gross national product last year was 2.5 per cent in the first quarter, 1.1 per cent in the second and 1 per cent in the third. At the end of December, the Japanese Government was obliged to lower its economic growth target (April 1978-March 1979) from 7 per cent to 6. But Japanese economic circles pointed out that at best the GNP growth rate would reach 5 per cent. Last spring the seasonally adjusted figure for production in factories and mines returned to its pre-crisis level; but the recovery has since then been slow, with the October figure only 2.4 per cent higher than the pre-crisis peak. And production in some enterprises has continued to deteriorate. For instance, as of September, production of iron, steel and textiles still had not returned to the pre-crisis peak. To change this situation, the Japanese Government adopted stimulant measures in March and September 1978, which centred around the expansion of financial investments; but the expected results were not forthcoming. The fixed capital investment in enterprises remained sluggish. The total investment in equipment last year for the five largest steel companies

was three-fifths below the 1976 figure and one-fourth below 1977. Japan depended mainly on exports to maintain a slow economic growth. But the yen's soaring exchange rate has gradually impeded the export trade. Government statistics show that Japan's total export last year was 97,587 million U.S. dollars, a 21.2 per cent increase over the previous year. Calculated in Japanese yen, however, it was actually 5 per cent less than 1977. According to the forecast of the Mitsubishi Research Institute, the largest Japanese organization doing economic research, the nation's real economic growth rate in the fiscal year beginning April 1, 1979, is likely to drop to 4 per cent.

**E.E.C. Shows Slight Upturn.** The real growth rate of the GNP of the nine countries in the European Economic Community for 1978 was only 2.5 per cent while consumer prices increased by 7.5 per cent. This, however, was an improvement over 1977. Up to last October industrial output for the E.E.C. nations excluding France and Ireland rose. Furthermore, the total foreign trade deficit last year for the nine E.E.C. members was only 5,500 million U.S. dollars, nearly half of the previous year's figure. Serious unemployment, however, remained the E.E.C.'s biggest headache. The E.E.C. Commission predicted that the real growth rate for the nine E.E.C. countries this year would rise to around 3.5 per cent.

The economic situation in the various West European countries varied. Britain's real growth rate last year was 3.5 per cent, the best since its last crisis and the highest in the E.E.C. In that year, Britain managed to break its four-year run of a double-digit increase in consumer prices by bringing it down to 8 per cent, exactly half the rise in 1977. Britain's foreign trade also registered a slight surplus for the first time in years. Though there was a favourable turn in the employment situation in 1978, 1.36 million remained jobless in December, double the figure prior to the last recession and in its early days.

The French economy remained sluggish last year with the real growth rate at 3 per cent, which was nearly the same as the previous year's rate. Consumer prices, however, rose 9.7 per cent, surpassing the 1977 figure. Industrial production started to drop last summer and since then has proceeded by fits and starts, so that the industrial production index in November did not return to the April level. In addition, with the owners of enterprises losing confidence

in the future, last year only saw a real increase of 1 per cent in private fixed capital investment and this has exacerbated the grave unemployment. The number of jobless has been increasing almost month by month since the beginning of last summer, with the average figure for the whole year standing at more than 100 million.

The real growth rate of the Italian economy last year was 2 per cent, a small improvement over the previous year. The value of industrial output for the first 11 months of 1978 was 1.5 per cent higher than for the same period in 1977. Last year consumer prices rose 12.4 per cent, one-third lower than the increase of 1977, but nearly twice the average figure for the nine E.E.C. countries. By the end of last year, the total number of unemployed in Italy was still more than 1.6 million, with 70 per cent below the age of 30.

West Germany's economy has in recent years maintained its pace of gradual improvement. Last year, its GNP grew by 3.4 per cent — below its rate of growth in the 50s and 60s, but far above the average growth rate of 2.4 per cent in 1970-77. Last year, the number of jobless averaged 989,300 which was an improvement over the previous three years when more than 1 million people were unemployed each year. Consumer prices in 1978 increased around 2.5 per cent, the lowest rate in recent years. The rate of utilization of West German industrial equipment has for a long time stagnated at about 80 per cent and, for the foreseeable future, there is no likelihood of booms in fixed capital investments. Throughout 1978, the deutsche mark remained firm. However, with its value going up nearly 30 per cent against the U.S. dollar, West German exports have to a certain extent been put at a disadvantage. It was noted that last year the West German economy switched for the first time since the end of World War II from relying mainly on exports to depending largely on domestic economic factors. Despite this, West Germany's total foreign trade last year was estimated to have netted a favourable balance of 40,700 million marks which was 2,300 marks more than the 1977 surplus.

Although three years have passed since the 1974-75 economic crisis, the capitalist world is still recovering. According to AP estimates, inflation and unemployment this year will probably become major social issues. The road will still be rugged in 1979 for Western economies.

# Chinese Women Discuss Life And Work

Women were more oppressed than men in old China. In addition to the three forms of oppression weighing upon men, women also had to cope with male domination. Mao Zedong wrote that these four oppressions — political, clan, religious and masculine — were the four ropes of China's old feudal-patriarchal society shackling the Chinese people.

In the 30 years since liberation, the social status of women has been fundamentally altered. Such phenomena as child brides and baby girls being drowned are now nonexistent. Equality between men and women is guaranteed by law. Women are playing a larger role in politics, industrial and agricultural production, culture and education and have a bigger say in family affairs.

But the attitude that men are superior to women still persists. Women's complete emancipation still has to be striven for. But it will be aided by socialist modernization, a goal which the Chinese people are now exerting all their effort to achieve.

On the eve of March 8, International Working Women's Day, our correspondent asked eight women of different trades to say something about a woman's life in China.

## Employment Opportunity

Zhang Min, head of the women workers' department of the Shoudu Iron and Steel Company in Beijing had this to say:



Ours is a large iron and steel works in the western suburbs of Beijing. Women account for 15 per cent of the work force in the company's plants. Naturally there are many more men workers in heavy industrial enterprises than in textile mills where women make up the majority. Our enterprise does not recruit its own workers; they are assigned to us by the Labour Bureau according to a state plan.

In terms of employment, women enjoy equal rights with men in state industrial and commercial enterprises and Party and state organs. This right of equal employment and equal pay is guaranteed in Article 53 of the Constitution which says: "Women enjoy equal rights with men in all spheres of political,

economic, cultural, social and family life. Men and women enjoy equal pay for equal work."

A basic condition for women's emancipation is their taking part in social productive labour. Since 1957 the number of women workers and staff members has increased from 3 million to nearly 30 million in the spheres of industry, trade, communications and finances.

In our enterprise, women hold jobs in most fields and receive the same treatment as men. They do their work well as is shown by the fact that there were two women among the 14 pace-setters cited by the company last year. One was an electrician named Li Zhirui, the other a loader called Yan Jinfeng. And Zhao Xiaohua, a woman warehouse keeper, was one of the five workers commended by the Metallurgical Ministry.

However, the attitude that men are better than women also exists in our company. Generally speaking, women workers are physically weaker and are burdened with tiring household chores. Most older women are less educated as they were deprived of the opportunity to study when they were young. In the 1950s, it was



Inspecting products in the Beijing Instruments Factory.

said that two women workers were secretly used to replace one man worker in some factories. This kind of phenomenon no longer exists. But the leadership in certain plants usually assigns women workers to service or auxiliary jobs, paying no heed to their studies of techniques.

As head of the women workers' department, it's my job to get involved with such matters, since our department is charged with the responsibility of training women workers, rousing their enthusiasm and safeguarding their vital interests. We visited the leaders of the various departments and urged them to help women workers acquire production skills and take up technical jobs. If necessary, we told them, we were willing to work with them to achieve these goals. In launching a socialist labour emulation drive, we see to it that those women workers who distinguish themselves in work receive awards so as to reinforce their confidence.

Our department has generally found that unmarried women workers and middle-aged ones whose children have grown up work with greater enthusiasm than the young married women. This is because the latter are weighed down by the responsibility of taking care of their young children and by household chores. Their work attendance and studies are affected. Many factories have conducted education drives to try and help them correctly handle problems related to love, marriage and family planning, and to encourage them to properly deal with their household affairs so that their work and scientific and technological studies will not be hurt.

Meanwhile, we try to help women workers solve their actual problems. We have special

provisions to accommodate women during their menstrual, pregnant, child-birth and nursing periods, and try to run the nurseries, canteens and other service trades well. Our company now has nine kindergartens which can cater for most of its women's children. There is a special bus for those women and their children who live far away from the factories, and forums are held for men workers to encourage them to share the housework.

We do all this to improve the employment opportunities for women workers and to do away with the wrong concept that women are incapable. But I feel that women cannot be further liberated until household work has been socialized.

## Equal Pay for Equal Work

Fu Xiuzhen, woman member of Donggaocun Commune, Pinggu County, in suburban Beijing, explained:



Our Constitution states that men and women should receive equal pay for equal work. But while this can be guaranteed in the cities through a unified government wage system, it is not so easy to carry out in the rural areas.

In the old society there was a small-scale peasant economy based on household production. Women would work all day long in the fields or be busy with household work, yet they did not have any personal income. Men would refer to their wives as "the persons in the house." Now the situation has changed. Women work in production teams and earn an income in the form of workpoints. In order to implement the policy of equal pay for equal work between men and women in the countryside, it is still necessary to struggle against conservative ideas about women which come from the old society.

The number of men and women labourers in our commune is about the same — 4,500 each. In the last few years, because many men were sent to build reservoirs or work in commune-run factories, women were urgently needed to

take part in agricultural production. But only half of the woman labour force would show up on any one day. Instead they would visit their relatives or do needle work at home. And those who did come to the fields did not work very hard. The reason for their poor attitude towards work was they were unhappy about the pay scale. For a man could get as many as 10 work-points a day while a woman wouldn't get any more than eight, even though many women worked just as much and just as well as the men.

The commune Party committee studied this problem and found many leading comrades believed that men were superior to women. The commune Party committee made a self-criticism and urged the production teams to make sure that women received equal pay with men for equal work. Some production team leaders opposed this decision at first because they were afraid it would dampen the men's enthusiasm. And after they were won over, there were some male commune members who complained: "A cock runs faster than a hen!"

There was quite a bit of opposition. Some youngsters proposed that they have a rock-shouldering contest with the women. Others deliberately embarrassed the women. For instance, one day when men and women were both carting earth, the men wanted to put the women down by showing how strong they were, and they hauled 13 cartloads of earth. But normally they would only cart away 6 or 7 loads.

While we know from our own experience that we have to combat the idea of looking down upon women in order to successfully establish equal pay for equal work, women also have to show they are capable and can work well. For instance, women for the first time recently began to learn how to transplant rice. Now 90 per cent of the paddyfields are planted by women and they do it quickly and well. Seeing this, a very conservative old peasant said smilingly: "When they work like this, I don't mind if they get 15 workpoints a day."

In recent years, women have also started to learn other types of highly skilled work which was done exclusively by men before, such as scattering seeds, building houses and driving horse-carts. . . . Women made up 70 per cent



Women members of a Hebei people's commune getting their pay.

of the workforce for the spring ploughing and autumn harvesting. Their attendance rate was above 90 per cent. Grain output was 4,500 kilogrammes per hectare before 1974, now it is 6,800 kilogrammes. A man commune member said: "As long as no one says anything about women's achievements, no one can see their contributions; but when they are mentioned, people quickly see that women really can hold up the other half of the sky."

Now in our commune 10 per cent of the women work force and 30 per cent of the men's receive 10 workpoints a day. Twenty per cent of the women's and men's work force each earn the next highest amount of workpoints. And 35 per cent of the women's and 30 per cent of the men's work force get the third highest number of workpoints.

Putting the policy of equal pay for equal work into effect has actually stimulated men's enthusiasm. When those men who thought of themselves as the main bread winner saw that their wives earned as many workpoints as they did, they were more inclined to share the housework. As a woman's status in the family improves, so does the family atmosphere. And this in turn has a positive effect on family planning. Of course the notion that men are superior to women still exists. But it is nowhere near as serious as before. Now some people say that it doesn't matter whether a woman gives birth to a baby boy or a baby girl. The population growth rate in this commune has fallen from 2.3 per cent in 1970 to 1.1 per cent last year.

## Love and Marriage

**Cao Shunqin, Vice-Chairman of the Shanghai Women's Federation, re-counted:**



Freedom of choice in marriage was practically nonexistent in semi-feudal and semi-colonial old China where marriages were arbitrarily arranged by the parents. Nor was it unusual for a woman to be treated as a commodity that could be bought and sold. This sort of thing was called a mercenary marriage.

A year after nationwide liberation, the Government passed the Marriage Law which outlawed the feudal system of marriage. According to the new law, young people could freely choose their partners, husbands and wives were equal and the interests of women and children were to be protected. The law also forbid polygamy as well as exaction of money or gifts in connection with marriage.

The new law radically changed the old marriage customs. Many young people began to consider a person's moral character and attitude towards work rather than his or her possessions and economic background. Girls would refuse to accept betrothal gifts and men who didn't have enough money to get a wife in the old society were now able to marry and start a family.

This situation unfortunately took a turn for the worse when Lin Biao and the "gang of four" were in power. Party and government organizations in many places stopped functioning. So did the women's federations. This meant that young people had no place to go to when they ran into family or marital problems. Many old practices cropped up again.

In some places in the countryside, parents once again arranged their children's marriages and demanded betrothal gifts. A young man would have to spend a lot of money to buy, among other things, a bicycle, a sewing machine and a radio for the bride or her parents, and he would also have to hold a wedding feast. Quite a few peasants would go into debt as a result. Some parents would marry off their daughters first so they could get enough money

for their sons' wedding. Such marriages were a heavy burden, especially for young peasants.

A similar situation appeared in the cities. Some young people would choose their partners for economic reasons rather than for the latter's character. Often there were serious problems with these marriages.

In the city of Shanghai, most marital problems among middle-aged couples come from the husbands thinking they can rule their families without question like men did in the old society. Sometimes these husbands even beat their wives. But marital problems among young couples mainly happened either because the couple didn't reach a mutual understanding before their marriage or because they had economic disagreements over such matters as poorly planned budgets or whether to help support the parents of either side.

The family is a mainstay in society, so when these kinds of marital problems go unchecked, the social order is affected. That is why our women's federations began to pay special attention to these problems after they started to refunction last year. First of all, we called on the people to look at marriage and love from a socialist perspective and let it be known that those who violated the Marriage Law would be prosecuted.

Nevertheless, law is not all-powerful. It needs to be backed up by good ideological work. At the Fourth National Women's Congress last autumn, people were called on to establish "revolutionary, democratic and harmonious new families." We cadres in the women's federations have to educate members of families to be considerate and helpful to one another, be thrifty and industrious in managing their households and to be respectful to the elderly. In addition, we need to stress that husbands and wives should share the housework and the responsibility of raising and educating their children.

For the last decade or so, the "gang of four" wouldn't allow the subject of love and marriage to appear on the screen, in art or in literary works. The press was not allowed to run articles on how young people should look at love and family life or on successful marriages. If either the women's federations or the Youth League tried to give pointers to young people on this subject, they would be criticized for "not putting politics in command" or "catering to vulgar interests."

Now the problems of giving guidance to young people on these matters is being taken seriously. The journals *Zhongguo Funu* (Women of China) and *Zhongguo Qingnian* (China Youth) and the newspaper *Zhongguo Qingnian Bao* (Chinese Youth) often carry articles on this subject. And love is a common theme in literature. The one-act play *Rendezvous* recently staged in Shanghai and the short story *The Proper Place of Love* were very popular.

## Family Budget

**Zhang Haofen, a woman worker in the Shanghai Jia-feng Cotton Mill, said:**

Like other women, I organize the budget for my family. I plan the expenses for four people, my husband who is a movie projectionist, my youngest two children who are teenagers in middle school and myself. Our oldest two children live away from home and are self-supporting. Our 23-year-old daughter is a peasant on the outskirts of Shanghai and our oldest son is a worker.



As China is a poor developing country, our income is fairly low. So I have to be quite economical in running our household. But as long as we have a sound family budget, we have no trouble getting along on our combined monthly income of 145 yuan. My husband's wage is 78 yuan a month and mine is 67 yuan. My job is made easier by the fact that many basic living costs are quite reasonable. We pay 6 yuan a month, or 5 per cent of our income, for electricity, water and rent for our three-room flat. Both my husband and I get free medical care and we pay half the medical expenses for our children. The other half is paid by my factory. The tuition for their schooling is 7 yuan each per term. Now that two of my children are wage-earners, we spend more money on food. One-third of our income goes for groceries. We mainly eat grains and vegetables with a small amount of meat and eggs.

Like our fellow workers, we lead a simple life. Our tidy home has little furniture and we don't buy fashionable clothing. But simple clothing is not a disgrace. In fact thrift and frugality are respected in China and a person's

social status is not based on how much money he has.

Because we live simply and plan our budget carefully, we are able to save 40 yuan a month and mail 10 yuan to my mother. In the last few years, we have bought, among other things, two bicycles, four watches, a transistor radio and a sewing machine. Before buying something expensive, the whole family gets together and decides what to buy. For instance, once my children wanted to buy a TV set but after talking it over we decided to buy an electric fan first since Shanghai is pretty hot in the summertime. It was only very recently that we were able to buy a black and white TV set.

My husband and his mother who passed away last year have given me a lot of help in running our household. Since my factory is far away from home, I can't get back in time to fix meals. With the help of the children, my husband does the shopping and cooking. He also shares other housework. This may seem to be a small thing but it means a lot to me.

Since our marriage 25 years ago, I have not been tied down by household chores. I joined the Communist Party in 1955 and was cited as a city advanced worker in 1964. In the last 14 years, I was only absent from work for three days because of a minor car accident. I have also been cited as a pace-setter in my factory every year since the overthrow of the "gang of four" in 1976. In 1977 I was cited as a national model worker of the textile industry.

## Family Planning

**Yan Renying, professor of the gynecology department at the No. 1 Hospital affiliated to the Beijing Medical College, (well-known gynecologist who studied medicine in the United States in the 1940s) told me:**



Years ago when I worked in large cities I used to refuse to induce abortions because I thought they were harmful to women's health. Since China's liberation, I came into contact with more patients. I found many women, particularly working women, were very eager to take part in the socialist revolution and construction. But they were unable to because they had big families. Many of them were very anxious to get some birth control devices. Some

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even used dangerous methods to induce an abortion. My views changed; I decided it was my duty to help these women. In 1956, when Chairman Mao called for family planning so that China's population growth could be regulated, I came to realize that family planning was much more than a medical problem. It was important for women's emancipation, the health of mothers and children, and the prosperity of our nation.

Not long ago the state set a target to limit the annual population growth rate to 1 per cent by 1980. Last year the rate fell to less than 1 per cent in the cities of Beijing, Shanghai, Tianjin and in eight provinces. In Sichuan, China's most populous province, it was only 0.8 per cent. And more men in this province are being sterilized than in other provinces. In some places this is being done by giving injections to block the spermatic duct instead of by surgery.

It is expected that the annual population growth rate will drop to less than 1 per cent in more provinces this year, and that those with a higher rate will do better. Take Guangshan County in Henan Province for instance. The population growth rate dropped from 3.52 per cent in 1972 to 0.513 per cent in 1977. The decline is chiefly due to ideological work, to raise people's understanding of the importance of family planning. As a result, 85 per cent of the women in their child-bearing years are now using contraceptives. And more men are being sterilized than women.

Contraceptives, sterilization and induced abortion are free all over the country. There is



Beijing No. 1 Cotton Mill kindergarteners.

no social pressure against women who want to have an abortion. Some elderly people were strongly against it in the 1950s when abortions were available on a large scale for the first time. They claimed that to have an abortion was the same as killing a baby. Such opposition died down as people learnt more about science. But some still worried that the popularization of induced abortions might lead to licentiousness. In fact, licentiousness is a problem related to the social system and social morals and not the popularization of induced abortions. A few unmarried women get pregnant in the urban areas but they are also given a free abortion at a hospital. Since there are no private practitioners in China, induced abortions at a high price are out of the question.

I have seen the benefits of family planning in the last few years. Women have more time and energy to work and study, they can better arrange their family budgets and family lives; the mothers' health can be protected and children brought up in a better way. In short, family planning is a great help to the complete emancipation of women.

## Taking Care of Children

Li Min, deputy secretary of the Zhapu neighbourhood Party committee\* in Hongkou District, Shanghai, said:

If women are to become liberated, they need to be freed from child-care chores so that they can spend more time working and studying.



Sixty thousand people live in our residential area. When the Party Central Committee announced the new Long March towards socialist modernization, our residents enthusiastically responded. That made those of us working on the neighbourhood committee begin to think of ways we could help them. We made an investigation and found there was a strong cry to solve child-related problems. For instance, it was felt that the school-age children of working parents should get meals and after-school help on their homework and that nurseries should be expanded for more infants.

At that time we already had 1,674 children enrolled in the eight nurseries and kindergartens

\* This is an urban organ of power at the grass-roots level, which is a branch office of the district revolutionary committee.



in our residential area, but there were still 211 on a waiting list. After considering quite a few alternatives, we decided to rearrange the rooms and ask some housewives who were in good health to help out. Now all kids from 56 days to six years old are in nurseries and kindergartens except those from families which have elderly people around to care for them.

In the past our nurseries and kindergartens were only open in the daytime. This was very inconvenient for parents working on night shifts. Some of them had to ask for leaves of absence to take care of their children at night. And there were other parents who wanted boarding facilities for children so that they could have more time for reading and studying in the evenings. To meet these demands, all our nurseries and kindergartens now provide round-the-clock service, and parents can go there whenever they wish.

Chinese children start school at the age of 6. In our neighbourhood we have 1,100 school children whose parents both work. Naturally it was not uncommon to see children playing in the streets after school with keys hung around their necks. Besides, there were some middle school students whose parents hadn't had enough education to help them with their studies.

Those of us on the neighbourhood committee felt that the job of bringing up youngsters can't just be left to the schools and parents. We had to help too. So we set up many cultural centres where 900 retired workers, teachers and scientific and technical personnel help children with their lessons. This had a good effect on most of their studies.

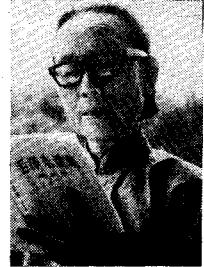


An elderly woman in Foshan, Guangdong, gets citation for good housekeeping.

We are also running five canteens to provide lunch for those school children whose parents can't come home in the middle of the day. In the past, these children had to cook their own lunch.

## The Autumn Years

Yang Guizhi, an old woman living in Jianguo Street, Guilin, Guangxi Zhuang Autonomous Region, told me:



I come from Hunan Province where my forefathers farmed for generations. My husband died before liberation. I was so poor, I had to leave my two children at home and go look for work in the city. I got a job as a wet-nurse there for a while. Then during the war I was forced to move from place to place until I finally settled in Guilin. I located my two children a few years ago, thanks to the help of the Government. I hadn't seen them for years. It turned out they were still living in my native village.

I'm 78 now and I live on money given me every month by my residents' committee.\* But I do not like the idea of being an idle bread eater. So I do volunteer work for the residents' committee which tries to provide services for the 2,000 residents, most of whom are workers, cadres and students. I help look after the aged and children along with 18 other retired workers and housewives. Our average age is 63.

We have many things to do, and our work covers a large area. Sometimes we have to do the unexpected. I'd like to give you just one or two examples.

Once, a woman was about to give birth prematurely. But there was no one around to help her because her husband, a worker, had just undergone an operation in the hospital and her first child was too young. It was for us on the residents' committee to pitch in. We sent the woman to the hospital and one of us stayed behind to look after her child. We continued to give her assistance until her husband was back from the hospital.

In another instance, one couple in our neighbourhood quarrelled a lot. Since the man was a locomotive driver, we were worried

\* An organization set up by residents in an urban area to manage their own affairs. The committee members are elected by the residents.

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that he might become preoccupied with these spats when he was driving and endanger the safety of the passengers. So we tried to help this couple patch things up. After a good deal of gentle persuasion, they finally got back on good terms. The person on our committee who was in charge of the mediation; by the way, was a highly respected 84-year-old grandma.

My daughter and grandson came here several years ago. They wanted to take me back to Hunan so that I could spend my remaining years leisurely with them. Of course I would like to be with my children. But I didn't go because my neighbours need me and I'm getting along quite well here. How could I leave?

There is a lot of concern for old people in our country. My neighbours often give me a helping hand. They do my heavy household chores, like buying coal and cleaning windows. I came down with pleurisy last year. When my neighbours found out they immediately rushed me to the hospital. I couldn't remember how many people came to see me during my stay in the hospital. But I am sure that they brought me much fruit which piled up like a fruit stall by my bed.

I have been living by myself these years, but I never feel lonely. My livelihood is secure. Young people don't treat us old people with disdain. No one has forgotten us either. I try to hold up my end by being useful to society. I began to learn how to read and write when

I was 53. Two years later I applied to join the Party. At that time some people said: What's the use of an old woman joining the Party? But I didn't agree. I should serve my neighbours better and do my bit for socialist construction. I was admitted into the Party when I was 71.

## Women of Minority Nationalities

**Jin Shuying (Mongolian nationality), chairman of a women's federation, said:**

I'm 47, a mother of five. I'm now chairman of a banner (equivalent to a county) women's federation in the Ulanqab League (equivalent to a prefecture) of the Nei Monggol (Inner Mongolia) Autonomous Region.



My parents chose a husband for me before I was born according to the old Mongolian custom. They promised another family that if the newborn were a girl, she would be married to one of their boys. I did not see my husband until the wedding. It turned out that he was a midget less than one metre tall. He often whipped me on a mere whim. Even though it would have been very easy for me to knock him down with my fist, I didn't dare because he was a man. For according to feudal ethics no woman was allowed to offend a man.

In the old society women had to strictly observe the 81 taboos and commandments laid down by the lamas. They were not allowed to read or talk in a loud voice. Nor could they give birth at home; instead they had to do it out in the open or in the stables. My mother-in-law was beaten so often by her husband that her ten fingers were mutilated.

We hated the men and wanted to rise up against them. But it was useless to fight this by yourself. I tried to commit suicide but failed. I tried to run away twice but each time I was brought back.

It was finally possible for me to divorce that midget after the revolution succeeded in 1949 and the Marriage Law was passed in 1950. I was remarried to a man of my own choice. He is a section chief in our banner's commercial department. I also became a cadre in 1951



Mongolian nationality herdswomen shopping.

after I finished studying in a nationalities institute. Later I became a member of the Chinese Communist Party.

I know from my own experiences that women could not have been emancipated if they had just opposed masculine authority. Their emancipation was tied to the liberation of the entire labouring people. My former husband and father-in-law were poor herdsmen who were oppressed, yet they believed the traditional notion that men were superior to women and so they mistreated women. The old social system is to blame for this. If we hadn't overthrown the old social system, our present happiness would have been out of the question.

In those dark days we minority people were discriminated against wherever we went. Women fared even worse since they were at the bottom of the social ladder. Now things have changed. I have been working with Han cadres for many years. We respect each other. I have hardly seen or heard of discrimination against minority people or similar bad things.

Minority nationalities in China, particularly minority women, enjoy preferential treatment. In college entrance examinations, for example, enrolment standards for minority nationality students are lower than for Han students. This means minority students have more opportunities to receive a higher education. Last year, when the state decided to increase wages for workers and staff, minority people were among the first to be considered as long as they were as competent as their Han colleagues. My salary was raised at that time.

A decade or so ago, we were very unhappy when some schools here were forced to stop teaching the Mongolian language. Now it turns out that this was done by local followers of Lin Biao and the "gang of four" to sow discord among various nationalities. They said that the Mongolian language was a foreign language and that those who wanted to learn it were traitors. Mongolian language classes were resumed after the gang was toppled, and what is more, it has been decided that the Han students in the autonomous region also have to study Mongolian.

Women play a big role in Nei Monggol's agriculture and animal husbandry. In our banner many women have learnt to drive tractors, do farm work, herd and deliver animals and serve as veterinarians. There are now 1,399 women workers in our banner. And more and more women are becoming leaders in Party and government organizations, factories and rural areas.

The days when women of the Mongolian nationality were treated as speaking tools are gone for good. But much remains to be done for women's liberation. This is because economic and cultural developments are still at a considerably low level in our country, particularly in the areas inhabited by national minorities. As I see it, it is impossible for women to be completely emancipated until China achieves its socialist modernization. Only then will they be free from heavy physical labour and tiresome housework. Only then will the attitude that women are inferior to men and similar old ideas and habits be done away with.

(Continued from p. 7.)

another opera, was also persecuted and eventually died without being able to defend himself. Wu Han, who wrote *Hai Rui Dismissed From Office*, was even more ruthlessly persecuted until he died in 1969.

Jiang Qing and her gang once gleefully described Yao Wen-yuan's article as the "prelude" to the Cultural Revolution. On

this question, history has given the best answer. Yao Wen-yuan's article was nothing but a shocking frame-up which initiated the campaign of persecution against the academic and cultural circles. In the Cultural Revolution that followed, Jiang Qing and company used the power they had seized and enforced a fascist dictatorship on the people, bringing disastrous losses to the

whole Party and the whole nation.

In bringing the truth to light today, not only are the grievances of the victims redressed but obstacles to the implementation of Chairman Mao's policy of "letting a hundred flowers blossom and a hundred schools of thought contend" are swept away. This will facilitate the development of socialist culture and academic studies.

## WEST GERMANY

### Soviet Military Buildup Is Not Defensive

A debate is raging in West German political and press circles over the policy on security and disarmament.

It was sparked off by statements concerning disarmament made early this year by Herbert Wehner, chairman of the parliamentary group of the ruling Social Democratic Party. Wehner asserted that the Soviet military buildup in Europe was "defensive rather than offensive" and that the Soviet Union maintained a marked tank preponderance in Europe for defence purposes and "not for launching a sudden offensive here."

Wehner aired these views at a time when widespread apprehension prevails in Western Europe over the magnitude of the continuous military buildup of the Soviet Union which, already enjoying an overwhelming edge over the NATO countries by way of conventional arms, is now rapidly boosting its nuclear might against Western Europe. Soviet SS-20s and nuclear-capable Backfire bombers have most of Western Europe within range, including West German targets. The continuing Soviet military buildup cannot help upsetting West European countries.

Many political figures and newspapers in West Germany refuted the views propagated by Wehner as soon as his statements were made public. Manfred Woerner, spokesman on defence policy for the C.D.U.-C.S.U. parliamentary group, in

a statement made to the press said that the assertion that Soviet military might is "defensive" contradicts not only what General Haig and other military experts have said on this subject but also the Federal Government pronouncement that the buildup of Warsaw Pact military forces far exceeds defensive requirements.

In an interview with the *Frankfurter Allgemeine Zeitung*, Alfred Dregger of the opposition Christian Democratic Union said: "So far as conventional, tactical nuclear and strategic nuclear weapons are concerned, Soviet armaments are all offensive in nature." He went on to say that whoever makes a realistic appraisal of the situation will inevitably come to the conclusion that if the military balance is not restored on the European continent, then West Germany, the Netherlands, Belgium and Luxembourg will fall into direct political dependence on the Soviet Union.

A *Die Welt* editorial noted that "it happens that in the Federal Republic (of Germany), and in some other Western countries as well, there has been for years an inclination to go as far as possible to avoid provoking the Soviets, and even to try to cover up facts if they are not to the liking of the Kremlin."

Refuting the apologists for the Soviet Union, the editorial declared: "Those who talk a great deal about the Kremlin's 'desire for peace' are self-contradictory. While making great play about the benevolence of Brezhnev and his crew, they strongly caution against any action which might provoke the

Russian bear, for, if provoked, the bear could turn dangerous and strike out madly. If we take this line of thinking then we would become, more or less, hostages to the Soviet policy of strength."

In its reply to interpolations on the security and disarmament policy raised by the four major parties in parliament, the Bonn government conceded on February 20 that Soviet medium-range weapons were a strategic threat to NATO, and proposed that NATO should take counter-measures.

## NORTH AND SOUTH YEMEN

### Ceasefire Agreement

Since the outbreak of border clashes between the Yemen Arab Republic and the People's Democratic Republic of Yemen on February 20 many nations, particularly the Arab ones, have expressed their grave concern, appealed for a cessation to this fighting, sent envoys to mediate between the two countries and called for a withdrawal of troops.

After Iraq, Syria and Jordan dispatched special envoys to Sanaa and Aden to mediate the dispute, the Yemen Arab Republic and the People's Democratic Republic of Yemen issued separate statements on March 2 in Sanaa, Aden, Damascus, Baghdad and Amman announcing a ceasefire. The statements said that a ceasefire would begin at 8 a.m. on March 3, that their forces would be withdrawn as soon as possible and that both sides would work to create a conducive atmosphere for entering into direct talks, including

an end to their propaganda campaigns.

Differences between the Arab countries, including those that have a historical basis, can be settled through friendly negotiations. But, since the Soviet Union labelled some Arab countries as "reactionary" and others "progressive," their differences have been aggravated and have even led to the use of force. It should be noted that in every event which involved bloodshed, the Soviet Union supported one side and opposed the other.

At a time when the Arab countries have been making collective efforts to eliminate the tension in the Red Sea area, TASS openly supported South Yemen against North Yemen. It alleged on February 27 that it was North Yemen which had invaded South Yemen and that South Yemeni armed forces and militiamen had repelled the invasion. It asserted that all attempts to undermine South Yemen's sovereignty were bound to fail. The TASS report made no mention of the common desire of the Arab world for the cessation of the armed conflict between South and North Yemen.

The Soviet Union has long planned to take a hand in the dispute between the two Yemens and cause trouble in the Arab Peninsula and the Gulf area. The fact that the heads of state of the two Yemens were killed within three days last June is still fresh in people's memories.

At present, there are many Soviet advisers and military personnel in South Yemen. The Soviet Union has ulterior motives for fanning up the dispute between the two countries.

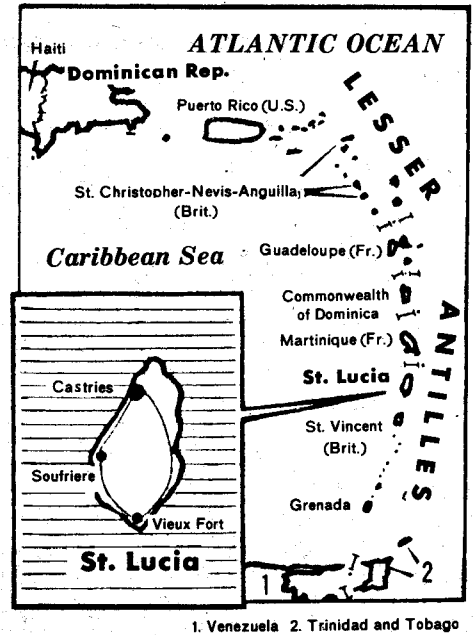
## ST. LUCIA

### Independence Proclaimed

St. Lucia, in the eastern part of the Caribbean Sea, proclaimed its independence on February 22 to become the 29th independent Latin American state.

Prime Minister John Compton said in a speech celebrating the birth of his nation: "The business of the nation and the business of building a nation is never finished." "Let every St. Lucian remember always that the prime responsibility of building a nation is ours." Internally, the St. Lucian Government is committed to developing agricultural production, pushing for a diversified economy, boosting the modernization of its agriculture and paying attention to developing the tourist and other industries. Externally, the Government is firmly opposed to imperialism and colonialism. It will actively support national independence and economic integration in the Caribbean region, stressing unity and co-operation among the member states of the Caribbean Community. It stands for the establishing of a new international economic order and for developing friendly relations with other third world countries.

The people of St. Lucia have waged a prolonged and arduous struggle to achieve national independence. Early in the 17th century, the valiant and industrious Indians of St. Lucia had put up strong resistance against the Western colonial invasion. In 1639, Britain occupied the island, but after a few months, some 400 British colonists were wiped out by the island inhabitants. In 1651, the island was occupied by France. Fierce resistance was put up by the island people and the French



governor was killed. In 1664, the island again was reduced to a British colony. The long struggle between the British and the French for possession of the island ended in 1814 with Britain taking over the island. After a sustained struggle by the St. Lucian people, the island was granted "internal self-government" in March 1967, to become one of Britain's West Indies "Associated" States with Britain responsible for defence and external affairs. In August 1976, the Parliament of St. Lucia adopted a resolution demanding complete independence. From April 1977 on, a St. Lucian government delegation held a number of talks in London with the British Government on St. Lucian independence. It led to the decision that St. Lucia would become fully independent on February 22 this year, a new independent state within the British Commonwealth.

St. Lucia has an area of 616 square kilometres and a population of 150,000. Its principal crops are bananas, coconuts and cocoa.

## ● **Aerial Afforestation**

Over 10 million hectares of barren land and mountain slopes in China were sown from the air. Saplings have appeared on 2.7 million hectares and mature trees on 1.5 million hectares.



Aerial spraying against insect pests in Guangxi.

Large-scale afforestation has brought about a discernible change in the climate. Rainfall and humidity have increased and erosion ameliorated. This is of benefit to agricultural production.

The forest cover of China is proportionately smaller than that of most other countries. Of 80 million hectares of barren land and mountains suitable for afforestation in China, some 33 million are at high altitudes and the most feasible way to plant trees on them is by aircraft.

Aerial afforestation has the further advantages of speed, low cost and high efficiency. Departments concerned are using this method to plant trees more and more extensively.

## ● **Chongqing Builds Big Highway Bridge**

The highway bridge project over the Changjiang River in southwest China's Chongqing is under way.

The actual bridge will be 1,128 metres long, 2,948 metres together with its approaches, and 21 metres wide. It will have seven piers 50 to 60 metres high to allow shipping to pass under, and the central span measuring 174 metres will be the longest one of this type of bridge in China.

Chongqing city, at the confluence of the Changjiang and Jialing Rivers, is surrounded by water on three sides. Before liberation in 1949, there were no bridges, only ferry steamers. Since liberation, a railway bridge has been built over the Changjiang and a railway and two highway bridges over the

Jialing, which vastly improved the city's accessibility. But there was no highway bridge over the Changjiang River. With the completion of the projected bridge, the three parts divided by the two rivers in the city will be linked more closely.

The people of Chongqing are all for this project. Over the past year, several hundred thousand people have taken part in the work.

## ● **Famous Monasteries In Lhasa Reopened**

The three well-known monasteries of Jokhan, Daipung and Sera in Lhasa, capital of the Xizang (Tibet) Autonomous Region, were recently reopened to the general public.

Jokhan Monastery attracts many Tibetan visitors and pilgrims every day. The Buddha images and beautiful frescoes are in excellent shape and the shrine halls are now lit up by electric lights.

Jokhan and other well-known monasteries, which enjoy government protection as major



Gasholpa Chhoekyinyima (with beard), high-ranking official of the former Xizang local government, and other Tibetan patriotic personages inspect Jokhan Monastery in Lhasa.

cultural sites, were closed when Lin Biao and the "gang of four" held sway.

### ● **New Sugar Refineries**

A major sugar-cane producer, the Guangxi Zhuang Autonomous Region last year set up eight new sugar refineries and enlarged one. These will process 6,350 tons of cane a day and produce 76,000 tons of granulated sugar annually.

The 73 sugar refineries built since liberation in this autonomous region can turn out more than 400,000 tons of cane sugar each year.

### ● **Embroidered Kimono Sashes**

An art handicrafts experiment workshop in east China's Hangzhou city has signed a contract with a Japanese firm to embroider the latter's sashes for Japanese kimonos.

Hangzhou silk embroideries have a 1,000-year history and world fame. Japanese merchants visited the workshop last October and were highly impressed by its products. Silk threads in over a dozen colours are used to embroider the sashes.

The traditional Japanese kimono is made of silk and the sash which goes with it is an indispensable ornament of fine workmanship.

### ● **Crackdown on Shoddy Goods**

Two government departments have been criticized for reducing the standards of certain products.

One was the Ministry of Light Industry. In 1977 it lowered the 1965 state specifications set for

matches, so that each box held fewer matches, and some matches were duds.

The other offender was the municipal planning commission of Nanjing. It had ignored state standards for TV sets and had set lower standards for checking the quality of Nanjing's 9-inch black-white TV sets. In a nationwide appraisal the sets produced by the Nanjing Television Set Factory were behind everyone else. Beijing rejected all its sets.

Both departments were severely taken to task by consumers and related stores. A letter from a reader published in *Renmin Ribao* pointed out that a box of matches was only two fen, but matches are intimately bound to the people's daily life. This flagrant lowering of standards must not be countenanced, it said. The Ministry of Light Industry and the planning commission of Nanjing should take immediate steps to stop this practice harming the people's interests. The letter went on to suggest that the departments responsible for standards and specifications should carefully inspect and enforce what they have laid down for the quality of products.

### ● **Commercial Ads in Newspapers**

*Tianjin Ribao* began running commercial advertisements. Shanghai's *Wen Hui Bao* published an article entitled "Reinstating Advertisements." The first ad in the *Tianjin Ribao* was for all the toothpastes produced in the city. The consumers found it helpful to know the special features of each brand so they could make their selections according to their preferences.

Since the start of the Cultural Revolution in 1966, com-

mercial advertisements completely disappeared from the Chinese press because Lin Biao and the "gang of four" alleged these ads "are the practice of capitalist businesses," when they took control of the country's mass media. For a period of time even window displays and showcases were banned.

After the smashing of the "gang of four," attention was again given to designing shop-window displays, but people were still not sure by the end of 1978 whether newspapers should run commercial ads, and no one tried.

As there is no private enterprises' cut-throat competition in China, there is no need for ads or a big advertising industry as in capitalist countries. But this does not mean that there is no need for ads. As the *Wen Hui Bao* article stated: We should use advertisements to convey knowledge and help people as well as to establish and cement the ties between the people and the departments responsible for the production and sale of commodities.

The press, radio and television should advertise new products, techniques, technological processes and service departments, continued *Wen Hui Bao*. Although the papers now carry some movie and theatre ads, they are very simple. Why shouldn't there be a flowering of both pictures and words in these ads?



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## **LINES OF BUSINESS**

### Advertising:

Handling advertising business of Chinese export commodities in foreign countries, including advertisements in newspapers or magazines, billboards, posters, slides, filmlets, televisions, etc. Undertaking commercial advertising business in China for foreign manufacturers or traders.

### Designing and Printing:

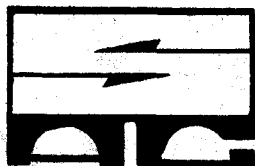
Handling art designing and printing of various trade marks, packaging, catalogues, pictorials, calendars, etc, for various commodities.

### Display:

Arranging display of Chinese export commodities and foreign commodities exhibited in Shanghai, Designing and producing various mannequins, stand display, etc. for various exhibit purposes.

### Publicity Photographing:

Photographing and processing various artistic publicity pictures for commodities. Photographing advertising television films and filmlets for various commodities.



**上海广告公司**

**SHANGHAI ADVERTISING CORPORATION**

Address: 97 Yuan Ming Yuan Road  
Shanghai, China

Cable Address: "ADVERCORP"  
SHANGHAI