

BEIJING REVIEW

- China's Structure of State Power
- Establish a New International Economic Order



BEIJING REVIEW

北京周报

Vol. 22, No. 20

May 18, 1979

CONTENTS

CHRONICLE	2
EVENTS & TRENDS	3
Uniting Youths to Carry out Four Modernizations	
China to Release First Group of Captured Vietnamese	
Developing Coal Industry	
State Farms Set the Pace	
Education: Apex and Base of a Pyramid	
Lessons From a Case of Embezzlement	
ARTICLES AND DOCUMENTS	
Emancipate Our Minds and Blaze Our Own Road—In commemoration of the 60th anniversary of the May 4th Movement—"Renmin Ribao" editorial	8
New International Economic Order: An Irresistible Historical Trend—Speech by Liu Xiwen, Head of the Chinese Delegation, at UNCTAD V on May 10	11
Viet Nam's Hegemonist Logic—"Renmin Ribao" Commentator	14
SPECIAL FEATURE	
China's Structure of State Power:	
People's Congresses	18
State Council—the Central People's Government	20
Revolutionary Committees—Local People's Government	21
Beijing Municipal Revolutionary Committee: Its Members—Our Correspondent Tian Sansong	23
ROUND THE WORLD	28
ON THE HOME FRONT	30
COVER: The Great Hall of the People—meeting place of the National People's Congress.	

Printed in the People's Republic of China
Post Office Registration No. 2-922
Beijing (37), China
Published every Friday by BEIJING REVIEW,

CHRONICLE

May 7

● A 4-day meeting of the 3rd session of the Standing Committee of the Fifth National Committee of the Chinese People's Political Consultative Conference closed. The meeting heard reports by ministers on the international situation and on the state of affairs in China's industry and communications.

● China's first China-Japan Friendship Passenger Ship carrying 600 envoys of friendship of the Chinese people left Shanghai for a visit to Japan. The delegation was headed by Liao Chengzhi, President of the China-Japan Friendship Association. It will call in ten Japanese ports during its month-long visit.

May 10

● Vice-Premier Deng Xiaoping met with U.S. Secretary of Commerce Juanita Kreps and exchanged views on expanding economic and trade relations between the two countries.

During Kreps' stay in China, two agreements and four protocols between the two countries were signed. They are: an agreement on the settlement of claims on assets and an agreement on trade exhibitions to be held in 1980 in each other's country; protocols on co-operation in management in science and technology and scientific and technical information, on co-operation in the field of atmospheric science and technology, on co-operation in fishery and marine science and technology, and on co-operation in the fields of metrology and standards.

An agreement on trade relations between the two countries was also initialed, which will accord each other most-favoured-nation treatment.

May 12

● Premier Hua Guofeng met with New Zealand Deputy Prime Minister Talboys. They exchanged views on the current international situation, particularly the situation in Indochina and Southeast Asia.

● Vice-Premiers Deng Xiaoping and Xu Xiangqian met the Zaire Military Delegation headed by Brigadier-General Eluke Monga Andu, Secretary of State of the Department of National Defence and Territorial Security.

May 13

● The 4th Chinese People's Liberation Army Games opened in Beijing with more than 3,000 athletes participating. Chairman Hua and Vice-Chairman Deng Xiaoping and Vice-Chairman Xu Xiangqian of the Military Commission of the Central Committee of the Chinese Communist Party attended the opening ceremony.



Uniting Youths to Carry Out Four Modernizations

The All-China Youth Federation and the All-China Students' Federation held separately a seven-day meeting in Beijing around May 4, China's Youth Day. The two meetings set forth the tasks for the youth and student organizations in the new period when the focus of the nation's work is shifted to socialist modernization. They revised their respective constitutions and elected new leading bodies.

All-China Youth Federation. Set up 30 years ago, the federation has done much work in rallying the young people to take an active part in socialist revolution and construction. The first session of the federation's fifth committee, held earlier this month, has decided that the primary task at present is to unite the young people of all nationalities in the country to work for the four modernizations.

A federation of various youth organizations under the leadership of the Chinese Communist Party and with the Chinese Communist Youth League as its core, the All-China Youth Federation is composed of the Communist Youth League of China, the All-China Students' Federation, the Y.M.C.A. and the Y.W.C.A. of China, and the youth federations of the various provinces, municipalities and autonomous regions.

The report delivered to the session concerning the federation's work expounded some policies connected with the young people. In dealing with

youths from families of the exploiting classes and those whose parents have serious political questions, the report pointed out, the emphasis should be placed on their own political stand; with regard to youths of minority nationalities, their traditions and customs and habits should be respected, and young people who have returned from overseas should be well looked after.

Attending the session were 460 committee members from 54 nationalities. Among them were model workers, combat heroes, scientists, teachers, athletes, representatives of religious circles and returned overseas Chinese. There was also a Shanghai girl named Yu Shanling from a bourgeois family. Despite repeated requests from her parents to go to Xianggang (Hongkong), she had settled in a remote land-reclamation area in Xinjiang for 16 years. Her outstanding contributions to building up the frontier regions have inspired many young people.

All-China Students' Federation. With a history of 60 years, it has, since 1921 when the Chinese Communist Party was founded, been leading the students' movement under the Party's guidance. An important component of the revolutionary mass movements, it has at its recent 19th Congress, attended by 392 delegates, laid down its tasks for the days ahead. These are: unite the students and encourage them to study hard and to develop morally, intellectually and physically so as to be able to make their contributions to the four modernizations.

The two youth organizations are notable for their fine tradition of uniting with the students and other young people. This tradition will be carried forward in the days to come. They also serve as an important link through which the Chinese Communist Party maintains close ties with the youths, and explain the Party's line, principles and policies to them. At the same time they reflect the opinions and demands of the young people working in various fields and help the Party solve problems among the youths.

Another important task of the two organizations is to promote contacts with the youths and students in Taiwan and bring about an early reunification of the motherland. Decisions have also been taken to promote friendly contacts with foreign youths, broaden the international united front against hegemonism and strive for a peaceful international environment favourable to the realization of the four modernizations.

China to Release First Group of Captured Vietnamese

Speaking at a press conference in Beijing on May 11, Vice-Foreign Minister Zhong Xidong announced that "the Chinese Government has decided to release unilaterally the first group of captured Vietnamese armed personnel on May 19."

The Xinhua News Agency was authorized at the same time

to issue a statement announcing that the Chinese Government, in the spirit of revolutionary humanitarianism, was prepared at any time to release and repatriate all the captured Vietnamese personnel, and demanded that the Vietnamese side release and repatriate all the captured Chinese personnel simultaneously.

In order to expedite the repatriation of all the captured personnel by both sides, the Chinese Government Delegation already proposed at the negotiations between the Vice-Foreign Ministers of China and Viet Nam that the two sides reach an agreement in principle on this question and then entrust the Red Cross Societies of the two countries with the discussion and handling of specific matters concerning the repatriation. However, the Vietnamese authorities have paid no heed to China's proposal. In order to bring about an early reunion of the captured personnel with their families, the Chinese Government has now decided to release and repatriate first a batch of captured Vietnamese armed personnel in the immediate future, and it again proposes that the Red Cross Societies of the two countries meet as soon as possible to discuss and handle the specific matters concerning the repatriation of all the captured personnel by the two sides. This is yet another act of good will on the part of the Chinese Government in its effort to improve the relations between the two countries.

The captured Vietnamese personnel are well looked after in China, with the wounded and the sick receiving proper medical treatment. China had

invited representatives of the International Red Cross Society and foreign journalists to inspect and visit the places where the captured Vietnamese personnel lived. But the Vietnamese side had turned down requests from representatives of the International Red Cross Society to visit places where the captured Chinese personnel were staying and even refused to supply them with the necessary materials. At the same time it exerted pressure on the captured Chinese. This is a violation of the international agreement on war prisoners.

In replying questions by foreign correspondents, Vice-Foreign Minister Zhong Xidong said at the press conference that China originally planned to release more captured Vietnamese personnel, but owing to the traffic pinch, the first group of more than a hundred Vietnamese would be set free in Guangxi. Preparations would be made to release the others in groups in future. The action, he pointed out, was aimed at speeding up the release and repatriation of all captives by both sides.

At the fourth plenary session of the negotiations between the Vice-Foreign Ministers of the two countries on May 12, both sides discussed the question of releasing and repatriating the captured personnel. The Vietnamese side agreed to the Chinese proposal that the Red Cross Societies of both countries negotiate and handle the matter. The Vietnamese statement issued at the meeting said that the Vietnamese side would send its representatives to meet with representatives of the Red Cross Society of China at the Youyi-

guan, but for "technical reasons," the Vietnamese side suggested that the meeting be held at 10 A.M. on May 21, 1979. The Vietnamese side in its statement attacked the Chinese Government's decision to release and repatriate, of its own accord, a group of captured Vietnamese armed personnel as "an arrogant action," adding that it "raises doubts about its professions of goodwill." These fallacies were refuted by the Chinese delegation.

At the fourth session Han Nianlong, head of the Chinese Government Delegation, explained the real nature of the border dispute between China and Viet Nam, saying that the eight-point proposal of principles put forward by the Chinese side at the second plenary session pointed up the root cause of the worsening of Sino-Vietnamese relations and the dispute between the two countries. He once again urged that the Vietnamese side give the eight-point proposal of principles serious consideration and study. But the negotiations could not go on smoothly because of the Vietnamese side's unceasing haggling about the methods of negotiation.

Developing Coal Industry

Two coal mining centres in east China are being expanded. One is in the Huainan-HuaiBei area in Anhui Province and the other is in the Xuzhou area in Jiangsu Province.

In the Huainan-HuaiBei area, seven shaft mines are under construction; their annual production capacity is 14 million tons, which surpasses the total

of the existing shafts there. Surveys have shown that the area has concentrated thick seams of quality coal amounting to 22,000 million tons. Five coal-washing plants will be built there, and each will be able to produce several million tons of dressed coal every year for the iron and steel industry. In addition, several large thermal power plants will be built to make the area an important base of power supply in east China.

In the Xuzhou area, two new shaft mines with a total annual capacity of 1.8 million tons have been put into production. Another three with a total annual capacity of 2.7 million tons are under construction. This is part of an expansion plan at this mining centre which originally had an annual capacity of 13 million tons. Surveys show that the area has a deposit of more than 2,400 million tons of various kinds of coal.

At present, coal is still China's main source of energy. Since the downfall of the "gang of four," the coal industry has developed at a fairly quick pace. The annual increase of coal output in 1977 and 1978 was 50 million tons and total output last year topped 600 million tons.

Notwithstanding all these achievements, the coal industry is still a weak link in the national economy. The scale and speed of construction of new shafts cannot meet the needs of the developing economy, and tunnelling in some mines cannot keep pace with the excavation of coal. In these circumstances, the state is building new shafts while fully tapping the potential of existing mines.



Workers, technicians and leading cadres of the Kailuan Coal Mine discussing how to produce more coal.

State Farms Set the Pace

The State General Bureau of Reclamation recently commended 402 state farms as advanced units for their achievements in production. Some of these farms are highly mechanized and for the most part produce food grain. Every worker there turns out on the average more than 10 tons of grain a year, the proportion of marketable grain being over 50 per cent, the highest 70 per cent. Some are rubber plantations, some grow tangerines and other cash crops, and some engage in a diversified economy, with an eye to becoming enterprises with industry, agriculture and commerce rolled into one.

The people's communes which are collectively owned by the peasants account for the bulk of China's farm output; the state farms which are owned by the whole people are also an important force to be reckoned with. While members of people's communes are paid ac-

ording to the number of work-points they earn, state farm workers get wages just like workers in the state-owned factories.

At present there are some 2,000 state farms in China with more than 4 million hectares of land. Staffed by 5 million workers, they are larger in scale and more mechanized than the people's communes. However, their superiority could not be brought into full play in the past decade owing to sabotage by Lin Biao and the "gang of four" as well as shortcomings and mistakes on the part of the leading departments. Some of these farms were deep in the red.

To remedy this situation, measures have been taken since the beginning of last year with initial success. Total value of output of the state farms in 1978 outstripped that of 1977 by 17 per cent, the 402 farms commended being the ones that have obtained the most remarkable success. Labour produc-

tivity, however, is still low in most farms, and the proportion of marketable grain is only around 30 per cent. This shows that there is much room for improvement.

The Third Plenary Session of the 11th Central Committee of the Communist Party of China held towards the end of last year decided that state investment in agriculture will chiefly go to building up a number of bases producing marketable grain and cash crops and for developing animal husbandry. In this regard, the state farms have a big role to play. To build these farms into modern enterprises with high labour productivity and a high proportion of marketable products, it is decided to firstly, bring about specialized production step by step; secondly, speed up farm mechanization; thirdly, engage in industry and commerce wherever local conditions permit; and fourthly, improve the work of management and economic accounting.

Education: Apex and Base Of a Pyramid

Like a pyramid, the more solid the base, the higher would be its apex, schools can train more and more outstanding students only when there is a general rise in standard. This is the view of many educationists, teachers and parents on how the schools can train large numbers of capable students.

Education in China suffered seriously at the hands of Lin Biao and the "gang of four"

who negated intellectual pursuits. Instead, they praised a young man to the skies for having handed in a blank examination paper and described those who studied hard and got good marks at school as "revisionist shoots."

In the past two years or so, measures have been taken to bring things back to normal and develop education anew.

— A large number of schools have been reopened or started. These include correspondence schools, various kinds of spare-time schools and courses taught by means of the radio or TV.

— Reforms have been carried out on the system of examination and enrolment and improvements have been made with regard to the teaching materials.

— A number of universities and colleges, middle and primary schools have been selected as key schools throughout the country. These schools are provided with better teachers and better equipment and have the advantage of enrolling the best students.

— Many schools have divided students of the same year into "quick" and "slow" classes in accordance with their standard, and some schools have set up special classes for the very best. In this way, the students stand to gain. Teaching can be conducted at a faster pace to the better students, and in the case of students who have neglected their studies in the last few years, they will be given extra tutoring to help them catch up with the others.

With things back to normal, the students are doing their best in their studies. There is, however, the tendency in some places and schools to pay attention only to key schools and classes with better students to the neglect of the rest.

The Rushan county (in Shandong Province) authorities on the eastern seaboard has taken timely measures to correct this deviation. The education bureau there has assigned competent leading comrades to work in schools of an average standard and competent teachers to teach in classes for the average students. While creating conditions for training talented students, they have paid due attention to raising the standards of all the students.

As the four modernizations call for the training of capable persons as quickly as possible, it is necessary therefore to help the better-than-average students to make rapid progress. But if we should ignore the large number of ordinary ones and do not help them to make progress too, work in the various fields would be affected and damage would be done to education as a whole. This dialectical relationship was clearly pointed out by Chairman Mao when he said: "The raising of standards is based on popularization, while popularization is guided by the raising of standards."

The aim of socialist education is to train physical and mental labourers with both political consciousness and culture. It demands that those who receive an education will be helped to

develop morally, intellectually and physically. It recognizes the differences among those receiving education and calls for everyone to give full play to his or her strong points. This of course differs fundamentally from the capitalist educational system which trains talented students to become spiritual aristocrats lording it over the labouring people.

Lessons From a Case of Embezzlement

A case of embezzlement, the biggest in the northeast China's Heilongjiang Province since the founding of New China, has been cracked. The chief culprit is Wang Shouxin, a 58-year-old woman and Party branch secretary and manager of the Fuel Company of Binxian County. She has since 1972 made away with state property worth 536,000 yuan.

"If you have money, you can make the devil push the millstone for you." This was a well-known saying in the old society where corruption and bribery were rife. In the early post-liberation period, a campaign was launched against the "three evils" — corruption, waste and bureaucracy. It brought about a change in social practices throughout the country. The cadres were honest and upright, to the delight and satisfaction of the people.

Why could bad elements like Wang Shouxin and her ilk carry on illegal activities uncheck-

ed for such a long time? How could such acts be eliminated?

In recent years, owing to the sabotage of Lin Biao and the "gang of four," some Party members were tainted ideologically, and social practices deteriorated. Some people no longer adhered to the socialist road and threw Party principles to the winds. Instead, they practised favouritism and placed private interests first. Wang Shouxin took advantage of this situation and, by various crooked methods, succeeded in corrupting a number of cadres, including a few leading cadres at the county and provincial levels, who gave her the green light to carry on illegal activities.

Wang Shouxin's case pointed to the impurity of the Party's organization. Formerly a cashier of the fuel company, she led a dissolute life. During the Cultural Revolution when Lin Biao and the "gang of four" carried out an ultra-Left line, she seized power in the company under the banner of "rebellion" against the leadership and wormed her way into the Communist Party. Before long she planted her own men in responsible positions and discriminated against those who held different views.

The case also showed that bureaucracy is an evil that must be combated. As early as in 1972, many people in the county wrote to Party and state departments concerned, accusing and exposing Wang Shouxin and her bunch of conspirators. But

these letters were shelved, without anyone bothering to look into the matter. Topping such intolerable bureaucratic attitude towards complaints by the people was the fact that a few leading cadres went so far as to crack down on those who dared to speak up. Thus there was no guarantee for the people's democratic rights and law-breakers like Wang Shouxin could have their own way unchallenged.

Now, Wang Shouxin and her cohorts have been arrested and will be duly punished according to law. Others who are connected with this ring are being examined.

Exposure of the case was heartening news to the people. It demonstrates that the Party and government have confidence in eliminating corruption and other evils. Wang Shouxin and her cohorts who sabotaged socialism and followed the capitalist road could thrive under the aegis of the "gang of four" and other sham revolutionaries, but today they cannot escape punishment for their crimes against the state and the people.



Emancipate Our Minds and Blaze Our Own Road

— In commemoration of the 60th anniversary
of the May 4th Movement

“Renmin Ribao” editorial

The 60 years since the May 4th Movement of 1919 have shown that it will not do to simply copy the experience of other countries, that the proper thing to do is to integrate the universal truth of Marxism with the practice of the Chinese revolution and blaze a road of our own. This is so in making revolution and also the case with socialist modernization.

COMMEMORATING the 60th anniversary of the May 4th Movement has particular significance at this moment when we are shifting the focus of work to the four modernizations and encouraging people to emancipate their minds and carry forward the spirit of democracy and science.

Movement to Emancipate the Mind

The May 4th Movement was a great patriotic movement and also a great new cultural movement; it was a great emancipation of the mind. In the Opium War of 1840, the imperialists began using guns to batter down the doors of the aging Qing Dynasty (1644-1911) empire. The rule of the “celestial court” was rocked by grave national crises and acute class contradictions. The policy of sealing the country off from the rest of the world could no longer prevail; the Western influence was hastening the disintegration of the feudal system. Whither China? This was the question that racked the brains of every person mindful of the destiny of his or her country.

Clinging to feudalism like grim death, some diehards tried to preserve, “the nation’s quintessence” and uphold the orthodoxy of Confucius and Mencius, and stubbornly rejected all new things, all new ideas and all foreign culture. There were also intellectuals who looked to the West for truth, introducing to China the theory

of evolution, the theory of natural rights and the ideas of bourgeois democracy. The old feudal culture was finished, but the bourgeois culture of the West was not doing much better. People vacillated and grew sceptical.

Then came the October Revolution of 1917 which shook the world. The more progressive Chinese began to turn their eyes to Russia and through Russia, they came to have an understanding of Marxism. The May 4th Movement spurred the dissemination of Marxism in China and from then on the Chinese people found a way out, which was: Learn from Russia and take the road of the October Revolution.

The discovery of this road was the outcome of emancipating the mind and breaking with blind faith. Naturally, not everyone advocating the new in the period of the May 4th Movement took this road. Some, in fact, changed the May 4th spirit to its very opposite. They replaced the old dogmas of feudalism which they opposed with dogmas of the bourgeoisie from abroad; they destroyed the old blind faith but fostered the new. Their representative was Hu Shi, the bourgeois scholar. As he saw it, nothing Chinese was good and everything Western was wonderful. He publicly advocated China going “wholesale for Westernization.”

It was the Chinese Communists represented by Comrade Mao Zedong who inherited the scientific and democratic spirit of the May 4th Movement and transformed it on the basis of Marxism; they opposed both the old dogmas of feudalism and the foreign dogmas of the bourgeoisie and thus kept to the road of the October Revolution.

But new deviations again took place along this road. In the opinion of the “Left” opportunists represented by Wang Ming, taking the

road of the Russians meant blindly copying things from Marxist-Leninist literature and the experience of the Soviet Union and having blind faith in everything Stalin and the Communist International said, and there was no need at all to integrate them with the actual conditions in China or subject them to the test of practice. The "Left" opportunists turned Marxism into dogmatism. This dogmatism which held sway inside the Party did great harm to the revolutionary cause. Their erroneous thinking was overcome in the rectification movement in Yanan in 1942, which was another movement for emancipating the mind, a continuation and development of the May 4th spirit.

Take the Chinese Way

Basically, the Chinese revolution has taken the road of the October Revolution. But, as borne out by history, simply copying the Russian experience leads us nowhere; what we need is the integration of the universal truth of Marxism with the practice of the Chinese revolution, and Mao Zedong Thought is the outcome of this integration. Encircling the city from the countryside, uniting with while struggling against the national bourgeoisie—all these were original and unknown to the Russian rev-

olution. In this sense, our revolution has also traversed a road of our own. It was along this road of ours that we emerged victorious in 1949, exactly 30 years after the May 4th Movement. Since then another 30 years have elapsed. Our experience in the second period of 30 years tells us that in socialist construction and in carrying out the four modernizations, we must also take a road of our own.

We had no experience in socialist construction in the early days of the People's Republic. The Soviet Union was the only example we could follow. There was no question of our learning from the Soviet Union. But how? Blindly copy its experience or learn from it analytically and critically? In 1956, our Party published an article entitled *On the Historical Experience of the Dictatorship of the Proletariat*. That same year, Comrade Mao Zedong wrote his *On the Ten Major Relationships* in which he pointed out: "In the Soviet Union certain defects and errors that occurred in the course of their building socialism have lately come to light. Do you want to follow the detours they have made? It was by drawing lessons from their experience that we were able to avoid certain detours in the past, and there is all the more reason for us to do so now." In it there was a section on "The Relationship Between China and Other Countries" expounding in an all-round way the question of learning from foreign countries. In 1957 he published his *On the Correct Handling of Contradictions Among the People*, which, together with *On the Ten Major Relationships*, drew experience and lessons from the Soviet Union and pointed out the direction of our own road to socialism.

Tortuous Course

It can be said that we have been seeking a Chinese road to modernization since 1956. This search has taken a tortuous course. On the one hand, it takes a relatively long time for us to discern, through practice, which of the Soviet experiences are correct and suited to Chinese conditions, and which of them are not. On the other hand, at that time we did not have much opportunity for establishing broad contacts with the reality of other foreign countries and getting to know things from many sources because there was a blockade imposed on our country. This explains why we had to stress the need to create our own experience on many things. In addition, there were shortcomings and mistakes in our work, so it was unavoidable for us to make some unnecessary detours in our advance.



Stamps in commemoration of the 60th anniversary of the May 4th Movement.

During the Great Cultural Revolution, Lin Biao and the "gang of four" exercised a cultural autocracy and propagated obscurantism and blind faith. They turned bits and pieces of Marxism-Leninism-Mao Zedong Thought into religious dogmas and also blindly rejected everything foreign. They freely threw about such charges as "worshipping things foreign and fawning on foreigners," and "servility to things foreign," shut their eyes to the changes in the world, and indulged in self-glorification behind closed doors. Their perversities widened the gap between our country and the advanced countries and brought the national economy to the brink of collapse.

At the wishes of the people, the Party Central Committee headed by Comrade Hua Guofeng smashed the "gang of four" and ushered in a new period. Today, our Party has started a new Long March towards modernization. In step with this new Long March, we must continue to throw blind faith overboard, emancipate our minds, and carry forward the May 4th spirit of patriotism, science and democracy.

The conditions are all there for us to learn from other countries. We must adopt a correct attitude in learning. We must neither have blind faith in ourselves nor in foreign countries. Comrade Mao Zedong said: "Our policy is to learn from the strong points of all nations and all countries, learn all that is genuinely good in the political, economic, scientific and technological fields and in literature and art. But we must learn with an analytical and critical eye, not blindly, and we mustn't copy everything indiscriminately and transplant mechanically. Naturally, we mustn't pick up their shortcomings and weak points." (*On the Ten Major Relationships*.)

Nor is this all. In learning that which is good from foreign countries, we must also consider how to make it fit conditions in China. This is what we mean by making foreign things serve China.

Keep to the Socialist Road

The patriotic spirit of the May 4th Movement is of great and immediate significance to us. The content of patriotism varies in different historical periods. Today, patriotism is to love socialism and keep to the socialist road.

At the moment there is a tiny incipient trend of scepticism towards socialism. Apart from the class enemy trying to fan it up, it arises mainly

from the confusion in people's minds caused by Lin Biao and the "gang of four" who, for a long time, brought on universal poverty through their pseudo-socialism and thus discredited socialism. Many fail to see the difference between socialism and capitalism.

To solve this problem, we must continue to eliminate the pernicious influence of Lin Biao and the "gang of four" and energetically propagate scientific socialism. Moreover, we must intensify our theoretical studies of scientific socialism. There must be no vacillation over the principle of socialism and the socialist road, but the specific form of socialism must be studied.

We should sum up our practice over the last 30 years since the founding of the People's Republic in real earnest and modestly learn from the experience of other socialist countries so as to closely integrate the universal truth of Marxism-Leninism with the concrete practice of socialist construction in China. We should also learn modestly the experience of all advanced countries in developing their science and technology and blaze a Chinese road to modernization. This is our historical mission.

Science and Democracy

The slogan of science and democracy in the days of the May 4th Movement is still of great and immediate significance for us. We need both science and democracy. Without democracy there can be no socialism; without democracy there can be no four modernizations either. In carrying out socialist modernization, we must rely on the masses, arouse the initiative of the people in their hundreds of millions. Therefore, we must give play to democracy. The masses who are directly engaged in production and construction have the most practical experience and know best. The Party should listen attentively to their opinions, study their experience and on this basis work out the line, principles and policies; then it should get the masses to act consciously according to the line, principles and policies and test them through the practice of the masses. History is made by the people. Socialist modernization in the Chinese way, too, will have to be created and built by the masses of people under Party leadership.

When we speak about democracy, we mean socialist democracy, of course, not bourgeois democracy. The former is democracy for the overwhelming majority of the people, and it is far superior to bourgeois democracy. It must be admitted that our socialist democratic system is

not yet perfect. Democratization, like modernization, is a course that has to be traversed step by step. But this is the direction towards which we must advance unswervingly.

To build our country into a modern, powerful socialist country, it is necessary to adhere to the guidance of Marxism-Leninism-Mao Zedong Thought. Mao Zedong Thought is the outcome of the integration of Marxism-Leninism with the revolutionary practice in China. It has guided our Party to win one great victory after another.

In the new Long March we need to integrate Marxism-Leninism-Mao Zedong Thought with the practice of our four modernizations and,

under its guidance, to study and solve new problems. This calls for courage to break down obsolete conventions and give up obsolete concepts. The purpose of emancipating our minds is to seek the truth and the criterion to measure truth is practice. Marxism maintains that all theories, Marxist theories included, come from practice and have to be tested in practice. We adhere to anything that has been proved to be correct in practice; we will also revise anything that has been proved to be wrong in practice. This is the most thoroughgoing scientific approach.

(A slightly abridged translation of the May 5 editorial. Subheads are ours.)

New International Economic Order: An Irresistible Historical Trend

— Speech by Liu Xiwen, Head of the Chinese
Delegation, at UNCTAD V on May 10

A SALIENT feature in the arena of international economy since the last session of UNCTAD [United Nations Conference on Trade and Development] is that the developing countries, while preserving national independence and state sovereignty, have strengthened economic co-operation and made gratifying advances in their own national economies. Some of these countries have raised their agricultural production, upgraded the level of their industries, science and technology, expanded their foreign trade and improved their people's livelihood.

Economic Co-operation Among Developing Countries

The Conference on Economic Co-operation Among Developing Countries held at Mexico City in September 1976 decided to establish a trade preferential system among the developing countries. This demonstrated the resolve and strength of the third world countries in closing their ranks for a joint struggle. Last year's T.C.D.C. conference [conference on technical co-operation among developing countries] was quite successful. The Asian-Pacific developing



countries have made some headway in regional co-operation. Last August's ministerial conference on Asian-Pacific trade co-operation convened by ESCAP [Economic and Social Commission for Asia and Pacific] gained positive results by adopting a blueprint and a programme of action for the development of economic and trade co-operation in the Asian-Pacific region. The ASEAN countries have made significant progress in widening their economic co-operation by signing long-term trade contracts, providing low-interest loans and, particularly, by making special preferential arrangements for over 70 kinds of products. Their cohesion and co-operation are a contribution to the peace, stability and prosperity of Southeast Asia and the Asian-Pacific region as a whole. The Afro-Arab Summit Conference held at Cairo in March 1977 adopted such important programmes as the Declaration of Afro-Arab Economic and Financial Co-operation. This is of great significance for promoting the Afro-Arab joint struggle and econom-

ic co-operation. The Latin-American Economic System has enlarged its membership in the course of struggle since its founding in 1975; it has strengthened its links and co-operation with the other organizations of the region, thus pushing forward the economic integrations of Latin America. The various organizations of raw-material producing countries of the third world are gathering strength and heading towards a wider union. A number of developing countries have organized their own shipping administrations and merchant fleets. There are nearly 20 financial co-operation organizations in the third world. All this plays a positive role in transforming the old international economic relationship, establishing a new economic order and developing the national economies of the third world countries.

In recent years, a number of developed countries have taken a realistic approach in dealing with some international economic problems. They have responded in varying degrees to the calls of the developing countries, thus improving their co-operation with the latter. There has been a notable growth in the economic and trade exchanges between the European Economic Community and Afro-Arab countries in recent years. The same thing has taken place between the developed countries of Northern Europe and the Asian-Pacific region and the developing countries. A dozen developed creditor countries have cancelled the debts incurred by some of the least developed countries, and this has created a favourable atmosphere for the North-South dialogue.

The Existing International Economic Relations Must Be Transformed

It must be noted, however, that in the past three years there has only been limited progress in the various rounds of negotiations relevant to the establishment of a new international economic order. Only a package agreement on a few questions of principles was reached last March in the negotiations for the common fund under the integrated programme of commodities; there still remains the difficult task of drafting the agreement. Negotiations for individual commodity agreements, with the exception of natural rubber, have proceeded rather slowly. The deadlines for all commodity negotiations have been extended again and again. Negotiations on trade of manufactured goods and on transfer of technology are beset with difficulties. As an aftermath of the most severe postwar economic crisis, the economies of developed countries continue to be in the

doldrums; industrial production there has been in fluctuation and slow to pick up steam; inflation is rife and unemployment rather grave; volume of international trade rises too slowly and there is great disparity in the international balance of payments; monetary markets have been in a state of flux; trade and monetary wars have sharpened and protectionism is on the rise. In order to extricate themselves from their own predicament, a number of developed countries, especially the superpowers, are trying their best to shift the burden of their economic crisis on to others, thus seriously affecting the economic development of the third world and further widening the gap between the rich and the poor countries. The statistics released by the UNCTAD Secretariat in 1978 show that the developing countries have lost over 30 billion U.S. dollars owing to the worsening of trade terms and conditions, and their total foreign debts have shot up to the staggering sum of 300 billion dollars. The existing international economic relations can no longer accommodate the needs of present development. It not only obstructs the further economic growth of the developing countries but also seriously holds up the recovery and rise of the world economy as a whole. Therefore, a thorough transformation of the existing international economic relations has now become all the more urgent.

The establishment of a new international economic order is the common aspiration and demand of all developing countries and this has become an irresistible historical trend. But one must bear in mind the difficulty and complexity of the struggle. The superpowers will never willingly abandon their monopoly and their grip over the international economic and trade system. Even now they are trying hard to resist the reasonable demands of the developing countries. Take, for instance, the question of the common fund. At first, they strenuously opposed this and only reluctantly accepted it in principle under the pressure of a concerted struggle by the third world countries. But this acceptance was nothing more than a lip service for they refuse to commit themselves on such vital provisions as the financial sources of the common fund. Because of their double-dealing, they were naturally resented and denounced by an increasing number of developing countries.

China Endorses Arusha Document

The fourth ministerial session of the Group of 77 adopted the Arusha Programme for Collective Self-Reliance and Framework for Nego-

tiations in February this year. This document analysed the present world economic situation, renewed the call for a new international economic order, stressed the importance of strengthening the cohesion and co-operation of the developing countries, and put forward positive proposals for solving a series of important problems of our times regarding international economy, trade, finance, shipping, science and technology. The idea of collective self-reliance advanced in the Arusha document will not only inspire the developing countries to build up their own strength, but will also help to improve their negotiating position vis-a-vis the developed countries, thus facilitating the establishment of a new international economic order. The Chinese Delegation endorses this document. We consider that the Group of 77 has made a contribution to UNCTAD V by putting out this document, and we agree to take it as the basis of our deliberation at the present session.

As more and more developing countries have won political independence and in view of the changes in the realm of world economy, the old international economic and trade regimes can no longer meet the challenge of the present time and should therefore be transformed. We consider it imperative under the new circumstances to work out fair and equitable new rules and principles favourable to the economic prosperity and development of the world.

The developing countries have made protracted efforts to develop their manufacturing as well as primary-product-processing industries so as to diversify their export trade and change the single-product economy left over by history. This will be of great significance for raising the economic level of the developing countries, reducing their reliance on external aid and improving their standard of living. In order to create the necessary external conditions for accelerating their industrialization, the developing countries urgently call on the developed countries to lower tariff as well as non-tariff barriers so as to provide a more liberal market for their export products. Yet, a few developed countries, especially the superpowers, have flouted the relevant U.N. resolutions. Far from abiding by the principles of not increasing tariff or non-tariff barriers vis-a-vis the developing countries, they have adopted various protectionist measures, seriously blocking export goods, especially the manufactured goods, of the developing countries, thus slowing down their industrialization. It goes without saying that this is utterly unreasonable and should be put

right. It is justified for the developing countries to call for drawing up new regulations, in keeping with the present circumstances, to curb protectionism and to oblige the developed countries to adopt policies facilitating the export of the developing countries, so that the latter may increase their share in world trade for their manufactured goods. We readily support this position of the developing countries.

Establishing the Integrated Programme Of Commodities and the Common Fund

The developing countries should be ensured a stable and profitable price for their raw materials so as to increase their export earnings. This is a vital matter closely related to the economic well-being of the developing countries. The establishment of the integrated programme of commodities and the common fund would be a key instrument in solving this problem as well as an important step in transforming the existing unequal international trade relations. Negotiations on this problem have gone through a slow and tortuous process since UNCTAD IV. Although there has been some agreement in principle on the common fund, persistent efforts are still required if the developing countries are to realize fully their basic demands and this calls for a joint struggle by all the third world countries. The Chinese Government always supports the just stand of the developing countries, and we have decided to join in the common fund after official agreement on it is reached, undertaking to offer our contribution thereto. You all know that China accounts for a very small percentage in the total world trade. Nevertheless, we are willing to act within the limits of our capacity to contribute to the common cause of the third world, that is to say, to strengthen our unity and co-operation and strive for the transformation of the antiquated international economic and trade relations.

The developing countries have suffered a great deal from the incessant fluctuations in the international monetary market in the past few years. Therefore, they strongly demand a change in this irrational system so that their capital supplies may be improved. Equally, they are opposed to the attempts of monopolistic capital to control and exploit them, or to shift the effects of economic crises on to them. We support all the positive efforts aimed at transforming the international monetary system, stabilizing the exchange rates and increasing capital flows to the developing countries. The developing countries are entitled to participate

fully in the various policy-making mechanisms so as to safeguard their own economic interests.

We hope to see and are in favour of an early decision by UNCTAD V regarding the pending international code of conduct on transfer of technology so as to pave the way for further negotiations.

We are in favour of drawing up the international development strategy of the third United Nations development decade with the Programme of Actions for the Establishment of the New International Economic Order as the central element, and we hope that measures will be taken to give more policy-making powers in world economic affairs to the developing countries.

Recently, our government has made some readjustments in our economic planning. This is aimed at making our pace more in keeping with reality, so that our economy will develop

in a more planned and balanced manner. Such readjustments are necessary and quite normal. We will firmly adhere to the policy of independence and self-reliance, but this in no way means self-seclusion. We will learn from the useful experience of foreign countries and import advanced foreign technology and equipment. We will extensively carry out economic exchange and co-operation with friendly countries. We will follow established international practice to expand our foreign trade in a big way on the basis of equality and mutual benefit. In so doing we are carrying out our self-reliance policy in full. Our economic programme is both grandiose and difficult. But the Chinese people are confident and determined to surmount all difficulties in their way and reach their magnificent goal so as to make a greater contribution to humanity.

*(An abridged translation.
Subheads are ours.)*

Viet Nam's Hegemonist Logic

OUT of sincerity to try to improve Sino-Vietnamese relations fundamentally, the Chinese side at the second session of the Sino-Vietnamese talks put forward an eight-point proposal of principles including the Five Principles of Peaceful Coexistence and the principle of anti-hegemonism. But the Vietnamese side not only refused to study the Chinese proposals seriously but slandered China, accusing it of "rabidly pushing expansionism and hegemonism." Turning black into white at a press conference after the session, a Vietnamese representative alleged that Viet Nam's logic is the "logic of one defending one's independence, sovereignty and territorial integrity," while falsely charging that China's logic is the "logic of aggressors, expansionists and big power." In so doing, the Vietnamese side tried to label China as a hegemonist and disguise itself as a victim of hegemonism and a hero fighting hegemonism. But facts speak louder than eloquence. The truth can be clearly seen if one looks carefully into what Viet Nam and China have done on the Indochinese Peninsula and Southeast Asia in recent years.

The 50,000 Vietnamese troops and large numbers of Vietnamese "advisers" stationed in Laos have controlled the political, economic, military, diplomatic and every other sector of that country, turning it into a de facto colony and a vassal state of Viet Nam.

Viet Nam has committed aggression against Kampuchea since 1975. It occupied Kampuchea's Way Island, refused to pull out from the "sanctuaries" set up in eastern Kampuchea during the war against U.S. aggression, and kept carrying out subversive activities against the Kampuchean revolutionary regime. Going back on its word, Hanoi demanded a change in the status quo of the Kampuchean-Vietnamese boundary and made intrusions across the border. Finally it sent more than 100,000 troops to launch a large-scale invasion of Kampuchea and fostered a puppet regime in an attempt to swallow up that country and turn it into another Vietnamese colony and dependency.

In the guise of "close unity" among the three Indochinese countries, Viet Nam has actually established an "Indochinese federation" through the triangle-shaped fetter which

takes the form of the "treaty of friendship and co-operation" with Laos in the name of "special relationship," the "treaty of peace, friendship and co-operation" with the Phnom Penh puppets and the "joint statement" issued by Laos and the Phnom Penh puppets.

Hanoi's Ambition for Southeast Asia

Furthermore, Hanoi has an ambition to form a "Southeast Asian federation" in Southeast Asia with Viet Nam as its core and master. Towards this end, Viet Nam tried to subvert the legitimate governments of the countries in the region after the end of the anti-U.S. war. Hence its violent attacks on ASEAN as a "tool of imperialism." After the outbreak of the war of aggression against Democratic Kampuchea, it adopted a "smiling" tactic to put the ASEAN countries off their guard. It tried to induce them to carry out "regional co-operation" with it. With an ulterior motive, it demanded the establishment of "a zone of genuine independence, peace and neutrality" which is essentially different from the "zone of peace, freedom and neutrality" that the ASEAN countries advocate.

As a link in its plan for a "Southeast Asian federation," Viet Nam made territorial claims on China's Xisha and Nansha Islands and forcibly occupied some of the Nansha Islands. It has provided the Soviet Union with naval and air bases in Cam Ranh and Da Nang in preparation for using Soviet naval and air forces for its aggression and expansion in Southeast Asia. It has thus acted as a cat's-paw in leading the Soviet social-imperialist forces of aggression into the region.

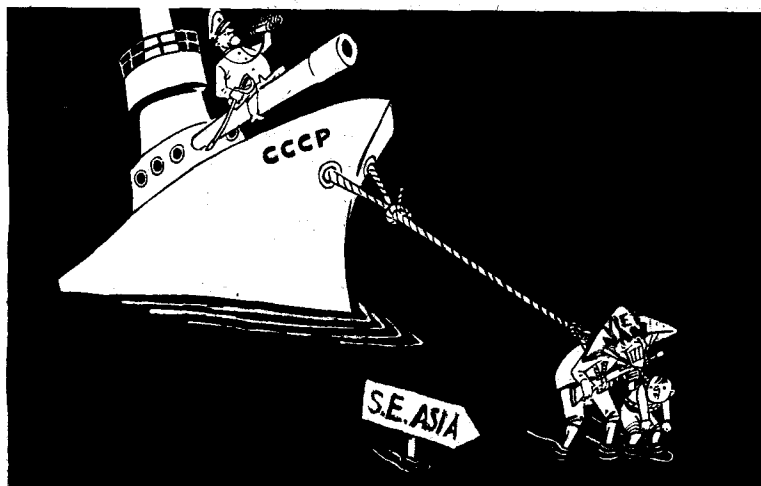
As a step towards realizing the plan of a "Southeast Asian federation," Viet Nam has pushed its troops to the border of Thailand through the invasion of Democratic Kampuchea and control of Laos. It has stopped smiling and has been carrying out naked threats of war against Thailand. Meanwhile, in the guise of granting permission for refugees to leave the country, it has sent large numbers of spies and secret agents into the Southeast Asian countries as "refugees."

All these striking events that have occurred on the

Indochinese Peninsula and in Southeast Asia in the past few years are vivid proof of the Vietnamese authorities' aggression and regional hegemonism. They are facts that Viet Nam cannot deny.

China Safeguards Five Principles of Peaceful Coexistence

The Vietnamese authorities are mislabeling China when they call it hegemonist—a label they themselves should wear. What China has done towards the Indochinese countries and in Southeast Asia is clear to the whole world. After the end of the Vietnamese war of resistance against U.S. aggression, China continued to render massive economic assistance with no conditions attached to the peoples of Viet Nam, Kampuchea and Laos to help them heal the wounds of war and rebuild their homes. It was only after Kampuchea became a victim of Vietnamese armed aggression that China, proceeding from its consistent stand of opposing aggression and supporting just wars against aggression, supplied Kampuchea with military materials. Similarly, it was only when Viet Nam's armed incursions into China's frontier areas reached an unbearable extent that China's frontier troops were forced to launch a limited self-defensive counterattack, and they completely withdrew to Chinese territory the moment they had fulfilled their mission. With regard to the Southeast Asian countries, China has always supported the ASEAN stand for "a zone of peace, freedom and neutrality," and has developed relations of friendship and co-operation with these countries on the basis of the Five Principles of Peaceful Coexistence. China has not stationed a single soldier in Indochina or



Boat tracker.

by Yong Fei

Southeast Asia, nor has it ever conducted any subversive activities there. Can it be said from all of this that China is seeking hegemony? Don't these facts serve as vivid evidence that China has been safeguarding the Five Principles of Peaceful Coexistence, and firmly upholding the independence, sovereignty, and territorial integrity of all countries?

Product of Chauvinism and Expansionism

What the Vietnamese authorities are doing today in Indochina and Southeast Asia is the logical result of the development of their national chauvinism and expansionism.

The Vietnamese authorities have consistently held that the Vietnamese nation is a superior nation in Indochina and the whole of Southeast Asia; they even think that Viet Nam is one of the cradles of mankind. They think that a country like Laos which is "not vast in territory, not large in population, and is stagnant in economic development" is bound to accept the "leadership" of Viet Nam. They have long dreamt of forming a Viet-Nam-led "Indochinese federation" and gaining control of the whole Indochina Peninsula. To form an "Indochinese federation" has become their first and very important step in their expansion into Southeast Asia.

It has been put on record that the Vietnamese authorities harbour ambitions for Southeast Asia.

In February 1976, *Hoc Tap*, an organ of the Viet Nam Worker's Party, published articles which gave expression to the covetousness with which the Vietnamese authorities looked at Southeast Asia. These articles described Southeast Asia as a "vast and populous area, rich in resources," "in an important strategic position," and Viet Nam as being "in an important position in Southeast Asia," and "having a heroic armed force" and "a fairly large economic strength," thus constituting a "bulwark" in Indochina and Southeast Asia. These articles said that the birth of Viet Nam as a "strong new power" "would have a tremendous impact in this part of the world," and that "to strengthen greatly the unity" of the three Indochinese countries was "a very fundamental point in Viet Nam's policy towards Southeast Asia." The Vietnamese press has emphasized once and again that "the emergence of a strong Viet Nam as a nation will definitely make contributions

to the profound changes that will take place in the political situation of the Southeast Asian region."

In October 1974, Hoang Tung, Member of the Central Committee of the Viet Nam Worker's Party and editor-in-chief of *Nhan Dan*, in an interview with a Thai newsman, indicated that Viet Nam intended to sign a ten-nation "agreement on utilizing seabed resources" embracing Sri Lanka and eight Southeast Asian countries. He also said, "China is not a country of this region and China should not have as much offshore waters as it has claimed." In 1975, Vietnamese Vice-Premier and Foreign Minister Nguyen Duy Trinh said in an article he wrote for *Hoc Tap* that "through an all-round strengthening of potentials and by relying on the political prestige of the Vietnamese revolution," Viet Nam will make "positive contributions" to Southeast Asia "in the fight for genuine peace, independence and neutrality." In January 1978, when Nguyen Duy Trinh was visiting Thailand, one member of his delegation told AFP that Viet Nam hoped for "the formation of a big bloc starting from Sri Lanka and extending to Hanoi," "taking in Burma, Thailand, Indonesia, the Philippines, Singapore and Malaysia." *The Nation Review* of Thailand remarked pointedly at the time: Nguyen Duy Trinh's visit to the ASEAN countries was to "sound them out on the establishment in the distant future of a certain kind of Southeast Asian alliance or federation" and that "Hanoi believes that it will take the leadership upon itself when the opportunity arrives because it firmly consider itself much superior to other Southeast Asian countries."

By consulting a map one can see clearly that the "big bloc" plotted by Hanoi strides the Equator. Its total territorial and sea area exceeds 10 million square kilometres with a population of more than 300 million. Viet Nam and China's archipelagoes in the South China Sea are in the centre of the "big bloc." This is the blueprint of Viet Nam's domination of Southeast Asia. After listening to statements made by Hoang Tung and Co. and looking at the geographic situation, one can easily understand why the Vietnamese authorities perfidiously make territorial claims on these archipelagoes, which are China's territory, why they are bent on exercising control over Laos and committing

aggression against Kampuchea, and why they peddle their brand of "a zone of genuine independence, peace and neutrality" to the South-east Asian countries.

China's Principled Stand Against Hegemonism

To carry out this programme of domination in Southeast Asia, Hanoi has to take an anti-China course. This is because the Chinese Government and people adhere to the Five Principles of Peaceful Coexistence, uphold and respect the independence, sovereignty and territorial integrity of all other countries, and are firmly opposed to hegemonism and expansionism, both big and small. At the time when the United States invaded Viet Nam, the Chinese people resolutely sided with the Vietnamese people and gave all-out support to their just struggle against aggression. Today as Viet Nam is committing aggression against Kampuchea, China equally unhesitatingly supports the Kampuchean people in their just struggle against Vietnamese aggression. Because of China's unswerving and principled stand against hegemonism, aggression and expansion, Hanoi regards China as the biggest obstacle to its pursuance of hegemonism in Indochina and Southeast Asia and as its inveterate, "most dangerous enemy."

To pursue regional hegemonism and oppose and antagonize China, Hanoi was bound to gang up with Soviet social-imperialism; otherwise, it could not expect to achieve anything. Making use of each other, they colluded in their aggression and expansion in Southeast Asia. The Vietnamese authorities counted on Moscow to pursue the policy of opposition and hostility towards China, swallowing up Indochina and aggression against Southeast Asia. The Soviet Union took advantage of Viet Nam's ambition and turned it into an outpost while Moscow carried out expansion and infiltration in Southeast Asia, pushed the "Asian collective security system" and pressed ahead with its strategy for a southward drive. This collaboration of the Soviet Union, the big hegemonist, and Viet Nam, the small hegemonist, in carrying out aggression and expansion is the fundamental reason why peace in Indochina has been undermined and security and stability in Southeast Asia threatened.

Therefore, opposition to hegemonism is a question of principle that cannot be evaded in the proper handling of Sino-Vietnamese relations. It is also a major question which has a vital bearing on the peace and security of Southeast Asia and the Asia-Pacific region in general. In its eight-point proposal of principles, China urges that "neither side should seek hegemony in Indochina, Southeast Asia or any other part of the world, and each is opposed to efforts by any other country or group of countries to establish such hegemony." If Viet Nam really has no intention of seeking regional hegemony, it should agree readily with pleasure.

The Vietnamese authorities are now noisily proclaiming their opposition to China's "hegemony" and their determination to safeguard national independence, sovereignty and territorial integrity. One would tend to think that China's proposal for both sides to adhere to the Five Principles of Peaceful Coexistence and the principle of anti-hegemony would be most agreeable to them. But, strangely enough, the Vietnamese authorities, while loudly talking about their opposition to China's "hegemony," rejected it flatly when China proposed that Viet Nam joins China in undertaking the commitment not to seek hegemony. This amounts to an unsought confession of their intention to seek hegemony and, what is more, of their determination not to allow anyone to oppose their doing so. While they themselves have adopted this hegemonist attitude at the conference table, they have branded China's eight-point proposal as proof of China's "hegemonism at the conference table."

We want to tell the Vietnamese authorities: Your slander can in no way wipe clean your words and deeds of aggression and expansion in Indochina and Southeast Asia and your blueprint of regional hegemonism is clearly drawn up by your own hand and has not been imposed upon you by others. If you insist on your policy of hegemony, refuse to show good faith for the negotiations or to agree to any fundamental improvement in Sino-Vietnamese relations, then you will have to assume full responsibility for the lack of progress in the talks and for the absence of rapid improvement in Sino-Vietnamese relations.

(An abridged translation of a May 7 article by "Renmin Ribao" Commentator. Subheads are ours.)

China's Structure of State Power

1. People's Congresses
2. The State Council — the Central People's Government
3. Revolutionary Committees — Local People's Governments

People's Congresses

Question: What role does the National People's Congress play in the structure of China's state power?

Answer: The national as well as local people's congresses at various levels are organs through which the people exercise state power. As provided by the new Constitution promulgated in March 1978, "The National People's Congress is the highest organ of state power," (Article 20) and "Local people's congresses at various levels are local organs of state power." (Article 35)

Q.: How are the people's congresses organized?

A.: Deputies are directly elected to the grass-roots people's congresses of people's communes, towns and municipal districts by citizens 18 years of age and older through secret ballot

after democratic consultation. These grass-roots people's congresses elect the deputies to the people's congresses at the next higher levels and so on up to the National People's Congress through the same procedure.

Elected for a term of five years, the National People's Congress is convened once a year. The Fifth National People's Congress is composed of deputies elected last year by the people's congresses of 30 provinces, municipalities directly under the Central Government and autonomous regions and by the People's Liberation Army. As Taiwan Province has not yet been reunified with the motherland, its deputies are elected after democratic consultation by people of Taiwan origin residing in the various provinces, municipalities directly under the Central Government and autonomous regions and those serving in the P.L.A.

Q.: How many deputies have been elected to the present National People's Congress? What are their social status?








A.: The Fifth National People's Congress is composed of 3,497 deputies. The original number of deputies elected by the whole country was 3,500. While the congress was checking on the qualifications of the deputies, it found three were not qualified and asked their original electoral units to annul their deputation.

The social status of the 3,497 deputies to the Fifth N.P.C. is as follows:

Deputies of various nationalities attending the First Session of the Fifth National People's Congress in Beijing.



SPECIAL FEATURE

	workers	935	26.7%
	peasants	720	20.6%
	P.L.A. men and women	505	14.4%
	revolutionary cadres	468	13.4%
	intellectuals	523	15%
	patriotic personages	311	8.9%
	returned overseas Chinese	35	1%

More than 90 per cent of the deputies are workers (manual workers and mental workers inclusive). The fact that so many workers are taking part in managing state affairs in the highest organ of state power shows the nature of our state as one under the dictatorship of the proletariat.

With the participation of the widely represented deputies, China's people's congresses are characteristic of a united front. Deputies are elected from among the patriotic personages who made their contributions during the democratic revolution and have continued to contribute their efforts to the socialist revolution and construction of New China. Some of them are Vice-Chairmen or Members of the Standing Committee of the National People's Congress.

Q.: Are there any special qualifications for those who stand for election to be deputies?

A.: In China, all citizens who are 18 years of age and older have the right to vote and to stand for election, with the exception of a tiny handful of people who have been deprived of their political rights by law. There are no property, nationality, race, sex, professional, social origin, religious, period of residence or educational limitations for deputies.

China has 54 minority nationalities which comprise about 6 per cent of the total population. There are deputies from every minority nationality in the present National People's Congress, constituting 10.9 per cent of the total.

Women comprise 21.2 per cent of the total number of the deputies.

Q.: What are the functions and powers of the people's congresses?

A.: They are clearly expounded in Articles 22, 23, 28 and 36 of the Constitution.

The National People's Congress exercises the following functions and powers:

- (1) to amend the Constitution;
- (2) to make laws;
- (3) to supervise the enforcement of the Constitution and the law;
- (4) to decide on the choice of the Premier of the State Council upon the recommendation of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of China;
- (5) to decide on the choice of other members of the State Council upon the recommendation of the Premier of the State Council;

(6) to elect the President of the Supreme People's Court and the Chief Procurator of the Supreme People's Procuratorate;

(7) to examine and approve the national economic plan, the state budget and the final state accounts;

(8) to confirm the following administrative divisions: provinces, autonomous regions, and municipalities directly under the Central Government;

(9) to decide on questions of war and peace; and

(10) to exercise such other functions and powers as the National People's Congress deems necessary.

The National People's Congress has the power to remove from office the members of the State Council, the President of the Supreme People's Court and the Chief Procurator of the Supreme People's Procuratorate.

Local people's congresses at various levels are local organs of state power. They exercise the following functions and powers in their respective administrative areas:

- elect and recall members of revolutionary committees at the corresponding levels;

SPECIAL FEATURE

- ensure the observance and enforcement of the Constitution, laws and decrees;
- make plans for local economic and cultural development and for public utilities;
- examine and approve local economic plans, budgets and final accounts, etc.

People's congresses at a county level and above elect, and have the power to recall, the presidents of the people's courts and the chief procurators of the people's procuratorates at the corresponding levels.

Deputies to the people's congresses at various levels have the right to address inquiries to the governments at the corresponding levels and to the organs, people's courts, and people's procuratorates under them, which are all under obligation to answer.

Q.: What are the functions and powers of the Standing Committee of the National People's Congress?

A.: The Standing Committee of the National People's Congress is the permanent organ of the National People's Congress. It exercises the following functions and powers:

- to conduct the election of deputies to the National People's Congress;
- to convene the sessions of the National People's Congress;
- to interpret the Constitution and laws and to enact decrees;
- to supervise the work of the State Council, the Supreme People's Court and the Supreme People's Procuratorate;
- To change and annul inappropriate decisions adopted by the organs of state power of provinces, autonomous regions, and municipalities directly under the Central Government;
- to decide on the appointment and removal of individual members of the State Council upon the recommendation of the Premier of the State Council when the National People's Congress is not in session;
- to appoint and remove Vice-Presidents of the Supreme People's Court and Deputy Chief Procurators of the Supreme People's Procuratorate;
- to decide on the appointment and removal of plenipotentiary representatives abroad;

- to decide on the ratification and abrogation of treaties concluded with foreign states;
- to institute state titles of honour and decide on their conferment;
- to decide on the granting of pardons;
- to decide on the proclamation of a state of war in the event of armed attack on the country when the National People's Congress is not in session; and
- to exercise such other functions and powers as are vested in it by the National People's Congress.

Q.: Whom is the Standing Committee of the Fifth National People's Congress composed of?

A.: The Chairman of the Standing Committee of the present N.P.C. is Ye Jianying and Soong Ching Ling is one of the 20 Vice-Chairmen. There are altogether 175 members on the Standing Committee.

State Council — the Central People's Government

Question: What kind of an organ is the State Council?

Answer: The State Council is the executive organ of the highest organ of state power — the National People's Congress; it is the highest organ of the state administration. i.e., the Government of China.

Q.: What is the relationship between the State Council and the National People's Congress?

A.: The State Council is responsible and accountable to the National People's Congress, or, when the National People's Congress is not in session, to its Standing Committee.

The National People's Congress has the power to decide on the choice of the Premier of the State Council upon the recommendation of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of China; to decide on the choice of the Vice-Premiers and other members of the State Council upon the recommendation of the Premier. It also has the power to remove from office the members of the State Council. Its Standing Committee has the power to supervise the work of the State Council.

Q.: Whom is the State Council now composed of?

The Ministries and Commissions Under the State Council:

Ministry of Foreign Affairs	First Ministry of Machine-Building Industry	Ministry of Water Conservancy
Ministry of National Defence	Second Ministry of Machine-Building Industry	Ministry of Building Material Industry
State Planning Commission	Third Ministry of Machine-Building Industry	Ministry of Textile Industry
State Economic Commission	Fourth Ministry of Machine-Building Industry	Ministry of Light Industry
State Capital Construction Commission	Fifth Ministry of Machine-Building Industry	Ministry of Railways
State Scientific and Technological Commission	Sixth Ministry of Machine-Building Industry	Ministry of Communications
State Nationalities Affairs Commission	Seventh Ministry of Machine-Building Industry	Ministry of Posts and Telecommunications
State Agricultural Commission	Ministry of Farm Machinery	Ministry of Finance
Ministry of Public Security	Ministry of Coal Industry	People's Bank of China
Ministry of Civil Affairs	Ministry of Petroleum Industry	Ministry of Commerce
Ministry of Foreign Trade	Ministry of Chemical Industry	All-China Federation of Supply and Marketing Co-operatives
Ministry of Economic Relations With Foreign Countries	Ministry of Power Industry	Ministry of Culture
Ministry of Agriculture		Ministry of Education
Ministry of Forestry		Ministry of Public Health
Ministry of Metallurgical Industry		State Physical Culture and Sports Commission

A.: The Premier — Hua Guofeng. The Vice-Premiers — Deng Xiaoping, Li Xiannian, Xu Xiangqian, Ji Dengkui, Yu Qiuli, Chen Xilian, Geng Biao, Chen Yonggui, Fang Yi, Wang Zhen, Gu Mu, Kang Shien, Chen Muhua, and Wang Renzhong who was appointed last December by the Standing Committee of the National People's Congress. The ministers and the ministers in charge of the commissions.

Revolutionary Committees— Local People's Governments

Question: How are the administrative organs set up under the State Council?

Answer: Article 37 of the Constitution promulgated in 1978 stipulates: "Local revolutionary committees at various levels, that is, local people's governments, are the executive organs of local people's congresses at the corresponding levels and they are also local organs of state administration."

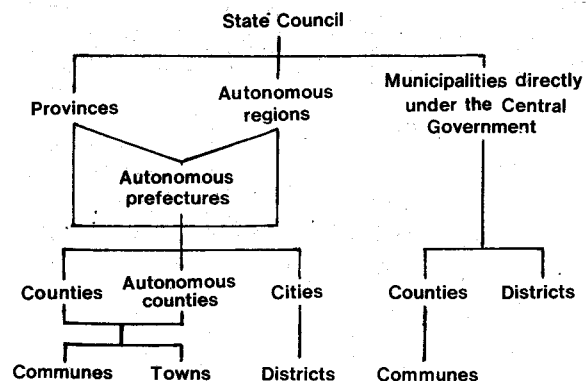
There are roughly three levels under the State Council:

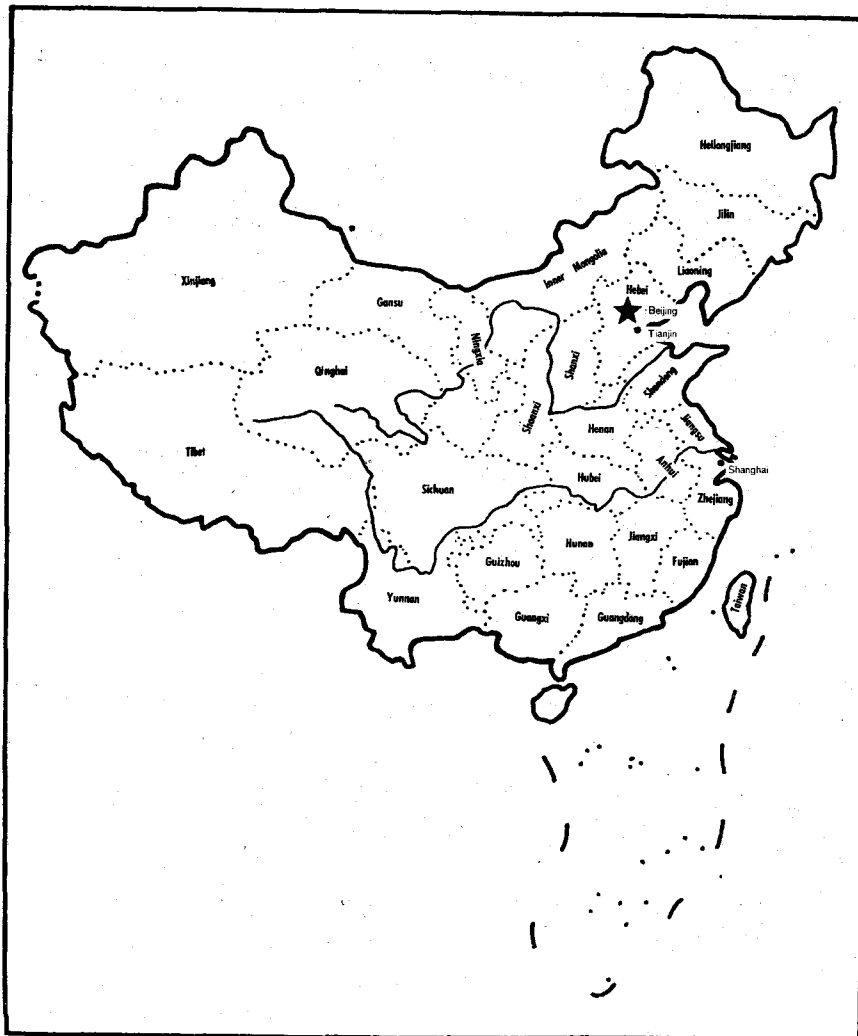
The revolutionary committees of provinces, autonomous regions and municipalities directly under the Central Government;

The revolutionary committees of autonomous prefectures, counties, autonomous counties (banners) and cities;

The revolutionary committees of people's communes and towns.

In addition, district and suburban county revolutionary committees are set up below the municipalities directly under the Central Government and in relatively big cities. Under the autonomous prefectures, there are the county, autonomous county and city revolutionary committees. There are also revolutionary committees in industrial enterprises and mines (like the Daqing Oilfield in northeast China)





Sketch map by Shi Yitu

Q.: Is the prefecture (not including the autonomous prefecture) a level of government?

A.: No. Because China's provinces and autonomous regions are rather big, they are generally divided into several prefectures. A prefecture embraces some counties and cities. To simplify the administrative structure and raise efficiency, the prefectures do not constitute a level of political power and therefore do not set up people's congresses and revolutionary committees. The provincial and autonomous regional revolutionary committees establish administrative offices as their agencies in prefectures. The leading members of these offices (administrative commissioners and deputy administrative commissioners) are not elected but appointed by the higher levels.

which integrate government administration with enterprise management.*

According to statistics at the end of 1978, China has 22 provinces, five autonomous regions, three municipalities directly under the Central Government. Under them there are 29 autonomous prefectures, 2,138 counties (autonomous counties, banners, autonomous banners) and 190 cities. There are more than 50,000 people's communes.

Autonomous regions, autonomous prefectures and autonomous counties (banners) are places where minority nationalities live in compact communities and exercise regional autonomy.

* The enterprise revolutionary committee is the leading organ of a factory or a mine and the organization of political power in this industrial or mining area.

Q.: What is the relationship between the revolutionary committees and the local people's congresses?

A.: As prescribed explicitly in the new Constitution, local people's congresses at various levels are local organs of state power while local revolutionary committees at various levels are the executive organs of local people's congresses at the corresponding levels. Local people's congresses elect the members of the revolutionary committees at the corresponding levels. Local revolutionary committees are responsible and accountable to people's congresses at the corresponding levels. Local people's congresses have the power to recall members of revolutionary committees at the corresponding levels. The revolutionary committees and their subordinate organs should accept inquiries made by deputies to the local people's congresses at the corresponding levels and are obligated to answer.

ADMINISTRATIVE DIVISION OF CHINA

Statistics at the end of 1978

Twenty-two provinces, five autonomous regions, three municipalities directly under the Central Government, and the number of prefectures, counties and cities under them.

Provinces	Prefectures	Counties	Cities
Hebei	10	139	9
Shanxi	7	101	7
Liaoning	3	53	11
Jilin	5	48	10
Heilongjiang	9	76	13
Shandong	9	106	9
Jiangsu	7	64	11
Zhejiang	8	65	3
Anhui	9	70	11
Jiangxi	6	82	8
Fujian	7	62	6
Taiwan	To be returned to the motherland		
Henan	10	111	14
Hunan	11	90	10
Hubei	8	73	6

Guangdong	9	97	11
Shaanxi	7	92	5
Gansu	10	74	4
Qinghai	7	38	1
Sichuan	14	181	11
Guizhou	7	79	5
Yunnan	15	122	4

Autonomous Regions			
Guangxi Zhuang	8	80	6
Xinjiang Uygur	13	80	7
Inner Mongolian	4	43	5
Tibet	5	71	1
Ningxia Hui	2	17	2
Municipalities			
Beijing		9	
Shanghai		10	
Tianjin		5	
	210	2,138	190

Note: The county number of Fujian Province includes Jinmen County which is to be returned to the motherland.

Beijing Municipal Revolutionary Committee: Its Members

by Our Correspondent Tian Sansong

THE present 109-member Beijing Municipal Revolutionary Committee (the Beijing Municipal People's Government) is made up of long-tested veteran cadres, representatives of the industrial, agricultural, trade and financial circles who still hold their original jobs, experts and scholars from scientific and technical, cultural and educational fields, as well as personages of the democratic parties.

The revolutionary committee calls plenary sessions only when major issues have to be decided. The day-to-day work is taken care of by the chairman and vice-chairmen of the committee. The committee chairman Lin Hujia is assisted by 14 vice-chairmen.

Two Veteran Cadres

Vice-chairman of the committee Bai Jiefu joined the revolution in 1938 during the War of Resistance Against Japan. He had been a war correspondent, Party committee secretary of a county and, later, of a city. In the mid-1950s, he

was successively a leading member of several research institutes under the Chinese Academy of Sciences. He was transferred to the municipality in 1972 and is now chairman of the municipal science and technology committee.

I cornered this busy comrade during the recess of a meeting he was presiding over. The topic of the meeting was what Beijing's scientific research institutes, in the light of their own specific conditions and the capital's development demands, should do to co-ordinate the shifting of the focus of the Party's work to the four modernizations.

Like their counterparts elsewhere in China, Beijing's scientific research institutes, too, were badly battered by the "gang of four." Some of them were dismantled, some paralysed, only a few remained intact. A major task over the past couple of years or so for Bai Jiefu was to re-establish and rehabilitate these institutes. This year he has to set up new ones to meet

the needs arising from the shifting of the focus of the entire Party's work.

As a result, scientific research institutes belonging to Beijing today number several dozens and have already produced results.

Veteran cadres are playing a crucial role in post-liberation socialist construction as they did in the long years of revolutionary wars fighting to build a new China. But a few years ago they were the victims of vicious attacks and persecution by Lin Biao and the "gang of four." Today, their morale unimpaired, these veteran comrades are fighting in the van of the new Long March towards the four modernizations.

A considerable number of veteran cadres are women. Xu Guang is one of them. She is now concurrently member of the municipal revolutionary committee and a responsible member of the municipal women's federation.

Xu Guang joined the revolution shortly after the outbreak of the War of Resistance Against Japan (1937-45). In 1973 she was transferred to the municipal women's federation. The federation's dynamic work in recent years has resulted in the setting up of many new nurseries and kindergartens and a noticeable drop in costs in child-care work. Xu Guang had submitted to the municipal people's congress a bill for strengthening mother and child health work and a bill for further implementing the policy of equal pay for equal work for either sex. Both bills had been warmly acclaimed by deputies to the congress.

At her suggestion, the municipal revolutionary committee convened at the end of last year a conference of model nursery and kindergarten workers, during which hundreds

of nurseries and kindergartens and nurses were cited for their exemplary work. In response to the conference's call, a labour emulation campaign for "taking meticulous care of the younger generation and making contributions to the fulfilment of the four modernizations" was unfolded in the capital. The work of ensuring children growing up healthily and allowing the mothers to concentrate their energies on socialist construction, Xu Guang said, is a matter of great importance and therefore merits the constant attention of the government.

Bringing up young women cadres is another topic foremost in Xu Guang's mind. In recent years, she has compiled textbooks and delivered lectures expounding the glorious traditions of the women's movement in China and popularizing positive experience in women's work.

Workers and Peasants on The Committee

"Revolutionary ardour alone won't build socialism. You need scientific knowledge, too," said Liu Qingren, a carpenter who has been commended as a model worker on several occasions. Among the 109 municipal revolutionary committee members, workers and peasants number the most, and Liu Qingren is one of them.

He had been a peasant in his native village before he became a worker in Beijing in 1950, the year after the capital was liberated. He came to Beijing to make a living and also because he wanted to do something more useful for the newborn People's Republic. But his lack of an education held him back. Once, at a construction site, he saw the agent of a private contracting construction concern with a blueprint in his hand shouting and fuming. Out of curiosity he went up and asked the man: "What are these pictures?" He did not get an answer. He got told to mind his own business.

This encounter kindled in him an unquenchable thirst to learn, particularly anything to do with construction. He began to read and study avidly. For more than a decade, he never missed a lesson at his factory's night-school and later on regularly attended classes teaching mechanics, draughtsmanship and civil engineering theories in the city proper several kilometres away. He eventually went through primary school course and went on to attain college proficiency in some subjects.

He is a leading member of the municipality but he still works as a carpenter at the Beijing



Xu Guang with kindergarteners.



Liu Qingren (seated) with other carpenters.

No. 2 Printing House. Like all other worker committee members he makes it a point to relay what the workers have to say from time to time to the relevant authorities.

Outside Dongzhimen Gate in the eastern part of the capital there is a popular grocery store. The man in charge of 200 assistants operating the store's five retail sales departments is Wu Xuchang. He was terribly exploited before liberation as an apprentice.

In the last few years it has become a common practice for many grocery stores in Beijing to open special sales sections before and after the regular business hours. Many of these stores run a delivery service and set up smaller sales agencies in the residential quarters. The residents find these very helpful. It was first started by the grocery store managed by Wu Xuchang.

Many of the store's moving deeds are on the lips of the residents outside Dongzhimen Gate. For example, one winter's day when the shop assistants heard that a sick man wanted water-melons to ease his fever they searched everywhere and finally obtained some melons from a commercial cold storage. They sent them to the sick man. In summer, they deliver cold drinks to steel workers working in the sweltering heat. Knowing that the workers living in the vicinity are on different work shifts, they bring goods at different times to where the workers live.

This wholehearted service to people has earned Wu Xuchang a high reputation in Beijing's commercial circles. He was nominated

and elected member of the municipal revolutionary committee.

Last year, the Nanhanji Production Brigade led by 57-year-old Xu Qingwen got in a per-hectare grain yield of 12 tons. The figure was a skimpy 0.7 ton in the early years after liberation.

Xu Qingwen spent a miserable childhood in Nanhanji on the southwest outskirts of Beijing near Zhoukoudian where the Beijing Man [Peking Man] fossils were unearthed. At 13 he was already working as a farmhand. In 1938, harsh oppression by the landlord drove 16-year-old Xu Qingwen to flee his native village and join the Communist-led army, pledging to fight for the liberation of the labouring people. He was a good soldier. He was wounded seven times, performed meritorious deeds on four occasions, and rose to be a deputy battalion commander of the P.L.A. He was demobilized in 1954. Instead of asking for a job in a government office in the city as any demobilized officer was entitled to, he preferred to be an ordinary peasant in his native village.

As he had grown up in the countryside he was glad to take up farming again. Because of his organizing ability and close ties with the peasants, he was soon elected head of a co-operative. Later, when people's communes were set up, he became Party branch secretary of the Nanhanji Production Brigade. Though Xu is now a member of the municipal revolutionary committee he remains a peasant, earning his living by taking part in collective productive labour like all the other brigade members.

The municipal authorities set great store by Xu Qingwen's views on agriculture. Villages on the outskirts have been called on repeatedly to learn the advanced experience of the Nanhanji Brigade; and whenever an agricultural policy is in the making, Xu's opinions are always sought and taken into consideration.

A Doctor, a Professor and an Actor

Xin Yuling, a well-known thoracic surgeon, was elected on to the municipal revolutionary committee in 1977. He is deputy director of the municipal tuberculosis research institute and head of a thoracic surgical ward.

I saw him in a women patients' ward. "She had a new lung transplanted in her only four months ago," Xin told me, "and she is doing very well."

SPECIAL FEATURE

I learnt that this operation was performed under Xin's personal direction after long years of experiments on animals. Transplanting a human lung is one of the latest experiments under way at the research institute.

Dr. Xin Yuling has also made important contributions to research on bronchorrhaphy and on pneumonectomy under acupuncture anaesthesia. His research and theory on extra-pharyngeal membrane suture of the bronchial stump have attracted the attention of medical men at home and abroad.

For example, pneumonectomy under acupuncture anaesthesia in the past required the insertion of 40 needles. Today, after repeated experiments by Xin and his colleagues, the same result is achieved with only one needle.

Constantly perfecting the art of healing characterizes this 58-year-old deputy director. In his medical career of two decades' standing he has saved the lives of many seemingly hopeless patients. It is therefore not in the least surprising that he enjoys high esteem among the people.

"City planning should go ahead in the march towards the four modernizations. Otherwise, the result would be inconceivable," said Wang Weiyu, 55, associate professor in the architectural department of Qinghua University.

I met this woman member of the municipal revolutionary committee at the university. She is a professional architect and naturally she is very much concerned about construction in the capital.

Wang had voiced her opinions on many of the problems in city planning at the municipal people's congress. She told me that she would like to give further suggestions in the days to come so as to call the municipal authorities' attention to this question.

She was one of the designers of the Museum of Chinese History and the Chairman Mao Memorial Hall, both in Tian An Men Square at the centre of Beijing. The museum was one of the ten big buildings put up in Beijing in 1959, which took only one year from designing to completion. After ten months' intense work the memorial hall was completed in September 1977 on the eve of the first anniversary of the passing of Chairman Mao.

She has taught for 30 years. Many of the faculty members of the architectural depart-



Wang Weiyu (second from right) with her students.

ment, she said, had been her students, and many more of her students are senior architects in the building departments in many Chinese cities.

In the municipal revolutionary committee there is an actor — Comrade Li Chongshan.

In 1952 Li Chongshan was enrolled into the Beijing School of Opera at the age of 11. After eight years of diligent study and hard training, he graduated as a person of character and scholarship. In the early 60s his stage appearances began to attract attention and he was publicly acknowledged in the Beijing opera circles as a promising young actor. Later, the famous Beijing opera singer Tan Fuying gave him further coaching and his acting benefited greatly.

However, it was not until 1977 when he played the leading role in *Driven to Join the Liangshan Mountain Rebels* that he became known to a wider audience. The opera was the first one on a historical theme to be presented on stage by the Beijing Opera Troupe after the fall of the "gang of four." Operas with performers in colourful ancient costumes had not been staged for years. So when *Driven to Join the Liangshan Mountain Rebels* appeared, it marked the breaching of the ban against historical operas and played a positive role in diversifying the repertoire on the stage.

Li Chongshan had the part of Lin Chong — the dauntless hero in the opera who is an instructor of the 800,000-strong imperial guards towards the end of the Northern Song Dynasty (960-1127). Persecutions by powerful men forced

him to join the peasant rebels of the Liangshan Mountain. Li's superb all-round performance attained after years of hard training moved the audience deeply. Afterwards he received a flood of letters, some congratulating him on his fine performances, some asking advice and some applying to be his students. People considered the 38-year-old Beijing opera actor a rising star.

Two Democratic Personages

There is a large number of democratic personages in China's organs of state power at various levels. Ye Gongshao and Sun Fuling, both members of the Beijing revolutionary committee, are two of them.

Ye Gongshao is a member of the Central Committee of the Jiu San Society and a leading member of its Beijing branch. The society is one of the eight democratic parties in China. Its members are mostly senior intellectuals working in the fields of science and technology, culture and education and public health. She is also head of the teaching and research section on infant and child health in the Beijing Medical College.

Ye is 71 but she is still full of vigour. Last year, after attending the national science conference, she visited many universities, middle and primary schools in different places to study the physical development of students.

When I interviewed her, she was working on the topic of infant and child health for the *Medical Encyclopedia of China*, which is under compilation. One of her assistants told me that Professor Ye has been burying herself in the library in recent months reading medical literature on the subject.

This woman revolutionary committee member is an excellent conversationalist, I found. She said: "I have a busy social life, but I particularly like this subject on infant and child health because it concerns the growth of our younger generation. There is so much to do. I sometimes wish I'd three heads and six arms." She tells people that she wants to be alive in 2000 and see the realization of the four modernizations with her own eyes.

Sun Fuling is a representative of the national bourgeoisie and a leading member of the Beijing Federation of Industry and Commerce.

Just before liberation, Sun took over the Fuxing Flour Mill from his predecessors. It was

one of the biggest private enterprises in Beijing at that time. After Beijing was liberated in 1949, he supported the leadership of the Communist Party of China and played a positive role in helping the government carry out the socialist transformation of private industry and commerce.

A capitalist support the Communist Party? Mr. Sun has this to say: "When I was a student in the 1930s in the northeast, I was humiliated by the Japanese invaders and I had my first taste of being an enslaved member in my own land under a foreign power. In the mid-1940s I was in Tianjin and saw two American soldiers pursuing a girl student. When I tried to stop them, they hit me. I love my country. It is the Communist Party which is making our motherland powerful and prosperous and has rid the Chinese people of bullying by imperialists."

Sun continued: "Of course, I was very worried at that time about how the Communist Party would treat us. However, the People's Government invited me to take part in various meetings immediately after Beijing was liberated, and later, appointed me secretary-general of the preparatory body for setting up the Beijing committee of the Chinese People's Political Consultative Conference. I realized that only by accepting socialist transformation could there be a bright future for me. When the flour mill became a joint state-private enterprise in 1954, I was given a leading post in the mill. Besides a fixed interest,* I have received a relatively high pay. I was elected a member of the municipal people's government in 1957."

Sun Fuling joined the China Democratic National Construction Association, a democratic party, in the early days after liberation. He is now a member of its Central Committee. He told me that he is busy helping the government implement the policy towards the national bourgeoisie (see "On Policy Towards the National Bourgeoisie," *Beijing Review*, No. 7, 1979), and he hopes that all patriotic former capitalists will do their best to help bring about the four modernizations.

* Fixed interest was an annual rate of interest paid by the state to the national capitalists on the monetary value of their means of production for a given period of time after the 1956 conversion of capitalist industry and commerce into joint state-private enterprises. They got a 5 per cent interest and the payment ended in 1966. This was a form of carrying out the policy to buy the national capitalists off.

BRITAIN

Conservative Government Comes to Power

Fifty-three-year-old Mrs. Margaret Thatcher, leader of the Conservative Party, becomes the first woman prime minister in British as well as in European history as a result of the May 3 elections in which the Conservative Party defeated the Labour Party by winning 339 of the 635 seats in the House of Commons.

During the month-long election campaign, leaders of the Conservative Party took cognizance of widespread popular dissatisfaction with the Labour Party and put forward an election platform quite different from the Labour Party's, which won the support of a considerable number of voters. For instance, their proposals for free competition, for protecting enterprise profits and against state interference stimulated the bourgeoisie to invest and engage in ventures. In addition, the Conservative Party also won some electorate support by calling for income tax cuts and selling rented houses owned by local governments to dwellers for one-third or one-half below their value.

In foreign affairs, their call for stronger unity with Western Europe to reinforce defence capabilities and for building a "strong Britain" gained support from voters who are deeply concerned over the increasing threat of Soviet hegemonism.

Having won power, the new Conservative government will be confronted with many thorny problems: slow economic

growth, a huge number of unemployed, mounting inflation, a rise in local-nationalist strength and dissatisfaction of the working people with the present situation. In view of the gloomy economic situation prevailing throughout the capitalist world, these problems cannot be settled in the near future.

ECUADOR

Civilian President Elected

Jaime Roldos, Concentration of Popular Forces candidate, was elected President of the Republic of Ecuador on April 29 in the second round of the presidential election.

Roldos, 38, used to be the leader of the Ecuador Students' Organization and president of the Guayaquil Lawyers' Society. In his radio and television speech to the nation on April 30, he said he would set up an "authentic democratic government" in order to bring about economic development and social justice. In foreign affairs, he stood for establishing diplomatic relations with all the countries, following a policy of non-alignment and supporting the third world.

In 1972 when the military government headed by Rodrigues Lara came to power, it banned all political parties and clamped down military control over Ecuador. The demand for restoring constitutionalism in recent years had grown ever stronger. Succeeding Rodrigues in 1976, Alfredo Poveda, under the pressure of the people and political parties, promised to hand over the state power to civil officials.

Later on, he started "a political dialogue" with political parties and made a plan for restoring constitutionalism. According to the plan, a referendum was held in January last year, a new constitution was adopted and the first round of presidential election was held last July. But no candidate got more than half the votes. In line with the electoral law, the two candidates who obtained the lion's share of votes could participate in the second-round election, and the candidate who got more votes would become president. The President and Congressmen elected will take office on August 10, Ecuador's Independence Day.

U.S.S.R.

Making Trouble Among The Kurds

Widespread concern has been aroused over the Soviet-provoked disturbances and even armed clashes between the Kurds and other nationalities in the West Asian countries bordering on the Soviet Union.

The Kurds are a nationality in West Asia with a population of 23 million scattered in Turkey, Iran, Iraq, Syria and the Soviet Union. For historical reasons, the areas they inhabited were incorporated into the territories of these multinational sovereign countries and the Kurds became parts of their people. Problems have arisen because of the Kurds' desire to lead a better political and economic life in their respective countries. But it is entirely possible for these problems, which are quite natural and justified, to be settled

through consultation as an internal matter.

However, the Soviet Union has taken advantage of the national problems of its neighbours to sow discord in an attempt to dismember these countries. As far back as the late 50s, the Soviet Union began openly supporting and sending back exiles to these countries to organize anti-government armed groups and Kurdish "independence movements." Today, while stepping up its southward drive for expansion, Moscow has been inciting the Kurds of these countries to engage in separatist movements. Large quantities of Soviet-made weapons are reported to have been smuggled into the Kurd regions in Iran, Iraq and Turkey. Soviet-made automatic rifles were shouldered by the Kurds in Kurdistan and Kermanshah Provinces in western Iran when they clashed with troops of the Iranian Provisional Government in February. In late March, Kurds fought with the Turkish gendarmes for three days in eastern Turkey's Kiziltepe region.

At the same time, Moscow revved up its propaganda machine: *Izvestia* described the rioting Kurds as "insurgents" who are "demanding that the Iranian Central Government respect the national traditions of the Kurds"; separatist programmes were broadcasted to the Kurds in Iran and Turkey by Soviet radio stations along its southern border areas and radios of pro-Soviet groups in the two countries.

All these actions have aroused not only deep uneasiness in

Iran and Turkey but also world public attention. The Lebanese weekly *Magazine* in February wrote, "Moscow plans to create a Kurdistan socialist republic separated from Iran, Iraq and Turkey." Another Lebanese weekly, *The Arab News*, also charged that the plan for a "republic of Kurds" was concocted behind the scenes by the Soviet Union. The weekly also stated that certain Arab political sources had pointed out, once the "republic" was set up, a treaty would be signed linking the Kurds in the Soviet Union. The Soviet schemes were also denounced by Turkish Senator Kamran Inan, himself a Kurd, who asserted, "Their [the Soviets] aim is to set up a separate pro-Moscow state in Kurdistan."

U.S.A.

Soaring Prices

Both U.S. wholesale and consumer prices rose in the first quarter. Wholesale prices went up at the annual rate of 14.1 per cent and consumer prices at 13 per cent, the largest quarterly rises in four and a half years.

Prices have soared so relentlessly that even if there were another "recession" in the United States it could not be counted on to ease the situation. Since 1956, the United States has gone through four recessions, but prices never dropped once. For example, from 1973-75, the most serious recession period since the depression of the 1930s, prices rose by 21 per cent.

In fact, since the end of the 1930s depression and the beginning of World War II, there

The Decline of Purchasing Power of the U.S. Dollar Since 1939

Year	U.S. Cent	Year	U.S. Cent
1939	100.0	1968	39.9
1946	71.1	1972	33.2
1950	57.7	1973	31.3
1953	51.9	1975	25.8
1957	49.4	1977	22.9
1960	46.9	1978	20.8
1964	44.8	1979*	20.2

* February 1979 figure

have been six economic crises and only two price declines. The first happened in the postwar economic crisis of 1949 and the second in 1955 after the Korean war. But each decline was no more than 1 per cent. Since the Viet Nam war, inflation has continued without letup.

The result is that the dollar which could buy 100 U.S. cents' worth of goods at the end of the depression in the 1930s is now equivalent to only 20.2 cents in 1939. The dollar one earns today is worth only a little more than half a dollar of ten years ago, or only one-fifth its value of 1939.

The profits of U.S. companies and enterprises, however, have gone up during this period. Comparing 1965 with 1978, aggregate profits of U.S. companies and enterprises went up from 98,900 million to 251,600 million U.S. dollars, the average annual rate being 7.4 per cent. During the same period, the annual inflation rate averaged 5.7 per cent. Workers and their families were the main victims of inflation and because of inflation and heavy taxes, workers' real income is 6.8 per cent lower than it was in 1965.

● **Verdant Nanjing**

This spring 1.5 million trees have been planted in Nanjing, the capital of Jiangsu Province in east China. Two hundred thousand Chinese parasols, poplars and other varieties of trees flank the streets of this famous historical and scenic city which has been given an entirely new look as a result of the 32 million trees planted since liberation.

Scientists have pointed out some of the benefits which have been reaped from the extensive tree planting in Nanjing. For instance, the city's average daytime temperature in the summer is one to two Centigrade degrees lower than it was before 1949. Also the duration of peak daytime temperature has been reduced by three hours. The ground noontime temperature is ten degrees lower than it used to be, while the humidity is 10 to 20 per cent higher.

The number of afforested hectares has been expanded from 1,900 to 6,100. The city now has 18 parks as against five before liberation. Mochouhu Park in western Nanjing is adorned with green lawns and weeping willows. Bailu (Egret) Park, which once only comprised 0.1 hectare of land, now has been enlarged to 18 hectares.

The grounds around the Sun Yat-sen Mausoleum in the eastern suburbs have been planted with trees and shrubs, upping the afforested area to more than 2,000 hectares, almost three times what it was.

Yuhuatai, formerly a barren mountain range on the southern outskirts of Nanjing, has now become a memorial for fallen

revolutionaries and 1,330 hectares have been landscaped with large tracts of deodar cedars, metasequoias, junipers and other varieties.

● **Steel Workers Become Engineers**

Eight hundred and seventy-seven people, half of them workers, were promoted to the rank of engineer at the Anshan Iron and Steel Company, China's biggest iron and steel base in northeast China. Engineers in China are selected from workers and technicians who graduated from colleges or institutes of science and engineering.

These engineers all had to pass examinations. The company allowed all workers, cadres and technicians to take the examinations. Some 1,500 candidates sat the college basic theory and speciality theory examinations.

Three hundred groups of examiners were organized by various factories and mines of the company, before whom the candidates read their papers and answered questions and proved their ability to solve concrete technical problems. All candidates who got the required number of marks were given certificates and appointed engineers.

One successful candidate was Wang Jianping, a seventh-grade bench worker and now an engineer specializing in machine designing. He had the excellent mark of 95 (full mark is 100) in his oral examination. Wang had completed a senior middle school education and college courses through self-study. He specialized in machine designing and civil

engineering and has designed 30 projects.

The youngest of the newly promoted engineers is 35-year-old Ge Ye, formerly a technician in charge of water supply and drainage. He graduated from a technical institute in 1967.

● **Rural Post And Telecommunication Network**

Before the People's Republic was founded in 1949, there was hardly any telephone service in China's rural areas. Today, almost all the 677,000 production brigades of the people's communes have telephones.

There are now some 1.8 million kilometres of telephone lines in the countryside, mainly overhead wires, but these will gradually change to underground cables. This will not affect cultivation and is easier to maintain and repair.

China's post and telecommunication services are under the Ministry of Posts and Telecommunications. There are 43,000 rural postal offices in the country. Deliveries are made by



An operator working on the Xigaze telephone exchange, Tibet.

cars, trucks, boats, motorcycles, bicycles, and pack animals.

Ngari Prefecture in the Tibet Autonomous Region, about 4,500 metres above sea level, has its own cars for making postal deliveries. Remote coastal islands such as the Xisha Islands also have post service.

● **Xishuangbanna Welcomes Tourists**

Xishuangbanna, known as the "kingdom of green plants" or the "natural zoo," is now open to tourists.

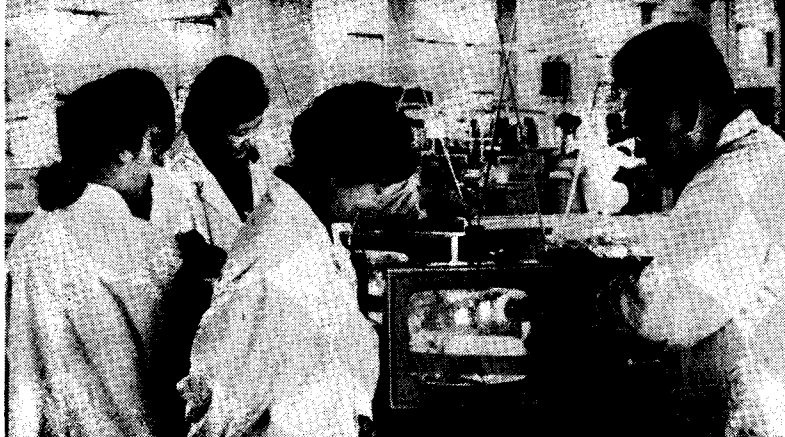
Bordering Burma and Laos, Xishuangbanna is a multi-national autonomous prefecture in Yunnan Province with a total area of 25,000 square kilo-



Landscape of Xishuangbanna.

metres. Travelling by plane and bus from Beijing, it takes visitors only one day to reach the prefectural capital of Yunnan, 700 kilometres south of Kunming.

This subtropical area has hundreds of thousands of hectares of virgin forest. There are some 5,000 varieties of plants, including 1,000-year-old trees and trees towering 40 metres in height. The Chinese



Inspecting Mudan (Peony) Brand TV sets before they leave the factory.

Academy of Sciences runs an institute of tropical plants in the prefecture.

The forests are inhabited by peacocks, hornbills, tigers, leopards, wild oxen, elephants and certain rare animals.

On the bank of the Lancang River, guest houses for tourists have been built patterned on the local bamboo housing and surrounded by coconut, betel-nut, oil palm and other tropical trees. Tourists can visit and meet peasant families of the Dai nationality.

New hotels are being built in Xishuangbanna to accommodate more tourists and hotel personnel of the Dai, Hani, Bai and Han nationalities are being trained.

● **Quality of TV Sets Improved**

A short article entitled "Crackdown on Shoddy Goods" was carried in the "On the Home Front" column of *Beijing Review*, No. 10, 1979. It dealt with Beijing rejecting all the shoddy 9-inch black-white TV sets produced by the Nanjing Television Set Factory.

Other TV factories have also been criticized by TV buyers in

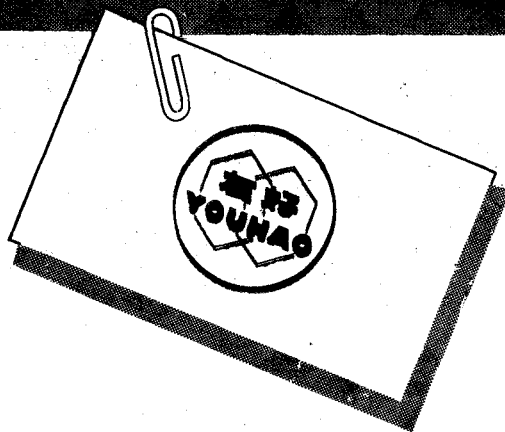
newspapers for reducing the standards of their products. This made the production departments concerned take a long hard look at the quality of their products. Since then, the quality of TV sets has improved.

A recent nationwide appraisal of TV sets produced by 11 factories showed that the standards of components, assembly, vision and selectivity have gone up, and the sets are less prone to interference. Picture clarity of some brands approximated or has reached the best.

Last year, most Kongque (Peacock) Brand TV sets turned out by the Suzhou Television Set Factory were below state-set standards and people said that the sets should be renamed "crow." The factory stopped production and had a house-cleaning. Its staff and workers updated equipment and introduced a strict quality control system. Today, Kongque TV sets are among the best on home market.

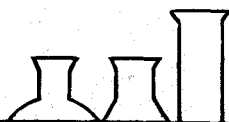


YOUHAO DYESTUFFS



- YOUHAO DIRECT & DERECT FAST DYES
- YOUHAO ACID DYES
- YOUHAO TRACID DYES (Weak Acid Dyes)
- YOUHAO ACID CHROME DYES
- YOUHAO BASIC DYES
- YOUHAO SULPHUR & YOUHAODRON DYES
- YOUHAOTHOL DYES (Insoluble Azo Dyes)
 - YOUHAOTHOL (Coupling Components)
- COLOUR BASES
- COLOUR SALTS
- YOUHAO REACTIVE DYES
- YOUHAONEUTER DYES (Metallized Dyes 2:1 Type)
- YOUHAOTHRENE DYES (Vat Dyes)
- YOUHAOCET DYES (Disperse Dyes)
- YOUHAOCOL DYES (Pigment Colour Dispersions for
Textile Printing & Pad Dyeing)
- YOUHAOLOGEN DYES (Ingrain Dyes)
- YOUHAOTHION DYES (Condense Sulphur Dyes)
- FLUORWHITEHAO (Fluorescent Brighteners)
- YOUHAO SOLVENT DYES
- YOUHAO TEXTILE AUXILIARIES

Catalogues & Samples Delivered on Postal Request



CHINA NATIONAL CHEMICAL IMPORT & EXPORT CORPORATION
Tianjin Branch