Vol. 28, No. 18 May 6, 1985

BEIJING REVIEW

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Commemorating 40th Anniversary of Victory Over Fascism

Training Large Numbers of Judges

Chinese Army Moves Towards Modernization



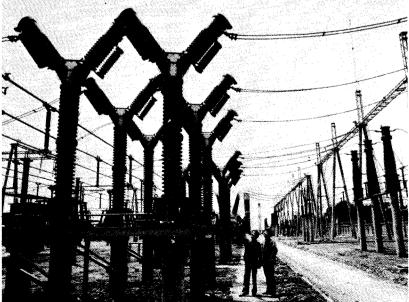


A well which can yield 183 cubic metres of natural gas a day has been drilled in the Sino-American Cooperative Oil Exploration Zone in the Yingge Sea Basin of the South China Sea.

China's Industrial Development

The Urumqi Chemical Fertilizer Plant can produce 300,000 tons of synthetic ammonia and 520,000 tons of urea a year.





The Fangshan Electrical Substation in Beijing has an installed capacity of 100,000 kw.

A construction worker at the Gezhouba Hydroelectric Power project considers his next move.



BEIJING REVIEW

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May 6, 1985

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Photo by Duan Wenhua

HIGHLIGHTS OF THE WEEK

Peng's Visit Brings China, Japan Closer

Top Chinese lawmaker Peng Zhen has just wound up his visit to Japan on a mission to promote mutual understanding and good neighbourliness (p. 8).

Bandung Spirit Be Carried Forward

Speaking at the Beijing meeting marking the 30th anniversary of the Bandung Conference, Premier Zhao Ziyang called for an end to aggressive wars and the development of the Bandung spirit in both politics and economics (p. 15).

History Points the Way to Peace

As the people of the world celebrate the 40th anniversary of victory over fascism this month, they face the important task of studying the lessons of history to avoid another world war. In this commemorative article, the author assesses the war's significance and its impact on international relations, and identifies some lessons necessary for maintaining world peace (p. 16).

Troubled Times Recalled

In his recently published memoirs, Marshal Nie Rongzhen recounts from his personal experience how Lin Biao tried to overthrow the top PLA leaders and drive them out of the capital in 1968 and 1969, behind the back of Chairman Mao Zedong. Detailing personal incidents never published before, Nie explains the difference between Mao's "left" mistakes and Lin's conspiracy (p. 32).

Developing Legal Education

Our special report explains the great changes in China's legal education since the end of the "cultural revolution." The 36 law institutes and departments throughout the country provide 3,000 graduates a year, while various sparetime law schools and colleges offering courses to train judges (p. 22).

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NOTES FROM THE EDITORS

Controlled Urbanization Vital

by AN ZHIGUO

Political Editor

The rapid increase in the size and number of big cities has brought many headaches to the developing countries as it once did to the developed countries. Over-concentration of the population in the big cities has now also become a subject of concern in China as modernization goes on.

Since the nationwide liberation in 1949, China has doubled its population to 1 billion. In 1983 there were 200 million people living in cities and towns, accounting for 23.4 percent of the population or 10 percent more than in the early post-liberation years. This percentage is much lower than that in the developed countries, and also below that of some developing countries.*

But most of the new urbanites are concentrated in the big cities. By the end of 1983 there were 46 big cities with populations of over 1 million, compared with only six in 1949. By comparison, the smaller cities and especially small towns have developed slowly.

The over-concentration of population in the big cities puts a strain on transportation, housing, energy supplies, services and commodities, and can cause problems in employment, education and

* China has adopted a different method from that of the Western countries for counting its urban population. If people who work and live in towns or cities but keep their legal residence in rural areas were included, the proportion of the urban population would be larger than these figures. other areas as well. The 26 big cities in northern China are all having difficulties finding enough water for their factories and their residents.

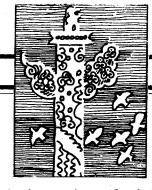
Since the 1970s urban dwellers in most developed countries have moved their homes to the suburbs or to smaller cities, seeking a better environment. In many of devel-

As China's industry and agriculture are being modernized, people will inevitably move into cities and towns. But they must move mainly into smaller cities and townships.

oping countries, however, the bigcity population has grown unchecked.

China is a developing country with a planned commodity economy. As its industry and agriculture are being modernized, people will inevitably move into cities and towns. But they must move mainly into smaller cities and townships.

This kind of migration will be encouraged by publicity, education and economic incentives. Some townships and smaller cities, even very remote ones, which are already prospering, have set the example and are successful in attracting many intellectuals and specialists to work there. Their experience is promising.



implementation of rural responsibility system has created a lot of surplus labour in the rural areas. It is quite possible to find suitable work for these people in places other than the big cities. In fact, in the past few years a great many peasants have turned to small industries and sideline occupations, remaining in their home villages. This is entirely different from what happened in the Western countries, where industrialization forced many bankrupt farmers into the big cities.

To control the growth of population in the big cities, the government should use both economic and administrative means. When new businesses and departments are established in an urban area, they must first seek approval and then pay a fee to help with the necessary local infrastructure construction.

It is also necessary to find the funds to build satellite cities and towns as soon as possible. This can be done by increasing the proportion of a city's construction capital which is allotted to the suburbs, by reducing or exempting taxes, by granting low-interest loans, by issuing bonds to build satellite cities and in other ways. All this will accelerate the amassing of funds to build satellite cities so as to enable them to absorb the population influx.

China hopes to prove by its own experience that a huge urban migration is not necessary for rapid economic development. It may be said that this will be another salient feature of socialist modernization the Chinese way.

China's Elderly Keep Smiling

I really don't know why the United States has never taken proper concern for the elderly. Citizens fear old age because of needing to enter nursing homes, or not being taken care of properly. Since my first visit to the People's Republic of China in 1980, I'm more and more impressed with how your country stresses the care of the elderly. When one sees the smiles on their faces, you know they are not forgotten; one can see grandma and grandpa babysitting with their grandchildren; or one sees their doing something to help others, which in turn makes the individual feel like he's doing something for his country and his fellowmen.

Darlene A. Classen, R.N. Colorado, USA

An Inspiring Magazine

I am a reporter working for a leading daily newspaper. Reading magazines is one aspect of life that I really enjoy. About one year ago I became acquainted with your magazine at a bookstall. They immediately grabbed my attention. I read them from cover to cover and cannot begin to tell you how much I enjoyed them.

Since then I have never missed a single copy of *Beijing Review*. It is a very informative, interesting and inspiring magazine I have read, and it has given me a greater understanding of life in people's China.

It is with great pleasure that I am writing to congratulate you for the great job you are doing to promote public awareness of the price of progress. For this particular reason I would like to express my thanks and admiration for your efforts. I often refer to material in

your magazine in my articles, which are published in different magazines in Pakistan.

> Iqbal Hayat Lahore, Pakistan

Sketches by Shao Dadi

I very much appreciated the sketches by Shao Dadi on inside back cover (No. 10). The small picture shows that the old man is carefree and content, yet his eyes show his strong, unyielding determination. The picture fully reflects the painter's skill and superb technique. It is indeed a rare work.

A reader from Villeneuve-de Marsan, France

Good Columns and Suggestions

I enjoy reading the following columns: News in Brief; Business & Trade; Culture & Science; and Letters. I also appreciate articles about Japan and its trends, relations between India and Pakistan, the agreement signed by Jordan and Palestine and China's economy in 1984.

Suggestions: Please continue to change the contents and layout of your magazine, so as to keep it fresh and enriching, and to make it the example for all Chinese magazines. The first thing is to change its paper, replace the black-and-white photos with colour ones and keep them clear.

Filoli Mohamed Fez, Morocco

Interest in Shakespeare Society

I forwarded your article "Shakespeare Society Founded" (No. 1) to the director of the Shakespeare Birthplace Trust in Straford-on-Avon, England. He has replied thanking me for the article, and in

his letter he says the following:

"This article is therefore of particular interest as it not only records the recent foundation of the society but gives details of Shakespearian events in China in the past years. If you receive any further news of the society I should be pleased to know of it."

I feel sure you may be interested to know how well your article has been received by the Shakespeare Centre, and as you see they would be pleased to see any further publications on the subject, which if, and when, they may appear, I would be happy to send.

Nicholas Vaughan-Baker Essex, England

Chinese, Americans Oppose Arms Race

I enjoy reading "China Urges Arms Reduction" in your March 4, 1985 issue. It is gratifying to realize that China is for disarmament and against arms race.

I wish to point out that more than 80 percent of all Americans want an immediate halt to the Admiral LaRocque arms race. "Good Morning stated on America" TV show, "There is no defence. We can't defend ourselves against Soviet missiles, and the Soviets can't defend themselves missiles. There's against our nowhere to hide." When people want to survive on this planet. would or should the leaders try to build all new, sophisticated, expensive weapon systems? As a scholar and as an economist, I would agree with LaRocque and other thinking people to question the wisdom of unwarranted spending to benefit the 10 percent who are aligned with the industrial-military complex.

Francis Shieh Maryland, USA

Hu's South Pacific Tour Successful

Chinese Party General Secretary Hu Yaobang returned to China on April 24, smiling and satisfied with his 12-day South Pacific friendship tour of Australia, New Zealand, Western Samoa, Fiji and Papua New Guinea.

The tour, held from April 12-24, took the Chinese Party chief to 12 cities. He held cordial and fruitful talks with government leaders on international issues of common concern and on ways of strengthening bilateral relations. He also met opposition party leaders, industrialists and businessmen, visited economic and cultural establishments. and spoke with people from all walks of life, packing his already crowded schedule in order to make time to meet overseas Chinese living in the countries along his route.

Asked to comment on Hu's South Pacific tour, Hu Qili, a member of the CPC Central Committee Secretariat and the senior member of the general secretary's entourage, said, "What was most important during the trip was the strengthening of mutual trust between the leaders and peoples of China and the host countries. enabling them to understand that China is sincere in seeking peace and friendship, and in seeking the establishment of long-standing cooperative relations on the basis of the Five Principles of Peaceful Coexistence."

China Refuses Military Role in the South Pacific. During his visit to New Zealand from April 18-20, Hu announced at a press conference in Wellington that China had no intention whatsoever of playing any military role in the South Pacific. "The South Pacific



Hu Yaobang and New Zealand Prime Minister David Lange on their way to a Wellington banquet in Hu's honour.

is for the countries and peoples of the South Pacific, and China wishes to see unity and co-operation among the countries in this region for a long time to come," Hu said.

China wanted closer friendship and co-operation with the South Pacific nations, he noted, adding that the region had an important role to play in maintaining world peace and stability.

Later, during his April 23 visit to Suva, capital of Fiji, Hu spelled out the principles behind China's relations with the South Pacific nations.

China fully respected the foreign and domestic policies of these countries, and fully recognized their close mutual relations. China hoped these links would continue to develop of their own accord, he added, and also fully respected the treaties the South Pacific nations had signed with the big powers.

"These three principles show fully that China has no intention of competing in the region and that China hopes to develop its relations with the South Pacific countries, as well as with other parts of the world, on the basis of the Five Principles of Peaceful Coexistence." Hu declared.

Willing to Make Friends With Small Countries. When asked why his tour included what one Western newsman described as the "small and less important" countries of Western Samoa, Fiji and Papua New Guinea, Hu replied that China believed all countries, whether large or small, were equal and of the same importance. "I'm happy to be the first Chinese leader to visit Western Samoa and Fiji." he added.

China was always willing to make friends with smaller countries and the other developing nations because China itself had been bullied by foreign powers for over one hundred years, he noted.

For this reason, China cherished feelings of friendship for the smaller countries, and they were very friendly towards China.

"Many small countries are willing to be friends with China, a huge yet poor country. China deems this a great honour," Hu said.

Workers to Play Greater Role

China's working class should play a greater role in realizing the historical change from poverty to prosperity and from backwardness to modernization. Vice-Premier Wan Li said.

This change was "the strong aspiration of 1 billion people and an irresistible historical trend," he told a meeting marking May 1, International Labour Day, and the 60th anniversary of the founding of the All-China Federation of Trade Unions (ACFTU), held in Beijing, April 30.

The working class, Wan Li said, is far from having accomplished its historical mission and must unite with the people of the whole country to march forward and make China a powerful, highly civilized and democratic, modern, socialist country.

The urban economic restructuring, he said, is another revolution on which hinges the future and destiny of the nation as well as the most important aspect of the workers' movement in the 1980s.

Chinese workers should espouse the cause of the urban economic restructuring just as peasants have carried out reforms in rural areas, he added.

"Reforms in rural areas could not have succeeded as it did with-

World Workers' Common Aims Stressed

Ni Zhifu, president of the All-China Federation of Trade Unions (ACFTU), said that peace, development and workers' rights and interests are in the forefront of concern among workers and trade unions the world over.

Ni who is also a member of the Political Bureau of the Chinese Communist Party Central Committee, said that these three issues were closely interrelated.

"Although there are ideological and political differences among the trade unions of different countries, their common interests demand that the workers and trade unions of all countries transcend these differences and seek mutual understanding and co-operation so as to solve the vital problems they all confront," he said.

Ni made the remarks at a reception in celebration of May Day, and the 60th anniversary of the founding of the ACFTU at the Beijing Great Hall of the People on April 30.

"We are ready to fight together with trade unions of other countries in the struggle to safeguard world peace, establish a new international economic order, protect the rights and interests of the workers and promote the cause of the progress of humanity," Ni declared.

He said that the Chinese workers and trade unions deeply sympathized with and firmly supported the workers of other countries in their just struggles for job security, improvement of their livelihood and safeguarding the just rights and interests of the workers and trade unions.

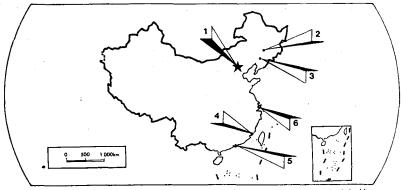
Among the more than 600 people present at the reception were Party and state leaders as well as outstanding workers from all walks of life, trade unionists from Hongkong and Macao, and 15 delegations from other countries and regions.

out the initiative and bold spirit displayed by the 800 million peasants. Similarly, the success of the reforms in urban areas depends on the dedication and wisdom of 100 million urban workers," he said.

Workers in various trades and departments should do their jobs well and provide high-quality



PLACES IN THIS ISSUE



News in Brief

First-phase construction of the Baoshan Iron and Steel Complex, the biggest project in China using imported equipment, will be finished when its first blast furnacebegins producing 10,000 tons of iron a day this coming September.

The complex, when completed, will be able to turn out 6.5 million tons of iron. 6.7 million tons of steel, 4.22 million tons of rolled steel and 1.22 million tons of rolled ingots a year.

A chartered Japanese jetliner landed at Dalian in Liaoning on April 18, marking the inauguration of the third China-Japan air route:

The other two regular routes fly from Beijing to Nagasaki via Shanghai and from Shanghai to Tokyo via Nagasaki.

China opened two port cities, Weihai and Longkou, to foreign ships in April. Both are on the Shandong Peninsula. It has been announced that China will eventually open its entire coast, or what is called the north-south coastal belt.

US\$2 billion worth of goods from abroad are to be sold this year to soak up 8 billion yuan (about US\$2.8 billion) in surplus Chinese currency over-issued last year because of excessive bank loans and over-sized bonuses for urban workers.

products at reasonable prices and better services to contribute to market prosperity and price stability, he said.

They should at the same time help peasants carry out rural economic reform and construction while doing their best to meet the needs of the 800 million Chinese peasants for industrial products, science, technology, culture, education and public health.

The trade unions should for their part protect workers' legal rights and combat bureaucracy, he said, while fighting cliquism, anarchism and individualism in the working class, which infringed upon the interests of the state and collectives.

He stressed that the working class should work hard to master modern science, culture and technology within a short period so as to raise their skills and absorb advanced foreign science, technology and managerial experience.

"A nation is hopeless which does not respect knowledge, does not treasure its talents and pays little attention to technical knowhow and management," he said.

Wan Li also said, "We will strengthen unity with workers and compatriots in Taiwan, Hongkong, Macao and abroad to work together to accomplish the task of reunifying the country."

At the meeting, the ACFTU awarded May Day Labour Medals to 1,002 advanced workers for their excellent performances in helping the modernization programme.

Peng in Japan Urges Closer Ties

Chairman of the Standing Committee of the National •People's Congress (NPC) Peng Zhen has just completed a visit to Japan to promote mutual understanding and

conduct friendly exchanges of views on how to consolidate and develop the existing goodwill between the two countries.

The normalization of diplomatic relations and shuttle visits by top leaders in recent years have put the two countries on very friendly terms. One indication of this is the fact that Japan is China's largest trading partner. Last year bilateral trade reached US\$12.7 billion, or 25.5 percent of China's foreign trade. China sold US\$5.35 billion worth of goods to Japan, an increase of 20 percent over 1983, and bought US\$7.374 billion worth, a 59.6 percent increase.

Of this growing bilateral trade, Peng said, "We are open to all countries in the world but we put Japan, our close neighbour, first, especially Japanese businesses."

Peng told Japanese business representatives that while developing bilateral trade was important, both China and Japan should also stress increasing co-operation in investment and technology. The Chinese lawmaker added that foreign investment in China was specifically protected by the Chinese Constitution.

The fact that China's legal system still had gaps was due to inexperience, Peng said. Meanwhile, in addition to the laws formulated and ratified by the NPC, China's State Council has also worked out a number of regulations and rules which "bear legal effect," though they are not formal laws and need to be amended when China gains more experience.

All the contracts China has signed with other countries will be carried through to the end, regardless of possible future amendments, Peng told the Japanese. "This is not my personal opinion, but the opinion of the NPC Standing Committee. It was presented and adopted as a bill at the recent Third Session of the Sixth NPC. We will carry it out without any reserve."

Peng said he hoped both Chinese and Japanese leaders will work towards a peaceful solution of the problems in Korea. The solution centred on the realization of self-determined and peaceful reunification, Peng said. He said he hoped that both parts of Korea will increase contacts and dialogue, to make the peninsula an area of peace and stability.

Peng is the first top Chinese lawmaker to visit Japan since Premier Zhao Ziyang's visit in 1982 and Party General Secretary Hu Yaobang's visit in 1983. Peng talked with both ruling and opposition leaders as well as representatives of business and popular organizations.

Wu: China Never Threatens Others

China opposes hegemonism and will never seek spheres of influence, State Councillor and Foreign Minister Wu Xueqian said at a meeting marking the 30th anniversary of the Asian-African conference, held in Bandung, Indonesia, April 24-25.

Wu recalled that at the first Bandung Conference the late Chinese Premier Zhou Enlai quoted the old saying, "Do not do unto others what you would not have them do unto you." "This is still our precept today," Wu said.

"We cherish our independence and respect the independence and sovereignty of other countries. We oppose threats by others and will never threaten other countries. We are against outside interference and will never interfere in the internal affairs of others," Wu said.

Wu stressed that China will firmly follow the Five Principles of Peaceful Coexistence and the ten principles of the Bandung Conference.

Wu also said, "As for the grave problems endangering peace and



Magnificent Marathon Match

More than 10,000 marathon runners, including 23 from eight other countries passed thousands upon thousands of cheering spectators lining Beijing's streets on April 21. The Beijing marathon is the largest long-distance running event ever held in China. It was first proposed by the International Olympic Committee.

stability in Asia, China, like other Asian countries, is in favour of political settlements free from outside force or interference, and with respect for independence and sovereignty."

On April 24 in Beijing, Premier Zhao Ziyang, Deng Yingchao, chairwoman of the Chinese People's Political Consultative Conference, and 500 representatives from various fields attended a meeting marking the 30th anniversary of the Bandung Conference. In his speech, Zhao called for adherence to the "Bandung spirit" (for full text, see p. 15).

Wu arrived in Jakarta on April 22. He is the first Chinese high-ranking official to visit Indonesia since the suspension of Sino-Indonesian diplomatic relations in 1967.

Wu said that in his contacts and talks with Indonesian President Suharto and Foreign Minister Mochtar Kusumaatmadja, both sides agreed to promote direct trade between the two countries and an agreement will be reached as soon as possible by trade delegations authorized by the two governments.

There will also be increased contacts and exchanges to strengthen mutual understanding and trust. "I am optimistic about the development of Sino-Indonesian relations," said Wu before leaving for home.

On his way to Indonesia, Wu visited the Philippines and met with President Ferdinand Marcos. Both pledged to strengthen the friendly ties between their two countries.

Schools Reform Admission Rules

In an attempt to lighten the burdens imposed on Beijing students, the capital's Educational Bureau recently abolished middle school entrance examinations for the coming academic year.

In the past, local primary school students have had to pass two tests — one for their graduation certificates, and another to decide whether they would enter middle school. The graduation examinations will continue, although promotion will now be based on academic achievement

The bureau also decided to lower the age requirements for Beijing primary schools from seven to six years and three months for urban children, and to six years and nine months in suburban and outlying rural areas.

Not long ago, Minister of Education He Dongchang suggested that the country's developed areas could do away with written middle school entrance exams in favour of a combination of oral tests and personal recommendation.

"We should let our children be more playful, or we'll see no creative talent," said He. "Children now are too serious, rather than too frivolous as some people have complained. Most of our teachers are responsible people, but some have restrained the children too much. As a result, the pupils lack creativity, while the teachers themselves are worn out," he added.

Officials at the Beijing Educational Bureau said their decision was aimed at emancipating children and giving them more time to play. To some educators, however, the move was "a mere scrap of paper."

"This is the same old stuff with a different label," declared Xin Guozhong, principal of the Zhanlan Road Primary School in northwest Beijing. "The students still have a critical examination which determines their future, no matter what it is called. They are far from being emancipated. This is a conservative reform, and an incomplete one, if it is really a reform at all," he said.

Xin noted that the examinations were kept only for entrance to so-called "key schools," which have the academic advantages of the best teachers and facilities.

Xin suggested that both entrance examinations and the key school system be abolished, as had already been done in Changchun, Shenyang, Shenzhen, Xiamen and some other cities. "We have similar conditions. Beijing's middle schools are capable of enrolling all our primary school graduates, so the tests are unnecessary," he said.

"We cannot sweep it all away right now," argued Yang Zhongzhi of the Beijing Educational Bureau. "Instead, we have to carry out an interim measure." Examinations were needed because the disparate scholastic standards among local primary and middle schools. "Almost all parents expect their children to enter the key middle schools. In addition, we should give people time to get used to a new admission system," he said.

Gradual admission reforms were also used in Shanghai and Tianjin, where education departments were moving step by step to establish the recommendation system and abolish key schools, he added.

Yang noted that lowering primary school age requirements could tend to aid the relaxation. "Because our children are smarter now, they can be taught much younger," he said.

China's 853,700 primary schools enrolled 24,729,300 students in 1984, 95 percent of the country's school-age population. Also last year, 13,025,300 primary school graduates were enrolled in 93,700 ordinary middle schools across the country.

Around the Globe

Zhao Reasserts Support For Palestinian People

"The best way to settle the Palestine question fairly and reasonably is through peaceful negotiations," Premier Zhao Ziyang on April 25 told Massamba Sarre, chairman of the United Nations Committee on the Exercise of the Inalienable Rights of the Palestinian People.

However, he continued. China would continue to support the Palestinian people in their struggle in all forms as long as Israel continued practising its expansionist policy and refused to recognize their legitimate rights.

Trade Unions to Restore Relations With Counterparts

The All-China Federation of Trade Unions will seek to restore relations with trade unions in the Soviet Union and several other East European countries, Relations between the ACFTU and its East European counterparts were suspended in 1967.

Ningxia Seeks Ties With Islamic World

A delegation from China's Ningxia Hui Autonomous Region is visiting Egypt, the Arab Republic of Yemen and Kuwait. The month-long tour is aimed at strengthening trade and economic ries with the Islamic world. More than one-third of the 4 million people in the northwest China region are Moslems.

Pakistan, Iran and Turkey

Co-operative Organization Revived

Pakistan, Iran and Turkey have revived their Economic Cooperation Organization, with plans to form a free trade zone and combine their strengths to the advantage of all three.

by SHI ZONGXING

UNDER the combined efforts of the governments of Pakistan, Iran and Turkey, the Organization of Regional Co-operation and Development recently resumed operations after a suspension of several years, under the name of Economic Co-operation Organization (ECO).

At the end of January deputies from the three countries met in Teheran, the capital of Iran, and decided to restart the group under the new name and a new organizational structure. The change is aimed at making the ECO more effective, improving communications between economic officials and giving the organization a more active role.

Under the change, deputy foreign ministers and directors of the three foreign ministry departments will form the highest council. The planning committee will be made up of the deputy ministers in charge of economic affairs. The former seven committees were reduced to four, dealing with economic capital development, industry and technology, agriculture, and education and science.

March 11-16 the Education and Science Committee and the Economic Capital Development Committee both met in Ankara, Turkey to make concrete plans for cooperation.

April 10-15 the other two committees met in Islamabad, Pakistan

also to work out proposals. The highest council will meet in July to consider the proposals of all four committees and put them into effect.

The old organization was formed in July 1964, and 12 years later the heads of Pakistan, Iran and Turkey met in Izmir, Turkey, and issued a declaration. They announced that the three countries would set up a free trade zone by gradually reducing trade tariffs and bringing down all tariff barriers, and investment and development banks in order to aid construction projects. They agreed to work together to effectively co-ordinate regional industry and strengthen exchanges in telecommunications, transportation and technical training.

In March 1977 the foreign ministers of the three countries signed the Treaty of Izmir, which embodied the spirit of the declaration. But because of political changes in each country, including a revolution in Iran, the atmosphere of mutual co-operation could not be sustained. The joint plans were not carried out and the organization was paralyzed.

But as trade protectionist measures in the West get tougher and the North-South dialogue shows little progress, these three developing countries have again united to cooperate economically. Reviving the ECO will help them all develop, and will also contribute to South-South co-operation throughout the third world.

This time the ECO has a better chance for success. Observers believe there is a good economic and political basis for trilateral cooperation. They have much in common in history, culture and religion, and there are no outstanding sore spots in their mutual relations. Political and economic relations between Pakistan and Turkev have always been good, and relations between Pakistan and Iran, while cold for a short while, have markedly improved recently. Economic ties between Turkey and Iran are close, with their trade quota close to US\$3 billion. All the three countries have plentiful natural and human resources. Iran is a major oil producer in the Persian Gulf and Turkey is more developed than many third world countries. Pakistan has a large pool of workers and a comparatively comprehensive industrial system.

But most importantly, all three are deeply interested in resuming and developing economic co-operation. As long as this sincerity remains, the potential for co-operation is enormous.

Because the ECO has just been revived, it is natural that some problems have arisen. A commentary in the *Pakistan Times* pointed out three major obstacles facing the organization.

First, communications are not convenient, roads are not fully used, and the railroads are inefficient.

Second, the institutions which oversee trade repayments, insurance and customs are not complete, and there are still high tariffs between the three.

Finally, although their trilateral trade quota has constantly grown, it is still a small proportion of the

foreign trade of these three countries. In 1983-1984, for example, the trilateral trade export quota

was only 16.8 percent of the region's total, while the import quota was just 2.3 percent.

Brazil

New Government, Heavy Tasks

The new Brazilian government is confronted with many problems following the death of President-elect Tancredo Neves at a crucial moment in the country's democratization process. But it also enjoys some advantages.

by LIU XIAOLU

A 20-year period of military rule came to an end when Tancredo Neves was elected president of Brazil last January 15. Countries all over the world, and especially in Latin America, believed that the event marked important progress in the region's democratization process.

However, the sudden illness and death of the president-elect shocked and anguished Brazilians eager for democratic reform.

The tasks confronting the new Brazilian government are formidable indeed. The present cabinet, formed by Tancredo Neves, includes all Brazil's main parties -Democratic Movement the Party, the Freedom Front Party, the Workers' Party and the Democratic Social Party. All hold different opinions on basic issues, such as taxation, economic retrenchment, and investment and export policies. Enlisting their co-operation will be one pressing problem for the government. The difficulties only intensify when parties not in power use this particular moment to propose shortening the presidential term, or even call for another election.

Of course, the current situation is not completely bleak. First, Brazil's comparative stability indicates that the death of president-elect Neves has not disrupted its march towards democracy. The

reason is that Brazilians, emerging from the long misery of military rule, hold high hopes for the current political situation and their "new republic." Second, the government gained considerable prestige when Jose Sarney, the then vice-president-elect, reasonably solved the problem of providing money to several northeastern states which had suffered from heavy floods.

The late President-elect Neves, a mild and flexible politician, enjoyed wide respect and support among the Brazilian people. A series of new and popular policies had been put forward, although they have not been put into practice because of his sudden death. These will likely influence the new government in its future administration. To ease the country's difficulties, Neves advocated further democratization and put forward new financial measures to increase ex-

ports and expand domestic consumer markets. He also became an active proponent for reopening negotiations on Brazil's debts to aid the country's economic recovery and maintain its sovereignty.

His foreign policy was based on plans to develop better relations with Brazil's Latin American neighbours, while at the same time improving ties with its creditors and trade partners. He had accused some Western countries of protectionism, and also declared his support for the Contadora Group's efforts for peace in Central America.

At the moment, however, Brazil is in an extremely difficult position. This year it has to pay US\$14 billion in interest on its foreign debt while inflation, running at a three-figure rate in 1984, has accelerated further in the past three months. Quick solutions are also needed for other problems that may possibly affect the stability of its society, such as wage adjustments and severe unemployment. late president-elect planned to launch reforms aimed at easing the problems left by 20 years of military rule. Now, these daunting tasks have been passed to the new government headed by Jose Sarney. It will be up to him to ensure that the country's progress continues.

Soviet Union

Gorbachev at the Helm

In a flurry of domestic and diplomatic activities, Mikhail Gorbachev has shown what vigour can bring to a post usually held by a member of the old guard. Strong statements on domestic and international issues have established his authority and attracted worldwide attention.

by JIE FU

I N the two months since Mikhail Gorbachev was elected general secretary of the Soviet Communist Party at an extraordinary plenum

of the Central Committee, he has moved ahead with vigour. Strong statements on economic reforms at home and on international relations have established his authority and attracted worldwide attention. At 54, Gorbachev is younger than even former Party head Leonid Brezhnev, who took over at 58.

Assuming power little more than four hours after the death of Konstantin Chernenko on March 10, Gorbachev immediately addressed the plenum, outlining his essential domestic and diplomatic policies.

After Chernenko's funeral, Gorbachev met with the leaders of 27 countries and parties, holding lengthy conversations with some. On March 21 he chaired his first regular meeting of the Soviet Communist Party Central Committee (SCPCC) Politburo. The next day he met with delegates of the Socialist International Consultative Council on Disarmament, elaborating the Soviet position, and on March 28 he led another Politburo meeting.

According to official Soviet newspapers, Gorbachev has vowed to stick to the strategic policies of his two predecessors, Chernenko and Yuri Andropov, including policies drawn up at the 26th Party Congress and afterwards. These plans call for speeding up economic development, improving all aspects of socialist society in order to put the nation on the track of intensive development, and perfecting the economic mechanisms and management systems of the Soviet economy.

At the regular meeting of the Politburo, Gorbachev stressed that in order to achieve these goals the Soviet people must work harder and improve state and Party discipline, and must fight against irresponsibility and extravagance.

In a long theoretical article published after Gorbachev's election, *Pravda* stressed the need to recognize that the working style of Leninism is realistic and creative. It is a style based on a scientific attitude towards the social process, the paper added.

The article underlined the importance of political continuity and the need to raise new questions on the basis of evidence while treasuring past economic achievements. Lenin strongly advocated changing or modifying any past resolutions which proved to be obstacles to the fulfilment of new tasks. This realism, however, does not mean pragmatism to the neglect of communism.

Internationally, Gorbachev has stated that he wishes to maintain policies which promote peace and progress, and especially to protect and enhance the fraternal friendship between nations of "the socialist community"

Gorbachev has also said he would like to see a major improvement in the relations between China and the Soviet Union. He said that if the feeling is mutual, progress is possible. On March 28 the Politburo discussed ways to further develop economic and trade relations with China and considered increasing bilateral trade would be a way to improve relations.

In dealing with the Western world, Gorbachev has stressed that the Soviet Union is not seeking the military upper hand over NATO and the United States. He said he hopes the United States will understand this position and act likewise. If so, an accord would be possible. However, he added that the most important task for the Soviet Union right now is to main-

tain its defensive ability so that any latent enemy will clearly understand that a threat to the security of the Soviet Union or its allies will only be met with a forceful counterattack.

Backing up his hope for an arms accord with concrete action, on April 7 Gorbachev ordered all Soviet missile deployment in Europe halted until November. What comes next, he said, depends on whether the United States follows the Soviet example.

Meeting with leaders from the West at Chernenko's funeral, Gorbachev told them the Soviet Union is willing to improve its relations with the Western countries.

According to Pravda, Gorbachev will attend the next United Nations General Assembly session in New York this September, and may meet US President Ronald Reagan there. Reagan has already sent the Soviet leader his invitation and said he hopes to meet Gorbachev.

Signalling no change in his country's more controversial positions, Gorbachev met with Vietnamese leader Truong Chinh and assured him that the Soviet Union will always back Viet Nam and support its position on Kampuchea.

In his meeting with Babrak Karmal, Gorbachev said the Soviet Union will continue to support Afghanistan's fight against "external armed interference and other forms of intervention."

The Soviet-US Talks

No Progress in Geneva

The first round of the Soviet-US arms talks in Geneva showed no progress ofter six weeks of bargaining.

by TANG XIUSHAN

THE Soviet Union and the United States wound up the first round of their arms talks in

Geneva on April 23 with no sign of progress to show after six weeks of negotiation.

In its recent comments, the Soviet press has accused the US delegation of being "reluctant to discuss the space question" and of sidetracking the negotiations into "a seminar on abstract disarmament." The White House's refusal to give up its space militarization programme was the main obstacle at the Geneva talks, added Sergei Losev, director of the Soviet News Agency TASS.

Meanwhile, it was disclosed that the Soviets have been insisting on linking the demilitarization of space with cuts in strategic and intermediate-range nuclear weapons.

The United States, however, wants to reduce Russian superiority in land-based strategic and medium-range missiles and continue developing its space arms system. The American negotiators say the three categories should be dealt with separately while the Soviet Union, wanting to stop the US space programme, adheres to a package solution.

Because of the stalemate, Moscow changed its tactics by announcing a freeze until November on the deployment of SS-20 medium-range missiles in Europe. It also proposed that both sides agree to a moratorium on the development and deployment of space arms and a freeze on strategic offensive weapons. The Soviet Union described these as major steps in pushing the negotiations forward, and urged the United States to follow suit.

However, Washington branded the Soviet move a meaningless propaganda ploy coming when Moscow enjoyed a 10-to-1 advantage in medium-range missiles in Europe.

US Defence Secretary Caspar Weinberger charged recently that the Soviet Union was developing its own "Star Wars" system, and wanted to secure a monopoly in this category by making every effort to check US advances.

The NATO allies are reportedly backing Washington in developing the space defence system, and considering their participation in the undertaking. Some West European countries have expressed their intention to continue the deployment of US missiles on their soil.

The position of Washington and its allies indicates that it will be

impossible for them to accept Moscow's proposal. Because of this, much concern is now focused on the next round of negotiations scheduled for May 30. Can the present deadlock be broken?

The key to the Geneva talks lies in a solution to the space problem. If neither side is willing to bend on this issue, it will be difficult for the negotiators to make progress.

Denmark

Labour Disputes Continue

Denmark, comparatively stable for more than a decade, was rocked by a new wave of labour unrest.

by FANG XIANGSHENG

S TRIKES and demonstrations swept Denmark last month, as 150,000 people walked off their jobs on April 10 to protest against government interference in labourmanagement relations.

Earlier, from March 24-31, the country was hit by its biggest strike in over a decade when 300,000 workers downed tools, paralyzing transport and curtailing supplies of food and fuel.

The giant March strike came after the Danish Employers Association and the National Federation of Trade Unions failed to reach agreement on labour's demands for a four to six percent pay rise and a cut in the work week from 40 to 35 hours. bargaining, the trade unions held that the moves would help reduce unemployment and ease pressure on the labour market. The employers, however, insisted that the wage increase be held to 2 percent. The workers' demands would raise production expenses by more than 10 percent, they said, thus weakening Danish products' ability to compete in international markets.

In a bid to end the unrest, the Danish government put forward a compromise package granting a two percent wage rise this year and a further 1.5 percent boost in 1986. The proposals also called for higher price controls and higher corporate taxes, and a one-hour cut in the work week to 39 hours.

The compromise was seen as an attempt to ease pressure on an economy still shaky in spite of two years of recovery. Troubled by large deficits and an unemployment rate of around 10 percent, Denmark is also saddled with a foreign debt equal to one-third of its gross national product — and which forces it to repay its creditors 20 billion krone (US\$1,790 million) a year.

Quick resolution of the dispute would also aid the government of Prime Minister Poul Schluter, which has been trying to revitalize the national economy by encouraging exports, cutting social spending and holding downwage rises since it took office in 1982.

Bandung Spirit Be Carried Forward

In a meeting to commemorate the 30th anniversary of the Bandung Conference in Beijing April 24, Chinese Premier Zhao Ziyang said that the situation in Asia and Africa built resolve among the people of those regions to "hold high the banner of national independence, world peace, friendly co-operation and common development and make still greater contributions to achieving the various goals set at the Asian-African Conference." Following is the text of his speech. — Ed.

by ZHAO ZIYANG

THIRTY years ago today, leaders from 29 Asian and African countries caught the attention of the world when they opened the Asian-African Conference in Bandung, Indonesia. Initiated by Burma, Ceylon (Sri Lanka), India, Indonesia and Pakistan, the conference passed a final communique proclaiming a declaration on world peace and cooperation and formulating the famous Ten Principles of the Bandung Conference. These explicitly expressed the common will of the Asian and African countries to unite in their struggle against imperialism and colonialism, to seek or safeguard their national independence, develop their economies, defend world peace and develop friendly co-operation. The Bandung Conference was written into history as the fruit of the post-war national independence movement and a symbol of its hastening growth.

Inspired by the Bandung spirit, dozens of countries in Asia, Africa and other parts of the third world have won independence in the past three decades. This has further tipped the international balance of power in favour of the people of all countries and exerted a farreaching impact on world peace and human progress.

There are still serious problems in Asia and Africa. The wars of aggression against Kampuchea and Afghanistan are still going on. A large part of Arab land is still under occupation. The legitimate rights of the Palestinian people have not been restored. Namibia has not yet won its independence and racial discrimination is still rampant in South Africa. The just struggles of the Asian and African peoples to win and safeguard their national independence and to protect their national rights are not yet over. The rivalry of the superpowers for world hegemony and their arms race are a source of concern for the Asian and African nations.

In the economic field, over these 30 years, the Asian and African countries have made progress to varying extents under different conditions and accumulated a wealth of experience. They are beginning to exert an impact on the pattern of the world economy that must not be overlooked.

However, the economies of the Asian and African countries in general are still fairly backward. They are victims of the old unjust and unreasonable international economic order.

The achievements gained yesterday and the difficulties encountered today encourage and stimulate the Asian and African countries to hold high the banner of national independence, world peace. friendly co-operation and common development, and make still greater contributions to achieving the various goals set at the Asian-African Conference. China is determined to contribute its efforts. together with other Asian and African countries, in this regard.

China cherishes her own hardwon independence and fully appreciates the independence of other countries, and sympathizes and supports the people of other countries as they seek and safeguard their independence through ways they choose for themselves. The issues of Kampuchea, Afghanistan, the Middle East and southern Africa must be solved as soon as possible in accordance with the various reasonable resolutions adopted by the General Assembly of the United Nations. We demand that colonial rule and racial discrimination be eliminated from Asia, Africa and the rest of the world, and that the hegemonistic acts of big countries bullying small ones and the powerful invading the weak be stopped.

China has joined India and Burma in initiating the Five Principles of Peaceful Coexistence. It has also participated in outlining the Ten Principles adopted at Bandung. It is on the basis of these principles that China has worked to develop friendship and co-operation with the Asian and African countries and other countries throughout the world, and has especially sought good relations with its neighbours. To our joy, we see mutual trust and friendly co-operation is growing between China and many Asian and African countries. China also expects to improve and develop relations with other countries.

There are some 100 countries in Asia and Africa with differing ethnic origins, cultural backgrounds, economic development and social systems. There are also problems left over from the past. So, contradictions and differences between some countries are hardly avoidable. In addition, external forces have also been trying to sow discord among them to serve their own purposes.

To develop friendly co-operation, the Asian and African countries have to get rid of outside interference and "seek common ground while reserving differences" as they did at the Bandung Conference.

The "common ground" means the Five Principles of Peaceful Coexistence and the Ten Principles of the Bandung Conference, and strict adherence to them as well as joint efforts to carry them out.

The final communique of the Asian-African Conference urged the countries of Asia and Africa to build regional economic cooperation. In recent years, the developing countries have proposed and actively carried out the South-South co-operation, which is a step forward from the concept put forward at the Asian-African Conference. We believe the South-

South co-operation will strengthen the economies of the developing countries and effectively promote the struggle for the establishment of a new international economic order. In my African tour two years ago, I pronounced on behalf of the Chinese government the four principles for strengthening economic and technological co-operation between China and the African countries, namely, equality and mutual benefit, emphasis on practical results, the adoption of varied forms and mutual development. These four principles are also being applied to economic and technological co-operation between China and developing countries in other parts of the world. China is willing to co-operate with other Asian and African countries in exploring various ways and forms under

these principles to contribute to the South-South co-operation.

Asia and Africa, where glorious ancient cultures once blossomed. were the cradle of civilization. But for a long time, the two continents were held in thrall by colonialist aggression. The Asian-African Conference was an important milestone in the ascending journey of the Asian and African countries. Now we are commemorating the Bandung Conference. Let us, the people of Asia and Africa, cooperate more closely to develop the Bandung spirit and, together with the peoples of the world, make contributions to our great era, world peace and human progress, contributions that can be compared to those of our predecessors and will be respected by coming generations.

Historical Tragedy Must Not Be Repeated

This May marks the 40th anniversary of the victory over fascism in Europe. It is important that the world study the lessons of World War II in order to prevent a new global conflict. The Chinese people, who made tremendous contributions to the winning of the anti-fascist war, sincerely hope to work with the people of all other countries to maintain world peace.

by ZHENG WEIZHI

I T is 40 years since the great anti-fascist war was won.

The first sparks of World War II were ignited when Japan launched a war of aggression against China. The conflict then spread to other parts of the world as Italy and Germany invaded Ethiopia, Spain, Austria, Czechoslovakia and Albania. With the German attack on Poland, and the declaration of war on Germany by Britain and France, the global war was on.

The author is director of the Institute for International Studies and adviser to the Foreign Affairs Committee of the Standing Committee of the National People's Congress. He has been active in the diplomatic field for many years, serving as ambassador to some European and Latin American countries.

Involved in the conflagration were more than 60 countries and regions with a total population of 2 billion people. Fighting on one side were Germany, Italy and Japan; on the other was an anti-fascist alliance of a socialist state the USSR, the weak, oppressed nations, and capitalist countries such as Britain, France and the United States. It was a just war, waged on a scale unprecedented in human history. The outcome was the total triumph of the anti-fascist forces, and the complete defeat of Germany, Italy and Japan. The Third Reich surrendered unconditionally on May 8, 1945, following the collapse of the fascist regime in Italy. The Japanese capitulated almost four months later, on September 2, ending World War 11.

The war played havoc with the human race, bringing untold sufferings to all the people of the world, especially those in the countries victimized by fascist invasion. Dragging on for eight years and involving four-fifths of the world's population, it ultimately claimed a toll of 50 million or more, five times as many deaths as in World War I. The material losses have been estimated at US\$4,000 billion. China was among the nations most seriously devastated - about 18 million Chinese died, and the property damage was incalculable.

Significance and Impact

Although the war inflicted heavy casualties, it did not reverse the course of history. Its battles tempered and educated the world's

people; they won the victory, achieved peace and made progress. The late Chairman Mao Zedong said: "If the October Revolution opened up wide possibilities for the emancipation of the working class and the oppressed peoples of the world and opened up realistic paths towards it, then the victory of the antifascist Second World War has opened up still wider possibilities for the emancipation of the working class and the oppressed peoples of the world and has opened up still more realistic paths toit." Mao's statement wards summed up the historic significance of World War II.

The allied victory changed both the political map and the balance of power worldwide, leaving deep marks on post-war international relations.

First, the imperialist forces had been dealt a stunning blow. When Germany, Italy and Japan unleashed their war of aggression, they wanted to dominate world and subjugate all of mankind. But contrary to their wish, the war ended in their defeat and the bankruptcy of their dreams of "new orders" or "co-prosperity spheres." Britain and France, two once-powerful capitalist countries, were seriously weakened. only did the imperialists get nothing from the war they started; they also hastened their decline and, as a result, conditions were prepared for the oppressed peoples to throw off the voke of imperialism and colonialism.

Second, the forces of socialism grew more powerful. The Soviet Union, the world's first socialist country, withstood the severe test of the war. Though the conflict inflicted heavy losses on the country — more than 20 million Soviets died and material damage was valued at approximately 2,600 billion rubles — the Soviet people and the Red Army, led by Stalin and

fighting shoulder to shoulder with the other anti-fascist countries, defeated Nazi Germany. Their victory was forceful evidence that the socialist system had great vitality. What warrants special notice is that, due to historical circumstances and the heroic struggle of the people of various countries, a number of socialist nations were born during and after the war. Socialism, no longer confined to one country, had become a world force that could no longer be ignored.

Third, the victory over fascism ushered in a new stage in the liberation struggles of the oppressed peoples. Because imperialism suffered devastating blows in the war and because the oppressed nations experienced a universal awakening, national independence movements in Asia, Africa and Latin America enjoyed vigorous development and the world colonialist system rapidly collapsed. Many new independent nations emerged, changing for ever the global balance of power and the pattern of international relations. These countries are playing an increasingly important role on the world stage.

In short, victory over fascism was the victory of the socialist system, the victory of the people of the world. It proved once again that the law of history is irresistible and that the people are invincible. Any force that runs counter to these trends will be discarded by history.

The Chinese People's Contributions

China's War of Resistance Against Japan was an important part of the global anti-fascist struggle, in which the Chinese people made great contributions.

The opening battles of World War II took place on Chinese soil, as did the last. China suffered heavy casualties and other losses, and also inflicted greater punish-

ment on the Japanese than any other country. In the course of the war, the Chinese people killed or wounded 1.33 million Japanese soldiers, exceeding the number shot dead or wounded by Britain. the United States and the other countries in the Pacific War combined. From the beginning to the end of the war, the main Japanese force was stalled in China. In the four years before the outbreak of the Pacific War, China engaged 70 percent of Japan's ground troops and 50 percent of its air force. Even after the Pacific War broke out, there were some 2 million Japanese infantrymen mired in the battlefields in China. By the time the war concluded, over 1.3 million Japanese troops still remained to surrender in China, more than were found on all the Pacific islands and in Southeast Asia. From these facts, it can be seen clearly that China's War of Resistance Against Japan played an important role in the winning of the world anti-fascist war.

The Chinese people persevered in protracted resistance against the Japanese aggressors, preventing them from co-ordinating with the Germans and Italians and greatly aiding anti-fascist countries such as the Soviet Union, the United States and Great Britain. In 1937, Japan, Germany and Italy formed the military alliance known as the Axis. But Japan, bogged down in China, was never able to link up with the other two countries. When fighting broke out between the Soviet Union and Germany, Hitler urged Japan to attack the Soviet Union from the rear. His request, however, was turned down by the Japanese Chief of General Staff Moto Sugiyama, who reckoned that "having spent so great a part of our forces in China, northward progress is really beyond our power." Thus the Soviet Union was able to concentrate its strength on the western front and eventually repulse the German armies. The Chinese

resistance also delayed the eruption of the Pacific War, gaining time for Britain and the United States. When the battle for the Pacific exploded, Japan had to finally relinquish its navy's idea of joining forces with Germany in the Middle East and Indian Ocean, as its main land forces were still tied down in China. That greatly aided British and US forces in the Pacific, and positively affected the progress of the entire war.

The Chinese resistance against Japan also strongly encouraged the oppressed peoples of the world in their struggles against the Axis. Many countries in addition to China were also fighting heroically to drive aggressors out of their homes and establish their national independence. These countries supported the Chinese people with their deeds, even as they drew spiritual strength from China.

China's War of Resistance Against Japan was waged under the banner of the CPC-proposed national united front with Kuomintang. The war played an important role in smashing imperialist plans to enslave the world, and encouraged colonies and vassal states in their struggle for national independence.

Here we must mention that the CPC-led army and the people of China's liberated areas were the mainstay of the Chinese War of Resistance Against Japan. Thev spared no efforts to consolidate the anti-Japanese united front throughout the war and made immense sacrifices for its victory. The people's army under the Chinese Communist Party often held down over half the total Japanese force in China. During the 8-year struggle, they fought 125,000 battles and wiped out 1.7 million enemy and puppet troops. By accepting the CPC's proposal for forming a national united front against Japan, the Kuomintang played an important part in the War of Resistance.

Indeed, the Chinese War of Resistance contributed greatly to the victory over fascism. That contribution is a truth known throughout the world, and one which cannot be ignored or underestimated.

For the Sake of World Peace, Draw Experience

As we mark the 40th anniversary of the victory in Europe, our most important task is to heed the lessons of the past to avoid new world wars.

Though Hitler, Mussolini and Tojo are gone, the world has not enjoyed much peace; in fact, it has lived with unrest and fear since the end of the war. Humanity has once again been cast into the shadow of another global conflagration. This instability is caused by superpower hegemonism. Contending for world domination, they conduct a mad arms race, and wrestle crazily over Europe, Asia, Africa and Latin America. It is this rivalry that gravely threatens world peace and security. To avoid repeating a historical tragedy, and to maintain world peace, we must stand in opposition to hegemonism.

Historical experience also demonstrates that the victory over fascism was achieved through mutual support under an international united front consisting of all anti-fascist forces. Today, to prevent the occurrence of another world war, all potential forces must be rallied and people all over the world mobilized to fight against the actions of hegemonism. Without the efforts of peace-loving people throughout the world, it will be impossible to maintain peace.

Like other peoples, the Chinese people crave peace and oppose a third world war. This is not only because of our past sufferings and today's fresh memories of the bitterness of the anti-Japanese war; it is also because of the fact that China is now concentrating on its socialist modernization programme and earnestly needs a long-term international peace.

Therefore, opposing hegemonism and maintaining world peace are the primary goals of China's foreign policy, and it is towards these goals that we direct all our efforts. China favours detente and opposes cold wars; supports dialogues and objects to antagonism; and stands for arms reduction and acts against arms races, particularly against extending them to outer space.

China advocates easing East-West tensions as well as tensions between the United States and the Soviet Union. We hope that both countries can settle down to serious talks and reach a true agreement on stopping the arms race and gradually reducing armaments, especially on slashing muclear weapons. World tensions will be eased if they can really do this, for these countries possess most of the world's nuclear weapons and are most capable of launching a new world war.

It is still impossible to predict whether the US-Soviet Geneva talks now in progress will end with an agreement. While the danger of a world war still exists, a force for world peace is also developing—a force of which China is a part. The Chinese people are engaged in building their country. China's development will aid the force of world peace. China hopes to dedicate its efforts to the further -îdevelopment of these forces alongside people all over the world.

PLA Marches Towards Modernization

by XIONG ZHENGYAN

Our Guest Correspondent

SOLDIERS in China began to wear new uniforms made with better materials May 1 this year.

All officers and male soldiers wear flat-top caps. The uniforms for the three services—army, navy and air force—are of different colours with different collar badges and epaulets and special insignia.

In 1981 Deng Xiaoping, chairman of the Military Commission of the Party Central Committee, issued a call to build the People's Liberation Army (PLA) into a powerful and modern regular revolutionary force. In recent years PLA commanders and fighters have made great efforts to realize this goal. The new uniforms are part of their endeavours.

Combined Military Force

The PLA has developed in three stages. In the first stage. during the long revolutionary wars, the Chinese military force was composed mainly of infantry. The second stage began with the founding of the People's Republic. The PLA gradually developed into a military force of army, air force, navy, artillery, armoured divisions, engineering corps, railway corps, signal corps, antichemical warfare corps and strategic missile troops.

The present efforts represent the third stage. The aim is to strengthen interaction between the various services and to organize combined army branches. This reform of the military establishment will enhance the combat effectiveness of China's forces under modern warfare conditions.

New Breed of Officer

With the ongoing change in the military establishment, a new breed of combined branch commanders has emerged. In the No. 4 Sharp-Shooting Company, which was cited by the Ministry of National Defence, rifles have been discarded in favour of armoured vehicles. All seven officers in the company can drive various kinds of tanks and armoured vehicles, operate four types of guns and four different transceivers, and are able to command battles coordinated with other units.

During recent large-scale military exercises involving several divisions from the army and air force, a 29-year-old battalion commander explained his role. During the exercises he commanded not only his own battalion, but also some reinforcements from the armoured divisions, artillery, engineering corps and anti-chemical warfare corps, equipped with altogether 15 types of weapons. He performed his duties from a marching tank and effectively coordinated the movements of the various branches, fulfilling his assigned task of fortified defence.

Better Weapons and Equipment

Developing better military equipment is an important aspect of national defence modernization. Chief of the General Staff of the PLA Yang Dezhi said, "Our equipment is not as good as that of the superpowers. But this does not mean we are backward in all

An army unit under the Beijing Military Command in exercises.



May 6, 1985

respects. We have our own advanced items."

Some of the light weapons China developed recently are equal to advanced world standards. The new Chinese sub-machine gun is short, light and easy to carry. It takes large clips, has big fire-power and can fire at higher rates. This gun is especially useful in reconnaissance, patrols, street fighting and jungle warfare because it can quickly destroy an enemy.

There is also a new automatic rifle. It combines the accuracy of a rifle with the firing speed of sub-machine gun, and can also be used to launch various types of anti-tank grenades. Military theoreticians still believe advanced light weapons will be of great importance in modern warfare to win final victory after large-scale shelling by tanks and fixed guns.

Since the mid-1950s the Chinese air force has gradually equipped itself with fighters, bombers and helicopters, all made at home. Now more technologically advanced and better airplanes are being developed to replace the old ones.

At first warships for the Chi-

nese navy were imported, and later copied. Now China is able to design and build warships itself. Compared with the early 1950s, the number of major combat vessels has increased 11-fold. They are gradually being equipped with missiles, electronic devices and nuclear powered engines.

China is now not only able to develop and produce new conventional weapons but also strategic weapons. This will no doubt strengthen the country's ability to defend itself and to effectively strike back.

According to military sources, the strategic missile troops, which represent the PLA's counter-strike force in nuclear warfare, have developed and expanded quickly since their formation in the 1960s. Their ability to cope with various kinds of emergencies and to quickly adapt to changing situations and their firing accuracy have been constantly improving.

China has developed new weapons only to be better able to defend itself and to withstand any external threats. The Chinese people need a peaceful and stable environment for development.

Back in October 1964, when China successfully exploded its first atom bomb, the Chinese government solemnly declared that at no time and under no circumstances would China be the first to use nuclear weapons. China is forced to conduct nuclear tests and developed nuclear weapons solely for defence purpose.

This stand has remained unchanged for 20 years although constant improvements have been made in the PLA's weaponry and equipment.

Major Training Difference

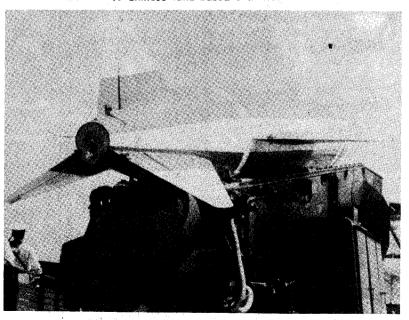
To meet the needs of modern warfare and to improve the PLA's ability to fight in co-ordination, react quickly, deal with sophisticated equipment, survive in the field and improve logistics, China has introduced a major change in the guiding principles of military training. The various armies of the PLA's three services now consider combined tactical military training as their major task, and use it as the main yardstick to judge the training results.

The general command headquarters of the Chinese armed forces have requested leading officers at all levels to personally lead the combined training and to take part in co-ordinated military exercises. It also advocates more test and confrontational exercises.

Most of the combined tactical military exercises conducted by the PLA in recent years have been combat simulations.

To improve the combined training of the various services, the focus of training has shifted from soldiers to officers, with tank fighting, airplane shooting and fighting against airborne forces at the top of the agenda. The different services have also begun an intensive study of the military sciences to find ways to defeat well-equipped enemies with in-

A Chinese land-based sea missile.



ferior weapons under modern warfare conditions.

The PLA has widely applied the achievements of modern sciences, such as microcomputers, to military training. The appearance and application of laser simulated firing apparatus has brought an entirely new look to confrontational military exercises.

Changing the Officer Corps

The PLA has made promoting revolutionary-minded, better educated, more professionally competent and younger officers an important aspect of its modernization.

Deng Xiaoping once suggested that army-level officers should be around 50 years old, division officers 40 and regimental officers 30. In promoting younger officers, the Central Military Commission had changed its past practice "choosing younger ones from among the old" to "choosing the more competent ones from the young." Now the youngest armylevel officer is only 34, and the voungest division leader is just 30. Efforts are also being made to promote young people to top command units.

Education Vital

The constant improvement of weaponry and equipment requires their users to master the related technology. It has therefore become vital for the Chinese armed forces to have better-educated, more professional officers.

There are now more than 100 well-equipped institutes for teaching and scientific research operated by the PLA. These military colleges and institutes have played an important role in training various kinds of personnel needed by the army. A new phrase — student officer — appeared in recent years during counterattacks in self-defence along the Sino-Vietnamese border. It refers to those military academy



Old and new pilots exchange experiences.

graduates who have served as grass-roots commanders. All of them are in their early 20s and enrolled in military academies after finishing senior middle school. Well-versed in modern military science and with a better general education, they have dedicated themselves to their country's defence, and have fought valiantly and creatively. Some of these student officers have been cited as Combat Heroes.

More College Graduates

In the past, most of the air force pilots were selected from among poorly educated young people from worker and peasant families. Now those selected must have at least a senior middle school education. Some are even university graduates. They not only have a better general education, but are also acquainted with aviation theory, modern science and the social sciences. At present, one in every four pilots is a college graduate.

The strategic missile corps is the youngest of the various military branches. Every year a large number of university graduates are enrolled in its combat and scientific research units. The nucleus of its officers corps is now made up of highly trained specialists, and 85 percent of the service's officers and engineering and technical staff are college graduates.

Training Mandatory

In addition, middle school graduates now constitute the overwhelming majority of the new recruits in all the services. Once enlisted, these new soldiers receive various kinds of special training. Those enrolled in submarine units must be senior middle school graduates and must attend submarine schools before being on active duty.

The PLA has now decided that only those who have undergone special training at the military academies are qualified for promotion as officers. According to statistics, a total of 127,000 officers in all branches of the services are now receiving higher education while actively serving at their posts.

Vice-Chairman of the Military Commission of the Party Central Committee Yang Shangkun, who is in charge of the commission's routine work, said recently, "The educational level of the Chinese army is now the highest in its history."

Legal Education Surges Ahead

Since 1979 the Chinese government has attached great importance to strengthening its legal system. Legal education, which was seriously disrupted and damaged during the "cultural revolution," has resumed and developed rapidly. On-the-job training for judicial workers has also been improved. This special report describes the changes taking place in legal education in China. — Ed.

by LI NING
Our Correspondent

CHINA'S five institutes of political science and law and the 31 law departments in other universities are now turning out about 3,000 law graduates a year. If the law students I met recently at Shanghai's East China Institute of Political Science and Law are reflective of the class of '85, the nation's legal system will soon be filled with confident and capable people.

Ambitious Students

Jiang Jiehu, 21, came from a village in Fengcheng County, Jiangxi Province. He made up his mind to study law and become a judicial officer back when he was still in middle school. Jiang said many people in his out-of-the-way

village knew nothing about the law. And, as a result, there were many problems in the village. The word of the local cadres was law. And villagers often resorted to fighting over trifling matters. One villager even poisoned his neighbour's water buffalo after he discovered that the animal had destroyed his crops. Jiang decided that the law could help maintain public order in his village, so he majored in criminal law.

Zhao Jing, who is studying economic law, worked as an accountant at a factory in Shanghai for several years before entering the institute. She observed that people in their everyday social and economic life always pay attention to the law of value but not to the nation's written laws. For instance, she recalled a factory signing a

contract without considering its production capacity. When the contract had expired, the factory had produced far less than it had promised in the contract. But the factory's managers were ignorant of the fact that they should compensate the other party for the losses they had caused. lack of simple legal knowledge brought great losses to the factory and its workers. Zhao said she decided to study economic law not to be a judicial officer but to do practical work maintaining the legal system in a factory or company.

Jiang. Zhao and their 14,300 fellow law students saw a need for legal expertise in China and they are well on their way to providing that service.

Ups and Downs

China today has 36 law institutes and departments, three times the number in the previous peak year of 1957. The law schools are located all across the nation, and every province and autonomous region except Qinghai, Tibet and Ningxia has at least one.

The five institutes of political science and law are the China Institute, the Southwestern China, the East China, the Northwestern China and the Central-South China. They are all administered by the Ministry of Justice. Among the 31 universities that have law departments, 12 are under the Ministry of Education. They include Beijing University, China People's University, Nankai University, Sichuan University, Sun Yat-sen University, and Lanzhou University. The rest are at the provincial and autonomous re-

Rui Mu (middle) helps his law students review their lessons.



gional level, including Heilongjiang University, Hangzhou University, Shenzhen University, Yunnan University, Xinjiang University and Overseas Chinese University. Law students now account for 1.2 percent of the nation's total university and college enrolment, and they are being taught by 1,800 teachers.

Though legal education is prospering today, it has undergone ups and downs over the last three decades.

Between 1950 and 1957 legal education steadily developed. A law department was opened in the newly built China People's University and law departments were restored in Beijing University and other major universities established before liberation. By 1957 there were 10 law institutes and departments attended by 6,100 students, or 1.4 percent of the nation's college-level enrolment. That was the prime time for legal education in the post-liberation period.

In addition, China adopted its first Constitution in 1954 and the Eighth National Congress of the Chinese Communist Party in 1956 emphasized the strengthening of the legal system. During this period China made great progress in building its legal system. A number of basic laws were adopted on the basis of the Constitution, and the criminal law, the law of criminal procedure and the civil law were being drafted. However, progress in law-making was suspended in 1958 under the influence of "leftist" ideas. Legal education was seriously weakened and several law institutes and departments were closed or merged. The situation turned slightly for the better after a national meeting on legal education in 1963. To meet the growing demand for improved legal education, the East China Institute of Political Science and Law and other legal institutes and departments were reopened one by one. But when the "cultural revolution" was launched in 1966, the progress made in legal education was roll-

Moot Courts Provide Trial Experience

THE third-year law students at the China People's University recently held four moot courts after finishing their study of criminal procedure law.

Judges, public prosecutors, defence lawyers, witnesses, defendants and bailiffs were all played by the students. They discussed every procedure, including organizing the trial, instituting proceedings against the defendant and filing pleas on behalf of the accused. professors finalized the trial outlines, prosecution reports and defence responses and helped them conduct the trials. Auditors from local judicial departments observed the trials and offered advice based on their experience.

At one moot trial, the hypothetical defendant charged with larceny said the chief witness was his personal enemy and asked that he be disqualified. The "presiding judge" agreed immediately. The students made mistakes in the moot courts, but they came to realize that the rights of defendants are key to the trial process.

Through the moot trials, some students found they had not really mastered enough legal knowledge and realized they had much to learn in their courtroom presentation. Some lacked the qualities needed by judicial workers and were not serious or careful enough. Faced with their shortcomings, the students returned to their studies determined to overcome them.

Moot courts have been held by several law institutes and found to be a good teaching method.

ed back. The Beijing, East China, Southwestern China and Central-South China Institutes of Political Science and Law were all closed. Law departments in most universities affiliated with Ministry of Education also closed. departments the law. in Beijing University and Jilin University remained open, but even they did not enrol any new law students for seven or eight

After the "cultural revolution" ended in 1976, China's leaders called for the development of socialist democracy and the strengthening of the legal system. They determined that China should be a land of laws that must be strictly abided by. Since then the legal system has been put back on the correct course and legal education has made tremendous headway.

Curriculum

The aim of legal education is to train specialists for the courts, legal institutes and schools, and research institutions. It takes four years to finish the regular course, another three years to earn a master's degree and two more years for a doctorate.

Several years ago the Ministry of Justice and the Ministry of Education jointly organized a board of editors composed of law specialists, which compiled and published two sets of teaching materials. The materials for the institutes and university law departments include 30 textbooks and 10 reference books, totalling 16 million words. The other set contains 14 concise textbooks for on-the-job training of judicial workers. These teaching materials have basically met the

needs of all kinds of legal education. The regular college course has two disciplines, general law and economic law. Major subjects taken by general law students include basic jurisprudence, constitutional law. Chinese and world legal history, civil law, economic law, law of civil procedure, criminal law, law of criminal procedure, investigation of criminal cases, medical jurisprudence, legal documents, international law and international private law, in addition to politics and culture. The students also take optional courses, such as contract law, patent law, the judiciary, mediation, constitutions of other countries, world economy, environmental law and labour law.

Efforts have been made to combine theory with practice in teaching. Well-known legal specialists and scholars are invited to give lectures and moot courts give students mock trial experience. In addition, the students carry out legal research in their major subjects or directly assist in court cases. General law students use their last three months in school to gain practical experience in courts, public security bureaus, procuratorates, judicial affairs offices and notary offices. They help interview clients, carry out investigations, record testimony, file cases, prosecute cases and write legal documents. Students sav they benefit greatly from these activities, which enrich their professional knowledge and prepare them for real work.

The economic law speciality was established in 1980 at Beijing University with the support of Rui Mu, a law professor there.

Beijing University's law department investigated China's economic legislation in 1979 and found that it desperately needed updating if the law was to keep pace with the modernization drive. Legal advisers, judges and law professors familiar with eco-



Law students at the China People's University take in a moot court.

nomic law are needed in industrial enterprises, in courts and in law schools. After studying the situation, Professor Rui decided that civil law could not handle the complicated economic relations, so he pushed for a new branch of economic law.

Beijing University inaugurated its separate economic law speciality in 1980, and Rui was named to head the 20 teachers in its teaching and research section. Now the speciality has 231 students in the four-year programme studying 15 different subjects. There are also 25 students working on master's degrees.

Following Beijing University's lead, other law institutes and law departments have begun to offer economic law degrees.

The law students are eager to learn and demand a lot from their teachers. They want to be taught by the most learned professors and learn the most up-to-date legal knowledge available. But there is a shortage of law teachers. Officials in law schools around the nation have attached great impor-

tance to training law postgraduates for teaching careers. At the same time, society's demand for better graduates is increasing daily. More and more postgraduates are needed to staff new law institutes and schools, judicial research institutes, courts, economic enterprises and trade bureaus. The foreign practice in which a graduate professor trains only a few postgraduates cannot cope with the rising demand. And some legal specialities are too broad for a single teacher to deal with. The situation demands that a new method be found to train postgraduatés.

Last year the law departments at Beijing University and China People's University opened postgraduate classes on a trial basis and enrolled 40 and 30 students respectively. Now the total number of postgraduate students outnumbers the 1966 figure, and it appears the shortage caused by the "cultural revolution" is finally ending. After finishing their studies, these postgraduates will reinforce the over-extended teaching and research contingents.

On-the-Job Training for Legal Cadres

A S the socialist legal system improves daily, it is essential that judicial workers receive training and master special knowledge. To

date, only 8.1 percent of the 600,000 judicial workers in China are college-educated. Many of them lack the professional knowledge

they need to do their work adequately. Because of this situation, part-time legal education has been developed.

A Part-Time College

In the evening, young people from all over Beijing converge on three middle and primary schools west of the Beijing Railway Station to study law. They are students of the Beijing Part-Time College of Political Science and Law. They attend classes 12 hours a week in four evening sessions.

One of the many similar institutions throughout China, this college was established in 1980 by the Beijing Bureau of Justice, Beijing University's law department and the Beijing branch of the Jiu San Society (one of the eight democratic parties in China). Professors from Beijing University give lectures on professional knowledge, the Jiu San Society invites other teachers and the Beijing judicial organizations manage the school.

Students must pass an examination before admittance into the college. There are about 500 students now.

The school authorities have drawn up a teaching plan quite different from that used in the full-time universities. The students study at night and work during the day,

thereby combining their legal theory with practical work. Since the students have demonstrated an ability to grasp knowledge quickly. the college has added more lessons on political theory and background subjects, such as political economy and an introduction to economic law, and shortened the hours devoted to history. Because many students are quite busy with their iobs and household chores and do not have enough time to study all subjects, the college authorities have opened optional courses. such as criminal law, civil law and economic law, which the students may take to supplement their job experience. The students study four to six subjects related to their jobs in order to put their school studies to use in the work place.

Of the part-time students, 36 percent scored 90 points out of the full 100 on their term examinations and only 0.4 percent failed. scoring below 60. Attendance has averaged about 90 percent. The level of theoretical understanding and the work skills of the 150 students who graduated in 1984 were improved greatly. These students found their work easier, and their colleagues noted that the graduates handled cases better and more efficiently. Most of the graduates are now mainstays in their work units. Twenty-four of the 33

graduates working in the city's high and intermediate neople's courts have been promoted.

Other Forms of Training

In addition to the part-time colleges there are other training courses. They include:

Correspondence courses. Some institutes and colleges provide guidance to students who are studying on their own through correspondence programmes. The students reach the college level after a three-or four-year course. In the past few years, the China, Southwest China, and East China Institutes of Political Science and Law and the China People's University have started such correspondence courses and enrolled many students.

On-the-job training courses. These courses are set up by institutes of higher learning on a contract basis with judicial organizations. The institutes provide training for cadres while they remain on the job. For instance, the Shanghai High People's Court contracted the law department of Fudan University to run such a course, and the Shanghai Lawyers' Association signed up the East China Institute of Political Science and Law to provide on-the-job instruction.

(Continued on p. 33.)

Students at the Beijing Part-Time College of Political Science and Law have a lesson on fingerprints.





Measures for Population Control

from "GONGREN RIBAO" (Workers' Daily)

WITH one-quarter of the world's people, China is the most populous country on earth. Despite the "one couple, one child" policy, because of its large population base, China is still growing by 10 million people annually, a figure equal to all the population of Beijing.

Every year the capital gains 10,000 new families and about the same number of babies. Other measures must be adopted to further slow population growth.

One of the problems is that many people are still influenced by traditional ideas. They think a marriage is not good if a couple has no child.

Another problem is that some

population policies actually encourage people to have a baby. If a Beijing couple has just one child, they receive better housing and financial rewards. But there are no such incentives for people who decide to remain single or for married couples who choose not to have a child.

To correct this problem, young couples who pledge to have no children should be rewarded as one-child parents are. Singles should get housing comparable to that provided for couples. All businesses and organizations should build old-age homes, so that people will not feel they need children to care for them in later life. And finally, more work must be done to teach people that children are not the sole measure of a marriage's success.

commodities which are not very important on the domestic market.

Now, as production has developed, more goods are being turned out and the conflict has eased somewhat. For those commodities which don't have much impact on the domestic market but sell very well abroad, exports are still emphasized.

Exports are always based on production. In producing commodities for export, first consideration must be given to supply the producers with enough energy and raw and semi-finished materials and provide necessary transport facilities. Areas producing agricultural and sideline products for export should also get precedence in supply of better seed strains, chemical fertilizers and effective low-toxic insecticides. Imported new technology should first be used to expand production of exported goods, in order to quickly improve their quality and make them more competitive. Appropriate shipping arrangements should be made to ensure that export transportation plans are fulfilled.

Goods for Export Deserve Priority

from "GUOJI SHANGBAO" (International Commercial News)

TO what extent can China open to the world? Economically, this depends largely on a rough balance of foreign currency incomes and expenditures. The more foreign currency, the more China can open to the world.

China derives its foreign currency income mainly from exports. Therefore, increased exports are necessary in order to speed up the modernization drive.

In the past few years, with the rise of people's purchasing power, some commodities traditionally made for export have become affordable to domestic consumers. This creates new conflicts which must be viewed in context and properly handled.

In dealing with the conflict between domestic sales and exports, China has always maintained three policies. First, limit exports of materials which are important to the national economy and the people's livelihood. Second, while working hard to increase production, commodities in short supply which are needed both at home and abroad should first meet the needs of the domestic market, and then the remainder should be exported. Finally, priority should be given to exports of those

35 Million Only Children

from "JIAN KANG BAO" (Health News)

THE statistics from all over China's mainland show that there are 35 million only children in the country. About 21 percent of all parents of child-bearing age have just one child. In other words, about one-fifth of all families in which parents are at child-bearing age are "one-child" families.

In urban areas the proportion

of the one-child families is larger than in rural areas. In the cities, first births account for 83 percent of all newborns, compared with 62.3 percent in rural areas. Of the 35 million only children, 24 million have received "one-child" certificates, indicating that their parents have pledged to have no more children.

Better Security for Beijing People

from "HUA SHENG BAO" (China's Voice)

A S China's capital, Beijing accommodates a permanent population of nearly 10 million and a floating population of 700,000 people each day. Crowded as it is, its crime rate was kept at 6.2 per 10,000 last year.

Because Beijing is densely crisscrossed with crooked, narrow lanes, in the past female workers on night shift had to be accompanied to and from work. Over the past few years, however, the security situation has improved greatly.

Because most of those serving in restaurants and shops which stay open late are waitresses, it is essential to ensure the security of women in the service trades.

As more outlets have been opened for employment, the job opportunities for ex-convicts have also increased. Now 96 percent of them have jobs and a stable life. This has helped reduce crime.

But the enormous growth of Beijing's floating population has increased incidence of crimes committed by non-residents. According to statistics, among the offenders caught in certain busy Beijing commercial districts, non-residents accounted for more than 60 percent.

The municipal public security bureau and the security departments of some large businesses have begun a series of reforms, including the implementation of various forms of the responsibility system in security work. By combining the security responsibility system with the economic responsibility system, the Shoudu Iron and Steel Complex lowered the crime rate among its workers and staff to 5.5 per 10,000 in 1984, compared with 22.3 per 10,000 in 1981. The public security departments have also implemented a new set of rules regarding residence management so as to improve the situation in permanent and temporary residences.

Five Types of Marriage in China

from "SHE HUI" (Society)

WHY do people marry? A recent study reveals five types of marriage in China.

Marriage of Love. Love, mutual trust and shared aspirations keynote this type of marriage, which is on the rise these days. Love

brought together about 30 percent of all couples in cities and 15 percent in rural areas. In one Shaanxi village, for example, local customs prohibited marriages between people with the same family name. As a result, people "married out" of the area, and not a single marriage took place between villagers from 1949 to 1977. But since the old taboo was abolished in 1978. 13

couples in the village have happily married.

Marriage of Balanced Considerations. In this type of marriage, the main considerations are the would-be spouse's personality, interests and education. Career prospects and financial ability are also taken into account. A survey in 18 Beijing factories shows that 65 percent of the marriages among young workers belong to this category.

Traditional Marriage. This type of marriage stems from Chinese tradition, in which marriage is seen as part of the natural course of human life. Tradition-minded couples believe it their duty to produce offspring and perpetuate their family lines. The above-mentioned Beijing survey found that 27.3 percent of workers' marriages are of this type.

Marriage of Convenience. Under this category, people marry for purposes such as seeking a comfortable life, moving from rural areas into the cities, solving their housing problems, or finding someone who has relatives living overseas. People with these obsessions will marry regardless of their prospective partner's age, personal qualities and other attributes. These marriages usually end in divorce once one partner attains his or her purpose. In Shenyang, a northeast Chinese city, 15 percent of all divorces arise from marriages of convenience.

Marriage for Sex. About 6.5 percent of the couples surveyed said they got married in order to satisfy their sexual needs.

In China, the first type of marriage is encouraged. The second type is considered normal, while the third is seen as old-fashioned. The fourth and fifth types are discouraged. It is believed that only those marry with the right motivations can achieve happiness and keep their families together.

Slight Decrease in China's Imports

According to the Ministry of Poreign Economic Relations and Trade, the volume of China's import trade rose by 23 percent in April, compared with the corresponding period of last year. This is actually a slight decrease as compared with the previous three months.

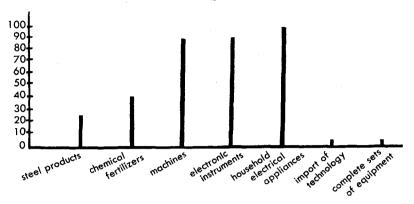
There has been no marked increase in export trade. In fact, there was a sustained drop in exports to Hongkong, offset by a slight increase in shipments to the United States and Japan.

In the first quarter of this year the total volume of China's imports and exports reached about US\$11.2 billion, 25 percent more than the corresponding period of last year. Of this, exports accounted for US\$5.15 billion, or 2.7 percent more than the same period of last year. Imports came to US\$6.04 billion, or 54.5 percent more than the corresponding period of last year (see table).

HIETCC Praised for Its Efficient Work

The Pokhara water conservation project, which is scheduled to be completed by the end of this year, was handed over to the Nepalese at the end of April. It is one of five large projects undertaken by the Henan International Economic and Technological Co-operative Corporation (HIETCC) in Nepal.

Pokhara is a growing tourist centre in central Nepal. The water conservation project, which cost 60 million yuan, includes a key water control facility, an irrigation system



covering 1,030 hectares and a hydroelectric power station with an installed capacity of 1,500 kw.

The original design called for 750 hectares of irrigation, but in the course of construction HIETCC revised its original plan to make use of an old, abandoned canal. While still ensuring the quality of the project, HIETCC lowered the cost by 150,000 yuan and increased the irrigated area by 280 hectares, thus reducing the amount of arable land needed for the project and enabling the farmers at the irrigated area to reap the benefits one year ahead of schedule.

HIETCC also built cement steps on both sides of the 78-km-long irrigation canal at more than 100 points to make it easier for the local people to draw water.

Nepal's King Birendra and other Nepalese leaders have praised HIETCC for its quick, efficient, high-quality work. Birendra said the project serves as an example for water conservation construction in Nepal, especially in the mountainous areas of the country. The king inspected the worksite on January 21 and thanked HIETCC's engineers and workers.

For many years HIETCC has undertaken more than 40 projects

in other countries, including Burma, Guinea, Iraq, Mali, Romania and Senegal. The projects cover housing, highways, bridges, large and medium water conservation facilities, machine-building plants, cotton mills and other light and heavy industrial factories.

Besides undertaking foreign-aid

A view of the Zhengzhou long-distance bus station in Henan Province.



projects under agreements reached between governments of China and other countries, HIETCC has also contracted for non-governmental projects, including industrial, agricultural, forestry, transportation, geological prospecting, commercial and service facilities. It can offer equipment, materials, technical and labour services or co-operate as a partner in setting up joint ventures and co-operative enterprises.

HIETCC is also unique in its ability to develop computer software using Chinese characters. The corporation showed a five-stroke code for Chinese at the All-American Software Exhibition last autumn, attracting great attention from US, Japanese and Indian companies. HIETCC signed an agreement with a US company to develop this code.

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Joint Exploration Of Onshore Oil

Companies from abroad are welcome to exploit onshore oil resources in ten southern China provinces, a spokesman for the Ministry of Petroleum Industry announced on April 1. The provinces are Jiangsu, Zhejiang, Anhui, Fujian, Hunan, Jiangxi, Yunnan, Guizhou, Guangdong and the Guangxi Zhuang Autonomous Region.

The State Council has ruled that the Ministry of Petroleum Industry is responsible for onshore oil exploitation in co-operation with firms from abroad. The China National Oil Development Corporation (CNODC), formerly the China National Oil and Gas Exploration and Develop-

ment Corporation, will handle onshore oil exploration. CNODC has been authorized to sign agreements and hold direct negotiations with foreign firms on China's behalf, instead of using the bidding system common in offshore cooperation. Negotiations are now under way with about 20 foreign companies.

The provinces cover 1.83 million square kilometres, of which, the oil-bearing sedimentary structures involve 1 million square kilometres.

Joint Honey Venture Formed

An agreement to establish the Sair-Well Nutrition Co. was signed in Beijing on April 12. It is the first co-operative honey and beekeeping project in China. The 1 million yuan joint venture was financed by the China National Apiculture (Beekeeping) Corporation (CNAC) and the V-Mark Trading Company of Hongkong. CNAC owns 60 percent of the shares and the Hongkong firm owns 40 percent.

According to the agreement, V-Mark will purchase the production line equipment and packaging materials, and CNAC will erect factory buildings and provide the labour and raw materials. The company plans to produce 15 million boxes of honey, or 300 tons, a year. It will then set up other projects to process beekeeping products.

Wang Jibiao, manager of the CNAC, estimates that the annual sales volume of Sair-Well will reach US\$1 million, and profits will total US\$100,000. The first batch of products will be put up for sale before October 1 this year.

Apart from meeting the needs of various hotels in China, a small

quantity of the honey and other products will be sold abroad.

Present at the signing ceremony were Du Ziduan, president of the China National Foodstuff Industrial Association, Chong Kar Ning, general manager of the V-Mark Trading Company, and Jing Shuping, general manager of the China International Economic Consultants.

NEWS IN BRIEF

• The second meeting of the Sino-Japanese Food Distribution and Development Committee was held in Tokyo April 1 to 10. Both sides discussed problems in processing cereals, oils, vegetables, fruit, pastries, candy, soft drinks, meat, condiments and instant foods and the technological transformation of the catering trade. It is expected that the total volume of bilateral economic co-operation this year will increase several times that of last year.

The Sino-Japanese Food Distribution and Development Committee was set up by the Chinese Ministry of Commerce and the Japanese Food Distribution System Federation. Its 29 Chinese members are from the Ministry of Commerce, other commissions of the State Council and some provinces and municipalities. Its 30 Japanese members represent firms such as Nippon Steel, Nippon Light Metal, Nippon Marine Products and Hitachi.

Since its founding in March 1984, the committee has signed 10 contracts to the value of US\$12 million, for such projects as a precooked rice production line (500 tons a year), two carbonated drinks production lines (250-400 bottles a minute), a sesame oil production line (25 tons a day) and a refined rice bran oil production line (50 tons a day).

Chilling Monsters Identified

Chinese meteorologists believe they have identified the chief culprits responsible for last winter's record-breaking cold. Two warm air masses drifting over the North Pole late in 1984 created the chill which wreaked havoc on three continents and left 700 people dead.

The two invaders — one from the Pacific and the other from the Atlantic — drove out the North Pole's normal cold air mass.

This cold mass split into three strong, icy currents, which swept across most parts of Europe, North America and Asia, the weather experts said. Vast areas of many countries were covered with snow.

More than 20 densely populated nations fell victim to the cold currents and snowstorms, including Austria, Britain, Finland, France, Ireland, Italy, Spain, Yugoslavia, and the United States.

The first cold current swept over 70 percent of Europe. Average temperatures in Northern Europe

were more than 10 degrees Centigrade lower than normal, and the temperature in some areas dropped below minus 40 degrees Centigrade.

The northern part of Finland suffered its coldest weather for 120 years. The temperature dropped to minus 51.1 degrees Centigrade at one point.

Northern Ireland was battered by snowstorms, and accumulated snow was 1.5 metres deep.

The severe cold and blizzards killed more than 300 people and large numbers of birds and animals, and caused great agricultural losses.

Heavy snowstorms halted planes and ships, and left traffic hopelessly snarled. Many factories had to stop production because they couldn't get raw materials.

The second cold current swept over North America. Some of the coldest weather in more than 100

years hit 76 cities and 23 states in the United States. More than 170 people were killed in January alone.

Many schools had to close and communications and transportation were paralysed. Thousands of homeless people crowded into emergency shelters.

Many crops were killed. In Florida, the big freeze brought more than US\$1.5 billion in losses to orange growers.

The third cold current hit Japan, Korea and many parts of China — northern, northeast, southern and southwest China, as well as western Xinjiang. The low temperatures lasted two months, causing heavy losses in crops and animals.

Meanwhile, temperatures in the North Pole and high-latitude regions were 2 to 4 degrees Centigrade warmer than normal.

Meteorologist Zhao Hanguang explained that in December, two warm air masses above the Pacific and Atlantic Oceans simultaneously drifted to the North Pole, where they fought a battle against the cold air and won.

Zhao said the formation of the two warm air masses was closely related to rising sea temperatures. Water temperature had risen earlier by between 0.5 and 1.5 degrees Centigrade — thus heating the air above it.

Another meteorologist, Zhang Xiangong, said the extreme cold weather this winter was similar to the winter atmospheric circulations of 1963 and 1977. In 1977 warm air also drifted over the high latitude regions. The cold wave

Meteorologist Zhao Hanguang (right) studies a chart with his colleagues.



hit Asia, America and part of Europe.

The phenomena occurred after the sea temperature in equatorial regions of the eastern Pacific became abnormally warm.

Equatorial sea temperatures also rose in 1982 and 1983, so the effect this winter was extremely powerful.

Zhang said cold weather can also be caused by a reduction of solar radiation when sunspots are just before or after their maximum and minimum activity periods in their 11-year cycle.

At present, the minimum end of this cycle is approaching.

Another cause for the abnormal cold is that since 1980 there have been frequent volcanic eruptions, forming ash layers 16 km above the earth. This reduces the sun's radiation.

Meteorologists believe that the harsh winter has finally passed. The two warm air masses occupying the North Pole are evidently losing their momentum and the weather is becoming more normal.

Zhang Jiacheng, president of the Institute of Meteorological Science and Research, said the world today is in a warm point of a glacial epoch, with a possible downward trend until the end of this century. But this trend does fluctuate, and an extreme freeze like the one which chilled the early 1900s is not very probable.

Tough New Cotton Strains Developed

Scientists at the Chinese Academy of Sciences' Genetics Institute have successfully cross-bred foreign and domestic cotton strains to produce stronger.

disease-resistant hybrids. The success has paved the way for the selection of high-quality strains.

In the past, agronomists were more concerned with quantity than quality because of supply shortages. But since 1983, thanks to the improvement of the rural economy and the application of advanced farming methods, China has enjoyed a cotton surplus. Quality is now more important.

Cross-breeding the existing varieties with wild strains which are strong and resistant to disease has been found effective. But interspecies non-crossability and infertility of hybrids have been barriers.

Liang Zhenglan and his colleagues at the institute have developed a new system for cross-breeding, and have grown 10 varieties from wild strains taken from the African and Australian deserts, arid parts of the Middle East, and infertile fields of North America and Mexico.

Pigskin Used in Burn Cases

Doctors in Shanghai have been successful in grafting pigskin onto patients suffering from severe burns. The success marks an important advance in Chinese medicines.

Doctors of the Ruijin Hospital, attached to the Shanghai No. 2 Medical College, successfully grafted pigskin onto 184 patients with third-degree burns between 1972 and June last year.

The pigskin is transplanted along with some of the patient's own skin. Once grafted, it reacts in a similar way to skin taken from a human corpse.

The success will solve the problem of short supplies of human skin.

Briefs

China Identifies Cosmic Substance

Chinese scientists have identified the composition of four meteorites which fell to earth in June 1983 in Ningqiang County, Shaanxi. They all contain the solar system's most primitive substance—carbonaceous chondrite, carbon-rich nodules of cosmic metals. This material has never before been collected in China.

Scientists rank the find as second only to Mexico's Allende carbonaceous chondrite meteorite found in 1969. The rare substance gives clues to the origins of the solar system, planets and to life itself.

Rare Animals Bred in Guangxi

A zoo in the Guangxi Zhuang Autonomous Region has succeeded in breeding more than 500 animals of 22 species, including lesser pandas, francois langurs, a white-headed langur, an African hippopotamus, golden-haired monkeys, spotted leopards and other rare animals.

Among them, the francois langurs and the white-headed langur are found only in Guangxi. These animals receive special protection in China because they are difficult to breed.

The animals bred in captivity have been sent to zoos in other parts of China.

Because baby animals are often eaten or abandoned by their mothers, the Shanghai Zoo set up a special nursery for wild animals in February last year. They have already saved 11 rare baby animals of 9 species, including a chimpanzee, a lesser panda and a Manchurian tiger.

The animal nursery is equipped with an incubator for premature births, temperature controls and sterilizing equipment. About 74 percent of the baby animals it receives have survived.

Nie's Memoirs Chronicle Troubled Times

Some books published in the West over the last few years have confused Mao Zedong's policies with those of Lin Biao, the ringleader of the counter-revolutionary clique that created such chaos during the "cultural revolution." Though Mao did indeed commit "left" mistakes in his later years and wrongly launched the "cultural revolution," his mistakes were quite different than the conspiratorial activities of Lin. Lin took advantage of Mao's mistakes and did many things behind his back.

In his memoirs recently published in Chinese by the Jiefangjun (Liberation Army) Publishing House, Nie Rongzhen, vice-chairman of the Central Military Commission, discusses Lin's activities and explains the differences between Lin and Mao by detailing personal incidents that have never before been published.

On March 22, 1968, Lin, who at that time was a vice-chairman of the Central Military Commission, suddenly issued two orders. One was to dismiss the PLA's Acting Chief of General Staff Yang Chengwu, Commander of the Air Force Yu Lijin and Commander of the Beijing Garrison Fu Chongbi from their posts. The other order was to appoint Huang Yongsheng to the post of chief of General Staff of the PLA. In his book. Nie recalls that he and the other vice-chairmen of the Central Military Commission knew nothing in advance about Lin's decision. Lin intentionally kept his plans a secret. Lin's firings and appointment of Huang was an attempt to usurp the Party's leadership and state power. Huang was a trusted



Nie Rongzhen.

follower of Lin and a key member of the counter-revolutionary clique. Lin slandered the three men he axed, saying they had "committed serious mistakes." This was his attempt to overthrow Nie and the other vice-chairmen of the Central Military Commission. At a March 24 mass meeting attended by 10,000 soldiers from army units stationed in Beijing, Lin charged Yang with forming a faction among the former leadership of the Shanxi-Chahar-Hebei Military Area. Kang Sheng, another member of Lin's clique, added that Yang was supported by someone. Their attack was, in fact, aimed at Nie, who was at that time commander and concurrently political commissar of the Shanxi-Chahar-Hebei Military Area and Yang's superior, as Yang was then commander of the sub-military area. From April 1, 1968 forward, Lin and his cohorts stopped sending sensitive documents stirred up a movement to attack Nie and other long-time military marshals.

Realizing the situation was serious. Nie wrote a letter to Mao on April 7, expressing his support for Yang and detailing events that had happened when he worked with Yang. In the letter, Nie indicated that he would welcome a chance to talk with Mao. On April 10. Premier Zhou Enlai's secretary phoned Nie and told him that Mao had passed along the following written response to his letter: "Comrade Rongzhen, I have received your letter. Take a good rest to regain your health. Do not believe rumours." Hearing Mao's words. Nie knew that Lin's activities had been carried out against Mao's will. A short time later. Mao told Nie personally, "If they want to find the supporter of Yang Chengwu, the first should be me. You can be the second."

Almost six years later, on December 21, 1973, Mao told the participants in a Central Military Commission conference that the Yang-Yu-Fu incident was wrong and was conspired by Lin. In July 1974, Mao approved the decision to clear the reputation of Yang, Yu and Fu. The Party Central Committee issued a document in March 1979 stating that they were wrongly accused.

Nie also relates how Lin and Huang on October 18, 1969, went behind the back of the Party Central Committee and Mao by putting the army on alert under the pretext of "intensifying preparation against war and preventing the sudden attacks from enemy." Huang issued the "emergency instructions" to the whole army as "the first order from Vice-Chairman Lin." It was not until the next day that Lin talked to Mao over the phone and

presented him with a fait accompli to force Mao to agree with the order. But Mao immediately answered, "Please burn away," which meant the order should be burnt ... ignored.

Hearing this, Lin and Huang were flustered. To cover up their crime, they spread rumours and confused Mao's statement by saying, "Chairman Mao said it was quite good and asked them to burn it away." Lin's real reason for issuing the "first order" was to force many old army leaders out of Beijing under the pretext of preparing for war, so as to usurp the supreme Party leadership and state power.

Lin's order sent Nie to Handan, a city in south Hebei Province, on October 22, 1969. While stationed there. Nie suffered a skin disease and by the following February he was unable to sleep due to terrible itching. He took all kinds of medicines mailed from Beijing, but they all failed to cure his ailment. Finally, Nie told Premier Zhou about the condition. and he was allowed to travel to Beijing for treatment. On May 1, International Labour Day, Mao saw Nie at the Tian An Men rostrum and asked about his

health. After Nie said he was still recovering, Mao replied, "Don't leave Beijing. The medical conditions here are better. What did you go there for?" From Mao's reply, Nie saw that Mao and Zhou were concerned about their old comrades, and, at the same time, he discovered that Lin's orders were not favoured by Mao.

Memoirs of Nie Rongzhen also describes the efforts to overthrow the gang of four.

After Lin's attempt to take power failed and he was killed in a plane crash while fleeing Beijing. his conspiracy was exposed. But Jiang Qing and her counter-revolutionary gang of four did not stop their efforts to take power. In the scary days just before and after Mao's death. Nie worried about the fate of the Party and the state. When Yang went to see Nie on September 21, 1976, and told him of the perverse actions taken by the gang of four and the serious danger they posed to the army, Nie asked Yang to pass along a message to Vice-Chairman of the Central Military Commission Jianying. The message said: "The gang of four is a counter-revolutionary clique and dares to do anything. We must be on the alert

against anything that might happen. If they assassinate (Deng) Xiaoping and put Marshal Ye (Jianying) under house arrest, the situation will be serious. The members of the gang of four are taking advantage of Jiang Qing's position and are utterly unreasonable. It is of no use to try and solve this problem with methods normally used in dealing with inner-Party struggles. Only by taking resolute measures can we accidents." avoid Back from delivering the message to Ye, Yang told Nie that Ye agreed with his opinions and would discuss possible actions with other comrades. Yang also said Ye would immediately go into hiding. On October 5. Ye sent a message to Nie via Yang saying everything was okay. He asked Nie not to worry. On the evening of October 6, the counter-revolutionary gang of four was smashed.

Memoirs of Nie Rongzhen covers a period from the days when he studied and worked in France in the early '20s up to 1976 when the gang of four was overthrown. The book is imbued with Nie's loyal spirit, which is respected by the Chinese people.

- Zhou Shu

(Continued from p. 25.)

TV courses. The TV universities of the Liaoning, Fujian and Zhejiang TV stations were the first to start law courses. The China Central TV's university will also offer law courses this year. Students study part-time for three years. Because TV sets have become more common and the teaching materials are standardized, this method is practical and the results are good.

Cadre Training Network

In addition to the spare-time courses, other full-time training programmes have been opened to raise the professional level of judicial workers. They are mainly run at three levels:

— The central judicial cadre management college. This college is directly managed by the Ministry of Justice. Originally a cadre school, it was established in 1983. The students are from judicial organizations from all over the country. They study courses similar to the regular college courses for two years. The college, which has 500 students, trains leading members for judicial organizations at the provincial and prefectural levels.

— The judicial cadre management colleges at the provincial, autonomous region and municipal level. These two-year colleges

have been opened in Xinjiang, Guangdong, Hebei, Shandong, Jilin and Heilongjiang to train judges, procurators and solicitors.

— Local short-term training courses. These six-month courses provide a chance for newcomers to the judicial organizations to acquire an elementary knowledge of law. In the last four years, 160,000 judicial workers have attended such courses.

At present, 13,000 judicial workers are receiving training and another 100,000 are taking courses during their spare time. These workers, together with the law graduates and postgraduates, will be the backbone of China's revitalized legal system.

Shanghai Gymnastics Meet Tests New Code

The recent Shanghai International Gymnastics Tournament was more than a test of the competitors' strength and skill; it also put a premium on their ability to adapt to new rules mandated by the sport's governing body, the International Gymnastics Federation.

The three-day meet, held April 14-16, drew teams from Bulgaria, Canada, France, Japan, Romania, the Soviet Union and the United States. But in the end it was host country China that walked off with most of the honours, led by men's all-round gold medalist Yang Yueshan. Chinese women also took silver and bronze medals

behind all-round champion Anhelika Schemnikova of the USSR.

The main focus of the competition, however, was on the rule book as gymnasts and coaches made their first attempts to cope with the new judging guidelines and revised compulsory routines. The updated code demands cleaner execution of most manoeuvre. It also downgrades some elements that were previously awarded a high degree of difficulty, and brings others up into the top-scoring The changes are expected range. to improve performances - and cut the number of perfect 10's that have been flashing on scoreboards

so often in the past decade.

With this in mind, almost all the visiting teams held back their star athletes until they could see how other countries would handle the new codes. As a result, the spotlight fell on comparative novices brought forward for their first taste of international competition. Their routines were under close scrutiny, videotape cameras recording every detail for analysis by success-hungry coaches,

If the tournament revealed anything, however, it was that neither the gymnasts nor the judges had fully adapted to the new rules. The scoring system resulted in a larger than usual gap between the highest and lowest ranked competitors, with the greatest rewards going for consistency rather than flash.

China's Yang, for example, took his gold medal by minimizing faults through the five required events, while top-rated Yuri Koroleve crashed to third after being penalized for a fall from the horizontal har.

Of the eight Chinese taking part in the tournament, the 20-year-old men's champion was undoubtedly the standout. Women's all-round silver medalist Yang Yanli, 19, also showed progress since her appearance in the Los Angeles Olympic Games last summer by garnering individual golds in the floor exercise, uneven bars and balance beam.

Chinese Olympic hero Li Ning was conspicuously absent from the tournament, however, although tournament, however, although to the three days in the press booth, and the commentary for the Shanghai TV station.

Yang Yueshan wins with consistency rather than flash.



ART PAGE

Sculptures by Li Deli



Chang E, the Goddess of the Moon (According to legend, she swallowed an elixir stolen from her husband and flew to the moon).







The God of Longevity.

Born in 1938 in Qinhuangdao, Hebei Province, Li Deli is now teaching at the Central Institute of Arts and Crafts in Beijing.

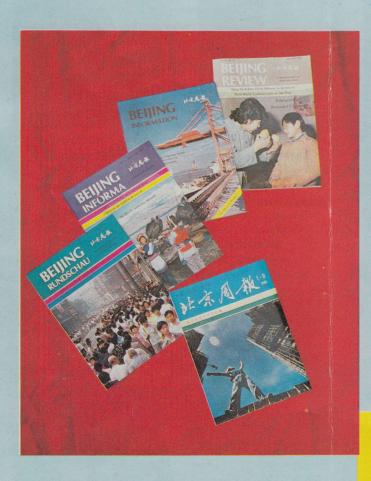
Li combines realism with traditional Chinese techniques. His figures are simple, beautifully shaped, and uniquely Chinese.



Old Peasants Sing for Joy.

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