

BEIJING REVIEW

北京周报

Korea: Prospects for North-South Rapprochement

New Blood for Party Leadership • Science Changes Tibetan Life



Vanguards of Reform

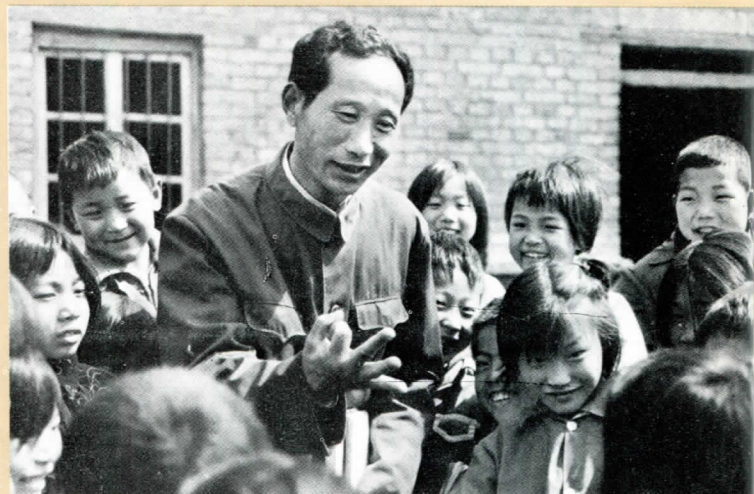
Engineer Sun Zhenguo (left), 44, the new manager of the Anshan Iron and Steel Company, getting first-hand information from a worker in the company's No. 3 steel making plant.

Anhui peasant Shi Daoqin, who two years ago set up a primary school with his own money, has trained many top students. Last year, he was cited as a national model teacher.

Assistant Engineer Luo Jundong, 28, is one of the designers for the International Trade Centre in the Shenzhen Special Economic Zone.



SPOTLIGHT



Xiao Rongqin (middle), an educated youth from Fujian Province, helped his villagers in breeding special rice strains.



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CONTENTS

NOTES FROM THE EDITORS	4
Reshuffle and Policy Continuity	
LETTERS	5
EVENTS & TRENDS	6-11
Plenum Sets Agenda for Party Conference	
Party Secretary Hu Acts on Letters	
Deng Talk Links Freedom, Peace	
Nation Censures Shabby Products	
Cities Make Plans for Yangtze Area	
Beijing's YMCA Back in Action	
INTERNATIONAL	12-15
United States: Jenkins Bill Haunts Asian Textiles	
Bulgaria: Private Economy Makes Strides	
South Pacific: French Interests Under Fire	
Sudan: Peaceful Settlement Looks Dim	
Norway: Government Faces New Trials	
Observations on the Korean Situation	16
Visit to Tibet (III): Science Changes Highland Life	19
'Chinese Now Spoken Here' ...	24
FROM THE CHINESE PRESS	27-28
BUSINESS & TRADE	29-30
CULTURE & SCIENCE	31-32
SPORTS	33
BOOKS	34

COVER: Details of the new mural, "Harvesting Festival", which decorates the Tibetan Hall of the Great Hall of the People in Beijing.
Painted by Zhu Youtao

HIGHLIGHTS OF THE WEEK

Historic Meeting Rings Changes

The Fourth Plenary Session of the 12th Party Central Committee was held to pave the way for the national Party conference on September 18. The session passed the draft proposals on the country's Seventh Five-Year Plan and took a giant step towards bringing more younger people into the Party's leadership (p. 6).

Reshuffle Ensures Continuity of Policies

With some older officials stepping down from the central leading bodies to make way for younger, dedicated and better-educated people confirmed at the national Party conference, the continuity of China's current policies will be ensured (p. 4).

A Fair Settlement of Korean Issue Benefits All

The two parts of Korea are now charging their approaches towards each other. All parties concerned, especially the United States, should take positive action to help them achieve reconciliation and co-operation, leading finally to the peaceful reunification of the country. A fair settlement of the issue benefits peace and stability not only in the Far East, but in the whole world (p. 16).

Chinese Is Studied Over the World

An on-the-spot report on the First International Symposium on Teaching Chinese As a Foreign Language held in Beijing recently by *Beijing Review* correspondent points up the worldwide craze for Chinese studies and the academic exchanges between the scholars of various countries and regions in teaching Chinese (p. 24).

Science, Technology Propelling Tibet Forward

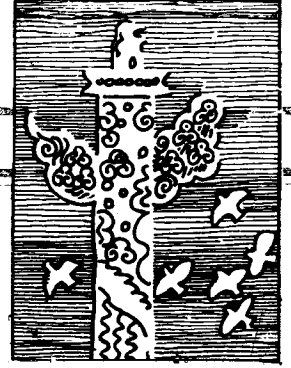
In the last part of the Tibet series, our correspondent tells how the introduction of science and the use of local rich water, sun and wind resources have changed the life of the farmers and herdsman, who for centuries had been using dried dung as fuel and butter lamps for light (p. 19).

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Reshuffle and Policy Continuity

by **AN ZHIGUO**
Political Editor

One of the major topics discussed at the current national Communist Party conference in Beijing is the readjustment of the Party's central leading bodies.

On the eve of the conference, 131 older officials, many of whom are not in good health, have asked to step down from the Central Committee, the Central Advisory Commission and the Central Commission for Inspecting Discipline to make way for younger people who are both good politically and professionally.

This is both a major policy decision and a concrete step towards abolishing life-long tenure in leading posts. It will be of great significance in ensuring the continuity of China's current policies and promoting reform of the cadre system.

Since the Third Plenary Session of the 11th Party Central Committee in late 1978, and especially since the nationwide administrative restructuring which began in 1982, satisfactory results have been achieved in reshuffling the country's leadership. More than 200,000 younger, revolutionary-minded, better-educated and professionally competent people have been promoted to top posts at or above the county level. In the process, 1.08 million veteran cadres have retired.

Last April, the Party Central Committee called for the readjustment of leading bodies in provinces, municipalities and central ministries and commissions. The reshuffle was scheduled to com-

plete before the current national Party conference.

Now, the reshuffling of the Party and government leaders in all of China's 29 provinces, municipalities and autonomous regions is basically complete. Except for some top older officials in a few areas who are still needed at their posts, the country's leaders are younger. Provincial Party secretaries and governors average 58 and 55.6 years old, 7.5 and 3.7 years younger than before the reshuffle. Some are under 50.

Progress has also been achieved in reshuffling the leading bodies of many central ministries and com-

The resignation of 131 from the CPC central leading bodies set a good example in doing away the de facto life-long tenure in leading posts in China. With some new faces appearing in the top leadership of the Party and state, China's current policies will not be affected.

missions. Over the past year or more, about 100 middle-aged and young people who are bold in blazing new trails have been promoted to the posts of ministers and vice-ministers as well as to other senior positions under the State Council. The average age of the major leaders of 81 departments under the State Council is 56.6, five years younger than be-

fore the readjustment. Among them, the proportion of people under 55 has increased from 10 to 30 percent. Seventy-one percent of them have college education, as compared with the 44.5 percent before the reshuffle.

There has been much speculation over who will step down and who will replace them at the Party conference. This will only be clear after the conference and the coming 5th Plenary Session of the 12th CPC Central Committee end. According to reliable sources, however, the reshuffle is still a partial one, even though a lot of people will be involved, because consideration must be given to the smooth transition of power to younger people and a basic balance must be maintained between the number of people going out and the number of people coming in.

The current reshuffle is a continuation of China's cadre system reform, which has been in progress for several years. All the programme's achievements so far, however, are only a favourable beginning. The reform of the cadre system will be synchronized with future economic development and the undertaking of other reforms.

Proceeding from the interests of the state and the people, many veteran cadres have set a good example in the reshuffle of the central leading bodies by helping to do away with the de facto life-long tenure of leading posts. This will have a far-reaching influence on quickening China's reforms and perfecting the cadre system in line with the country's modernization programme.

Peng Di's Article Appreciated

In the July 8 issue of your magazine was an article I very much appreciated — Image of US Media — A Chinese View, by Peng Di, former chief of the Washington Bureau of the Xinhua News Agency. I have been in the People's Republic two times and feel that his criticism of Fox Butterfield's book was clear and concise. I know, too, of the policy the People's Republic has of self-criticism and agree thoroughly on those two points.

Thank you for your always-good reading. I especially appreciated his reference to the *Christian Science Monitor* as I am a subscriber.

Cornelia M. Roberts
Grayslake, USA

I especially enjoyed the article written by the Chinese correspondent in Washington. The author's style of writing is vivid or, should we say, humorous. The article indicates how we should attack imperialism without being attacked. His argument, to put it in a journalistic way, is unassailable and reveals an international political reality — American super-power hegemonism.

Guy Row
Quebec, Canada

My wife and I paid our first visit to China earlier this year and would like to take this opportunity to add our support to the protest made by your contributor Mr. Peng Di against some of the comments of American reporters.

Coming as we do from a different political background, we can only speak of our first impressions of Beijing in terms not only of appreciation but of gratitude for the

experience. Fully aware as we must be that we were seeing the emergence of a modern city out of its past — and the material comforts of its modern hotels are beyond all praise. We were profoundly impressed by the respect and care shown everywhere for the preservation and maintenance of its magnificent treasures from the past. It has survived many decades and centuries of storm and upheaval but the sense of an ancient culture has not been lost.

We of the Western world have come to recognize that many of our problems, moral and social, have their roots in the easy affluence to which we have become too accustomed. China has preserved a standard of more simple living. There is little evidence of the insatiable greed that so often with us sours our social and industrial life; and this is seen in the comparative freedom of this great city from the problems of crime. Everywhere there is felt to be a certain contentment with life combined with pride in its heritage from the past and its modern achievement. Rightly or wrongly we felt that despite the disappearance of outward religious forms, the spirit of its age-old philosophical culture, such as the teachings of Confucius, was still preserved in its traditions of today, in its courtesies and good manners.

We came in some uncertainty as to the welcome a foreigner from the West might expect. We have come away grateful for the experience of the warmth, kindness and courtesy of a delightful people. Our only regret is the distance that too often puts you beyond the reach of many of us.

R.A. Bontoft de St. Quentin
Britain

Better Mutual Understanding

As for my wife, my friends and myself, we have a great love for the people of China and wish that some day a close understanding and friendship between our nations will come together. With the articles of your well-written magazine, the readers should better understand the views of the people of China and better understand the international issues with regard to world peace.

I'd like to express admiration for Chairman Deng Xiaoping and Premier Zhao Ziyang for their efforts to seek world peace. It is almost certain that it will be impossible for me to ever meet these men, therefore your magazine will keep me informed of their views. I am a regular reader of your magazine and wish to express great thanks for the prompt delivery of your fine review.

We only wish there were more colour pictures.

P.L. Wright
AZ, USA

Photo Exhibition Proposed

Usually, I only read the columns that attract me, such as "Culture and Science," "Letters" and "Sports," as well as articles about the economy. But sometimes I also read other articles.

I think you should organize some mobile colour photo exhibitions about China. I collected some photos from *China Reconstructs* and *China Pictorial* and sent them to exhibitions held in cities near Trieste along the Adriatic Sea, such as Strulijan, Smarie, Koper and Isola.

Bogomil Lilia
Koper-Bidovecva, Yugoslavia

EVENTS AND TRENDS



The Fourth Plenum of the 12th Party Central Committee in session.

Plenum Sets Agenda for Party Conference

The Fourth Plenary Session of the 12th Party Central Committee was held in Beijing on September 16 to pave the way for

the National Conference of the Chinese Communist Party, which convened two days later.

According to its communique,

the Central Committee discussed and adopted in principle the draft proposals for the country's Seventh Five-Year Plan. The document was submitted to the national conference for further debate.

Top leaders Hu Yaobang, Deng Xiaoping, Zhao Ziyang, Li Xiannian and Chen Yun entering the meeting hall.



The participants also discussed the election of new officials to China's central leading organizations.

Just before the meeting, 131 aging Party veterans, notably Ye Jianying and Deng Yingchao, widow of the late Premier Zhou Enlai, asked to be allowed to resign from the Central Committee, the Central Advisory Commission and the Central Commission for Discipline Inspection.

The communique praised "the exemplary deeds of all these veteran comrades in promoting this

succession in the interests of the Party and the people." It also approved their resignations for inclusion in a report to the national conference.

The session extended a special salute to Ye Jianying for his "major historical contributions to the Party and the nation." Ye, 88, took part in the democratic revolution led by Sun Yat-sen in the 1920s. During the anti-Japanese war he was chief of staff of the Party's military commission, and

did much to modernize the PLA after the founding of the People's Republic in 1949. In 1976, Ye played a major role in toppling the gang of four.

The session was presided over by Hu Yaobang, Deng Xiaoping, Zhao Ziyang, Li Xiannian and Chen Yun, all members of the Standing Committee of the Party Political Bureau.

The plenary session was preceded by four days of preliminary meetings.

to take leading posts.

"Bureaucracy is like an invisible wall between the Party and the people, obstructing the implementation of policies, adversely affecting relations between the Party and the people and preventing the Party's central tasks from being carried out," Hu said.

To a letter from a worker who created a new brushless painting technique but who encountered a lot of difficulties in his work and life, Hu wrote: "We must base our decisions on facts and reason. That is the only way to win the sympathy and support of the people. It is no good following regulations mechanically without inquiring into their whys and wherefores or just procrastinate and do nothing.

Hu Yaobang is also concerned about "minor" complaints. Through Hu's personal efforts, the noted educator, Sun Jingxiu, who is known among Chinese children as "grandpa story-teller," was given better housing while a shop clerk in Hunan Province was helped in finding his child who had been lost for three years.

Beijing Mayor Chen Xitong, who also handles hundreds of letters every year, considers correspondence an important tool for keeping in touch with the people and improving his work.

Party Secretary Hu Acts on Letters

General Secretary Hu Yaobang called on all leading cadres in China to read and handle at least one or two letters from the people every day. Unless they have the facts, and make decisions in a down-to-earth manner to seek practical results, they will be like deaf and blind people and commanders without troops, he warned.

Since he took office six years ago, Hu has read more than 2,000 letters, keeping himself busy with them while travelling, or during breaks in Party meetings.

"Letters are the voice of the people and give one a feel of the society's pulses," Hu said.

With political stability and economic prosperity, the letters have gradually shifted away from asking for investigations into wrongful charges made during the "cultural revolution." Letters received now deal more often with issues related to the current economic reform.

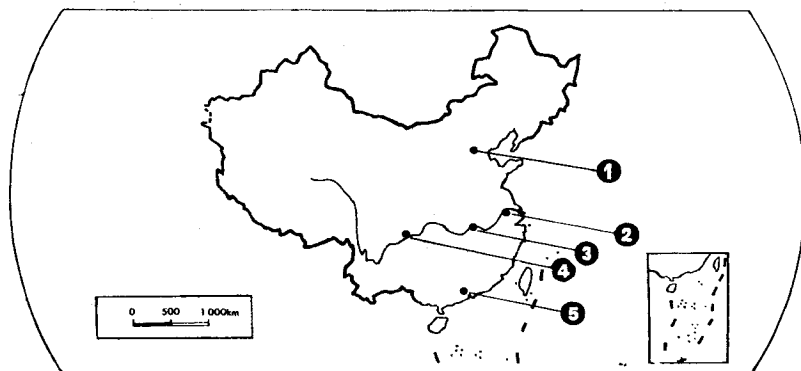
After Hu Yaobang read more than 20 letters from peasants in Hebei Province asking for permission to buy trucks and engage in the transportation business, he took up the matter with the Central Committee, which later granted the peasants permission to do so.

"Some of our comrades should have the interests of the whole country in view and heed the voices of people not working in state enterprises," Hu said.

A letter from the Tianjin Internal Combustion Engine Research Institute asked the Party Central Committee to improve production by giving researchers more responsibility and preventing their equipment from lying idle.

Hu Yaobang instructed the general office to see if the problem of under-capacity operation was not limited to just one institute. He said it was of major importance to know the situation well and to encourage dedicated young people

PLACES IN THIS ISSUE



1. Xinle (p. 8) 2. Nanjing (p. 10) 3. Wuhan (p. 10) 4. Chongqing (p. 10)
5. Foshan (p. 31)

In one letter to Chen, a lecturer from the People's University suggested that it would be more profitable to open the fourth floor of the Wangfujing Department Store, which was then assigned for offices.

Chen adopted the proposal. On that floor, customers now can buy jewelry, jade, silks and satins. People also enjoy Western foods and cold drinks there.

Last September, a primary school teacher wrote to Chen complaining that she had been interrogated by the entrance guard in the Friendship Store. "Their rude attitudes towards Chinese seems to indicate that they forget they are Chinese too," she said. In response to the letter, the mayor told the store to look into the matter and to make self-criticism. "The problem in the attitudes among service personnel must be dealt with," Chen wrote.

The store leadership gave the wrong-doer a good talking to, and immediately called a meeting to discuss how to improve the work.

Deng Talk Links Freedom, Peace

More and more countries have adopted independent foreign policies, and this is an important factor for safeguarding world peace, Deng Xiaoping said on September 13.

In a meeting with Austrian President Rudolf Kirchschlager, who is on his first visit to China, Deng pointed out that war is not inevitable although efforts are needed to maintain peace. "If war does not break out in this century, there is hope for world peace in the next," he said.

The biggest force against war is the third world, he added.

"When we observe the interna-

tional strategic situation, we see China as well as the East and West European countries as forces for preventing war and safeguarding peace," Deng said. "The East and West European countries have twice experienced the disasters of war in this century."

He also praised Austria's neutral diplomacy.

During their talks on September 12, Chinese Premier Zhao Ziyang and the Austrian President spoke highly of the progress the two countries have made since they established diplomatic relations in 1971. Both saw bright prospects for closer Sino-Austrian economic trade and technological co-operation.

China and Austria hold similar views on safeguarding world peace and easing international tension, and this is a foundation for the development of bilateral political relations, Zhao said.

Vienna's efforts to boost bilateral trade and economic co-operation with China are due to its full confidence in Beijing's economic policies and political situation, the Austrian President said.

The two sides signed agreements on civil air transport and promoting and protecting mutual investment on September 12.

Trade between China and Austria last year hit a record US\$136 million, as compared with US\$50 million in 1978 and about US\$81 million in 1983. Economic exchanges totalled US\$87 million in the first half of this year, an increase of 36 percent over the same period a year ago.

Nation Censures Shabby Products

When Shi Cangshu, a peasant in Hebei Province's Xinle County, bought a Peach-Blossom brand electric fan from a local commodities fair in July, he had no way of

knowing that his quest for comfort would end in disaster. But five days later, when his two children tried to adjust the fan, both died instantly of electrocution — victims of an ill-fitting socket and plug.

Soon Peach-Blossom electric fans were banned and the manufacturer, a Jiangsu factory, was taken to court. The incident heightened public indignation at a market flooded by a sudden rush of shabby, and often fake, products.

It was not uncommon, for example, to see cassette tape-recorders break down unaccountably while the owners, who purchased them with months' savings, fail to locate factories that were supposed to repair their products under warranty. Members of a recent Chinese Antarctic expedition found it difficult to open meals sealed in clumsily-designed tins, while those who were too fat or too tall had to endure the polar cold in sleeping bags that were either too short or too narrow.

In Hefei, Anhui Province, enraged residents gathered downtown to vent their anger over poor-quality commodities. "My son-in-law bought me two bottles of this as a Spring Festival gift," said an old truck driver, brandishing a bottle of liquor that bore a famous brand name. "But it actually tasted no better than beverages made of sweet potatoes." A woman, virtually in tears, told the crowd that she once bought a package of milk powder for her baby, only to find the product was a mixture of sugar and starch.

Actually, passing shabby products off as famous brands is an oft-used gimmick for many manufacturers hungry for a quick yuan. Thus chemical fertilizer could be substituted for yeast in making cakes sold in lavishly decorated boxes. In Fujian's Jinjiang Prefecture, making and selling



Technicians at an Inner Mongolian magnetic material factory examine the quality of their products.

potentially dangerous fake drugs became a lucrative industry. A money-crazed man in Chengdu made a fortune selling a particularly deadly liquor — water laced with industrial alcohol. The lethal brew caused a number of deaths. The man was convicted and executed, but the brutality of the case is still a shock to the public.

"This is sheer murder — a heinous crime for which death is insufficient punishment," said Kong Congzhou, a National People's Congress Standing Committee member, commenting on the Chengdu "liquor." Echoed Xu Dixin, a noted economist, "When someone is churning out flawed products which are virtually useless, he is not a producer but a saboteur."

According to Vice-Minister Zhu Rongji of the State Economic Commission, the deterioration in product quality occurred as ballooning capital construction investment and a consumer buying spree boosted demand for a wide range of goods. This huge demand is often beyond society's power to fill. To make up for production shortfalls, some departments take the easy way out, setting high production quotas that force factories to raise output at the expense of

quality. Some factories, finding the temptation for quick profits too hard to resist, resort to cheating and fraud. "In all this they have tossed away the 'quality first' principle and put the interests of the state and the consumers in jeopardy," said Zhu.

Public alarm over the poor quality of many industrial products finally spurred the state into action. A nationwide inspection and examination campaign is now in high gear, putting all factories under the watchful eyes of the government and consumers.

Next month, the state will begin compulsory inspections of major industrial products such as high-pressure containers, medicines, motor vehicles, mining machinery and foods, according to Zhu Yulong, a quality control official under the State Economic Commission. Under this new system, only products meeting state-fixed standards will be granted production licenses. Those which fail their tests will be banned. Some 100 quality control agencies will be set up under the State Economic Commission to handle this task.

But only when major technological breakthroughs are made can China come to grips with problems related to product quality, noted

News in Brief

The Chinese Military Academy has founded the country's first military science prize — the Liu Bocheng foundation — which will award 100,000 yuan every year to outstanding teachers of military science.

Liu Bocheng, one of the founders of the PLA, is an outstanding military theorist and strategist.

* * *

The "Yun-8" sea patrol airplane, the first of its kind made in China, recently passed rigid technical examination and is about to go into mass production. The aircraft, made by a Shaanxi Province factory, updates earlier models in the series.

* * *

Per-capita income of urban Chinese worker families is expected to reach 820 yuan this year, an increase of 34.9 percent over 1984 and 86.6 percent over 1980. The average annual increase is 13.3 percent — or 9.3 percent, if price rises are considered — during China's Sixth Five-Year Plan period (1981-85).

* * *

The 5,000-km Great Wall won top honour recently at a nationwide poll to choose the best of China's scenic wonders. Sun Moon Lake, a summer resort in Taiwan, was also named one of the top 10. The others are Guilin, Hangzhou's West Lake, the Forbidden City, Suzhou, Huangshan Mountain, the Yangtze River Gorges, the mountain resort town of Chengde and Emperor Qin Shi Huang's terra-cotta warriors in the ancient city of Xian.

Zhu Rongji. He called on enterprises throughout China to tighten up their management, institute quality-control responsibility systems and instill in their workers and staff a sense of pride in their work. "If we recognize the importance of improving product quality and increasing their variety," he said, "we will be able to turn out goods that are among the best in the world."

Cities Make Plans For Yangtze Area

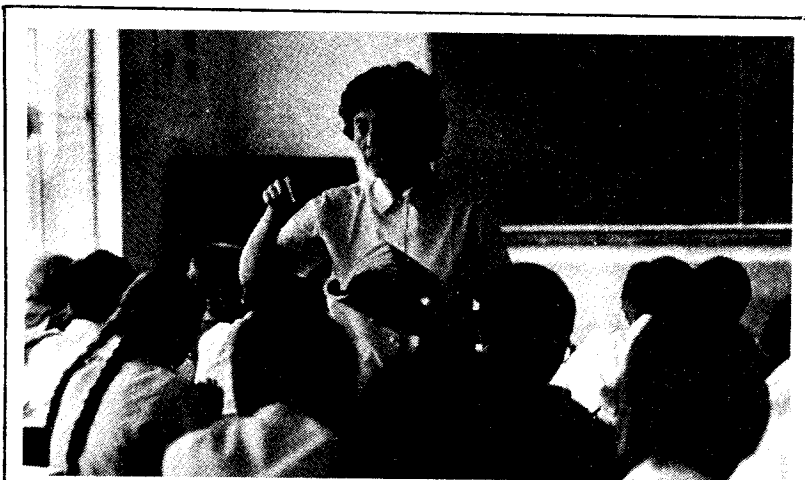
Shanghai and a number of other cities along the Changjiang (Yangtze) River decided recently to co-operate in developing the giant waterway, ending years of fragmented planning and management in the central China basin.

At a recent meeting inter-city officials from Nanjing, Wuhan, Chongqing and Shanghai exchanged ideas on a future programme for joint exploitation of the river.

Liao Bokang, Party Secretary of Chongqing in Sichuan Province, said the Yangtze has great potential for transport, energy and agriculture — all major weak links in the present modernization drive. "When this potential is fully tapped," he said, "it will benefit all the cities along the river."

"Because of improper management," Nanjing Party Secretary Cheng Weigao pointed out, "the Yangtze River has been cut into many economic segments for a long time. Many cities along the river have been left in comparative isolation, feeling impotent to do anything about the Yangtze valley's development.

"Now that economic reform is underway, new hopes have emerged that this isolation will be ended and joint development can be pursued for the benefit of all," he said.



Teacher Wins Award

Hao Youming, 51, an English teacher from the Beijing No. 25 Middle School, was awarded the title "People's Teacher" by "Beijing Ribao" (Beijing Daily) on China's first elaborately celebrated national Teacher's Day. She has paid special attention to arousing her students' interest in English, trying to make the subject lively and interesting and guiding her students in their after-class reading. Here, Hao leads a classroom dialogue.

The delegates suggested all cities along the river help one another in marketing, technology exchanges and finance.

The economic development of the Yangtze basin, the official stressed, needs "leadership" from Shanghai. They expressed willingness to give the coastal industrial centre solid backing in its efforts to develop new industries and increase foreign trade.

Delegates from the upstream cities suggested that Shanghai factories could move some of their facilities westward to the interior and concentrate on foreign trade, technology imports and Sino-foreign joint ventures. One possible solution, they said, is for Shanghai to restructure its economic strategy around playing a greater role as a foreign trade agent, rather than as an export commodity producer. This would allow the other Yangtze River cities use Shanghai as their principle export outlet.

The Yangtze basin, one of China's best-developed areas, is rich in natural resources. There are 15.4 billion tons of iron re-

serves, 5.6 billion tons of phosphorus and 39.5 million tons of copper deposits in the region. Its reserves of vanadium and titanium account for 96 percent of the nation's total.

The Yangtze River has about 220 million kilowatts of water power resources, but only a small proportion of this is now in use.

Beijing's YMCA Back in Action

The Beijing YMCA and YWCA are open to all young men and women with or without Christian convictions, said Hou Fuyun, deputy chief of the YMCA last week.

Hou, who just celebrated his 80th birthday, is now working to re-establish the association's full membership system.

"We want to increase contacts and exchanges with YMCA groups and individuals overseas, too," he added.

The YMCA is active in 96 coun-

China & the World

'No Chinese Secret Links With Viet Nam'

A Foreign Ministry spokesman recently denied the rumour that China and Viet Nam are in secret contact.

"There is no such a thing at all going on between China and Viet Nam," he said. However, he confirmed that Viet Nam had repeatedly proposed that the two sides hold secret talks on normalizing bilateral relations.

For China, he stressed, "There is no point for any dialogue with Viet Nam so long as it continues its aggression and occupation of Kampuchea."

Radio Operator Returned

China is grateful to South Korea for returning a Chinese radio operator and the ashes of the navigator who died as a Chinese military aircraft crashlanded there on August 24, but insists that the pilot of the aircraft, who was reported seriously wounded during the accident, also be returned, a Chinese Foreign Ministry spokesman said on September 13.

W. Germany to Help Upgrade Enterprises

Premier Zhao Ziyang met Loothar Spaeth, governor of the West German state of Baden-Wuerttemberg, on September 11 to discuss ways of strengthening cooperation between Chinese medium-sized and small enterprises and their German counterparts. The premier stressed the importance for China to technically upgrade its medium-sized and small enterprises so as to obtain satisfactory economic returns.

tries and promotes the religious, intellectual and social welfare of young people.

In its secluded courtyard in downtown Beijing, the words of the Bible are written on a wall: "For the son of man came not to be served, but to serve."

"This is the sole purpose of our association," Hou said.

Since reopening five years ago, Hou said, the Beijing YMCA has provided various courses for nearly 3,000 students. More than 600 of them have completed their studies and are now playing active roles in many fields.

The students range from doctors and teachers to workers and unemployed youths. In view of this, the school offers several classes, including a two-year professional training class in English, Japanese and an advanced course in German.

Because Beijing residents often find it difficult to get clothes made or things repaired, they also operate short-term training courses for tailors and appliance repairmen.

The organization sponsors lectures, evening parties and other celebrations.

In addition, it provides night schools for people who want to take university entrance exams.

Students pay only a small tuition fee. Mathematics class, for instance, charges just seven cents for each lesson. "We do all this not for money, but for the benefit of the society," said Li Baohuan who is in charge of the school.

The YMCA was introduced to China early in the 20th century by Christian missionaries. It survived the Japanese invasion of China in 1937, often providing care for the wounded soldiers and refugees.

The organization continued to operate after liberation in 1949,

only to suffer much destruction during the Anti-Rightist Movement 1957 and it was forced to close down the next year. During the ten years of the "cultural revolution" the YMCA was branded as illegal.

Following the downfall of the gang of four, Hou said, the Communist Party called for the quick restoration of the YMCA as part of its united front drive.

In 1980, Hou, who spent much of his life in the YMCA, and several other old members were invited to return to fill leading posts.

"I am quite convinced that the Party's policy will never change again and I don't worry about any risk connected with my present service," he added.

Among the YMCA's other members is Pan Xiaogang, 24, formerly a postgraduate student at the Beijing Foreign Studies University. Pan turned down a job offer from a government department when he joined the YMCA.

Another young man, 23-year-old Gao Changling, is the only practising Christian among the young staff members of the Beijing YMCA. Previously a factory worker, he became interested in the church while attending an English class three years ago. When asked about why he decided to take up the work of the YMCA, Gao said "I feel its tasks are noble and lofty, and I am freedom to believe in Christianity."



United States

Jenkins Bill Haunts Asian Textiles

The controversial Jenkins Bill may add 36,000 additional jobs for the US textile industry, but it could concurrently cost the US 58,000 retail jobs and bring increased prices to American consumers.

by ZHANG DEZHEN

AS its session resumes in September, the US Congress is again debating over the Textile and Apparel Trade Enforcement Act, also called the Jenkins Bill. The bill, sponsored by Representative Edgar Jenkins, a Georgia Democrat, and Senator Strom Thurmond, a Republican from South Carolina, is aimed at dramatically cutting US textile and clothing imports from Asia.

The pending bill tries to carry existing limits on Asian textile exports a step further. Textile quotas aside, further limitations will be imposed on 110 fabrics made of cotton, wool and chemical fibres. Even fabrics of silk and flax which are not included in the Multifibre Agreement are now included. As a result of the bill, US textile imports will shrink by 36 percent within 5 years. If enforced, the Jenkins Bill would mean heavy losses for fabric exporters. For example, it would cut off 56 percent of China's textile exports to the United States in 1985, costing China US\$500 million of foreign currency income every year.

Hongkong stands to lose not only 13 percent of its current quotas, but also 70 percent of its exports now outside the scope of

the quotas. Its export revenue will thus decrease by US\$1 billion. And according to *Newsweek* magazine, Taiwan and Thailand will lose half of their annual textile exports to the United States. Pakistan and South Korea will be cut by one-third and Indonesia by 85 percent.

Because it gravely threatens the interests of most Asian countries, the Jenkins Bill has drawn much fire from capitals around the region. Chinese ambassador to the United States Han Xu pointed out in a letter to President Ronald Reagan's trade representative that the bill could have an adverse influence on Sino-US trade relations.

"The Jenkins Bill violates the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade and other bilateral agreements between the United States and many developing countries. To execute such an act will throw the world textile trade into chaos," Hongkong traders claimed.

A Philippine apparel exporters association called the bill "unfair" and "discriminative."

In refuting the claim that the expanding US trade deficit is due to the textile imports, observers in Southeast Asia point out that mounting budget deficits, high interest rates and the skyrocketing

US dollar are actually behind the trade imbalance.

Because US exports to the developing countries have surpassed those to the developed countries, some Asian press writers have warned the developing countries, if affected adversely by protectionism, will turn against the United States. A Thai newspaper said that this would result in mutual vindictive actions, if the United States ignored the appeal of its Asian trade partners and enforced the Jenkins Bill. It further pointed out that the Jenkins Bill, though it might provide 36,000 jobs for the American textile industry, would tract 58,000 jobs from the retail sector in turn. Besides, American consumers would suffer price rises to the tune of US\$2 billion, it added.

There is also much domestic opposition to the Jenkins Bill. This summer, US Secretary of State George Shultz and three other Reagan administration officials wrote a joint letter to both Houses of the Congress criticizing the Jenkins Bill. If implemented, they said, the bill would increase the burden on US consumers, bring retaliation from other countries and erode US credit. The bill ran counter to the Multifibre Agreement and would likely force the United States to invalidate 34 of its current bilateral trade agreements, the officials said. US apparel retailers and importers, as well as shipping companies and truck companies, have founded organizations to take action against the Jenkins Bill. Sharp differences also exist in the Congress, where some representatives and senators have indicated that they will try hard to prevent the bill's passage.

Bulgaria

Private Economy Makes Strides

Government encouragement of Bulgaria's developing individual economy has given its people more food.

by **DING YIWEI**

THE thriving private economy in Bulgaria has yielded remarkable growth in farm and sideline products, thus improving people's diet. Within four years from 1981-84, per-capita meat consumption increased from 60 kilograms to 70 kilograms, and milk rose from 200 litres to 214 litres. Increases were also registered for eggs, fruit and vegetables.

The rapid improvement is attributed to the country's insistence on developing its individual economy. The Bulgarian government believes that the state-owned sector alone cannot meet the country's needs. Private production, as an indispensable component of a socialist economy, should be encouraged instead of being eliminated, officials say.

Since the 1970s, Bulgaria has initiated a series of policies to spur the private sector. In 1973, it ruled that families raising poultry, cattle, pigs or sheep, or growing vegetables or fruit trees, would be honoured as "model families." In 1975, the 11th National Congress of the Bulgarian Communist Party called on agricultural co-op members, workers and clerks to go into individual sideline occupations to promote agricultural production, especially livestock breeding. In 1979, the Council of Ministers decided that besides the family plots allotted to peasants for private sideline production, workers, clerks, citizens and retirees could also get 200 square metres of land to grow vegetables and fruit, or raise livestock and

poultry. The plots, given free of charge, could be passed on through inheritance, although their sale is not permitted. Part of their produce, the decision added, had to go to the state barn while the rest could be sold freely on the local market. Moreover, citizens were given tax rebates on income earned from their private sidelines. To inspire the individual sector, the council further ordered state-run industrial and farming coalitions to aid individual enterprises with seeds, breeding stock, seedlings, feed, tractors and trucks.

Of the 8 million people in Bulgaria, 1.3 million are engaged in individual sidelines. On 12.5 percent of the country's arable

land, they turn out a huge amount of farm and sideline products — nearly 32.6 percent of the nation's total, including 40 percent of its meat, 30 percent of its milk, 60 percent of its eggs, a third of its vegetables and half of its fruit. It is estimated that farmers draw one-third of their income from private enterprises.

However, some people are dubious about its functions, and believe that it may grow so strong that it will eventually weaken the country's centralized leadership and planning. Some industrial and farming coalitions have even refused to aid the private sector as ordered by the government.

To pave the way for the development of the individual economy, Bulgarian leader Todor Zhivkov ordered that barriers hindering its effective progress be cleanly removed. The Bulgarian press is also stressing the importance of the individual economy.

South Pacific

French Interests Under Fire

Paris continues carrying out its nuclear tests in French Polynesia despite protests from south Pacific countries.

by **YI MING**
"Beijing Review" News Analyst

BESIDES absolving the French secret service, the DGSE (Derection Generale de la Securite Exterieur), of carrying out a bombing attack on the anti-nuclear protest ship, the Rainbow Warrior, the French government on August 27 also conveyed another important message — that France would not permit any infringement of its interests in the Pacific. President Francois Mitterrand's September 13 trip to the

Mururoa Atoll nuclear test site once again demonstrated France's determination to defend its strategic position, and not retreat from carrying out nuclear tests there.

Earlier, on August 7, at the annual meeting of the South Pacific Forum, a treaty declaring the South Pacific a nuclear-free zone was unanimously endorsed. The treaty bans nuclear testing in the area, which includes French Polynesia. To seek acceptance of the treaty, New Zealand and Australian officials are expected

to visit London, Paris and Washington in the next few months. No answer seems forthcoming from the Elysee Palace before the envoys' arrival.

Nuclear tests in the South Pacific have become a major bone of contention between France and the Oceania nations in recent years. Paris transferred its nuclear testing ground from the Sahara desert to French Polynesia in the late 1960s, and about 70 underground tests have been conducted at Mururoa Atoll since 1975. All previous French governments have consistently followed a policy of developing nuclear forces. In spite of economic difficulties, the Socialist government of President Francois Mitterrand has augmented appropriations for nuclear forces annually since coming to power in 1981. Through over two decades of efforts, France has become the world's third nuclear power, with an independent force of combined strategic and tactical weapons.

On arms reduction, France does not rule out someday taking part in the Geneva talks. But it demands that the United States and the Soviet Union curtail their nuclear arms development first to narrow the gap between the superpowers and France. Unless that is done, France refuses to yield even an inch on the independent status of its nuclear deterrent. On the South Pacific countries' demand for an end to nuclear tests in the area, Paris has not moved either. After the Rainbow Warrior incident, Mitterrand publicly ordered the French navy to use force, if necessary, to stop protesters from entering a 12-mile zone around Mururoa.

The environmental group, Greenpeace, and other ecological groups claim that repeated underground tests at Mururoa have weakened the basic structure of the atoll, and that nuclear

radiation may have seeped into the surrounding sea. Rainbow Warrior, the Greenpeace flagship, was due to lead a flotilla of protest ships into the Mururoa area. But the vessel was blown up on July 10 as it lay at anchor in the harbour at Auckland, New Zealand. One crew member, a photographer, was killed in the blast. The New Zealand police discovered a dinghy and an oxygen tank near the scene of the crime, both bearing French registration marks. A French couple carrying Swiss passports were arrested.

In New Zealand's view, the bombing was arranged by French intelligence agents. Wellington held that the incident violated New Zealand's sovereignty, and demanded that France apologize. The French government, after making an official inquiry, absolved the DGSE and France of any blame for the sabotage of the Rainbow Warrior, but acknowledged that French intelligence

agents had been sent to the area to monitor the actions of Greenpeace. In a prepared statement, French Prime Minister Laurent Fabius appealed to New Zealand authorities to inform French judicial organs of any evidence concerning the crime. If the crime was committed by French citizens, the statement said, the French government will certainly punish them under French law. So the burden of the case is now on New Zealand, which must prove that French secret agents were guilty.

France holds that the Rainbow Warrior affair has a much more complicated background. Its final goal, in fact, is to get the French out of the Pacific, Paris says. Hence, Fabius said, "As a nuclear and peace-loving country, France needs to protect its interests in the area as it considers them to be. But there are activities directed against these interests."

Sudan

Peaceful Settlement Looks Dim

Prospects for a reconciliation between the Sudanese government and rebel forces again look remote in view of increased guerrilla attacks on government outposts and a number of towns.

by ZHAO ZHUXIU

THE Sudanese People's Liberation Army (SPLA) has in the past month extended its attacks northward, inflicting heavy losses on government troops and civilians. The escalating fighting confirms the view that efforts for national reconciliation following the overthrow of former President Gaafar Nimeri last April have failed.

Rebel leader John Garang has so far rejected the government's peace overture, in which the gov-

ernment declared a unilateral ceasefire and called for the revival of the Addis Ababa Agreement, which, abrogated by the deposed Nimeri, calls for more autonomy for the south.

Garang has called the present government a "continuation of the Nimeri regime" and has vowed to fight "until a real democratic regime is set up in Khartoum." He has ordered his forces to broaden the areas of assault from the south to the north.

A spokesman for the SPLA recently told the Sudan Press

Agency that the SPLA was fighting for an overall settlement of the nationwide issue instead of the southern Sudan problem alone. In the meantime, Defence Minister Osman Abdallah said at a recent press conference that attacks on the government forces were "imminent" and characterized the situation as "highly tense and liable to explode at any moment." Government reinforcements have been sent to the south where they began a counterattack on the rebels, he said. "This is a necessity and not an option," he said.

The prolonged internal strife in the Sudan has shown that the problem of southern Sudan is not likely to be settled by force. Government troops cannot be expected to wipe out the 15,000 strong SPLA. Nor is it likely that Garang will, through force, realize his dream of restructuring the government. But the present situation indicates that the battle between the government and the Garang rebels will continue, and that a peaceful settlement of the problem is not likely in the near future.

helping actual income grow. The number of newly-bought private cars in the first quarter of this year increased by 33.4 percent, compared with the same period last year. Unemployment has dropped to 2.7 percent, one of the lowest rates in Europe.

The ruling parties are also taking the initiative on security policy. Most big political forces in Norway agreed that the country must rely on the North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO) for its security. But since 1981 the Labour Party has differed with the Conservative-led coalition government on the security issue. The Labour Party has criticized government participation in the NATO decision allowing US medium-range missiles to be deployed in Europe — a move which had been approved by the former Labour Party government. Then it clamorously advocated a nuclear-free zone in Northern Europe.

However, in July when the election campaign was in full swing, the Soviet Union held a huge naval exercise involving more than 100 warships, including aircraft carriers, in the North Atlantic off the Norwegian coast. Its purpose was to rehearse blocking NATO reinforcements to Denmark and Norway. The Soviet move forced the opposition to dodge the security issue during the campaign.

To compensate, the Labour Party had to make an issue of social welfare. It called for setting up more kindergartens, giving longer maternity leave and improving medical treatment by using the national oil income. These propositions found favour with some voters, but not enough to give Labour Party a majority.

Although the election has ended, the fight between the ruling parties and the opposition is still going on.

Norway

Government Faces New Trials

With only a one-seat majority in parliament, Prime Minister Kaare Willoch's three-party coalition won the vote in Norway. But the struggle between the ruling parties and the opposition continues.

by FANG XIANGSHENG

A COALITION government formed by the Conservative Party, the Christian People's Party and the Central Party edged its way to a razor-thin one-seat victory this month in Norway's closest general election since World War II.

The Conservative Party, led by Prime Minister Kaare Willoch, won 50 seats in the country's 157-seat parliament, 3 fewer than it formerly held. The allied Christian People's Party gained one seat, for a total of 16, while the Central Party also gained a seat and now holds 12. The opposition Labour Party won 71 seats, an increase of 5. Its ally, the Socialist Left Party took 6 seats.

After the election, Willoch said the result made the situation in Norway even more unmanageable than before.

The economic situation in Norway favoured the government before the latest campaign. Since 1981, the economy has been rising steadily. This year, the Central Statistical Bureau predicts, the country's traditional economy will grow at least by 4 percent and industrial investment is set to increase by 20 percent or more.

Meanwhile, North Sea oil exploitation is also going into high gear. From 1981-84, oil income alone was over US\$16 billion. This not only improved the state of Norway's international income and expenses, but also brought vitality to its bleak shipbuilding industry.

Inflation has been reduced to 5.7 percent, from more than 10 percent four years ago when the Labour Party was in power, while workers' income has increased over 8 percent. The government has received US\$3.5 million less in taxes since 1981,

Observations on the Korean Situation

A welcome trend towards reconciliation between the two parts of Korea has appeared, but the Korean issue is still a long way from being settled. An early solution to the issue is possible, though obstacles exist. It would be better for the United States to take the initiative in withdrawing its troops from South Korea at an early date rather than waiting to be compelled to do so.

by TAO BINGWEI

I

FORTY years ago, Korea was artificially divided into two parts. Following the armistice, while no fresh hostilities have broken out on the Korean Peninsula, it has all along been shrouded in tension which is not only disquieting to the Korean people, but also threatens to undermine peace and stability in the Asian-Pacific region in general and Northeast Asia in particular. If such a state of affairs is allowed to continue, it is likely to bring about serious consequences. This is because:

The huge troop concentrations on both sides of the military demarcation line are in full battle array, in a density never seen elsewhere in the world. The United States unceasingly ships to South Korea large quantities of sophisticated weapons, including combat aircraft, naval vessels and even nuclear weapons. Together with South Korea, it has reinforced the military deployment south of the demarcation line and carried out, in consecutive years, massive military exercises. In these circumstances, the Democratic People's Republic of Korea is compelled to take counter measures in strengthening its defence capabilities.

Also, owing to the deep-rooted

animosity between the two parts of Korea, each side keeps high vigilance, preparing against any possible incursion and is ready to turn the pre-war defence arrangement into a war-time structure. If this antagonistic feeling continues to develop, the situation on the Korean Peninsula is bound to deteriorate.

Against this historical background, both sides in Korea have support from the countries that maintain close ties with them. On account of its strategic needs, the United States signed a military treaty with South Korea and has a military presence there. Japan is an ally of the United States and has close economic relations with South Korea. China and the DPRK are close neighbours. The Soviet Union, contiguous with the northern part of Korea, also maintains friendly relations with the DPRK. In case of any major contingency, all the key countries concerned would definitely not look on with indifference but would most probably get directly or indirectly involved.

It is, therefore, imperative to remove the lurking elements of danger and seek an early and reasonable solution to the Korean problem in order to ease the tension and maintain peace and stability on the Peninsula, as well as to safeguard peace and security in the Asian-Pacific region and in the world at large.

II

An early solution to the Korean issue is possible.

In the past three decades since the armistice, peace and stability have by and large prevailed. Consistently following a policy of peaceful reunification of the country, the DPRK holds that the Korean issue should be resolved by the Koreans themselves, free from any outside interference. President Kim Il Sung has repeatedly stated that the North has neither the intention nor the strength to attack the South. It is safe to say that so long as the South refrains from attacking the North, relative peace and stability on the Peninsula can still be ensured. This will provide a good atmosphere and favourable conditions for removing the tension and animosity and better facilitating the solution of the Korean issue.

In the early 1970s, a dialogue was started between the North and the South and an agreement was reached on a national reconciliation and the reunification of the country on the basis of the principles of "independence, peaceful reunification and national unity." After twists and turns, a favourable sequence of events eventually emerged in 1984. In that year, the North proposed tripartite talks; the South accepted relief supplies of-

ferred by the North; talks on economic co-operation and Red Cross talks between the two sides yielded initial successes; and recently, possibilities for Parliamentary talks are being explored. All this indicates that both sides are willing to move towards reconciliation and co-operation through dialogue, mutual understanding and mutual accommodation. The following elements account for this situation, which is the most favourable in years:

— The desire of over 50 million Korean people for national reconciliation and the reunification of their country is stronger than ever before. Nobody can afford to fly in the face of the will of the whole Korean nation.

— The two sides have had intermittent contacts for a decade and more.

— The heavy burden of military spending brings nothing but additional hardships to the economic development of both sides and unfavourably affects living standards.

— Given the fact that neither side is capable of overwhelming or annexing the other, both sides have come to realize that perpetuation of the confrontation can only do harm rather than good, and that the way out is to work towards national reconciliation and co-operation.

— The international community hopes to see lasting peace and stability on the Korean Peninsula without the outbreak of a new war. To this end, many countries have made greater or lesser efforts to help bring about a North-South reconciliation and the peaceful reunification of Korea by Koreans themselves.

— The North has begun to adopt flexible policies and readjust its relations with the United States, Japan and other countries. The

United States and Japan have, for their part, taken a somewhat different attitude towards the DPRK. In such circumstances, if the two parts of Korea can maintain their current momentum in the days to come, they will undoubtedly speed the resolution of the Korean issue.

Great changes have taken place in international relations apropos of the situation on the Korean Peninsula. Japan, the United States, China and the Soviet Union have established diplomatic relations with one another. These relations are characterized by enhanced friendly co-operation, or steady development, or incipient improvement. Moreover, the evolution of the Korean issue to this day makes it impossible for either big power to exploit the situation to its own advantage. They have no other alternative but to face reality and respect the national aspirations of the Korean people. So, the present international environment is favourable for reconciliation and co-operation between the two sides in Korea and is conducive to an independent and peaceful reunification of Korea.

III

Despite this welcome trend, the Korean situation is, after all, still a long way from being settled. How to press ahead with this favourable trend, avoiding serious setbacks — particularly any retrogression in the course of events — and, at the same time, work to create conditions to facilitate an early and proper solution to the Korean question, all this constitutes an arduous task to be undertaken by both Korean decision-makers and the international community.

As far as the two sides in Korea are concerned, good faith is most crucial. If they act in good faith, any proposals or options put forward will be taken into serious

consideration, or be accepted or refined by the other side, so that they can be well implemented with fruitful results through co-operation. To treat each other with good faith, it is necessary for both sides to eradicate the animosity, estrangement and distrust existing between them. To this end, the two sides need to work with joint efforts and take practical measures, setting store by the overall interests of the whole nation and the entire country.

The international community should, on its part, fully respect the independent stand of the Korean nation. In international communication involving the Korean question, the world should wholeheartedly help with, support and promote anything that will be conducive to reconciliation and co-operation between the two parts of Korea, to an independent and peaceful reunification of Korea and to peace and stability on the Peninsula.

With its military presence in South Korea, the United States bears unshirkable responsibilities for the settlement of the Korean question. As is known to all, the idea of holding tripartite talks between the North, the South and the United States was first made public in a "Joint Statement" during former US President Carter's visit to Seoul on July 1, 1979. The North did not respond favourably until January 1984, when it officially proposed holding such talks. In fact, this was a major concession on the part of the North, indicating that it is ready to act in good faith for the settlement of the Korean question. However, it is puzzling that the United States, as the original proponent of the tripartite talks, went back on its own proposition. Thus, the international community cannot but doubt whether the United States is truly willing to solve the Korean question. It is universally hoped that the United States will take a

realistic approach and agree to participate in tripartite talks before long. Since the United States has repeatedly expressed its readiness for an early settlement of the Korean issue by peaceful means, its positive response to, and actual participation in, such talks will not only dispel the misgivings of the international community, but also prove its sincerity by deeds.

The major hurdle to the settlement of the Korean issue is the American military presence in South Korea. The DPRK consistently maintains that the US should withdraw its troops. In the United States, many people with insight are aware that even in South Korea, there exists a strong undercurrent against the US presence. Notwithstanding, the DPRK has made it public that a US withdrawal is not a prerequisite for the reunification of the country. This illustrates that over the question of US troop withdrawal the North has adopted a flexible policy, which demonstrates its positive attitude. Yet, on this question, the position of the Reagan administration contrasts strikingly with that of the DPRK. The Reagan administration not only has reversed the decision of the Carter administration on the phased withdrawal of the US ground forces from South Korea, insisting that the US ground forces should stay on for a prolonged period of time, but has never stopped strengthening its capabilities. Obviously, this only serves to aggravate the animosity between the two sides of Korea and in no way helps bring about a relaxation of tension or stability in Korea. As time goes on, the question of ending the US military involvement will eventually be brought up by the two sides of Korea, or by them and United States jointly, with or without US consent when the course of events reaches a certain stage, especially when the two sides will have made significant progress on the reconciliation and co-operation between

them. Therefore, it would be better for the US to show flexibility in its policy and take the initiative at an early date by honourably withdrawing its troops from South Korea rather than waiting to be compelled to do so. This will be conducive to the successful solution of the Korean issue and to peace and security in the Asian-Pacific region. And after all, it will be beneficial to the United States itself as well.

Despite the emerging trend towards reconciliation and co-operation between North and South Korea, the United States has continued its "Team Spirit" joint manoeuvres with the South, on a scale that grows yearly. This serves no good purpose except impairing the North-South dialogue and making the North take a more stern and hostile stance towards the United States. It is, therefore, only reasonable for the international community to appeal for an end to military manoeuvres in any form in the South. Objectively speaking, provided that the United States and South Korea act accordingly, the consequent positive outcome is likely to be witnessed distinctly in the furthering of dialogues between the two parts of Korea, and in an improvement of relations between the DPRK and the United States.

The DPRK has time and again expressed its readiness to improve relations with the United States and Japan, and actions to this end have been taken. Now is the time for them to take positive steps for improved relations with the DPRK. Improved relations will be a new positive factor for closer contacts between the North and the South, an easing of the tension on the Korean Peninsula, and an early solution to the Korean question.

IV

China and Korea are close neigh-

bours. China hopes that the 50 million Korean people will soon be released from the suffering caused by the partition of their country and realize the reunion of their kith and kin. We also hope that lasting peace and stability will prevail on the Korean Peninsula and in the Asian-Pacific region as a whole. To this end, China has made and will continue to make positive efforts. China acclaims every achievement scored by the two parts of Korea on the path towards reconciliation and co-operation. China is not for the idea of "cross recognition" by the major states concerned, for this in fact means creating "two Koreas" and perpetuating the partition of the country. This runs precisely counter to the long-cherished national aspiration of the Korean people for reunification at an early date.

The course of events shows that the situation on the Korean Peninsula has reached a new phase. Although there may still be twists and turns, independent and peaceful reunification is in full accord with the popular will and the general trend of events. In short, if the two parts of Korea really make headway from animosity to reconciliation and from mistrust to co-operation, and if the interested parties, the United States in particular, truly adopt a sensible policy, it will yield good results. Such an outcome will be of historic significance to the Korean Peninsula, to the Asian-Pacific region as a whole, to the relations between the interested parties and to their relations with the two parts of Korea. □



Visit to Tibet (III)

Science Changes Highland Life



by ZHOU ZHEN

Our Correspondent

THE traditional culture of Tibet finds expression not only in literature and art but also in science.

Age-Old Tibetan Medicine

During a visit to the Tibetan Hospital in Lhasa, director Qiangba Chilie, 56, showed us replicas of 250-year-old paintings used for teaching medicine. One of the paintings shows the inutero development of a human being; from the fish to the reptilian to the mammalian stage.

According to Qiangba Chilie, these paintings supplemented the *Four Medical Books*, a Tibetan masterpiece written in the 8th century, that says the embryo is nourished from its mother through the umbilical cord. *The Teachings of the Deceased Buddhists*, which was excavated in 1285 in Tibet and written in the 700s, also says the embryo has to go through the three stages.

In 1689 Tibet published a book that provides standard explanations

However, only few people know that some points of the theory of evolution of Charles Darwin (1809-82), the famous English naturalist, have equivalent expressions in the Tibetan medical sciences, which date back to the 13th century.

for the *Four Medical Books*. Entitled *Lanliuli* (Blue Coloured Glaze), the book describes the stages of embryonic development in great detail. In 1704, under the edict of the King of Tibet, doctors who could paint drew the 79 colour drawings for the *Four Medical Books*, 51 of them being human anatomy.

Sky Burial

Tibetan doctors' understanding of the human embryonic development and the physicians' ability to visualize and draw human organs, said Qiangba Chilie, can be attributed to an age-old Tibetan custom called the sky burial.

As a burial ceremony commonly used by the Tibetans, the dead are laid on the celestial burial stone

for dissection. When the internal organs have been taken out, the body is dismembered. The bones are then smashed and the flesh is cut into small pieces to be mixed with cheese, butter and barley flour for the vultures.

The ceremony enabled early Tibetan doctors to know the human body in intimate detail, unlike their counterparts in the rest of the country.

Rich Tradition

Tibetan doctors have developed medicines with curative effect for heart and blood vessel diseases, diseases of the nervous and the digestive systems and for rheumatism. Director Qiangba Chilie said his hospital receives about 700 patients a day. Tibetans, Hans and people of other nationalities often come a long way for treatment at the hospital, which will soon have a 200-bed in-patient department.

Tibetan medicines are made from preparations containing some 600 ingredients, including animals, plants and minerals. Compared with synthetic medicine, these medicines are cheaper and

have fewer side-effects. The pharmaceutical factory, which comes under the direction of the Tibetan Hospital, produced 90,000 kg of medicine in 300 varieties in 1984.

Qiangba Chilie, himself an accomplished medical scholar, came from a family with three generations of physicians and entered a Tibetan medical school when he was 13 years old.

Heavily influenced by the five elements (metal, wood, water, fire and earth) used in traditional medicine of the Han nationality, and the four elements (water, earth, wind and fire) used in traditional Indian medicine, Tibetan medicine, Qiangba Chilie said, has its own unique features that are a synthesis of both. Maintaining a close link with astronomy and the calendar, Tibetan medicine also maintains that the vital energy and blood circulation inside human body change with the seasons.

Development

For the further development of the Tibetan medicine, the Tibetan Hospital set up the Tibetan Medicine Research Institute and the Astronomy and Calendar Research Institute. The Autonomous Region recently started a Tibetan University, which offers a five-year programme on Tibetan medicine, a three-year course is offered by the Tibetan Secondary Medical School.

An assortment of hospitals in Tibet provide a combination of Western and Tibetan medicines for their patients. Tibetans believe avidly in the curative qualities of the traditional medicines, but also show interest in Western surgical procedures. Most Tibetans consider combining the two forms the optimal to ensure good health.

Tibet has about 900 hospitals and clinics, with 7,000 doctors and medical personnel. In Tibet, all people, whether of Tibetan or other nationality, enjoy free medical service.

Potential for Energy Development

No major coal mine or oilfield has been found in Tibet. The 1.2 million-square kilometre region, however, has large tracts of forests that are concentrated in the low warm area. Although Tibetans have traditionally used dung and butter as their sources of fuel and lighting, the area is rich in hydro-power, geothermal energy, solar and wind energy. These newer, more efficient energy forms are now beginning to spread through Tibet as new facilities are built and people become accustomed to their use.

Solar Energy

Perched on the "roof of the world," arid Tibet is bathed in sunshine for more than 3,000 hours a year in most of its area, which explains why its solar energy resources rank second in the world, next only to the Sahara Desert.

Although solar energy has been scientifically used to serve Tibetans only in recent years, people there long ago adopted indigenous methods to benefit from the long hours of direct sunlight. The grandiose Potala Palace, for example, has huge glass French windows on

its top floor, called East and West Sunshine Halls. French windows also have long been used by farmers and herdsmen, and window frames of Tibetan houses are painted black to better absorb the heat.

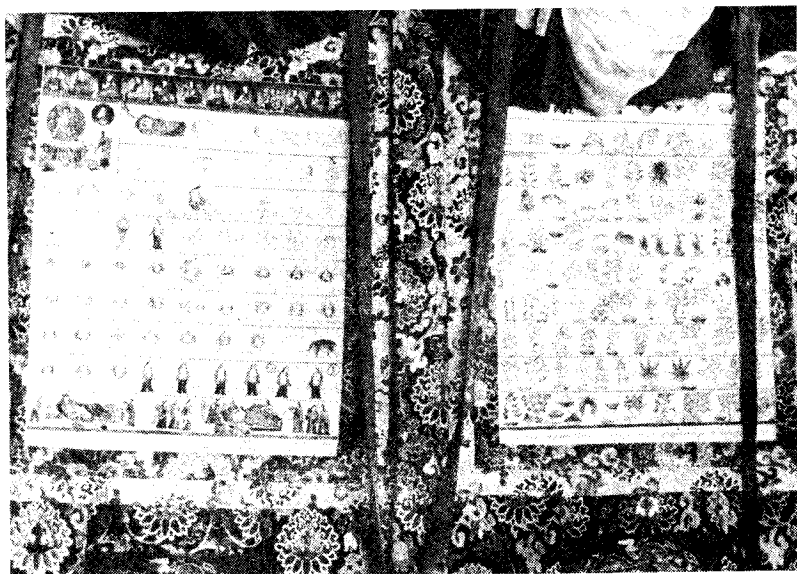
During a visit to the locally famous solar energy village, Jiangga in Duilong Deqing County, I visited Qiongbailabu and his family. I was shown a metal solar energy stove on the house balcony, on which the hostess, after readjusting the focus of the solar blinds, boiled a kettle of water in 15 minutes.

"We used to spend 36 yuan a month on six bags of cow dung," Qiongbailabu said. "Now except on rainy days, we always use the solar energy stove, which is economical. Cooking has also become easier for my wife, too."

Pointing at a solar battery composed of silicon pieces also on the balcony, the host said that after being exposed to the sun for a whole day, the power could be used for two or three evenings.

The Jiangga village was picked by the Solar Energy Research In-

Paintings for medical teaching drawn 250 years ago.



stitute of the Tibetan Autonomous Regional Science Commission to be used in a pilot project aimed at popularizing solar stoves in Tibet. The institute gave each of the 27 households in the village a solar stove, and showed the villagers how to use them.

Institute representatives said that greenhouses were set up in Tibet for vegetable growing in the 1950s and have since become popular. In the 1960s, solar energy bath-houses appeared in Lhasa, and the next decade saw the research and development of the solar energy boilers and stoves. In order to popularize the use of solar stoves, the Solar Energy Research Institute also has recently brought in from other parts of the country 1,500 solar stoves for sale to herdsmen at a 75 percent discount. In Naqu district in northern Tibet, solar energy has been used to heat institutions, schools and hospitals.

Geothermal Power

Tibet is richly endowed with geothermal resources. About 600 geothermal fields have been located. It is estimated that Tibet's geothermal generating capacity will top 800,000 kw.

Tibet's first high-temperature geothermal well was sunk in 1975 at Yangbajain at the foot of the snow-capped Nianqing Tanggula Mountain, which was later expanded into a geothermal power station. Installed with four generators with a combined capacity of 10,000 kw, the Yangbajain Geothermal Power Station has since 1982 supplied Lhasa with some 80 million kwh of electricity. It is now the major station in the Lhasa power grid and has drawn world attention. According to Wu Fangzhi, engineer and director of the station's administration office, the station is one of the United Nations' aid projects. The main generator for the new station was imported from Japan, while its auxiliary equipment came from the United States.

Efforts are being made to study the feasibility of further co-operation with foreign countries.

In addition to the geothermal power station at Yangbajain, construction of another in Langjiu of the Ari Prefecture in western Tibet was begun last year. The Langjiu station's first generator, with a capacity of 1,000 kw, will be put into operation soon.

Wind Energy

Tibet is one of the windiest regions in China, with wind velocity averaging three metres per second for 200 days a year, and the wind in northern Tibet is even stronger. The use of wind energy in Tibet began in 1982. Fifteen wind generators with a capacity of 2,000 w and 210 with a capacity of 100 w were installed in the rural areas in Naqu district in northern Tibet. Three villages there have their electricity generated by the unit.

The Wind Energy Experimentation Centre located in this district is considered a major project of the autonomous region. Upon the completion of its construction, the centre will co-ordinate the selection of the wind energy generators, collection of information and training of technical personnel.

Hydropower

Thanks to the crisscrossing Yarlung Zangbo, the Nujiang, the Lancang and the Jinsha Rivers, plus the many lakes throughout Tibet, the region is blessed with rich water resources. As a result, hydropower exploitation is a top priority in the region's energy construction. Preliminary surveys show that natural water resources in the region reach some 200 million kw, which is about 30 percent of the nation's total water reserves.

During the time of the 13th Dalai Lama (1876-1933), some Tibetan



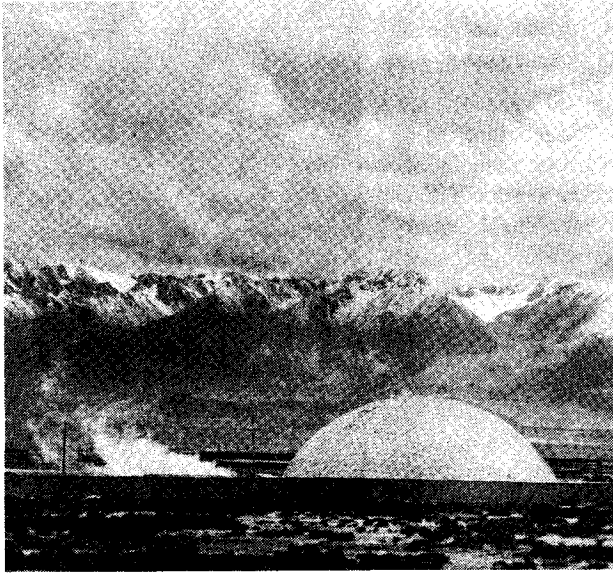
Director Qiangba Chilie.



A patient pleased with the relief acupuncture provided her.



Foreigners visiting the Tibetan Hospital, showing great interest.



Left: The Yangbajain geothermal field. Right: Cooking with a solar stove.

students who were sent to study in Great Britain returned to Tibet with a 125-hp generator and started the region's first hydropower station in 1928. Unfortunately, the small station located in the northern suburbs of Lhasa was destroyed in a devastating flood in 1944.

Additional small hydropower stations mushroomed in Tibet, however, following its peaceful libera-

tion. By the end of June 1985, Tibet had built more than 700 small and medium-sized hydropower stations, with a combined generating capacity of 113,000 kw, or 11 times more than that was available in 1965. The abundant hydro-reserves have essentially guaranteed a supply of electricity to the cities and to one-third of the farming and animal husbandry areas.

Scientific Farming and Breeding

Tibet is culturally backward. To overcome the drawback, modern science and technology have been promoted widely in the region in order to advance its comprehensive development.

Fighting Superstition

The Agricultural Science and Technology Promotion Station in Gyangze County is a national pacesetter in promoting modern farm science and technology and in helping to combat superstitions that can be a hindrance to progress.

According to Wang Yushan, agronomist and the county's deputy-head, peasants in his area

have usually taken a laissez-faire attitude towards insect plagues. In the Buddhist spirit of never killing anything, the peasants would ask a lama chanting sutra instead of having them killed.

In 1979, Wang said, his county was hit by a dry spell and by an increasing pea leave moths. County station officials went to the moth infected area armed with cans of insecticides. The insecticides, which proved effective against the moths, had a positive effect on the peasants, showing them the benefits of such "modern technology."

The predecessor of the Agricultural Science and Technology Promotion Station was an experi-

mental farm, pioneered by Wang himself. A graduate of a secondary agricultural school, Wang moved to Tibet in the early '60s. Over the past 20 years or more, he and his colleagues have conducted quantities of experiments at the 4,000-metre highland station and have chalked up some useful achievements. Wang and his crew successively introduced strong strains of barley, wheat and rape, all of which are suitable for the cold-temperature highland. The research crew also studied the best sowing seasons for various crops and, tested weed-killers, insecticides, chemical fertilizers, and experimented with watering and machine-sowing technology. Through practice the team has guided local cultivation in a progressive direction. In 1975 they harvested 836.5 kg of wheat from each *mu* (equal to one-fifteenth of a hectare) of their experimental fields, a record in the nation. They broke their own record, however, two years later.

Promotion of Farming Technology

The 30-plus staff members of the Gyangze County Agricultural Science and Technology Promotion

Station often works in the surrounding area under technological contracts. The production teams or individual peasants will farm under the station's guidance and merit by increased production. The station, however, will compensate the peasants for any loss of crops cultivated strictly in accordance with their methods.

The No. 1 village in the Changbu Township has 46 hectares of farmland with a previous per-hectare yield of no more than 1,500 kg. The village's production, however, started to increase by 50 percent in 1978 thanks to the technological guidance provided by the agricultural technological promotion station. The grain production of the 120-person village totalled 100 tons in 1984. The villagers, of course, were pleased with the bumper harvest, prompting other production teams to follow their lead.

The station also provides training courses for agrotechnicians. Through examinations, 243 students in Gyangze County have become qualified agrotechnicians.

Farming in a scientific way.



Tibet is one of the five major pastoral areas in China. On its 80 million-hectare grassland live yaks, Tibetan sheep, goat, horses and mules. Here the age-old breeding method of relying on heaven for one's progress is now beginning to change.

Pastoral Construction

The Grassland Management Station in Dangxiong County, with a staff of 15, teaches herdsmen to protect, grow and improve their grasslands. Station head, Qiangba Dawa, 39, a Tibetan, is a graduate of the Inner Mongolian University where he majored in grassland technology.

Qiangba Dawa showed us an experimental plot seeded with different strains of grass and skirted by an irrigation ditch. After a few years of experiment, the station head said, high-yielding and highly nutritious grass had begun to be raised in the experimental plot. How to tide the peasants over during the winter, however, remains a problem. According to Qiangba Dawa, the best strain of grass is a local breed, which has

been planted on 300 hectares of grassland. Handicapped by inadequate irrigation system, however, this strain has not yet become popular.

Improving Breeds

On the pastureland in Dangxiong, which is known as the "green corridor" about 180 kilometres north of Lhasa, artificial insemination is used to breed yaks. Poor yak health is a major headache for local herdsmen. To solve the problem, with the help of local herdsmen, Zhang Xiong, a breeding specialist from the Dangxiong Livestock Farm, set out to improve the quality of the yaks. In August and September last year Zhang inseminated with improved sperm 60 female yaks. The yaks gave birth to 32 strong and adaptable yaks early this year. Efforts to improve the breeds of other animals have also paid off in other parts of Tibet. For instance, local oxen were inseminated with frozen sperm of the Ximentaer, the Bingzhou and Beijing black-and-white bulls. Their offspring now produce twice as much milk as their mothers and are 70 percent heavier. The Lhasa white hen, a hybrid of Leghorn and local chicken, are highly resistant to disease and lay more than 200 eggs a year per hen. The fine breed has been honoured with awards from the State Science and Technology Commission.

Training the Talented

Located along the Linzi Niyang River, the Tibetan Agricultural and Animal Husbandry College, built in 1971 and a branch of the Tibetan Nationalities Institute until 1978, has an animal husbandry and veterinary department and agriculture, forestry, water conservation, electricity and personnel training departments. Its 1,500 graduates are now active in the rural areas and on pastureland, contributing to the reconstruction of agriculture and animal husbandry in Tibet. □

'Chinese Now Spoken Here'...

— A Report From the 1st International Symposium on Teaching Chinese
As a Foreign Language

by **WEI LIMING**
Our Correspondent

IN the spring of 1953, a 20-year-old Austrian student travelled from the Tirol to Venice to fulfil what was then a very peculiar dream — he wanted to learn Chinese. Luckily, Otto Ladstatter found an ethnic Chinese tutor at Venice University, and thus became the only Austrian scholar of his time to take up this difficult and challenging language.

Now 52, Ladstatter is still at Venice University, as director of its Chinese Language Research Institute. "Compared with the 1950s, we have better facilities for students learning Chinese now," he noted.

Chinese specialties have been instituted in universities and colleges in more than 50 countries and regions. In some places, Chinese has been added to primary school or high school curricula. In China itself, more than 60 universities and colleges have language classes for foreign students, giving clear indication that Chinese language studies are booming since the country opened its doors to the outside world. In the past, when few China-related jobs were available, people studied the Asian language out of an admiration for ancient Chinese culture and curiosity about that mysterious land. With the rise of prospects for cultural and economic contacts with China, however, many countries now feel they must make up for a shortage of Chinese speakers.

This development has created a new demand for China specialists, scholars and teachers. For educators, it has also raised questions over how to expand enrolment, train teachers of Chinese, improve the quality of teaching, perfect teaching methods, compile materials and conduct co-operative language programmes.

It was against this background that 260 Chinese and foreign scholars recently gathered in Beijing to convene the First International Symposium on Teaching Chinese As a Foreign Language. The participants came from 20 countries — Australia, Austria, Belgium, Bulgaria, Korean Democratic People's Republic, Denmark, France, Czechoslovakia, Federal Republic of Germany, Malaysia, the United States, German Democratic Republic, Japan, Thailand, Singapore, New Zealand, Italy, Indonesia, the Great Britain and China — as well as from Hong-kong.

Craze for Chinese

One day in 1982, Dr. Masaru Koshimizu, a professor at the Tokyo Foreign Languages University, was startled to find that the number of students attending his Chinese class had suddenly risen to some 430. He found that a similar rush had also hit his department's other Chinese classes. This apparent overnight craze for Chinese had caught the teachers unprepared. What were they to do with all those students? "Well, I ac-

cepted all of them," said Koshimizu with a smile.

According to Koshimizu, who hosted a Chinese class on Tokyo TV from 1975-83, more and more Japanese have begun studying the language of their neighbour. More than 100,000 students are now in formal courses, while about 900,000 more follow the lessons broadcast on radio or TV. The Chinese text books he compiled began jumping off the shelves at a rate of over one hundred thousand copies a month, Koshimizu said.

Since 1983, the Japan-China Friendship Association has held an annual Chinese Lecture Competition. Koshimizu, who helps judge the competition, noted that it draws more participants than any other language contest. Most are housewives. "These housewives have turned out to be the best speakers," he added. "This shows the extensive scale of the Chinese lesson craze. Many people believe they will have a better understanding of Japanese culture if they study Chinese."

Sandra Mantici of the Oriental Institute in Milan, Italy, said with great pride that her country was the first in the Occident to teach Chinese. Its first class was held when the Yuan Dynasty (1271-1368) came to power in China. "More and more people have begun studying Chinese since the 70s," the Italian scholar added.

According to Dr. Michael Sawyer, director of the Modern Language Department of the Canberra

Higher Education Institute and president of the Australian Association of the Chinese Teachers, Chinese language courses are available in eight Australian Universities, two colleges and, in Richmond, in two primary schools.

Chinese is also taught in 186 universities and colleges in the United States, attracting about some 10,000 students. Extensive programmes are underway in France, Britain and Canada. South Korea spent US\$810,000 on the compilation of a Chinese dictionary, the largest of its kind in the world. The project involved 130 specialists and lasted 10 years. Since the 1970s, Singapore has been popularizing Mandarin Chinese by encouraging the study of Chinese phonetic alphabets. "Almost every day people from big companies phone to ask about short-cuts for learning to speak Chinese," said Lin Shan, who represented the island nation at the conference.

Academic Exchanges

The symposium received about 180 papers, some of which were read during the forum. The participants also spoke on their own

experiences gained in teaching Chinese.

The development of Chinese teaching and learning urgently needs a great deal of new, more lively teaching materials, particularly audio-visual aids. The older teaching methods were often outdated, said Dr. William H. Baxter of Michigan University. "I learnt how to say 'proletariat' before I could say 'restrooms,'" he added.

Almost all the participants were involved in developing teaching materials suitable for students in their own countries. The most popular book on spoken Chinese turned out to be *About China*, compiled jointly by Beijing University, Beijing Teachers' University, the Beijing Languages Institute and Wellesley College of the United States.

Chinese characters are difficult to learn, said Dr. Timothy Light, director of the Oriental Culture and Languages Department at New York's Columbia University, and many American students find it hard to follow the class. Columbia students accumulate a pile of books half a metre high before

completing their Chinese courses, he noted. "These materials contain every lecture their teacher gives, supported by tapes. In this way, the students are able to study and review the lessons by themselves."

In Singapore, where ethnic Chinese account for 76 percent of the population, English and Chinese are compulsory in primary schools for Chinese children. To better promote primary Chinese education, the nation's Ministry of Education in 1974 set up a group to oversee textbook compilation. It also devised ways to train students systematically in speaking and writing. Educational TV programmes were shown twice a week to arouse local interest in Chinese. A survey made in 1982 showed that the new teaching aids are 40 percent more efficient than the old ones.

During the Beijing symposium, the participants also probed the difficulties in studying Chinese posed by their own mother tongues or from the angle of philology. Many Japanese thought it would be easy to learn Chinese since their own language uses so many Chinese characters, Koshimizu said. In fact, Chinese and Japanese characters are different not only in pronunciation but in meaning. Soon after they begin their studies, many students found it hard to relearn characters they thought they had already "mastered." In compiling future textbooks, he said, special attention should be paid to differentiating between Chinese characters and Japanese.

For English-speaking students, incorrect sentence structure is a major problem, added a scholar from Australia.

The participants also discussed how to use modern teaching aids in Chinese. The 72-year-old Dr. Wang Fangyu, a senior US Sinologist and professor of the Seton Hall University, suggested that in some countries computers could be

The symposium in session.



used alongside other audio-visual aids such as TV and tape recorders. In spite of the impressive word storage capacity of the computers, the machines still have problems in making sentences, he added.

When asked about differences in Chinese education between the mainland and Taiwan, Wang said Taiwan impressed him with the flexibility of its teaching methods, while mainland China appeared more accomplished in linguistic theory.

Another interesting topic widely discussed at the symposium was how to test the students' mastery of Chinese. Liu Xun from the Beijing Languages Institute elaborated in his report the theory that lies behind how to design test papers and the experiments the institute has conducted.

Dr. Li Yingzhe, director of the East-West Languages Department of the US Hawaii University, also reported the standard of the United States adopts in testing the students who study Chinese. The criterion, Dr. Li said, is that whether a student can express his mind in the best understandable and acceptable structure, whether he or she can use the right intonation in different occasions and on different topics.

Dr. Bill Jenner from Britain hoped the Beijing Languages Institute will be able to work out an authoritative test paper of Chinese for foreign students. Liu Xun readily accepted this and promised to complete the project in two years.

Present at the symposium were Chinese linguists Wang Li and Lu Shuxiang, along with more than 100 language teachers.

Chinese courses have been available for overseas students since the



Panel discussions.

1950s at the Beijing Languages Institute, whose successes in this field were acclaimed by the participants.

There are now about 1,000 foreigners studying there. Although the institute has assembled more than 300 books and other teaching materials, they are not often used abroad due to poor distribution. Dr. Timothy Light from the United States said that he was amazed to find so many textbooks and reference materials had been printed in China.

Suggestions

Proposals for the establishment of a world Chinese language teachers association or a world Chinese language education research association, won the endorsement of all participating in the Beijing symposium. The organization will help concentrate efforts towards co-operation in this field, they agreed, adding that the world Chinese Language Teaching Research Institute under the China Education Association and the Beijing Languages Institute should take the lead in setting up the associations.

The participants also suggested

setting up a centre to train Chinese language teachers and compile teaching materials for students at various levels. Thus far, representatives from Federal Republic of Germany, the United States, Hong-kong and Singapore have asked the Beijing Languages Institute for teaching aids adapted to their local conditions.

Also at the request of the delegates, the Beijing Languages Institute will set up a Chinese language information centre geared to provide foreign teachers with prompt aid. □



CORRECTIONS: In issue No. 37, page 19, left-hand column, third paragraph, line 10 should read "in 1960, Danzeng Jiacao went home." In our last issue, on p. 31, the caption of the photograph of the coin should have read "its diameter: 70 mm. . . ."

If I Were Mayor

from "LIAO WANG"
(Outlook Weekly)

IN last March, Guangzhou waged a campaign "If I Were Mayor of Guangzhou." Mayor Ye Xuanping published an article on this matter, in which he said, "All the leaders should listen to criticism, no matter how it is irritating to the ear, and encourage people to offer proposals on government work."

The activity aroused the interests of the local residents, even overseas Chinese, some of whom drafted "mayor's order," while others visited units to offer suggestions, calling themselves "one-hour mayors."

The youngest among the "mayors" was a sixth-grade student. The pupil wrote that if he were mayor, he would improve the contents of all the billboards in the streets, place them in order and make Guangzhou more beautiful.

One-third of the suggestions were on traffic. Guangzhou has 90,000 automobiles, 40,000 motor bikes and 1,500,000 bicycles. In addition, some 30,000 motor vehicles from other cities drive into the city each day. As a result, the traffic is so crowded that the situation mandates immediate attention.

On April 4, the city government invited 18 "mayors" to its office and listened to their ideas for solving the traffic problems. The participants worked out three regulations for strollers, bicycles and motorbikes on the basis of some related laws.

In five months, 1,740 would-be-mayors wrote 1,535 letters, and offered 2,453 proposals on city management. Some have been adopted and carried out, and some others have been put on the city governmental agenda.

Guangzhou's mayor Ye praised the participants as "mayors without seals" and wrote down in his own name on the memorial cards given to these "mayors" "Thank you, citizen."

Keep the Fine Traditions

from "GONGREN RIBAO"
(Workers' Daily)

THE spirit of "don't be hungry for fame and desire" was considered a virtue in ancient China. Confucius (551-479BC) devoted all his life to writing while leading a hard and wandering life. Tao Qian (372-427), a great poet in the Eastern Jin Dynasty, gave up his title for a life of farming, because he "refused to surrender for five *dou* of grain," and began to live a poor but honest and upright life. Liu Yuxi (772-842) wrote *On a Shabby Room*, depicting his sense of pride of his poor material life that was rich in spirit. The article has been lauded for generations.

Today, people have every reason to lead a good life. This is the purpose of revolution. When we are discussing the modern ways of life, however, we should

not neglect the topic on Chinese fine traditions.

Kind parents and devoted children. To support one's parents is the duty of children. This is a traditional virtue of the Chinese nation and has brought about the fundamental family structure—three generations under one roof. This structure, people believe, has some good points: First, parents will not feel lonely; second, parents can share some of the household chores with their children; third, children have more chances to show their filial feelings to their parents and bridge the gap between the old and the young.

Of course, we should not come to a conclusion arbitrarily that it is good to have more traditional extended family or to encourage more nuclear family. Today, it is impossible to get all the family members to live together. People believe that the generation gap can be filled and the feelings of two generations can be bridged, that the old and the young can live harmoniously as long as the old understand the youths, while the young people care about their parents.

Be polite and a good neighbour. China is crowned as a nation of courtesy and righteousness, encouraging people to respect others.

Japan imported and developed China's Confucianism and took advantage of the doctrine on harmonizing family relations, the relations between labourers and capitalists, and between friends. This is one of the major reasons for Japan's economic development.

Good relations between neighbours stem from politeness. Two thousand years ago, it was a custom to invite new neighbours to one's home when one moved to another place. Good neighbours always take care of each other. They feel safer when they are out

and do not need to worry about their family.

To remain devoted in old age. It is a Chinese custom to say to newly-weds "may you be happy, and remain devoted to each other in your old age." This is the ideal way for a couple to live.

of producing goods such as beer as well as, if not better than other countries. Therefore, it is wrong to spend money in pursuit of foreign expertise, when that expertise can be found in China.

Response to Price Reform

from "JINGJI RIBAO"
(Economic Daily)

MOST people responding to a survey in which they were asked their opinions of China's recently instituted price reform said they thought the reform would help improve living standards in China.

About 70 percent of the respondents agreed with the statement "the price reform will result in the improvement of the living standards," while 8 percent disagreed with the statement and about 21 percent said they didn't know.

The survey, which was administered in 27 counties and cities in Beijing and Henan, Zhejiang, Hunan and Anhui Provinces, gathered opinions from 2,409

people.

To the question "What is the purpose of the price reform?" 74.3 percent of the people answered, "to enliven the economy;" 16.9 percent said they did not know; and 7.1 percent said the reason for the reform was "to make money for the country."

About 77 percent of those questioned said the reform will help boost the country's economy while about 18 percent said they didn't know if the reform would help the country's financial situation. Almost 4 percent said the reform would not boost the economy.

When asked if they thought the reform would end only in higher prices, 35.2 percent of the people said yes, while 59.4 percent said no.

Monkeys Took Revenge

from "NONGMIN RIBAO"
(Peasant Daily)

ONE day, Lan Yungeng, a peasant of Jucun Village in Quzhou City, Zhejiang Province, saw a band of monkeys jumping happily from one tree to another. He threw stones at them for his perverse pleasure.

The next day when Lan was out, an old monkey led all the younger ones to stage a counter offensive. The monkeys stole Lan's dozens of chickens, brought them to the forest and plucked them. Then the monkeys returned them. As Lan came back, he found all his chickens bleedings. He looked up at the monkeys in the trees and saw them smiling at him. He suddenly knew he had suffered at the hands of these animals.

The next day, more than 100 monkeys made another attack, pulling up all Lan's one hectare of China fir saplings. Lan had to replant the saplings. Unexpectedly, as he left, the monkeys damaged them in the same way. Lan could do nothing but complain.

Importation and Superstition

from "RENMIN RIBAO"
(People's Daily)

A NEW superstition has arisen. And if allowed to continue, that superstition could be an economic drain to hinder China's economic advancement. That belief says all foreign-made products are of higher quality than goods made in China. That assumption is erroneous, no good to maintain-

ing national self-respect and confidence.

Companies have spent money in the pursuit of that "foreign excellence" and have later learnt that the product or products could be just as easily and as well manufactured in China.

It would be wrong to say everything made in China is better than those made abroad. This is not true either. But, China is capable



Bright Prospects for Offshore Oil

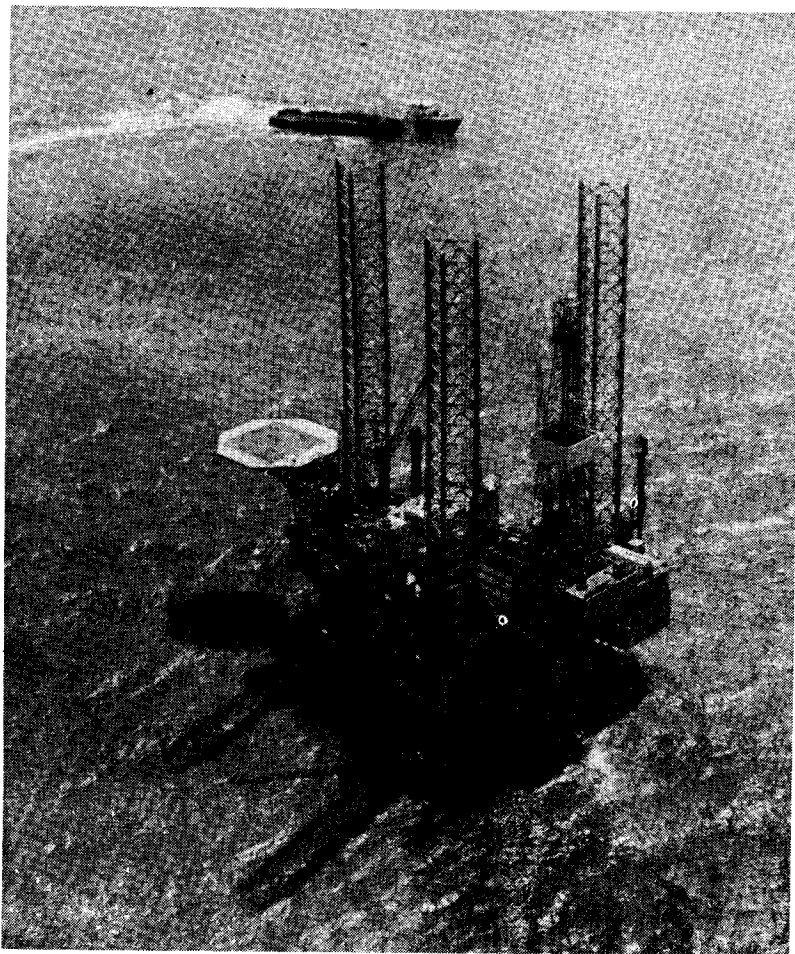
"New oil reserves have been discovered and some new oilfields have started operation, while the oil wells in the Chengbei Oilfield, a Sino-Japanese joint venture, will begin pumping its first batches this month," said Qin Wencai, general manager of the China National Offshore Oil Corporation, in an interview with *Beijing Review*. Qin also said: "Oil is expected to be recovered at the 'Wei' 10-3 oilfield in the Beibu Gulf of the South China Sea in the second half of 1986, and new

offshore gas and oil wells are expected to go on stream each year in the days to come."

Qin said China started exploring and extracting its offshore oil with foreign oil companies in 1979. In May 1980, China signed five oil co-operative contracts with oil companies from Japan, France and the United States, and in 1982 opened the first round of bidding for offshore oil co-operation with foreign countries.

China has now signed 23 con-

The "Bohai No. 10" platform of the Bohai Oil Company operating in the South Yellow Sea area.



tracts with 32 oil companies from 12 countries on the joint exploration and exploitation of its offshore oil. The contracted blocks cover the Bohai Sea, South Yellow Sea Basin, the Zhujiang (Pearl) River Mouth Basin of the South China Sea, the Beibu Gulf and the Yingge Sea. One hundred exploratory and 59 producing wells have been drilled, and oil and gas found in 21 formations. A number of high-yield oil and natural gas wells have also been drilled, which has all put China among the top of list of the world's oil recovering nations.

Compared with some foreign countries, China's offshore exploration is still in its infant stage, but its prospects for oil production are bright. Britain, for example, began its oil exploration in the North Sea in 1964 and drilled 205 exploratory wells over an area of 240,000 square kilometres, one well for every 1,200 square kilometres. It was not until 1970 that it discovered large oilfields. China, in comparison, drilled 34 exploratory wells in two years over an area of 150,000 square kilometres in the Zhujiang River Mouth Basin, one well for every 4,400 square kilometres. Five oil- and gas-bearing structures were discovered there. More than 500 oil-bearing structures have also been discovered in China's continental shelf, but 80 percent of these structures have not been drilled. This fact shows that China is teeming with offshore oil resources.

China is now holding its second round of offshore oil bidding, in which 23 foreign oil companies have participated. It is expected that a number of oil contracts will be concluded by the end of this year. Although oil prices have dropped on the world market, foreign oil companies are still in-

terested in the exploration and development of China offshore oil resources.

To encourage foreign oil companies to step up their exploitation of China's small and medium-sized oilfields, the China National Offshore Oil Corp. has adopted some flexible measures, including one that allows for a block's expansion if the contracted area has proven to be dry. It is stipulated during the second round of bidding that if an oilfield produces less than 1 million tons of crude oil a year, charges for the use of the mining area will be exempted.

Textile Trade Grows Apace

Since the beginning of this year, the China National Textiles Import and Export Corporation has made rapid progress in signing contracts with foreign countries. The corporation has now signed export contracts valued at 1,114 million Swiss francs (about US\$535 million) with businesses from various countries, which accounts for 83 percent of the corporation's 1985 contract value.

In recent years, China has stepped up its textile trade with the Soviet Union, Eastern Europe and Cuba. China's textile imports and exports will be valued at about 1,464 million Swiss francs this year. Of this, exports will total 1,338 million Swiss francs, 86.1 percent increase over 1984. Imports are expected to reach 68.09 million Swiss francs, a 16.6 percent increase over the previous year. The Soviet Union, Poland, Hungary, Czechoslovakia and the German Democratic Republic are among the countries which have markedly increased their imports of Chinese textiles.

In order to balance the exchange of goods, the corporation exported 55 million Swiss francs worth

of cotton cloth, knitwear, towels and bath towels to other countries while importing the equal value of wool-polyester blended fabrics, chemical fibres, wool for overcoats and artificial wool and furs from Poland and the German Democratic Republic in the first half of this year.

Hainan Holds on To Open Policy

Despite the auto resale racket that was recently exposed, the island's policy for absorbing foreign investment will not change.

Hainan's economic and trade relations with foreign countries have been developing normally. In the first half of this year, local officials signed with foreign firms 48 contracts worth US\$48 million in overseas investment. In addition, the volume of imports and exports on Hainan amounted to US\$151 million from January to June 1985.

Since the central government decided in April 1983 that Hainan, China's second largest island, should accelerate its development and construction, the island has completed 15 key projects, including the expansion of its airport, the construction of wharfs, and telecommunications, tourist and transportation facilities. Eight more key projects are expected to be completed this year.

A number of Chinese-foreign joint ventures and industrial enterprises financed by Hainan and other cities and provinces have been established, while some old enterprises have also been revamped. These efforts enabled Hainan's industrial output value to top 1,000 million yuan in 1984, an increase of 29.9 percent over the year before. Earnings from exports exceeded US\$50 million for the first time.

Meng Qingping, a newly promoted cadre of the Hainan government, said that Hainan will, as always, continue to welcome overseas Chinese, compatriots from Hongkong and Macao and businessmen of other countries to exploit Hainan's offshore and land oil resources and develop import and export trade and the tourist industry.

Mitsubishi Exports Batches of 'Lemons'

Serious defects have been discovered on model FP 418 Mitsubishi trucks, which were imported from Japan in the fourth quarter of last year. Chinese buyers of these inferior Japanese trucks are demanding compensation.

Quality problems in all the 31 Japanese trucks, which were bought by the Xinjiang Cereals and Oil Transport Company and put into service last December and April this year, have been reported. The problems include cracked chassis, poor tires, windshields that crack, loose rivets and gearbox and air-conditioners malfunctions. Although Mitsubishi has sent technicians to examine and repair some of the trucks, their help has not solved the problem. The truck owners have had to stop using their trucks, and have suffered heavy economic losses.

The Zhejiang Provincial Grain Bureau has since last October purchased 65 8-ton FP 418 NL trucks in four separate batches. Chassis crevices have been spotted on 13 trucks and quality problems are reported on 24 other trucks. Moreover, buyers from Jiangsu, Liaoning, Jilin, Shanxi and Hubei provinces have also discovered similar defects.

China ordered 5,800 Mitsubishi trucks, 5,000 of which have already been shipped to China.

Soviet Opera Adapted in Beijing



An opera set in the Soviet Union during World War II, *Dawn is Quiet Here*, is being staged in Beijing by the Opera Troupe of the Chinese People's Liberation Army General Political Department.

Composed by K. Morchanov, the opera contrasts the peaceful childhoods of five soldiers against the suffering the war brought to the Soviet people.

The leading male role is played by 28-year-old baritone Fu Haijing, who won the Benson and Hedges Gold Award for Singers in London in 1983 and then took further honours at the First International Marjam Helin Vocal Competition in Helsinki last year. Though an accomplished singer of Chinese and foreign lyrics, Fu was not familiar with Russian music before he joined the cast of *Dawn*.

For Fu, then, the opera is a risk and one in which he succeeds. He creates a vivid characterization of the Soviet peasant-turned soldier that manages to be at once flow-

ing, solemn, simple and vigorous.

Last summer, when Fu visited the Soviet Union with a troupe of Chinese singers and dancers, he showed much interest in the opera and asked his Soviet counterpart if he could provide a copy of the score. To his pleasure, he was given a piano score.

Last May, his Soviet friend presented the troupe a complete copy of the opera's orchestral score and offered to help them rehearse the work.

The Chinese adaptation has been well-received by Beijing audiences already familiar with the book and movie of the play, which have long been popular in China.

The Chinese Central Television Station and the Beijing Television Station are also showing *The Second Echelon*, a movie describing the industrial reform of the Soviet Union, and *Junior Alexander*, another Soviet movie set in World War II.

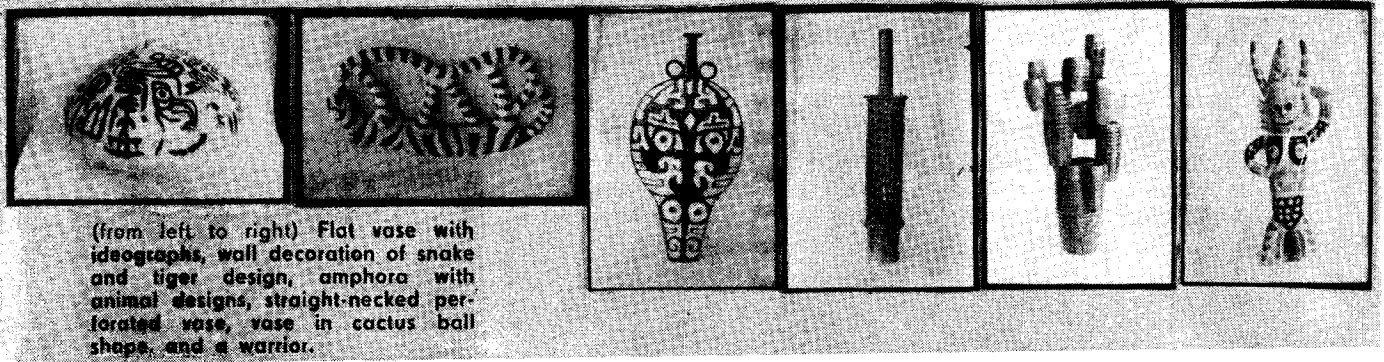
A dozen more Soviet movies including *The Battle of Stalingrad* and *A Great Turning Point* are also on view throughout the country.

Shiwan's Ceramics In New Guises

As people stepped into the hall of the Shiwan modern ceramics exhibition, they thought the exhibit pieces were cultural relics. When they looked closer, however, the visitors found that what they were seeing was new porcelain ware — vases, jars, lamps and wall decorations — that only resembled ancient works in their colours, shapes and designs.

The exhibition, which ended in Beijing in late July, showed 100 pieces by three potters, Mei Wending, Zeng Li and Zeng Peng. The works of the three artists, two of whom — the Zengs — are brothers, and whose styles are distinctive and new, indicate the development of a new trend in Shiwan traditional ceramics. "They have freed themselves from the popular traditional style of Shiwan porcelain arts," said Liu Kaiqu, president of the Chinese Art Gallery. In so doing the artists have emphasized techniques that date back 3,000 years.

Located in the southwest part of Foshan, Guangdong Province, Shiwan has been a noted porcelain producer for nearly 800 years. Compared with Jingdezhen, the most famous porcelain producing centre for more than 1,000 years, Shiwan's clay is rougher, making it unfit for exquisite dining- or tea-sets, but is best for making figurines, animals and other decorative articles.



(from left to right) Flat vase with ideographs, wall decoration of snake and tiger design, amphora with animal designs, straight-necked perforated vase, vase in cactus ball shape, and a warrior.

Mei and the Zeng brothers have worked for years at developing their ceramic techniques. The three, however, continued to play up the more traditional styles instead of imitating the Western styles, as many other artists had been doing.

Mei Wengding's amphora with animal designs is typical of much of his work. In this piece, one can see that Mei "borrowed" the bronze patterns from the Shang and Western Zhou dynasties (c.1600-771BC) and incorporated them into his own work. The recreation in the amphora is classic and elegant and has retained the severe and mysterious air of the bronze ware that was used in sacrificial ceremonies in the Shang Dynasty.

Because Mei has a good command of painting and calligraphy, ideographs and seal characters have become the major decorative pattern in his works, such as in the flat vase with ideographs, giving his pieces a typically oriental style and the charm of ancient culture.

Zeng Li's works are often in dark blues and reddish browns and appear thick and hard as metal, such as the straight-necked perforated vase. Zeng used the shape of a cactus and created a unique vase in cactus ball shape, which is entirely different from the traditional styles.

Zeng Peng is the youngest of the three artists, and is a master

of hyperbole and changing shapes. Zeng successfully uses animal shapes in his spectacular piece wall decoration of snake and tiger design. Also attuned to the traditional styles, Zeng created his rendition of the pottery warriors from the Tang Dynasty (618-907).

Lin Yong, a well-known painter who works at the Guangdong Art Studio, spoke for many of the exhibit's viewers when he said, "I have seen the artists' souls and feelings in their works. It is hard to find much art that reflects the artists' ideas and feelings, for the individual style is not easy to bring out. Perhaps some viewers do not appreciate the exhibit, maybe they even hate it. But, I think if art can get people so angry or so excited, it is socially beneficial."

The three artists have produced nearly 600 works in one year and have had shows in Guangdong and Hongkong.



A Pitiful Plaything and Other Essays

(Panda Books)
by Li Guangtian

Most of these essays by Li Guangtian were written in the 1930s or 40s. A poet and a humanist, he gives authentic depictions of the grinding poverty and simple pleasures of pedlars, carters, fishermen, pilgrims and beggars. A poor actress, a landlord's concubine, goes out of her mind when she fails to bear a son; a peasant sells his land and cow to buy a bride, only to have her escape on his wedding night. These and other tragedies of village life are presented sympathetically but with no hint of sentimentality, enriching understanding of old Chinese society.

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Women's Soccer in China



Players from China's Guangxi team and the Singapore team battling it out at the International Women's Football Invitational Tournament held in Guangzhou.

Although women's soccer has been around in China off and on for more than 2,000 years, the sport has only recently become a popular event here.

Played with a leather ball that somewhat resembled a soccer ball during the Western Han Dynasty (206BC-24AD), women played the game for the imperial court. Since then the sport flourished in China until the Qing Dynasty (1644-1911) when its development was arrested by the practice of binding women's feet.

The contemporary version of women's soccer began to appear in China in the 1970s, and its popularity has grown steadily. In 1981 China held its first women's soccer invitational tournament in Yunnan Province, in which 11 provincial teams participated. In 1982 Beijing played host to the National Women's Football Invitational Tournament. Since then a variety of competitions have been held between China's women's soccer teams. Among those tournaments have been the 1983 Paeon Cup in Shanghai, the

Gold Cup in Tianjin and the 1984 Hundred Flowers Cup in Shenyang.

China's best teams are those from Liaoning, Guangxi, Tianjin and Shaanxi. A top-notch centre forward, Dong Qiuyan, 20, from Anshan City, scored and assisted with 15 goals at the 1983 International Women's Football Invitational Tournament in Guangzhou and was awarded the prize for best player.

Despite its achievements, women's soccer in China still has a long way to go before it can hold its own against the world's best players. Training younger players and making soccer part of the women's sports curriculum in high schools and grade schools would help promote and advance the sport in China.

Cup Sought by Minority Booters

Tibet struck for top honours in China's National Unity Cup soccer

tournament, held in the southwest city of Guiyang in August. Eight teams from 13 ethnic groups took part, including Mongolian, Hui, Zhuang, Uygur, Korean and Tibetan sides.

The tournament, first held in 1983, is aimed at bringing China's minorities together in friendly competition.

None of the eight teams finished the Unity Cup undefeated.

Selected Stories of Gu Hua

(Panda Books)

Four new novelettes by Gu Hua: "Pagoda Ridge," "The Log Cabin Overgrown With Creepers," "It Happened in South Bay" and "Ninety-Nine Mounds." The author writes with great feeling about the life of peasants in a remote mountainous area of Hunan province and their sufferings during the chaotic decade, and creates many moving and memorable characters.

262 pages 18 x 11 cm Paper cover

Published by Chinese Literature Press

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Archaeological Findings and Studies

"China's golden age of archaeology is right around the corner," predicted Guo Moruo (1892-1978), a well-known writer and archaeologist, in 1930 when China had just begun its archaeological research and had published a small number of booklets on its achievements in the area.

The golden age Guo Moruo spoke of arrived following the founding of New China in 1949. *Archaeological Findings and Studies in New China* (in Chinese), edited by the Archaeological Institute under the Chinese Academy of Social Sciences and published by the Cultural Relics Publishing House, records the achievements of 30 years of that age from 1949 to 1979. *Archaeological Findings* has illustrations of the earliest known examples of Chinese characters, which were found on pieces of bone, called "oracle bones," in the Yin ruins in northern Henan Province and which date back to the Shang Dynasty (c. 1600-1100BC). The book also has examples of bone inscriptions from the Western Zhou Dynasty (c. 1100-771BC), which were discovered in Qishan, Shaanxi Province. From the inscription on a piece of bronze ware uncovered in Qishan, one can learn about the changes of the land system in the Western Zhou Dynasty.

Before liberation, only a few sites of the Paleolithic Age had been located. Since the founding of New China, Paleolithic Age sites have been discovered in nearly every province and autonomous region, with the exception of Fujian and Xinjiang. Thanks to these findings, the archaeologists have been able to chronicle these sites

of the remote past.

The book also traces the origins of human life in China, affirming that the Chinese lived in this land as early as 700,000 years to 800,000 years ago.

The Neolithic Age chapter of the book provides a historical outlines of the primitive clan society in China, and analyses the physiological features of Neolithic Age man as well as his habits and customs.

Prior to 1949 China unearthed some relics from the Neolithic Age that included articles from the Yangshao and Longshan. Cultures on the middle and lower reaches of the Huanghe (Yellow) River. The exact origins and distribution of these two cultures, however, have not been verified. Since the founding of New China, about 7,000 cultural sites of every stage of the Neolithic Age have been found throughout the country. Among the better-known sites are the Xinkailiu site in Heilongjiang Province and the Xinle site in Liaoning Province, both in northeast China, the Astana site in northwest China's Xinjiang Uygur Autonomous Region, the Mencun site in north China's Inner Mongolia, the Karuo site in southwest China's Tibet Autonomous Region, the Tanshishan site in southeast China's Fujian Province and the Shixia site in south China's Guangdong Province.

The fruitful archaeological study of the dynasties has helped contemporary society to understand the value of ancient Chinese culture. The book chronicles the achievements of every dynasty in three parts — capital sites, ancient tombs and other subjects. The sec-

tion on capital sites reflects the rise and fall of the slave system, the economy of the feudal society and the unique ancient architecture; while the part on ancient tombs explains the rigid estate system and the life of the people of different classes and strata. The part devoted to other subjects demonstrates the richness of the culture of different dynasties, such as the oracle bone inscriptions of the Yin ruins, the bronzes of the Shang and Western Zhou Dynasties, metal coins of the Eastern Zhou Dynasty (770-221BC), the bamboo slips of the Qin (221-206BC) and Han (206 BC-220AD) Dynasties, the stone reliefs, the brick carvings and the metallurgical, textile and paper-making techniques of the Han Dynasty and the cave arts of the Wei (220-265) and Jin (265-420) Dynasties.

Archaeological Findings can provide people interested in economics, social history and fine arts, as well as in science and technique with important and worthwhile materials on part of man's history in China.

— Wen Yi



ART PAGE

Sculptures by Chen Daotan

Born in Wuhan, Hubei Province in 1919, sculptor Chen Daotan now works in the Shanghai Oil Painting and Sculpture Studio. He becomes known for his simple, elegant, vivid and lyrical pieces. Despite his success, the artist constantly tries to improve his skills.



Huang Daopo, an ancient
Textile Technician.



A Boy.



A Girl.



Two Resistance War Militia.

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