

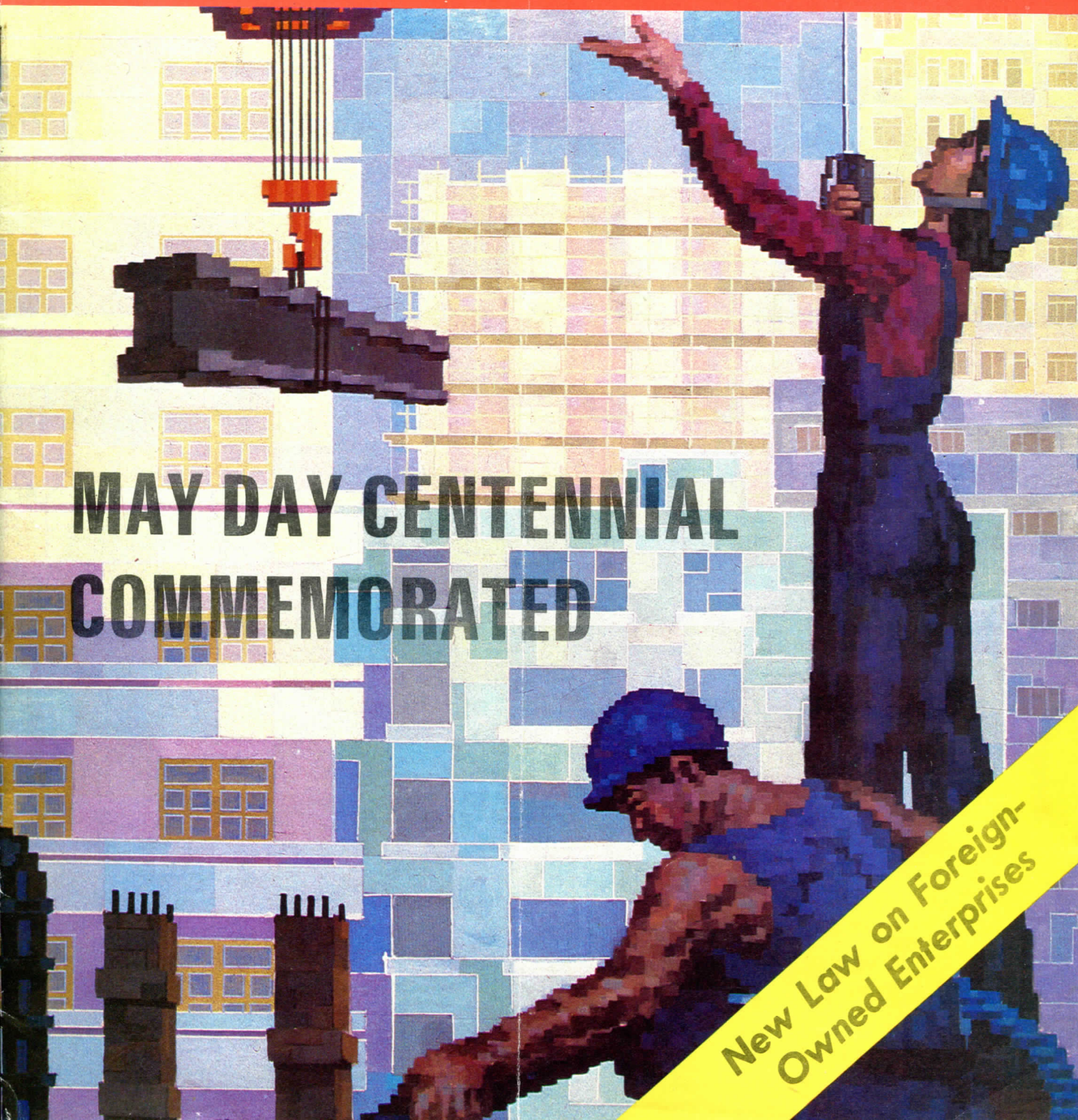
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MAY DAY CENTENNIAL COMMÉMORATED

New Law on Foreign-
Owned Enterprises

Liaohe Oilfield

Located in Liaoning Province, the Liaohe Oilfield is bounded by Shenyang to the north and Jinzhou to the south. It is China's fourth oilfield, and in 1985, its total output exceeded 9 million tons.

Photos by Xiao Ye

Oil-workers reinforcing a well.

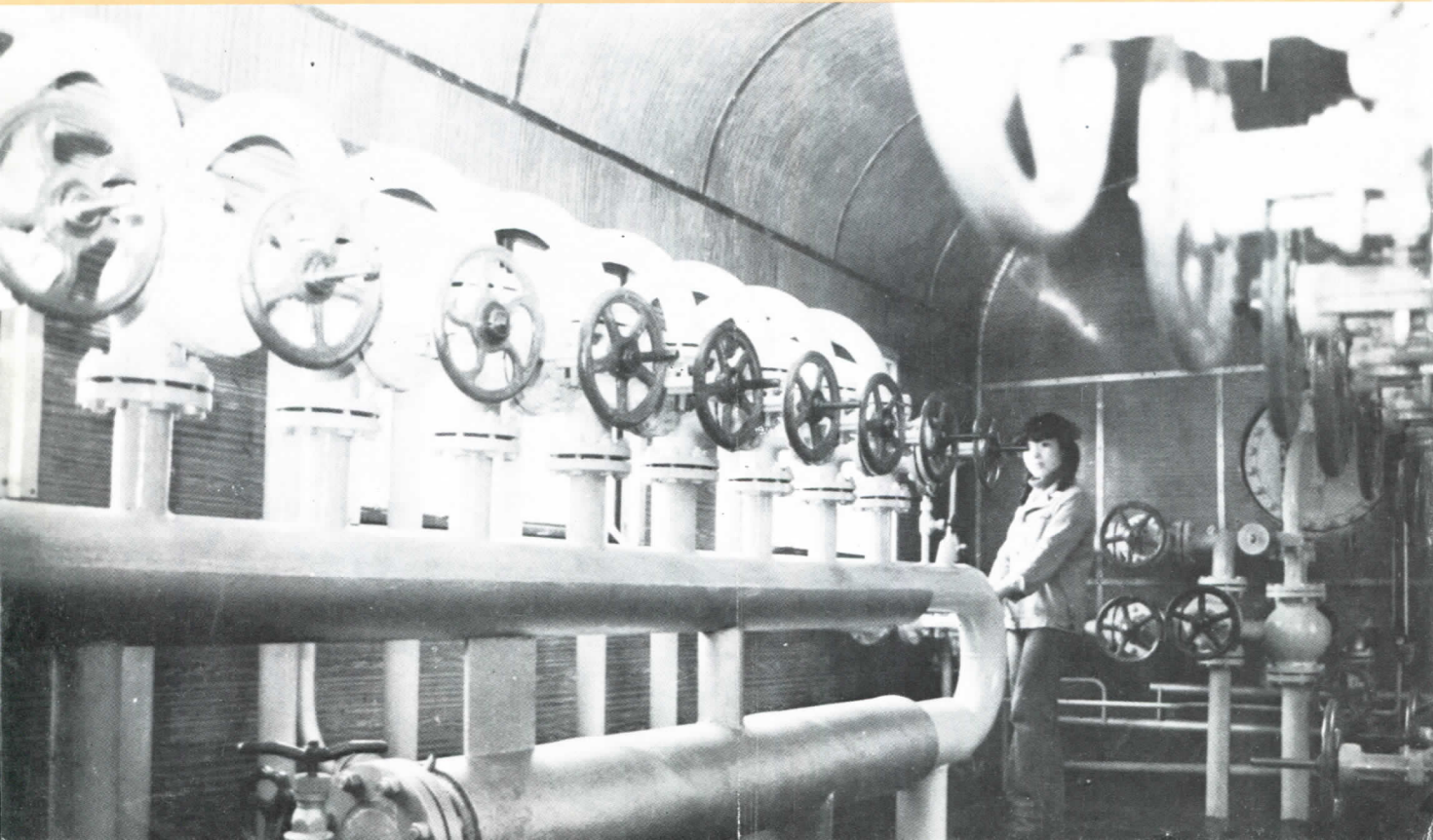


China's heaviest pipeline, running from the Liaohe Oilfield to the Anshan Iron and Steel Complex, is now under construction.

SPOTLIGHT



The control room of the Oil Production Plant attached to the Liaohe Oilfield.





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HIGHLIGHTS OF THE WEEK

May Day Centennial Remembered

■ On this centenary of May Day, the Chinese working class pledges to stand at the forefront of the reforms now under way in the country, and to strive for world peace (p. 4).

China Adopts Law on Foreign Enterprises

■ The recent National People's Congress adopted the Law on Enterprises Operated Exclusively With Foreign Capital. Along with the full text of the law, this issue also carries an explanatory article by the director of the Legislation Department of the Ministry of Foreign Economic Relations and Trade (pp. 14 and 16).

Military Rivalry Stirs up the Pacific

■ The Soviet Union and the United States are stepping up their rivalry in the Asia-Pacific region, setting up new command facilities, increasing military deployments and furthering co-operation with allies (p.10).

Expedition Retraces Marco Polo Route

■ A Mixed Chinese-American group covered 10,000 km in 65 days following the ancient Silk Road from the Sino-Pakistan border to Beijing. Their itinerary brought them in contact with many minority ethnic groups and afforded them numerous opportunities to view the changes which have taken place locally since the founding of the People's Republic (p.18).

Traffic Jams Clogging Beijing

■ Traffic jams in Beijing plague residents. But measures are being taken to solve the problem (p. 23).

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Marking May Day Centennial

by An Zhiguo

On May 1 a hundred years ago, 200,000 Chicago workers staged a gigantic strike, which won them the right to an eight-hour workday. Three years later in 1889, a resolution adopted at the inauguration of the Second International in Paris designated May 1 as the date for staging worldwide parades. On May Day 1890, workers in European and American industrial cities held massive demonstrations. Since then, workers around the world have gathered on May 1 to commemorate International Labour Day, which workers in China first observed in 1920.

Tremendous changes have taken place in the world in the last century. In 1917 the October Revolution ended in the victory of socialism in the Soviet Union. This ushered in an era of political power for the working class. In the post-war 1940s, socialist states led by the working class were established in some East European and Asian countries. Even in an ancient, backward and large Eastern country like China, the people led by the working class' political party, the Communist Party of China, were able to topple the three big mountains—imperialism, feudalism and bureaucrat-capitalism - which weighed down upon them. In so doing, they scored a victory for the new-democratic revolution and for socialist revolution. Today, the third world's struggle to safeguard national independence and develop its national economies is being united with the workers' movement for peace, human progress and a new life to form an irresistible historical force.

Having succeeded in destroying the old world, China's working

class and the people as a whole are now exerting themselves for the construction of a new world. Experience has proven that it is the latter task which is even more difficult to accomplish than the former.

The road to China's socialist construction is not a straight one, interspersed as it has been with success and failure, and particularly with the bitter lessons of the "cultural revolution." Today China has finally found a road which is based on its own conditions— building socialism with Chinese characteristics. And political stability and unity now prevail across the country. In order to realize socialist modernization, China is pressing ahead with many major reforms, implementing the policy of opening to the outside world and invigorating its domestic economy. It encourages people to overcome conservatism and exhibit their initiative and intelligence.

Members of the working class naturally should stand at the forefront of this reform movement. To do this, they need to adapt themselves to the new situation and study anew the theories and techniques behind the movement. Precisely for this reason, schools offering cultural and technological courses have mushroomed in factories and other units across the country.

China's socialist construction requires the unity and hard work of the Chinese people, but without a peaceful international environment it is impossible to achieve this goal. Similarly, human progress and prosperity cannot be accomplished without peace, for peace is a prerequisite for the creation of material wealth and



cultural and intellectual progress.

China's working class comprises not only manual labourers, who are directly involved in creating material wealth, but also intellectuals who are engrossed in creating both material and intellectual wealth. As producers, they treasure peace and detest the idea that the wealth they have helped create could be destroyed by war. They know that as a developing country, China can achieve prosperity only when it concentrates on construction; and only with world peace can the Chinese focus their energy on their socialist modernization drive, and on improving their lives.

Today, the main threat to peace comes from superpower hegemonism and the arms race. To safeguard world peace, it is necessary to check hegemonism and the arms race, particularly the nuclear arms race. China proposes that the two superpowers take the lead in drastically cutting their nuclear arsenals, and it calls on them to halt their aggression against and intervention in the third world.

To strive for peace, development and human progress, the Chinese working class and all the Chinese people are determined to strengthen their solidarity with the world's working classes and all its people and to join hands in the common struggle.

Unions Make Plea for Peace

How can workers improve their lives and make the most of their potential while contributing to their nation's material and cultural enrichment, and at the same time ensure that all they have worked for will not be obliterated by war? This was the question delegates addressed at the Trade Unions and Peace International Forum held in Beijing on April 26.

The meeting was attended by more than 30 members of 11 trade unions from Yugoslavia, Brazil, Azania, Togo, Benin, Burundi, Congo, Italy, Japan and Sri Lanka. A representative of the Pacific-Asian Regional Office of the International Labour Organization was also present.

The forum was hosted by the All China Federation of Trade Unions (ACFTU) in observation of 1986 as the International Peace Year. In his speech, ACFTU vice-president, Luo Gan, said his organization hoped trade unions around the world would put aside their ideological differences and work together for peace. They should promote understanding and co-operation in order to create a larger role for themselves in the struggle, he said.

N. Muendane, executive secretary of the Azanian Trade Unions Co-ordination Centre, said purely regarding peace as the absence of war or the absence of a war threat was inadequate. The world has seen so much war that it can only see peace as a time without war, he said. Peace, however, is much more than that: it is the existence of the opportunity for creative human potential to advance, he said.

Dusan Bogdanov Senko, member of Yugoslavia's Presidential Council of the Confederation of Trade Unions, said the main obstacle to relieving international

tension is rivalry between state blocs and the big powers, the consequence of which has been an escalating arms race, the frequent use of force and heightened animosity between nations. The burden of the arms race, Senko said, is borne first by the workers.

Matsui Yashukiko, head of the delegation from the Japanese Private Industry Workers' Trade Union, and Yokohara Yukio, representative of the residents of Hiroshima and Nagasaki, stressed mankind should learn from the explosion of the atomic bomb in Japan more than 40 years ago. Even now, they pointed out, 430,000 people still suffer from diseases related to the explosion. Today, mankind is surrounded by 60,000 nuclear warheads, whose total power is equivalent to 1 million Hiroshima bombs, they noted.

Houyengan Missiham Tchou, secretary of the National Confederation of Workers of Togo, said the trade unions at the conference were proclaiming long-ing of the whole world for peace. Everything indicates that today, he said, as we near the end of the 20th century, we are standing on the brink of catastrophe. One step more, he said, and we will plummet into chaos.

"Today, as never before, the human race has the means to fulfil the needs of every person on this earth. Today, as never before, the people of the world are aware of their common destiny. Today, as never before, the people of the world share a deep longing for liberty, peace and progress." These are the words of Loisel Ferdinand, head of the delegation of the National Federation of Workers' Trade Unions of Benin.

In the face of the threat to peace, Ferdinand asked, what should the trade unions do? They should combine the struggle for economic and social progress with the battle for disarmament, he said.

African trade union delegates also discussed the threat of hunger that blankets much of their continent. The inequality in the international distribution of wealth, apartheid in South Africa and barriers to Namibia's independence, are all enemies of peace, they indicated.

Barbon Silvano, a leader of the Italian General Confederation of Labour, said the Italian trade unions had fought for the establishment of a fund for co-operation and development and one for combatting world hunger. Only when economic development round the world is achieved, he said, can a lasting peace be ensured.

Lemamy Berhard, delegate from the Federation of Trade Unions of the Congo, said peace not only involve ending the arms race or initiating disarmament. Peace, he said, also means beginning a new era of international political, economic and socio-cultural relations. Peace is the development of co-operation and solidarity between nations and the elimination of colonialism, neo-colonialism, racism, apartheid, terrorism and tension. Peace is also a respect for human rights, he said.

That peace be based on justice and equality was the general consensus at the forum. The delegates appealed to the workers of the world to act in support of the United Nations in its quest for world peace. ■

by Zheng Fangkun

China Keeps Word on HK

China will not impose socialism on Hong Kong, and the Chinese government will keep its word in carrying out the concept of "one country, two systems," Chinese leader Deng Xiaoping said recently in Beijing.

Deng was speaking at a meeting with Yue-Kong Pao, chairman of the Hong Kong Worldwide Shipping Group, on April 21. Pao, who is also vice-chairman of the Hong Kong Basic Law Drafting Committee, arrived in Beijing in mid-April for the second meeting of the committee. The meeting ended on April 22 after five days of discussions. According to an outline passed by the committee, the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region is an inseparable part of the People's Republic of China, but with a high degree of autonomy to be granted by the central authorities.

The region's executive and legislative bodies will be formed by the local people of Hong Kong. Private property, the ownership of enterprises and the right of inheritance will be protected in the region. Hong Kong citizens will enjoy freedom of movement in and out of the region, and also will be able to decide on how many children they will have even though a family planning policy is practised on the mainland.

Hong Kong will also maintain its rights of participation in diplomatic negotiations, joining international organizations and world conferences and signing and implementing international agreements concerning the region.

At a second meeting on April 19 with Yue-Kong Pao together with Wong Kwan-cheng, honorary Chairman of the Chinese General Chamber of Commerce in Hong Kong, Henry Ting Tung Fok, president of the chamber and other entrepreneurs from Hong Kong, Deng described the

country's bright prospects for the first half of the next century. By mid-century, Deng said, China's per capita income should be up to the level of an average developed country. Deng said that the planned objective for a US\$800 annual income per capita by the end of this century will surely be reached or surpassed.

"If we succeed," Deng said, "we will just have made the first hop in a triple jump. That is what is on my mind day in and day out."

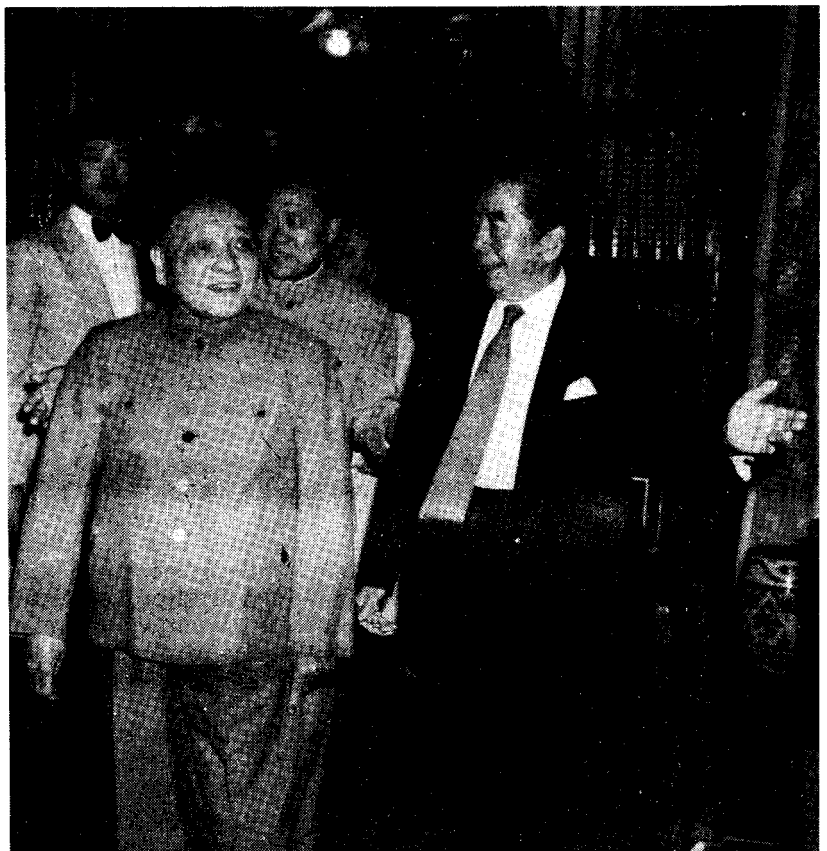
To ensure China's long-term, stable economic development, Deng said priority must be given to education, particularly the education of children. Lack of trained and educated personnel is the weak link in the nation's

modernization programme, Deng said. Acquiring knowledge and training cannot be done overnight and unremitting efforts will be necessary for quite some time. Therefore, he added, respecting knowledge and educated persons is the nation's long-term basic policy.

Deng said he appreciates the contributions made by Yue-Kong Pao and other compatriots in Hong Kong and abroad to education in China.

Turning to current economic reforms, Deng said the nation was enjoying stability as prices have been under control since the beginning of this year. He described price subsidies as one of two burdens that have weighed down the country for decades. The other is lack of decision-making power in state-owned enterprises. The two problems can basically be solved in three to five years,

Deng Xiaoping meets Yue-Kong Pao.



News in Brief

The Ministry of Public Health named April 25 Children's Inoculation Day in a new drive to boost to 85 percent the country's children immunization rate. On that day, public health workers across the country publicized immunization information, gave street consultations and inoculated children against six major diseases: diphtheria, whooping cough, measles, polimyelitis, tetanus and tuberculosis.

■ ■ ■

A military training centre aimed at improving battle co-ordination between different services within the armed forces was opened on April 22 in eastern China. It will co-ordinate maneuvers of group armies using advanced equipment, including laser devices. Equipment there will simulate complicated battlefield conditions, the movement, weapons, and even the psychology of an hypothetical enemy.

■ ■ ■

The country's first "Overseas Chinese City," a special industrial and residential development zone in western Shenzhen, is expected to take shape over the next five years. The detailed plan for the first phase of construction will soon be finalized, and work is scheduled to start in the latter half of this year. The town is intended to be a new way for Chinese living abroad to invest in China, and is expected to have population of about 50,000 when completed.

Hong Kong Enters GATT

Hong Kong became the 19th contracting party to the General Agreement of Tariffs and Trade (GATT) on April 23, the GATT secretariat announced in a communique from Geneva.

The communique said Hong Kong's status was confirmed in accordance with a statement submitted by the British government to the GATT secretariat on April 23.

Hong Kong has been represented in the GATT by Britain since the agreement was established in 1948 to achieve a

substantial reduction of tariffs and other barriers to trade.

China said in a statement on April 23 that in accordance with the Sino-British Joint Declaration on Hong Kong, China would resume the exercise of its sovereignty over Hong Kong on July 1, 1997.

The Hong Kong Special Administrative Region will retain the status of a free port and separate customs territory, and may participate in international organizations and international trade agreement, such as the GATT, in the name of "Hong Kong, China," the statement said. ■

according to Deng, "If we unload these burdens, we will be able to march faster with light packs," Deng said. ■

Students Descend From Ivory Towers

Life at the Dagang Oilfield made me examine my priorities in life. There I found what I had been searching for, and I realized it is important for university students to join the workers in the field," said Cheng Li, an undergraduate from the Beijing Teachers' University, on her return from an eight-day stay in the Dagang Oilfield in northern China.

Cheng is one of the more than 200 students from about 40 universities and colleges in Beijing who, during their last winter vacation, took part in activities organized by the Beijing Municipal Committee of the Communist Youth League of China. The students went on military training with soldiers, worked in the fields, and discussed

life on the front with servicemen on the Sino-Vietnamese border.

On their return, many students said the activities gave them a better understanding of society, the workers and soldiers. Some said the experience made them realize what their lives were lacking and how they might shape their futures to make them more meaningful.

"Before we go out into the world, society gives us everything," said Feng Jinping, a student at Beijing's Steel and Iron College. "When our time comes to serve society, we tend to think too much of our own needs. When I saw how the labourers worked without regard for themselves, I realized that to be useful one needs to transcend one's ego and develop a strong sense of responsibility," he said.

University students are said to think that the more one knows the more valuable that person is. Because of this students have devoted themselves to acquiring knowledge and stepping up their "self-worth," and have come to see themselves as the nation's elite. "When we saw the commanders

and the soldiers at the front sacrificing their needs for those of the country and the people, we were shocked," said Cheng Xu, a student at Qinghua University. "We realized that the soldiers, who guard our motherland with their lives, are the nation's elite. The value of one's life lies in contribution."

Zhang Jin, a postgraduate from the Beijing Engineering College, said, "I've found my roots. They lie deep with the people who provide for us. Our sole duty is to serve them with our knowledge."

After labouring alongside the workers, many students said they wanted to make themselves of use to society. They realized that by joining the masses and by applying their education to practical work they will realize their own value.

"What contemporary university-students understand least is how to apply their knowledge to the real world," said Yu Liang, a student from the Institute of Forestry. "If what we learn is not used in practice, our learning becomes bookshelf."

Some of the students said they learned a great deal about their own fields from the field activities. Shi Jun, a student at the Fourth Military Medicine University who went on a fieldwork programme organized by the four military medicine universities of the PLA, rescued more than 70 wounded soldiers in a battle during his tour of the southern border regions. He also wrote a number of articles on rescue techniques he learned on the battlefield.

It is not a new idea for Chinese students to join the people in their work. In the 1940s in the liberated areas in Yanan, Chairman Mao Zedong called on students and all intellectuals to work with the masses. After the founding of the People's Republic, the call to work became integral to university curricula. Students were then required to work in factories or on farms for some time each year.



Students from Wuhan University checking out market prices during vacation.

During the "cultural revolution," however, too much emphasis was put on practical experience; so much so that such experience virtually replaced the theoretical education and scholarship.

After the fall of the "gang of four," due emphasis was put on academic endeavours, while practical experience was ignored. As a result, many students became increasingly alienated from work and the people. And today, they have little understanding of the real world, of the workers, farmers and soldiers, and they have no idea of what it means to toil with one's hands. Consequently when students enter the working world after graduation, they encounter many difficulties in dealing with both people and work. Some students have become spoiled, thinking too highly of themselves, looking down on labourers and work, and paying too much attention to personal gain and fun.

In the last few years these problems have come to the attention of educators. Many colleges and universities have organized chances for students to delve into work and society during their vacations. Last winter vacation, for example, more than 50 students from the statistics

department of the Central-Southern Finance and Economic Institute visited about 7,000 farmers in Hubei Province, filled out more than 4,000 survey forms and wrote reports on their observations. Some of their reports, of which topics ranged from the government's rural policies to family planning, were sent to provincial officials for future reference. Some of the students who participated in the programme said before they were oblivious to what was happening outside their "ivory towers," but that now they have a new understanding of and interest in the working world.

These activities have been widely applauded by high-ranking officials. Deng Liqun, a member of the Secretariat of the Central Committee of the CPC, after hearing the reports of the students taking part in one of the programmes, said, "The students have taken a correct road in learning from the masses. We should popularize this method."

"Young intellectuals must work with the people and apply themselves to practical work," said Yang Haibo, vice-minister in charge of the State Education Commission, which is considering more ways to promote practical

China & the World

■ **Hu Raps Israel, Pledges to Back PLO.** Chinese Communist Party General Secretary Hu Yaobang on April 24 reiterated China's condemnation of Israel's aggression. During a meeting with visiting Farrouk Al Kadoumy, member of the executive committee of the Palestine Liberation Organization (PLO), Hu criticized the United States which he said is biased towards Israel and ignores the reasonable demands of the Palestinians. "Over the past 20 years, the just struggle of the Palestinians has won worldwide support and sympathy," said Hu.

■ **China Wins 38 Awards.** Chinese products won 38 awards, including six gold medals, at the 14th International Innovation and New Technology Exhibition in Switzerland. China displayed 44 items at the 10-day exhibition, which opened on April 10. More than 1,000 items employing new advanced technologies from 20 countries and region were on display.

■ **China Expands Chemical Exports.** China's chemical industry is trying to break into the world market and double its exports within five years, to reach US\$1.5 billion in 1990. China exported US\$680 million worth of chemical products to Southeast Asian and other foreign countries in 1985, and a big increase is expected this year. Twenty-eight enterprises have been converted into special manufacturers of export goods in the cities of Guangzhou, Shanghai and Tianjin, and five provinces such as Hebei and Henan.

activities in universities and colleges. One of the commission's measures is to resume a programme suspended during the "cultural revolution," under which all students are required to do fieldwork in factories and other institutions three times during their four years at college. ■

by Yan Liqun

Hunan Honours Master Geologist

Ting Wen-chiang (1887-1936), a native of Taixing, Jiangsu Province, is unknown to most Chinese these days. But last week the name jumped into limelight during a three-day ceremony in honour of the man in Changsha, Hunan, where he died 50 years ago on an official mission.

Ting, a Japanese- and British-educated geologist, was a founder

of contemporary geology education in China. A pioneer in national geological survey, he travelled across a dozen provinces and visited Western Europe, the United States and the Soviet Union, gaining vast knowledge that went beyond geology to include palaeontology, mineralogy, geography and ethnology. He was instrumental in training the country's first generation of geologists and mineral prospectors. But to students of his time, he was best known for his work, *New Map of the Republic of China*, considered a landmark in Chinese cartography.

As an official at the time, Ting also contributed his share to the recovery of China's territorial rights from Western powers and the reform of Shanghai's urban administration system.

The commemorative activities, held for the first time in New China, were attended by family members, old friends and former students. ■

New Cancer Killer Developed in China

Chinese scientists have developed a new medicine through biotechnology to control cancer of the esophagus, according to the Institute of Biophysics of Beijing.

The medicine, known as "Weimeisu," contained 12 vitamins, 19 amino acids and multiple trace elements. It has proved effective in 96 percent of cases among 300 patients who were treated in clinical experiments over the past year.

Cancer of the esophagus claims 150,000 lives each year in China. Generally, malignant tumors, with cancers of stomach, liver and esophagus as major killers, cause 800,000 deaths each

year in the country, according to official statistics.

Scientists also discovered that "Weimeisu" is effective for atrophic and superficial gastritis. Atrophic gastritis often results in stomach cancer.

China plans to introduce the new medicine at a world fair to be held in Birmingham, Britain, in October.

Curing Dysentery Through Acupuncture. After many years of research, doctors in Gansu Province recently won a national award for their success in curing dysentery through acupuncture treatment.

They applied acupuncture on 17 patients and cured all in an average of five days. As acupuncture works by merely readjusting functions of the body, it causes no sideeffects. ■

US-USSR

Military Rivalry Stirs up the Pacific

A match for military supremacy between the Soviet Union and the United States in the Asia-Pacific region appears to be escalating.

Now that their European military stalemate is a fact, the Soviet Union and the United States are both determined to create a new military hegemony in the Asia-Pacific region.

Taking the United States as its chief antagonist, the Soviet Union seeks to expand its influence in the region by building up its military strength. It aims at breaking up US containment of the area in order to assure its sea traffic through the Pacific Ocean to the Indian Ocean. The Soviets hope to improve their status in the rivalry by stepping up communications between their eastern and western wings.

The United States has designated the Far East, Western Europe and the Middle East as its three major strategic regions. Believing the Pacific to be the best region from which to confront the Soviet Union, the Reagan administration is reconsidering its military designs in the West Pacific. It is stepping up plans to further its military co-operation with Japan and South Korea in an effort to retain its military advantages in the region and contain the Soviets to their own waters.

For years, the two countries have continued to set up new command facilities, increased military forces, consolidated overseas military bases and furthered co-operation with allies in the Pacific region.

The Soviet Union has accomplished a Far East theatre command in Ulan-Ude, which takes charge of controlling and coordinating its military operations of the Far East, Trans-Bajkal region (including troops staged in

Mongolia), western Siberia and the central Asian military regions as well as the Pacific fleet.

The United States established a command centre in Japan in 1985, which has greatly improved the control and command of US troops in Japan and their co-ordination with the Japanese troops.

The Soviet Far East theatre command controls some 50 divisions, plus one staged on the four islands of north of Japan. The equipment for those troops has been improved remarkably, having brought in T-72 tanks, updated armoured vehicles and guns.

A third generation of fighter planes, including Mig-23, Mig-25, Mig-27 and Su-15, Su-17 and Su-24, have been put into service. Mig-31 fighters were also deployed. Even more significant is the expansion of Soviet naval forces in the region. Its Pacific Fleet has grown to include 600 vessels. With two aircraft carriers, it has a total tonnage of 1.6 million.

A closer look at US military forces in the region reveals that they have been increased by 7,000 troops since 1984, standing at 195,500 today, or 33.1 percent of its total overseas forces. The ground forces are being equipped with the most modern weapons of the 1980s, including M-1 tanks, M-2 and M-3 armoured vehicles, multi-pipe rocket guns, "Arpachi" helicopters and "Patriot" anti-air missiles. The tactical air forces are now bringing in new F-15, F-16 and A-10 fighters, and two F-16 fighter groups are scheduled to be deployed in Japan by July 1987.

Nuclear forces of the two

superpowers have been skyrocketing in the region. Since 1977, the Soviet Union has deployed 171 SS-20 medium-range missiles and more than 100 "Backfire" bombers. The United States continues to renovate its fighters based along the western Pacific front and on aircraft carriers capable of supporting nuclear arms. It has also equipped all its nuclear powered-submarines and warships with "Hatchet" cruise missiles. In addition, all the B-52 bombers have been transformed to carry short-range, air-to-earth missiles.

Meanwhile, the Soviet Union continues to expand its military facilities in Cam-Ranh Bay and Da Nang in Viet Nam and Kompong Som of Kampuchea. A permanent special detachment of the Soviets has been staged in Cam-Ranh Bay, together with some long-range reconnaissance and patrol planes, as well as Tu-16 medium-range bombers and Mig-23 fighters. All these greatly improved the Soviets' control of the West Pacific and over the Strait of Malacca and Bashi Channel. At the same time, the United States is perfecting and expanding its overseas bases. Apart from consolidating the old bases, it has renovated and developed large-scale naval and air facilities in Japan, South Korea, Thailand, Saipan and Tinian islands.

In their Asia-Pacific competition, the Soviet Union is somewhat handicapped by its geographic conditions, particularly its seamouth is vulnerable to US competitors based in the area. The United States, on the other hand, is too far from the Asian mainland. Therefore, both countries are scrambling for their allies' support and never stop at attempting to undermine each other's alliances. The Soviets have gripped Viet Nam, handing over large amounts of military and economic aids and supporting its war against Kampuchea in return for the right of long-term use of air

and naval bases in Indochina. At the moment, the Soviet Union has been engaged in active propaganda for peace to soften US military co-operation with Japan, South Korea, Australia and New Zealand. The United States is working hard to build a multi-national strategic alliance, further

its defence partnership with Japan and South Korea, and give greater attention to developing co-operation with the Association of Southeast Asian Nations and the South Pacific nations. It is seeking a multi-tiered defence to contain the Soviets' southward strategy.

by Xie Wenqing

KAMPUCHEA

Viet Nam's Colonizing Efforts Mount

Viet Nam is forging ahead with its colonization of Kampuchea in every field from politics and economy to culture.

Hanoi is busy implementing its policy of "Vietnamizing" Kampuchea. Having the puppet government of Heng Samrin, under its control, it is able to gain both administrative and military powers in the regime. With the aim to assimilate the Kampucheans, Hanoi has dumped thousands of its citizens in the occupied country.

Vietnamese consultants are in charge of all the organs of power within the Heng Samrin regime. Soon after its conquest of Kampuchea, Viet Nam put up in Phnom Penh a Kampuchea work committee, the highest setup directing its aggressive activities in Kampuchea. The several branches below the committee are staffed with Vietnamese consultants and experts who took over the Heng Samrin government both in the centre and at the localities, interfering in its domestic and foreign affairs.

Enabled with the power of recall and promotion of Heng Samrin's officials, these "overlords" frequently have forced a large number of Kampucheans out of the Heng Samrin regime under the pretext of collusion with the enemy, undue national sentiments or incompetence. They are either sent to Viet Nam's Party school for training, which is mild punishment, or are put in prison.

More recently, the replacement of Heng Samrin's officials has become widespread in Kampuchea's 19 provinces and cities, especially in the border areas in the west and north. In the provinces considered insecure by the Vietnamese, administrative and military powers have been put into the hands of Vietnamese supervisors and Kampucheans devoted to Hanoi.

To bring the Heng Samrin troops under their direct military control, Vietnamese authorities have taken over command of important military bases.

Immigration of the Vietnamese into Kampuchea began quietly in 1979 and became open and legitimate after 1982 with the signing of a series of questionable agreements on the Viet Nam-Kampuchea border and border trade. More than 700,000 Vietnamese citizens reportedly had moved into Kampuchea by the end of last year. In Phnom Penh and the region to the east, more than 60 percent of the population are Vietnamese, therefore having a great impact on the restructuring of Kampuchea's total population.

The immigrants, who are now moving deep into Kampuchea, have collaborated with local Vietnamese soldiers in village organizations, grabbing the richest

farming fields, fisheries and plantations, seizing houses, farm tools and livestock. Major commercial departments in Phnom Penh and elsewhere have been taken over by the Vietnamese. All this, using the pretext of exploration of and aid to the Kampucheans, has driven thousands of Kampucheans out of their hometowns.

Hanoi is carrying out an assimilation programme in the occupied areas in two ways. First, the Vietnamese have begun to push their own education methods and subjects aimed at the enslavement of the Kampuchean people. In the schools based on Viet Nam's teaching programmes, Kampuchean children are taught either by Vietnamese-trained teachers or by Vietnamese who speak the Khmer language. Though printed in Khmer, the textbooks are edited by the Vietnamese. Kampuchean students are required to learn Vietnamese. Study programmes are held regularly in Phnom Penh and other provinces to train military as well as administrative officials for the Kampuchean puppet regime—the promising will be sent to Hanoi or Ho Chi Minh City for further study.

Second, marriages between the Vietnamese and the Kampucheans are being promoted. Among the people, Kampuchean women are encouraged to give their hands to Vietnamese males, while among officials Vietnamese women go to Kampuchean males. The wounded or former Vietnamese servicemen are called on to settle down in Kampuchea and to marry local women. The mixed marriages, it is hoped, would turn the coming generation into Vietnamese.

Despite the economic pressure on the Kampuchean people, some have risen to stage revolts against Hanoi's colonial rule. Shots are heard on the main roads leading to Viet Nam and continuous raids are launched on the Vietnamese

armies in the key towns and cities. From time to time patriotic soldiers in Heng Samrin's army turn their coats when they realize whose side they are on. The day

when the Kampuchean people will decide their own fate is certain to come with their persistent struggle.

by Yan Ming

SOUTH KOREA

Signature Movement Gains Momentum

A campaign to collect 10 million signatures to press for the revision of the 1980 constitution has been gaining ground.

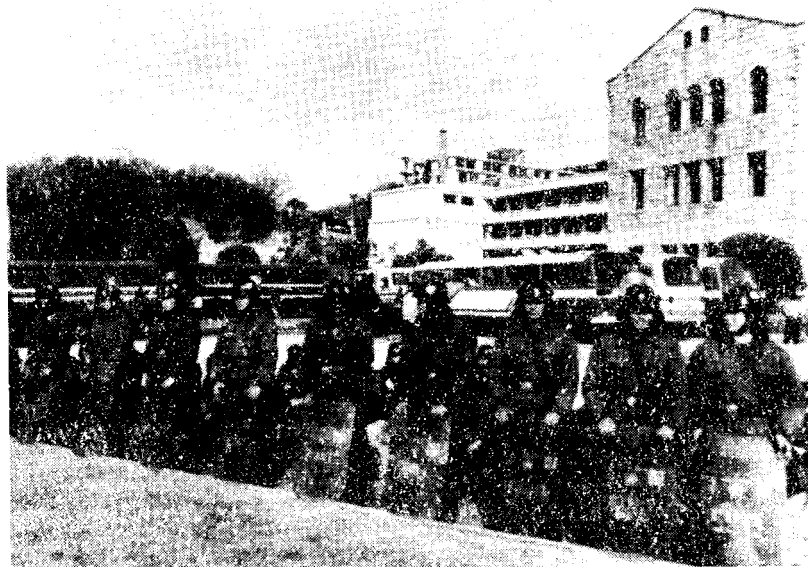
The New Korea Democratic Party (NKDP), the largest opposition party in South Korea, and the Council for the Promotion of Democracy have initiated a 10-million signature movement. This is an organized demonstration whose aim is to press the government for the drafting of a new constitution and to replace the present electoral system with a direct, popular presidential vote.

The current constitution was put into force on October 22, 1980, when emergency martial law was enforced after the assassination of South Korean ruler Park Chung-Hee. Ever since its adoption, the constitution has been rejected by opposition parties, and

the majority of people in South Korea. They believe the constitution is a mere copy of the Park Chung-Hee constitution, which provides legal guarantee for the autocratic rule of Chun Du Hwan.

The demand for democracy by the South Korean people has grown stronger in recent years. Founded in January 1985, the NKDP won 67 seats of the 276 total in the parliamentary election of the year, becoming the leading opposition party in South Korea. From the very beginning, the party has called for direct presidential elections, revision of the constitution, freedom of speech and the release of political prisoners.

Riot Police blockade Songgun-Gwan University in Seoul in order to deter student protests.



On February 12 this year, the NKDP President Li Min Woo and two top leaders of the Council for the Promotion of Democracy, Kim Dae Jung and Kim Young Sam, along with more than 200 members of the two opposition parties, took the lead in signing their names. The signature campaign has won wide support from other opposition parties and students. Seoul University and many other schools of higher learning have established constitutional revision organizations. On February 4, more than 1,000 students from 14 universities in Seoul set up an alliance in support of the signature drive.

The South Korean authorities, however, immediately declared the movement "illegal," and began to crack down on the campaign. They put Kim Dae Jung under house arrest and forced Kim Young Sam to leave the area where the petition was being signed. The police ransacked the sponsors' offices and confiscated documents. The people in charge of the campaign were also arrested. In addition, the authorities claimed they would investigate all the people involved in the campaign and punish them accordingly. The authorities have arrested nearly 300 opposition figures and students under the name of violating the law.

The signature campaign went into full swing on March 17, with the NKDP, the CPD, the United Peoples Movement for Democracy and Unification, the 4-million-member strong Christian Council of Churches and the Catholic Justice and Peace Commission forming a united liaison body in their drive for constitutional revision.

The NKDP and other opposition groups also organized conventions and demonstrations in Kwangju and other large cities. People marched with placards, shouting "Down with the military autocracy," and "Revise the constitution," and fought with police. The recent events in the

Philippines have also encouraged the growing democratic movement in South Korea.

But Chun Du Hwan and his cohorts rejected the requests by the opposition parties, saying he would step down from office when his term is up in 1988, and by then a candidate of the ruling party would put forward a draft of a revised constitution. At the same time, he warned his government would continue to crack down on the signature drive.

There are two remarkable signs of this movement. One is that for the first time the opposition parties have adopted large-scale united action. The other is that more South Korean people, including students and persons from all walks of life, have joined in to support the signature drive.

On March 14, a Protestant religious leader of South Korea, who has a backing of more than 1 million followers, declared in a statement that participating in politics was an undeniable right of the people. He also openly supported direct presidential elections.

From last December to this March, South Korean students have held more than 120 anti-government demonstrations. Students in the major universities in Seoul and seven other local colleges recently held three-day demonstrations. It is estimated that the students are growing into one of the leading forces behind the democratic reform. ■

by Yi Zong

Haitian dictator Jean-Claude Duvalier, the opposition parties have launched a series of demonstrations in the capital and many other parts of the country.

On March 22, thousands of Paraguayans took to the streets in Asuncion, chanting anti-government slogans and marching towards the office of *ABC Color*, a newspaper shut down by the authorities in March 1984 because it had exposed a case of bribery involving the interior minister.

During the demonstration, the first in the past three decades, the secretary-general of the Paraguayan Journalist Association called on workers, farmers, students and democratic groups to close their ranks in the struggle for freedom of assembly and speech.

At a rally on March 21, Miguel Abdon Saguier, general secretary of the most active of opposition parties, the Authentic Radical Liberal Party (PLRA), openly called on the people to topple the Stroessner regime.

And then on April 13, the PLRA staged another demonstration calling for democratic reforms in San Jose, about 80 kilometres away from the capital. The demonstration grew as people from other cities joined in the protest, and the police were called in, arresting Saguier the same day.

The political crisis in Paraguay has been rendered all the more complicated by an ailing national economy plagued by decreased foreign investment and heavy debt.

The gross domestic product sustained a setback for two straight years during 1982 and 1983. In 1984 the GDP rose by only 2.9 percent, while consumer prices shot up by 30 percent. Export incomes have dropped sharply, and foreign debt has reached US\$4 billion.

Agricultural production, one of the pillars of Paraguay's economy, also has been hard hit this year due to the most serious drought in the country's history. ■

by Yan Xiaohua

PARAGUAY

Rising Voices for Democracy

Journalists, workers and farmers are marching together in their demands for freedom of assembly, speech and economic reform.

Paraguay, the land-locked nation in Latin America, has been under the despotic rule of Alfredo Stroessner since his military coup in May, 1954. During his more than 30 years of dictatorship, the longest in Latin America, Stroessner has been carrying out a high-handed policy that forbids the activities of leftist parties and restricts the freedom of assembly and speech. Leaders of opposition parties and those groups that represent the farmers and workers have been suffering from political and physical harassment. Human rights abuses, including torture against detainees, have reportedly become widespread.

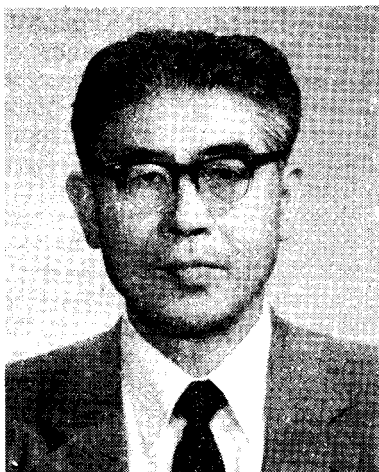
Despite the ominous situation, a slight wind for change can be felt

in Paraguay. The democratic reforms that have swept through Argentina, Brazil and Uruguay in recent years, have breathed new life into the Paraguayans' struggle for democracy and liberty.

In February last year, more than 10,000 people gathered in Asuncion, the country's capital, to protest against the dictatorship and demand some democratic rights. Then last May, a political union of opposition groups, Acuerdo Nacional (National Accord), organized a mass rally attended by more than 6,000 people, calling for an end to Stroessner's 30-year-old rule.

Since February this year, encouraged by the downfall of

China Adopts Law on Foreign Enterprises



by Yuan Zhenmin

During its fourth session, the Sixth National People's Congress, China's supreme organ of power, passed the Law of the People's Republic of China on Enterprises Operated Exclusively With Foreign Capital (hereinafter referred to as wholly foreign-owned enterprises—Tr.), thereby advancing China's foreign economic legislation work.

In this important law the National People's Congress says China will not nationalize and expropriate any enterprises operated with only foreign capital. Under special circumstances, it continues, China may take over such enterprises, in accordance with legal procedures and in the light of social and public interests. However, the law ensures that reasonable compensation will be made.

An Important Law

Since the Law of the People's Republic of China Concerning Joint Ventures Using Chinese and Foreign Investment was put into effect on July 1, 1979, many foreign companies, enterprises, economic organizations and individuals have invested in China

and now run joint ventures with the Chinese. By the end of 1985, these Sino-foreign joint ventures numbered some 2,300. During the same period, more than 3,700 Sino-foreign co-operative enterprises were set up. These enterprises, located throughout China, with the exception of Tibet, have had a positive effect on China's economic development.

In 1980, foreign investors began opening enterprises that they operated themselves. By the end of 1985, there were 120 such enterprises located in the special economic zones, open coastal cities and other places.

The law on wholly foreign-owned enterprises provides a legal basis for the establishment and operation of the solely foreign-operated enterprises. It enables foreign investors to have a clearer understanding of the Chinese provisions on the exclusively foreign-operated enterprises. Furthermore, under it the Chinese government may supervise these enterprises and protect their legitimate rights and interests.

Highlights of the Law

The 24-article law includes provisions on conditions guiding the establishment of the solely foreign-financed enterprises. It covers the qualifications of legal person, taxation, foreign exchange, period of operation, trade unions and legal rights and interests. Highlights of the law follow.

Establishment of enterprises using only foreign capital.

Article 6 says "the application to establish an enterprise exclusively with foreign capital shall be submitted for examination and approval by the department under the State Council that is in charge of foreign economic relations and

trade or by other authorities entrusted with such powers by the State Council." This clause implies that when applying for the establishment of an enterprise to be run exclusively with their own capital, foreign investors will be required to prepare documents describing themselves and giving credit information. A feasibility study report on the enterprise as well as articles of association of the enterprise will also be required.

The names of the documents required will be included in the Rules for the Implementation of the Law of the PRC on Enterprises Operated Exclusively with Foreign Capital. The regulations will be worked out by the State Council, and similar regulations will be worked out by the department under the State Council which is in charge of foreign economic relations and trade or by other departments entrusted with such powers by the State Council.

Qualifications of a legal person. Article 8 of the law stipulates that "the wholly owned foreign enterprise that meets the conditions for being considered a legal person under Chinese laws shall be so considered."

With regard to the conditions necessary for a legal person, Article 37 of the General Principles of the Civil Code of the People's Republic of China elucidates the following four requirements—establishment in accordance with Chinese laws, possession of necessary property or finance; having its own name, organizational structure and site; and capability of assuming civil liability.

The provisions laid down in Chinese laws on the qualifications of a legal person are by and large similar to the foreign ones. Any enterprise (including solely

foreign-owned enterprises) must be established in accordance with Chinese laws. Such an enterprise must also have its own property and funds that provide the material foundation for its economic activities—activities which must be carried out within the approved business scope as stipulated in its articles of association. The requirement that each enterprise should have its own name, organizational structure and site, is an indispensable prerequisite for it to operate as an entity enjoying civil rights. No foreign-financed enterprise that is unable to shoulder civil liability for its own property or capital will be able to engage in civil activities in China.

It is thus clear that foreign-owned enterprises currently set up in China are, on the whole, Chinese legal persons.

The allowed areas of business.

Though the law does not state the specific areas foreign-owned businesses may engage in, it does say in article 3, "Provisions regarding the lines of business which the state forbids wholly owned foreign enterprises to engage in or on which it places certain restrictions will be made by the State Council." While explaining the law at a recent NPC Standing Committee meeting, Zheng Tuobin, minister of Foreign Economic Relations and Trade, said such stipulations require a degree of flexibility, which is why they are not specified in the law. "As for the provisions regarding the lines of business foreign enterprises may engage in, the Ministry of Foreign Economic Relations and Trade should first draw up a plan that reflects the specific conditions of each period, and the provisions should be announced only after they are submitted to the State Council for examination and approval. Provisions thus made are more flexible as they can be readjusted at any time to meet the needs of our country's economic development," Zheng said.

Article 3 of the law does

however say: "Enterprises to be established exclusively with foreign capital shall be conducive to the development of China's national economy." What this implies is that, generally speaking, no foreign-funded projects will be allowed to engage in businesses that involve state secrets, the import and export trade, traditional Chinese products and traditional arts and crafts. The forthcoming Regulations on the Implementation of the Law on the Enterprises Operated Exclusively With Foreign Capital will have more specifications about the lines of business foreign-funded enterprises may engage in in China.

Taxation. Article 17 stipulates: "The wholly owned foreign enterprise shall pay taxes in accordance with relevant state regulations. It may enjoy preferential treatment for reduction of taxes or exemption from them."

As the special tax law on exclusively foreign-funded enterprises has not yet been enacted, these enterprises will be taxed according to the existing Income Tax Law Concerning Foreign Enterprises and other relevant tax regulations.

Trade Unions. Establishing trade unions is the right of the workers and staff of all enterprises in China and is furthermore guaranteed by Chinese law. Given this, Article 13 of the law stipulates, "Workers and administrative staff in the employment of the wholly owned foreign enterprise may set up trade unions in accordance with the law, and such unions may conduct activities to protect the lawful rights and interests of the employees. The enterprise shall provide necessary facilities for the activities of the trade unions."

In China, the working class is the leading class. The policies of opening to the outside world and absorbing foreign funds which represent the interests of the working class and all Chinese people, have been acclaimed and

supported by the people, including the workers. Therefore, we can be quite sure that as long as the foreign-funded enterprises conduct their activities within the approved scope of business and fulfil their due obligations, the Chinese workers, staff and trade unions of these enterprises will not interfere in their legitimate activities.

Protecting legitimate rights.

One outstanding characteristic of the law is that it has a number of provisions aimed at protecting the businesses. Of these, the most important is Article 5 which says, "... the state shall not nationalize or expropriate wholly owned foreign enterprises."

In addition, Article 4 says, "The investments made by a foreign investor in China, the profits he earns and his other lawful rights and interests shall be protected by Chinese laws." Article 19 holds that "The foreign investor may remit abroad profits legitimately earned from the enterprises, as well as other lawful earnings and any funds left over after the enterprise is liquidated. Wages, salaries and other legitimate income earned by foreign employees in the enterprise may be remitted abroad after the payment of personal income tax in accordance with Chinese law." Article 11 provides added protection, stating that "the wholly owned enterprise shall be free from interference in its operations and management so long as these are conducted in accordance with the approved articles of association."

In short, this is a law that will ensure the expansion of China's economic co-operation and technological exchanges with other countries. Its promulgation indicates China's firm stand in implementing the basic policies of opening to the outside world and absorbing foreign funds. With the enforcement of the Law on Enterprises Operated Exclusively With Foreign Capital, more foreign investors will become interested in investing in China.

Law on Enterprises Operated Exclusively With Foreign Capital

Adopted at Fourth Session of Sixth National People's Congress, April 12, 1986

Article 1 With a view to expanding economic co-operation and technological exchange with other countries and promoting the development of its national economy, the People's Republic of China permits foreign firms, other economic entities or individuals [hereafter referred to as foreign investors] to set up enterprises exclusively with foreign capital in China [hereafter referred to as wholly-owned foreign enterprises -- *Tr.*] and protects the lawful rights and interests of the enterprises so established.

Article 2 As referred to in the present law, wholly-owned foreign enterprises are those established in China by foreign investors exclusively with their own capital in accordance with relevant Chinese laws. The term does not

include branches set up in China by foreign investors.

Article 3 Enterprises to be established exclusively with foreign capital shall be conducive to the development of China's national economy. Such enterprises shall use advanced technology and equipment or market all or most of their products outside China.

Provisions regarding the lines of business which the state forbids wholly-owned foreign enterprises to engage in or on which it places certain restrictions will be made by the State Council.

Article 4 The investments made by a foreign investor in China, the profits he earns and his other lawful rights and interests shall be protected by Chinese law.

The wholly-owned foreign enterprise must abide by Chinese

laws and statutes and must do nothing detrimental to China's public interest.

Article 5 Except under special circumstances, the state shall not nationalize or expropriate wholly-owned foreign enterprises. Should it prove necessary to do so in the public interest, legal procedures will be followed and reasonable compensation will be made.

Article 6 The application to establish an enterprise exclusively with foreign capital shall be submitted for examination and approval by the department under the State Council which is in charge of foreign economic relations and trade or by other authorities entrusted with such powers by the State Council. The department or said authorities shall, within ninety days from the date when such an application is received, make a decision on whether or not to grant approval.

Article 7 Within thirty days after receiving a certificate of approval, the foreign investor should apply to the authorities in charge of the administration of industry and commerce for registration and a business licence. The date of issue of the business licence shall be deemed to be the date of establishment of the enterprise.

Article 8 The wholly-owned foreign enterprise which meets the conditions for being considered a legal person under Chinese law shall be so considered.

Article 9 The wholly-owned foreign enterprise must make investments in China within the period approved by the department in charge of examination and approval. If he fails to do so, the authorities in charge of the

Wholly Owned Foreign Enterprises

At the end of 1985, China had 120 enterprises funded exclusively by foreign businesses, and the investment involved in these enterprises totalled US\$570 million.

Of these businesses, 104, or 87 percent, are in the Shenzhen, Zhuhai, Shantou and Xiamen special economic zones. The other 16 are located in Beijing, Shanghai, Quanzhou (Fujian), Beihai (Guangxi) and Changsha (Hunan).

There are 58 industrial projects involving US\$150 million; 17 real estate projects worth a total value of US\$170 million; and 16 commercial projects using US\$14 million. The rest are involved in

construction, agriculture, education, culture, sports, scientific research and finance.

The number of exclusively foreign-funded enterprises in China has increased annually. In 1980, only five such enterprises existed. By 1983, the number had grown to 47, and rose to 73 in 1984. Last year, another 47 such enterprises were founded.

These businesses in general have short building cycles, quick returns and high profits. They are operated by investors from Hong Kong, Singapore, the United States, Japan, Thailand, the Netherlands and Macao. The largest number of investors come from Hong Kong, followed by Singapore.

administration of industry and commerce may revoke the business licence.

The authorities in charge of the administration of industry and commerce shall inspect and monitor the investment situation of a wholly-owned foreign enterprise.

Article 10 In the event of a separation, merger or other major change, the wholly-owned foreign enterprise must report to and seek approval from the authorities in charge of examination and approval, and register the change with the authorities in charge of the administration of industry and commerce.

Article 11 The production and business programmes of the wholly-owned foreign enterprise shall be reported to the competent authorities for the record.

The enterprise shall be free from interference in its operations and management so long as these are conducted in accordance with the approved articles of association.

Article 12 The wholly-owned foreign enterprise shall employ Chinese workers and administrative staff under contracts concluded according to law. These contracts shall include provisions relating to employment, dismissal, remuneration, welfare, occupational safety and workers' insurance.

Article 13 Workers and administrative staff in the employment of the wholly-owned foreign enterprise may set up trade unions in accordance with the law, and such unions may conduct activities to protect the lawful rights and interests of the employees.

The enterprise shall provide necessary facilities for the activities of the trade unions.

Article 14 The wholly-owned foreign enterprise shall set up account books in China, conduct independent auditing and, in conformity with the regulations, submit its fiscal reports and statements to the financial and tax authorities for supervision.

If the enterprise refuses to

maintain account books in China, the financial and tax authorities may impose a penalty on it, and the authorities in charge of the administration of industry and commerce may order it to suspend operations or revoke its business licence.

Article 15 Within the scope of operations approved, the wholly-owned foreign enterprise may purchase, either in China or from the world market, raw and semi-finished materials, fuels and other materials it needs. When these are available from both sources, preference should be given to Chinese sources.

Article 16 The wholly-owned foreign enterprise shall apply to insurance companies in China for such kinds of insurance coverage as are needed.

Article 17 The wholly-owned foreign enterprise shall pay taxes in accordance with relevant state regulations. It may apply for preferential treatment for reduction of taxes or exemption from them.

If the enterprise reinvests a portion of its after-tax profits in China, it may, in accordance with relevant state regulations, apply for a refund of the income tax paid on the reinvested amount.

Article 18 The wholly-owned foreign enterprise shall handle its foreign exchange matters in accordance with relevant state regulations.

The enterprise shall open an account with the Bank of China or with a bank designated by the Chinese authorities in charge of foreign exchange control.

The enterprise should take care to balance its foreign exchange receipts and payments. If, with the approval of the competent authorities, the enterprise markets its products in China and consequently experiences an imbalance in foreign exchange, the said authorities shall be responsible for helping it to eliminate the imbalance.

Article 19 The foreign investor may remit abroad profits legiti-

mately earned from the enterprise, as well as other lawful earnings and any funds left over after the enterprise is liquidated.

Wages, salaries and other legitimate income earned by foreign employees in the enterprise may be remitted abroad after the payment of personal income tax in accordance with Chinese law.

Article 20 The foreign investor should apply for and secure approval of the duration of operations of its enterprise from the authorities in charge of examination and approval. When an extension of the duration of operations is desired, application must be made to the said authorities one hundred and eighty days before the duration of operations expires. The authorities in charge of examination and approval shall, within thirty days from the date of receipt of such application, make a decision on whether or not to grant approval.

Article 21 When terminating operations, the wholly-owned foreign enterprise shall give timely notification and proceed with liquidation in accordance with relevant legal requirements.

Pending the completion of liquidation, a foreign investor may not dispose of the assets of the enterprise except for the purpose of the liquidation.

Article 22 At the termination of operations, the wholly-owned foreign enterprise should nullify its registration with the authorities in charge of the administration of industry and commerce and return its business licence.

Article 23 In accordance with the present law, detailed rules and regulations for the implementation of this law shall be formulated by the department under the State Council which is in charge of foreign economic relations and trade and shall go into effect after approval by the State Council.

Article 24 The present law comes into force on the day of its promulgation. ■

Following Marco Polo's Footsteps

by Jin Bohong

The five of us Chinese—four photographers and one assistant—stood under the sign demarcating the border between China and Pakistan at Kunjirap Daban Pass. We were anxiously awaiting the arrival of two Americans. It was midday on August 15, 1985.

Three months before, a representative of the American Marco Polo Foundation, Harry Rutstein, and the China News Agency had signed an agreement setting in motion a plan to retrace Marco Polo's 700-year-old odyssey. The agreement stated that the Americans would be joined on this day by a party of Chinese at the Daban Pass, from where they would set out together eastward. From the Chinese border, they would pass through southern Xinjiang to arrive at the ancient Buddhist art treasure-house of Dunhuang. From there the travellers would

follow the Yellow River corridor to Lanzhou, Ningxia and Inner Mongolia. Their journey would end in Beijing.

Kunjirap Daban, lying at an altitude of 5,100 m above sea-level in the Pamirs, is China's westernmost open entry point. The Pamirs historically have been the strategic passage between western China on the one hand and India, western Asia, the Mediterranean and the rest of Europe on the other.

In the summer of 1271, 17-year-old Polo left his native Venice with his father and uncle, and following the Silk Road, climbed the Pamirs. In his account, *Travels of Marco Polo*, Polo describes the experience: "[We went] three days' journey towards the north-east, through mountains all the time, climbing so high that this is said to be the highest place in the world. And when [we were] in this high place, [we found] a plain between

two mountains ... whose name is Pamir, extending fully twelve days' journey." It was from that point that Marco began his travels in China.

Rutstein became interested in oriental history and culture at an early age when he discovered Polo's *Travels*, the first Western work to give a serious, systematic account of the Orient. In 1975 Rutstein set out from Venice to re-enact Marco Polo's more than 20,000-km journey. He said he hoped the publicity derived from his trip and the descriptions, photographs and video tapes he would bring back would further understanding between East and West. In 1985 Rutstein arrived at the Sino-Pakistani border with his assistant and companion, author Michael Winn. Together they crossed the border in their jeep, from which flew the five-colour flag of Marco Polo, and stepped

Harry Rutstein learning a Tajik dance.



MODERN SCENES ALONG MARCO POLO'S ANCIENT ROUTE

Tajik mother and
daughter.



Taxkorgan mountain
grasslands.



Uyghur women at a trade market.

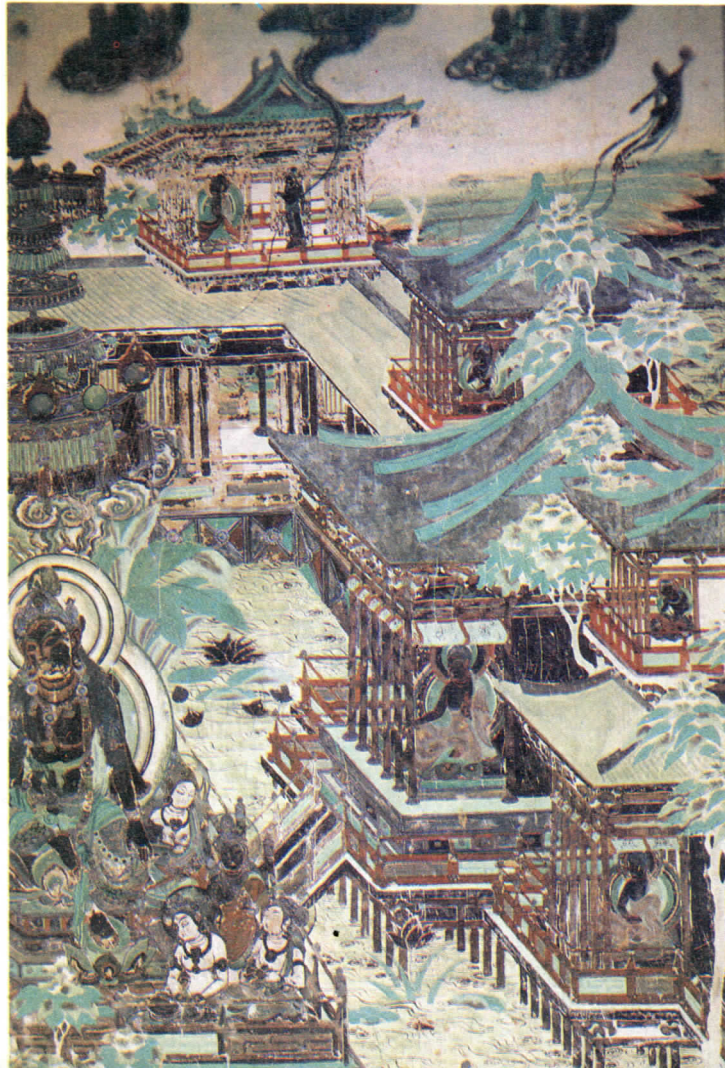


Camel train.

Jiayuguan, the



Section of a Tang Dynasty Buddhist mural depicting Pure Land of the West: Mogao Grottoes.



Famous Ning



Tang Dynasty Buddhist statues:
Mogao Grottoes, Dunhuang.



westernmost outpost of the Great Wall.



ia medicinal herb — Chinese wolfberry.



Cotton harvest in Dunhuang.



108 stupas near Qingtongxia reservoir, Ningxia.

Mosque in Nangan, Ningxia.





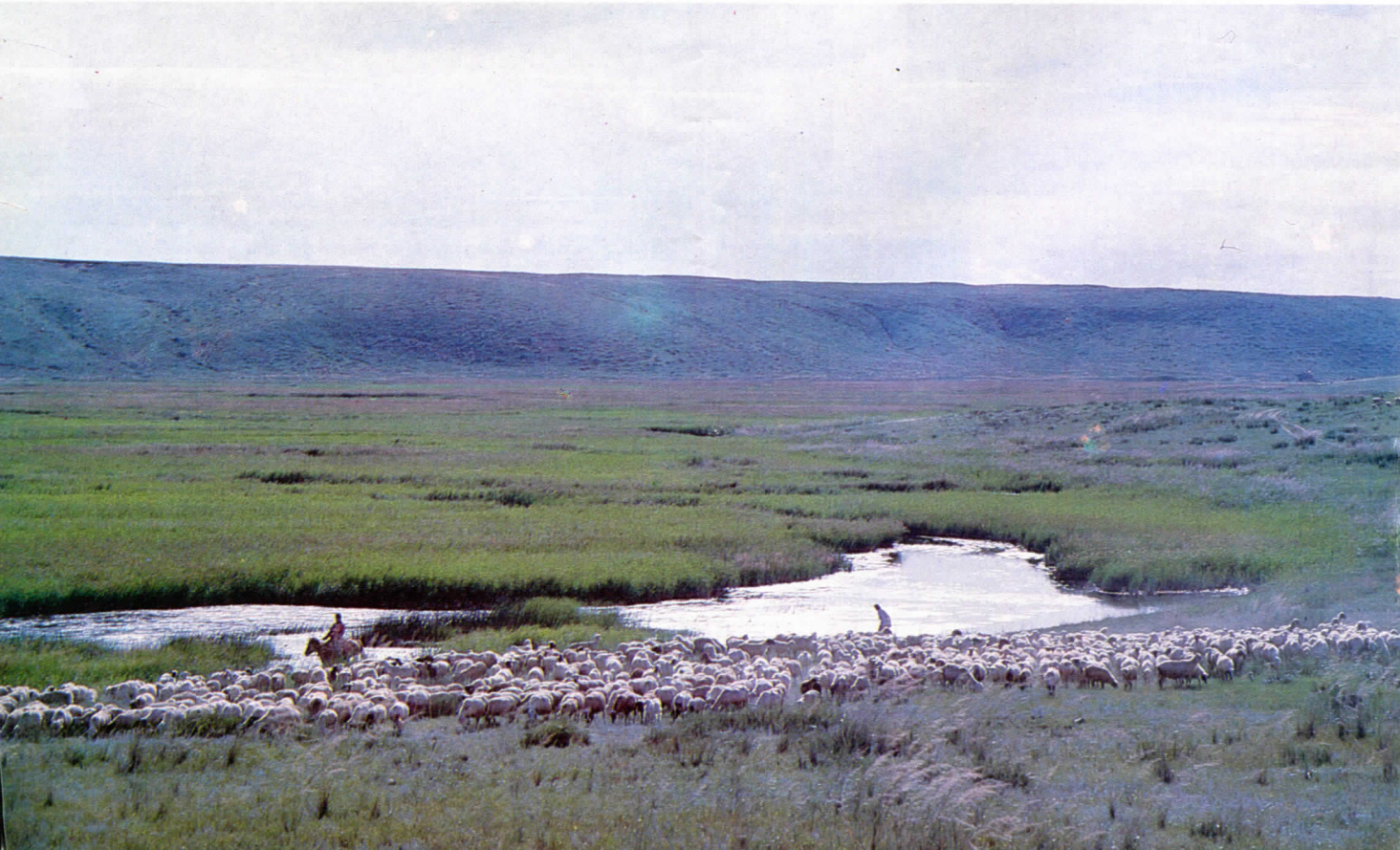
Modern-day Mongolian yurts become tourist accommodations.

(Photos by Jin Bohong, Luo Xiaoyun, Sun Suxian, Xie Jun and Xu Xiangjun)

Carpet-weaving workshop, Hohhot, Inner Mongolia.



Xilin Gol pasturelands, Inner Mongolia.



out onto Chinese soil.

After going through border formalities, the pair was given a warm welcome by officials of the Tajik minority who led them to a nearby sheep-breeding farm for a traditional Tajik-style feast, to which we were all invited. One of the delicacies served was made from sheep tail fat and sheep liver. Though the flesh was only half-cooked because of the high altitude, it was still delicious.

In this county there is no crime; if one leaves something by the road and puts a stone on it, it will remain undisturbed no matter how many days pass....

Taxkorgan Tajik Autonomous County lies at an average altitude of 4,000 m above sea-level, and its average year-round temperature rarely exceeds -3^o Centigrade. The Tajik inhabitants are primarily sheep-herders or farmers. We were invited to tour the grasslands at the base of Muztagata Mountain, the so-called "Father of Glaciers." There we visited a herdsman's family, attended a wedding and watched horse races and sheep roping (very much like an American rodeo). The Tajik people have traditionally referred to themselves as the "Descendants of the Eagle." During our stay we listened to the music of their "eagle flute" and watched as they performed the "eagle dance," during which the dancers mimicked an eagle soaring above the mountains.

The five days we spent among the Tajiks were like living in a utopia. In this county there is no crime; if one leaves something by the road and puts a stone on it to signify it has an owner, it will remain undisturbed no matter how many days pass before one returns for it.

On August 20 we said goodbye to Taxkorgan and set out for Kashgar.

The city of Kashgar was one of the key gathering places along the old Silk Road and is now the centre of Uygur culture and religion. The Uygurs have a saying: "You cannot say you have been to Xinjiang unless you have been to Kashgar." Uygurs make up more than 95 percent of Kashgar's population. In Kashgar one finds the most beautiful ancient Islamic-style building in all Xinjiang — the tomb of Xiang Fei, an imperial concubine, and the 400-year-old Aitgar Mosque. Surrounding the mosque is Kashgar's exotic bazaar, which is divided into lanes, each specializing in a line of goods, e.g., fruits and melons, meat, clothing, cloth, hats and prepared food. As I walked amid the stalls I was reminded of the description of ancient Baghdad in the *Arabian Nights*.² Everywhere were hundreds of customers and piles of merchandise; veiled women hawked their hand-sewn embroidered caps, while youngsters shouted at you to buy their shop's dresses.

The staple food of the Uygurs is a flat bread called *nan*. Its size ranges as big as a foot to as small as the palm of one's hand. A *nan* bakery employs from four to five workers who, in a kind of assembly production line, mix, shape and slap the dough on the walls of a special brick oven. The dough seems to fly as it is tossed from one baker to another. Finally, when it has been baked crispy and golden on the outside and is fragrant and light on the inside, the *nan* is tossed out on to a reed mat to cool. What a pleasure it was to watch them at work!

Other favoured specialities of the Uygur diet include lamb shish-kebab and roast whole lamb. Foods such as rice and meat are commonly eaten with the fingers. We "did in Rome as the Romans do" and stuffed ourselves to our hearts' content.

When speaking of food, one cannot but mention Xinjiang's fruits and melons. Due to its ideally dry, Mediterranean-like

desert climate with large differences in temperature between day and night, fruits and melons ripen there to perfection. Xinjiang is especially famous for its Hami melons, of which there are at least 10 varieties — some as heavy as 20 kg. Be it soft or crispy the melon has a delicate sweetness and fragrance that knows no equal.

After spending five days in Kashgar, we set off again east along the southern fringes of the Taklimakan desert, through Yarkant to Hotan.

Uygurs love to be photographed. All one has to do is take up one's camera, and passers-by will stop in their tracks to let one take their picture.

August 27 happened to be the Moslem festival of *Id'-al-Qurban*. Before dawn we hurried to Hotan's Great Mosque to observe the ceremonies. The mosque normally only holds about 5,000 worshippers, but that day there were more than 10,000. Late-comers sat in an orderly fashion facing west in the road outside the mosque. At 8:30 the ceremonies began and everyone followed the call of the imam, standing up and praying in silence with folded hands, then bowing and kneeling on the ground. This set of movements was repeated many times before the ceremony ended. Afterwards, everyone went home to prepare for the feasts that would follow. The first day of the festival is traditionally one of family reunion; the following day, friends go to visit one another. The Uygurs are hospitable people; as guests from afar, we had only to show up at their houses to be handsomely entertained.

Uygurs love to be photographed. All one has to do is take up one's camera and passers-by will stop in their tracks to let one take their picture. Storekeepers and artisans will gladly show off



Rutstein and Winn camping with expedition members in the Taklimakan desert.

for the camera, and young women will arrange their hair. Onlookers will shout out their suggestions for various poses and in general contribute to the liveliness of the scene. Uygur children are especially enthusiastic about having their photos taken and will often crowd around someone with a camera in great numbers.

One day in Hotan when I was shooting some photos at the bazaar, a young lad pulled at my clothing, asking me to photograph him. When I didn't comply immediately, he continued to follow me. At last he took out a one-yuan bill and waved it at me. I knew he wasn't trying to bribe me, and that he understood I couldn't take his photo at the moment — he was just trying to attract my eye. I eventually did take his photo, but was soon after besieged by several money-waving children, all wanting their photos taken. I must say southern Xinjiang is a photographer's paradise!

On September 2 we left Hotan, and after visits to the towns of Keriya and Niya, we reached Qarkilik on the 11th. Strung out along the old Silk Road, these towns are isolated because they border on the Taklimakan desert. They are, however, verdant oases, having been watered over many hundreds of years by melting snow from the Kunlun Mountain Range. Qarkilik County has an area of 25,000 square kilometres, an area larger than the total land area of Greece or Holland. Here, however, only 2,300 hectares are cultivated and the population is a mere 25,000.

The section of road from Qarkilik to Dunhuang originally was the most difficult portion of the old Silk Road. In *Travels Polo* recorded the region's challenge: "In crossing this section of desert, one must prepare a full month's worth of provisions. Evil spirits abide here who may lure the unwary traveller far from his path

to certain doom in the depths of the desert..."

When petroleum was tapped in southern Xinjiang and Qinghai Province in the 1980s, a road was built connecting Qarkilik with Dunhuang by way of Qinghai; this road runs slightly south of the old Silk Road.

Last year more than 100,000 Chinese and foreign tourists visited the caves. Today Dunhuang is greatly expanding itself to meet a new boom in tourism.

We visited the ancient city of Miran about 80 km east of Qarkilik County. It is said that garrison troops were sent here in the Han Dynasty (206 BC-220AD) to establish an outpost and open up the land. Marco Polo was supposed to have briefly

broken his journey near here at Luobu township. In the early 20th century the English explorer Mark Aurel Stein discovered Roman-style paintings of winged angels in an old temple here. He also found the first century Roman emperor's name "Titus" on some of the paintings. Stein concluded the artist was a Roman who had received training in the classical painting tradition. This anonymous artist predated Marco Polo's arrival in China by almost 1,200 years.

We went east more than 1,000 km, crossing the Qaidam Basin, and finally arrived at Dunhuang. An important city on the old Silk Road, Dunhuang's history dates back to 111 BC when the Western Han Dynasty first established a base there in its attempt to control the Western Regions (modern-day Xinjiang). With the arrival in China of Buddhism from India, Dunhuang became a thriving Buddhist centre, and in 366 AD people there began cutting out the Mogao Grottoes. Over a period of 1,000 years the caves multiplied to cover a 1,600-m expanse of cliff. Today there are 492 caves, the walls of which are covered with more than 45,000 square metres of religious frescos. The cave complex has become world-renowned as an ancient repository of Buddhist art. Last year more than 100,000 Chinese and foreign tourists visited the caves. Today Dunhuang is greatly expanding its construction projects to meet the demand of its ever-increasing tourism.

From Dunhuang we went east crossing the westernmost outpost of the Great Wall at Jiayuguan and arrived at Jiuquan city. Visiting the Quanhui township on the outskirts of the city, we noticed the rapid development of agriculture and industry that has been made since the town began the responsibility system in 1982. It is reported that half of the city's citizens are engaged in some kind of business including both collectively and individually managed enterprises.

Since 1958... the people have established an effective system to curb desert encroachment—a victory that has attracted the notice of desertologists worldwide.

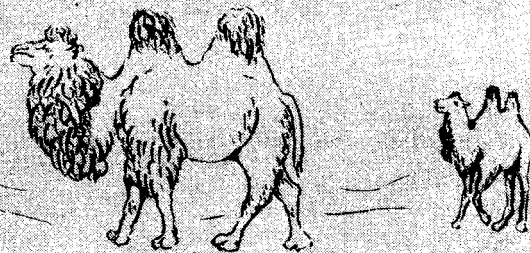
After we bid adieu to Jiuquan, we proceeded along the course of the Yellow River to arrive at Lanzhou, the capital of Gansu Province. Lanzhou is built along the banks of the Yellow River, stretching out to a distance of 60 km. With an average width of only 2-3 km, Lanzhou is one of the world's narrowest cities. In historical times, Lanzhou was an important Yellow River crossing point for the Silk Road. Before liberation the city covered a mere 17 square kilometres and had a population of 170,000. After 1949, however, industry developed rapidly, especially in the sectors of petrochemicals, machinery, tex-

tiles and mining. Today Lanzhou has expanded to 146 square kilometres, and its population has grown to 1.8 million.

In October we left Lanzhou and headed north, crossing the Yellow River three times—twice by bridge and once by ferry. After travelling 400 km we arrived at Zhongwei County in the Ningxia Hui Autonomous Region.

Zhongwei has been called the "Jiangnan outside the Great Wall." (Jiangnan is a fertile area south of the Yangtze River.) Here the Yellow River provides water for irrigating the fields and growing rice and wheat. Zhongwei faces the Tenger desert to the northwest. The desert has frequently threatened the existence of the county's inhabitants. Since 1958, however, the people have been battling the desert and recently have established an effective system of defences against desert encroachment—a victory that has attracted the notice of desertologists worldwide. In September 1984 Zhongwei hosted a desert studies seminar, which was attended by specialists from 24 African countries.

After leaving Zhongwei, we followed the Yellow River to Yinchuan, the capital of Ningxia. The Hui minority makes up one-third of the autonomous region's population of 360,000. The Huis are Moslems whose forefathers long ago came to China from central Asia. In 1219 Genghis Khan began his march westward, and one by one conquered the countries of central and western



Asia and even parts of eastern Europe. At that time thousands of central Asian, Persian and Arabian artisans, soldiers, merchants and nobles poured into China. There they joined the ranks of the local Chinese, Mongols and Uygurs and were gradually assimilated into what are now China's Hui minority.

Ningxia today exports traditional Chinese medicines such as Chinese wolfberry and licorice root. Ningxia also produces stone carvings, sheepskins, and a special kind of stringy black algae that is considered a delicacy in Chinese cuisine.

From Yinchuan we took a train to Hohhot, the capital of Inner Mongolia.

Hohhot has developed rapidly over the last 400 years. The earliest examples of paper money were discovered here.

During the middle of the 12th century, the Borjigin clan, under the leadership of Yesugei, gradually reached a position of dominance among the other Mongolian tribes. After Yesugei's death, his son Temujin inherited his father's position and went on to unify all the Mongolian tribes under his control. In 1206 Temujin was chosen the supreme leader of the Mongols and took the title Genghis Khan. Not long afterwards, he began his campaign to conquer the world.

In 1260 Genghis Khan's grandson Kublai succeeded him and became Khan. He moved his capital to the site of present day Beijing in 1264, and in 1271 changed his name of his dynasty to Yuan. It was during this same year that Marco Polo set out from Venice for China.

Young Polo was a good learner. After he arrived in China, Polo, who already spoke Italian and French, quickly picked up the Mongolian and Chinese lan-

guages. He was, therefore, regarded highly by Kublai Khan. Aside from being given official duties in the capital, Polo was also sent by imperial order to act as an envoy to the provinces. He travelled over much of North China in this capacity and was once sent as far as Yunnan and Burma. In 1295, after an absence of 24 years, Polo finally returned to his native land.

The book *The Travels of Marco Polo* might never have been written were it not for a twist of fate. In 1298, soon after his return to Venice, Polo was captured by the Genoese—great maritime rivals of the Venetians—during a battle on the Mediterranean. Marco was sent to Genoa and jailed. While in prison he met another prisoner—a writer named Rusticiano, for whom he recounted his travels. Rusticiano then compiled Polo's tales into *The Travels of Marco Polo*, which was written in the era's fashionable language, Franco-Italian.

In writing about the area around modern-day Hohhot, Polo in *Travels* observed: "Tenduc is a province containing many towns and villages... (and) is a part of the Great Khan's domain. It was subjugated by the first Tartar emperor, Genghis Khan...."

Hohhot has developed rapidly over the last 400 years. The "White Pagoda," which lies east

of the city about 20 km, however, was built much earlier—somewhere between the 10th and 12th centuries during the Liao Dynasty. We visited this pagoda, which measures more than 40 m in height. Paper money from the Yuan Dynasty was discovered here, one of the earliest examples of its kind in the world. It is said Marco Polo tried to introduce the use of paper money to Venice upon his return and to set up a bank, but the venture ended in failure.

In October 20 we finally arrived in Beijing, the end of our journey following the footsteps of Marco Polo. Since leaving the mountain pass of Kunjirap Daban, we had covered 10,000 km in 65 days.

Rutstein was especially happy that day, for he had at last fulfilled his long-cherished wish to become the first person to retrace Marco Polo's entire trip. He felt slightly at a loss about what to do next; having come so far, where should he go now? Rutstein spoke of his surprise at seeing the rapid developments taking place in the northwest regions of China. Without a doubt the experiences Rutstein went through and the knowledge he gained would be enough for him to compose an entirely new *Travels of Marco Polo*.

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Traffic Jams Plague Beijing Residents

by Our Correspondent Li Rongxia

Although my workday begins at eight o'clock, I must leave my home at six thirty to travel the dozen kilometres on time. Caught smack in the middle of the capital city's notorious rush hour, I'm fed up with the morning madness of getting to work by bus.

But I'm not the only one who complains about traffic jams in the city. My vexation is shared by almost all bus riders, what with the inadequate number of vehicles, the poor geographic layout and the crowds of people who take the bus to work.

During rush hour, people are so packed into buses that often between 12 and 14 people have to share one square metre's space. This figure is greater than the 9 persons per square metre standard set by the state. One of the factors contributing to the congestion is that there are only 4,033 buses and trolley buses to accommodate Beijing's 9 million riders. Moreover, the poor road system is causing man-made congestion problems with the millions of bicycles that hit the streets in Beijing each day.

Status Quo

Traffic jams are the result of more than 80 bottlenecks in the city. A case in point is the bustling Caishikou crossing, which, during the rush hour, sees the flow of about 1,570 motor vehicles, 25,000 bicycles and 8,800 pedestrians in just one hour. At this particular bottleneck where six bus routes pass through, a traffic jam can last for up to six hours.

The traffic problem has thrown a monkey wrench into the normal operation of the buses and very often people have to wait for ages to see a bus pulling into the station like an ox. In 1985, the number of buses that operated "normally"

compared with the number of the motor vehicles in service dropped to 44 percent from 92 percent in 1981. And the speed of those buses dropped to 12 to 14 kilometres an hour from 18 to 20 kilometres an hour in the 1960s. And during a traffic jam, those buses travel even slower than a pedestrian.

While some people have complaints about the time wasted hanging around for buses, others don't seem to mind. These are the cyclists, of course. In cities in China, bicycles come in line after buses as source of major transportation. Given the present situation when people have difficulties getting onto the bus, more and more people are turning

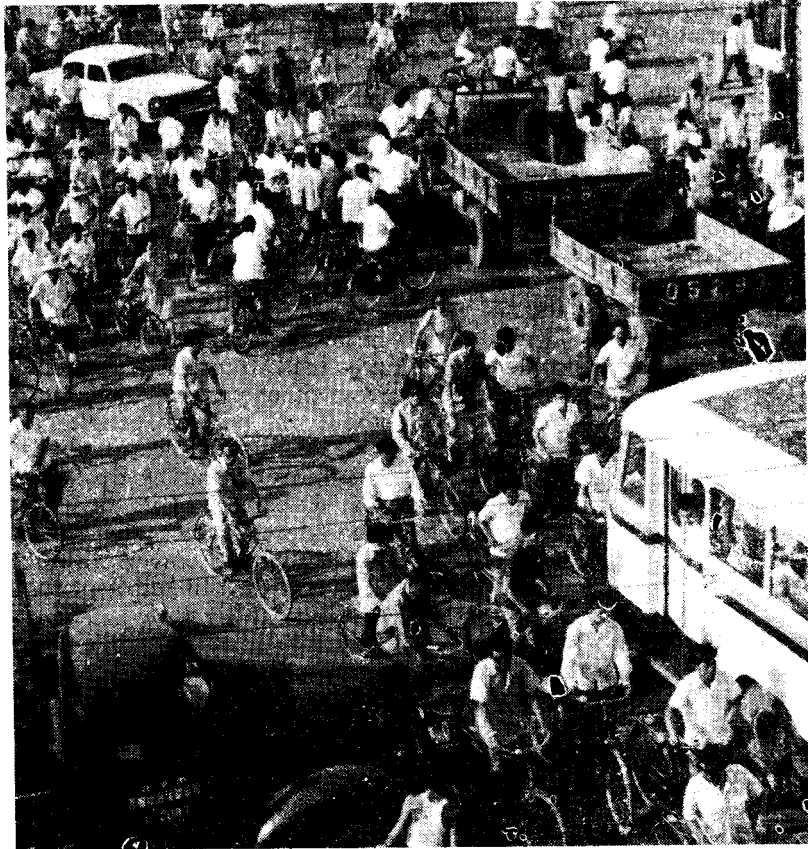
to bikes, around 500,000 more each year. Today there are 5.5 million bicycles in Beijing alone. But such an enormous number of bicycles has triggered off even more traffic accidents. In 1985, for example, about 720 persons died in traffic accidents, about two a day, and about 30 percent of these deaths were caused by bicycle accidents.

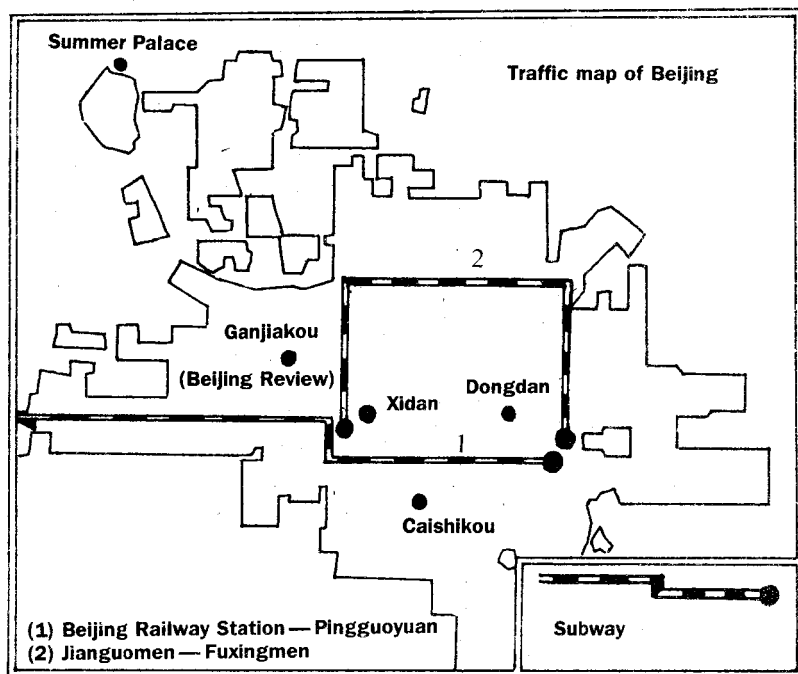
Although the traffic during the rush hour is quite depressing, riding the bus at other time of day can be comfortable. Whenever possible, however, there are those who prefer to take the subway for its quickness and dependability.

The first subway of Beijing, extending from the Beijing

Traffic jam at a crossroad.

WANG DONGHAI





Railway Station west to Pingguoyuan, was open to traffic in 1969 after four years of construction. It now carries 400,000 people a day.

In 1979, construction of Beijing's second subway began. Although it only runs 16.4 kilometres along the demolished old city wall, the work was delayed by the disastrous "cultural revolution." It was not until last October that the subway was open to traffic, though it is connected with few bus routes, and not with the first subway. Therefore it carries only 30,000 people a day.

Traffic Jam Causes

To examine the causes of traffic jams in Beijing this correspondent visited the municipal public transport department and other authoritative organs. Specialists there agreed that the root cause of the problem was that speed of road construction has failed to keep pace with the increased number of motor vehicles. In 1985, the number of motor vehicles logged a 130-fold increase (bicycles increased 38-fold) since

1949, while the existing road length of 2,509 kilometres, their total area accounting for a mere 9 percent of the municipal area.

Beijing is an old city, whose chessboard-type layout took shape in the early 14th century. In 1904, the first road was paved with cobblestones to the east of the Forbidden City. By 1947 the city had a total road length of 330 kilometres. Half of them, however, were narrow, clay streets.

The traffic problem is also believed to be worsened by the growing transient population from other parts of the country, about 1 million people and 200,000 motor vehicles every day.

Subway officials have estimated that 60 percent of its passengers are visitors. People taking buses to the Summer Palace number 300,000 a day. In addition, about 930,000 foreign tourists visit Beijing each year, a number that is practically doubling every year.

Another cause of the traffic bottlenecks is poor management and lack of parking space.

Strolling along Beijing, the pedestrian will discover that many roads are narrowed by construc-

tion materials and even street vendors which have caused the closing of 57 roads and have blocked another 44. A case in point is the road skirting the building which houses our *Beijing Review*. Currently, part of the road is sectioned off for an open vegetable and fruit market, which makes shopping easier for our staff but forces our bus drivers to take detours.

In recent years, more than 200 taxi companies have sprung up to serve the many new hotels in Beijing. Such expansion, however, has not been commensurate with the number of parking lots. Consequently, taxis must park by the roadside or in alleys. The Beijing Hotel in the centre of the city, for example, is visited by 8,000 cars a day. Its parking lot can hold 300 cars at one time, but often another 300 cars will have to park by the roadside.

Another nagging traffic problem is the outdated traffic signal equipment at Beijing's 230 intersections.

The intersection at Xidan, a major shopping district, is incredibly busy, with one-sixth of the motor vehicles in the city passing through there almost every day. Such a torrent of cars, buses and bicycles, not to mention the swarms of people, often forces traffic officers to come to the rescue of the traffic lights. "During my six hours of duty a day, I have to make thousands of turns and hand gestures," said Yu Hongxing, a police officer working there.

In Beijing, there are 4,200 traffic officers on duty, amazingly small in number when one considers they account for 0.4 percent of the city's total population.

Remedial Measures

This transportation problem directly affects the daily lives of the people. Beijing Mayor Chen Xitong once vowed to work for



People fighting to get on the bus.

YANG LIMING

the improvement of traffic facilities in the city.

Zhang Baifa, a vice-mayor, said in an interview that during the 1981-85 period the municipal government attacked and solved many of the traffic problems in the northern part of the city. Zhang said that in the period of the Seventh Five-Year Plan (1986-90), several hundred million yuan would be spent easing congestion in the southern and downtown areas. "Within two to three years, we should be able to improve the situation at some key points like Xidan and Dongdan," the vice-mayor added.

When asked about the concrete measures that the municipal government will take to clear up the roads, Zhang listed the following actions:

- Strengthening traffic management and regulations to make the most of the existing road system. On some roads barricades will be erected to separate cars from bicycles and to curb jay walkers. Violations of traffic laws will be punished accordingly.

- Building more roads and pedestrian overpasses. In the last few years, Beijing has built 14 overpasses, nine small street bridges and 14 underground passages in addition to widening intersections to raise the traffic capacity there by 30 percent.

In 1986, Vice-Mayor Zhang disclosed, 200 million yuan would be spent in this regard and in the next two years, five roads leading to the suburbs and three overpasses would be built to boost traffic capacity.

- Striving for automation of traffic control. Plans call for 50 traffic signal devices to be replaced by more sophisticated ones this year. Construction of a modern traffic control centre is in full swing and it is expected to be completed by the end of the year. By then, Beijing's traffic control should be automatically monitored and controlled.

- Reducing the volume of passenger flow by staggering the work hours of more factories, companies and other workplaces. Today, more than two-thirds of Beijing's workforce of 3.8 million begin work at the same hour.

- Rerouting some of the bus routes and restricting the increase of the number of private motorcycles. In recent years 14 residential quarters were erected, which have brought changes to the direction of passenger flow. Oddly enough, public buses are still driven along routes that were mapped out in the 1950s. Efforts are thus called for to rearrange these routes.

- Connecting the two existing subways to enable them to carry 10 percent of the city's passengers.

Vice-Mayor Zhang said that the Beijing Subway Company had secured a technical co-operation agreement from a Canadian company to conduct a feasibility study on the improvement of the subway transportation system.

"We are confident of a gradual improvement in the traffic situation of Beijing," declared Zhang, adding that by 1990 the current traffic capacity level should be boosted by 20 percent to 30 percent. ■

Jianguomen Flyover built to help ease traffic jams in Beijing.

YANG LIMING



Plan 'Sparks' New Life Into Countryside

"LIAO WANG"

(Outlook Weekly)

While China's modernization relies on the prosperity of its countryside, where 80 percent of its population live, the modernization of the latter depends on modern science and technology.

The Spark Plan, so named because there is a Chinese saying that a single spark can start a prairie fire, is sponsored by the State Science and Technology Commission. It is an extensive programme to introduce to the countryside new techniques, equipment and materials as well as technicians. The goals are to improve productivity, lower costs and raise output and quality.

The Spark Plan was drawn up in view of the recent rapid development of township (or rural)

enterprises and the improvement of the rural economic structure. The rural enterprises are now playing an increasingly important role in the nation's economic and social life. By the end of 1985, they employed more than 60 million people, accounting for 20 percent of the total rural labour force. In 1983, the output value of township enterprises was less than 10 billion yuan. The next year it reached 17 billion yuan the 170 billion yuan figure we used in No. 6-7, p.5 is wrong], and in 1985 it jumped again to 24.81 billion yuan, accounting for 20 percent of the nation's total industrial and agricultural output value. In Jiangsu, Zhejiang and other provinces where rural enterprises have developed more quickly, the figures were as high as 50 to 70 percent.

China's goal is to quadruple its gross output value of industry and

agriculture by the year 2000, reaching 2,800 billion yuan. Rural enterprises have become an important force for realizing this goal. With guidance and technological support, rural enterprises should be able to produce an output value of 1,000 billion yuan a year by the end of this century, which will make up one-third of the national total.

According to statistics, every 100 yuan of fixed-asset investment in state industrial enterprises now can generate an output value of 96 yuan and a little more than 20 yuan in profits and taxes. For township enterprises, however, the same amount of investment can turn out an output value of 229 yuan and 34 yuan of profits and taxes. Because of such potential, the State Science and Technology commission called two meetings of local science commission directors to discuss the implementation of the Spark Plan.

Taxis: Both Boon and Bane

"WEN HUI BAO"

(Wenhui Daily)

A mere wave of the hand can bring one of the thousands of taxis that roam Guangzhou's streets to one's disposal. Is this good or bad? People wonder.

Things were not like this at the end of 1984. At that time, people found it difficult to get a taxi if one did not have the much worshipped foreign exchange certificates. Today, it is different. When one comes out of the Guangzhou airport or the railway station, a group of taxi drivers flock around the visitor, vying for the potential fare.

The major reason for the change is that the increase in the number of taxis is out of control. In 1982 Guangzhou had fewer than 1,000

taxis. The number increased to more than 2,400 by the end of 1984. In the third quarter of 1985, the number rose to 5,500. It is reported that Guangzhou now has about 8,000 taxis and more than 200 taxi companies. Because of this, competition has become unprecedentedly fierce, and the average income per-taxi has dropped drastically, coming down by 30 percent from the corresponding period of 1985.

At present, taxis still belong to the luxury category in China. Even in Guangzhou where the consumption level is comparatively high, most people, except overseas tourists and a small number of people with higher incomes, lack the money to pay for taxis. Although many foreign tourists visit Guangzhou, Shanghai and

other open coastal cities, their number is limited. Moreover, there is a major difference in the amount of business during the on and off seasons.

The development of taxi services should be based on a scientific analysis of the market, and the number of taxis should be kept within reasonable limits.

This development is important to solving the problem of insufficient transportation in China's cities. Nevertheless, its role should not be overemphasized, for unrestrained growth will lead to many traffic problems. All in all, the number of taxis in a city should match the road conditions and social needs. Otherwise, instead of alleviating the transportation problems, they will further exacerbate them.

In view of this situation, authorities in Guangzhou have come to realize the problem and are now trying to solve it through

strengthening unified management.

Taxi services are a relatively

new industry that should be developed in China's cities. One can draw some useful lessons from

Guangzhou's problems, because they can benefit the whole country.

Population Distribution in China

"DILI ZHISHI"

(Geographical Knowledge)

China's population totalled 1,031,882,511 persons, according to China's third national census completed on July 1, 1982. On the average, population density on the mainland is 105 persons per square kilometre, about three times the world's average of 34 people per square kilometre.

However, because of the country's divergent natural conditions, China's population is quite unevenly distributed. Population density thins out as one moves westward. Of the country's more than 2,300 counties and cities, 30 percent have population densities of more than 400 persons per square kilometre, while another 30 percent have less than 100 people in one square kilometre. In both the east and west, there are, however, some heavily populated cities and plains.

Geographically, China's population density has a three-tiered structure.

If China is divided into two parts by drawing a straight line from the city of Heihe in Heilongjiang Province to Ruili County, Yunnan Province, the western part has 54 percent of the country's total area but only 5.7 percent of the population.

Western China's counties and cities with population densities of more than 10 persons per square kilometre are scattered in the plains and river basins where water supplies are convenient. But, most counties in the west have anywhere from one to 10 people per square kilometre. The density in the northern part of the Qinghai-Tibet Plateau, the southern section of Xinjiang and western Inner Mongolia have population densities of less than one person per square kilometre, making them China's most sparsely populated areas. Although these regions occupy about 10 percent of the nation's total territory, large tracts of land are uninhabited.

In sharp contrast, Eastern China is much more densely populated, with its population

becoming greater as one moves southward. The east accommodates 94.1 percent of China's population but has only 46 percent of the territory. The population density in the North-east China Plain is between 100 and 400 persons per square kilometre. The North China Plain, the North Jiangsu Plain, the Fenhe-Weishui Plain and the plain in the middle reaches of the Changjiang (Yangtze) River have between 200 and 400 persons per square kilometre. The Sichuan Basin and the coastal plains of Zhejiang, Fujian and Guangdong have between 400 and 800; while the Changjiang River Delta, the Taihu Plain, Zhujiang (Pearl) River Delta and the coastal areas along the Hangzhou Bay have between 600 and 1,000 per square kilometre. However, the mountainous areas around these plains in the eastern part have sparser population densities.

In addition, the cities, especially the large ones, are the most heavily populated with each becoming the local centre in terms of population density. Shanghai (not including the suburban counties) is the most densely populated city in China, with more than 22,000 persons living on one square kilometre of land.

Poor Areas Urged to Export Labour

"NONGMIN RIBAO"

(Farmers' Daily)

In Luoding County of Guangdong Province, more than 30 percent of the labour force has moved to work in construction, mining, tailoring and other service trades.

With the development of the market-oriented economy, move-

ment of labour has developed into economic activity of some force.

Working as labourers can not only increase country people's income and open a way to prosperity for surplus rural labour, but also enhance people's skills for the benefit of the country's economic construction. These farmers will bring back goods and technological know-how from other more advanced areas, which could help rural economic development.

It should be noted, however,

that some people are still unaware of the meaning of "exporting labour." One important reason for this is the yoke of rigid ideas. Some farmers assume that their work is agriculture, and going out to do business is "not honest work," or even dishonorable. Some even think that working in the service trades means waiting on other people and is thus demeaning. If such thinking is not cast off, it will be impossible for the farmers to shake off poverty and gain prosperity.

Arbitrators Seek Balance, Justice

Representatives from China's foreign Economic Relations and Trade Arbitration Commission will co-chair the Eighth International Arbitration Congress to be held on May 6 in New York.

In 1984, a Chinese export company did not deliver a shipment of goods on schedule, and the foreign firm refused to extend the date of delivery. The arbitration commission said that the Chinese company was to pay



China's arbitration court hears a case brought by a West German firm against a Chinese company.

Directly under the China Council for the Promotion of International Trade, in 1985 the commission accepted more than 60 economic cases brought by foreign firms, exceeding the number received by most international arbitration outfits.

Many foreign business people involved in lawsuits have expressed their confidence in doing business with China, because of the skill and objectivity evident in China's arbitration proceedings.

In 1985, a foreign business opened a joint venture restaurant with a Chinese company. Since the foreign partners failed to provide funds for decorating the rooms according to the contract, the restaurant was unable to open at the scheduled date. The Chinese arbitration court ruled that the foreign firm had to pay the Chinese side the losses incurred from opening late.

the foreign firm the difference between the international market price within the delivery period and the price listed in the contract.

China is now a member of the International Council for Commercial Arbitration (ICCA), and the UN International Trade Centre has appointed some Chinese specialists as arbitrators for the UN.

Metal Trade Set For Expansion

In order to expand nonferrous metals export the China National Nonferrous Metals Import and Export Corp. will send 10 trade groups overseas for consultation with foreign counterparts in this year. The corporation will also host the second China Nonferrous Metals Conference

for Exhibition, Trade and Investment later this year in the Federal Republic of Germany.

In 1985 China's exports of nonferrous metals totalled US\$400 million and went to Britain, the United States, France, Federal Germany, Japan, Italy, Canada, Austria, Belgium, the Soviet Union, Czechoslovakia and Romania. Of China's 30 varieties of nonferrous metals, 25 percent was of medium-grade quality. The corporation has also imported advanced technologies to adjust its commodity structure. Its 1985 imports valued US\$130 million, of which US\$10 million was allotted to the aluminium base in Shanxi Province and to the Northwest Lead and Zinc Plant for equipment from Federal Germany and Japan. Contracts have been signed with the French ELMOCSECOMA Co. for manufacturing quarrying machines and with the US ELMOC Company for scraping equipment.

The China National Nonferrous Metals Industry Corp. last August announced 18 investment projects to open in Japan. Consultations with foreign firms on these projects are underway, and a number of contracts are expected to be signed before the end of the year.

Large projects such as the Jinchuan Nonferrous Metals Corp. in Gansu Province, the Dexing Copper Mine in Jiangxi Province, and the Pingguo Bauxite Mine in Guangxi Zhuang Autonomous Region need equipment to expand production.

Nonferrous metals imports have also increased, with the 1985 volume 40 percent above the previous year's. Imports have included copper, zinc, magnesium, worked metals and rare metals, from Chile, Peru, Australia and the Philippines.

China's traditional export items include tungsten, tin, antimony, molybdenum, mercury, nickel, germanium, indium, silicon, potassium and rare earths.

Starting in 1986, all nonferrous

metals trading operations will be handled by the China National Nonferrous Metals Import and Export Corp., which has set up representative offices in Japan and Hong Kong. Permanent representatives are expected to be sent soon to Britain and the United States.

Shipping Competes Boosts Service

In order to compete more effectively in the sluggish world shipping trade, the China Ocean Shipping Co. recently launched five regular lines with freighters calling at designated ports at regular intervals. Freight charges will also now be market oriented, with reductions expected in high-grade rates.

The company has also streamlined its management, opened new shipping routes and rearranged its old ones. In addition, a contract responsibility system has been tentatively applied to 100 freighters.

Other moves include a clients' symposium with a view to expand business. Guided by the slogan,

"Customers first. Credit first," the company ships all kinds of goods in all sizes. Last December, for instance, a Peruvian firm had 100,000 tons of iron ore pellets to be shipped to China's Dalian port. The ore could have been carried by a large freighter, but the large freighter can only pull dock at Beilun Port in Zhejiang Province. The ore would then have to be carried in smaller ships north to Dalian. Since it was winter, the ore would freeze en route, adversely affecting its quality. The China Ocean Shipping Co. agreed to transport the iron ore in two smaller freighters directly to Dalian. The two shipments meant higher expenses for the China Shipping Co., but its client's time and money were saved.

The China Ocean Shipping Co. opened in April 1961 with 25 ships. Today it features 613 freighters, including container ships, roll-on/roll-off ships, passenger ships, oil tankers and bulk cargo ships. They ply along 93 lines, linking China with Japan, West Europe, the United States, Canada, Australia, the Persian Gulf and the rest of the world.

The company has branches in Guangzhou, Shanghai, Tianjin, Qingdao and Dalian. Co-

operative ocean shipping agencies have been organized with Zhejiang, Jiangsu, Anhui, Jiangxi and Hebei provinces. The China Ocean Shipping Co. also has agencies and joint ventures in a number of foreign countries.

Liaoning Export Seminar

An export commodity conference will be held in July at the port city Dalian in Liaoning Province.

The province's 11 delegations will represent different business areas—cereal, oil and foodstuff production; local agriculture; light industry; arts and crafts; chemicals; metals and minerals; machinery and equipment; and silk manufacturing.

Invitations will be extended to businesses in Japan, the United States, Canada, Australia, New Zealand, Western Europe and Hong Kong.

News in Brief

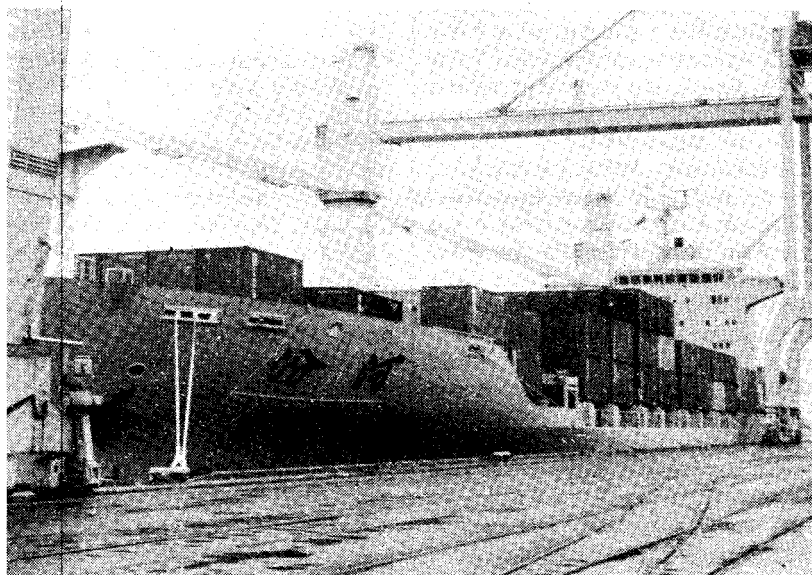
■ The Chinese government will allot 13.2 billion yuan to develop tourism resources in the next five years. The programme includes development of transport and construction of hotels, as well as personnel training in major tourist cities.

In 1985 3 million tourists came to China. By 1990 that number will probably reach 5 million and the number of hotel rooms is expected to increase from 60,000 to 120,000.

■ A Chinese delegation will participate in the 52nd International Women's Fashion Exhibition to be held in Paris in September. The Chinese displays will be a unique combination of traditional and modern fashions.

This will be the second time a Chinese delegation has taken part. The Chinese pavilion will cover 50 square metres. A choice of 300 fashions, instead of the 90 of last time, will be available for order.

The container ship "Fen He" berths at a foreign port.



Architect of Modern Chinese Drama

The Beijing People's Art Theatre's performance of *The Teahouse* was a hit during the troupe's tour of the Federal Republic of Germany and Japan in 1980, and marked the first display of China's modern achievements in drama to the outside world.

As one of Chinese author Lao She's masterpieces, *The Teahouse* depicts China's social changes over a 50-year period from the 1890s to the 1940s. Though he had been dead for five years when *The Teahouse* was performed abroad in 1980, the man behind the success of the play was director Jiao Juyin. *The Teahouse* was a signature piece for him during his tenure as deputy director of the Beijing People's Art Theatre from 1952 to 1966.

After plays as a dramatic form were introduced into China from Europe in the early 20th century, Jiao Juyin (1905-75) made remarkable contributions to their introduction and development in China. In the 10 years since his death Jiao's great achievements have continued to play a dominant role in modern theatre in China.

Jiao Juyin studied extensively the drama and literature of Anton Chekhov and the staging techniques of Konstantin Stanislavsky, as well as other European theatrical techniques, all of which influenced his works.

As a realistic dramatist, Jiao emphasized the importance of portraying the lives of ordinary people in as realistic a manner as possible. He sought natural acting and rejected anything that smacked of affectation or artifice. Jiao was also an expert in Chinese classics, particularly in local operas. He felt drama should reflect people's thoughts, feelings, characteristics and lives in a manner that also reflected the collective thoughts of the nation.



Jiao Juyin, (1905-75).

Based on Maxim Gorky's *The Lower Depths*, Jiao Juyin directed *The Night Inn* in 1947, and through it launched his directing career as a professional of distinct and extraordinary talent. Set in China, rather than in the Soviet Union as Gorky's play was, *The Night Inn* delved into people's lives and exposed the miseries and misfortune of those in the lower rungs of society. The play was a popular one and created a huge stir. As one reviewer said, "*The Night Inn* helped me understand the poor and to see social reality from an artistic point of view."

In the early 1950s shortly after the founding of New China, Jiao directed *Dragon Beard Ditch* for the then new Beijing People's Art Theatre. This play successfully told of the lives of city dwellers before and after 1949. Li Wanfen, an actress who was 17 years old when the play was first performed in 1949, said that as a director, Jiao expected a great deal from all his actors. "I had only a small role as Aunt Li and had only one line in the play—'Oh, here's the Liu's Teahouse!' Though I had been

told that Jiao was very strict with the actors and actresses during rehearsals, I did not feel nervous because I thought since my role was only a tiny one, he would not pay me much attention. I was wrong. Jiao stopped me again and again, instructing me how to act and asking me a series of questions, 'How do you feel when the cold breeze blows on your wet clothes? How do your eyes feel when you walk out of the darkness into the light? How do you act when you walk along the muddy road, or climb the stairs?'"

As the first co-operative effort of Jiao Juyin and Lao She's, *Dragon Beard Ditch* impressed and inspired audiences with its lifelike scenes and images and its realistic portrayals of Beijing.

Jiao was a firm advocate of incorporating the techniques and styles of local Chinese operas into his plays. In 1938, in his doctoral dissertation Jiao maintained that Chinese operas belonged to the realistic genre of performing arts. He said although Chinese classical opera tended to be symbolic and detached from life, it was still well-received and appreciated by Chinese audiences because it used romantic sketches taken from real life and was on the whole, faithful to reality. Because of their attempts at realism, modern plays and local operas could be fused, with each adding substance and interest to the other. Stimulated by this idea, Jiao directed *The Tiger Tally* in 1957, and in it he incorporated some of the expression and techniques of classical opera for the first time.

Focusing on a bronze tiger tally, with which the owner could deploy the armed forces in ancient China, the play revolves around conflicts in a royal family. In *The Tiger Tally*, Jiao broke away from the stereotypes of the traditional play, whose windows, doors,

corridors and other stage props he replaced with a huge red pillar. Jiao also added adjustable lighting, which added to the serenity of the court scene.

The characters' inner worlds were also distinctively unveiled by employing performing techniques from Chinese opera, including mime, which was set to music.

When the leading character is anxious to obtain the tiger tally in order to protect his state by reinforcing the army of a neighbouring country, his close friend brings it to him. Upon seeing the item, the hero is surprised. He steps back, stretches out his trembling hands with excitement and exudes joy. His exaggerated actions are not particularly realistic, but are effective and forceful.

Gongs, which are often used in Beijing opera, are also used in *The Tiger Tally* in order to give the players' actions more emphasis. The king's favourite concubine steals the tiger tally from his chamber. When she goes to give the item to her lover, the king's younger brother, the king suddenly appears. The king says, "I know what is happening between you two." "I understand what you've done," he tells his brother. Next comes the sound of a gong. The lovers shiver with disbelief and confusion. The king then turns to his concubine, "I know what you've done, too," he says. Once again the gong pierces the lovers' silence. They stand quivering with fear. Their faces turn pale. "I know you care for each other," the king says. With this, the drumming changes to a light murmur and the lovers are once again at ease.

Jiao's adaptation of *The Teahouse*, which he ends with a heavy dose of realism, attests to his ability to weld traditional techniques into modern drama. In this last scene three old men gather in the teahouse, now occupied by a secret agent. The three include the owner of the teahouse who has struggled for a living all his life; a

factory owner who has gone bankrupt; and an elderly descendant of the declining imperial court.

On hearing the music of a funeral procession from the street, the three old men throw white "paper money" up towards the sky as people do during funerals, and they laugh wildly. In creating the scene, Jiao expresses the utter despair of the elderly who had led hard lives. He also hints at the inevitable doom of a corrupt society. According to some, the ending is a fitting climax to the play in that it involves simple gestures by only a few people and evokes a profound sadness.

In another of Jiao's plays, entitled *Taking Tiger Mountain by Strategy*, strong rhythms and symbolic actions are used to back up the hero as he disguises himself to attend the banquet given by bandits in the mountain caves. The inner world of a brave and resourceful soldier is dramatically revealed. Sometimes he faces the audience rather than the characters. Some experts held that in *The Teahouse* and *Taking Tiger Mountain by Strategy*, Jiao had managed to give modern drama a distinctly Chinese character. Compared with his early realism, such as *Dragon Beard Ditch*, the two later works show a remarkable growth.

Jiao was born into a declining aristocratic family in Tianjin in 1905. In 1924, with an outstanding academic record, he enrolled at Yanjing University, where he majored in international studies. In 1935, Jiao entered the Sorbonne in Paris to study humanities. Two years later, he received his doctoral degree there with a dissertation on Chinese drama. Concerned with the fate of China, which was then involved in the anti-Japanese war, Jiao returned to China in 1938 spurning comfortable teaching positions in France and Switzerland.

Unfortunately, Jiao was persecuted to death during the "cultural revolution." In the first 10 years and more after New



"The Tiger Tally."



"Taking Tiger Mountain by Strategy."

China was founded, Jiao realized his dream of producing Chinese plays. By 1966 Jiao had directed and acted in about 20 historical and modern plays based on domestic and foreign works. In them he brought to life his own unique style and artistic talents.

Jiao is regarded as one of China's most prominent play directors and artists who have contributed to China's stage. Through him was born the "Jiao Juyin School," or "The Chinese School" of contemporary drama.

Cao Yu, a renowned Chinese dramatist and president of the Chinese Dramatists' Association, said at a commemorative meeting that Jiao achieved an ideal synthesis of the various facets of drama.

"Ideally, the stage can be seen as a pond, drama as the water, and the performers as the fish," Cao said. "Jiao created such a blend; he built a bridge between drama and the players. He was not only a great bridge, he was also a river of innovation." ■



Team Scours China for Martial Arts

On a bustling street, a group of Zhuang minority youths in Guangxi are practising *wushu* with an old master. At times shouting in the Zhuang language, the old man works forcefully through the moves, oblivious to the team of experts who watch him on one of their many stops across China in search of masters of the martial arts.

Though the martial arts in China have grown into an exuberant tree branching out with countless leaves, cataloguing its branches is not an easy task in a country as large and as populous as China. In the 1950s, some people tried but failed to make a list of China's martial arts masters because they lacked money and people willing to do the tedious work.

In recent years, the China Wushu Association has received a number of letters and phone calls announcing the deaths of *wushu* masters. Those who were famous around 1949, the year of liberation, now must be in their late 70s or 80s, and if care is not taken to see that their skills and artistry are recorded and passed down, much of the world of martial arts will rest in early graves.

Out of concern in 1982, the China Wushu Association held a national *wushu* workers' meeting, in which it decided to launch a nationwide project in 1983 to look for and catalogue China's martial arts and its masters.

Since 1983 the association's crew has discovered more than 100 schools of martial arts. In its enormous project about 8,000 participants have visited nearly 15,000 people, shot 394 hours of video tape, gathered 10 million words of reference materials,

taken down 6.5 million words of martial arts skills, compiled 655 volumes of books and spent 3 million yuan.

A bronze sword, one of the most valuable articles found in this project, is a relic excavated in Yunhe Prefecture of Zhejiang Province, and dates back 2,000 years. According to *Wuyue Annals*, sword skill was popular in Zhejiang Province during the Spring and Autumn and the Warring States periods (770-221 BC). During the Han Dynasty (206BC-220AD), the Three Kingdoms (220-280AD), and the Tang and Song dynasties (618-1279AD), martial arts and martial arts masters became increasingly popular.

In the early Qing Dynasty (1644-1911AD), martial arts developed and reached its climax in Zhejiang, and many martial arts institutes opened there during this time. Later, because the Qing government made martial arts illegal for fear that the boxers might rise against the invading imperialists, the martial arts craze slackened. Only a few people practised privately.

Shanghai, China's largest city, has long been China's hub of both *wushu* and commerce. By the end of the Qing Dynasty, many *wushu* masters were invited to teach the art or to act as bodyguards. Many also worked as orthopaedists or martial arts performers.

While Shanghai was occupied by the Japanese Army during World War II, Shanghai's martial arts circles were depleted, many masters in the suburbs and the countryside were imprisoned. Many traditional martial arts weapons and books were also destroyed by the Japanese rulers.



BY XIE SHOUDE

One of the moves in Sun Bin boxing.

During the "cultural revolution," again the martial arts suffered. With great efforts, the Wushu Association has produced a draft of a book on *wushu* skills from 51 schools.

The Sun Bin School is a rare one in China. Though it is known in east China, few people know of its resources. Deputy Director Fan Chunhe of the Shandong Province Martial Arts Research Office tells how his group discovered the originator of the Sun Bin School. The creation of Sun Bin boxing has often been credited to Sun Bin, a military strategist during the Warring States Period. The school actually, however, was founded by a peasant named Zhang from Shandong Province. People named the form after Sun in order to add to the art's prestige. Sun Bin boxing is also known as Changxiu (long sleeve) boxing, and includes 360 movements emphasizing thrusting the arms



and legs out like long whips, and putting defense and offence into one.

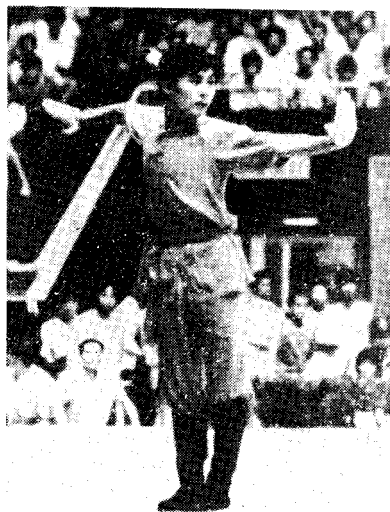
Zhang was a cart puller in Shandong Province. He hid his name and his art after the Yihetuan Movement failed (an anti-imperialist armed struggle waged by North China peasants and artisans in 1900), in which he took part. Once on his way to a fair, Zhang met with a local young *wushu* master, Yang Wenzhai. They compared notes on their *wushu* styles and later Zhang took Yang as a pupil. Zhang taught all his skills to Yang within three years. While parting with his disciple, Zhang said that this art should be taught only to good people.

Later Yang looked everywhere for his master, but failed. Yang opened two schools in the cities of Jinan and Qingdao in Shandong Province and passed the complete Sun Bin boxing to only two of his disciples.

In the past, a number of schools were unique and were taught only among families. Some *wushu* masters even only passed their skill on to one person each generation. Skill books and weapons were kept away from people's prying eyes.

When the search project finished, about 700 varieties of weapons had been discovered and 400 were donated to the state. A 70-year-old master said, "It gives me great pleasure to see my weapons made use of today."

On Spear, written during the Qing Dynasty, provides useful theoretical and practical *wushu* guide. Its owner is an 80-year-old master, Wang Fengluan, from Qufu, Shandong Province. The book was passed down to him by his master. During the 1957 movement against the Rightists, his daughter and his brother were labelled as bourgeois Rightists, and Wang Fengluan was also affected. They were all sent to the countryside. When the "cultural revolution" broke out in 1966, he hid the book *On Spear* in his



Zhao Changjun from Shaanxi Province captured first place in the male all-round event at the 1985 International Invitational Martial Arts Tournament.

cotton quilt in case the Red Guards raided his house. When later they did storm in and demand that he hand over the book, Wang refused.

About 20 years later when the *wushu* researchers asked Wang about the book, at first he remained silent. Once he was convinced of the researchers' sincerity, however, he took the book out from the quilt and said, "I think it is time to take it out. I've been waiting for this day for years."

Qiu Peixiang, a leader of the National Martial Arts Research Office and a teacher at the Shanghai Sports and Physical Culture Institute, said some of the 8,000 people engaged in this project are from the sports and physical culture commissions at various levels, and others are martial artists, sports institute graduates and non-professional *wushu* players. All respected the goal of uncovering as many of the *wushu* treasures in China as possible.

The project is not only of great significance to China. The International Wushu Federation is already in the making, and China, as the hometown of *wushu*, is

dutybound to introduce its art to the outside world for exchanges with others.

Because *wushu* had certain superstitious connotations attached to it, the researchers were especially careful. Everything they found was sent to experts to be checked. One man's claim that he could walk on water was proved false. Even in *wushu*, miracles are scarce.

Gathering the *wushu* arts from various ethnic groups was an important part of this project. After going from the mountains, to the grassland, to the forests, the research team found a dozen of *wushu* schools popular among China's ethnic groups. In Qinghai Province a brand of Tibetan boxing was discovered with 82 movements.



Tiananmen Interviews

Your remarkable articles on the Tiananmen Incident were moving in their honesty. They were not just a review of an important recent event. They were also about the difficulties and determination of individual people in solving the problem of building a society that is prosperous and lively, as well as one with a collective sense of morality.

The "cultural revolution" tried to use simple slogans to unite millions of people, but this led to crude and mechanical consequences, and was exploited by careerists. By contrast, the article by Wei Xia suggested that now individuals are trying honestly to face up to their own responsibilities, contradictions, and sometimes failures, and this attitude may be vital for building the China of the future.

I have only one reservation about the way the interview with Wu Peng ended with an image of him "unperturbed by the blustering wind." He was not striking a heroic image, and he showed signs of what he had gone through. His strength came from his honesty.

C. Burford
London, Britain

Ten years after the Tiananmen Incident, we in the West were still very ignorant of this tumultuous event which, perhaps, marked the start of a new era in Chinese history.

The frank, open reporting of this event a decade later (*Beijing Review* No. 14) provides a provocative and informative assessment, in the words of those actually participating, of those turbulent times. It is very important for those of us, who firmly support the socialist people of China, to gain an insight into the perception of recent Chinese history held by Chinese who were there, and now can view their past actions in a critical light. Otherwise, people in the West are subjected to the distortions of the

Western media, and have to rely on simplified accounts of the actual situation in China to form opinions. *Beijing Review* is a quality magazine that amply demonstrates that there is much more to China today than a "flirtation with capitalism," as some Western press agencies claim.

Your reportage of international events and presentation of the Chinese view of international conflicts is excellent. In particular, recent coverage of the USA-Libyan clash presents a good appraisal of the situation by cautioning the superpowers over their antagonistic "Ramboism" style of diplomacy which threatens the independence of non-aligned nations and, indeed, the entire world.

Jennifer Coman
N.S.W. Australia

Your magazine is to be praised for the original reportage appearing in issues since the beginning of this year. I am thinking particularly of the interviews on the Tiananmen Incident in the April 7 issue and the two pieces entitled "Sunshine and Shadows" in the January 6 and 13 issues. The two pieces by Duan Liancheng rank with the best personal reportage I have seen anywhere in the world. I hope we will see more of this kind of work in *Beijing Review* in the future.

Larry Pinkham
Beijing, PRC

Determined To Fight Crime

Your "Events and Trends" column is informative and helpful for getting to know China. One article about the law, which appeared in issue No. 9, was particularly encouraging in that it said senior cadres are also punished when they commit crimes. This shows that the CPC is determined to fight crime in all corners.

Heinz Gunther Foerster
Bielefeld, FRG

More About People

Beijing Review is quite a good magazine but it would be more interesting if its plate making technology was up to international standards.

The articles about China are useful to foreigners, through them they can get more information about and a better understanding of China.

A suggestion would be that you publish a brief introduction for every article for those readers who don't have enough time to read the whole article. You should also arrange more interviews with people, not only with professors and ministers.

Brun Theo
Zurich, Switzerland

Teachers' Day in the Sun

Recently, I read your article "Teachers Get Day in the Sun" in issue No.35, 1985. I was pleased by the article because I am a student at a teachers' college, and I will graduate this July. As a future teacher I am especially interested in articles about education.

In our country teachers' status is climbing because people have begun taking education seriously, and because the government cares about teachers. The establishment of Teacher's Day is illustrative of the Party, government and peoples' concern for education.

There are, however, a few problems regarding education in China. First, there are too few teachers. The unpopularity of the profession dates back to the "cultural revolution," when teachers were discriminated against. Since the first Teacher's Day, society now pays more attention to teachers. Their salaries are expected to rise above those of other professions.

Teachers should love their jobs and respect themselves. Your article, no doubt, has encouraged many students and new graduates who plan to be teachers.

Zhao Yanjuan
Yanbian University
Yanji, Jilin, China

ART PAGE



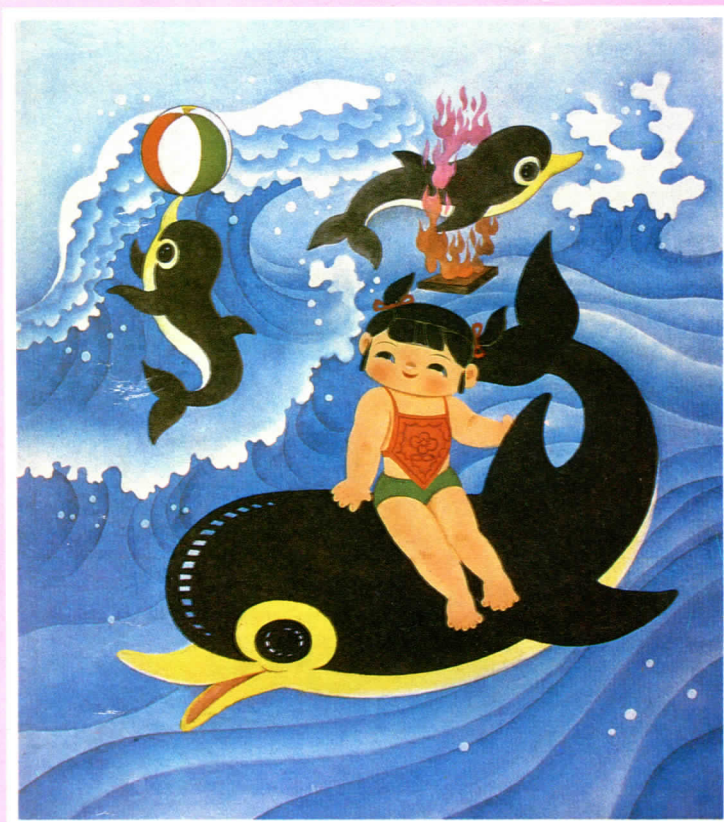
Morning Glory.

Traditional Chinese Paintings by Yang Yingxiu

Yang Yingxiu, born in Hunan Province in 1912, is a celebrated painter. Flowers and birds are often the subject of his drawings, all of which are done with the traditional technique of free sketching.

Bamboo.

DOLPHIN BOOKS



DOLPHIN BOOKS, founded on January 7, 1986, publishes exquisite children's books in English, Arabic, Bengali, French, German, Hindi, Japanese, Portuguese, Russian, Singalese, Spanish, Swahili, Urdu and other languages.

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