

北京周報

Beijing Review

Vol. 29, No. 23

June 9, 1986

CHINA HOSTS SYMPOSIUM ON PEACE

General Secretary Hu Visits W Europe



A Glimpse of China's Growing Industries

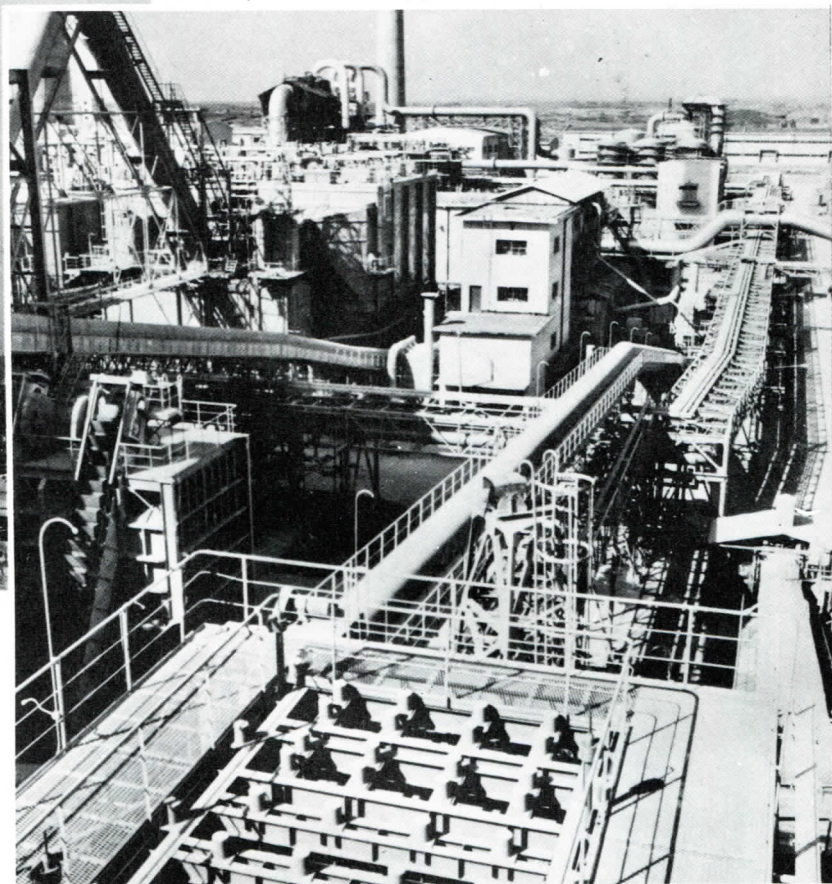
The first stage of construction of the Guixi Smeltery in Jiangxi Province, the largest modern enterprise of its kind in China, was completed and recently put into operation.



The 15,000 sq.m. control centre of the power supplying system in Central China, completed in Wuhan last February, supplies power to several provinces including Hunan and Hubei and transmits as far as to eastern China.

SPOTLIGHT

China's first electric train, with a capacity of 6,400 kilowatts, takes off.



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COVER: General Secretary Hu Yaobang leaving for a tour abroad.
 Li Shengnan

HIGHLIGHTS OF THE WEEK

China Strengthens Ties With W. Europe

■ Hu Yaobang's visit to four West European countries, the first of its kind by a top Chinese Party leader, marks a breakthrough in Sino-West European relations. The four are expected to enhance the friendship between China and Western Europe, boost bilateral economic, technological, cultural and scientific co-operation and exchanges, and promote world peace and stability (p. 4).

War or Peace? — A New Appraisal

■ Will mankind be able to avert another world war? Why was it that while local wars persisted there has been no world war during the last four decades? These and other related questions were discussed in a Shanghai symposium held to mark the International Year of Peace (p.16).

Apartheid is the Main Threat

■ The aggressive policies of the South African regime are at the root of the turbulence in the region. Only by eliminating the racist system will peace and stability be restored (p. 10).

Red Tape in State Commission Under Attack

■ The State Planning Commission, which is responsible for examining and approving construction projects, was recently criticized by six rank-and-file Party members for its excessive amount of red tape. This represents one positive result of the current drive launched by the CPC Central Committee Secretariat to overcome bureaucracy and inefficiency (p. 6).

Published every Monday by
BEIJING REVIEW
 24 Baiwanzhuang Road, Beijing
 The People's Republic of China

Distributed by **China International Book Trading Corporation (GUOJI SHUDIAN)**,
 P.O. Box 399, Beijing, China

Subscription prices (1 year):
 Australia..... A.S \$22.00 USA US\$22.00
 New Zealand... NZ.\$30.00 UK £12.00
 Canada..... Can. \$21.00

Hu Makes First Tour of Western Europe

by Mu Youlin

Hu Yaobang, general secretary of the Central Committee of the Chinese Communist Party, will leave on June 9 for Britain, Federal Germany, France and Italy, the first official visit to Western Europe by a Chinese top leader in this capacity. Hu's tour is an event of far-reaching significance in the history of China's relations with Western Europe. It heralds a new stage in China's friendly co-operation with these countries.

Although their social systems and ideologies differ, China and Western Europe do not have conflicts of fundamental interest, nor are there any major obstacles to the development of their relations. Rather, they have the common goals of safeguarding world peace and further developing their own economies. They also share other interests and common ground on many major international issues.

Both China and Western Europe sustained heavy losses during World War II. This common experience explains why neither wants to see war again.

Both China and Western Europe are conscious of the heavy responsibilities of safeguarding world peace and stability. Both hope to see an improved East-West relationship. Both are working for the relaxation of international tension and oppose the arms race.

China's independent peaceful foreign policy and its refusal to form an alliance with any powers or groups of powers have contributed to world peace and stability. Western Europe is seeking to grow stronger through unity and is developing a "European consciousness."

China maintains that a united, powerful Western Europe is beneficial to Europe's security and stability and vital to world peace. China hopes Western Europe will continue its efforts for unity and will exert a still greater influence on world affairs. Western Europe in turn holds that a powerful and

should be partners rather than competitors. In the past few years, China's open policy has sparked the interest of Western Europe, and the prospects are bright for economic and technological co-operation between Western Europe and China.

In brief, China and Western Europe share the same or similar interests in politics and economics, and each has the desire to develop long-term and stable relations of friendship and co-operation, relationships which have a solid political foundation and favourable objective conditions. Such co-operation has had a good beginning and its potential for development is great.

General Secretary Hu Yaobang visits four West European countries with the desire to promote mutual understanding, strengthen friendship, expand co-operation and defend peace. While in these countries, he will exchange views with government and Party leaders of the four nations on international issues of common interest and the further development of bilateral relations. He will also travel places in each of these countries, meet local people and acquaint himself with the achievements and experience gained by these countries in various fields. It is hoped Hu's visit will strengthen mutual understanding on major issues, promote friendship between the peoples of China and Western Europe, and boost co-operation and exchanges in the economic, technological, cultural and scientific fields. The visit is not only in the interest of the peoples of China and Western Europe, but will also help uphold world peace and stability.

***H**u's visit will strengthen mutual understanding, promote friendship and boost co-operation in many fields.*

prosperous China is a balancing force in the world and poses no threat to Western Europe, but rather promotes Western Europe's independent development. Both are against power politics and advocate that countries large, medium or small should equally play their roles in world affairs and spur the world towards multi-polarity.

China, as the largest developing country with rich resources and a vast market, is pressing ahead with its modernization programme on an unprecedented scale. Western Europe, where industrially developed countries are concentrated and which possesses advanced technologies and abundant funds, is working to invigorate its economy and develop its sophisticated technologies. Each having its own economic advantages, China and Western Europe can complement each other, and

Port Construction Gets More Funds

China plans to earmark more than 10 billion yuan (about US\$3.18 billion) for the construction of 200 berths in the Seventh Five-Year Plan (1986-90), according to Qian Yongchang, minister of transport and communications.

Of the 200 berths to be built, he said, there will be 120 deep-water ones. According to Qian, China will have a total of about 1,200 berths along its coastal areas by 1990, which will include 320 deep-water ones. The total annual loading and unloading capacity will be raised over the mark of 550 million tons.

Qian said in order to reach the goal and raise the modernization level of China's ports and harbours, the country, while investing more, will have to import large amounts of foreign investments and introduce advanced technology and equipment through international biddings.

Currently, he disclosed, the Chinese Ministry of Transport and Communications is holding

talks with more than 80 companies in Japan, Great Britain, the Netherlands, Italy, Singapore and the Federal Republic of Germany, as well as Hong Kong and Macao for joint ventures in port construction and management. He cited specific talks with a few companies in the Netherlands and Great Britain, which have expressed their willingness to invest in building the Ningbo Port in Zhejiang Province and the Nantong Port in Jiangsu Province.

Qian said that in the process of importing foreign funds for port construction, China would give priority to its 14 open coastal cities and the four special economic zones, including Shanghai, Tianjin, Qinhuangdao and Qingdao, all of which are major ports for foreign trade in China.

Speaking on the favourable policies China would adopt for overseas investors, Qian Yongchang said the contract terms for port construction projects jointly undertaken with Chinese and

overseas investments could exceed 30 years. In addition, he said, these ports will be totally exempt from income tax in the first five years of their operation, and need only pay half in the following five years.

"Apart from importing foreign funds," Qian said, "China also needs advanced technology and managerial expertise from other countries for the modernization of its ports." For this purpose, he said, the China Port Association would join a Hong Kong company to sponsor an international exhibition of port facilities and management know-how in Shanghai in March next year.

In accordance with the principle of decentralization, responsibility of the Shanghai Port, China's largest, was transferred to the Shanghai municipal government recently. The port was previously under the supervision of the Ministry of Transport and Communications. This represents a part of the reform of China's port management system. After the transfer, it is expected that the port should be better off financially and able to retain a bigger proportion of its profits for its own expansion.

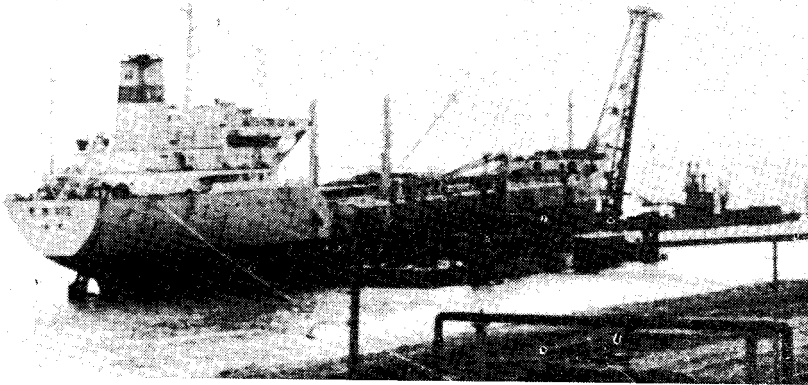
This reform also applies to Dalian, the largest foreign trade port in northeast China. ■

Railway Laid Down Using Pooled Money

China will build 11 new railway lines totalling 1,400 kilometres with money pooled both by the state and local government, *People's Daily* reported on April 28.

Among the new lines, seven have already come under construction and the other four will be undertaken this year. In addition, the country has planned to build another five lines during the Seventh Five-year Plan period (1986-90).

The recently completed 25,000-ton oil port in Nanjing brings benefits to petrochemical enterprises along the Changjiang (Yangtze) River and along the southeast China coast.



The monopoly by the Ministry of Railways is now giving way to a new and flexible form of fund-raising for railway construction. The local governments and industrial and mining enterprises are now encouraged to join state efforts in speeding up the take-off of the country's railway industry.

These railways will link up 14 provinces and autonomous regions, including Xinjiang, Guangxi, Ningxia, Shanxi, Henan and Guangdong. Major lines include the Batou-Shenmu railway, the Yangquan-Shexian railway and Baoji-Zhongwei railway.

"The completion of these railways will play an important role in improving China's railway network and benefiting the country's economy," the paper said.

The Ministry of Railways, the Ministry of Chemistry and Guangdong provincial authorities have pooled money to build a local railway totalling 92.7 kilometres, the railway will begin transporting iron ore later this year.

The paper also reported that the Ministry of Railways, now answerable to the State Council under a contract system, has adopted a policy encouraging the nation's 12 railway administrations to achieve better economic results so that they can retain bigger proportions of their profits for their use and thereby enjoy more leeway in technical transformation and development. The ministry has also formulated a series of regulations to protect the decision-making power of these railway administrations. ■

Red-Tapism Criticised

Six Party members recently wrote a letter to the leadership of the State Planning Commission, criticizing "red-tapism" in the commission and urging the

leadership to improve its work style.

The letter was made public by the Party Committee of Central Government Institutions on May 28 in the *People's Daily*.

The six Party members, all-staff members in the Commission's Mechanical and Electrical Equipment Bureau, became aware of the bureaucratic jumble in the commission during the Party consolidation in 1984. Earlier this year, a move to cut back on red tape was touched off once again by the Secretariat of the Party Central Committee, when Party General Secretary Hu Yaobang called on central Party and government organizations to set an example of efficiency for all units to follow. This prompted the six Party members to bring the situation in their workplace to the attention of the leadership.

In the letter, the six Party members disclosed how bureaucratic methods and inefficiency at the commission had impeded the modernization drive. They cited the examination procedure for approval on the proposed plans of a dozen large and medium-sized construction projects.

According to the letter, the time it takes for the proposal of a capital construction project to receive final approval is 57 days on the average. And some documents even get lost in the process.

The proposal for one large project submitted by the Luoyang No. 1 Tractor Plant in Henan Province, the letter said, had passed through the hands of 39 people and took 88 days before receiving the go-ahead. Another document took 181 days.

The letter attributed red-tapism in state organs to a number of factors. Some people indulge in power-seeking rather than dedicate themselves to the country's modernization drive; blurred division of responsibility gives rise to mutual shirking of responsibility; and an outdated system and

the lack of professionalism among the staff also contribute to the streams of red tape.

The leadership of the State Planning Commission has attached great importance to the problems brought out in the letter. A leading member of the commission immediately recommended the circulation of the letter among its staff after he read it.

In a statement on the letter, the Party Committee of the Central Government Institutions said bureaucracy could also be found in other areas of work. The committee said that excessive red tape dampens the zeal of the cadres and staff members in their push for modernization, harms the image of the Party and the government, and obstructs the reform as well as the implementation of China's open policy. Therefore, the statement said, it was high time the problem was solved.

The statement called on all Party members and workers in the central government organs to take note of the letter in an effort to heighten their sense of responsibility and boldness to expose other problems. It also asked the leadership at various levels to be conscientious in soliciting opinions from the rank and file. ■

Work Now Study Later

While more and more Chinese university students are taking postgraduate studies immediately after graduation, those at Qinghua University in Beijing are encouraged to work for several years before taking their master degrees.

With the aim to better connect postgraduate courses with the current modernization drive in China, Qinghua University authorities have introduced a system

by which newly enrolled post-graduates are encouraged to work at offices, factories or institutions for two to five years with their names on the school roster before beginning their studies. The system, which was first put into practice last August by 13 newly enrolled postgraduates, has proved quite successful so far. More than half a year later, many of the students wrote to the university hailing the new practice.

"Through practical work, I have realized the importance of theoretical studies, learnt how to get along with my fellow workers and have come to understand more about society," wrote Zhang Yuanze, a postgraduate who is now working at the Shanghai Tools Factory in Jiangxi Province.

Wang Hui, a hydraulics major working at the Longyangxia Hydroelectric Power Station on the Huanghe (Yellow) River, wrote, "The future orientation for engineering students is to connect scientific research with production. Therefore, it is necessary to have a general idea of production. The answers to some problems lie in practice rather than in theory, and they can be learnt most effectively in practice."

Huang Lan, a student of the economic managerial department who went to work in a high-voltage switch plant in Xian, wrote, "In work I urgently felt how far my knowledge was from the reality of work."

In the past few years many problems have cropped up as a result of the school-to-school system among postgraduates. As they have never been to factories and other production workplaces in industry, they have no idea about the realities of factory production. Therefore, many students are unwilling to go to these places when they have graduated although they have majored in engineering; those who do go often fail to meet production demands because of their lack of social experience and work ability.

To shorten the distance between the postgraduates and the real world, the university introduced the reform, which has immediately received enthusiastic response. Last year 13 students volunteered to go to factories, and this year about 200 students have signed up, 60 of whom have been approved.

"We were too confined to our fields of study during the five years of undergraduate studies, just digging down, like digging a well, without much knowledge about other things," said Lin Jiabin, a student from the environmental engineering department who was enrolled earlier this year and is going to work in a Beijing institution. "We don't know how much we've really learnt, in which direction we should go and whether it is necessary to continue our studies. So we hope to work for a couple of years, involve ourselves with practical work and get a better understanding of society before we decide on which way to go."

Certainly there are those who have their doubts about the practice. Some students are worried that after working for two years or more, they will be too old and their study habits will be adversely effected, or that their workplaces will not let them go when they decide to return to university. They also are concerned about whether their workplaces will really use them effectively and give them good training, and whether their length of service will count for anything. Many parents are encouraging their children to get all their studies over and done with so they can embark on their careers at an early age. But the more than half a year's practice has proved that these worries can be avoided, and the university authorities also have taken effective measures to prevent those problems from happening.

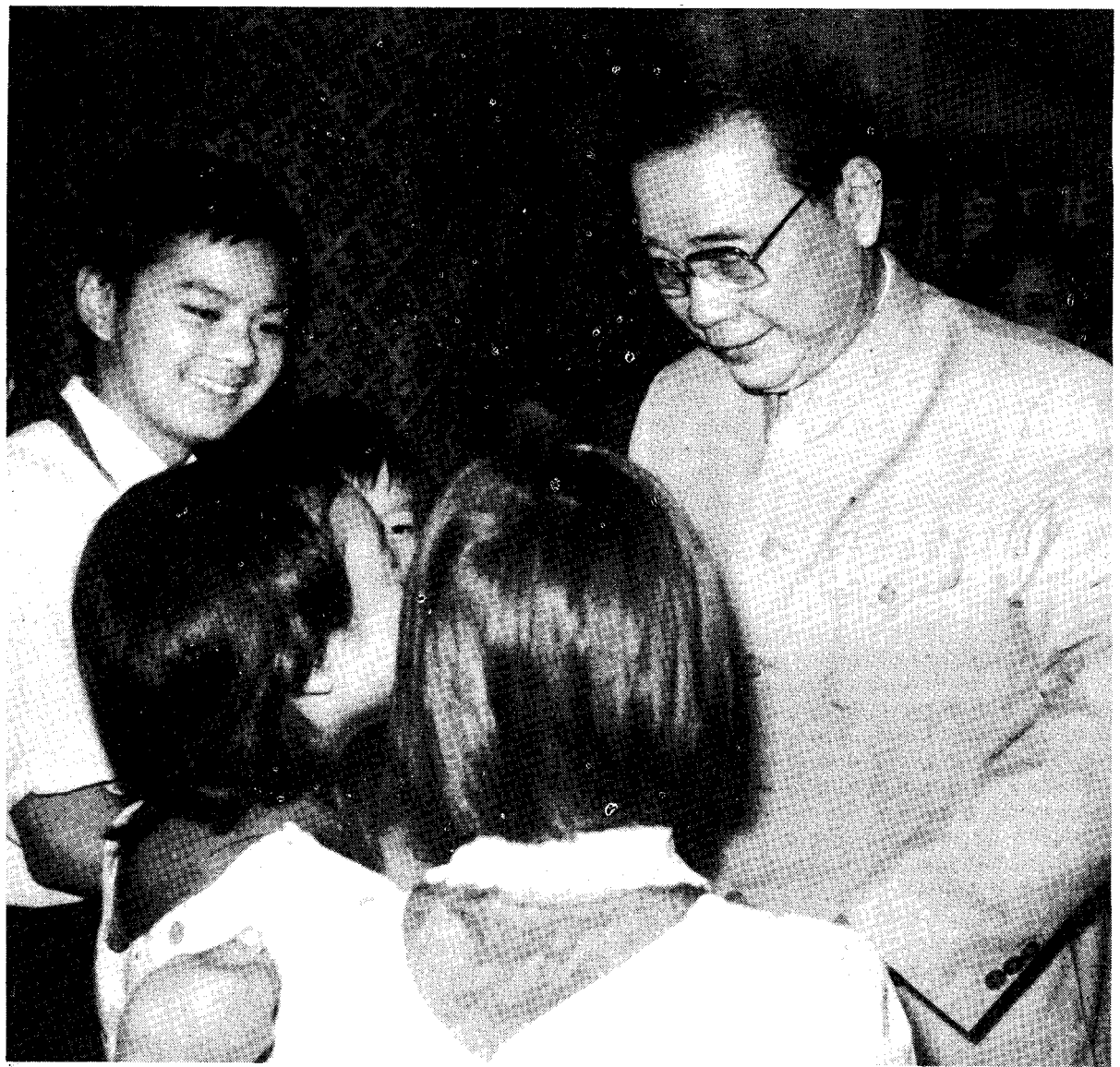
"On the whole, this practice has proved successful," said Wang Xinfeng, deputy head of the

News in Brief

Chinese leader Deng Xiaoping on May 26 donated 4,025 pounds (about US\$6,000 or 18,641 yuan) for promoting children's education in science and technology. The donation comprised the entire royalties for the first English edition of the book *Deng Xiaoping: Speeches and Writing*, which was published by Britain's Pergamon Press Ltd. in London last year.

China's State Science and Technology Commission will issued its first white book— *Guide to China's Science and Technology*. According to the commission, the book, running to 500,000 Chinese characters, covers legislation and policies, research and development, commercialization of research results, environment and resources, as well as statistics. It will also contain the data obtained from the first science and technology survey in China.

Since 1981, when China adopted the regulations on academic degrees, research institutes and colleges in the country have enrolled more than 5,100 students in doctoral programmes, more than 350 of whom have been awarded their doctorates, while more than 38,000 have been awarded the masters. Today, 638 units and specialties in liberal arts, science, agriculture, medicine and others have been authorized to award academic degrees.



Politburo Member Chats With Young Pioneers

Li Peng, CPC Politburo member and minister in charge of the State Education Commission, chats with children during a recent meeting called by the Central Committee of the Chinese Communist Youth League and the National Young Pioneer's Working Committee in Beijing on May 26.

training section of the office of postgraduates. "We'll go ahead with it," he said.

Qinghua University also has given more attention to organizing its postgraduates to offer their services for projects presented by workplaces or in the social

services. Over the past year, the Huashi Science Service Centre of the university has undertaken more than 80 projects and fulfilled 90 percent of them.

In terms of assignment, the university also puts the students in contact with the workplaces that have applied for graduates by in-

viting them to introduce the characteristics of their work and the qualifications for the students they want. Then the students can apply to the workplaces in which they are interested in, and the employers will test them and choose those with whom they are satisfied. ■

by Yan Liqun

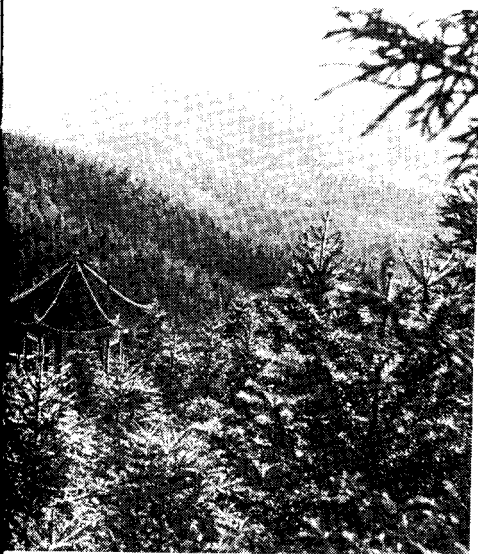
Detailed Rules On Forest Protection

To meet China's goal of raising the forest cover from the current 12 percent to 30 percent, the State Council promulgated on April 28 the Detailed Regulations for the Implementation of the Forest Law of the People's Republic of China.

The regulations were announced at a recent news conference held in Beijing by Dong Zhiyong, vice-minister of forestry. The new 29-article regulations, Dong said, were part of an additional document to China's original Forest Law, which came into force in January 1985.

Under the detailed regulations, grasslands and woods with the rate of canopy density above 0.3 will for the first time be classified as forest resources. Also considered as forest resources are wild vegetation and animals within the afforested zones. Based on this principle, forest resources under state protection will be increased from 273 million hectares to 287 million hectares.

This forest in Huitong County, Hunan Province, turns out a dozen thousand cubic metres of timber every year.



Article 14 of the detailed regulations stipulates that the country's targets are to raise eventually China's afforested area to 30 percent of China's total territory. It requires that each Chinese county afforest at least 70 percent of its mountainous areas, 40 percent of its barren hilly lands and 10 percent of its plains.

To ensure the survival rate of saplings, the regulations stipulate that if the survival rate for trees planted by a given unit is lower than 85 percent, it would well mean that the unit has failed to meet its annual tree planting quotas.

Articles 22 to 26 include stiff penalties against those who are found in violation of the Forest Law.

"It is unusual that such detailed penalties are stressed in a law," the vice-minister said.

Statistics indicate that trees today cover only 12 percent of China's 9.6 million square kilometres of land—as against the world average of 22 percent. Incidents such as wanton felling of trees for selfish purposes still occur, and some local officials tend to neglect the state laws. "The Forest Law will not be carried out unless drastic measures are taken," Dong warned.

Since the promulgation of the Forest Law, an enormous afforestation campaign has been under way throughout the country. The "Green Great Wall" project, an effort that began in 1978 to build a shelter belt along the boundaries of the sandy wasteland across northern China, encompassed 5.60 million hectares by the end of 1985, raising the local forest cover from 4 percent to about 6 percent.

Dong Zhiyong said the efforts to make the nation greener will not only benefit the people in China but will improve the climate in Asia and other countries. He encouraged local governments in various parts of the country to work out more thorough measures in light of their specific conditions.

China & the World

■ **Friendship Meeting for Sino-Romanian Youths.** A meeting for the promotion of Sino-Romanian youth friendship was held in Beijing on May 27. It was attended by 150 members of a Romanian youth delegation and around 1,500 young Chinese in the capital. The delegation, sent by the Romanian Union of Communist Youth, arrived in Beijing on May 26 at the invitation of the Central Committee of the Chinese Communist Youth League.

■ **Soviet Shipping Delegation Visits Shanghai.** A Soviet Ocean Shipping delegation recently visited Shanghai. During the visit, the delegation, the first of its kind ever sent to China in 20 years, conferred with leading members of the Shanghai branch of the China Ocean Shipping Company on the establishment of a representative office in the city.

■ **Federal Germany to Give More Aid to China.** The Federal Republic of Germany will provide China with 70 million Deutschmarks (Dm) in financial aid, and 39.6 million Dm in technical aid this year. This was revealed in the minutes of talks relating to the fourth meeting of the development and policy co-operation mixed commission signed by the Chinese and West German governments on May 24. The meeting of the mixed commission was held from May 22 to 24 in Beijing.

World Community Must Take Action

The only way to bring about peace and stability in South Africa lies in a concerted international effort to take sanctions against Pretoria, and support the black anti-apartheid activities in the region.

On the pretext of smashing the training bases of the "terrorists," Pretoria has repeatedly invaded and provoked their neighbours while intensifying its suppression of the South African and Namibian people. Its May 19 raids on Botswana, Zimbabwe and Zambia have once again indicated that it is the South African regime itself which is engaged in terrorist activities in southern Africa.

In the last two years, the struggle against the racial rule has developed at an unprecedented pace. Tired, angry and no longer fearful of suppression, the blacks have waged an unremitting struggle against the apartheid regime. They have seen through the deception of Pretoria's "reforms," and have answered with student and workers' strikes, boycotts against white-owned shops, mass demonstrations and rallies, and huge turnouts at funerals for their fellow blacks killed by the authorities.

The struggle has brought together people from all walks of life. Black leaders and popular figures from the intellectual, religious and business circles, including more and more "coloured people" (those of mixed race), Indians and whites, have joined in powerful unity. Their heroic struggle is slowly but surely undermining the most barbarous system of racial segregation in the world.

Nevertheless, the South African regime has stubbornly persisted in its position in order to maintain its

rule. It claims to use its power over the so-called violent acts of black activities, while talking about reforms to deceive public opinion at home and abroad. During the period of martial law, the South African authorities arrested, imprisoned, persecuted and even killed some of the trade and educational leaders, freedom fighters and students as well as innocent blacks who just happened to be "in the wrong place at the wrong time." Last year alone about 1,600 people were killed and more than 25,000 put into prison without a trial.

Pretoria also has refused to recognize the legal status of the nationalist organizations. Perhaps its most biting move against the black activities is the refusal to release African National Congress (ANC) leader Nelson Mandela who has been in prison for 24 years.

The South African regime continues to prevent Namibia from gaining total independence, disregarding negotiations and the related UN resolutions on the issue. To protect their traditional interests in Namibia, the South African authorities have attempted to piece together a pro-South African puppet regime there. In 1977 the South African authorities propped up the Democratic Turnhall Alliance to take control of the national assembly and the council of ministers. They then planned to reorganize the government to replace the council of ministers. When this move was rejected by the Democratic Turnhall Alliance, the South

African authorities resorted to direct rule over Namibia. In November 1983, they gathered together the Democratic Turnhall Alliance and five other parties to set up the multiparty conference. Despite rejection by the international community, the "transitional government" was set up on June 17, 1985. Today, Pretoria continues to talk about an "internal settlement," but in reality this is just another sham to prevent the solution to the Namibian issue.

On March 4 South African President P.W. Botha announced that if South Africa could reach a reliable and satisfactory agreement on the Cuban troop withdrawal from Angola, it would implement UN Resolution 435 as of August 1. This proposal is sure evidence that it has stood for linking Namibian independence with the Cuban troop withdrawal.

Meanwhile, the South African authorities have continued to use force to try and stop the frontline countries of southern Africa from supporting the blacks' struggle against apartheid. Since last year South Africa has invaded Angola, Botswana, Zimbabwe, Lesotho and Zambia. It has instituted economic sanctions against these countries and has asked them to close down the offices of the ANC on their territories. These demands constitute unwarranted interference into the internal affairs of the countries. It is natural that these countries have sharply responded with refusals.

Leaders of these frontline countries have on many occasions stated that they firmly support the struggle of the ANC and other nationalist organizations, especially since the recent raids on the capitals of three countries. Prime Minister Robert Mugabe has stated that Zimbabwe would step up its aid to the ANC—in moral, diplomatic and financial endeavours.

History alone provides the only solution to the South African issue: In order to force the South

African authorities to drop their racist rule, it is necessary to carry on the incessant struggle and implement comprehensive and international sanctions against them. The so-called "constructive engagement" policy will not persuade the South African authorities to cancel or curb apartheid. Not long ago President

Botha pledged an attempt at multinational conciliation. However, when representatives of the Commonwealth countries offered good office in South Africa, Pretoria raided three countries and the mediation activities were brought to an abrupt halt. ■

by Shi Fei

election for the Namibian people under UN supervision.

The conference appealed to all governments and organizations—especially members of the European Economic Community—to exert their influence to persuade the US administration "to abandon its disastrous policy towards South Africa, cease all assistance to all subversion and terrorist groups in Southern Africa, and its collusion with the apartheid regime."

It also called on European governments to take legislative measures to discourage and prevent the enlistment of their nationals in the South African military, police and security forces.

The conference saluted the frontline states, the SWAPO, and the African National Congress (ANC) and urged the international community to "increase its political and material assistance to them."

More than 30 delegates took the floor to denounce Pretoria and voiced their support to SWAPO and the Namibian people in their struggle for independence.

Ling Qing, vice-president of the Chinese People's Association for Friendship with Foreign Countries, reaffirmed in a speech China's support for the Namibian people.

"We resolutely demand that the South African authorities immediately end their illegal occupation of Namibia and unconditionally withdraw from Namibia" he said. "The South African authorities must unconditionally implement the UN Security Council Resolution 435 on Namibia's independence."

He added that China called on those states and foreign forces directly or indirectly supporting the South African regime "to stop forthwith all their acts that go against the will of the Namibian people."

Brussels hosted the first international conference on Namibia in 1972. ■

BRUSSELS

Conference Condemns Apartheid

The Second Brussels International Conference on Namibia called on the United Nations Security Council to impose comprehensive mandatory sanctions against South Africa to secure the independence of Namibia, and condemned the Reagan administration's support of the South African government.

In a declaration adopted at the end of the three-day meeting in Brussels, the International Conference on Namibia condemned South Africa's racist regime for intensifying its oppression and carrying out other manoeuvres in Namibia in an attempt to perpetuate its illegal occupation of the territory.

The declaration was critical of the United States, stressing that in South Africa, "the situation is greatly aggravated by the so-called 'constructive engagement' policy of the Reagan administration and its introduction of 'linkage,' making the independence of Namibia conditional on the withdrawal of Cuban troops from Angola."

The US policy and actions "are bound to prolong the illegal occupation of Namibia and cause a grave threat to peace in the entire region. It must not be allowed to make Southern Africa a theatre of East-West confrontation," the declaration said.

The Second Brussels International Conference was sponsored by several African and non-aligned countries and was attended by more than 200 delegates from a number of governments, UN bodies and the Organization of African Unity (OAU), as well as representatives of many political parties.

A delegation of the South West Africa People's Organization (SWAPO), led by President Sam Nujoma and church leaders from Namibia, also participated. The conference was presided over by Earnest Glinne, vice-president of the Socialist Group of the European Parliament and Mrs. Daulette Pierson-Mathy, Chairperson of Belgium's Committee Against Colonialism and Apartheid.

The SWAPO insisted that the settlement of the Namibian problem should be based on the UN resolution which calls for the withdrawal of the South African troops from Namibia and general

JAPAN

Nakasone's Next Hurdle Fairly High

The Japanese Prime Minister still needs to clear a major hurdle in his bid for a third term as prime minister.

While Prime Minister Yasuhiro Nakasone has insisted he will end his stay in office at the end of his second term in October, he recently made moves indicating he would try for an extended or third term.

On May 27, Nakasone won cabinet approval to call a special session of parliament that could pave the way for general elections in July and help him win the bid to stay in office for a third term.

Early elections of the House of Representatives could add to Nakasone's hopes for staying in office longer as president of the Liberal Democratic Party (LDP), which he helped to found in 1955, and therefore as prime minister.

The special session would allow him to dissolve parliament and call for a quick election of the Lower House the same day as the scheduled vote for the Upper House, July 6. The strategy is believed to increase the party's chances for success at the polls.

Furthermore, the 68-year-old prime minister might not be ready to step down, leaving some of his programmes and policies in the hands of his opposition or successors. Nakasone would like to see his programme stepped up for a more active Japanese role in the international community. He also would like to continue improving trade relations with the United States and building up the country's defence system.

However, Nakasone's second two-year term expires in October and current LDP rules ban a prime minister from serving a third term.

A solid victory by the LDP, which is expected to gain the greatest support from uncommitted voters, however, could enhance Nakasone's political clout and encourage his supporters to change the rules or extend his current term.

The LDP won a resounding victory in 1980 in the country's last and only dual election. After a setback in the 1983 elections, the LDP now has 258 seats in the 511-member Lower House, but eight are held by an LDP-splinter group, the New Liberal Club.

Nakasone, however, will find it difficult to circumvent the third-term ban. His move has sent three new LDP leaders considered as would-be successors—Foreign Minister Shintaro Abe, Finance Minister Noboru Takeshita and LDP Executive Board Chairman Kiichi Miyazawa—into anti-Nakasone action. Abe even told his supporters that it was time to think post-Nakasone.

Abe, who is the chosen candidate for party president from the faction headed by former Prime Minister Takeo Fukuda, stressed at a news conference that Nakasone would have to step down if his three potential successors co-ordinated their strategy.

Meanwhile, Takeshita, who is regarded as the candidate for the post by the largest faction, made up of supporters of former Prime Minister Kakuei Tanaka, said at another news conference that the party president should abide by the strict party rules, hinting that he would raise strong opposition

to Nakasone's attempt to change the rules.

Nakasone's most insistent political foe is Miyazawa, the candidate from the second largest faction, made up of supporters of former Prime Minister Zenko Suzuki. Although he did not oppose the convention of the extra diet session at cabinet meeting for the sake of party unity, he is not expected to abandon his opposition to any plan by Nakasone to gain a third term.

Japanese elections at this level are characterized by factional infighting, especially in the LDP, and a false move by partisan supporters can make them the target of harsh criticism. Bureaucrats, businessmen and soldiers have alternately run Japan since 1867, when Emperor Meiji began to revitalize the country. Party politicians have traditionally kept a low profile. Nakasone's predecessor, Zenko Suzuki, for example, was a particularly reticent prime minister.

Although Nakasone is different, he is certainly not foolhardy. His public popularity has fallen since the Tokyo summit of seven Western industrialized nations, at which his pleas for a joint intervention in the foreign market to check the steep rise of the Japanese yen were rebuffed.

He came under fire after more than 100 small and medium-sized manufacturers went bankrupt because of a lack of product competitiveness caused by the rise of the yen and the fall of the US dollar. Opposition parties, led by the Japan Socialist Party, even charged that his cabinet was incompetent to deal with state issues and should be dissolved.

The three rivals for Nakasone's job may unite to force the prime minister to give up his plan to seek another term and engage in a three-way battle for the party leadership and prime minister's office.

As the three men continue to build up their individual power

bases in order to reach the same goal, the likelihood of Nakasone's being a lame-duck prime minister is believed to be high. Nevertheless, his four years on the centre of the political stage have probably

convinced him of the possibility of retaining influence over policy-making even if he is actually forced to step down. ■

by Tan Jianrong

SUDAN

First Civilian Rule in 17 Years

A new civilian government finally came into being in Sudan, where the army had taken control of the state for the last 17 of the country's 30 years of independence.

The Sudanese gave birth to their first democratically elected civil government in 17 years on April 26.

The country's Transitional Military Council handed over the ruling power to the Constitutional Council, formed by 264 members from nearly 30 parties and factions across the country. Sadiq al-Mahdi, the leader of the Umma Party, which is the largest among all Sudanese parties, came into office as Premier. Ahmed Ali al-Mirghani was elected Chairman of the Supreme Council, whose five members function collectively as the country's executive branch. On May 15, Premier al-Mahdi announced the nomination of 20 ministers to the cabinet, including his role as Minister of Defence. There are also eight other ministers from the Umma Party.

There are several reasons for al-Mahdi's election as premier. He won the election hands down, because most members in the Constitutional Council are from the Umma Party. Then, he has gained great political influence in Sudan for his position as premier in the allied Umma Party and Democratic Unionist Party (DUP) from 1966 to 1967 when he was only 30 years old. And then the reputation of his great grandfather, a national hero and religious leader well-known in

African history, has certainly helped his standing. He is popular with the Sudanese, especially due to his time spent in prison during the military rule of Mohammed Nimeri. And finally, his mild Muslim policies are easily accepted.

The newly founded civilian government has declared it will carry out a 10-point constitution aimed at national unity. It was drafted by the Umma Party and has been approved by most of the parties in the country. In terms of foreign policy, the constitution maintains Sudan will take a non-aligned stance and support the Palestinian people, while stepping up efforts to curb racial discrimination. The country's new foreign minister has stressed that relations with Arab, African and Muslim countries would be given priority.

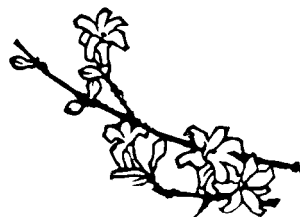
In domestic policies, the constitution calls for a scientific approach to economic problems, the drawing of permanent constitution, the elimination of the previous military structure, and proper trial of corruption cases in the former government. The document also demands the recognition of the problems in southern Sudan and other regions; reformation of the civil service, the armed forces and the national security service. It also calls for the elimination of the current Sharia law.

Although civilian rule has been restored, the situation is still far from stable. Politically, the threat of the civil war remains. John Garang, who heads the Sudanese People's Liberation Army (SPLA) in the south, refuses to join in the new government unless the Sharia law is abolished, and a secular one is adopted. A reconciliation between the north, where the ruling government is located, and the south is difficult to reach since Premier al-Mahdi has only promised a thorough amendment of the Sharia law.

The opposition National Islamic Front and the Communist Party, which occupy large number of seats in the Constitutional Council, may also impede the implementation of the new government's mild policies with their more extreme ones.

Sudan has had an economic recession for the past five years, so much so that it has even failed to pay off its debts, which is estimated to be about US\$10 billion. Each year US\$160 million went towards the civil war, and about 40 percent of government expenditure rested on foreign assistance. But foreign aid is hard to obtain now that the International Monetary Fund has frozen its credit to Sudan because of its belated debt payments. The falling oil price also has made it difficult for the Arab countries to offer help. There are about 3 to 4 million people suffering from hunger. Whether the new government will come up with effective remedies for the dire domestic situation should be a real test.

by Yan Xuetong



China Holds Symposium on Peace

For the first time in China, more than 40 scholars gathered in Shanghai to discuss humanity's most pressing topic — how to avoid war and defend peace.

by Our Correspondent Zheng Fangkun

Responding to the United Nations' call for activities commemorating the International Year of Peace, more than 40 scholars from Beijing, Nanjing and Shanghai gathered in Shanghai from May 20 to 22 to discuss humanity's most pressing problem—how to avert war and defend peace. The symposium on peace was the first of its kind in China.

In the process of an organized peace research in the contemporary West, the 1957 Science and World Affairs Meeting in Pugwash, Canada and the ensuing Pugwash Movement played an important role in promoting research on peace.

Chinese scientist Zhou Peiyuan, one of the sponsors and the 22 delegates to the 1957 Pugwash, Canada conference, and now president of the Chinese People's Association for Peace and Disarmament, addressed the opening session of the Shanghai symposium. He said the symposium should advance the peace movement in China. He expressed the hope that more natural scientists would take part in the discussion on the preservation of peace. The symposium, sponsored by the Chinese Academy of Social Sciences, the Shanghai Academy of Social Sciences and the Shanghai Institute of International Studies, was a great draw to social scientists.

The development of peace research has been closely related to the spread of the peace movement since World War II. Tang Mingxin, deputy secretary-general of the China Organizing

Committee for International Peace Year, said China was among the first to launch a peace movement. In an effort to support the 1950 Stockholm Declaration on the Prohibition of Atomic Weapons and the 1951 Peace Declaration, he said, China launched a nationwide signature drive which came up with 700 million signatures. The Asia-Pacific Peace Conference held in Beijing in October 1952 also drew in 400 representatives from 37 countries and nine international organizations, and played a significant role in developing the peace movement in this region.

However, during the decade-long confusion from the mid-1960s to mid-1970s, China's peace movement was subjected to serious interference. For many years, the country held fast to the theory of the inevitability of war, saying that either war provoked revolution or revolution stopped war, a view that caused certain misunderstanding. Some even said that China was "bellicose" and that it was "dreadful." Even today, some people still doubt China's genuine love of peace. These people worry that China would engage in arms expansion and war preparations, and become expansionist when it grew powerful.

At the academic symposium, China's experience in the peace movement was summed up; 26 papers on such subjects as the possibility of a nuclear war and peace were presented. In addition, a number of specialists and scholars spoke at the symposium.

Li Shoubao, president of the Shanghai Branch of the Chinese

People's Association for Friendship With Foreign Countries, said that to clear up misunderstandings about China's genuine love of peace, China should develop its information exchanges with other countries, and help the people of other nations to have a better understanding of China's peaceful foreign policy through various channels and by various forms and let them know clearly that the Chinese are champions of peace. Doing so, he said, would not be for propaganda's sake nor would it be an expedient measure. For nearly a century after the Opium War, China experienced untold suffering from aggressive wars and civil strife and incurred heavy losses from World War II. The Chinese people's hatred of war and love of peace are deep-rooted. China is now engaged in arduous socialist construction, and it needs long-term peaceful and stable internal and international environments in order to see the construction through. Even after its four modernizations programme is achieved, China will still need to coexist peacefully with other countries and will not seek expansion, for peace is where the fundamental interests of the Chinese people lie.

In an essay delivered at the symposium, entitled "Marxism and the Peace Movement," authors Wang Yizhou and Su Shaozhi, director of the Marxism-Leninism and Mao Zedong Thought Research Institute, said the world today is threatened by nuclear, biochemical and laser weapons. A nuclear war would mean the destruction of the human race. In this sense, the

authors said, conditions today are harsher than those of the 19th century. Today, People's options are more limited: peace or destruction. This is the starting point from which Marxism determines its stand on peace.

The essay also said under modern conditions, non-violent methods of struggle comply more fully with the requirements of the new revolution for changing society and the world. Revolutionaries today should not use war to advance socialist revolution and create more socialist countries, as in the case of socialist Soviet Union which was born after World War I and many other socialist states which came into existence after World War II. If they did so, they would be cherishing sheer illusions and the result would only be "a fight that each time ended...in the common ruin of the contending classes," as predicted by Marx and Engels in the *Manifesto of the Communist Party*.

Associate researcher Wang Shuzhong spoke about the "star wars" influence on war and peace. The US "star wars" programme and US-Soviet rivalry over outer space, Wang said, have increased the factors of war as well as those of containing war. He said though some maintained that the US programme could increase the cohesion of its Western allies, facts prove that the world is becoming multi-polar. Considering that the United States is mapping out a defensive strategic plan which would separate it from Western Europe and undermine NATO's nuclear deterrent strategy, West European governments plan to work out a strategic defence programme of their own to protect the continent, defuse the confrontation between the United States and the Soviet Union and urge the two to reach a disarmament agreement.

Wang said the same is true of the Soviet Union. There exist differences between the Soviet Union and the East European

countries over analyses of the situation and their policies. East European countries has openly pointed out that the arms race between the United States and the Soviet Union is the root cause of international tension, and they have said that the tenses the situation becomes, the more the medium-sized and small countries should play a role. They have said they need a peaceful international environment to build their countries and that they intend to establish friendly and co-operative relations with Western Europe with which they have been in confrontation for several decades. This explains why members of the Council for Mutual Economic Assistance (CMEA) demanded the establishment of official relations with EEC out of the consideration of a qualitative change in the US-Soviet arms race resulting from the US "star wars" programme.

The goals of "star wars" and Soviet counter-measures are the same: to establish their powerful military, political and economic systems so as to ensure their own hegemonic positions and return world politics to the early post-war bi-polarity in order to control world affairs. Wang said small and medium-sized countries, for their part, have tried hard to get the bi-polar world to evolve into a multi-polar one and to get rid of the control of the two superpowers. Apparently, contrary to the wishes of the two superpowers, any efforts by the United States and the Soviet Union to enhance their positions of strength will only stimulate the medium-sized and small countries to unite and become stronger and expedite thereby the development of a multi-polar system, he said.

During the discussion, the participants aired divergent views on some problems. Through give-and-take however, they reached consensus on some problems but failed to come to any conclusions on others. For example, regarding the question as to which will be

more favourable to the defence of peace—a bi-polar or a multi-polar world—some held that war would be more likely in a multi-polar world. They backed their arguments with prewar data. Others, however, maintained that the current multi-polar trend has emerged within the framework of bi-polar confrontation and has acted as a check on the bi-polar pattern, thus becoming an important factor in checking war. It is therefore beneficial to the defence of peace.

Some people questioned the validity of Karl von Clausewitz's dictum that "war is the extension and continuation of politics." They said von Clausewitz's contention was no longer applicable because war produced effects that run counter to one's wishes. Others, however, held that the statement was still valid, and pointed to the numerous local wars throughout the world as evidence.

Some people worry that the implementation of US "star wars" programme would disrupt the balance of nuclear terror and increase the danger of a new war. Those holding divergent views said in their rivalry, neither the United States nor the Soviet Union would allow any disruption of this balance. Others said that since both sides are locked in competition, the balance is invariably relative and conditional. An imbalance, even if it does occur, will not necessarily lead to war. This was the situation that existed shortly after World War II, they said.

Many scholars underscored the important roles of the third world in the struggle to safeguard world peace. In his essay "The Third World Is the Main Force Promoting Disarmament and Safeguarding World Peace," Shi Jinkun, a research fellow with the Beijing Society on International Strategy, said fundamental changes have taken place since the end of World War II. Many former colonial and semi-colonial



A Sharp Lookout — The Price of Peace

The following is the closing address by Li Shenzhi, vice-president of the Chinese Academy of Social Sciences, at the Symposium on Preserving World Peace

In an announcement issued on New Year's Day to inaugurate the International Year of Peace, UN Secretary General Javier Perez de Cuellar declared: "Mankind is now at a crossroad, a choice has yet to be made as to what road to take in the days ahead." The conclusion we have come to is unanimous: Mankind can only choose the road leading to lasting peace, not the road to mutual destruction.

We are not utopians. We have taken into consideration the two possibilities in all seriousness. We are sober enough to realize that the factors which make for war are far from being removed. As a matter of fact, in the four decades since the close of World War II,

the dark cloud of a nuclear war has continuously been overshadowing our planet and regional wars using conventional weapons have yet to cease. At this very hour, as we meet here, human beings, our brothers and sisters, are perishing on the battlefield. This is a harsh reality, and yet, we are optimistic about the future because we know the factors of peace are growing far more rapidly than those of war. If we do a good job, a new world war may be avoided.

People have been alerted, their awareness of what is right and what is wrong enhanced, by the tragic consequences of two world wars and by the destructiveness and lethal power of nuclear weapons. For the first time the

gentle desire for peace which has existed since antiquity has been transformed into a strong determination worldwide.

With the collapse of the old imperialist-colonial system there appeared an entirely new third world. People of the colonies and semi-colonies, who account for three quarters of the world's population, having ridded themselves of long years of enslavement, have won national independence. By and large these new emerging countries adhere to a policy of non-alignment. This has changed the balance of forces on a world scale. They constitute an overwhelming force for peace hitherto unknown in history. With its population of one billion,

countries have smashed the colonialist shackles and become independent countries, including China and some other socialist states. These third world countries have joined the United Nations and other international organizations, bringing about important changes in the composition and balance of power in these world organizations. Because the majority of them had just freed themselves from imperialist and colonialist oppression and enslavement, they cannot tolerate a few powers' monopoly on world affairs by virtue of their positions of strength. Holding that hegemonism is the underlying cause of international tension, they therefore firmly oppose power politics and confrontation between blocs in international organizations. They advocate that all countries, big or small, should be equal and the latter should have a say on international security and other major issues vital to their

own interests. At UN General Assembly sessions and disarmament talks, third world representatives have vociferously advocated democratic relations between nations; they have actually linked the struggle against imperialism and colonialism with the one against hegemonism, and they have integrated the striving for equal rights in international relations with the endeavour for a stable international situation. Their efforts have been a powerful check on aggression and war.

Representatives at the symposium also discussed such problems as the relation between peace and development, the United Nations' role and regional peace. Su Zhenxing, a specialist in Latin America, said peace and development are the trends of today. Peace guarantees development, which, in turn, safeguards peace. In the world today, the differences between East and West and North and South pose major

threats to world peace and set up major obstacles to development. While discussing measures for safeguarding world peace, adequate attention must also be given to the solution to the problem of development.

Wu Weiran, a well-known professor in medical sciences, stressed the need to study the important role played by the people in defending world peace. Because they suffer most in war, he said, they should have the biggest say.

Since the dawn of the nuclear age, peace has moved from the realm of man's ideals to man's rational thought. And in this process, Chinese scholars have made their contributions. It can be expected that with the Shanghai symposium as a beginning, Chinese scholars' research on peace will certainly entail still greater successes. ■

China, which pursues an independent foreign policy and upholds the Five Principles of Peaceful Coexistence, is an important component part of this force.

We must not slacken our vigilance simply because no world war has erupted in the past four decades. The definition of peace is certainly not just "a state of no war," still less is it "a break between two wars."

The rise of the third world has initiated a course of democratization in international relations, with the small and medium-sized countries having more say with each passing day, thereby ending the times when a few big powers could arbitrarily decide the destiny of the whole world. The United Nations Organization, founded shortly before the end of the last world war out of the people's strong desire for peace, now has altogether 159 member states. It has gradually freed itself from the grip of the superpowers and the military blocs they have organized, and has step by step become a platform for the great majority of nations and people in the world to voice their ideas and wishes. It is also playing an active part in easing tension and offering its good offices in settling international disputes and conflicts.

Nevertheless, hegemonism is very much alive to this day, making things difficult, and new superpowers have come to the fore following the decline of the old imperialist countries. They are locked in fierce confrontation in a scramble for world hegemony. The nuclear weapons they have stockpiled have reached the point

of "overkill," being enough to wipe out mankind many times over. Their armament race has extended from land, sea and air to outer space. It is they who are forcing mankind to live on a powder keg. But it is this awareness of the crisis that has prompted people to mobilize and mount this peace movement on an unprecedented scale.

While the stockpiling of weapons in the hands of the superpowers is ever increasing, their followers are becoming fewer and fewer in number. The people of Europe, the main theatre of two world wars, having sensed that they would inevitably become the victims of any future world war and bear the brunt of the onslaught, have an especially intense desire for peace, whatever military bloc they happen to be in. As to the two superpowers themselves, their own people at home, like those in other lands, are opposed to war precisely because their countries are capable of destroying each other.

Throughout the world, ordinary people, irrespective of nationality and race, regardless of religion or belief, are opposed to nuclear war; they all demand that the energy man has released from Nature should serve mankind to bring happiness, and this alone, and should by no means be used as a means to destroy mankind itself.

For reasons mentioned above, we believe that as long as people the world over keep building their unity on a still wider basis to prevent war and maintain it energetically, peace can be preserved.

The price to be paid for peace is to keep on the alert.

We must not slacken our vigilance simply because no world war has erupted in the past four decades. The definition of peace certainly is not just "a state of no war," still less is it "a break between two wars."

We must never find solace in the fact that up to now no regional

wars have led to a world war. Peace is indivisible, especially in a world so closely knit together by mutual ties, mutual actions and mutual reliance not to mention the fact that behind most regional wars lies the scramble for world hegemony between the superpowers.

We must fight for universal, stable, lasting peace.

Peace calls for the implementation of the principles of mutual respect for each other's sovereignty and territorial integrity, mutual non-aggression, mutual non-interference in each other's internal affairs, equality and mutual benefit and peaceful coexistence in the relations between all nations.

Peace certainly does not mean momentary ease under a "nuclear stalemate" or a "balance of terror." Peace should mean not only a world free of war or threat of war, but also a world free of fear and misgivings, free of oppression and discrimination, where each and every country, big or small, is able to work securely for its own development.

Peace and development cannot be separated from each other: It is impossible for development to continue when there is no peace and it is impossible for peace to last long when there is no development.

The UN resolution on the International Year of Peace has provided us with the opportunity to think of the future of our world, to review the forces of peace and to strengthen the struggle to safeguard peace.

We have a long way to go before we reach our final goal; at present we must concentrate on stopping



War And Peace: A Reappraisal

by Chen Qimao

Since the beginning of the 20th century, mankind has experienced two calamitous world wars.

World War I took place between 1914 and 1918, involving 30 countries and a population of 1.3 billion, or 75 percent of the world's population at that time. The two belligerents mobilized a military strength of over 70 million men, suffered casualties of over 30 million, including 10 million killed and another 10 million dying of starvation, and incurred economic losses totalling 270 billion US dollars.

World War II, which took place between 1939 and 1945, surpassed by far World War I in magnitude

* The author is director of the Shanghai Institute for International Studies. The article was presented as a paper at the symposium.

and in losses. More than 60 countries and 80 percent of the world's population got involved at different times. The military strength mobilized by the belligerents numbered more than 110 million men. While the theatre of

The first half of the 20th century saw two successive wars; this was by no means accidental, but the upshot of the era of imperialism human society had moved in.

war during World War I was confined mainly to Europe, the flames of World War II raged in

Asia, Europe, Africa, Oceania and the seven seas. War deaths ran up to 50 million, five times as many as the number killed in World War I. Incomplete statistics show that the war caused tremendous material losses amounting to 4,000 billion US dollars.

Half a century is but a short moment in the whole span of human history. But the first half of the 20th century saw two successive world wars; this was by no means accidental, but the upshot of the era of imperialism human society had moved into.

Lenin, in his *Imperialism, Highest Stage of Capitalism* and other works published before and after it, made a profound analysis of the inevitability of wars between the imperialist countries. He pointed out:

the highly dangerous nuclear arms race. The two superpowers must, first of all, stop the testing, production and deployment of all types of nuclear weapons. The fact is that only they are capable of launching a world war. It is up to them to "bury the hatchet"—reduce and destroy all nuclear weapons deployed both at home and abroad—and, on this basis, make it possible for the convocation of an international conference on nuclear disarmament of real significance.

China, from the first day it became a nuclear power, has declared that under no circumstances will it be the first to use nuclear weapons. Last year on its own initiative it reduced the size of its armed forces by one million. Last March, at the Chinese People's Conference on Preserving World Peace held in response

to the UN Resolution on the International Year of Peace, Premier Zhao Ziyang made another announcement—that China would from now on carry out no more nuclear tests in the atmosphere.

This decision, which China has taken on its own initiative, deserves a suitable response.

Neither factors leading to war nor factors contributing to the preservation of peace exist in isolation. This we know. Peace and development, for instance, are two things that cannot be separated from each other: It is impossible for development to continue when there is no peace and it is impossible for peace to last long when there is no development. In the world today, the concept of "peace" has been greatly expanded both intensively and extensively. No peace is stable

unless integrated with security, trust, equality, justice and harmony; no peace can ever be stable when there is poverty, ignorance, exploitation and oppression. This meeting of ours has probed these matters. And our study will go on with the progress of world peace.

As scholars taking part in this conference we are bare-handed. Still, we feel that we are not powerless. As an old Chinese saying goes, "The greatest virtue on earth is to live" and "the benevolent are invincible." Mankind's desire to live and its right to live in peace must never be denied, and the force crying out for peace and wishing to live is irresistible.

Most of us here have experienced wars. Let us do everything in our power to see that our children and our children's children will live in lasting peace. ■

1. Imperialism is monopoly capitalism whose very nature is to go after huge amounts of monopoly profit. In the era of imperialism, monopoly capital in some developed countries has grown and is concentrated to such an extent that failure to control certain stable markets and hold colonies for the export of capital and seizure of resources will cause it to lose out in competition and find itself unable to develop or even to survive.

2. Accordingly, the imperialist countries are bound to scramble for markets, for areas of investment, and for sources of raw materials and to fight for a partition of the world.

3. In the era of imperialism, the big powers have completed the partition of the world.

4. The imperialist countries partition the world according to their different strength. The development of capitalist economy, politics and military strength is uneven. In the era of imperialism, finance capital and trusts have aggravated the unevenness of this development. Some late-coming imperialist countries often develop faster than the older ones and their strength often will surpass that of the latter. This gives rise to the contradiction of imbalance between their relative strength and the spheres of influence they have carved out for themselves.

5. Late-coming imperialist countries whose strength develops more quickly are bound to demand a redivision of the world, whereas the older imperialist countries are by no means ready to give up their vested interests. This inevitably gives rise to acute contradictions and clashes.

6. When this struggle for a redivision of the world develops to a certain extent, it will as a matter of course lead to war.

Having made a systematic analysis of the economic nature of imperialism and the conditions for its development, Lenin came to the conclusion that "imperialist

wars are absolutely inevitable under such an economy, as long as private property in the means of production exists."

The reality of the two world wars fully bears out this scientific thesis made by Lenin.

World War I took place mainly between two major imperialist blocs, the Entente Countries and

Untold suffering and tremendous losses inflicted by World War II, the threat of a destructive nuclear war.... These have led to worldwide concern if mankind can avert another world war.

the Allied Countries. It was a typical imperialist war aimed at redividing the world and seizing world hegemony. World War II was a great historic war against fascism; its nature was different from that of World War I, although the very thing that caused its outbreak was also the scramble between different imperialist blocs for world hegemony. The arch criminals who started the war came from the bloc of fascist aggressor countries embracing Germany, Italy and Japan, which were typical of the late-coming imperialist countries eager to redivide the world as Lenin had analysed.

Untold suffering and tremendous losses were inflicted on the people the world over by World War II. Moreover, since the invention and use of atom bombs at the close of the war, a destructive nuclear war has been threatening the destiny of the human race. These factors have led to a worldwide concern in the postwar years over whether or not it is possible for human society to avert the catastrophe of another world war. Statesmen, social activists as well as scholars of

many countries have made many statements, written numerous articles and published many books on this subject. It is an issue of great importance in our time bearing on the future of mankind, and Marxists in approaching this question should weigh all the evidence available and exercise their own judgment.

Stalin put forward his own thesis in 1952: Although World War II had dealt heavy blows at a number of imperialist countries, the struggle among them for cheap raw materials and markets would persist. Therefore, wars between capitalist countries were still inevitable. He predicted that capitalist countries like Britain, France, Germany (West Germany) Japan and Italy were certain to free themselves from US control and strike out on a road of independent development, which would result in clashes with the United States. These clashes would, in fact, become more serious than the contradictions between socialist and capitalist countries. He further pointed out that the peace movement could only put off a war and preserve peace for some time, but it could not root out the inevitability of wars between capitalist countries. This thesis presented by Stalin was regarded for some time as the authoritative Marxist theory on the issue of war and peace in contemporary times and was widely disseminated.

More than 40 years have elapsed since the conclusion of World War II. Postwar history has substantiated some aspects of his thesis. Britain, France, Japan, West Germany and Italy, for example, are capitalist countries which have one after another freed themselves from US control in varying degrees and taken the road of independent development, and the developed capitalist countries still have to fight for markets for their products and sources of raw materials. But the situation as a whole has not turned out as Stalin predicted. Regional



In any consideration of the issue of war and peace in contemporary world, we must work out a new scientific thesis guided by Marxism-Leninism and based on postwar historical facts.

wars and unrest have continued throughout the postwar years, but they erupt mainly in the third world, not between developed capitalist countries. The rivalry between the superpowers has been quite intense, the situation on several occasions becoming so explosive that they were at daggers drawn, but when things came to a show-down they just managed to avoid a head-on clash. The armament race keeps escalating, the danger of a new world war has always been present, yet up to now a world war has not broken out. According to preliminary statistics, by 1984, altogether 139 wars and armed conflicts between nations, including civil wars with outsiders clearly involved, had taken place in the postwar years and over 10 million people had lost their lives in the process. Of these wars 135 took place in Asia, Africa, and Latin America. As to the nature of these wars, some were caused by aggravated contradictions between oppressed people and oppressed nations on the one hand and old and new colonialists or their agents on the other; some, between developing countries, were caused by historical problems left over from the colonial days; while others were caused by expansion and aggression rooted in regional hegemonism.

Moreover, as was often the case, these wars were enmeshed in the scramble between the superpowers in the third world, so that the ramifications were even more

involved. It is worth noting that not one of these 139 wars took place between developed capitalist countries, which have in fact been competing intensely for markets and sources of raw materials throughout the postwar years, just as before. But up to now not one grave war crisis has risen among them.

This shows that in any consideration of the question of war and peace in contemporary times we must work out a new scientific thesis guided by Marxism-Leninism and based on postwar historical facts, and must not adhere to the thesis propounded by Lenin before and after World War I based on the historical facts of those days; still less should we indiscriminately adopt certain viewpoints presented by Stalin in the early postwar years.

Many events demonstrate that since the end of World War II there has been a profound change in international relations. This change, while failing to remove the threat of a new world war, has made it possible for mankind to avoid one. We will discuss this matter from the economic, political and military aspects:

Postwar history has substantiated some aspects of Stalin's thesis that the peace movement could not root out the inevitability of war between capitalist nations. But the situation as a whole is not what he predicted.

1. Postwar economic development, especially the highly internationalized development of production and capital, is constantly strengthening the tendency towards mutual interdependence

of the economies of the capitalist countries, and is rendering wars between imperialist countries no longer inevitable.

More than 100 years ago, Marx and Engels pointed out that with the formation of the capitalist world market, mutual economic contacts and mutual dependence between nations has gradually replaced autarky. However, capitalist production and reproduction, up to the time of World War II, were still confined within the national state. Then from the 50s to the 70s capitalist countries went through a period of high-speed development. With the rapid advance in economy, science and technology, the need has arisen for capitalist production and the division of labour to further break through the narrow confines of the nation state and to expand internationally on a broader scale and in greater depth. The need for further internationalization of capitalist production and the division of labour in the postwar years led to the appearance of transnational and multinational corporations in their tens of thousands, integration of the West European economy as well as that of some other regions, establishment of various international organizations embodying mainly the developed countries—such as the World Bank, International Monetary Fund, Economic Co-operation and Development Organization—as well as the founding of an international economic order and system to safeguard the interests of the developed countries. The transnational corporations and organizations of economic integration have promoted further development so that the organized, planned division of labour inside some big enterprises has been expanded beyond national confines to operate on a world scale. This highly internationalized production and capital has brought about an increase of economic interflow and interde-

Postwar economic development is constantly strengthening the tendency towards mutual interdependence of the capitalist economies and is rendering war between imperialist countries no longer inevitable

pendence between countries on a tremendous scale never seen before.

An outstanding manifestation of the growing tendency towards interdependence between capitalist countries is the widespread mutual capital infiltration among the developed nations. Prior to World War II the fields for the direct overseas investments of the capitalist countries were in the colonies and semi-colonies. Statistics show that 70 percent of the direct investments made by the major capitalist countries in 1938 went to Asia, Africa and Latin America. Internationalization of capital in the postwar years is manifested not only by the marked increase of the total export of capital (according to statistics, long-term investment by major countries exporting capital registered a 11-fold increase in the 30 years between 1945 and 1975), but, more importantly, also by the rapid increase of direct investments made by the developed nations into each other's country, which amounted to far more than their direct investments in underdeveloped countries and regions. By the early 70s, mutual direct investments among the developed countries had already accounted for 70 percent of their total direct overseas investments. Such a tendency has been growing stronger in recent years. US direct investment in developed countries in 1983, for instance, amounted to 75 percent of its total direct overseas investments. In the case of Federal Germany, its direct investment in other developed countries between 1961 and 1982 in the aggregate ran up to 94 percent of its direct overseas investment; in the case of Britain, to 80 percent by the end of 1981. Japan used to make more direct

overseas investment in the developing countries, but its investment in developed countries went up to 50 percent of the total between 1981 and 1984, as against 45.3 percent between 1972 and 1980. This is a situation that cannot but have a profound effect on the relationship between capitalist countries.

In the situation where "when one suffers all the rest will suffer and all will prosper when one prospers," war can no longer be considered a feasible means for resolving contradictions and conflicts

As mentioned above, both Lenin and Stalin in their analyses inferred the inevitability of wars between capitalist countries mainly on the basis of their irreconcilable contradictions in the struggle for markets, fields for investment and sources of raw materials. Today the struggle between developed capitalist countries for spheres of influence is still going on. Capital infiltration into each other's country, too, is marked by efforts to take advantage of each other, fierce competition and drives for restriction or counter-restriction. Still, it cannot be denied that a situation where, on the basis of highly developed specialization in internationalized production, widespread, in-depth capital infiltration of an interlocking pattern into each other's country where each owns something in the other's country, will certainly

make them share weal and woe to form a structure in which "when one suffers all the rest will suffer and all will prosper when one prospers." In these circumstances, war can no longer be considered a feasible means for resolving their contradictions and conflicts.

For instance, it is known to all that there is intense trade friction between the United States, Japan and Western Europe, friction that sometimes becomes extremely acute, but at the same time each has huge investments in the other's country. According to statistics for 1983, US direct investment in Western Europe amounted to 102.4 billion US dollars in the aggregate while Western Europe has a direct investment in the United States of close to 82.7 billion dollars. Direct US investment in Japan totalled 8.063 billion dollars while Japan has an aggregate of 11.336 billion dollars of direct investment in the United States. Obviously, in the event of war between them, both sides will suffer tremendous economic losses, which, even in the case of the victor, will surpass by far any advantages it may be able to seize in the war.

Again for instance, the international economic order established after World War II is an important condition for the smooth operation of the highly internationalized production and capital in the West. Once such an order is upset by a large-scale war, the capitalist economy as a whole is sure to find itself in a state of utter chaos, bringing huge losses to all the capitalist nations. However, this order, established in the early postwar years, reflects the relative strength of the capitalist countries at that time, particularly the preponderance of the United States. Opposed to an inequality

that exists and seeking to "remedy" it, the capitalist countries have been at loggerheads hundreds or thousands of times, but not one of them thinks of resolving the matter by means of war, but rather tries to effect a readjustment through continued talks and repeated bargaining. The annual seven-nation summit of the West held since 1975 is a system established to serve this purpose. Thus it can be seen that

Failure to study the profound changes in monopoly capitalist economy will make it hard to understand why since World War II no war has broken out between developed capitalist countries.

the conditions on which Lenin developed his thesis that imperialist wars are inevitable have changed. Failure to study such profound changes in the foundation and conditions for the development of monopoly capitalist economy would make it hard to understand why since World War II no war has broken out between the developed capitalist countries in spite of this or that contradiction or clash of interest between them. There are, of course, also some political factors (acute political, military confrontation between East and West as well as dependence of the small and medium-sized capitalist countries on the US nuclear umbrella) which explain why such war has not broken out. But, in the final analysis, it is the economic factors that have played the decisive role in this matter.

2. The emergence of the third world in the postwar international arena and the formation of a multi-polar world put an end to

the prewar situation in which several big powers dominated the world. This makes it impossible for the superpowers to do what they like or to launch a war lightly.

People of the world paid a high price in World War II to defeat fascism. The great historic significance of World War II lies in the fact that it greatly weakened international imperialism and opened up a new stage of revolutionary struggles waged by the oppressed people and oppressed nations. In the postwar years, national liberation movements have been on the move in Asia, Africa and Latin America, the imperialist-colonial system has collapsed and a large number of countries have freed themselves from long years of colonial rule and won national independence. They are now fighting to develop their national economy and safeguard their national independence and state sovereignty.

The rise of the third world embracing these new emerging countries (including socialist China) is a major event of the first magnitude in our age.

The imperialist countries, as a result, have lost their stable rear forever. The United Nations, at one time a voting machine manipulated by certain big powers, has become platform for the many small and medium-sized countries to cry for justice. Consequently the superpowers can no longer do whatever they like about the world's destiny as they did before. World War II and the political and economic development in the postwar years have, moreover, brought about profound changes in the pattern of world politics. For quite a long time in history, Europe, as the birthplace of capitalism and the industrial revolution, being extremely powerful both economically and militarily, used to be the centre of the international structure. The postwar years saw the decline of Europe and the rise of the United States and the Soviet Union. For a while in the early

postwar years, there existed two camps—the capitalist and the socialist—replacing the former pattern with Europe as its centre. Soon afterwards, both camps fell apart. The United States fell from the pinnacle of its development from which it has been able to rule the roost in the early postwar years; still, to this very day, it remains the most powerful capitalist country. The Soviet Union, which began trying to catch up with and overtake the United States in the mid-50s, emerged by the 70s as the only other superpower capable of contending with the United States for world hegemony. Western Europe is effecting a union for revival and economical and political development. Japan has developed into a major capitalist economic power second only to the United States and is making every effort to turn itself into a big political power as well. Socialist China is steadily growing in strength and its global strategic position is becoming more firmly consolidated. This tendency to multi-polarization has become an irreversible world trend.

The two previous world wars could be so easily started because the people had no say at all. Events in the postwar years, however, have taken an entirely different turn.

That the rise of the third world and the formation of a multipolar world are factors holding back a new world war is self-evident. As is well known, the United States and the Soviet Union, the two superpowers, with the great military strength and in possession of over 95 percent of the world's nuclear arms, are the only ones in the present-day world capable of launching a world war; the danger

The emergence of the third world has put an end to the prewar situation in which several big powers dominated the world, making it hard for the superpowers to launch a war lightly.

of a new world war comes mainly from their scramble for world hegemony. But however strong they are, to launch a world war, they will have to complete a series of deployments, including the construction of strategic military bases, the control of strategic passageways, and organizing their allied forces. One major reason why the two previous world wars could be so easily started was that at that time a few imperialist powers were in control of the world's destiny while the world's people and the vast numbers of small and medium-sized countries had no say at all. Volumes of historical materials uncovered after the war reveal that in the critical moments when Hitler marched into the Rhine valley, annexed Austria and made inroads into Czechoslovakia, it was still entirely possible to stop or put off the war. Nevertheless it became inevitable only because London and Paris at that time chose to pursue the policy of appeasement, while the masses of people and the small and medium-sized countries could do nothing to counteract the threat of war. Events in the postwar years, however, have taken an entirely different turn. Aggression and expansion by big countries has again and again been checked by small and medium-sized countries and by people determined to put up a struggle to safeguard national independence and state sovereignty. The US defeat in the Viet Nam war, the Soviet dilemma in the aggression against Afghanistan, Viet Nam's failure in its Soviet-backed war of aggression against Kampuchea, the steady decline in the power of both the United States and Soviet Union to control their respective allies—all this shows how the strategic designs of

the superpowers are being constantly frustrated and fail to materialize. This is the most important factor behind the possibility of averting a new world war.

3. The superpowers' nuclear armament race has given rise to a "balance of terror" so to speak under which neither side dares to start a war and the movement to safeguard world peace goes on developing into a powerful, well-organized force.

The nuclear armament race is a salient feature of international political life in the post-war years. Today, the United States and the Soviet Union both have mammoth nuclear arsenals, evenly matched, each with its own strong and weak points. For fear that its own nuclear power may be destroyed by the other in a preemptive strike, each side is anxious to keep improving its nuclear weapons of all types and strategic vehicles, carry on a nuclear arms race and contend for military superiority at a huge cost to manpower, money and material resources. The upshot: each side has the power to wipe out the other side many times over, a power far greater than needed in a real war. Thus arose the "balance of terror" under which neither side is in a position to make the "first strike" without retaliation by the other side. The "star wars" programme presented by Ronald Reagan is aimed at tipping the balance and achieving overall military superiority over the Soviet Union, which, of course, will not take this lying down. At present, the arms race in outer space has become the core of contention between the United States and the Soviet Union. Historical events in the 40 postwar years show that the superpower

arms race is like a boat rising higher still when the river rises—neither one of them can go one better. The upshot: a "balance of terror" that can not be tipped in favour of either side.

Nuclear weapons constitute a great danger to human existence, but it also keeps the people on the alert.

Marxism holds that since the introduction of the private ownership system, war has been the highest form of struggle at a certain stage of the development of contradiction between classes, nations, states and political blocs. War is the continuation of politics, whereas politics is the concentrated expression of economics. In the final analysis, all wars originate from clashes of economic interests between the opposing parties. The basic principle of war is to enable one side to survive while wiping out the other, and all weapons are used to serve this principle. When weapons have developed to threaten mankind's existence, and when the consequences of war mean not only destruction of the other side but also put the life of one's own in doubt, any one with sense cannot but pause to consider in all seriousness the consequences arising from launching a war. Which is why the two superpowers, their fierce contention notwithstanding, have all along made sure that the hot line between them is connected and have always avoided a head-on clash at the critical moment.



Nuclear weapons constitute a great danger to human existence but also keep people the world over on the alert, cause the movement for opposing the nuclear arms race and defending peace to surge forward steadily and become one of the most powerful trends in the world today. At present the role of the vast number of third world countries is still that of defending world peace and opposing hegemonism. China, adhering to an independent, peaceful foreign policy, plays a significant part in preserving peace and stability in the Asia-Pacific region and indeed in the whole world.

Since the beginning of this decade, anti-nuclear peace movements have been gaining momentum in the developed capitalist countries. The allies of both the United States and the Soviet Union have worked hard to ease tension in Europe. The people of the United States and the Soviet Union, too, are strongly opposed to war, bringing ever greater pressure to bear on the policy-makers. All this constitutes a force to safeguard peace and prevent war, a force that is growing with each passing day.

If we ignore this real possibility of averting a new world war brought about by these profound changes in international relations, if our thinking falls behind reality, we will lose the initiative in our defence of peace and find ourselves in a weak position in this struggle which has a bearing on the fate of human race. Of course, we must also realize that the struggle between the superpowers for world hegemony remains very intense, that the danger of a new world war is still present, and that the trends making for war and those for peace are both growing. Whether or not human society will succeed in avoiding the catastrophe of a war of destruction unprecedented in scale, will in the last analysis be determined by the outcome of the struggle between the two different trends.

Marxists in China have gone through a process of development and change in the postwar years.

Soon after the end of World War II the anti-fascist alliance formed in wartime split into two camps, and not long after, a situation known as the cold war emerged. For some time there was a great hue and cry about how war between the United States and the Soviet Union was inevitable, about how World War III was about to break out anytime. In these circumstances, Chinese Communist leader Mao Zedong made a scientific analysis of the international situation. He noted poignantly that the danger of a new world war existed, but, he added, the United States, in propagating war against the Soviet Union in such a big way soon after the end of World War II, was actually spreading a smokescreen to cover up its oppression of the American people and the expansion of its forces of aggression into the capitalist world. As long as we waged resolutely an effective struggle against the world's reactionary forces, a new world war could be avoided, he pointed out.

Whether society could avoid the catastrophe of a war unprecedented in scale will in the final analysis depend on the outcome of the struggle between the forces for war and those for peace.

The founding of the People's Republic of China brought about a great change in the international balance of political power. In 1950 Mao Zedong again explicitly pointed out: "The threat of war from the imperialist camp still exists, and so does the possibility of a third world war. However, the

forces fighting to check the danger of war and prevent the outbreak of a third world war are growing rapidly, and the level of political consciousness of most of the world's people is rising. A new world war can be averted, provided the Communist Parties of the world continue to unite all possible forces for peace and democracy and help their further development."

These scientific theses on war and peace brought out in the early postwar years by Chinese Marxists represented by Mao Zedong have been verified by historical events. They helped the Chinese people to withstand the blackmail and threat of a new world war by the imperialists and reactionaries and to have the courage to seize victory and consolidate it when the moment came; also they greatly inspired the national liberation movements that were surging ahead at that time.

Then beginning in the 60s, the "leftist" trend of thought gradually raised its head in China and when socialist transformation of the ownership of the means of production was completed in the main, the emphasis was again laid on "taking class struggle as the key link." In this situation "leftist" viewpoint also made its influence felt for some time in appraisal of the international situation—the danger of war being increasingly exaggerated. In the years after the mid-60s in particular, due to the war of aggression launched by the United States against Viet Nam and the escalation of the Soviet leadership's anti-China campaign, for a time it was believed that the war was imminent. This appraisal not only affected the formulation of China's international policy but, to a large extent, affected the setting of its home policies, with the result that the resolution on the four modernizations adopted in 1964 by the Third National People's Congress was never put into effect in real earnest. This "leftist" estimate of the international situation also had some-

The nuclear arms race has given rise to a "balance of terror," under which neither superpower dares to start a war, while the peace movement is growing into a powerful, well-organized force.

thing to do with the launching of the "cultural revolution."

The Third Plenary Session of the 11th Central Committee of the Chinese Communist Party in late 1978 went back to the ideological line of seeking truth from facts, integrating theory with reality and taking reality as the starting point in everything; this line became the basis upon which Marxists in China, after a sober-minded analysis and long observation of the international situation, made a new appraisal of the question of war and peace in our age. This appraisal has been systematically elaborated by Chinese leaders in their many statements of recent years:

1). Peace and development are the most important and urgent issues in the present-day world, being global, strategic issues. They are closely inter-related, peace being the sine qua non for economic development and the expansion of international co-operation, with economic development in all countries, especially in the third world, as well as the expansion of international co-operation, in turn, being the major factors helping to strengthen the forces of peace.

2). The danger of a new world war is still present. It comes mainly from the arms race and the scramble between the two superpowers, which have 95 percent of the world's nuclear weapons for control of certain regions. Only the United States and the Soviet Union are capable of fighting a world war in the present-day world, their arms race having extended from land, sea and air to outer space. This large-scale escalation, if unchecked, will cause a qualitative change in the arms race, thereby increasing the danger of war and posing serious threat to world peace.

3). It is gratifying to see that in recent years the forces of peace holding war in check have been developing and the people of the world have come to see more clearly that they should oppose unjust wars. The third world embracing three-fourths of the world's population is the main force in the preservation of world peace for it wants peace most and so growth in the strength of the third world also means growth in the strength of the forces for peace. In the third world, China, pursuing an independent, peaceful foreign policy, is a powerful factor for the preservation of world peace; every advance made by China in its development means advance in the development of the forces that keep war in check. The peace movements in all parts of the world today are a reflection of the strong desire of people of all lands for peace. The people of Europe and of Japan do not want war, nor do the people of the United States and the Soviet Union. Worth noting is the developments of the forces of peace in Europe. Europe, including Western Europe and Eastern Europe, has become an important force to suppress war and preserve world peace. The world's forces preserving peace, as they keep growing, will outstrip the growth of the forces making for war.

4). As long as the people the world over really get united, wage resolute struggles against every manifestation of hegemonism and expansionism, and go on upsetting the superpowers' strategic deployments, it is entirely possible to prevent the outbreak of a new world war and there is every hope for the cause of preserving world peace. If it is impossible to launch a war in this century then there is all the more hope for peace in the next century.

Basing himself on this appraisal, Deng Xiaoping, Chairman of the Central Advisory Committee to the Chinese Communist Party, lately pointed out unequivocally: In the past we said world war was inevitable. Now we have changed this viewpoint. The trend of development in the international situation would indicate that peace can be won if we strive for it; of course, there is an enormous amount of work to be done to win peace.

These new theses on war and peace by Chinese leaders are by no means a makeshift tactic or a change of slogan in propaganda, but are based on a scientific analysis of the profound changes in international relations in the postwar years, a conclusion drawn from the many historical events in the postwar years and the reality of the present-day world after repeated studies and deliberations. These scientific theses provide not only the basis for China's current independent, peaceful foreign policy but also a theoretical basis for devoting itself to the drive for the four modernizations with concerted efforts and for building socialism with Chinese characteristics. It is based on precisely such an appraisal that the Chinese government in 1985 made the decision to cut down the size its armed forces by one million, taking the lead in making contributions to the preservation of world peace with action.

These scientific theses have armed and inspired the Chinese people with strength to fight for a lasting peace with still greater determination and confidence. The Chinese people will unite more closely with all peace-loving people of the world and fight against hegemonism and to preserve world peace. ■

Rare Earth Widely Used in Industry

by Li Yongzeng

China has some of the richest deposits of rare-earth elements in the world. These so-called "rare earths," a series of 17 chemically similar metals*, are found in low concentrations throughout the earth's crust and in high concentrations in a large number of minerals. The properties of the elements have highly valuable industrial uses.

The industrial deposits of rare-earth elements of the Bayan Obo Iron Mine under the Baotou Iron and Steel Company in Inner Mongolia are five times greater

than the total rare-earth deposits in other countries combined.

Although rare-earth deposits are limited and the technology of refining them is complex, the elements are nevertheless quite useful. A pot made of aluminium alloy, when mixed with certain rare earths, can stand the weight of an adult. Sheep fur, processed with a rare-earth element, has a more luxurious feel. Rare earths can change the functions of steel, iron, aluminium and other metals and produce catalysts for the cracking of petroleum. They play an extremely important role in the television, ceramics, and light and textile industries and for the polishing of glass, such as camera lenses, binoculars and eyeglasses.

It is no wonder rare earths have often been called the "gourmet

powder of industry" or the "vitamins of industry." And today, the application of rare earths has become one of the symbols of the developmental level of a country.

Rare-Earth Industry

The prospective deposit of rare earths in Bayan Obo Iron Mine is 100 million tons and industrial deposit, 35 million tons, accounting for 97 percent of China's total rare-earth deposits. Rare-earth elements have also been discovered in Hunan, Guangdong, Guizhou, Jiangxi and Shandong provinces and in the Guangxi Zhuang Autonomous Region.

* The 17 rare-earth elements are scandium, ytterbium, lanthanum, cerium, praseodymium, neodymium, promethium, samarium, europium, gadolinium, terbium, dysprosium, holmium, erbium, thulium, yttrium and lutetium.

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Over the past 30 years China has established its own rare-earth industry that includes mining, ore dressing and melting. The Baotou Iron and Steel Company controls the country's largest rare-earth refinery and rare-earth alloy plants. These plants, with a dozen of production lines, can produce more than 70 rare-earth products in 170 specifications. Most of these products have entered the international markets. To enlarge Baotou Steel's production capacity, the state will invest 100 million yuan (about US\$33 million) in the company to establish several more production lines and to import advanced foreign technology and equipment during the Seventh Five-Year Plan period (1986-90). The project aims to increase China's current output of rare-earth products three to eight times and to upgrade the quality and variety of China's rare-earth products to international standards.

Today, there are more than 300 scientific research institutes and colleges and universities and 3,000 technicians involved in the research and application of rare earths in China. The leading institute, the Baotou Institute of Rare Earths, has 14 research divisions and 500 technicians who work with the most advanced research equipment in the country. In the last 10 years, China has conducted more than 1,000 scientific experiments on rare-earth elements, of which 300 produced important results. Eighty percent of these research achievements have been used in industrial production.

In March 1984 the Electronic Research Institute and Physics Institute of the Chinese Academy of Sciences succeeded in producing the third generation of rare-earth permanent magnetic material — Nd-Fe-B alloys. Two months later, they produced low-purity Nd-Fe-B permanent magnetic material, a breakthrough in

the application of rare-earth magnetic material.

Wide Use of Rare Earths

Rare-earth elements were first used to produce gas lamp mantles and flints. Since the breakthrough was made in the separation and refinement of rare earths in the 1950s, their application has become widely used in many scientific fields.

Over the last 10 years, the production of steel processed with rare earths has increased 12 times while the production of iron combined with rare-earth elements has tripled. Their use as catalysts in cracking petroleum has gone up by seven times.

Rare earths can also be used to purify steel, as well as prolong its service life. Two-thirds of China's rare earths are used annually in the metallurgy industry. The quantities of steel and cast iron processed with rare earths last year reached 110,000 tons and 1 million tons, quadrupling and tripling the 1978 figures respectively. If rare earth is mixed with aluminium, the intensity of aluminium alloy cable can be strengthened by 40 percent. It has been estimated that 100,000 yuan can be saved in erecting 110 kilometres of cable.

According to government statistics, the application of rare earths brought in about 500 million yuan to the state in 1985 alone.

In 1984, the Shanghai No. 2 Special Bulb Plant produced a new lighting mechanism using rare-earth fluorescent powder. Compared to ordinary light, the trichromatic fluorescent lamp has a milder light and a longer service life while consuming little energy. The brightness of a 9-watt trichromatic fluorescent bulb is equivalent to a 60-watt incandesc-

ent bulb. The plant now produces 500,000 trichromatic fluorescent bulbs annually. If each lamp is used an average of three hours a day, together these 500,000 bulbs can save 25 million kilowatt-hours of electricity per year.

Chemical examination shows that the oxide of rare earths is not poisonous or harmful to plants, animals, human beings or the environment.

Application of rare earths as fertilizers—China is the first country to do this—can increase rice yields by 8 percent; that of wheat by 15 percent; and that of tea by 20 percent. Glazed bricks and sanitary ceramic utensils made with rare-earth paints have been marketed in more than 30 countries and regions.

The amount of rare earths used in China in 1985 was almost three times more than in 1978. ■



Encouraging Creativity and New Ideas

"RENMIN RIBAO"

(People's Daily)

China's literary and art circles have been particularly lively in recent years producing many works and theories representing varying points of view.

In order to enrich their works, many writers and artists have taken great pains to broaden their vision and find new ways of expression. Some have adopted modern artistic techniques popular in the West, while others have incorporated findings from modern sciences and new literary and artistic theories from foreign countries. As a result, new areas and new topics for study have emerged in China.

Literature and art can only flourish when new ideas are encouraged. It is understandable that a mulling trend has appeared in the country since China instituted its open policy in 1978. While making efforts to bring about the four modernizations, the Central Committee of the Communist Party of China put forward the goal of establishing a socialist society with Chinese characteristics. This calls for the contribution of each Chinese, including the artist.

The efforts made by the writers and artists now can be considered part of the efforts to build a socialism with Chinese characteristics. The purpose is to develop national literature and art that bears the imprint of the times and that can be appreciated by the people. Therefore, creative efforts should be encouraged.

Writers and artists, therefore, should be allowed to experiment and make full use of their talents. Moreover, literary creativity cannot be standardized with fixed models, and no specific rules should be laid down imprudently regarding its subject matter, form, content, style or method. Still less should such standards be used to

judge and label a literary form as good or bad.

After the Third Plenary Session of the 11th Party Central Committee, practice is held as the sole criterion for judging truth. The purpose is to give the people a free hand to explore ways to build a new life. According to the nature of art and the laws of its development, the Party asks the writers and artists to make full use of their individual creativity and advocates the development of

different literary schools. The Party will by no means interfere in what should be written. This has brought about a great flourishing in China's literary arena.

In fact, any exploration may have two possible futures — success or failure. No one can guarantee the success of his or her ideas. Everyone, therefore, must learn to adopt a correct attitude towards success or failure. If writers and artists make errors and mistakes, they should be helped to learn from their experience and to begin anew.

Environment Suffers Under Development

"HUANJING DAobao"

(Environment Herald)

Since the end of the 1970s, thousands of rural enterprises have mushroomed across China, creating considerable environmental pollution.

More than 10,000 rural enterprises operate around Suzhou, for example. One-third of these spew pollutants into the air and the local water resources, seriously endangering the ecological balance. According to a survey conducted by the Jiangsu provincial environmental protection bureau, in 1984 rural industrial enterprises in the province produced 770 million tons of wastewater, more than 11 million cubic metres of waste gas and about 6 million tons of industrial residue, most of which was discharged without treatment. In addition, rapid population increases in rural towns and insufficient public utility facilities have meant more wastewater and sewage.

Environmental pollution in small towns can be attributed to three major causes: First, industrial projects are chosen with little or no regard for their potential environmental threat. Second, factories are not well

distributed in rural towns, and third, rural towns have not been put under strict environmental protection control.

To avoid the sort of urbanization experienced by Western countries, it is right that China limits the growth of its big cities while encouraging development in its medium-sized and small ones. If, however, environmental protection is neglected in the small towns, this will not help improve the environment in the big cities. It will also lead to new environmental problems in the countryside and hamper economic and social development. Therefore, it is necessary that the small towns improve their environmental protection and that they co-ordinate their development with not only economic laws but ecological ones as well.

Small towns should be developed simultaneously for business, industry and agriculture. They should stress the development of commerce, service trades, tourism and cultural and educational undertakings.

The environmental protection of small towns can be realized through both administrative measures and economic means, such as banking, credits, taxation and the levying of fines for polluting

the environment. In addition, legislation to protect the environ-

ment from destruction should also be strengthened.

Plan Calls for Commercialized Housing

"Jingji Ribao"

(Economic Daily)

With the development of the national economy, housing conditions for urban residents have improved. However, many still complain about what they call the unreasonable housing distribution system.

While large numbers of city dwellers say their housing conditions have not improved for years, a number of completed apartment buildings lie idle. Dissatisfied residents also say some people are allotted apartments with too much space, so that some of their rooms remain empty and unused.

Li Shixin, who is in charge of housing affairs for the Ministry of Commerce, acknowledges that such problems exist and says they are caused mainly by the low rent system that is currently in effect.

The low rent system is based on government subsidies. Under this system, those families with bigger housing space get more subsidies and those with little room are not subsidized. Because rent is so low, people can afford more space. By today's living standards, it is relatively easy for a family to pay one or two yuan for one more room.

Some local governments have asked units to sell at least 20 percent of their new apartment buildings to individuals, who will receive government subsidies. The stipulation is difficult to implement, because most families with housing problems do not know where to buy houses or cannot afford to do so. As for those who can afford to buy a home, most are housed by their units and so do not need to purchase their own.

To solve the housing problem, Li said, it is imperative to restructure China's housing distri-

bution system and to commercialize housing in China. Before the new system is introduced, however, he said, the following measures should be taken:

First, within a certain period of time, a basic housing standard should be established according to family members' seniority, sex, age and housing conditions. The standard should not be high. Rent should remain low, and if a family wants above-quota rooms, that family will be heavily charged accordingly.

Second, in co-operation with public security departments, each family would be issued a housing

card attached to a resident booklet. The card will record the changes in a family's housing conditions. With the card, the resident has the right to apply to his or her work unit, or department in charge of housing affairs for accommodations. In this way, family members will be prevented from applying separately to their units for housing. This system will also help limit the amount of power abuse in seeking housing.

Third, all apartment buildings constructed under a city's unified plan should be sold to residents, not to units. The housing affairs departments have the right to take back assigned rooms that are unused over certain period of time. These rooms will be redistributed to those in need of more space.

Wedding Expenses Become Burdensome

"GONGREN RIBAO"

(Worker's Daily)

As young couples in China are having larger and more extravagant weddings, so too are they requesting more expensive wedding gifts from their parents.

In the 1960s, young people asked for only wrist watches, bicycles and sewing machines. In the 1970s, newly weds began asking for TVs, refrigerators, cassette tape-recorders and washing machines. Today the preferred wedding gifts are the "three golds and four big items" — gold rings, bracelets, and necklaces; and colour TVs, double-door refrigerators, twin-tub washing machines and double-deck tape recorders. The expenses for such gifts have left many parents with deep gorges in their budgets.

Apart from the gifts, many new couples also hold "happiness feasts" for their relatives, friends and colleagues. The cost of such affairs can be as high as 5,000 yuan (about US\$1,600). Many young

brides have also begun wanting limousines to chauffeur them from their homes to the wedding. The tab for these and other items have resulted in a large financial burden for the families of the newly weds.

As the average monthly income for a young urban Chinese is around 80 yuan (about US\$25), most have to turn to their parents for help with wedding preparations. Young people who parade their wealth at their weddings have brought disaster both to their newly-formed families and to their parents. Some families have become debt-ridden, triggering family quarrels that have ended in divorce. Some have resorted to crime to make some quick money.

Some have attributed the problem to vanity and have suggested taxing "wedding feasts" in hotels. The Fujian provincial government has already adopted such a measure and now taxes any wedding banquet larger than three tables (each for about 10 people) at 10 to 50 percent of the cost.

First Sino-Canadian Joint Venture

The Chinese-Canadian joint venture Shanghai Gaoqiao Polysar Co. Ltd.—manufacturer of styrene butadiene latex—was established at the end of April, with the approval of the Chinese Ministry of Foreign Economic Relations and Trade.

An equal opportunity company, the joint venture will be valid for 15 years. The Chinese side, Gaoqiao Petrochemical Corp, will provide factories, land, used equipment, installations and labour. The Canadian side, the Polysar Co., will furnish technology and key equipment to update the existing technology.

The joint venture will go into operation within 10 months after the contract takes effect, the capital outlay is expected to be recouped in 18 months. The Canadian company will export 10 percent to 25 percent of the products to keep the venture's foreign exchange in balance.

The planned annual capacity of the factory will be 3,000 tons of styrene butadiene latex. The quality of the product will be up to that of the Polysar Company. The new product will be good in film formation with its particles in an average size and will be easily

adhesive to paper and carpet.

Styrene butadiene latex is an essential additive material crucial to the paper-making, carpet-producing, textile and the building industries. China is currently importing 1,000 tons of styrene butadiene latex every year. By 1990, the annual need will rise to 10,000 tons.

The Chinese and Canadian partners of the joint venture have begun a feasibility study of the installation of new equipment which will be capable of turning out 10,000 tons of styrene butadiene latex annually.

Steel Production Meets All Goals

The Baoshan Iron and Steel Complex, China's largest project using imported technology, went into production last September after its first-phase construction had been completed. All the imported equipment is operating smoothly, while output continues to increase. The second phase of construction is now in full swing.

In the first quarter of 1986, the Baoshan complex turned out 56,200 tons of pig iron, 470,000 tons of steel ingots, and 426,000 tons of billets. Their daily output was 18.4 percent, 24.7 percent and 54.1 percent increases respectively over the fourth quarter of 1985.

Quality has also improved. Coke and pig iron are 100 percent up to standard. Sinterability is 98.73 percent effective; steel ingot collection, 92.55 percent; and

billet collection, 86.87 percent up to the required rate. This represents a 3.81 percent, 0.46 percent and 0.56 percent rise respectively over 1985's fourth quarter.

Beijing Review was told that of the 50,000 tons of sheet billet rolled by the Wuhan Iron and Steel Plant, only 5 tons was substandard. The rupturing rate of cold rolled sheet using Baoshan billets is between 0.5 percent and 1 percent.

During the past six months, Baoshan officials have made an overall check on the quality of its imported equipment and its technological parameters against the contract. The administration considers Baoshan's technology to be advanced and reliable. Coal consumption by the power plant,

for example, has reached advanced world levels.

By the end of March, Baoshan had produced 1.025 million tons of pig iron, 802,000 tons of steel ingot, 643,000 tons of billets, 843,000 tons of coke, and 1.6 million tons of sinters. Among the 61 varieties are the oilfield pipe steel, steel that stands against the erosion of air and seawater, and high-tensile steel.

The Baoshan Iron and Steel Complex is located on the outskirts of China's largest city, Shanghai. The general design was undertaken by the Nippon Steel Co. and 88 percent of the equipment has been imported. The estimated total investment will add up to US \$8 billion.

(Continued on p. 33.)

Pan Jiezi's Meticulous Painting



"Death of Li Bai", one of Pan's works in a series about the Tang Dynasty poet laureate.

One of China's more important schools of art, meticulous painting, peaked during the Jin and Tang dynasties (265-907), and is characterized by detailed work and bright colours. Its early techniques are evident in such relics as the painted pottery from

the Neolithic Age and the brocade paintings of the Warring States Period (475-221 BC) and the Western Han Dynasty (206 BC-24 AD). Meticulous (or precision) painting began to decline during the Song and Yuan dynasties (960-1368), when its place at the

forefront of Chinese painting was taken by a new form of expression—freehand painting.

A retrospective of Pan Jiezi's 50-year-old career as a painter, sponsored by the Museum of Chinese History last autumn displayed the veteran painter's artistry and contributions to the school of meticulous painting.

The painter was born in 1915 in Zhejiang Province. When he was 13 years old, Pan began studying art, and five years later, he enrolled in the Beijing Jinghua Art Institute. As a student of Xu Yansun, an artist for portrait painting renown in northern China, Pan's skill in traditional Chinese painting began to flourish.

In 1937 when the anti-Japanese war broke out, Pan heard of the Dunhuang Mogao Murals, a treasure house of meticulous paintings from the Jin and Tang dynasties, in Gansu Province. The murals so attracted Pan that he moved his family to Gansu's capital, Lanzhou, where he worked day and night for two years to make enough money to move to Dunhuang, the site of the murals.

During those years, western China was a deserted land, and working conditions there were terrible. All the difficulties, however, did not keep Pan from his artwork. For in the lamp-lit and crumbling grottoes, where the murals were located, Pan found great pleasure. In order to copy the remarkable paintings, Pan had to make good use of each hour. The murals, which depict Buddhist tales, combine the techniques of China's meticulous painting and Indian, Persian and Byzantine art forms.

His stay in Dunhuang provided Pan with an invaluable lesson on

China's meticulous painting. While in Dunhuang, Pan also learnt that in order to ensure its survival, meticulous painting needed to be blended with Western art. Pan's two books, *The Art of the Dunhuang Mogao Grottoes* and *The Method of Portraiture in Heavy Colour Meticulous Painting*, embody that lesson. Typical of Pan's personal style is one of his early pieces, *Pursuit*, which shows influences from the 17th century Japanese painting that depict scenes from everyday life. *Ripe Grapes* and *The*

Melody of the Forest created after China's liberation in 1949 are realistic works with traces of Chinese folk painting. *The Creators of Grotto Art*, drawn in 1955 and acclaimed as his representative work, shows influences from traditional and modern schools and won a gold prize in the 1982 Spring Salon Art Exhibition in France.

For years he studied the reasons behind the decline of meticulous painting while freehand brushwork seemed always to be on the rise. He found the fine traditions



Pan Jiezi.

"Doing Her Hair."



of the Jin and Tang dynasties paintings were not duly stressed by later artists, who would rather copy their predecessors and stick to a rigid style. This is why the portrait paintings of women and flowers in later dynasties lacked life and were often unattractive.

To remedy the situation, Pan made many efforts to blend poetry and painting in his classical works in a natural way to convey the feelings of the poets. Most of his classics are in a series, such as *Qu Yuan's Nine Odes*, *Li Bai's Women's Poem*, *Bai Juyi's Song of the Eternity*, and *The Flower and the Girl*. These works have shown that the painter has a good understanding of the poetry itself.

Pan Jiezi maintains that meticulous painting is a major force in China's art. Without it, he says, Chinese painting would not have evolved as it has.

Painter Huang Miaozi said of Pan that he works like a silkworm to produce something of beauty without thoughts of fame or fortune.

In addition to his paintings, Pan Jiezi founded the magazine *Traditional Chinese Painting*, which focuses on modern contributions to traditional Chinese painting, and on theoretical research. The magazine, which is distributed in 55 countries, also publishes photos of rare paintings from Beijing's Palace Museum in each issue. ■

Roping in the Encroaching Desert

Desertification, or the expansion of the desert onto formerly fertile land, has long been a problem in many parts of the world. Already about 120,000 sq. kms (or 12 million hectares) of China's land in the north and northwest have become desert. Thanks, however, to recent measures, 12 percent of this land has been reclaimed and returned to productivity.

More than 100 countries have faced desertification, and 9.1 million sq. km of land has been engulfed by trespassing sand.

Zhu Zhenda, an expert in the study of the desert, said recently that in the dry and semi-dry areas bordering the Gobi desert in Gansu Province, and the Ningxia and Inner Mongolia autonomous regions, the ecological balance was undermined by unrestrained land use, grazing and the construction of mines, factories and communication facilities. As a result, he said, dust and sand storms became more serious, and arable land diminished.

Many counties have resorted to applying liquid asphalt and other chemical agents around the desert borders in hopes of curbing its spread. The cost of such an undertaking is, however, high. China has adopted more economical and efficient measures which

include planting grass, bushes and trees to prevent sand from drifting onto the fields and pastures. In some areas, to protect railways, highways, factories and mines near the sand, straw has been used as barriers. Workers in these areas have also built ditches and walls for the same purpose.

The most striking achievement in sand control has been the construction of the "green Great Wall," which started in 1978 and aims at improving the natural conditions in north China. The soil erosion from the north has turned China's Yellow River into a literally "yellow" river, causing its silt content to be the highest in the world. Sand storms also pose a menace to the area's 8 million hectares of arable land and pastures.

The first stage of the "green Great Wall" project involved planting a tree belt that runs through the Xinjiang Uygur Autonomous Region, Qinghai plateau, the loess plateau and Heilongjiang Province. The entire project will embrace one-fourth of China, spanning 12 provinces and autonomous regions.

In the past three years, the number of trees planted in Gansu has exceeded the number planted in the previous 30 years. In Xinjiang more than half of the 3.1

million hectares of arable land have been interspersed with trees as part of the project. In north China where only 4 percent of the land bordering the desert had vegetation seven years ago, today 14 percent is green.

While trying to restore the ecological balance, local governments and technicians have also helped area residents to increase their incomes by planting trees for timber, fruit and other economic purposes. In addition to building the "green Great Wall," the state has also put a number of forests and green areas under its protection. Among such areas is the 100,000 hectares of desert plants in Gansu Province.

China began to deal with desertification on a small scale in the 50s and 60s. Since the late 1970s, the work has been under the guidance of scientists with millions of people taking part in the project. Among their accomplishments has been the increase of vegetation in the Gobi desert to 2.6 times what it was 30 years ago.

In the past few years, foreign experts studying desert control have come to China to inspect its methods. China has also trained several hundred technicians for African and Arab countries trying to cope with the seemingly relentlessly intruding desert.

(Continued from p. 30.)

The entire project has been divided into two phases. The investment for the first-phase project (1979-85) was 12.687 billion yuan. The second-phase construction (1986-91) will need 12 billion yuan. The designing will be contracted out to Chinese departments, and the imported equipment will come only to 30 percent.

When Baoshan comes into full operation, it should save the government more than US \$1 billion annually, and will update China's iron and steel industry, as well as the machine-building, electronics and building industries.

After the Experts Left

On March 15, the last group of the Japanese experts who had

come to Baoshan to give operational direction left China.

Over the past two months, output has increased steadily. The daily output of coke rose from 4,100 tons to 4,300 tons; pig iron from 6,300 tons to 7,023 tons; steel from 20 furnaces to 21 furnaces; and rolled steel from 5,000 tons to 6,200 tons.

By May 1, the output of coke, pig iron, billets and steel ingots had each surpassed 1 million tons.

The Three Gorges Project

Recently, I read the article "China's Water Conservancy Projects Yesterday, Today and Tomorrow" in *China Reconstructs* Vol. 35, No. 2 by Qian Zhengying. The article said that China is going to build a Three Gorge hydroelectric power station between the Xilin Gorge and Sanduoping. I don't think this is suitable. If you go in again for large-scale building in Yichang, only 37 km from the biggest hydroelectric power station—Gezhouba, the work would be exhausting and a waste of money. Wouldn't it be better to go all out to develop the lower reaches of the Changjiang (Yangtze) River in Jiangsu Province to transfer water from south to north. There are the several reasons: First, the Changjiang River is the longest river with the biggest flow in China. If you cut the river at the upper reaches it would be both dangerous and expensive. Second, the ecology of Hubei and Sichuan provinces may be affected. Third, there are more disadvantages than advantages to the Gezhouba downstream. Fourth, it may cause the water level to decrease on the lower reaches during the dry season and hinder the project to divert water from south to north in Juangsu Province.

Yan Wenshi
Quebec, Canada

Interested in Yanan Diary

I read the article "Yanan: A Great Attraction to Visitors" in *Beijing Review* No. 6 and 7 with much interest. That rich region has so much potential. I was especially interested in the information on the wild plants called sea buckthorns. These plants can grip the soil with their many long roots,

and can help prevent wind storm damage to the earth. These plants are rarely seen in desert areas and alluvium regions in France and other European countries. They are, however, ideal for preventing and solving soil erosion on the loess plateau.

Negre Simone
Moissac, France

About Tiananmen Incident

I enjoyed your article "The Tiananmen Incident—Ten Years After" in issue No. 14. I watched the event on television 10 years ago, but didn't know the whole story. Your magazine's detailed report showed me that "Tiananmen Incident" was an indication of patriotism of Chinese people who saw through the "cultural revolution" and were concerned about China's future. I admire particularly the photographers who took such dramatic shots, and the poets.

Premier Zhou Enlai was a great man. The famous Five Principles of Peaceful Coexistence he initiated have had historic significance. The Japanese-Chinese Friendship Association is developing the friendship between our two countries on these principles.
Giou Nakamuna
Ehime, Japan

I liked the article "The Tiananmen Incident—Ten Years After," but the box "The Tiananmen Incident—A Resume" did not seem to fit in very well. Please pay more attention to your layout techniques.

The two Tiananmen poems were moving, particularly the first one, which was similar in style to Lu Xun's works written during the "March 8 Massacre." The pictures were also similar to those of

Lu Xun when he gave speeches to the students on the campus of the Women's Normal School. The background of the pictures reminded me of the "May 4th Movement."

I wish your magazine would carry a one week summary of the news from the Chinese press, which may include short stories.

Hiroshi Yokoyama
Tokyo, Japan

Vice-Premier Li Peng discussed the Three Gorges project on April 3 at a press conference with Chinese and foreign journalists (see our No.15). We shall continue publishing articles on the topic in the future. —Ed.



Traditional Chinese Paintings on Herding by Li Keran

Li Keran, born in Xuzhou, Jiangsu Province, in 1907, is a vice-chairman of the Chinese Fine Artists' Association and president of the Traditional Chinese Painting Research Institute. Li is also a noted painter and art instructor.

Returned From the Fields.



ART PAGE

和平·美好

纪念国际和平年 



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Paix
Paz
Frieden

he ping · mei hao