

A CHINESE WEEKLY OF NEWS AND VIEWS

Beijing Review

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Three Years of Autonomy Law

**IMPRESSIONS OF
A HUBEI JOURNEY**





Zhuxian Village in Suxian County, Anhui Province has bought a car for the use of the residents of the "Home of Respect for the Aged."

Yu Je

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COVER: Evening shopping in Wuhan.	Cai Halfeng

HIGHLIGHTS OF THE WEEK

Pitfalls for Developing Countries

■ Developing countries have to watch out for unrealistic political and economic demands as they move ahead and open to the outside world (p. 14).

Relics, Resources and People

■ Reform and open policy have made their mark on the "thousand-lake" province Hubei in central China. The province's many historic and scenic sites are once more shining out and its abundant resources, untapped for thousands of years, are being turned into tangible wealth. More importantly, active efforts are being made to tap the province's intellectual resources (p. 23).

Implementing the Autonomy Law

■ The Law on National Regional Autonomy, which came into effect on October 1, 1984, fully demonstrates the state's respect for minority peoples' right to administer their own affairs. Implementation of this law has led to the faster economic and cultural development of the autonomous areas. Problems remain, and ways are being sought to solve them (p. 4).

Tibet: Autonomy & Renovation

■ In this issue are the third parts of two series on Tibet -- Dialogue on Tibet and Profile of Tibet. This week's dialogue between our correspondents and officials of the State Nationalities Commission deals with the autonomy law and related issues (p. 21). The profile outlines the drive to repair major monasteries and key cultural sites which is being funded by huge state allocations (p. 23).

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Implementing Regional Autonomy Law

by An Zhiguo

China has a population of 1.7 billion of which the Han are in the overwhelming majority while the 55 minority nationalities have a combined population of 85 million people. The government of the People's Republic has always adhered to the principle of equality, unity and common prosperity for all nationalities. Three years ago, on October 1, 1984, the law on national regional autonomy became effective, fully demonstrating the state's respect for the minority peoples' right to administer their own affairs.

This law not only defines the relations between national autonomous areas and the state, and among the various nationalities within the autonomous areas, but also lays down a series of specific provisions on speeding up the economic and cultural development of the autonomous areas, on the use and development of minority languages, both spoken and written, and on the training of minority nationality cadres and specialists.

The autonomy specified in the law consists of two basic points: First, within the framework of the Constitution and law, the government in an autonomous area has the right to adopt special policies and flexible measures in light of local needs and conditions. Second, if the resolutions, decisions, orders or instructions of a higher state organ are found to be unsuited to local conditions, the autonomous area's government may suggest their amendments or cancellation to the higher authorities.

Some departments under the State Council and various pro-

vinces inhabited by sizeable minority populations have formulated provisions on implementing the law. The various autonomous areas have been drawing up their own regulations, and 20 such areas have already put them into effect.

A large number of minority nationality cadres have been assigned to government organs in the autonomous areas, where a great majority of their leaders are of the local nationalities. In the Tibet Autonomous Region, for example, the proportion of Tibetans and other minority cadres has increased from 33.3 percent in 1962 to 80 percent at present, totalling over 40,000 people. Of the 41 Party and government leaders at the regional level, 31, or 77 percent of the total, are Tibetans and other minority cadres.

The State Council and some provinces implement a preferential economic policy in the autonomous areas. This includes delegating the management power to enterprises of the autonomous areas; granting them greater independence in technical transformation, foreign trade, finance and taxation; relaxing policies on importing funds, technology and equipment to those areas; expanding fixed asset investment there and encouraging trade between border areas (often populated by minority people) and their neighbouring countries.

The proportion of foreign exchange earned through trade which may be retained by the locality, is a basic 25 percent; it is 30 percent for the coastal provinces of Guangdong and Fujian; but 100 percent for the

Tibet Autonomous Region, and 50 percent for the Xinjiang, Ningxia, Inner Mongolian and Guangxi autonomous regions, and Yunnan, Guizhou and Qinghai provinces—all with a large number of minority people.

Financial subsidies have been increasing. In the last three years, state subsidies to the five autonomous regions and Yunnan, Guizhou and Qinghai provinces have increased at an average annual rate of 10 percent. In 1986 state subsidies there amounted to 7.9 billion yuan. In addition, the state continues to allocate them special allowances and grant them low-interest loans.

University and secondary technical school entry requirements for minority nationality students are lower than for Han students. In 1986 there were over 100,000 minority nationality students in universities, a 46.2 percent increase over 1984. A student stipend system unlike that in the rest of China has been instituted in boarding schools in remote areas and in some middle and primary schools in minority nationality areas.

As a result of these preferential terms, the autonomous areas have seen an acceleration in their economic development. In 1986, the autonomous areas' total industrial and agricultural output value exceeded 87.2 billion yuan, 27.97 percent more than in 1984. This represents an average annual increase of 13.99 percent, exceeding the 9.7 percent rate of the previous five years.

However, some problems still remain hindering the full implementation of the autonomy law. They are mainly caused by the fact

that while implementing reform measures, some government organs fail to respect the full range of the regions' autonomy or give consideration to their special conditions. For instance, the state policy of granting the minority areas' enterprises preferential treatment has not been properly implemented. When new reforms were introduced generally in the last few years, the autonomous areas' advantages were not kept up, leaving the provisions requiring special preferences a paper promise only.

At a recent meeting of the Standing Committee of the National People's Congress, high-ranking officials and specialists from various relevant departments proposed that while studying and formulating reform measures in the future, special consideration always be given to the minority nationalities. This will give substance to the preferential treatment clause.

Some have suggested that the backward areas in western China be given the same preferential treatment in imports of foreign capital and technology as are given to the coastal cities and the special economic zones. They say it is necessary to stipulate in the autonomy law that when the state exploits resources, carries out construction and establishes enterprises in the autonomous areas, it should earmark a certain percentage of the profits for the autonomous areas.

There is also the problem of wasting the state's subsidies to the minority areas, and therefore it is necessary to promote the spirit of hard work and self-reliance in these areas.

University graduates who have come from autonomous areas sometimes do not want to return and work in those areas. The schools in minority nationality areas are known not to bother training junior technical personnel in useful agricultural techniques. All this must also be changed. ■

Zhao Meets Japanese Journalists

Chinese leader Zhao Ziyang invited Noboru Takeshita to visit China next year and said he is looking forward to discussing with Japan's new prime minister ways to further Sino-Japanese relations.

Zhao, who is both general secretary of the Chinese Communist Party and premier of the State Council, made the remarks when he met Japanese journalists who were in China to cover the visit of a delegation from the Japan Socialist Party.

Zhao congratulated Takeshita on his new post and also expressed appreciation for Takeshita's recent remarks on his willingness to contribute to developing Japan-China friendship.

"The general developmental trend of Sino-Japanese relations is sound," Zhao reiterated, "but the two countries should not deny that there are still political and economic problems to solve in the two countries' bilateral relations.

"I hope Prime Minister Takeshita will make an effort to solve problems existing in the relations between our two countries."

In response to a Japanese journalist's question, Zhao said the Kokarion student dormitory case is by no means a simple matter of a building. The case, which involves a Japanese court declaring that China's dormitory belongs to Taiwan, touches the foundations of Sino-Japanese relations, namely the Sino-Japanese Joint Statement and the China-Japan Peace and Friendship Treaty.

"Both the Chinese and Japanese governments signed the joint statement and treaty," Zhao said, "and since a problem has occurred, of course we demand the Japanese government solve it.

"In my opinion the Japanese government is capable of solving this problem if it takes into earnest consideration the overall development of Sino-Japanese relations," he said.

Commenting on the US-Soviet agreement in principle to eliminate medium- and shorter-range nuclear missiles and the coming meeting of the two countries' leaders, he said, "I hope their agreement and meeting will be the start of the relaxation in overall US-Soviet relations and the world situation, and not a temporary compromise made by the two countries out of strategic considerations."

Zhao also said that China pursues an independent foreign policy for peace, and therefore changes in US-Soviet relations will not affect Sino-US or Sino-Japanese relations.

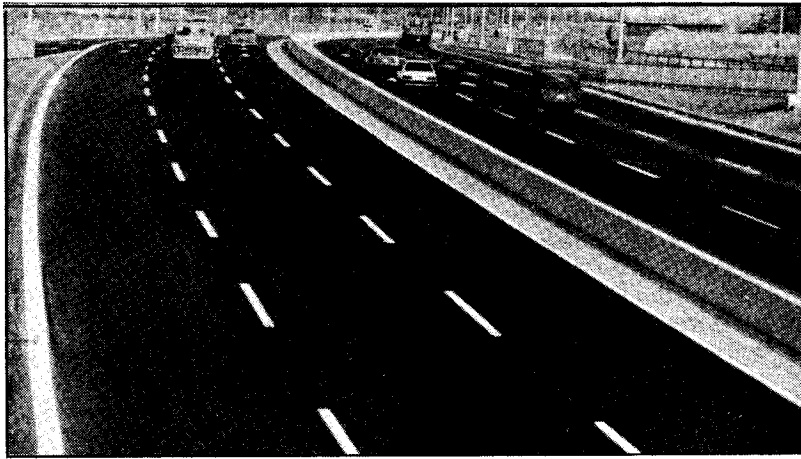
When asked if he plans to visit Japan, Zhao said he is busy planning the implementation of the decisions of the recent Communist Party Congress and has not had time to consider ideas for visits abroad. ■

Starting Point in Highway Network

A new highway in Beijing opened to traffic on November 11. After looking it over, Qian Yongchang, minister of communications, described the highway as "a new starting point in China's highway construction."

Li Daming, an official of the Ministry of Communications' Highway Bureau, told *Beijing Review* that the 14-kilometre fully controlled highway is the Beijing section of the Beijing-Shijiazhuang (Hebei) Highway, part of a state trunk highway which will eventually link the capital with Guangzhou and Shenzhen. "The complete Beijing-Shijiazhuang Highway, 250 kilometres long, is expected to be opened to traffic by the end of 1990," Li said.

Situated in Beijing's southwest



YANG LIMING

Beijing-Shijiazhuang Highway—Beijing's first fully controlled and divided highway.

suburbs, the highway is 26.5 metres wide, with a 0.7-metre high partition on its median strip and railings on both sides to ensure against cross traffic interference. It is designed for speed limits of between 80 and 100 kilometres per hour, and a daily capacity of 50,000 cars. The highway was previously only nine metres wide, and the time required to pass the route was one hour. Now the travel time is reduced to about 10 minutes.

The highway has eight flyovers and four railway flyovers, as well as pedestrian underpasses or overhead bridges every 500 metres. The longest bridge on the highway spans 1,120 metres and can handle vehicles weighing more than 500 tons.

Since the Third Plenary Session of the 11th Party Central Committee in 1978, China's economy has been rapidly advancing, bringing with it an unprecedented development in the country's road construction. Since 1978, 100,000 kilometres of new highway have been laid and China now boasts a road network of 975,000 kilometres.

To meet the demands of the open policy and the country's developing commodity economy, China has, since 1984, given priority to improving and upgrading existing roads, while building

new ones, the official said. There are now 1,050 kilometres of first-grade highway, double the total before 1984, and second-grade highways have also been doubled to cover 25,750 kilometres.

Prior to 1978 China's roads mainly serviced political centres, but the new highways reach out to major areas with either rich natural resources or industrial bases.

The rapid expansion of the country's roads and highways has been achieved largely due to state policies and support from many sectors of the national economy. Since 1978, various measures have been adopted to speed up road construction.

The state relaxed its control on road construction investment and at the same time opened up channels for fund-raising. Local authorities, units and enterprises were encouraged to pool funds or borrow money for the purpose. The state raised sales taxes on motor vehicles to secure funds and stipulated that 20 percent of road tolls levied by local authorities be directed to funding local road construction.

Foreign investments and loans were also encouraged. Li said that since 1984, more than 30 bridges over major rivers and many roads were built with foreign funds and money pooled by compatriots in

Hong Kong and Macao. Money collected in tolls on these roads and bridges will go towards repaying the loans. Li said the loans can usually be repaid within five to seven years, after which the money will go towards road maintenance. He also disclosed that the state is planning to slightly increase road tolls in some areas. The present road toll is 105 to 120 yuan per tonnage.

During the current Five-Year Plan period (1986-90), roads serving major ports, coal transport centres and tourist areas will be constructed. Of the 42 planned trunk highways, 27 have been completed. Construction work on 13 highways in open cities or special economic zones is in full swing. They include the Donghuan Highway in Hainan Island, the Fuzhou-Xiamen Highway, and the Jinan-Qiandong Highway. The highways will help to create a good investment environment for foreign investors.

There are also plans to build seven expressways, including the Shanghai-Jiading, Shanghai-Songjiang, Guangzhou-Foshan, Guangzhou-Shenzhen-Zhuhai as well as Xian-Lintong expressways. The construction of China's first inter-city expressway which will link Beijing with Tianjin and its port at Tanggu is due to begin before the end of this year.

In the 1986-90 period, China will build 60,000 kilometres of new highways and revamp and upgrade 80,000 kilometres of existing roads.

by Wang Yanjuan

Population Grows 6.36% in 5 Years

The State Statistical Bureau has announced that the total population on the Chinese mainland was 1,072.33 million on July 1.

The figure was arrived at through a nationwide population

sample survey conducted this year in the mainland's 26 provinces and autonomous regions and the three municipalities that come under the authority of the central government.

Compared with the population of 1,008.18 million on July 1, 1982, China's total population increased by 64.15 million, or 6.36 percent over the past five years. The average annual growth was 12.83 million—a rate of 1.24 percent.

According to the bureau, the 10,711,652 people covered in the survey were picked from 1,045 counties and cities. They account for approximately 0.999 percent of the total population.

Of the people covered in the survey, 104,949 were born in the first half of 1987 while 34,624 died during the same period.

Based on these figures, the bureau estimated that the birth rate this year is about 21.2 per thousand whereas the death rate is around 6.4 per thousand and the natural growth rate is 14.8 per thousand.

The survey, which covered 5,473,066 males and 5,238,586 females, concluded that China has a sex ratio of 104.5 males to 100 females.

The survey, the first of its kind, reveals that the proportion of children in the total population decreased from 33.45 to 28.68 percent compared with the age composition found by the third national census in 1982. The proportion of people over 65 in the total population rose from 4.89 to 5.46 percent.

Compared with the 1982 census, the survey found an increase in the number of people with various educational attainments.

The number of people with university education climbed by 43.27 percent over the five-year period, for an average increase of 7.5 percent a year.

Compared with 1982, the proportion of people of the Han nationality decreased from 93.3 to 92 percent while the proportion of people of various minority groups

increased from 6.7 to 8 percent.

Of the people covered in the survey, 2,205,642 were illiterate or semi-illiterate (people over 12 years of age who cannot read or can read very little). The proportion of illiterates or semi-illiterates in the total population dropped from 23.6 to 20.6 percent in five years.

The bureau said that errors have to be allowed for in the calculations. The error for the birth rate for the first half of 1987 is 0.11 per thousand and that for the death rate for the same period is 0.06 per thousand. This shows that the survey was successful and the data are reliable, the bureau said. ■

Science Firms Forge Ahead

Non-state-run scientific research and development firms in Beijing are prospering and contributing greatly to China's economic construction thanks to reforms in the field of science and technology.

Two years ago, a number of scientific and technical specialists left the universities and other state-run scientific research units and launched several unofficial research and development enterprises in the Zhongguancun area of Beijing. Today there are 516 such firms in the city. Just 200 of them have developed more than 1,590 projects and new products, valued at 350 million yuan (about US\$95 million).

For a long time, China's science and technology have been out of line with economic construction, because the state monopoly on scientific research—from assigning projects, to providing funds, to applying the results—made it impossible for researchers to deal directly with the market. Scientific achievements could not be quickly transferred to social productivity.

The Central Committee of the Communist Party of China,

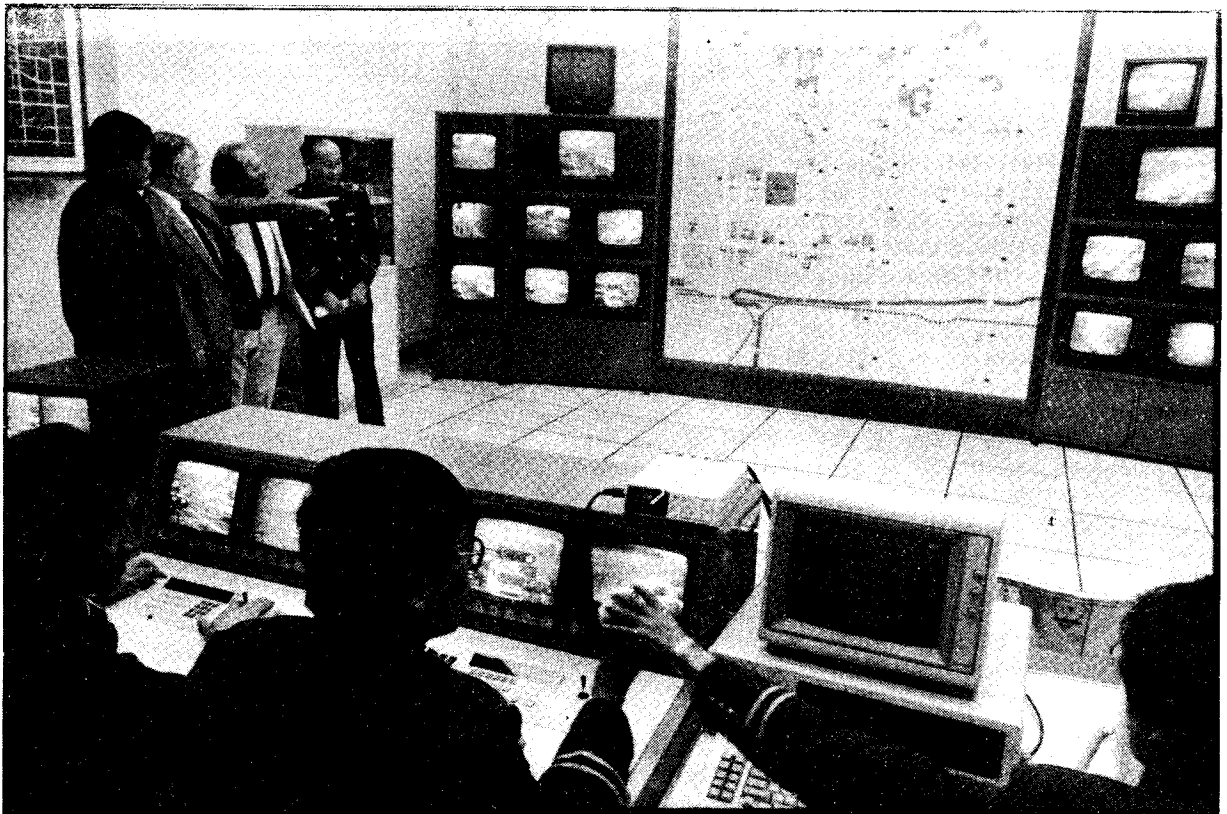
through its science and technology reforms, sought to ensure that achievements in scientific research are quickly applied to production, giving the widest possible scope to scientific and technical personnel and enabling scientific productivity to bring about great economic and social advances.

Non-state-run scientific research firms have demonstrated the power released by linking scientific research to production in a new way. This is the main thrust of the reform programme, an official of one firm said.

Jinghai Computer Technology Development Co., initiated by Wang Hongde and seven other computer engineers, is an enterprise which combines scientific research, engineering, production and sales. Depending on its technical strength in computer room design and construction, Jinghai has completed 300 projects all over the country and developed more than 10 high-technology products to directly satisfy market demand. These have brought the enterprise about 160 million yuan of gross output value, adding 6 million yuan to the national income.

Kehai New Technology Development Centre set up a testing operation which has spread more than 30 achievements in scientific research and turned them into products. Based on its results, nine more factories have been set up in Beijing's Haidian District. Their annual profit totals more than 4 million yuan. Kehai's speed in turning research achievements into products is two to three times greater than state-run units.

Wan Runnan, the general manager of Stone Co., analysed the reasons for his company's rapid development. "Collecting funds by ourselves, people working for us by choice, independent management and assuming sole responsibility for the profits or losses give us full freedom in decision making," he said. "We are able to make plans according



WANG WENLAN

Computerized Traffic Control System

Beijing is using a British-made computer system to control traffic at busy junctions. The system, the first of its kind in China, went into operation on November 10. It monitors the traffic flow at crossings and feeds the information back to an operation room, which controls traffic lights accordingly. A trial run showed that the system reduced the time spent at road crossings by 24 percent for cars and 15 percent for bicycles. The photo shows one of the operation rooms.

to the market situation and carry them out at the right speed.”

The firms serve a wide area beyond Beijing, helping to create links among various sectors, provinces and cities. Dongsheng Technology Development and Consulting Co. spread its non-oxidation heat treatment technology across the country by forming a bloc with some electrical, mechanical, metallurgical and other industries.

Since the summer, Beijing's non-state-run science firms have taken further steps towards the outside world and their new technology and products have entered the international market. Jinghai has established technical co-operation and technology trade ties in the United States, Britain, Japan, Finland, Canada, Italy, Singapore, the Federal Republic of Germany and Hong Kong. ■

Beijing Youth Seek Night Life

When evening falls and the lights come on in Beijing, elegantly dressed young people head for the Happy Garden, one of the best-known commercial dance halls in Beijing. Economic reform is changing more than the markets in China's capital.

In the past, dance parties were held only by some work units at holiday times. When the dance craze spread from Shanghai and Guangzhou to Beijing, some young people would try every means to obtain tickets to work unit dance parties.

At the end of last year, commercial dance halls began to open up in Beijing. Advertisements for dance parties started to appear on the streets, catching the

eyes of pedestrians. Being a novel thing, dance halls became a subject of conversation. But many young people flinch at the cost of the admission tickets, and wealthy young business people make up the majority of dancers. One young man who runs a private restaurant is a constant customer of the Happy Garden. “Why shouldn't we find a place to enjoy ourselves after a hard day's work? Before there was no place to go. Since this dance hall opened. I come often. I'm looking for a good time and never think about the money I spend,” he said.

Other people prefer to spend their evening at cultural performances. “I go to all the first-class concerts performed in Beijing. Really excellent music should be appreciated live,” said a young man who went to a recital by Luciano Pavarotti at a cost of 30 yuan (about US\$8).

Young people out on dates often go to symphony concerts or the ballet. There was always a full house when the opera film *La Dame aux Camelias* was shown from May to August. Some youth are so anxious to get tickets for cultural events that they are willing to buy them from unscrupulous people who acquire blocks of tickets and sell them at inflated prices.

Not satisfied to listen to others, some young people like to perform themselves. The Kara OK bar in the Dongsu area of the city offers these youth a chance to give free rein to their talent. Not everyone who goes there aspires to become a singer. One young man who sings as if to shout himself hoarse does not care about critical comments from the audience. "It's wonderful! I just listened to others singing before, but today I really sing to my heart's content," he said enthusiastically.

The bar stays open until 11 every evening, attracting lots of young people.

Other youth pursue their own interests and like to get together with people who share them. One group often gathers in the evening to discuss what it calls "taijiquan theory." These young people plan to establish an institute for research on *taijiquan*, a tradition Chinese form of martial art and exercise. They are confident that their project will be a success.

The young manager of a private coffee house in the busy Xidan area has no time to dance or go to concerts. He runs his coffee house from 5 to 11 every evening. He is also thinking about holding a monthly fashion show to display clothes designed by his customers.

Some young people, therefore, try their luck on the streets. Seeing a pretty girl walking alone, a young man will try to make friends with her. Many of these youth do not mean any harm. They just feel lonely and long for communication and understanding. ■

Weekly Chronicle (November 9-15)

POLITICAL

November 14

■ The first plenary session of the newly elected Political Bureau of the 13th CPC Central Committee meets in Beijing.

Zhao Ziyang, CPC general secretary, presides over the meeting. The session discusses and ratifies trial work rules for the Political Bureau, the bureau's Standing Committee and the Secretariat of the 13th CPC Central Committee.

The Political Bureau also discusses and approves a report prepared by the Central Party School on reforming the school's work.

November 14 •

■ A forum of about 150 well-known figures not affiliated with the Communist Party, including leaders of China's democratic parties, is held to discuss key state affairs and voice opinions and suggestions on the Party's current work. The forum is sponsored by the CPC Central Committee.

ECONOMIC

November 10

■ China has manufactured 12.86 million TV sets over the past nine months, 43.3 percent more than in the same period last year, the overseas edition of *Renmin Ribao* (People's Daily) says.

Many Chinese products have won prizes in foreign countries this year. The Beijing brand colour TV set produced by the Tianjin Radio Plant won a gold medal in Czechoslovakia and the Kunlun brand set made by the Beijing Dongfeng TV Plant won a gold medal in Brussels.

November 11

■ Shenyang, one of northeast China's key industrial cities, has started construction on a new

industrial centre.

As part of Shenyang's Tiexi industrial zone, China's largest, the new centre will house high-technology enterprises related to the production of machinery, electronics, textiles and pharmaceuticals.

CULTURAL

November 11

■ The first Chinese National Peasants Games is to be held next year in Beijing, an official from the State Physical Culture and Sports Commission announces at a press conference.

The games will include seven competitive events: track and field, basketball, table tennis, wrestling, cycling, shooting and football.

About 2,500 peasants are expected to participate in the largest sports meet in China's history. The event is slated for October 9-16, 1988.

SOCIAL

November 10

■ Seven people in Changde Prefecture, Hunan Province, accused of illegally wholesaling 11 million cartons of cigarettes to 100 farmers, are detained. The state-run cigarette marketing agencies in 10 counties and cities in the prefecture are reported to be involved in what is believed to be the biggest cigarette smuggling ever uncovered in China.

FOREIGN RELATIONS

November 13

■ Chinese Vice-Foreign Minister Liu Shuqing, who is leading a delegation to New Delhi for the eighth round of Sino-Indian official talks, says at the New Delhi Airport that the focus of the talks will be the border issue. He says the issue will not be hard to resolve with goodwill and sincerity on both sides. The talks start November 15.

UN

Soviet Union Suffers Diplomatic Blow

Despite growing international pressure, the Soviet Union has shown no sign of sincerity about withdrawing its troops from Afghanistan.

The current session of the United Nations General Assembly ended its debate on Afghanistan on November 10 with the adoption of a draft resolution demanding an immediate and total Soviet troop withdrawal from the war-torn country.

The resolution, co-sponsored by Pakistan and 47 other Islamic and non-aligned countries, was adopted by an overwhelming majority with 123 votes in favour. It reiterated that the preservation of Afghanistan's sovereignty, territorial integrity, political independence and non-aligned status is essential for a peaceful resolution of the country's problem.

It also reaffirmed the right of the Afghan people to determine their own form of government and choose their economic, political and social system free from any outside intervention, subversion, coercion or constraint.

Before voting for the resolution, representatives from many countries pointed out that although eight General Assembly sessions have overwhelmingly approved similar resolutions, Soviet troops still occupy Afghanistan. They said only an immediate, total and unconditional Soviet troop withdrawal can resolve the Afghan problem.

Observers said the UN move suggested that the "peace offensives," launched by Moscow and the Kabul regime before the General Assembly session opened, failed in their attempts to soften international criticism of the Soviet invasion.

At the beginning of this year,

the Kabul regime, encouraged by Moscow, proposed what it called a unilateral ceasefire, national reconciliation and power-sharing with the opposition. Before the current UN session, the Soviet Union also played up its willingness to "get out" of Afghanistan and called for renewing the indirect talks between Pakistan and Afghanistan. But the Soviet Union's scheme for withdrawal is only two months shorter than before, and its plans still involve building a future government around the current Kabul regime. It also insists that its precondition for troop withdrawal from Afghanistan is "the termination of outside interference" and the realization of "national reconciliation."

ARAB SUMMIT

Leaders Work to Promote Arab Unity

The recent Arab emergency conference, which was called primarily to seek ways to end the seven-year-old Iran-Iraq war, showed many encouraging signs that Arab co-operation is to be strengthened.

The four-day extraordinary Arab summit meeting closed in Amman on November 11 with a communique describing the common stand the participants reached on the issues discussed.

The leaders of 15 Arab states, Palestine Liberation Organization (PLO) Chairman Yasser Arafat and delegates from Saudi Arabia, Libya, Tunisia, Mauritania and

Clearly, such absurd logic cannot be accepted by Afghan people or the international community.

Meanwhile, it should be obvious that there has been no ceasefire on the Afghan battlefield despite the so-called ceasefire that was declared. On the contrary, under the cover of a "ceasefire," the Soviet-Kabul troops have intensified their military operations against the Afghan resistance, their murderous attacks on innocent civilians and their incursions into and sabotage against Pakistan. This shows that the Soviet Union's talk of a political settlement in Afghanistan is only empty words.

The key to the resolution of the Afghan problem is Soviet troop withdrawal—as soon as possible or at least on a short timetable. Otherwise, all talk of a "ceasefire" and "national reconciliation" is meaningless and unbelievable. It is hoped that the Soviet Union will give in to world opinion and start to act on it rather than continuing to employ ruses and trying to befuddle international opinion.

by Zhao Xin

Morocco exchanged views and opinions mainly on the escalating Gulf war.

The situation in the Gulf is deteriorating and peace in the Middle East still seems to be far off. The moderate Arab leaders, spearheaded by the six-member Gulf Co-operation Council (GCC), have used every occasion to repeat their appeals for a



Arab League Secretary-General Chadli Klibi, King Hussein of Jordan and Jordanian Prime Minister Zaid Rifai (left to right) at the meeting.

peaceful settlement of the Iran-Iraq war, which they say neither side can win. But the appeals go unheeded and the Gulf waterway grows increasingly hazardous. During the seven years of the war, some 350 ships, mainly oil tankers, have been damaged or destroyed. The security and income of the Gulf oil-producing countries are seriously threatened.

At the request of the Kuwait government, six Soviet naval vessels sailed into the Persian Gulf in May to escort three Kuwaiti tankers flying the Soviet flag. The Soviets were followed by a US navy force which has so far massed about 40 warships and 25,000 troops in the area, the largest military force assembled since Viet Nam war. Kuwait and the other GCC nations have reiterated that they will not allow the United States to use any of their naval or air bases.

The past two months have witnessed growing tension between the United States and Iran. The Gulf war is on the brink of escalating into an internationalized conflict. This is what compelled the Arab leaders to sit down and co-ordinate their stand on the war.

The final communique issued by the summit called for an early end to the Iran-Iraq war and for Arab unity in the face of the mounting threat to regional

security. Reports say that Syria, which has had a long-time dispute with Iraq, has promised to be neutral towards the Iran-Iraq war and that Syrian President Hafez Assad agreed at the summit to head an Arab delegation to Tehran to negotiate a ceasefire. The delegation will be made up of five members from the United Arab Emirates, Jordan, Syria, Algeria and Arab Yemen.

Optimism in Amman was heightened when, at a banquet following a lengthy reconciliation meeting, Iraqi President Saddam Hussein and Assad embraced, chatted and exchanged pleasantries. Although the differences between Syria and Iraq cannot be solved overnight, the leaders'

actions are an encouraging step towards the unity sought by the summit.

The conference also decided to permit individual Arab nations to restore ties with Egypt, which was expelled from the Arab League in 1979 after Cairo signed a peace treaty with Israel. Arab countries have been trying to pull Egypt back into the Arab fold, believing it to be a strong counterweight against Iran. Some Arab countries restored relations with Egypt after this summit.

On the Arab-Israeli conflict, the communique said it is necessary to back the Palestinian struggle and popular resistance by Palestinians in the Israeli-occupied territories. The summit also called for the PLO's participation in the proposed international Middle East peace conference under the auspices of the United Nations as the sole legitimate representative of the Palestinian people and on an equal footing with other participants.

King Hussein of Jordan, the summit host, initiated the effort to close the Arab ranks. He stressed that the Arab nations cannot meet the current challenges without unity. Though some analysts remain sceptical that the rift within the Arab world can be mended at a conference, they note that the cry for unity is mounting.

by Rui Yingjie

JAPAN

Takeshita Creates a Balanced Cabinet

Shortly after he was elected Japan's 46th prime minister on November 6, Noboru Takeshita named a cabinet which reflects the subtle balance of power among the factions in the ruling Liberal Democratic Party. The new cabinet has its work cut out.

Noboru Takeshita became the 12th president of Japan's ruling Liberal Democratic Party (LDP) on October 31, after being

hand-picked by former Prime Minister Yasuhiro Nakasone on October 20. On November 6 Takeshita was elected as the

country's new prime minister after the Diet (parliament), convened in a six-day extraordinary session, held balloting in the House of Representatives and the House of Councillors.

Three opposition parties—the Japan Socialist Party (JSP), the Komeito and the United Social Democratic Party—put up JSP leader Takako Doi as their joint candidate for prime minister. But the LDP has an overwhelming majority in both houses of the Diet and Takeshita was a shoo-in.

The new prime minister named his cabinet on the day of his election. Takeshita had said before that he intended to select his ministers with a view to maintaining LDP unity, balancing party factions and “putting the right man in the right place.” The new cabinet reflects these aims.

To balance the factions, Takeshita named Miyazawa Kiichi, one of his rivals for the LDP presidency, as deputy prime minister. Miyazawa also remains finance minister, as suggested by Nakasone.

Obuchi Keizo, said to be one of Takeshita's most trusted lieutenants, was named chief cabinet secretary.

The new prime minister also kept Hajime Lamura, another supporter, in his post as minister of International Trade and Industry. Observers in Tokyo said this shows Takeshita's determination to continue efforts to ease frictions with trading partners, particularly the United States.

Former Deputy LDP Secretary-General Sosuke Uno, a member of Nakasone's faction, was named foreign minister. Sources in Japan said Uno cornered the important foreign ministry job when former finance minister Michio Watanabe, his main rival in the Nakasone faction, became chairman of the LDP's policy affairs research council on October 31. It has been suggested that this appointment is a sign that Nakasone is trying to influence the new government's foreign

policy—an area where Takeshita is generally considered to be lacking in experience.

The post of director-general of the defence agency went to Tsutomu Kawara, a member of the Miyazawa faction, as was the former defence chief, Yuko Kurihara. The Nakasone faction's Eiichi Nakao was appointed as state minister in charge of the economic planning agency.

Of the 20 cabinet posts excluding the prime minister, five were allocated to the Takeshita faction, and four each to the Nakasone, Miyazawa and Shintaro Abe factions. Abe also fought for the party leadership. The faction led by former State Minister Toshio Komoto, who formed an alliance with Takeshita in the LDP presidential race, took two cabinet jobs, while the remaining one was filled by an unaffiliated Diet member.

The most pressing tasks facing the new administration will be the reform of Japan's taxation system, easing trade frictions with other nations and controlling Japan's

soaring land prices.

In an interview, Takeshita spoke enthusiastically about tax reform. He said it must be completed so as to promote domestic demand and quell complaints from Japan's trading partners. He also said he may propose a new indirect tax scheme, which would be “a major pillar of tax reform,” during the next tax year. But the failure of Nakasone's proposed sale tax suggests that Takeshita's scheme will face a rough road and could adversely affect the stability of the cabinet if it cannot be dealt with properly.

In foreign affairs, there are also thorny problems, such as how to meet the US demand that Japan open its markets and how to reduce the pressure from its trading partners and ease trade frictions. In addition, the cabinet faces the test of establishing a mature relationship with China and of dealing with Kokario student dormitory case, in which an Osaka court ruled that the dormitory, China's state property, belongs to Taiwan.

by Zeng Hu

TUNISIA

Power Shift Wins Approval

The replacement of the aged Tunisian President has breathed hope into the Tunisians and has also won international approval.

On November 7, Tunisian Prime Minister Zine El Abidine Ben Ali took over the presidency and formed a new government. Ben Ali declared that he had taken the action in accordance with Tunisia's Constitution because the former President Habibi Bourguiba's old age and ill health rendered him no longer capable of holding office. The new government is headed by Hedi Baccouche as prime minister, Mahmoud Mestiri as foreign minister and Habib Ammar as minister of the interior.

The new government intends to announce an amnesty and allow all overseas Tunisians to return to create a relaxed and harmonious environment. It is also preparing to amend the Constitution, hold talks with opposition parties and admit all political factions to the National Assembly to take charge of the country's affairs.

In his statement to the parliament, Ben Ali expressed his hope for preserving Tunisia's relations and co-operation with all nations, especially friendly ones, saying the new Tunisian govern-

ment will respect its international agreements and commitments. He pledged to give utmost consideration to solidarity with Islamic, Arab and African countries as well as the Mediterranean states. He said Tunisia will also strive to consolidate Greater Maghreb unity based on mutual interests.

Situated in northern Africa, south of the Mediterranean, Tunisia covers 160,000 square kilometres and has a population of 7.5 million. At his swearing-in ceremony, Ben Ali highly praised the 84-year-old former president, one of the oldest leaders advocating Africa's independence, saying that he made "greatest sacrifices to liberate Tunisia." Bourguiba became president of the Socialist Destour Party in 1938 and assumed the post of president of Tunisia's Constitutional Assembly in 1956 when the northern African country declared independence from France. The National Assembly proclaimed Bourguiba president-for-life in April 1976.

As Bourguiba became older and

his health deteriorated, the choice of his successor became a hot issue. Bourguiba's former wife once sought to exercise some influence in Tunisian politics and take over the presidency, but in August 1986, Bourguiba divorced her.

Mohammed Mzali was appointed prime minister in April 1980 and the secretary-general of the Socialist Destour Party in June 1986. However, the lawful successor to the president was deprived of all power on July 8 of the same year. Mzali's successor suffered the same fate after holding office for little more than a year. Ben Ali, who was then minister of the interior, was appointed prime minister and secretary-general of the Socialist Destour Party. The subsequent changes frequently made by Bourguiba caused continual disruptions to normal affairs.

Tunisia's power shift has won the approval of its people, who expect the younger president to invigorate the country's economy.

by Zhang Zhuji

ARGENTINA

Gonzalez's Visit Raises Great Expectations

Argentina hopes that Spain will help promote significant changes in European Community's policies towards Latin America and advance discussions between Latin American countries and the main creditor nations.

Spanish Prime Minister Felipe Gonzalez paid a six-day visit to Argentina between October 28 and November 2. In addition to bilateral relations and the prospects of peace in Central America, Gonzalez's talks with President Raul Alfonsin focused on relations between Latin America and the European Community (EC), and Latin America's serious debt problem. These issues also dominated Gonzalez's talks with the presidents of Uruguay and Mexico when he continued his tour there. All three countries are shouldering heavy debt burdens.

Argentina paid particular atten-

tion to the Spanish prime minister's visit for several reasons:

Argentine authorities maintain that falling export prices and rising interest rates on loans are the two major causes of the country's current economic difficulties. The EC is the traditional market for Argentina's products: 80 percent of its beef exports, which account for one-third of its total export value, go to the EC. In recent years, the EC's severe protectionist measures have resulted in a sharp decline in Argentina's export revenue and an adverse international balance of payments. Argentina's foreign

trade surplus this year is again expected to fall by 50 percent after a similar drop last year. Its hopes for the easing of protectionism by European countries lie in mediation by Spain — one of the EC's most recent members. During his visit Gonzalez said Spain had proposed that the EC alter its policies towards Latin America.

Rising interest rates have resulted in an increase in Argentina's loan repayments of several hundred million US dollars. Argentina maintains that its debt problems should be solved through discussions between creditor and debtor countries. Another recent proposal was that the interest rates for debts accrued prior to 1982 should be maintained at their former level, but this proposal got a cold response from developed countries. Argentina is expecting Spain to play an important role in initiating more contact with major creditor countries.

During his visit, Gonzalez expressed definite views on the debt problems. He said Spain would back Latin America's stance, and he himself will support Argentina's propositions in any international discussions.

It is only four years since democracy returned to Argentina and the consolidation of the system is a major concern for the whole country. Spain's successful transformation from a dictatorial regime to a democratic system, and its rapid economic development, have aroused much interest in Argentina. In his speech to the Argentine Congress, Gonzalez discussed the agreement signed 11 years ago by the various political forces in Spain. The agreement is generally regarded as the basis for the country's democratic political system, and the Argentine government is currently striving for a similar social contract with all political parties and social strata. The government is obviously trying to win the opposition parties over to this idea through the example of Spain. ■

DELIBERATIONS ON CHINA'S 2ND REVOLUTION (III)

New Conflicts Emerge With Development

"Would that all the common people had enough to eat and wear." This was the wish of enlightened leaders since ancient times. But in these days of social development and technological growth, new problems have arisen in many countries following the fulfilment of that wish.

by Luo Rongxing, Zhu Huaxin and Cao Huanrong

It has been noticed that upheavals seem to happen more easily in developing countries than in the developed world, and especially where per-capita gross national product is US\$400 to 1,000.

The China Research Institute of Economic Restructuring call this the "instability period between subsistence and wealth." It has studied the economic and social situations of over 100 developing countries and discovered that where food and clothing are still inadequate people's demands are simple and they are not restive. After these basic problems have been solved, people's requirements will diversify, and if these demands are not met in time, new problems will arise. With economic growth and competition, unfair distribution of social wealth will be aggravated, and the new prosperity of some will lead to the frustration of the less well-off.

Looking at developing countries in Asia, Africa and Latin America, besides ethnic and religious conflicts, one also finds strikes, student unrest, civil wars and coups whose real roots are in the social contradictions of economic growth, and not the guises in which they appear.

When developed countries moved to the so-called "take-off" stage of industrialization, they too experienced social turbulences. Britain in the late 18th century and the United States in the Mid-19th century both experienced periods of corruption and degeneration,

intensifying contradictions between the various social strata and even civil wars not dissimilar to those in developing countries. In *The History of the Turbulent Century* by former Prime Minister Shigeru Yoshida there is also an excellent account of the social upheavals and suffering which were endured during the industrialization and modernization of Japan.

The transition from a traditional agricultural society to modernized industrial one is a process of drastic social changes. Gao Liang, director of the comparative economic research office of the Research Institute of Economic Restructuring, puts it this way: From the economic point of view, industrialization demands, first of all, changes in the traditional mode of production in the rural areas. Large numbers of the rural people will inevitably switch to the industrial sector. Urbanization will certainly occur. The growth of the market and the development of the commodity economy will shatter the original order and set of values and will redistribute interests among the social sectors. From the cultural point of view, opening to the outside world, which is a prerequisite for industrialization, will necessarily lead to cultural collisions.

The international climate and the domestic situation in developing countries demand that industrialization take place there

much more quickly than it did in developed countries. This speed will exacerbate the contradictions and conflicts.

Opening to the outside world and the introduction of advanced technology from abroad will lead people to forget the reality of their own country and the general course of historical development. They will regard developed countries as "models" and seek solely to catch up with them. Demands for consumption and "democracy" before they can be satisfied will cause problems.

A number of Latin American countries experienced economic take-offs in the 1960s. In the late 1970s, the debt crisis had begun to loom large so that by the end of last year the total foreign debt of Latin American countries amounted to US\$382 billion.

In the meantime a consumption boom had erupted with huge numbers wanting Scotch whisky, French perfume and everything which Europe and the United States used. These Latin American countries imported colossal quantities of expensive consumer goods; the amounts spent on travel to the United States and Europe were US\$7.2 billion annually. Between 1980 and 1982, the consumption funds of Latin American countries accounted for, on average, 79 percent of their GNPs. High wages and high spending led to galloping inflation. Prices for consumer goods in these countries rose at an

average rate of 55.2 percent in 1980, 144.9 percent in 1984 and 164 percent in 1985. That was not welcomed by the population.

Then there were the political issues. The "democratic question" is a complicated one. Associate Professor Wang Huning of Fudan University believes that "politics and democracy appear in the forms given them by the social, historical, economic and cultural situations in which they arise. They are like an organic growth and cannot be transplanted, or speeded up by force-feeding."

Following World War II, many developing countries proclaimed their independence after casting off colonial rule. The colonialists often designed political systems for the new countries before their departure. Some of the new leaders, who had received a Western education, set up their political systems on the Western pattern. For instance, countries of the British Commonwealth adopted approximations of the British parliamentary system, and countries in Latin America adopted the presidential system of the United States.

"Democratic experiments" have taken place all over the developing world. However, they have been consummate failures. No developing country has actually established a political system just like the Western bourgeois "democratic republic."

The 104 coups which took place between 1962 and 1975 in the third

world broke the British- and American-style "democratic" dream. Although bourgeois democracy and politics hardly remain in some developing countries, they have all tasted the full bitterness of this kind of "democracy." Some countries have retained certain characteristics of the Western representative system; however, the governments have, in reality, always had to take measures contrary to the principles of democracy. This self-contradictory situation has only helped perpetuate other social, national and religious contradictions.

Without denying the successes some talented economists and political leaders have achieved, the Western democratic model has nowhere in the developing world managed to solve the problem of people's food and clothing needs, let alone achieve prosperity.

As Wang Huning says, "The political form is not a mere decoration, what counts is its social effect." A high degree of democracy is, of course, the orientation of social development. A society which can healthily promote democracy will enjoy order and stability. But democracy itself is also a process of development; only the political form which is compatible with the given social, economic and cultural conditions will be truly successful.

Political and social developments are defined by economic growth. After food and clothing

are universally available, people will naturally begin to demand a role in the country's politics along with the rise in their cultural life. The demand will give the impetus to the building of democratic politics. To refuse this demand will naturally cause discontent. However, until the form of political participation and the problems of democratization have been worked out, to act with undue haste would also bring about social instability.

Confronted with unrealistic demands for higher consumption and democracy, any developing country, be it socialist or capitalist, must establish a cohesive and authoritative power at the top.

As for the path taken by China over the past 38 years, the reason it was able quickly to march ahead from meeting people's needs in food and clothing onto prosperity despite setbacks and having to correct its mistakes by its own efforts is the staunch leadership core of the Chinese Communist Party which has maintained flesh-and-blood ties with the people. It is also because history enabled us to select the path of people's democracy and socialism.

Dr. Gao Yuanzheng, an economist, believes that the key to China's economic and social development is to rely on the powerful organizational force of the Communist Party and government so that there will be a stable social environment for the reform. ■

Relics, Resources and People

—Notes on a Trip to Hubei Province

by Our Correspondent Luo Huiyou

Not long ago I embarked on a 40-day tour of central China's Hubei Province with some colleagues from the capital. It was

obvious that reform and the open policy were making their mark on the "thousand-lake" province. Its many historic and scenic sites are

once more shining out and its abundant resources, untapped for thousands of years, are now being turned into tangible wealth. More



The Qingchuan Hotel.

LI YANG

importantly, active efforts are being made to tap the province's intellectual resources.

Ancient Civilization

Hubei Province is the birthplace of the Chu (State of Chu) culture in the Warring States Period (475-221 BC), the centre of rivalry in the Three Kingdoms — the State of Wei, the State of Shu and the State of Wu period (220-280 AD) — and the home of the world-famous Three Gorges on the Changjiang (Yangtze) River. It boasts many historical relics and an enchanting natural scenery. In an endeavour to open up to the outside world and stimulate the economy, local authorities are encouraging the development of the province's tourist resources. They are turning their attention to the construction of a few major tourist resorts, including Wuhan, the Three Gorges and its historical relics from the Three Kingdoms period.

The provincial capital Wuhan has a long history and offers several historical and scenic sites, including the Qingchuan Pavilion, Guiyuan Temple and East Lake, all attractive and well

preserved. The Yellow Crane Tower on top of Sheshan Hill was first built in 223 AD. Destroyed many times during wars in history, it was rebuilt on each occasion until in 1884 when it was for the last time reduced to ashes. In 1981 the local government decided to rebuild the tower with an investment of 22 million yuan. Completed in June 1985, the tower has since attracted large numbers of domestic and overseas visitors and the plan to recover the investment in five years is within reach. Of the 8 million visitors, over 15,000 were tourists from some 80 countries and more than 20,000 were from Hong Kong and Macao.

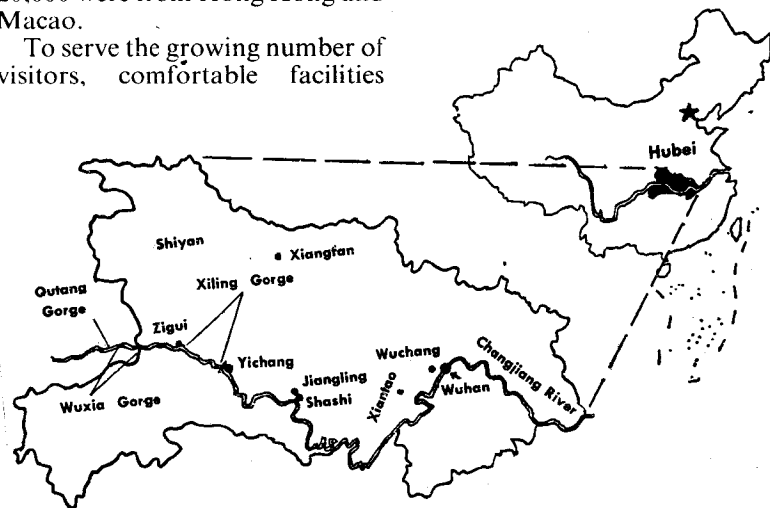
To serve the growing number of visitors, comfortable facilities

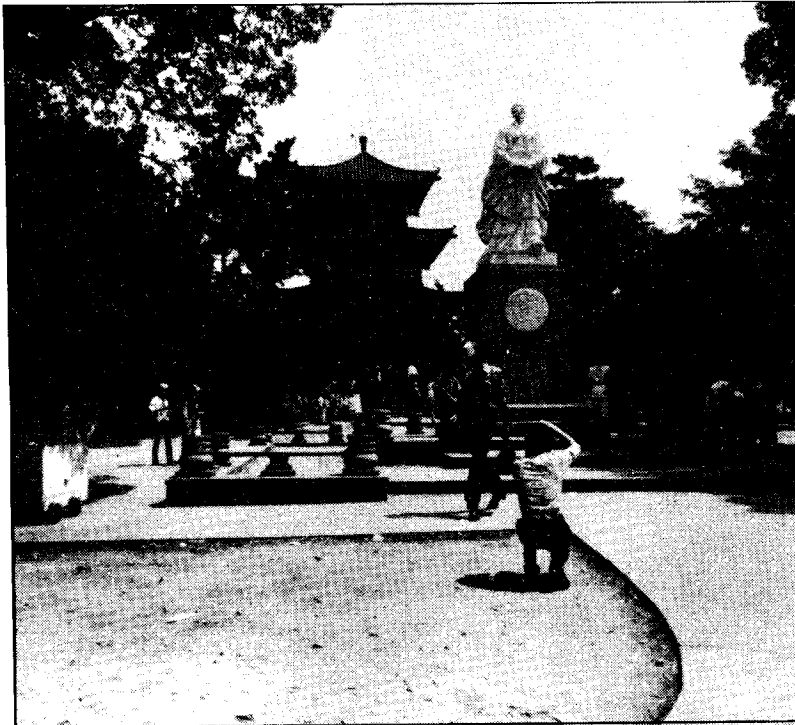
have been provided with the construction of several top-class hotels over the last few years. They include the Qingchuan Hotel, Xiling Mansions and the Changjiang Restaurant.

Jingzhou (also called Jiangling), about 200 kilometres to the west of Wuhan, is an ancient city which features in 70 chapters of the 120-chapter classic *The Romance of the Three Kingdoms*. Now on display in the Museum of Jingzhou Prefecture are the long-hilt sword, the stone horse watering manger and the field cauldron used by Guan Yu, a famous general of the State of Shu. In and around the city are the Temple of Guan Yu, his roll calling platform and horse washing pool, as well as the Mapao Spring.

Jingzhou is one of the 24 famous historic and cultural cities declared by the State Council in 1982. With a history dating back more than 2,600 years, it is the centre of China's Chu culture and a treasure house of underground cultural relics. Qu Yuan, a great patriotic poet who lived more than 2,000 years ago, lived in the city for over 20 years and there he wrote many brilliant works.

The Museum of the Jingzhou Prefecture covers an area of 31,000 square metres. With a floor space of more than 14,000 square metres, it has one jewelry and six exhibition halls, housing more





Xingyin Pavilion in Wuhan's Donghu Lake Park.

LI YANG

The city now has a population of more than 140,000. It offers an enchanting setting with its tidy streets lined with trees, and has become a city much frequented by domestic and overseas visitors. In 1986, over 600,000 domestic and 10,000 foreign tourists visited the city.

Shashi, near Jingzhou, is a newly emerged industrial city on the Jiangnan Plain. With a population of 270,000, the city exports more than 100 products to over 100 countries and regions. Over the 38 years since the founding of New China, the city has handed over 2.59 billion yuan in profits and taxes to the state, 7.2 times the state investment in the city.

A two-hour bus trip from Shashi took us to Dangyang, a famous battlefield in the Three Kingdoms Period. There we visited the Yuquan Temple, one of China's earliest Buddhist temples (built in 198 AD), which houses many valuable cultural relics from the Sui Dynasty (581-618) and the Tang Dynasty (618-907). Now run by its monks, the temple has

than 35,000 invaluable cultural relics unearthed in the locality, including the sword of King Gou Jian of the State of Yue, the spear of King Fu Chai of the State of Wu, a mummy of the Western Han Dynasty (206 BC-24 AD) and silks from the Warring States period. The Western Han corpse dates back 2,154 years and is the earliest and best preserved human corpse so far found in China.

Five kilometres to the north of Jingzhou are the ruins of Jinan, capital of the State of Chu (689-278 BC) in the Warring States Period. In 1961, the State Council declared the ruins a key historical site under state protection. The earthen city walls, 4 to 7 metres in height, extend 4.5 kilometres from east to west and 3.5 kilometres from north to south, and are still very well preserved. In ancient times, the city covered an area of 16 square kilometres and had a population of 210,000. It was then the most prosperous city in southern China. More than 850 ancient tombs, 270 of which are

for members of the royal families, have been discovered in and around the city.

Huanghe (Yellow Crane) Tower.

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undergone renovation to its major hall and Buddha statues, with state-funding set aside in 1982. In front of the temple is China's earliest cast iron pagoda (built in 1061), now an important cultural relic under state protection.

Travel to the Three Gorges on the Changjiang River has been made simple and more convenient since a military airport, capable of serving large civilian aircraft, was converted for civilian use in April this year. This is the 17th airport to be opened to foreign tourists by the Chinese air force.

Natural Gallery

By the Three Gorges and the city of Yichang is the natural landscape area of Gaolan which is called the "ten-*li* art gallery" (one *li* equals to half a kilometre). Crustal movements have marked the area with many peculiar land forms—towering peaks, strange rocks and deep valleys. Many of the rocks take on vivid images, one resembling a sleeping Buddha, another a barking dog and another two lovers in quiet conversation.

Although this spectacular natural scene is known to only a small number of people so far, all its visitors are without exception carried away by its fantastic beauty. Han Kehua, director of State Administration of Travel and Tourism, toured Gaolan in 1982 and decided to make the area a major scenic spot in the Three Gorges tourist zone. Inspired by the beauty of the site, he wrote this poem: "Both Guilin and Gaolan are fairyland; their mountains and waters varied and pleasant. All the cloud-capped peaks are full of charm, like a landscape painted by a master artist." In 1982, Frank E. Polier, an anthropologist from the Ohio State University of the United States, visited the area on a study tour of the snub-nosed monkeys and was so absorbed by the wonderful scene that he was prompted to say, "If there is a

paradise on earth, I think this is it."

Since 1979, more than 30,000 overseas and domestic tourists have visited Gaolan. To keep up with the developing tourist industry, a canteen specially catering to the needs of overseas visitors and capable of simultaneously serving more than 200 people will soon be opened. Plans are also under way to build the Gaolan Hotel.

Future Super Dam

By the entrance of Xiling Gorge (one of the Three Gorges on the Changjiang River) is Zigui, the hometown of Qu Yuan, a great poet and politician of ancient China. East of the city is the magnificent memorial hall to the poet, which covers an area of more than 12,000 square metres, and encompasses the Qu Yuan Museum and a tomb containing Qu's personal effects. Over the last five years, the monument has attracted more than 250,000 tourists, including overseas visitors from 27 countries and Hong Kong and Macao compatriots.

Travelling downstream we reached the Zhongbao Islet (37 kilometres to the west of the famous Gezhou Dam). The young man accompanying us on our tour informed us that this was the future site for the Three Gorges Dam. Already quite a few buildings dotted both banks of the river, probably part of the preparations for the dam construction. The islet covers an area of more than 15,000 square metres and had part of the ruins of the Neolithic Daxi culture. The layer of hard granite beneath its surface makes the site ideal for the base of a large dam.

In March 1958, the late Premier Zhou Enlai went to the islet to inspect the dam site. While there he visited the home of a local farmer, Hu Yanfen by name. A piece of red cloth on Hu's front-door indicated that the family was

celebrating some event. On hearing that Hu's wife had given birth to a daughter, Premier Zhou chose a name for the baby and gave Hu five yuan to buy something for his wife. Even now this is fresh in the minds of the local people.

Chinese Minister of Water Resources and Electric Power Qian Zhengying last year wrote an article on the construction of the dam. In it she said that the Three Gorges project would be a key to controlling the Changjiang River floods, would increase electricity production and improve navigation. On the day we arrived in Yichang, deputy mayor of the city told us that the leading group from the ministry in charge of the dam feasibility studies just concluded a meeting in the city, at which an initial report on the dam was accepted.

Farmer Entrepreneurs

Xiangfan by the Hanshui River in northern Hubei is also a city with a long history. Zhuge Liang, prime minister of the State of Shu during the Three Kingdoms period, lived there for 10 years. Xiangfan, well-known for its century-old tradition of respecting knowledge and talents, now offers an attractive new industrial centre for people ambitious and pioneering.

In the eastern suburbs of the city, we visited the Fancheng Friendship Hotel, which was built by farmers with funds raised by themselves. The city now has ten hotels run by farmers. This one is the earliest, established in 1976, before the end of the "cultural revolution," through the leadership of Zheng Chongying, former Party branch secretary of Meiman Village and a bold far-sighted woman. At that time, much of the village's land was requisitioned for urban construction, which resulted in a large labour surplus. To solve this problem, Zheng Chongying decided to use the 1.6



On August 24 people in Lhasa celebrated their traditional Xuedun Festival, with celebrations and performances of Tibetan opera.



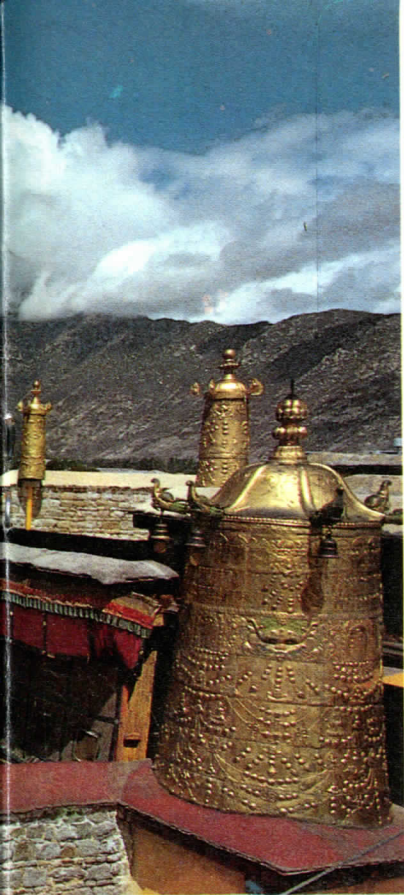
Since its opening up Lhasa has been changing with each day. This is a street in the city proper.



The Tibetan singer Yang Zong in performance.



A market on the Damxung grassland.



The Lhasa Hotel, jointly operated by the US Holiday Inn Company and Tibet, is the biggest tourist hotel in Tibet.

Lamas of Trashilhunpo Monastery in Xigaze airing their views on Buddhist scripture.



A service in the Daipung Monastery, one of the three largest monasteries in Lhasa.





The Chalalugu Grottoes on the southern slope of the Yaowang Hill in Lhasa, a famous shrine in Tibet, were carved out during the seventh century under the Tubo Dynasty.

Photos by our correspondent Chen Zonglie

million yuan from the village's land requisition charges to build a seven-storey hotel with more than 200 rooms and a floor space of 6,000 square metres. At that time, Zheng faced a great deal of pressure from people who felt that farmers involved in such an enterprise were "ignoring their honest occupation." However, the city authorities supported her efforts and named the hotel the "No. 2 Hostel of Xiangfan," leaving its ownership and management to the village itself. It was not until the end of 1978 when the Third Plenary Session of the 11th Party Central Committee was held that farmers managing hotels were accepted. In 1983, Zheng decided to use the 2.7 million yuan profits earned to build a high-grade hotel by the original one. Since its completion in October 1985, the hotel has always remained full. Last year, the hotel hosted three national conferences, and catered for more than 200 tourists from Japan, the United States, the Federal Republic of Germany and Hong Kong.

Hotels managed by farmers have relieved the burden of providing tourist accommodation and added new vitality to the urban economy. City leaders feel that further urban construction should be conducted by pooling the strengths of various sectors.

Young, Able Leaders

During our tour of Hubei, we met over 60 leading figures at provincial, prefectural and county levels, more than 90 percent of them in their 40s. Most have sound educations and work experience, and are hard-working and full of energy and confidence.

On May 28, the day we arrived in Wuhan, we met with some major provincial leaders. They all looked young and energetic. The provincial Party secretary Guan Guangfu and provincial governor Guo Zhenqian, both in their 50s, worked in the financial field



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Ji Yesheng, director of the Shashi Domestic Chemicals Factory.

before their appointments (Guan was the director of the Hubei branch of the People's Bank of China, and Guo, director of the Hubei branch of the People's Construction Bank of China). Deputy provincial Party secretary Qian Yunlu was only 38 when he was elected to his current post in 1984. After graduating from university, Qian served successively as head of a rural people's commune and a county, and secretary of the Hubei Provincial Communist Youth League Committee.

Zhao Baojiang, 46-year-old mayor of Wuhan and a graduate of Beijing's Qinghua University in the 1960s, briefed us on Wuhan's economic reforms. "When the city opened its doors in 1984, famous-brand and quality products from other parts of the country flooded our market. This created an awkward situation for the city's own products," he said.

"However," he continued, "we stood firm against the pressure and coined the slogan 'we would rather have our bowls broken than protect the backward.'"

With this, enterprises were forced to survive and develop through competition. Many enterprises which looked set for

bankruptcy reversed their downward trend through improved management.

Zhao acknowledged that Wuhan, as the largest metropolis in central China, still faces many difficulties. Problems such as ensuring a dependable supply of vegetables and finding accommodation for visitors have been largely solved through the efforts of past years. But other problems, such as public transport, housing and sewage disposal, are still a major concern, according to Zhao.

Wuhan has an urban population of more than 3 million, in addition to a daily 600,000-700,000 visitors from other parts of the country. With the increasing number of vehicles in recent years, traffic on the Changjiang River Bridge far exceeds its maximum limits and lorries on the bridge have had to be banned during the day. Zhao said that the construction of a second highway bridge on the Changjiang River is included in the Seventh Five-Year Plan (1986-90), but the project will require a total investment of 500 million yuan and sources for the funds have not been ascertained. So the project cannot be immediately undertaken.

Leaders of Wuhan's enterprises are even younger than the city and provincial leaders. Take the Zhongnan Department Store for example. With a payroll of more than 1,600 and a floor space of 35,000 square metres, it sells some 28,000 commodities and serves 100,000 customers each day. General Manager Yan Guifang, now 38 years old, was deputy general manager of the store until the second half of 1986. At that time, the store introduced a fixed asset-related management responsibility system and a public bidding was opened for the best contractor. Out of the 49 entries, Yan's plan to raise profits to 22 million yuan within three years was accepted by the evaluation committee and Yan signed a contract with the board of



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Yu Zhian, director of the Wuhan Turbogenerator Plant.

directors representing the owner of the state assets.

Yan told us that staff enthusiasm has been enhanced since the introduction of the responsibility system. Compared with the corresponding period of 1986, the store's sales and profits increased 48.6 percent and 84.38 percent in the first half of this year.

Yan is a graduate of the Wuhan Business School. After leaving school, he successively served as a sales clerk, a section chief and deputy general manager in the department store.

We also visited some factories in Shashi, including the Shashi Domestic Chemicals Factory. Factory Director Ji Yesheng is only 30 and fresh from the Wuhan Chemical Engineering Institute. Under his leadership, the plant imported advanced Italian equipment for the production of over 30 kinds of chemical products for daily use. Last year, the factory turned out nearly 50,000 tons of quality washing powder with an output value of more than 100 million yuan. More than 10 million yuan in profits and taxes were handed over to the state.

Some key state enterprises located in Hubei also have young leaders. The Wuhan Iron and Steel

Company, with 136,000 employees and generating an annual output valued at 3.3-3.5 billion yuan, has four general manager and deputy general managers. Except for the 65-year-old general manager, all three deputy general managers are around 45 and are graduates of institutes of metallurgy. The No. 2 Automotive Factory, one of the world's largest lorry producers, employs more than 66,000 people and generates an output value of 2.4 billion yuan a year. Its director is 50, and its chief engineer, only 46. Both of them are graduates of the Department of Automobile Making in Beijing's Qinghua University.

Role of Veteran Cadres

Although there is a general move to make the ranks of officials younger, veteran cadres still have a role to play. Director of the Wuhan Turbogenerator Plant Yu Zhian, 54, is one example.

Yu, a native of Shandong Province, joined the People's Liberation Army in 1945 when he was only 12 years old. He was demobilized in 1956 and assigned to the Wuhan Turbogenerator Plant. His obvious organizational ability led to his appointment as director of the plant in 1981. In that year, the plant incurred a loss of 2.4 million yuan, but within the following five years it was turned into a flourishing modern enterprise earning an annual profit of 10 million yuan.

In March last year, Yu organized the Changjiang Motive Power Company, a large enterprise group comprising more than 50 factories in eight provinces. The company undertakes the construction of power stations and power station equipment, equipment installation and personnel training. Through this group investors with a selected power station site and a set investment can requisition a completely fitted and operating power station in a set

period of time. Their speed of construction, high quality and low cost has won the company much praise from central government leaders. Yu's company has now extended to offer its co-operation to firms in India, the Netherlands and Sweden.

Yu told us that his secret weapon for success is the proper and effective use of power. He said one should never abuse power for personal gain. Yu Zhian is indeed selfless and leads a plain life. He and his family still live in an old two-room flat despite several offers by the workers' congress of a new flat and upgraded salary, which Yu refuses to accept. Perhaps his selflessness is an important factor in his ability to win support and co-operation from the workers and staff.

Pending Problems

Of course, Hubei also has its share of nasty things. During our stay in Xiangfan, local newspapers criticized four directors of Yi-cheng County's construction bureau, who used public cement, bricks, tiles and timber to build houses for themselves. They were ordered to move out.

In Xiantao (a city at the county level), the existence of privileges for leading cadres was also obvious. In the past, district heads and Party committee secretaries travelled to meetings by bicycle. Now, they refuse to attend unless they are picked up by a car. This has justifiably raised public discontent as taking a car is still considered a luxury in China.

Other matters of great concern were the destruction of the ecological balance through the development of rural industry in Hanyang County, and the reappearance of gambling activities in the Jingzhou Prefecture. Their presence suggests that legal and moral education should not be relaxed while the implementation of policies of reform and opening to the outside world are still in progress. ■

Regional Autonomy and Special Policies

This is the third instalment of the series "A Dialogue on Tibet, which is based on a "Beijing Review" interview with senior officials from the State Nationalities Commission. The first two appeared in issue Nos. 42 and 43.

Question: What do you mean by "regional national autonomy?"

Answer: Regional national autonomy is the basic policy the government adopts to solve the nationalities question in China and as such it is an important political element within the state. According to the Constitution and the Law on Regional National Autonomy, regional national autonomy means that the minority nationalities, under unified state leadership, practise regional autonomy in areas where they live in compact communities, and establish organs of self-government for the exercise of autonomy. All national autonomous areas are integral parts of the People's Republic of China.

Regional national autonomy embodies the state's respect for and guarantee of the right of minority nationalities to administer their own affairs, and its adherence to the principle of equality, unity and common prosperity for all nationalities. The policy has played an enormous role in fully freeing the initiative of all nationalities as masters of the state, developing among them a socialist relationship of equality, unity and mutual assistance, consolidating the unification of the country, and promoting socialist construction in the national autonomous areas and the rest of the country.

The Constitution and the law also stipulate that the organs of self-government of national autonomous areas are the people's congresses and people's governments of autonomous regions, autonomous prefectures and

autonomous counties. The chairman and vice-chairmen of the standing committee of the people's congress of a national autonomous area, the chairman of an autonomous region, the prefect of an autonomous prefecture or the head of an autonomous county shall be members of the nationality exercising regional autonomy in the area concerned. The people occupying the other posts in the people's government of an autonomous region, an autonomous prefecture or an autonomous county, and cadres in the departments under the organs of self-government of a national autonomous area should, whenever possible, be people of the nationality exercising regional autonomy and of other minority nationalities in the area.

The people's congresses of national autonomous areas have the power to enact regulations on the exercise of autonomy and separate regulations as well in the light of the political, economic and cultural characteristics of the nationalities in the areas. These regulations must be submitted to the Standing Committee of the National People's Congress for approval before they go into effect. If a resolution, decision, order or instruction of a state organ at a higher level does not suit the conditions in a national autonomous area, the self-government organ of the area may either implement it with certain alterations or cease implementing it after receiving the approval of the higher state organ.

While performing its functions, the organ of self-government of a

national autonomous area shall use the languages of the locality; where several languages exist, the language of the nationality exercising regional autonomy may be used as the main language.

In accordance with the needs of socialist construction, the self-government organ of a national autonomous area shall take various measures to train large numbers of cadres at different levels and various kinds of specialized personnel from among the people of all nationalities in the area. The organs of self-government of national autonomous areas may, in accordance with the military system of the state and practical local needs and with the approval of the State Council, organize local public security forces for the maintenance of public order.

Under the guidance of state plans the organs of self-government of national autonomous areas may independently arrange and administer local economic development, and work out the guidelines, policies and plans for their economic development. They also have autonomy in administering the finances of their areas. In accordance with legal stipulations, they must manage and protect the natural resources of these areas, and define the ownership and the rights of use of the pastures and forests within these areas. In accordance with legal stipulations and unified state plans the self-government organs enjoy priority in exploiting and using the natural resources which the local authorities are entitled to develop.

In addition, local self-government organs shall independently develop national culture, education, science, technology, medicine and sports in forms characteristic of the nationalities.

Q: Is there a Han or Tibetan majority among the cadres in Tibet? Is the present chairman of the regional people's government a Tibetan? Was the post of the regional Party committee's first secretary ever occupied by a Tibetan?

A: There are 40,000 minority nationality cadres in the region, making up more than 80 percent of the total. Among the heads of the regional Party committee, standing committee of the regional people's congress, government and political consultative conference, Tibetans and people of other minority nationalities account for 83.8 percent. The leading posts in the people's congresses and local governments at various levels are all occupied by Tibetans and other minority people. The current chairman of the regional people's government Dorje Cerang is a Tibetan. The post was previously occupied by Ngapo Ngawang-Jigme and Dorje Cedan, both Tibetans.

Thus far no Tibetan has held the post of first secretary of the regional Party committee. Our Party organization is the same to all nationalities. Party members of any nationality can be Party cadres if they meet the requirements stipulated by the Party Constitution. Thus there is no direct link between whoever takes the post of first secretary of the regional Party committee and regional national autonomy.

Q: Does Tibet have its own policies and regulations?

A: Yes. The People's Congress of the Tibet Autonomous Region has enacted many special rules and regulations in accordance with local conditions. Since 1979, a total of 12 provisions and

regulations have been legally enacted, including Separate Regulations of the Tibet Autonomous Region on Implementing the Law of Criminal Procedure of the People's Republic of China, Rules on Preventing Forest Fires, Detailed Rules on Election to the People's Congresses at Various Levels in Tibet, Separate Regulations of the Tibet Autonomous Region on Implementing the Marriage Law of the People's Republic of China and Provisions on the Administration of Tree Planting in Lhasa City.

A: What specific policies has the region implemented?

A: Since 1980 the region has introduced a series of special policies promulgated in accordance with the local conditions aimed at developing the economy swiftly. They include a household-based diverse management system which retains all land, forests and pastures in the ownership of the state; allowing the selling of farm produce and the products of animal farming to be regulated mainly by the market; livestock raised by the herds people belong to them and farmland is used and managed by farmers themselves, and this practice will remain unchanged for a long time.

While developing industrial and commercial enterprises priority is given to private and collective businesses. Until 1990 agricultural and animal husbandry taxes will not be levied. For the near future, commodities produced by collective and private businesses needed by minority nationality peoples will be exempt from industrial and commercial consolidated taxes. In foreign trade the region is enjoying more preferential terms than other provinces, municipalities and autonomous regions, and can retain all foreign exchange earned.

Q: Does the central government protect natural resources in Tibet?

A: To protect the ecological balance in Tibet, we have enacted

a series of policies and adopted many measures. We have invested several dozen million yuan in the region's grassland improvement, and built 1,967 ditches for irrigating 3 million *mu* (15 *mu* = 1 hectare) of grasslands. We have also enclosed a total of 2.65 million *mu* of grassland. In addition we have designated natural reserves of forest and wild animals and plants.

Q: Is there enormous unemployment in Tibet?

A: Unemployment is a problem which has been basically solved in China. In Tibet labour is short, and cannot meet the demands of its social and economic development. Tibet often finds difficulty in fulfilling the annual labour recruitment target set by the central government. Unemployment is not an issue. Among newly recruited workers Tibetans make up the majority. Tibetan and Han workers receive the same wages, welfare and labour protection terms.

Q: What kinds of Sino-foreign joint ventures and wholly foreign-owned enterprises have been set up in Tibet?

A: In the last few years, many Tibetans residing abroad, compatriots from Hong Kong and Macao, and foreign firms have applied to build Sino-foreign joint ventures and wholly foreign-owned enterprises in Tibet. At a Hong Kong trade fair last year the Tibet Autonomous Region signed 22 letters of intent for 15 cooperative projects. All foreign-funded businesses in Tibet can pay taxes at a reduced rate or be exempt from taxes and have priority for preferential loans.

Q: Which fields does foreign-Chinese co-operation cover in Tibet?

A: Energy, communications, building, textiles, foodstuffs, processing and light industries, agriculture, forestry and animal husbandry. ■

Cultural Relics: Repair & Surveying

by Our Correspondent Wu Naitao

A handful of electricians from Beijing busily work at improving the lighting conditions in the famous Potala Palace in Lhasa. The State Administrative Bureau of Museum and Archaeological Data has allocated special funds for revamping the palace's power system and lighting equipment. The project is to be undertaken by technicians from Beijing's Palace Museum and aims to eliminate unsafe factors in Potala Palace, which has been plagued by lightning and fire in the past.

Potala Palace, once the seat of Tibetan government and the winter residence of the Dalai Lama, is one of the 11 key cultural relics declared under state protection by the central government after Tibet's peaceful liberation. There are also 12 temples or historical sites under the protection of the autonomous region. Many monasteries were destroyed during the "cultural revolution." After that, the local cultural relics department mounted a full-scale effort to repair, and survey cultural relics and, in just a few years, achieved remarkable success.

Repairing Historical Sites

Xigaze, a major town in Tibet, has two monasteries — Trashilhunpo and Xalu.

Built in 1447, the Trashilhunpo Monastery is a Han-style hall of worship. Mounted in the hall is a large portrait of Emperor Qianlong of the Qing Dynasty (1644-1911), said to be an original from the Beijing Palace Museum. Potala Palace also houses a portrait of Emperor Qianlong, as well as a memorial tablet to the emperor bearing words written in Mandarin, Tibetan, Mongolian and Manchurian. It is said that generation after generation of the

Dalai Lamas paid annual homage to the emperor's portrait and memorial tablet.

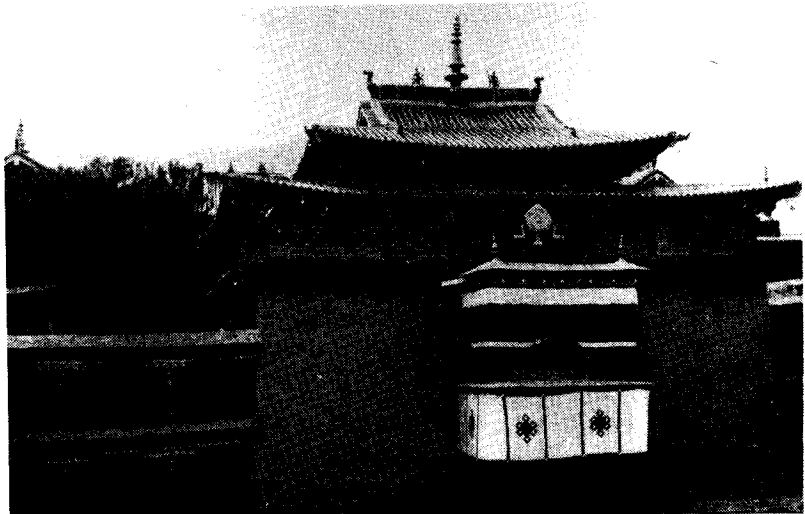
The Trashilhunpo Monastery houses many well-preserved gifts presented to Panchens by various emperors through history. Among the gifts are small Buddha figures from the Sui and Tang dynasties (581-907), the smallest measuring 10 cm in height. Nearby, in another hall, the world's largest extant gold-plated bronze Buddha is preserved. The figure, called Qiangba Buddha, is 26.2 metres high and its shoulders measure 11.5 metres across; its middle finger is 120 cm long. The seven-storey, 30-metre Qiangba Hall, covering an area of 860 square metres, was built in 1914 under the personal guidance of the ninth Panchen. According to an official of the local cultural relics department, the foundation of the hall was not solidly laid, so with the passage of time, many crevices have begun to appear in the walls. To protect the valuable cultural relics, the central government allocated a huge sum of money in late 1981 and organized artisans to

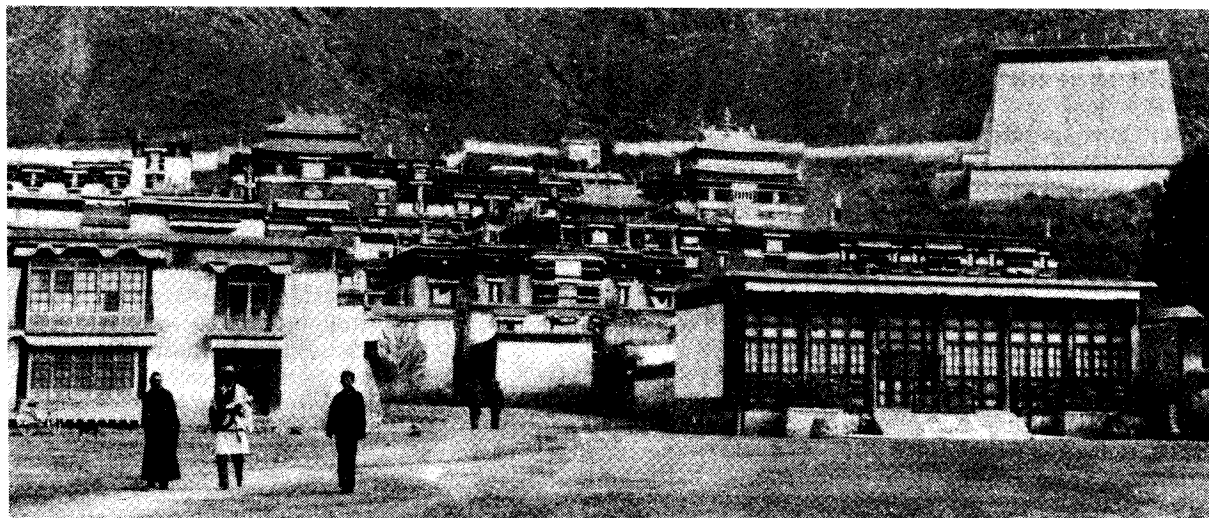
overhaul the Qiangba Hall. The northern part of the hall was dismantled and a new foundation laid; the wooden eaves, decorations and murals were restored to their original state. While keeping to the original architectural style, modern building materials were used in the repair. For example, reinforced concrete was used to strengthen the hall's pillars. The face of the Buddha was gilded to add to its splendour.

Xalu Monastery, built in 1087, is the main temple of the Xalu sect, and one of the most magnificent buildings in the region. Almost all Tibet's temples feature splendid green and gold roofs and the glazed roof of the Xalu Monastery has a unique style of its own. The monastery's halls were built in the Han-nationality style like those in other parts of the country, but the walls, laid irregularly with rocks, are in typical Tibetan style.

One of Xalu Monastery's 22 Lamas said that Xalu was converted into a granary during the "cultural revolution." It was restored as a temple in 1986, and its three main halls, which have

An outer view of Xalu Monastery.





Trashilhunpo Monastery.

CHEN ZONGLIE

been repaired, are attracting many worshippers. The monastery's roof, damaged during the "cultural revolution," has been re-fitted with made-to-order glazed tiles shipped in from other parts of the country.

An official from one of Tibet's cultural departments said that each year the central government and Tibet's cultural departments allocate special funds for the restoration of historical sites and cultural relics. Officials responsible for the protection of cultural relics are appointed to important temples. The cultural relics administrative bureau sends technicians to various prefectures to check on the use of funds and assist with maintenance plans. Experts from central cultural relics departments are also invited by the bureau to offer assistance. The bureau has adopted measures integrating long-term and key-project maintenance and arranged funds for the maintenance of cultural relics in order of importance and urgency. Since early 1980, the bureau has repaired Daipung Monastery and 22 other relics under the protection of the state and the autonomous region. Re-fitting the power circuits in Potala Palace was one of the endeavours.

Cultural Relics Survey

In 1984 the autonomous region's cultural relics department decided to carry out comprehensive region-wide survey of cultural relics that would take four to six years to complete. However, due to the vastness of the region and the shortage of professionals, it will be difficult for Tibet to meet this goal on its own. Shaanxi Province where the world-famous terra-cotta warriors of the Qin Dynasty (221-207 BC) were discovered sent specialists to aid Tibet in the massive task. Over the last few years, the survey not only uncovered tens of thousands of cultural relics scattered throughout the region, but also gave rise to some new discoveries. For example, the discovery in Qamdo Prefecture of a site dating back to the Neolithic Age indicates that primitive Tibetan societies had formed close ties with people along the Huanghe (Yellow) River up to 4,000-5,000 years ago. The survey will undoubtedly have great significance in the study of the history of Tibet and in research into other scientific fields.

Soanam Wongdui, deputy director of the Tibet Cultural Relics Administrative Bureau, said that the Tibetan archaeological team has unearthed five historical sites dating back to the late Old Stone

Age period and over 20 sites from the Neolithic Age. These historical sites are scattered in Burang and Tingri in western Tibet, Sogxian County in the north, Qamdo in the east and the valley of the Yarlung Zangbo River in the south. The discoveries point to communities existing on the vast Tibetan Plateau tens of thousands of years ago. Soanam Wongdui said these communities developed into the Tibetan nationality of today and created its splendid age-old culture.

The archaeological team discovered over 100 ancient graves in Nangxian County in Shannan, the largest one covering an area of over 3,000 square metres. In Nedong County 11 graves with over 750 tombs were also found. Prior to this, the only known ancient tomb was that of a Tibetan king in Qonggyai County. For a long time, celestial burial was regarded, especially by the common people, as Tibet's main form of burial. The discovery of numerous grave sites provides rich, concrete materials for studies of ancient Tibetan burial customs and opens up a new area for archaeological research into Tibetan culture. The new discoveries and studies have given rise to the publication of numerous new treatises by specialists in the field. ■

Political Bureau Veterans and Their Resumes



Wan Li

A native of Dongping County, Shandong Province, Wan Li was born in December 1916. He joined the Communist Party of China in May 1936 and took part in the revolutionary work in the same year. He graduated from a normal school.

After 1936, he did underground work in Dongping County and served as secretary of the Dongping county Party committee; director of the propaganda department, of organization department of the Taixi prefectural Party committee; and vice-director of the propaganda department of the Party committee of western Shandong district. After 1947, he served as member and secretary-general of the Party committee of Hebei-Shandong-Henan district, and director of the economic department and director of the construction bureau of Nanjing.

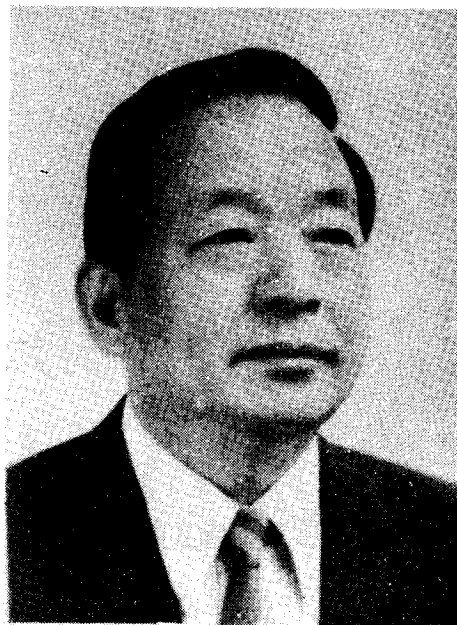
After 1949, he served as vice-minister and minister of the industrial department of the Southwest Army and Government Committee, vice-minister of construction and minister of urban construction in the central government, secretary of the Beijing municipal Party committee and deputy mayor of Beijing. He suffered persecution during the "cultural revolution."

After 1973, he served successively as secretary of the Beijing municipal Party committee, deputy director of the Beijing municipal revolutionary committee, minister of railways, first vice-minister

of the Ministry of Light Industry, first secretary of the Anhui provincial Party committee, chairman of the provincial revolutionary committee and first political commissar of the Anhui Military Area.

After 1980, he served as vice-premier of the State Council, chairman and secretary of the leading Party group of the State Agricultural Commission, member of the financial and economic leading group of the CPC Central Committee, deputy leader of the leading group of the foreign affairs committee, chairman of the Central Afforestation Commission and chairman of the State Civil Air Defence Committee.

Wan Li was elected member of the CPC's 11th and 12th Central Committees, member of the Secretariat of the 11th CPC Central Committee, member of the Political Bureau of the 12th CPC Central Committee and member of its Secretariat.



Tian Jiyun

Tian Jiyun was born in June 1929 in Feicheng County, Shandong Province. He joined the Communist Party of China in May 1945.

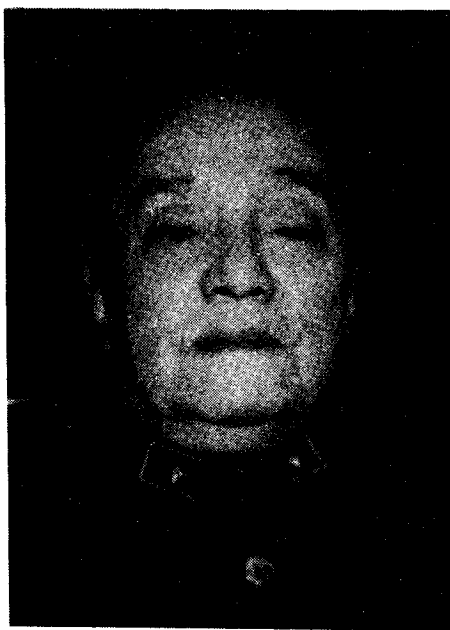
After 1945, he was head of a land reform work team in Chaoyang County. After 1949 he served as confidential secretary of the Financial Takeover Department of the Guiyang Military Control Commission, and class instructor at the Guiyang

People's Revolutionary University and the Guizhou Provincial Training Centre for Financial Cadres. After 1953, he served as deputy head and then head of the secretariat section under the Guizhou provincial Department of Finance, director of its general office and head of its budgetary division. After 1961, he served in Sichuan Province, as deputy director and then director of the provincial Bureau of Finance, and director and secretary of the Party committee of the provincial Department of Finance.

After 1981, he served as deputy secretary-general of the State Council.

After 1983, he served as vice-premier and secretary-general of the State Council.

Tian Jiyun was elected member of the Political Bureau and member of the Secretariat of the 12th Party Central Committee.



Yang Shangkun

Yang Shangkun was born in 1907. A native of Tongnan County, Sichuan Province.

He joined the Chinese Communist Youth League in 1925, and became a member of the Communist Party of China in 1926. After 1925 he took part in the student and workers' movements in Chengdu, Chongqing and Shanghai and later he studied at Sun Yat-sen University in Moscow. He served successively as the secretary of the Party Fraction of the Shanghai Federation of Trade

Unions and director of the Propaganda Department of the CPC Central Committee, and took part in organizing and leading the workers' movement and the movement of resistance against Japanese aggression and national salvation in Shanghai.

From 1933 he served as editor of *Red China* and *Struggle*, which were published in the Central Soviet Area, vice-principal of the Party School, deputy director of the Political Department of the First Front Army of the Red Army, political commissar of the Third Army Group of the Red Army, and deputy director of the General Political Department of the Red Army. He took part in the Long March and served as director of the Political Department of the Shaanxi and Gansu Detachment, director of the Political Department of the Field Army of the Red Army, and Secretary of the Northern Bureau of the CPC Central Committee.

After 1945 he was secretary-general of the Military Commission of the CPC Central Committee, and after 1948 he served as director of the General Office of the CPC Central Committee, deputy secretary-general of the CPC Central Committee and concurrently director of the first office of the Secretariat of the Party Central Committee, alternate member of the Secretariat of the Party Central Committee, and member of the secretariat of the Guangdong provincial Party committee. He was persecuted during the "cultural revolution."

From 1978 onward he became second secretary of the Guangdong provincial Party committee, deputy head of the Guangdong provincial revolutionary committee, deputy governor of Guangdong Province, first secretary of the Guangzhou city Party committee and head of the Guangzhou city revolutionary committee.

After 1980 he served as vice-chairman and concurrently secretary-general of the Standing Committee of the Fifth National People's Congress, Standing Committee member and secretary-general of the Military Commission of the CPC Central Committee, and deputy head and head of the Party Central Committee's Taiwan Work Leading Group.

Yang Shangkun was also a member of the Eighth, 11th and 12th Party Central Committees, an alternate member of the Secretariat of the Eighth Party Central Committee and member of the Political Bureau of the 12th Party Central Committee.

Wu Xueqian

Wu Xueqian, born in December 1921, is a native of Shanghai. He joined the Communist



Bureau and deputy head of the International Liaison Department of the CPC Central Committee.

Since 1982, has successively served as first vice-minister and minister of foreign affairs as well as secretary of the ministry's Party committee, member of the CPC Central Committee's leading group for foreign affairs and state councillor.

Wu Xueqian was a member of the 12th Party Central Committee and a member of the Political Bureau of the 12th Party Central Committee.



Party of China in May 1939.

After 1938, he served as a group leader of the students association in Shanghai, and a member and then secretary of a Party committee in charge of Party work in middle schools.

From 1944, he was successively member, deputy secretary and secretary of the Student Work Committee of the Shanghai underground Party organization, member of Shanghai's underground municipal committee and secretary-general of the Shanghai municipal committee of the Communist Youth League.

After 1949, he served as a representative of the Central Committee of the Communist Youth League (CYC) at the World Federation of Democratic Youth, deputy director and then director of the International Liaison Department of the CYC Central Committee, and member and standing committee member of the CYC Central Committee.

After 1958, he served as head of the Fifth Section of the International Liaison Department of the CPC Central Committee. He was subjected to persecution during the "cultural revolution" and was sent to do physical labour in a cadre school.

After 1972, he served as head of the Western Asia and Africa Section, director of the Third

Hu Yaobang

Hu Yaobang, a native of Liuyang County, Hunan Province, was born in November 1915. He joined the Communist Youth League in May 1930 and was admitted into the Communist Party in November 1933.

After 1930, he did work among children and later became secretary-general of the Central Committee of the Young Communist League in the Central Soviet Area.

He took part in the famous Long March in 1934 and served successively as secretary of the Youth League general branch in a Red Army unit, secretary of the Party general branch of another

Red Army unit, and director of the organizational and propaganda departments and secretary-general of the Central Committee of the Young Communist League.

After 1937, he served in succession as Party branch secretary of the No. 1 team of the Chinese People's Anti-Japanese Military and Political College, deputy head of the political department of the college, political commissar of the No. 1 brigade of the college, and deputy head and head of the organizational department of the Military Commission.

After 1946, Hu Yaobang served successively as political commissar of a column and director of the political department of an army group of the Chinese People's Liberation Army.

After 1950, he served concurrently as secretary of the north Sichuan regional Party committee and chairman of the regional administrative office, and later as political commissar of the military area.

After 1952, he served as secretary and then first secretary of the Central Committee of the Youth League and then as first secretary of the Shaanxi provincial Party committee. During the "cultural revolution," he suffered persecution and was sent to a cadre school to do physical labour.

After 1975, he served in succession as deputy head of the leading Party group of the Chinese Academy of Sciences, deputy president of the Central Party School, head of the Organization Department of the CPC Central Committee, third secretary of the Central Commission for Discipline Inspection, secretary-general of the CPC Central Committee and concurrently head of the Propaganda Department of the Party Central Committee.

He was a member of the Eighth, 11th and 12th Party Central Committees; a Standing Committee member of the Political Bureau, and chairman of the 11th Party Central Committee; and Political Bureau Standing Committee member and general secretary of the 12th Party Central Committee. After January 1987, he served as a member of the Political Bureau Standing Committee.

Qin Jiwei

Qin Jiwei, born in November 1914, is a native of Hongan County, Hubei Province. He joined the Red Army in August 1929 and the Chinese Communist Party in April 1930.

After 1929, he successively served as a platoon, company, regiment and division commander of the Red Army. Qin took part in the Long March.

After 1937, he served as commander of a guerrilla detachment and commander of the second



branch of the Taihang Military Area, deputy brigade commander of the 129th Division of the Eighth Routh Army, and commander of the first branch of the Taihang Military Area and concurrently the prefectural Party secretary.

After 1945, he served in succession as commander of the Taihang Military Area, Commander of the Ninth Column of the Second Field Army and commander of the 15th Army of the Fourth Army Group of the Chinese People's Liberation Army.

After 1950, he studied in the Nanjing Military Academy, and later served as commander of the 15th Army of the Chinese People's Volunteers in Korea, deputy commander and chief of staff of the Yunnan Military Area, standing committee member of the Yunnan provincial Party committee and deputy commander of the PLA Kunming Units.

After 1957, he served as commander and concurrently second Party secretary of the PLA Kunming Units and member of the secretariat of the Yunnan provincial Party committee.

Since 1973, he served as commander and Party secretary of the PLA Chengdu Units, second and then first political commissar of the PLA Beijing Units.

After 1980, he has served as commander and first Party secretary of the PLA Beijing Units.

Qin Jiwei was a member of the 10th, 11th and 12th Party Central Committees, and an alternate member of the Political Bureau of the 12th Party Central Committee.

'Stage Design of China' Comes off Press

Stage Design of China" published in June this year by the Chinese Theatre Publishing House, is a 260 × 250 mm picture album in both Chinese and English. In his foreward to the album, Cao Yu, noted playwright and president of the Chinese Dramatists' Association expressed his hope that China's achievements on the stage will serve as contribution to the treasure house of world culture.

The picture album is a compilation of more than 600 outstanding works chosen from hundreds of stage sets displayed at the National Exhibition of Stage Design. It contains stage designs for traditional opera, spoken drama, opera and dance drama, dance and puppet shows. Readers can gain an appreciation of the costume, plastic arts and traditional stage model of China, and the facial make-up of traditional Chinese operas. The album is a witness to the rapid progress of China's stage design since 1949. It is not only of academic value but a reference material of practical use.

For many years traditional Chinese operas were characterized by very simple stage settings and facial make-up. Audiences relied on the performers' aria and

movements to evoke the story and setting. In recent years, to satisfy rising aesthetic expectations in modern audiences, Chinese art designers have created various styles of stage settings based on national traditions, and blended with modern stage design. They can be divided into the following categories:

Stage design with distinctive national features. Take for instance the Beijing opera *Women Generals of the Yang Family*, a play about the Yang women defending the country's border areas in the Northern Song Dynasty (960-1127). In one scene *Dian Jiang Tai* (a platform from which the chief commander calls the roll of officers and assigns their duties) the centre of the stage is exaggeratedly marked by a flag bearing the Chinese character "commander." Under the flag are some other props. Two castles set symmetrically on both sides of the stage loom up through the stone balustrade crossing the stage behind the commander's platform. A carpet runs all the way down from the staircase to floor level, enhancing the majestic setting. the scene represents an

Integrating realism with free

expressionism. This type of design is featured in the Tibetan opera *Prince Nuo Sang*, an ancient fairy tale depicting the love story of a prince and a fairy. On the stage, a colourful curtain hanging from the ceiling represents an imaginative fairyland. The stage is flanked by two columns each entwined with dragons standing on a lotus flower symbolizing a fairy girl descending from the skies. All the stage constructions are decorated with typical Tibetan style patterns to create an appealing combination of realism and idealism.

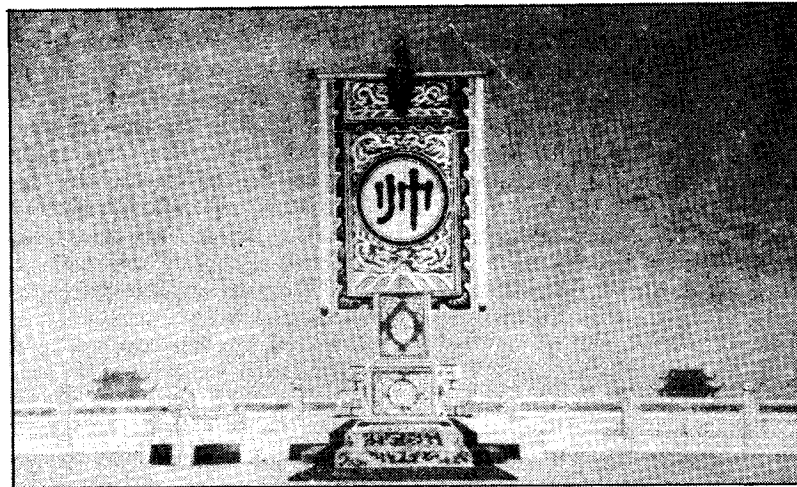
Symbolic style. It is exemplified by the Shaoxing opera *Xiang Lin's Wife*. The story tells of an oppressed woman in the 1910s when the Republic of China was just founded. The stage is set against part of a courtyard belonging to the landlord Xiang Lin's wife once worked for. The courtyard, made gruesome and ghostly through an effective use of light resemble the wide-opened mouth of a tiger—symbolizing feudal ethics—ready to swallow the fragile, warmhearted woman. Light, make-up and costume all join into portraying the character to bring the tragedy into good effect.

The style of presumption. In *pingju* opera, *Neighbours*, the stage designers used three doors to suggest three families living in one apartment building. The space in front of the three doors forms a shared corridor much larger than in reality. Instead of suggesting something to do with the theme of the opera, the distorted scene indicates the environment which gives performers more elbow room. Such design, in which means of new stage setting are applied, differs from traditional Chinese stage designs which rely mainly on imitative movements rather than props. Both styles are similar in one sense, however, as they provide performers with sufficient space.

The album is not only a good representative book on stage craft, but a fine work of art. ■

Stage design of "Women Generals of the Yang Family."

by Zhao Jinsheng



Hainan Opens Wider To Outside World

Hainan Island, which will be China's 30th province (not counting Taiwan), will adopt more flexible and preferential policies than elsewhere in order to attract foreign investment.

According to Liang Xiang, deputy leader of the preparatory group for the establishment of the province, Hainan will introduce procedures which are tailored to the island's needs and may not have been tried even in the special economic zones. They include:

- Minimal entry and exit procedures;

- Free flow of capital;

- Exports of local products not subject to state quotas;

- A relaxed foreign exchange control and an overlapping of the business of various specialized banks. A foreign exchange centre will be established on the island, and a local bank will be set up when the time is ripe;

- The compensatory transfer, mortgage or leasing of the right to the use of land will be available. Company groups, joint ventures and wholly foreign-owned enterprises will be allowed to contract for the development of certain areas on the island.

China's second largest island next to Taiwan, Hainan covers an area of 34,000 square kilometres and is at present under the jurisdiction of Guangdong Province. Since 1980 the island has attracted a total of US\$80 million in foreign capital, but that has mostly gone to developing inferior industry on the island.

Since the news that Hainan was to be made a province was announced a month ago, more than 20 groups of entrepreneurs and representatives have come to the island to explore its possibilities.

One famous US engineering construction company sent five senior officials to look at the

island and proposed joining with Hainan to form a development group to exploit its resources in an all-round way.

Titanium accounts for 67 percent of the total mineral resources verified in the island and has already led to the signing of letters of intent by the Hainan Metallurgical Company with a Canadian consortium and a US company. An official from the UTG Investment (Far East) Co. from the United States says that if the co-operations are successful his company will also invest several hundred million US dollars in Hainan's titanium.

The Mitsubishi Group from Japan has signed a letter of intent with the island for jointly producing reduced iron; the Kyodo Trading Company expressed its willingness to improve the harbour; some French and Thai companies are interested in the development of rubber, mango and banana production.

At present, the local government is accelerating the construction of infrastructures in energy, communications, telecommunications and water sources in order to create a good investment environment. ■

Japanese Truck Below Par

This year, Chinese consumers have found many problems with Hino and Nissan trucks imported from Japan, and many losses have been caused as a result.

The State Bureau of Materials and Equipment (SBME) imported 15,000 Hino FC-164 and FC-166 trucks in 1985 and 1986. Since then, Chinese drivers have complained of brake failures, blow-outs, fragile windshields, and fracture lines in the spring-sheets and the roofs of the cabs.

Many of the Hino KY-220H 12-ton trucks, imported by Tianjin's No. 2 Transport Company in June last year, have had springsheet

fracture, burst tyres and parts wearing out before they should. Last April, a person was killed when a truck's tyre blew.

There were also serious engine flaws with another 10,000 Nissan H-40 E-22 2.75-ton trucks, bought by the SBME in 1985. Although Nissan compensated the Chinese users for economic losses and replaced parts, the new engines would soon go wrong.

The Chinese Inspectorate of Import and Export Commodities and some specialists have concluded that all the flaws are the results of inadequate design. At present the Chinese consumers are seeking compensation. ■

SAE Will Stay in China for Long

The Societe Auxiliaire d'Entreprises (SAE), based in France, entered China through contracting to construct the China World Trade Centre in Beijing. "Our company is not a passing traveller and will stay in China for a long time," said Bertrand Alaury, foreign trade consultancy committee member and deputy general manager of the company.

Established in 1924, the company is the largest architectural engineering company in Europe. In 1985 it won the bidding for the construction of the centre by providing US\$238 million of the total of US\$380 million investment. It has become the biggest foreign profit maker in China.

The China World Trade Centre is one of the largest projects the company has contracted in Asia. It consists of office buildings, exhibition halls, flats and other facilities. Covering an area of 380,000 square metres, the centre is expected to be completed in 1989. The French company will demonstrate its advanced technology and work through the centre.

For building entrepreneurs China is a large and attractive

market, said Mr. Alaury. His company is also interested in construction projects in Shanghai, Hainan Island and Sichuan Province. The company is preparing its bid for the Datong River Diversion Project in Gansu Province and the Ertan Power Station in Sichuan Province.

The French company is seeking a Chinese partner for expanded business. When asked who will be his partner, Alaury smiled and said that since he had not yet paid court to "her," he could not divulge "her" name.

by Yao Jianguo

the council, Wei Yuming, former vice-minister of Foreign Economic Relations and Trade, president; permanent members include Don St. Pierre, general manager of the Beijing Jeep Corp.; Nakai Sensho, general manager of the China Otsuka Pharmaceutical Co. in Tianjin; Martin Posth, assistant general manager of the Shanghai Volkowagen Automative Co., and four other foreign managers.

Some similar associations have been set up in Chengdu, Sichuan Province, and Xian, Shaanxi Province, and are planned for other provinces and cities including Shanghai, Liaoning, Hebei, Anhui, Guangdong and Guangxi.

Over 500 foreign-funded enterprises have already joined the association. The association will hold its first congress next year and sponsor a national exhibition of members' products.

by Yao Jianguo

New Association for Joint Ventures

The Chinese Foreign-Funded Enterprises Association was founded on November 5 in Beijing. It will work to promote the legal rights and interests of enterprises involving foreign investment.

He Qu, deputy secretary-general of the association, says that since China introduced the open policy in 1979 it has approved the establishment of over 8,700 foreign-funded enterprises and 4,000 have already gone into operation. Most of them have achieved good economic results, but some have had trouble which they were powerless to escape. The association should help improve the understanding between the Chinese and foreign partners, provide information, help improve their management and promote their development.

The main tasks of the association are:

—To introduce China's policies and principles, economic rules and regulations, and basic intentions for development to the foreign investors, in an effort to attract more foreign investment;

—To help draw up and implement production and management plans and help consolidate their development;

—To investigate complaints of foreign-funded enterprises and report their opinions to the government and departments concerned, and help solve them;

—To hold meetings, training classes, lectures and symposia to

allow such enterprises to learn from each other and from specialists;

—To establish contacts with foreign economic entities; and

—To provide consultancy services for Chinese and foreign investors.

Gu Mu, State Councillor and head of the Foreign Investment Work Leading Group under the State Council, was elected honorary president at the first meeting of

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New Archaeological Discoveries Displayed



Bronze mask (Shang Dynasty 16th-11th centuries BC) found at the Sanxingdui site in Guanghan County, Sichuan Province.

A recent exhibition at the Palace Museum in Beijing displayed some of China's major archaeological discoveries during 1985-86.

The most conspicuous objects in the show were bronzes—small and life-size human heads, a big statue of a person, and masks—unearthed from two big pits in Sanxingdui village, Guanghan County, in southwest China's Sichuan Province. The exhibition featured only a small portion of the precious objects that were found, which are believed to have been cast in the Shang Dynasty (16th-11th centuries BC).

The Sanxingdui site is located in northern Sichuan Province. In 1986 two big sacrificial pits were found when workers of a brick works were digging earth. The No. 1 pit to the north and the No. 2 to the south are separated by 30 metres. Unearthed from the No. 1 pit were more than 400 objects including a gold wand, a gold face-guard, bronze statues of people sitting or on their knees, bronze human heads and jade models of

ancient weapons (See Issue No. 9, 1987 for more details).

More than 500 relics unearthed from the No. 2 sacrificial pit include bronze human heads, big bronze statues, and animal masks, as well as objects of gold, stone, seashell, ivory and other materials.

Since all the objects had been burned, the archaeologists believed the relics were buried after rites during which sacrifices offered to the dead were burned. The pits are unusual in China for their sizes and the richness of their contents.

The eyeballs of one approximately 1-metre-high bronze mask protrude several centimetres past the eyelids and the ears are oversized. Such facial features have never before been found on statues from the central plains of China. A 2.6-metre-high bronze statue on a pedestal depicts a person with a hat. The hands are shaped as if to hold a weapon.

According to Fang Guojin, director of the exhibition depart-

ment of the Palace Museum, of the three bronze human heads on display, two look like ancient Sichuan people—the Ba-Shu (Pa-Shu)—while the third resembles the people of China's central plains.

Huang Jinglie, head of the relics office under the State Administrative Bureau of Museums and Archaeological Data, said China lacks historical records about the Ba-Shu culture in the Shang Dynasty. This discovery provides valuable data for studies of cultural relics and archaeology. The two sacrificial pits show that the Sanxingdui site was a political and economic centre in the area of

Bronze human head (Shang Dynasty) from the Sanxingdui site.



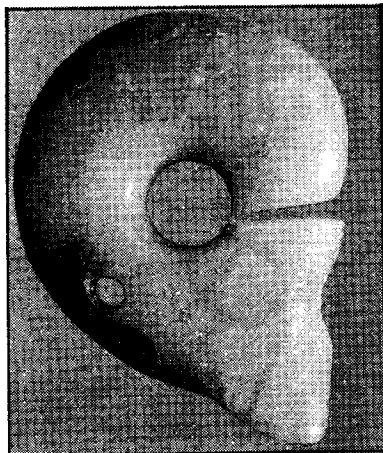
Shu during the Shang Dynasty.

Huang said that the site of an ancient city was also found near the two pits. That site is bigger than the one found earlier in China's central plains. The latest discovery reveals a new area in ancient China where the Ba-Shu culture was well developed.

Also on display was a goddess head statue dating back 5,500 years, unearthed in 1986 from the Niuheliang site in Liaoning Province. This new archaeological discovery showed that the history of China's civilization goes back 1,000 years further than was previously believed. The clay sculptured goddess head statue was the most artistic object in the exhibition. The process of sculpture was basically the same as today. Her two light bluish green eyeballs made of jade were inlaid by rivets, and her face was painted red (See Issue No. 33, 1986 for more details).

The show also included jade sculptures, turquoise birds, yellow-brown jade turtles and milk-white jade ornament.

Fang said the objects unearthed at Fanshan in Zhejiang Province provide valuable data for studies of Liangzhu culture, which dates back to 3000 BC. He said he used to think that some of the jade



Milk-white jade ornament (Hongshan culture 4000 BC) from the Niuheliang site.

objects at the Palace Museum were later imitations of very ancient relics. Now, judging by the exquisite decorations of the recently discovered pieces, he thinks the museum's pieces are genuine. The recent discovery showed that craftsmanship had developed to a high level in the Liangzhu period.

Fanshan, located in Zhejiang's Yuhang County, is a 7-metre-high mound with an area of 3,000 square metres. Last year 600 square metres were excavated. They contained 11 tombs built during the Liangzhu period and more than 1,200 objects, over 90



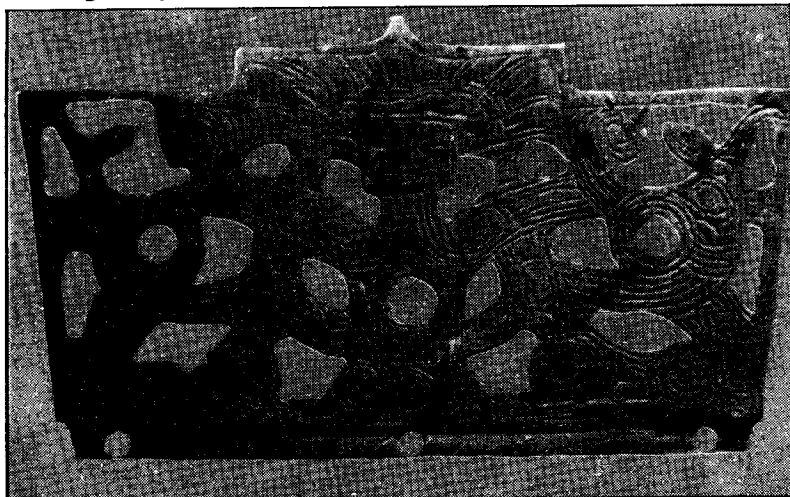
A copy of the goddess head found at the Niuheliang site in Liaoning Province.

percent of them were jade, while pottery and lacquerware objects were also found.

Archaeological undertakings in the minority areas in the past two years have also made breakthroughs. The exhibition featured pottery dating from the late period of primitive society, unearthed from Karuo site in Tibet; pottery jars, bronze mirrors and agates dating back 3,000 years, unearthed from the Chawuhu tomb in Jingxian County, Xinjiang Uygur Autonomous Region; and woolen jackets, long robes and fur boots found in the tomb of Hami Wubao, also in Xinjiang. These objects are believed to be from the Shang and the Western Zhou dynasties (16th century-770 BC).

Many objects made of gold, silver, pearl, jade, amber, agate, white porcelain and celadon, as well as harnesses made of silver, were found in the tomb of a princess, excavated in Inner Mongolia in 1986. The dead body, clothing and the sacrificial objects in the coffin, which were buried in 1018 BC, were found intact when the tomb was opened. These objects provide rich materials and information for studies of the politics, economy, culture and history of the Qidan (Khitan) minority.

Jade sculpture of a god (Liangzhu culture 3300-2250 BC) unearthed from Dafanshan in Yuhang County, Zhejiang Province.



by Wei Liming

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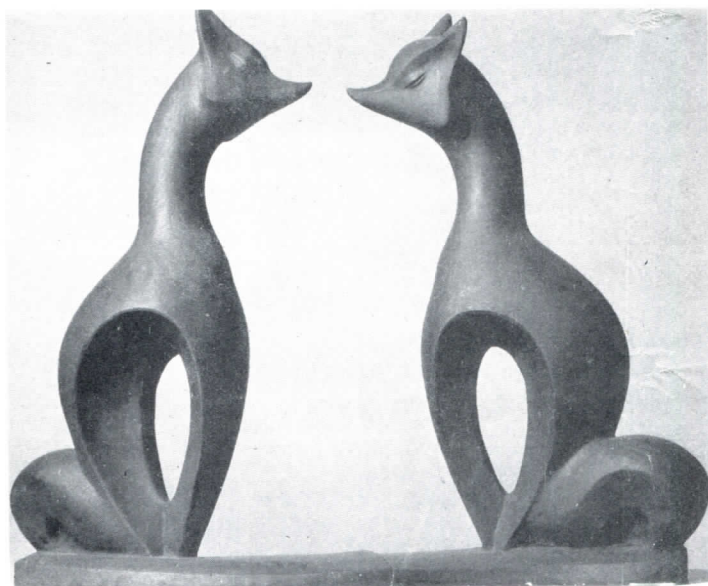
ART PAGE



An owl.



A country girl.



Two foxes.

**Sculptures
By Li Sanhan**

Li Sanhan, born in 1954 in Huangpi County, Hubei Province, now works at the Hubei Academy of Fine Arts.

1988

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Beijing Tourism Administration

1988 is the year of dragon by China's lunar calendar. In the Guangdong dialect, the number 88 sounds like "making a fortune." Many gala events are planned, with dragon as the theme. Each will be lively and colourful, and full of the flavour of China.



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