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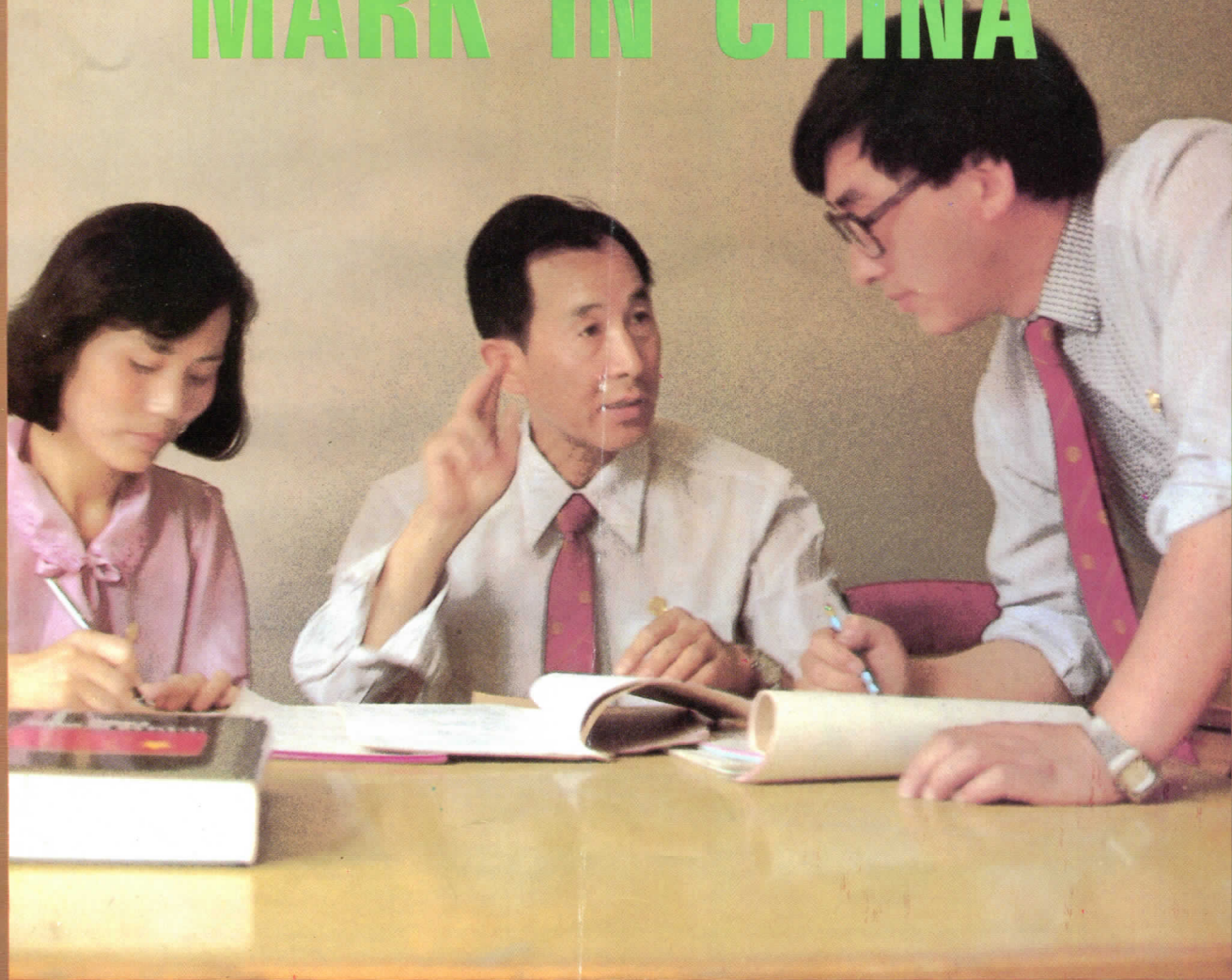
北京周報

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July 11-17, 1988

Asia's Population Hits 3 Billion

LAWYERS MAKE THEIR MARK IN CHINA





Pedlar at a free market.

Sun Yi

VOL. 31, NO. 28 JULY 11-17 1988

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Cover: Wan Min (centre), a famous lawyer, with his colleagues.

XUE CHAO

Lawyers Gain New Acceptance

■ The concept of protecting one's own legitimate rights and interests with the aid of lawyers is beginning to gain a firm foothold in China. With the growing need for legal services, legal counselling has developed rapidly since it began to make a comeback in 1978 (p. 14).

Hanoi Must Pull Its Troops out of Kampuchea

■ In the face of increased international pressure and domestic economic difficulties, Hanoi recently announced its latest partial troop withdrawal plan. But past experience leads the world to doubt its sincerity. If Viet Nam really wants to resolve the Kampuchean issue, it should produce a timetable for a quick and complete pullout which can be accepted by all parties concerned (p. 4).

Asian Population Nears 3 Billion

■ With Asia's population expected to reach 3 billion in the next six months, Premier Li Peng recently reiterated China's population policy. China is striving to limit its population to 1.2 billion at the end of this century (p. 5).

Tibetan Exhibition Shows Historical Links

■ An exhibition of cultural relics from Tibet was held recently in Beijing. It traced Tibetan relations with the people of the interior from ancient times to the Qing Dynasty, and demonstrated that Tibet has long been an inalienable part of China (p. 19).

Session Approves Motions on PLA

■ The Second Session of the NPC Standing Committee approved motions on building China's armed forces, including the re-establishment of military ranks. This marks the end of a 23-year-long period during which there were no ranks in the People's Liberation Army (p. 7).

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Total Vietnamese Troop Pullout Is Urgent

by Our Guest Commentator Yi Zhiping

The Vietnamese authorities said on May 26 that Viet Nam would withdraw 50,000 of its troops from Kampuchea this year and that the command of the Vietnamese occupation troops would move back to Viet Nam. The remaining Vietnamese troops would be placed under the command of the Heng Samrin regime. This is the seventh partial troop withdrawal announced by Viet Nam since 1982. It would also be of the largest, according to the Vietnamese statement. Viet Nam also declared that its troops in Kampuchea would withdraw 30 kilometres from the Thai-Kampuchean border.

The Vietnamese authorities thought the announcement would convince the world of their sincerity about resolving the Kampuchea problem and gain worldwide sympathy. But as Hanoi's past six partial withdrawals proved to be nothing more than troop rotations, and to date the number of Vietnamese troops in Kampuchea has not dropped, most observers suspect that the partial withdrawal announced recently is just another example of an old trick.

It has been nearly 10 years since 200,000 Vietnamese troops launched a surprise invasion of Kampuchea. During this period, Viet Nam has stubbornly followed a policy of regional hegemonism, insisting on its military occupation and colonial rule over Kampuchea. Vietnamese invasion troops have ferociously attacked and

suppressed the Kampuchean patriotic armed forces, barbarously massacred innocent Kampuchean people and forced hundreds of thousands of Kampuchean refugees to wander destitute far from home. At the same time nearly 1 million Vietnamese people immigrated to Kampuchea. These acts of aggression have brought serious damage and suffering not only to the Kampuchean people but also to the Vietnamese people.

But the brave Kampuchean people and armed forces have not yielded even a little to the Vietnamese invaders. Under the leadership of the Coalition Government of Democratic Kampuchea (CGDK), headed by Prince Norodom Sihanouk, they have resisted tenaciously, frustrating Viet Nam's ambition to conquer Kampuchea.

As a saying goes: a just cause enjoys abundant support. The Kampuchean people's struggle to resist foreign invasion has gained worldwide sympathy and support. For nine consecutive years, the United Nations General Assembly has adopted by an overwhelming majority strongly worded resolutions demanding that foreign troops withdraw completely from Kampuchea as soon as possible. One after another, most countries in the world have frozen or suspended their economic aid to Viet Nam, placing the country in unprecedented isolation.

The Soviet Union's recent

decision to withdraw its troops from Afghanistan has highlighted the Kampuchea issue. Demands by the international community for the withdrawal of Vietnamese troops from Kampuchea are growing. The Vietnamese authorities are facing increased international pressure.

Viet Nam's economic situation has worsened sharply. Prices are soaring. People are living in misery. The recent grain shortage in the north — a rare occurrence in the past dozen years — has caused many deaths. The Vietnamese leaders have to admit that Viet Nam's economy has collapsed. It is precisely because of these difficulties at home and abroad that Viet Nam has been forced to declare the withdrawal of 50,000 of its troops from Kampuchea. The announcement represents an attempt to ease international pressure and quell domestic dissatisfaction.

Even as the Vietnamese authorities declared their seventh partial withdrawal, they reiterated repeatedly that Viet Nam will continue to support the Heng Samrin regime in its attempts to destroy the Democratic Kampuchean resistance forces and "safeguard the fruits of the Kampuchean revolution." This shows that Viet Nam has not abandoned its strategic plan to eliminate the Democratic Kampuchean patriotic forces and prop up and strengthen the Heng Samrin regime. The Heng Samrin regime recently said that if its security is threatened, the Vietnamese troops which are withdrawn this year can return to Kampuchea.



It is also deceptive to pretend that the command of the Vietnamese forces in Kampuchea will be withdrawn and the remaining Vietnamese forces placed under the direction of Phnom Penh. Viet Nam is reported to be redesignating its remaining troops in Kampuchea as troops of the Heng Samrin regime in an attempt to leave them in Kampuchea forever. The troops will wear the uniform of the Heng Samrin regime.

China has always maintained that the complete withdrawal of Vietnamese troops is the key to settling the Kampuchea issue. At this juncture Viet Nam should produce as soon as possible a timetable for quick and complete withdrawal which can be accepted by all parties concerned. Then it should accept strict international supervision and on-site verification. After the withdrawal of Vietnamese troops, the Kampuchean people will decide their own fate without foreign intervention. This is not only the correct way to resolve the Kampuchea issue, but also conforms to the basic interests of the Vietnamese people.

China has always favoured a political solution to the Kampuchea question. China supports all efforts that are aimed at obtaining a just settlement of the Kampuchea issue. The four-point statement issued by the Chinese Foreign Ministry on July 1 (see page 6) reaffirms China's stand and proposals. ■

Li Reiterates Population Policy

On June 30 in Beijing in a speech broadcast over radio and TV to mark Asia's 3 Billion Population Day, Premier Li Peng said that China, like most other Asian countries, faces problems with its population and development.

To mark Asia's 3 Billion Population Day, the Asian Parliamentarians' Forum on Population and Development has suggested conducting a series of activities starting from July 1 to promote positive action towards a solution to the population problem. Their suggestion won the support of all Asian countries and international organizations.

According to the premier, the Asian population has more than doubled from the 1.4 billion in 1950 and it is expected to reach 3

billion by the second half of this year. Although the Asian economy has enjoyed rapid growth in recent years, the gross national product (GNP) per capita is less than one-third of the world average.

Li said that China, the most populous country in the world, is striving to limit its population to 1.2 billion by the end of this century. "This is certainly no easy task and it will not be possible to solve within a short period of time," he said.

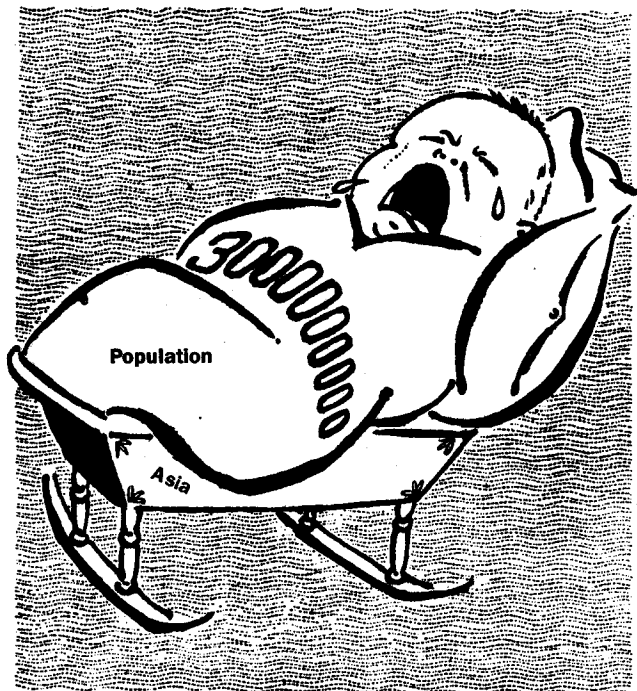
China has made family planning one of its basic national policies and the control of population growth a task of prime importance.

Some results have already come of the years of efforts to combine

Premier Li speaks on population problem.

CUI BAOLIN





The cradle's too small.

ZHU GENHUA

state guidance with co-operation from the people, and to mobilize society to support family planning work.

The premier explained that China is undertaking socialist modernization and needs to bring into play the intelligence and wisdom of its people.

Improved child-care will be advocated through legislation, publicity and education, and the development of education, science, culture, public health and social welfare will be accelerated to further health standards and scientific and cultural levels.

Li called on local governments and organizations to give priority to family planning work and to contribute towards population control and economic development in Asia and the world. ■

Coastal Strategy To Benefit All

Top Chinese leader Zhao Ziyang says the relationship between

the strategy to develop coastal areas and economic development in other areas should be one of common development through commodity exchanges based on local economic strength.

Zhao, general secretary of the Chinese Communist Party Central Committee, made the comment while on an inspection tour of Shaanxi and Shanxi provinces June 14-21.

"The growth of coastal areas will surely stimulate the development of other parts of China," he told Shanxi provincial officials.

All areas, including those that lack natural resources and have only abundant labour resources, have their own advantages, he said.

He urged localities to focus their attention on exploiting their advantages, saying that it does not work to mechanically copy others' practices to the neglect of local conditions.

"I think the growth of coastal areas poses an urgent need for other areas to supply them with

raw materials, affording an excellent development opportunity for the latter."

The growth of coastal areas, he said, will surely increase demands for energy and raw materials from other areas.

Meanwhile, funds and technology from coastal areas will move towards other areas, spurring the exploitation of their natural resources and the economic expansion of China as a whole.

While inspecting the Pingshuo open-cast coal mine in Shanxi on June 15, Zhao said: "The reform has now entered a critical stage and we must begin solving difficult problems such as price and wage reforms."

Without reform in enterprises, society will not be able to withstand the strains arising from price and wage reforms, he said.

"Without the reforms, it will also be impossible to set up a new economic structure in China."

In Shaanxi, Zhao urged local officials to further free their minds to step up the "reform of the internal mechanism of enterprises."

He called for the introduction of competition-based contract systems in all workshops of major enterprises.

"Once this is accomplished, conditions will be ripe for the reform of the personnel, labour and distribution systems." ■

Foreign Ministry On Kampuchea

The Chinese Foreign Ministry issued a statement in Beijing on July 1 on the settlement of Kampuchea question.

The statement notes that it has been nearly a decade since the military invasion of Kampuchea by Vietnamese troops. Since the recent signing of the Geneva accords on a political settlement of

the Afghan question, there has been an even stronger demand by the international community for a prompt Vietnamese troop withdrawal from Kampuchea and for an early settlement of the Kampuchean question.

The statement goes on to make four points:

1. The complete withdrawal by Viet Nam of its troops from Kampuchea at the earliest possible date is the key to a settlement of the Kampuchean question. The Vietnamese side should produce as soon as possible a timetable for its troop withdrawal from Kampuchea within a short period of time, a timetable which must be acceptable to all the parties concerned, and an agreement should be reached on such a basis.

2. We favour the establishment, with Prince Norodom Sihanouk in charge, of a provisional quadripartite coalition government in Kampuchea, while Viet Nam withdraws its troops from the country. Each party's candidates for the provisional government should be proposed by the party itself and should also be acceptable to the other parties concerned.

3. Upon the establishment of the provisional quadripartite coalition government of Kampuchea, a freeze should be imposed on Kampuchean forces of all factions and these forces should refrain from getting involved in politics and interfering in the general election so that the Kampuchean people may conduct a free election without outside interference and threat of force.

4. Practical and effective international supervision should be instituted over Viet Nam's troop withdrawal, the maintenance of peace in Kampuchea and the conduct of a free election. If the parties concerned succeed in reaching an agreement on a political settlement of the Kampu-

chean question, China will be ready to join other countries in an international guarantee for an independent, neutral and non-aligned Kampuchea. ■

Session Approves Motions on PLA

The second session of the Standing Committee of the Seventh National People's Congress (NPC) examined and approved four important motions concerning the country's armed forces, the People's Liberation Army (PLA).

The motions concern service regulations for PLA officers; the reintroduction of ranks; the confirmation of ranks conferred between 1955 and 1965; and the awarding of medals of honour to retired PLA members.

The week-long session, which opened on June 25, heard a report explaining the motions by Yang Baibing, a member of the Central Military Commission and head of the PLA's General Political Department.

Yang said the draft service regulations were formulated with a view to improving the conditions of service for army officers and further strengthening the officer system. The rules take into consideration both peacetime and wartime needs and present and future requirements. They conform to the Chinese army's characteristics while incorporating useful practices of foreign armies.

The adoption of the draft regulations on the reintroduction of military ranks marks the end of a 23-year-long period during which there were no ranks in the Chinese armed forces.

The new rules stipulate that there will be 11 military ranks. They are (from highest to lowest) senior general, general, lieutenant-general, major-general, senior

colonel, colonel, lieutenant-colonel, major, captain, lieutenant and second lieutenant.

New China first set up a military rank system in 1955 and abolished it in 1965. The early ranks also included generalissimo, marshal and senior captain. There were 10 marshals but no one was ever conferred the rank of generalissimo.

Yang told the session that the re-establishment of a military rank system is required to promote the modernization and standardization of the PLA. It will also enhance morale in the forces.

The system, which was worked out in line with the relevant articles in China's military service law of 1984, takes into account the PLA's past experience and the practices of foreign armed forces, he said.

The session also examined and approved a proposal made by the Central Military Commission earlier this year to confirm military ranks conferred between 1955 and 1965.

In making the proposal, Commission Chairman Deng Xiaoping said ranks are an honour that the state confers on military officers and therefore those who received ranks in 1955-65 should be acknowledged.

Ranks will not be confirmed for people who have been found guilty of high reason or counter revolution; those sentenced to the death penalty, life imprisonment or three or more years of imprisonment for a criminal offence; those who have been expelled from the PLA; and those whom the Central Military Commission has decided to deprive of their ranks.

Deng also proposed the awarding of medals of honour for meritorious wartime service to retired PLA officers.

Yang said three different medals will be awarded to veterans in accordance with their contribu-

tions to the Chinese revolution. They will be the PLA Red Star Medal of Honour, the PLA Independence Medal of Honour and the Victory Medal of Honour.

Foundlings Pose Social Problem

The number of children abandoned in China's capital has risen sharply and services for the foundlings are operating at capacity.

Between 1977 and 1986, the Beijing Children's Welfare Hospital took in some 80 foundlings a year. Last year the number jumped to 151, of which 141 were subnormal or deformed. The hospital's 275 beds are full.

Officials from another home for foundlings complain that while they are unable to accept any more children, a constant stream is sent to them. In Yanqing County in the northwest suburbs of Beijing, the local home for seniors had to make space to house homeless children.

Some 70 percent of Beijing's foundlings are less than 1 year old. They range in age from 2 days to 5 years old, said officials from the welfare hospital. Of the 151 children sent to the hospital last year, 53 were found around the Beijing railway station.

Analysis of the cases by the city's civil administration bureau shows that some parents do not realize that by abandoning their children they are committing a crime.

Many parents from other parts of the country abandon their children in Beijing, in the hope that the higher living standards in the capital will benefit their child, who would otherwise suffer even more. Last year 84 percent of the foundlings at the welfare hospital were from rural areas outside Beijing.

Since China gives preferential

treatment to families with only one child to encourage population control, some parents abandon malformed infants so that they can have another child and still enjoy single-child treatment.

The increasing number of foundlings poses a social problem. The Beijing municipal government has called on departments responsible for civil administration, public security, work among women, family planning and public health to make a joint effort to deal with it. The government has also urged the state to work out a law against child abandonment in a bid to protect children, including ones with defects.

New Bishops Consecrated

In a consecration ceremony held in a 100-year-old church in downtown Shanghai on June 26, two new bishops were ordained. This was the first consecration of Chinese Christian bishops since 1955.

Sun Yanli, 74, and Shen Yifan, 60, were elected bishops at a standing committee meeting of the Shanghai Christian Administration Commission.

Sun was ordained as a pastor in 1941. A graduate from Nanjing Union Theological Seminary, he is now chairman of the Shanghai Christian Administrative Commission and president of the East China Theological Seminary.

Shen, chief minister for the Community Church of Shanghai, graduated from the Central Theological Seminary and was as a ordained pastor in 1954. He is now vice-president of the Christian Council of China.

The election of the Chinese bishops will benefit religious exchanges with Christian churches overseas, a Christian leader said. He added that the bishops are no

longer administrative personnel but spiritual leaders in China.

"The consecration is an important step towards enhancing the autonomy of China's Christian churches," he said.

According to church sources, Christian churches in Fujian, Shandong, Zhejiang and Jiangxi provinces are also preparing to elect their own bishops.

Bishop Ding Guangxun, president of the Christian Council of China, delivered a sermon to some 1,500 clergy and worshipers who had gathered for the consecration.

Also participating in the ceremony were Bishop Kuang Guangjie of the Hong Kong Christian Council, Minister Eraoing Carroll of the US United Methodist Church and Dr. George Ninan of India's Christian Conference of Asia.

China Vows War On Drug Abuse

China will step up its efforts to fight drug abuse and prevent its spread on the mainland.

Chen Minzhang, China's minister of Public Health, made the promise at a meeting on June 25, the day before International Day Against Drug Abuse and Illicit Trafficking.

Chen said that in recent years some international drug trafficking gangs have tried to smuggle narcotics into other countries and regions via China. "A few people in the southwest border areas have adopted the habit of smoking opium," he added.

Since 1981, China's public security and customs officers have seized 233 kg of opium and 92 kg of heroin at the border. The Chinese customs department has also tracked down 20 cases of heroin trafficking, and 43 traffickers of foreign nationalities have been arrested and sentenced to imprisonment.

Drug abuse and illicit trafficking have brought disaster to many countries. The comprehensive plan to control drug abuse adopted by 42nd session of the United Nations General Assembly last year and the decision to designate June 26 as International Day Against Drug Abuse and Illicit Trafficking demonstrate the resolve of the international community to fight against the evils of narcotics, Chen said.

China, through national laws and regulations, pursues a policy designed to ensure that narcotics can be used only for medical and scientific purposes. Illicit cultivation, production, trafficking and use of narcotics must be prohibited everywhere, he stressed.

Before 1949, approximately 20 million people throughout China were addicted to opium and heroin, and opium poppies were grown on about 1 million hectares of farmland. As a result of a series of measures taken shortly after the founding of New China, illegal drug taking was eliminated in 1952. Since 1983 various drug administration and narcotic control laws have been enacted. "We would never let the narcotics scourge of some foreign countries hit our country," Chen said.

China has developed cooperative ties in narcotics control with several international organizations and countries including the United States, France and Canada. China has also held, in collaboration with international drug control bodies and various countries, more than 10 training courses, seminars and symposiums on drug control.

"In view of the rampancy of international drug trafficking, it is clear that the fight against drug abuse and illicit trafficking will be a long-term task," Chen said. The Chinese government and people will make unremitting efforts to help in the fight. ■

Weekly Chronicle (June 27-July 3)

POLITICAL

June 29

■ The people's procuratorates in large and medium-sized cities will directly handle individual reports on economic crimes committed by government functionaries and guarantee the personal security of the informants, the Supreme People's Procuratorate says.

The move is aimed at curbing economic crimes and promoting the more honest performance of government officials' duties.

June 30

■ In line with decisions made at the 13th National Congress of the Communist Party of China (CPC), the Beijing Municipal Committee of the CPC has worked out concrete measures to reform the city government's political structure.

Department secretaries will be required to relinquish authority over various economic functions, and industrial, commercial and other departments will be eliminated.

ECONOMIC

June 28

■ The China Council for the Promotion of International Trade (CCPIT), a 36-year-old organization, begins to use simultaneously the name China Chamber of International Commerce.

CCPIT is a non-governmental economic and trade organization made up of leading figures from China's economic, trade, financial and trade union circles.

June 29

■ The cultivation of a high-quality hybrid rice developed by Yuan Longping, a Chinese expert on rice breeding, led to a 50-million-ton rise in national rice production between 1976 and 1987, *Renmin Ribao*. (People's Daily) reports.

This year, 12 million hectares of

land, or one-third of the country's rice paddies, have been planted with the hybrid rice.

CULTURAL

June 28

Deng Pufang, president of the China Federation for the Disabled says there are more than 51 million disabled people in China. Of the total, 52,800 are currently studying at 504 schools or taking 578 special courses for the blind, deaf-mutes or the mentally retarded. China's first national rehabilitation research centre will soon be completed in Beijing. Deng tells the opening session of an international conference on special education, held in Beijing.

June 29

■ An agreement on an exhibition of Chinese paintings in the United States is signed between China's Palace Museum and the US International Arts Council.

The exhibition of 80 of the museum's finest paintings from the Ming and Qing dynasties (1368-1911) will open at the Honolulu Academy of Arts in January 1989 to mark the 10th anniversary of the establishment of diplomatic relations between China and the United States. The exhibition will later move to the continental United States.

SOCIAL

June 29

■ Wang Jian, 26, is sentenced to death and Ha Enming, 18, to death with a two-year reprieve after being found guilty of killing a Beijing University graduate student earlier this month.

Three others are sentenced to prison terms of 15, seven and three years in connection with the killing. The convicted people are told they have 10 days to appeal the sentences handed down by the Beijing Intermediate People's Court. ■

SOVIET UNION

Conference Marks Turning Point for Reform

The world was impressed by the recent conference of the Soviet Communist Party with its unprecedented openness, liveliness and diversity of opinions.

The 19th All-Union Conference of the Communist Party of the Soviet Union (CPSU) was held in Moscow June 28-July 1. It was the first irregular CPSU gathering since 1941.

The fundamental tasks of the conference were to review the results, both positive and negative, of the *perestroika* (restructuring) campaign since the 27th Party Congress in 1986 and map out new steps to extend the reforms and make *perestroika* irreversible.

The results of the conference were reflected in the seven resolutions adopted at the closing session, including one on urgent measures to implement the political restructuring plan, one on fighting bureaucracy, one on ethnic relations, one on *glasnost* (openness) and one on the reform of legal system. CPSU General Secretary Mikhail Gorbachev described the meeting as a "truly

open Party talk about the principal things that concern today's communists, Soviet people—an attempt to find answers to questions that worry them."

The conference was impressive in three main ways. First, no previous CPSU meeting has allowed such a free airing of views and such heated debate. Many of the 5,000 delegates ventured to criticize shortcomings and mistakes in the CPSU's work, and sharp contradictions and sensitive questions were not evaded.

For example, economist Leonid Abalkin said at the opening session that the economic reform does not represent a fundamental turn, and the Soviet Union has not yet freed itself from stagnation. The next day Georgy Arbatov, head of the US and Canadian Studies Institute of the Soviet

Academy of Sciences, expressed his disagreement, quoting facts illustrating profound changes that have taken place in Soviet society.

Another salient feature is that the issue of political restructuring was brought up before the whole CPSU and the entire country and was put forward as the key to resolving all problems. Gorbachev said in his keynote address to the conference that political restructuring is the guarantee that will make reforms irreversible. Summing up Soviet history since the 1917 revolution, he said the political system established after the revolution was distorted and destroyed, resulting in the disaster of one-man dictatorship. Past attempts to reform the country failed, he said, largely because this faulty political system was kept intact. The new political reform, judging from the conference, focuses on separating the functions of the CPSU from those of the government; returning powers to the Soviets of people's deputies; mobilizing people to participate in political and economic activities; limiting the term of office of CPSU and government officials to two consecutive terms (10 years); perfecting socialist democracy and the legal system; and implementing *glasnost*.

Gorbachev also suggested that first secretaries of CPSU committees should concurrently act as chairmen of local Soviets and that there should be a chairman of local Soviets and that there should be a chairman of the Supreme Soviet, who would be granted broad powers, instead of the existing chairman of the Presidium of the Supreme Soviet, who is largely a ceremonial figure. The proposal was opposed by some delegates who argued that such overlapping responsibility would contradict the principle of separating the CPSU leadership from the government administration.

A third feature of the confer-

Talking with delegates, Gorbachev style.



ence was that intra-Party differences have been exposed to the Soviet people as well as the outside world. The face-to-face debate between former Moscow CPSU chief Boris Yeltsin and the Kremlin's No. 2 man, Yegor Ligachev, epitomized the ongoing struggle over the speed and methods of reform, the role of leadership and other major issues.

The Soviet public showed an unprecedented interest in the conference. As many as 1 million letters reached the gathering and the public spontaneously held discussions and forums exploring

the many problems of Soviet society. This shows that a sense of participation is growing in the Soviet Union—a country long accustomed to bureaucratic administration which allows little individual initiative.

The conference marked a revolutionary turning point in the Soviet reform process and is expected to exert a far-reaching influence on the Soviet Union. However, as the saying goes, things are easier said than done. A lot depends on what is implemented.

by Xin Zhi

UNITED NATIONS

Disarmament Session Ends in Deadlock

The third United Nations special disarmament session failed to agree on a final document because of US obstinacy on some issues. Many participants were disappointed by the US attitude.

The third United Nations General Assembly Special Session on Disarmament ended on June 26 after more than 20 hours of continuous negotiations failed to produce agreement on the draft final document.

The first UN Special Session on Disarmament in 1978 concluded with the adoption of a substantial final document. The usefulness of the document was reaffirmed in a paper adopted at the conclusion of the second special session in 1982. One wonders why—with the international situation easing and people's desire for disarmament growing stronger—the recent session failed to achieve any concrete results.

Observers said the main reason is differences on disarmament among the participating countries, particularly the United States, which upheld its positions and refused to make any compromises.

As a result no consensus could be reached on the draft.

The road to agreement looked extremely difficult from the opening of the special session on May 31. The preparatory committee was able to submit as a basis for discussion only a list of "elements for consideration" instead of a generally accepted draft document.

Later, the three working groups charged with drafting papers on the substantive agenda items failed to win consensus on their texts.

But as efforts to narrow gaps and identify points of convergence piled up through long hours of consultation, consensus on a final document started to appear increasingly within reach.

While everyone else showed a growing spirit of accommodation and gave up many of their strongly held positions, however, the

United States refused to budge on such issues as the prevention of the arms race in outer space, naval disarmament, a nuclear test ban and development through disarmament.

Still worse, sources close to the consultations said, when new concessions were offered at the eleventh hour, the United States still showed no interest in achieving consensus on the draft document, on the grounds that the deadline for the session was approaching.

Most observers attributed the failure to reach a consensus largely to the US obstinacy. By the time US Secretary of State George Shultz addressed the session, it was already evident that the United States prefers bilateralism on nuclear disarmament. It is prepared to leave to multilateral consideration only those issues it believes other countries are primarily or solely responsible for.

Many delegates, although disappointed, noted the positive aspects of the session. Consensus was reached on the notion, expressed in the introductory part of the draft document, that "in a world of growing interdependence, it is essential for the international community to stimulate and deepen awareness of the common interests of our global society and our common interest in strengthening international peace and security." This is an obvious departure from the long-standing doctrine of allowing power politics to dominate international relations.

The participants also agreed to recognize that nuclear disarmament is a "priority objective," the prevention of nuclear war "of utmost concern," and conventional disarmament of "vital" importance. On many specific disarmament matters, consensus or near-consensus was reached eventually by virtue of an unprecedented spirit of mutual

accommodation.

Present at the session were 158 UN member states (all except South Africa) and 107 disarmament organizations from all over the world.

Commenting on the session, Chinese deputy permanent representative to the United Nations Yu Mengjia said, "Our session

was not futile. What happened is that the gains we had been seeking have been put off a bit. Disarmament is too important to be ignored in advancing the interests of international peace and security and the well-being of all peoples. We must continue to work for its success. There is no alternative."

by Chen Shengtao

UNITED STATES

Election Campaign Moves to New Stage

Massachusetts Governor Michael Dukakis has emerged from four months of US presidential primaries as the certain candidate of the Democratic Party. The next round of competition will be between Dukakis and Republican Party candidate George Bush.

Michael Dukakis has cleared the hurdle of the primaries to become the Democratic Party's presidential candidate. His next key task, political observers in the United States say, is to nominate a vice-presidential candidate who can win the support of the conservatives within the party and make up for his lack of experience in foreign affairs. Republican candidate George Bush, the observers say, must establish an image independent of the Reagan administration to pave his way to the White House.

Dukakis faces a dilemma. Jesse Jackson, who placed second in the primaries, has shown interest in being selected as the party's vice-presidential candidate. Jackson won some 7 million votes in the primaries, twice as many as in 1984, and the number of white votes for Jackson trebled. Jackson maintains that he must be taken as a serious contender for the vice-presidential nomination. He has said repeatedly that whether he is selected will influence as many as 7 million votes.

Dukakis represents the liberals within the Democratic Party. The observers believe that Dukakis has little chance to win the election unless he selects a running mate who is acceptable to the party's conservative faction. Moreover, Dukakis is only a state governor. His experience in foreign affairs is clearly inferior to that of his Republican opponent. So the observers say Dukakis must select an experienced conservative as his partner if he is to emerge the victor in the coming campaign. This puts Dukakis in a awkward predicament. If he chooses Jackson as his running mate, he could lose the support of conservatives within the party. If he does not choose Jackson he could lose a large proportion of the black vote.

Bush, a former member of Congress, ambassador to China, director of the Central Intelligence Agency and national chairman of the Republican Party, became the certain candidate of the Republicans after the super Tuesday primaries (March 8). But his public support has been falling

since then. In a March 10-12 Gallup poll, Bush led Dukakis as the choice of the US public 52 percent to 40 percent; in an April 21-23 poll, Bush led only slightly—45 percent to 43 percent; while in a May 13-15 poll, Dukakis led Bush 54 percent to 38 percent.

Several analysts say Bush has paid a heavy price for his loyalty to President Ronald Reagan. The furor over General Manuel Antonio Noriega of Panama, the kiss-and-tell books by former White House insiders, the fuss over First Lady Nancy Reagan's involvement with astrology, the ongoing battle to oust Attorney-General Edwin Meese, a close friend of Reagan who is in trouble over charges of corruption—all have adversely affected Bush.

Declining confidence in the US economy is another important reason for Bush's steep dive in popularity. Brushing off economic statistics showing unemployment shrinking, inflation in check and the trade picture improving, only 16 percent of those interviewed in the latest poll said they think the economy is getting better, while 42 percent said it is worsening.

The poll also found that six out of 10 voters agreed with the statement, "We need a president that can set the nation in a new direction" rather than "keep the country moving in the direction Ronald Reagan has been taking us."

Similarly, 47 percent of the voters trust the Democrats to do a better job in coping with the main problems facing the nation over the next few years, while only 40 percent prefer the Republicans.

Some political experts have suggested that Bush resign the vice-presidency to establish his independence from Reagan. They say Bush cannot be a Reagan loyalist and prove his independence at the same time. They cite as a warning the fact that for

the past 150 years in US history, no vice-president has been elected president.

The battle between Bush and Dukakis is bound to be very fierce. Bush will have to fight vigorously

to erase the points against him while Dukakis must select the correct running mate and brighten his image before election day on November 8.

by Li Wen

ISRAEL

Mercenaries Join Lost Cause

Israel, which already devotes an inordinate proportion of its human and financial resources to the military, has started to recruit mercenaries. But this will not help the Israeli authorities out their current difficulties.

Israel, which boasts that it is the strongest military power in the Middle East, is so hard-pressed for soldiers that it is recruiting mercenaries in foreign countries. According to reports from the Middle East, Israel has recruited 4,000 Canadian and US mercenaries, and nearly 1,000 of them have arrived in Israel. The new reliance on mercenaries is a sign of just how difficult a situation the Israeli authorities are in.

Israel's proportion of its

population in the military and proportion of military spending in its budget are among the highest in the world. One in five Israeli Jews is in the armed forces, and military spending accounts for about one-seventh of the country's annual budget. In normal circumstances, Israel would have more than enough soldiers, weapons and equipment to defend its 14,000 square kilometres of territory. Why is it going to the expense of recruiting mercenaries? To put it

bluntly, it wants them to help implement its policy of aggression and expansion.

Analysts cite three reasons for the Israeli authorities' use of mercenaries. First, the increasing upsurge of Palestinian struggle has forced Israel to send a large number of troops into the occupied West Bank and Gaza Strip, thus causing problems in troop distribution and placing the authorities in a predicament.

Second, morale is low among Israel's troops. An increasing number of soldiers are refusing to serve in the occupied territories; many soldiers are refusing to carry out orders to beat up Palestinians; and even some high-ranking officers are joining antiwar organizations.

Third, Israel is exhausting its sources of troops. Previously, the Israeli authorities attracted immigrants and replenished the country's troops by establishing Jewish settlements. But because of the development of the Palestinian struggle against Israel, such settlements have started to lose their attraction. Statistics show that 82 percent of the Jews who have left the Soviet Union so far this year refused to go to Israel. Many people in Israel want to leave the settlements and 20 percent of young Jews are seeking to leave Israel.

The Israeli authorities think they can get foreign soldiers with money, but will paid mercenaries be prepared to die for Israel? The strangling of the Palestinian people's national rights and the forcible occupation of Arab territories are unpopular causes which have already led to worldwide condemnation of Israel. Cruel suppression has not proved to be effective in the past. The recruitment of mercenaries as hatchet men will not alter the futility of this strategy.

by Yue Lin

Israel Diversifies its Imports

ZHU GENHUA



Lawyers With New Acceptance in China

The concept of protecting one's own legitimate rights and interests with the aid of lawyers is beginning to take a firm hold in China. From 1979 to May this year, China enacted 54 laws and a large number of regulations. Improving legislative work and strictly abiding by the law are now seen as important tasks in promoting democracy and social progress and strengthening the legal system. As the needs for legal services increase legal counselling has also rapidly developed.

by Our Correspondents Cheng Gan and Yang Xiaobing

Legal Counsel System Re-established

New China introduced legal counselling of lawyers in 1954 but it was abolished only three years later. In 1978 a restructuring of legislation began and legal counselling slowly started making a comeback. The Provisional Regulations Governing the Work of Lawyers, adopted in August 1980 by the Standing Committee of the Fifth National People's Congress, went into effect on January 1, 1982. The implementation of the provisions signalled the official restoration of a system of legal counsel.

At present China (not including Taiwan) has 3,300 legal advisory offices staffed by 15,600 full-time lawyers. There are also 20,000 part-time advisory workers (such as legal experts and teachers of law working with institutes of higher learning).

Chinese lawyers represent the defendants in criminal cases and act on behalf of litigants in civil suits. They also apply for patent rights and register trade marks on behalf of clients, investigate loans and credit, draft legal papers on request, recover debts, clear accounts for companies and mediate and arbitrate in economic disputes. To date, 70 percent of the cases handled by Beijing courts had the defending of lawyers.

Statistics from the Ministry of

Justice show that from 1979 to the end of last year, China's lawyers defended 730,000 cases in courts, acted on behalf of 510,000 litigants in civil suits, answered 3.05 million letters requesting legal advices, and wrote 1.58 million legal papers. They also advised 50,000 residents, legal persons and government bodies and handled more than 22,000 legal transactions involving foreign countries.

Established in July 1986, the All-China Lawyers' Association has held exchanges with its counterparts from more than 60 countries including the United States, Japan, Federal Germany, Britain, Canada and Poland. It joined the International Bar Association and the Asia-Pacific Region Lawyers' Association in January 1987 and participated in activities promoting world peace through law run by an international organization.

Training

Since 1986 China has introduced a system for qualifying lawyers through a standardized examination. College graduates who have done at least one year of practical judicial work are eligible to sit for the examination, if they

pass they will be granted certificates by the government judicial departments.

Of the total number of Chinese lawyers, 75 percent are under the age of 45, and most of these are under 30.

Wang Huaran, deputy secretary-general of the All-China Lawyers' Association, said Chinese lawyers are still a long way from meeting social needs. They cannot devote their energy totally to their work as they must spend a lot of time collecting materials and copying documents because there are not enough copy clerks and reference librarians to help them. Some enterprises cannot find good lawyers to act as advisors and lawyers often have to serve as advisors for several, sometimes even up to two dozen enterprises.

The government is trying to solve this problem. Each year there are 20,000 law graduates and a great number of correspondence and part-time university graduates. The government also offers a qualifying examination for independent students who studied law. Judicial departments and legal associations at various levels run lawyer training classes for enterprises in order to improve their own ability to handle legal affairs. The Ministry of Justice has trained



CHEN XIAOYING

Liu Zhengqi (left), a self-taught, farmer-turned lawyer from Shimen County, Hunan Province, has acted as defence lawyer for 34 cases this year. Here he discusses a case with a rural woman.

more than 2,000 such people for state-owned enterprises through such classes.

But there is an imbalance in the development of legal services in different areas. They are rapidly developing in the east and south coastal areas and slowly in interior and remote northwestern areas.

The quality of lawyers also needs to be improved. Lawyers lack experience, particularly special skills. Most of them represent defendants in civil, criminal and economic cases at the same time which not surprisingly affect their work efficiency and quality. This situation is changing. The work of lawyers is being clearly divided in some legal offices. A number of special offices have been established in major and open cities to offer economic, foreign trade, maritime, patent and overseas Chinese affairs services.

Economic Independence

About one-quarter of the legal offices in China are experimenting

with a new policy of economic independence. This is one of the new moves in current reforms to the legal counselling system. Under this system, legal offices are no longer supported by the state and their expenditure is covered by business earnings.

After gaining economic independence the Kunming Legal Office is now capable of covering its workers' salaries and business expenses and can also afford to construct an office building and buy a car. Staff incomes have increased and soon all staff members will be moving into new houses built by the office.

Some lawyers think the new policy helps strengthen the independence of legal counsellors and is beneficial to legislation. But others disagree with this new measure. A legal office in Zhuzhou, Hunan Province, earns more money from its business than the state provided in allocated funds but it prefers to hand over all earnings to the state and pay for salaries and expenses through the state. The office staff fear that if the office agrees to be economically independent it will gradually lose its close relations with the government and they themselves become self-employed, thus losing their current reputation and status in society. The majority of lawyers, however, especially young lawyers, do not think economic independence will affect the reputation and social position of the legal profession.

The fees and charges for legal counsel in China are very low. Lawyers charge 30 yuan (about US\$8) for legal defence against a criminal charge, and 1-2 percent of the authentic amount in economic cases. Legal offices in some remote areas find it difficult to be economically independent because they handle few big economic cases, and have not tried this new measure yet.

Economic independence is in

line with the government's efforts to change its micro-control over legal offices into macro-control. But there still are many issues to be ironed out, such as whether the legal offices as business enterprises should pay taxes and how much; and whether private legal offices should be allowed to open.

Hot Topic

Reform has become a pressing problem for the legal counsel system, and it was the hot topic during the meeting of judicial department and bureau directors held early this year.

Zeng Hong, director of the judicial department of the Guangdong provincial government, said it is necessary to reform the old system in which the government controlled all legal offices to mobilize the initiative of lawyers. Whether private offices should be allowed to open or not is a problem which urgently needs to be solved.

Chen Ye, deputy director of the Shenzhen Judicial Bureau, said the special economic zone has tentative ideas for reforming the organizational system of legal offices, expanding the contingents of lawyers at all levels and the opening of private legal offices. A direct election and tenure system will be introduced for electing leading members of government-run legal offices, and all lawyers will be employed under contract. Last year Shenzhen adopted the contract system of responsibility and paid legal workers according to their work.

Chen Zhenliang, director of the judicial department of the Fujian provincial government, said legal offices should be given more decision-making power and legal offices of different forms should coexist in coastal areas.

Yu Xiren, director of the Qingtao Judicial Bureau, said the

stipulation which forbids workers and farmers to sit for qualifying examinations for lawyers should be abolished immediately. The city now has 480 graduates from the legal correspondence centre, and another 500 graduates will

come out of the centre next year. But 60 percent of them are workers and farmers. If they are allowed to sit for the qualifying examination for lawyers the shortage of lawyers in enterprises and rural areas may be relieved.

Lawyers in Jiangsu Province

The coastal province of Jiangsu in east China has witnessed remarkable changes since it introduced reforms and the open policy. Economic construction is advancing at a rapid pace and legal advisory trade is also booming. In 1984 there were 101 legal counsel offices staffed by 431 lawyers in the province. By October 1987, the number of legal counsel offices had gone up to 123 and the number of lawyers soared to 1,651. In 1987 legal services for financial and civil cases succeeded in averting economic losses for the

Bai Qingcai (right), deputy governor of Shanxi Province, consulting his legal advisor Li Jianmin from the Shanxi Legal Office for Economic Cases on advanced technology imports and foreign investment.

DONG RONGGUI



litigants to the tune of 300 million yuan and yielded definite social benefits in criminal cases and legal consultation.

Legal Advisors

Several years ago it would have been unusual to see a newspaper advertising that a certain lawyer had been engaged as permanent legal advisor to a certain factory. Today, however, this is quite common and generally accepted as necessary. By the end of 1987, 4,500 enterprises in Jiangsu Province had invited lawyers to act as their permanent legal advisors and the figure is still growing. In less than one month after the founding of the Jiangsu Counsel Office in the provincial capital Nanjing, its lawyers were invited by a number of enterprises to act as permanent advisors on legal affairs.

Some entrepreneurs now see lawyers as equally important as chief engineers and accountants. Cheng Jian, deputy director of the Changjiang Petrochemical Plant's general office, said the plant had more than 2,000 workers and staff members on its payroll. Before 1983, because of confused management and poor operation, creditor's rights and liabilities had not been completely sorted out. In 1984, the plant invited Zhang Ruizhi of the Nanjing No. 1 Legal Advisory Office, one of the first such offices to be set up in Jiangsu Province, to act as the plant's

permanent legal advisor. Zhang checked the accounts according to the law, and recovered loans of 200,000 yuan made to other enterprises. She also made representations to over 80 enterprises involved in business dealings with the plant and, through mediation, suspended a number of contracts which were unprofitable, thus saving more than 200,000 yuan for the plant.

Township enterprises have made much headway in Jiangsu Province, but the quality of the managerial personnel in some enterprises is poor. Permanent legal advisors have played an important role explaining legal rights and interests to these enterprises' representatives.

A village-run carving factory in Haian County failed to recover a payment of goods totalling 17,000 yuan from the buyer. The factory was close to having no circulating funds and was even having trouble paying out its workers' wages. Cao Shanming, a lawyer with the county legal advisory office, was finally invited, in to handle the case. Cao documented the facts and on three occasions visited the industrial and commercial administrative department and the people's court where the buyer's unit was located. Cao quickly recovered the overdue payment, relieving the factory of its difficulties.

Lawyers acting as legal advisors for such enterprises usually have to do a great deal of work. They should explain and publicize information about the law to cadres and workers and help them to operate their businesses according to legal stipulations. Cao Shanming, who acts as the legal advisor to 20 enterprises, is much appreciated by his clients for his efforts in helping establish legal principles in business operation and contract management, and taking the necessary precautions to avoid economic disputes.

In recent years Jiangsu lawyers also began to offer legal services to the government. By the end of 1987, lawyers from 24 legal advisory offices had become permanent legal advisors to governments at municipal, county and district levels. Wang Donghai, a legal advisor to the Danyang County government, said that legal advisors to the government constitute one measure for ensuring that important government decisions are carried out in accordance with the law. Hu Zhijie, head of Danyang County, said government organizations should handle affairs strictly according to the law. Formerly, there were no legal personnel in county government organizations, and not all affairs were handled completely in accord with the law. As legal advisors are now more accessible, there is a greater understanding of the law and loopholes can be avoided.

Service In Foreign Business Dealings

Located on the top floor of a hotel, the Jiangsu Foreign Economic Legal Advisory Office has 20 lawyers working as permanent legal advisors to 30 joint ventures and export-oriented enterprises. The office was set up in September 1984. At that time the government policy of opening to the outside world had attracted many foreign business people and there was an urgent need for legal services.

In the office's first week of operation a representative from a local company came to inquire about the possibility of investing in a certain country. There were only five lawyers in the office and each one separately consulted data and studied the laws of the country in question. In a few days, a report was handed to the client. The report made a detailed analysis of these questions:

whether China could invest in the country, how much money could be invested, what protection was provided by the laws of that country and whether or not profits could be remitted.

Services rendered by lawyers have successfully solved some economic disputes with foreign companies without the need for a lawsuit. The Nanjing Motor Vehicle Factory bought a set of diesel engines from a European company in 1985, and a Singapore shipping company was entrusted with the transport of the equipment. After the equipment was unloaded, the buyer discovered that much of it had been damaged. Compensation was sought from the shipping company, but the company refused to pay. The Nanjing Motor Vehicle Factory asked Ling Daliang from the Nanjing No. 2 Legal Advisory Office to solve the dispute. In accordance with international rules and practice, Ling explained the cause of the damages, the liability and the compensation required. After talks and the acknowledgement of the shipping company's guarantor, the Singapore shipping company compensated the Nanjing factory for US\$189,000 worth of damages.

Wang Yang, secretary-general of the Jiangsu Lawyers' Association, said that in rendering services for foreign business dealings, lawyers have safeguarded the law and fairly served litigants, whether Chinese or foreign. During negotiations prior to the establishment of Meitong Decorative Cloth Co. Ltd., a joint venture financed by Nantong and the United States, the US side suggested that the initial US\$2 million investment by the US side be changed to US\$1 million, saying that they would increase their investment after the joint venture began operation. The Chinese side disagreed with the change. Zhou Baijin from the Nantong Foreign Economic Legal Advisory Office was asked to act as the legal advisor for both parties. Zhou held that a US\$1 million investment accorded with the article that the proportion of investment by foreign partners should not be less than 25 percent in the Law of Chinese-Foreign Joint Ventures and that it was mutually beneficial to both parties. Then Zhou helped the US side persuade the Chinese side and promote the success of the negotiation. Both sides were satisfied with the result. After the

Law Professor Rui (centre) from Beijing University discussing legal problems with his postgraduates.



joint venture began operating, it invited a lawyer of the Nantong Foreign Economic Legal Advisory Office to act as its permanent legal advisor.

Between 1984 and 1987, lawyers in Jiangsu Province handled 1,050 legal cases involving foreign business dealings concerning the drafting and examination of contracts, business talks, consultation, representation in lawsuits and mediation of disputes.

Results and Assessment

The results of legal defence in lawsuits are improving all the time. More and more cases uphold the opinions of lawyers and court judgements have become fairer.

Liu Zezhen from the Nanjing No. 1 Legal Advisory Office was once entrusted to act as attorney for the defendant in an administrative lawsuit. The plaintiff was the city construction bureau of the Nanjing municipal government which brought a lawsuit against the Nanjing Machine Tool Plant for blocking up a section of the city moat. The bureau quoted an obsolete legal article and wanted to impose a fine of 950,000 yuan on the Nanjing Machine Tool Plant.

After investigations, Liu presented the court with four arguments: first, the Nanjing Machine Tool Plant had dumped rubbish in the city moat for 20 years and the city construction bureau had done nothing about it; second, several new factory directors had been appointed to the plant and it would be unfair for the present factory director to bear the responsibility for decisions made by others; third, the rules and regulations concerning the fine proposed by the city construction bureau were no longer valid; and fourth, the fine imposed on the Nanjing Machine Tool Plant should be reduced and

the funds used for urban construction and environmental protection. After the first hearing, the Nanjing intermediate people's court rejected the lawyer's suggestions and the leaders of the Nanjing Machine Tool Plant were ready to pay the full fine. But Liu held that his defence was tenable. He convinced the plant leaders to lodge an appeal with the result that on a second hearing, the higher people's court of Jiangsu Province reduced the fine to 580,000 yuan.

Qin Jie, chief procurator of the higher people's procuratorate of Jiangsu Province, said the legal counsel system can play an invaluable role in perfecting socialist democracy and the legal system. Without lawyers, defendants appearing in court would be placed in an unequal position in which their lawful rights and

interests would not be fully respected. Unlike public prosecutors, lawyers are more closely in touch with defendants and can thus find out more facts. Lawyers have played a supervisory role in procuratorial work. Their defence can correct the deviations of the bill of appeal. Because cases can be pleaded by lawyers, procurators now take a more serious approach to their work.

Zhu Hao, president of the Jiangsu Higher People's Court, said the work of lawyers is conducive to the protection of the legal rights and interests of the clients and the fair implementation of state laws. Cases decided with and without the participation of lawyers will be markedly different. It should be noted that the outstanding achievements of lawyers have greatly helped the people's court.

Daily Life of Lawyers

Zhang Guowei, director of the Nantong No. 1 Legal Advisory Office, said: "We don't have any strict office hours. The eight-hour working week falls far short of what society requires of us." Lawyers often handle one case after another, and office conditions in most legal advisory offices are simple and rough. It takes a lot of time to receive clients, take notes, visit the parties and collect evidence, read materials and write legal documents. Lawyers usually travel by bus or bike and can only visit a few places a day. Zhang heaved a sigh and said: "To efficiently handle a case, I have to work extra hours at home; I have not gone to bed before 12 o'clock at night in four months."

Almost all lawyers feel that their time is too limited. Wang Daofu, a lawyer with the Jiangsu Foreign

Economic Legal Advisory Office, said: "As a lawyer, I must know many things. It takes me a great deal of time to study the newly promulgated laws, rules and regulations." Wang, 26, studied economic law and German for six years. He still studies foreign language one hour a day during his spare time and reads books related to his profession.

Their tense life does sometimes bring pleasure and warmth to lawyers though. Zhang Ruizhi, a lawyer with the Nanjing No. 1 Legal Advisory Office, is a permanent legal advisor to the Changjiang Petrochemical Plant. Whenever workers and staff of the factory face difficulties such as divorce or property disputes, they go to consult Zhang. When the factory director meets with trouble, he likes to hear what she has to say on the matter. One rainy

day, because she was busy with work and missed the factory's regular bus to the city, Zhang had to walk to the bus stop in the rain. All of a sudden, a car pulled up by her side. It had been sent by the factory director to take her to the city.

Of course, not all litigants can understand the work of lawyers. One woman client who lost a lawsuit blamed the lawyer for only charging money and accomplish-

ing nothing. When misunderstandings and quarrels arise, lawyers can only patiently explain the reasons behind them. Tan Zhen, director of the Nanjing No. 1 Legal Advisory Office, said: "These problems urge us to keep improving our service quality."

Many litigants like to present gifts to lawyers. Once a client, showing his appreciation, quietly put a gold ring into the glass of Hua Jintao, who had acted for him

in a civil dispute. When Hua found it, he immediately returned the ring.

Liu Wei, a lawyer with the Nanjing No. 1 Legal Advisory Office, explained, "Lawyers should handle affairs according to the law and cannot accept gifts." To be honest and upright will not only make lawyers handle affairs in a sober-minded and objective way, but also enable them to gain a sound reputation in the society.

Tibet's Relations With the Interior

by Our Correspondent Hong Lanxing

The exhibition of cultural relics from Tibet held between March 29 and April 18 at the Cultural Palace of Nationalities in Beijing served as a record of the relations between the Tibetan people and the people of the interior from ancient times to the Qing Dynasty (1644-1911). The display of more than 500 historical relics and 185 pictures also provided further proof that Tibet has long been an

inalienable part of China since ancient times.

The exhibition was sponsored jointly by the Qinghai Nationality Affairs Committee, the Qinghai Provincial Cultural Bureau and the Cultural Palace of Nationalities in Beijing.

Historical Relics

The exhibition was divided into

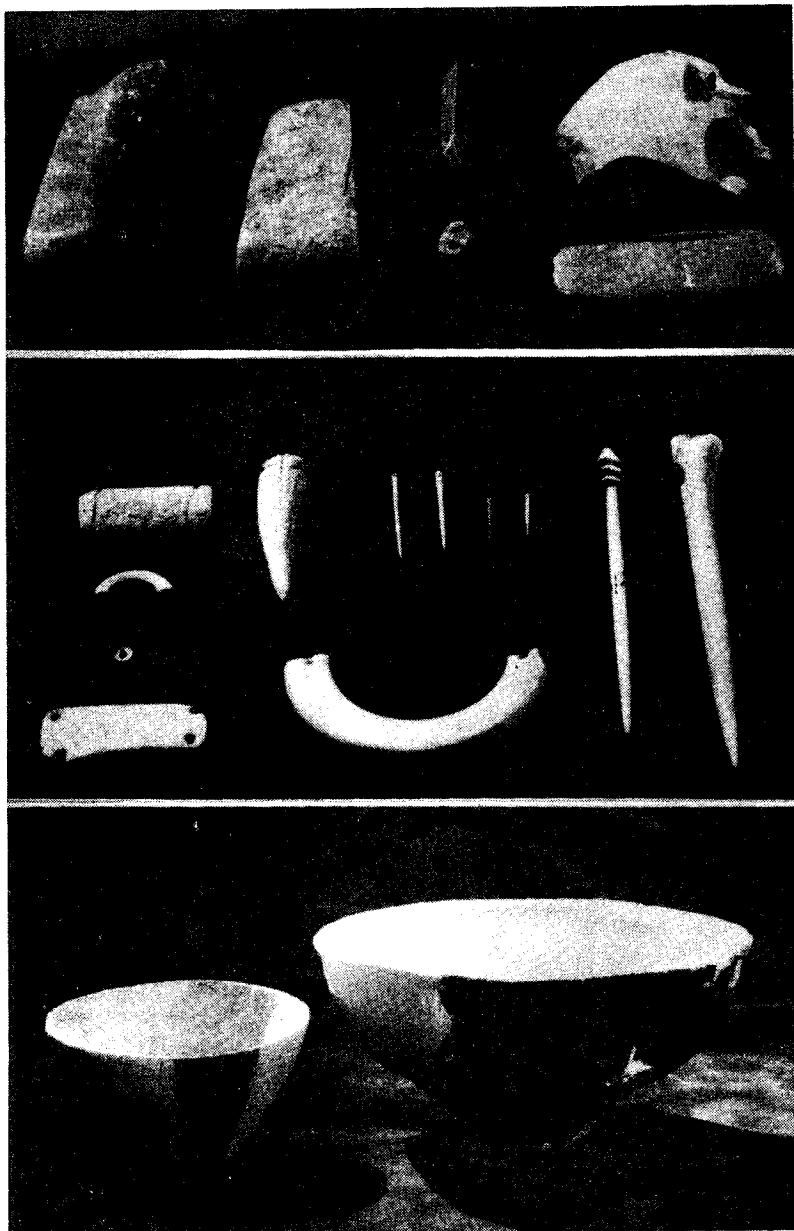
three sections. The first section records the contacts between Tibetan people on the Qinghai-Tibet Plateau and the people of the Central Plains (comprising the middle and lower reaches of the Huanghe River) at the time of clan society.

The relics unearthed in the Karub Neolithic Age ruins in Qamdo in 1978-79 provide evidence of a unique local culture,

"The Audience." Seated on the right is a Tang emperor and second from the left (standing) is an envoy from Tibet.

(ALL PHOTOS TAKEN BY CHEN ZONGLIE)





Stone implements (top), bone needles (centre) and pottery pieces unearthed in the Karub ruins in Qamdo.

quite distinct from that of the Central Plains. But some artifacts have similarities with those of the Neolithic Age discovered on the Central Plains. Some polished stone knives are in a crescent shape, like those found in the Yangshao and Longshan cultural ruins on the Central Plains. However, the holes are punched using a different method and the

edges are positioned differently. The gravel stone tools are always ground on one side. Both the axes and scrapers are of the Stone Age culture in south China and influenced by the Neolithic Age culture of the upper reaches of the Huanghe (Yellow) River. Cores in the shape of ships' bottoms, cones or pillars are in the pastoral style used in north China. A jar with a

narrow neck unearthed in the Karub ruins is similar in shape to the jars and pots of the Majiayao culture in Gansu and Qinghai in the Huanghe River irrigation areas. Some Karub pottery pieces are painted in a unique local design but some are also decorated with the basket pattern and rope design common to the Central Plains' Yangshao and Longshan cultures. Most Karub earthenware is flat-bottomed, like those of the Yangshao culture. An earthen tub with a carved pattern from the Karub ruins is especially similar to a pottery tub with a dance theme design from the Majiayao culture. The relics indicate that cultural exchanges were taking place between the peoples of Tibet and the Central Plains.

From the remains of the Nyingchi people of the Neolithic Age and Copper-Stone Stage discovered in the Nyingchi village in Tibet in 1958, archaeologists determined the Nyingchi were closely related to the predecessors of the Tibetan people. But the skulls and the nose bones are similar to those of the Liuwán people of the Neolithic Age in Qinghai and present-day Mongolia (see table).

In 300 BC, some Qiang tribes in present-day Gansu and Qinghai provinces moved west to Tibet because of wars and mixed with the local people and became the ancestors of the Tibetan people.

The Qiang cultural and historical records on display demonstrate close relations and contacts between the Qiang people and some tribes in the interior.

The two pieces of inscribed oracle bones unearthed in 1899 in the Yin ruins in Anyang, Henan Province, give records in the Han language of the Qiang people 3,000 years ago.

On display are two bronze cooking tripods which were used for meat and cereals. They were discovered in Xining, Qinghai, home of the ancient Qiang people.

Four Censuses by Yuan Government

Year	Tasks
1260	Investigated population and resources, established 27 post stations and fixed varieties and quantities of articles of tribute
1268	Counted 38,963 families in Tibet and at the same time investigated population in Qinghai and Xikang areas
1287	Regulated the post stations and the number of people in active service based on the census findings
1334	Checked residents and regulated the number of people in active service based on previous census findings

and in Zhengzhou, Henan, on the Central Plains. They are similar both in shape and decorative design.

From the time of the Western Han Dynasty (206 BC-24), the central imperial court established prefectures and counties in the eastern part of present-day Qinghai Province and appointed officials to protect the Qiang people to strengthen the defence of western border areas. The court also built castles, had garrison troops stationed, opened up wasteland and grew food grain, and appointed officials among the tribe heads. Some Han people also moved to these places and improved relations with the local people. Cultural relics and a map of western areas of the Han Dynasty show that the eastern Qinghai-Tibet Plateau was under the control of the Han imperial court as early as the Western Han Dynasty.

Tang-Tufan Friendship

The second part of the exhibition gives evidence of the ties between Tibetans and the Han people during the Tang Dynasty (618-907).

In the first half of the seventh century, Songtsan Gambo conquered many tribes in Tibet and Qinghai and established the Tufan imperial court in Tibet, some parts of Sichuan and Qinghai provinces.

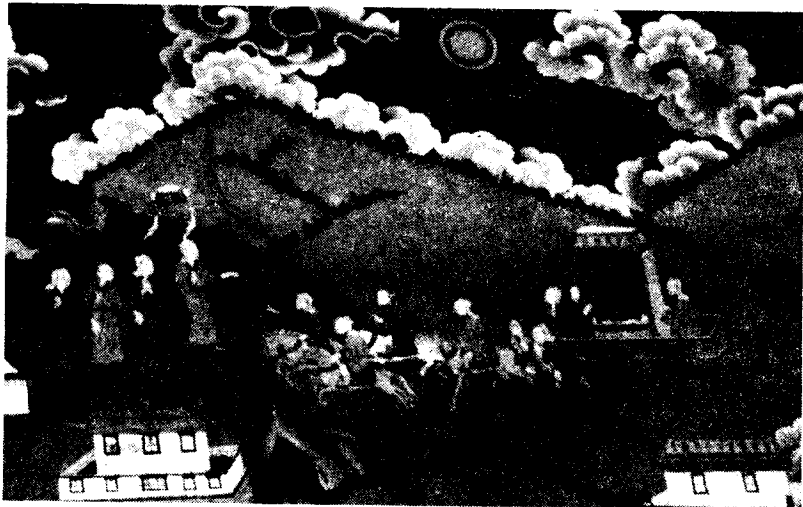
This coincided with the flourishing of the Tang Dynasty in the interior. To show his respect to the Tang emperor, Songtsan Gambo sent his people to the Tang imperial court several times with precious presents to ask for the hand of a Tang princess in marriage. The Tang emperor sent Princesses Wencheng and Jincheng to marry Songtsan Gambo and Tride Tsugten. "The Audience," a picture done 1,300 years ago by the well-known painter Yan Liben (627-673) of the Tang Dynasty, authentically records this historic event. "Princess Wencheng Entering Tibet for Marriage," a mural in the Zuglakang (Jokhan) Monastery,

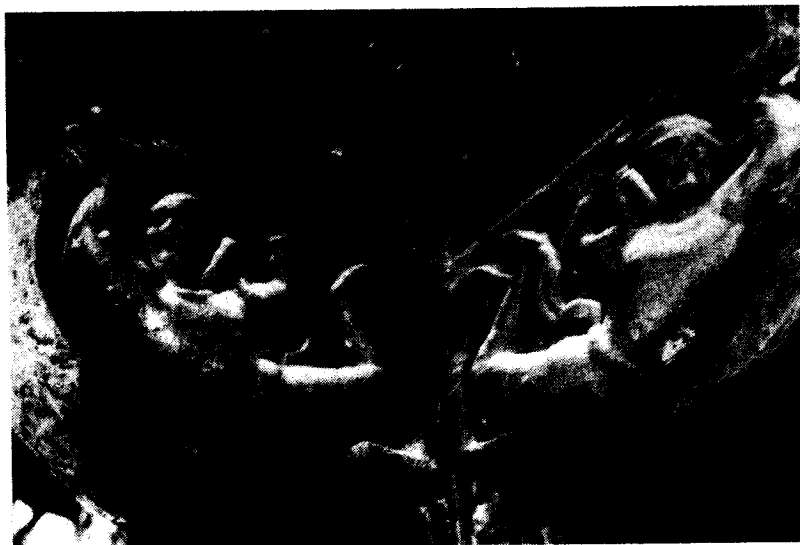
shows the princess on her way to Tibet and her arrival. Princess Wencheng brought with her a statue of Sakyamuni which is still preserved in the Zuglakang Monastery, musical instruments and classical books. These and the deer-headed wine jar used by the princess and her husband, as well as the picture of their houses in Tibet, all record this great historic event.

According to historical records, after the death of Emperor Taizong in 650, Songtsan Gambo sent his people to Changan to pass on his respects to the late Taizong and bring the message to the new emperor Gaozong, "If you find some people unloyal in your early ruling years, I will send people to eliminate them." Gaozong offered him many posts and raised stone statues of Songtsan Gambo and the heads of other minority nationalities at the Zhaoling Mausoleum of Emperor Taizong.

From that time on the Tang and Tufan dynasties exchanged envoys. Between 634 and 846 the two sides exchanged 191 envoys, almost once every year. They worked hard to further improve the understanding and friendship between the two ethnic groups. To solve important problems the two

"Princess Wencheng Entering Tibet for Marriage," a mural in the Zuglakang Monastery in Lhasa.





A flying apsaras atop a pillar in the Zuglakang Monastery.

sides met for discussions. Eight such gatherings are recorded. On display is a rubbing from a tablet set in the front of the Zuglakang Monastery in Lhasa in 823 after the conclusion of a friendship agreement the previous year. The tablet records the exchange between the Tang and Tibetan peoples and their determination to improve relations. A tablet with the same inscription was laid in Changan, the Tang Dynasty capital.

The good relations between these peoples promoted economic and cultural exchange. As a result the well-known ancient Tang-Tufan route taking in Gansu, Qinghai and Tibet was built between Changan and Lhasa.

Along this route are many examples of ties between the Han and Tibetan nationalities. The Samyae Monastery built in the eighth century in Tibet has distinctive local features, very similar in structure and decoration to the Nanchan Temple on Wutai Mountain in Shanxi Province.

The Samyae Monastery houses a bronze bell which was cast under the supervision of Han monks and is similar in shape and pattern to the Suyun bronze bell in Qinghai Province.

The civilian houses in Tibet feature flat roofs which can be found in Han-inhabited areas in present Qinghai and Gansu provinces.

Some skills the Tibetan people learnt from the Hans such as making pulo (woollen fabric used to make traditional Tibetan costume) and blankets have been handed down.

The flying apsaras in the Zuglakang Monastery are very

like those in the Mogao Grottoes. Some carved stone lions including the one found in the Tibetan emperor's tomb can be found in tombs and temples in the interior. Of the 156 murals in the Mogao Grottoes in Dunhuang some depict two groups of dancers in both Han and Tibetan costumes, showing the harmonious relations between the Han and Tibetan peoples.

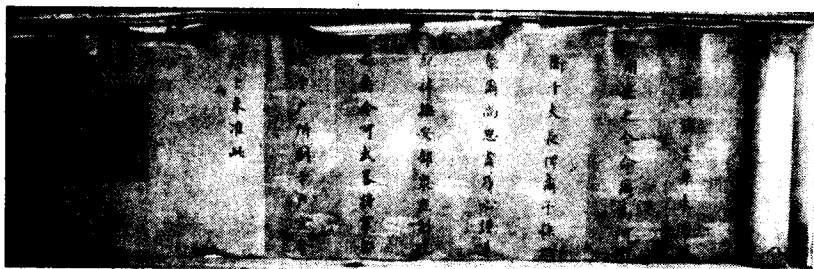
The three-colour glazed pottery polo figures of the Tang Dynasty and the mural "Playing Polo" discovered in Shaanxi indicate that the Tibetan sport was taken up in the interior and became popular in the Tang Dynasty. In addition, according to the "Collection of Tang Poems," the well-known poet Bai Juyi once stated that Han women in the Tang Dynasty learnt how to do face-lifts and pile up their hair from Tibetan women.

Sovereignty Over Tibet

The final section of the exhibition traces the beginnings of Chinese sovereignty over Tibet in the Yuan Dynasty.

Mural: "Qolje Pagba Meets Kublai Khan."





An appointment issued by the Ming emperor to a Tibetan official in 1373.

The Mongolian rulers unified north China in the early 13th century and met local Tibetan officials and religious leaders on several occasions on travels to the west and south, and successfully gained sovereignty over Tibet.

In 1244, the Mongolian prince ruling Ningxia and part of Gansu and Qinghai invited the head of the Sakya sect to Liangzhou (present-day Wuwei in Gansu Province) to discuss conditions for submitting to Mongolian rule. The head of the sect wrote to Tibetan religious and political rulers persuading them to be clear about the situation and agree to the conditions.

The mural "Qoije Pagba Meets Kublai Khan" records the meeting between Kublai Khan and Qoije Pagba, the new head of Sakya sect, in 1251 while Kublai Khan was on his way to the south. From that point Qoije Pagba followed Kublai Khan and established close ties with him.

When Kublai Khan became the emperor in 1260 he offered an official post to Qoije Pagba. Kublai Khan moved the capital to Beijing in 1264 and once again offered him the post in 1270. The following year, Kublai Khan changed his rule into the Yuan Dynasty and established the general administration, the highest body in charge of Buddhist affairs in the country as a whole and military and civil affairs in Tibet, and appointed Qoije Pagba concurrent head of the administration. Qoije Pagba, originally a

religious sect head, thus became an important official of the central imperial court.

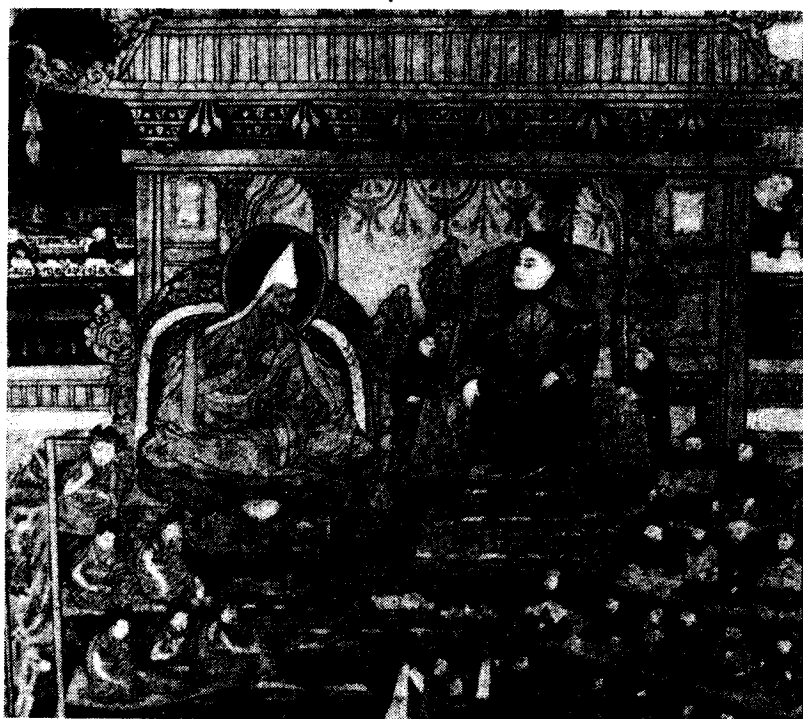
The Yuan government also established offices in Tibet and dismissed or appointed officials and brought the area under its administration. Some seals and orders on display provide material evidence of the Yuan government's sovereignty over the region.

In the years between 1260 and 1334, Kublai Khan sent a group of officials to Tibet to conduct four population censuses (see table).

The Yuan government also set up postal stations in Tibet which facilitated control in Tibet and improved cultural and economic relations with the region. On display are Yuan paper currency, bronze mirrors, coloured pottery and porcelain discovered in the Sagya Monastery in Tibet and Golmud in Qinghai. These relics indicate trade between the interior and Tibet. The Xalu and Sagya monasteries built in the Yuan style, the white pagoda in Beijing's Miaoying Temple and the Yuntai Platform in the Juyong Pass designed by Tibetan workers show that cultural exchange between the Han and Tibetan people was strong.

The Ming imperial court followed the Yuan Dynasty's political and educational systems in Tibet and established administrative and military bodies at various levels. Officials of these bodies were religious and local heads appointed by the Ming central government.

Mural: "The Fifth Dalai Lama Meets Emperor Shunzhi."



Anthropological Comparison

Types	Measurement Length of head (mm)	Width of head (mm)	Positive index of radixnasi (%)	Thickness of forehead (mm)	Width of forehead (mm)
Liuwan Man	185.93	136.41	36.9	41.67	90.3
Nyingchi Woman	174	140	36	39	91.5
Mongolian	180	143	35.8		93

In the areas inhabited both by Han and Tibetan peoples, the Ming government opened horse and tea markets and set up administrative offices in charge of the trading of horses, tea and other kinds of commodities.

Cultural exchanges are clearly demonstrated by pictures of buildings. The Tar Monastery in Qinghai is a typical example of the combination of Han and Tibet architectural styles. It was built using Han skills in brick carving and gold plating and has the typical dovetails, archways and upturned eaves. The Huotan Monastery was built on a central axis, like many buildings in the same period in Beijing and other cities.

In the later years of the Ming Dynasty, the rulers in Tibet realized the dynasty was on the brink of bankruptcy and eventually to be replaced by the Qing, and sent representatives to Shenyang in northeast China to contact the Qing imperial court. After conquering China, the Qing Dynasty set up organizations in Tibet and appointed officials to strengthen its control over the region.

"The Fifth Dalai Lama Meets Emperor Shunzhi" is a picture depicting the arrival of the fifth Dalai Lama and his entourage in Beijing in 1652 at the invitation of the Qing emperor, and the warm welcome given him by the Qing imperial court. The following year

the Qing emperor officially offered him the title of Dalai Lama and awarded him the gold book and seal. "The Book of History" on display records that in 1713 Emperor Kangxi offered the fifth Banqen the title of Banqen Erdeni in charge of Tibetan affairs.

In 1653 the Qing Emperor offered the fifth Dalai Lama the title of Dalai Lama and in 1713 Emperor Kangxi offered the fifth Banqen the title of Banqen Erdeni in charge of Tibetan affairs.

When riots broke out in the Qinghai-Tibet area and other tribes invaded the area in the 18th century, the Qing government sent military forces to quell the riots and drive the invaders out of the region. The Qing court later stationed officials in Xian and Tibet. On display is a rare set of the rules for dealing with Tibetan affairs issued by the Qing government in 1793. The 29 stipulated rules clearly define the status, duties and rights of the official stationed in Tibet. According to the rules, the official dealt

with local affairs, enjoyed the same position as the Dalai and Banqen and consulted them on political matters. All local government officials and Living Buddhas were under the Qing official's command. If a local government official post was vacant, the Qing official stationed in Tibet had to discuss candidates with Dalai Lama and submit to the Qing emperor for approval. The rules established the system for choosing the successors of the Dalai, Banqen or other important Living Buddhas under the supervision of the official stationed in Tibet by pulling a slip of ivory bearing the candidate's birth date and name from a golden urn.

The Qing government supported Buddhism and had many temples and monasteries built throughout the country. In 1737 there were 3,150 Dalai monasteries and 327 Banqen temples. Tibetan Buddhist temples were built even in Beijing and Chengde where Tibetan Buddhism was not popular. The picture of Emperor Qianlong in Buddhist costume preserved at the Forbidden City, the horizontal inscribed boards of the Potala Palace and Tar Monastery offered by Qianlong, the picture of Jianlong in the Trashilhunpo Monastery in Tibet and memorial tablets demonstrate the close relations between Tibetan political and religious figures and the Qing government.

Women's Employment Challenge

by Ran Maoying

The economic reform begun nine years ago has exerted a tremendous influence on the employment situation for urban women. While it has provided them with more job chances, it has also broken the "iron rice bowl" which supported them for many years. Now, faced with increasing competition, women are being confronted by a new range of challenges.

Discrimination

Since the implementation of the responsibility and contract systems, more and more women graduates from colleges or technical schools have been rejected by employers or work units. The number of employed women in some localities is decreasing. Some contracting units refuse to recruit women or employ as few as possible, while others conclude contracts with them when they reach their prime.

At a worker exchange meeting held in April 1987 in Beijing, 80-90 percent of enterprises expressed their need for only male employees. The same has been happening in some institutions of higher learning, scientific research institutes and government bodies. In the summer of 1987 in particular, many women college graduates and postgraduates were not welcomed by employing units or were asked to return to their schools. Many units are now recruiting employees according to sex rather than qualifications or suitability. Some units even publicly admit they accept men

graduates only, even if they are less suitable than female counterparts. A woman journalist postgraduate of the Chinese People's University approached four or five units for a job before her graduation and was turned down simply because she was a woman. This rejection of women graduates and postgraduates by employing units is making universities and schools reconsider their enrolment of women students. Many young women now fear they will not be able to find work and they will thus lose their economic position and lower their social status.

Competition for employment has brought about certain changes which will hinder the overall position of women and the development of their professional standing. A small number of women have risen to the challenge and overcome male competition to distinguish themselves as "able women." But a large number have

been taking the challenge lying down. To maintain their hard-won rights to employment, women must lower their aspirations, give up the pursuit of ideal jobs and take up work they are not interested in. If this situation continues, large numbers of women may leave their present jobs to take up those positions spurned or looked down upon by males.

Reasons

The three main forces influencing this situation are the women themselves, the employing units and society.

A survey of 640,000 workers by the All-China Federation of Trade Unions in 1986 shows that 81 percent of the 240,000 women workers had middle school education compared to 73 percent of the 400,000 men workers. But the percentage of the women

Zhang Guiqiong (right), director of the Panzhai Lace Factory in Pujiang Lace Factory in Pujiang County, Zhejiang Province, hires local women who want to earn money to better their lives.

WU YUANLIU



* The author works with the Sichuan provincial women's federation.



ZHANG YAOZHI

Jlang Wanxia (right), director of Kanghua Wire and Cable Factory in Shanghai, asks the factory's accountants to calculate carefully and budget strictly.

workers who studied in their spare time is 18 percent lower than that of men; the percentage of women reading political, theoretical, scientific or technological literature is 12 percent lower; that of women reading professional and historical literature is 25 percent lower; but the percentage reading literary works and love stories is 21 percent and 6 percent higher respectively. This lack of interest in theory, technology and politics among women will work against the improvement of their overall quality and their competitiveness in the workforce.

Employing units see women as less productive in terms of work, particularly if they intend to have children which involves long periods of time away from work during which their employers must pay them and find temporary replacements. All this increases the employing units' labour expenditure.

Before the current reforms, China followed an egalitarian distribution system. Enterprises were all maintained by the state and their expenditure was shifted onto the society. Since enterprises are now independently managed and responsible for their own

profits and losses, their expenditure has been an extra burden to them and women workers make the burden even heavier. In order to maintain and increase their profits, enterprises are naturally unwilling to recruit too many women workers. Even women directors will adopt the same attitude.

One reason behind this is the feudal notion of men being superior to women. The second is the unfair competition faced by women. In addition to economic and social activities, women are burdened with heavy household chores and responsibilities. They are in general unable to effectively compete with men, but the employment and personnel systems provide no assistance for them.

Measures

What kind of measures should we adopt to solve these problems? A few ideas are considered here:

1. Raising the quality of women workers and improving their work capability in order to increase their adaptability in employment. This requires the efforts of women themselves and the support of

society. It is necessary to encourage women to study science and technology and acquire general knowledge to increase their competitiveness in the workforce. On the other hand, it is also necessary to socialize household chores and liberate women from heavy household burdens to provide them with more time for study. Educational departments, apart from recruiting more women students, could improve their teaching programmes and methods to increase students' work capabilities after graduation. Enterprises and institutions should adopt flexible working systems which cater for women's needs.

2. The government should guarantee equal employment rights for women through legislation. The Constitution stipulates the equality of men and women and equal pay for equal work, but no concrete laws have been established. To eliminate discrimination against women in employment, the government should promulgate as early as possible laws protecting the equality of women in employment and the right to equal pay for equal work. China has the experience of other countries to draw from in this regard. There are, for instance, the US law on equal pay for equal work and the civil rights laws of the 1960s; there is also the example of the US committee for equal employment opportunities which investigates cases of discrimination against women and protects the equal employment rights of women.

3. A proportion of women workers for various trades should be stipulated. Competition between men and women should be replaced by competition among women themselves.

4. The government should provide financial support for employing units recruiting women workers according to the proportion stipulated for their trades. ■

Outlook for Third World Debt Problems

Lack of capital is the key factor that conditions the economic development of third world countries. A lot of international capital flooded into the developing countries in the 1970s, stimulating their economic growth. But changes in the global environment, as well as policy errors, led in 1982 to a severe debt crisis in the third world.

As most of the debts of developing countries carry interest calculated at floating rates, the crux of the debt problem is the relationship between interest rates and the growth rate of export revenue. At the beginning of the 1980s, interest rates rose sharply as a result of the economic policies of the developed countries, especially the US tight-money policy. At the same time, the growth rate of many debtor nations' export revenue fell significantly because of the slow growth of the world economy and the drop in petroleum prices.

In these circumstances, the third world's cash and credits position deteriorated quickly and the developed countries were no longer willing to provide further loans. This led to the debt crisis.

To enable the developing nations to pay their debts and prevent the Western financial system from breaking down, the creditor and debtor countries have negotiated extensions of loan deadlines. This has temporarily alleviated the crisis.

In agreeing to defer the debts, the developed countries have insisted that borrowers accept austerity plans worked out by the International Monetary Fund; commercial banks have agreed to prolong loan deadlines on the condition that debtor nations guarantee to at least pay the interest. These requirements amount to a demand that debtor

nations tighten their belts to pay their debts.

The amount of capital that flows from developing to developed countries—in the form of interest payments, profits and dividends—is larger than the amount flowing in the other direction. In the past few years, total net capital exports by Latin American countries reached US\$125 billion. Because of the outflow of capital, developing countries have had to reduce their investments. By the end of 1985, total investment of Latin American countries fell by 30 percent compared with the late 1970s. This big drop has hurt the countries' medium- and long-term prospects for economic development.

In February 1987, Brazil, the third world's largest debtor, declared that it was suspending interest payments on loans from commercial banks. The decision caused wide repercussions in the world financial community, for Brazil has been regarded as a successful example of economic growth in the third world. In the previous few years, Brazil achieved an average annual economic growth rate of 8 percent and its trade surplus exceeded the interest payments on its debt. But in 1986, Brazil's economic situation deteriorated sharply. Inflation rose and exports stagnated. The halt in interest payments on foreign debts could not be avoided.

'Brazil's decision shows that the debt problem is worsening. As early as 1985, the president of Peru declared that the country would restrict its debt payments to no more than 10 percent of its export revenue. Peru's example was immediately followed by other debtor countries, which linked their debt payments to their export revenue or gross national product.

Only a handful of debtor nations were able to pay back any principal.

Last year, some strategies and techniques aimed at resolving the debt problem and preventing a new crisis attracted wide attention. A key strategy involves turning debt into investment. Foreign investors buy at a discount credits against a developing country. They then change the credits, which are denominated in US dollars, into the currency of the debtor nation and invest directly in the country by buying fixed assets or shares. In this way, lenders get back their money—minus what they lose as a result of selling the credits at a discount—and the new investors take the risks of investing in the third world countries. This arrangement is clearly advantageous for the debtor countries, because it brings in foreign investment while relieving them of their obligation to pay back debts.

In May 1987 Citibank, one of the leading US commercial banks, raised its provision for losses on bad loans by US\$3 billion. Many commercial banks in developed countries followed Citibank's lead. This shows that the banks are no longer counting on the complete repayment of loans to the developing countries.

The recent Toronto summit of the seven major Western industrial nations adopted an African debt relief proposal that permits countries to exercise several options, such as extending loan repayment periods, reducing interest rates or writing off portions of loans. But all these moves are clearly inadequate to resolve the US\$1,000-billion debt problem of the third world. At most they can ease the debt burden of the developing countries.

by Yu Rongding

Life of a Master Painter

Xu Beihong—Life of a Master Painter

(Available in English and French editions)

Price: 8.50 yuan for English edition (32 mo)
10.35 yuan for French edition (32 mo)

Published by: Foreign Languages Press, Beijing

Distributed by: China International Book Trading Corporation (Guoji Shudian), P.O. Box 399, Beijing, China

Xu Beihong was a world-famous modern Chinese artist. Many people know him for his famous paintings of horses, however, they may not know about his life and artistic career. Completed in 1982, this biography is the result of 29 years of research by his widow, Liao Jingwen.

In a close and honest account, Liao vividly describes Xu's entire life, providing readers with an insight into his career, artistic ideology and political inclinations, as well as his marriage, love and family life. Xu's noble moral character, his love of the motherland, the people and the arts are all reflected in the book.

This biography, proclaimed a rare piece of good writing on a modern artist, has been translated and published in English and French.

Xu Beihong—Life of a Master Painter is made up of two parts. The first presents an overview of Xu's life from his birth in 1895 to 1942, before Xu and Liao became acquainted. The stories from Xu's life are narrated in the third person in the first part and in the second part, the author adopts the first person to describe Xu's life from 1942 until his death in 1953

through her own perceptions of life with Xu.

This is the first biographical account of Xu Beihong's life. It truthfully reflects his struggles to become a master painter and seems to draw readers to take part in a moving journey through the artist's life.

Xu Beihong was born to a painting family. He began learning painting skills from his father at the age of six. Suffering the hardships of poverty, at the age of 13 he followed his father on the streets to sell paintings, roaming from one city to another.

Influenced by the art of traditional Chinese painting, he quickly became his father's assistant. At the same time, he felt drawn to the colour and rhythm in oil paintings by the 19th-century European masters.

In March 1919, he went to France to study painting, funded by a Chinese government allowance. In Paris, he became acquainted with the well-known French sculptor Damp and learnt painting skills from painting masters Flameng and Dagnan-Boveret. He studied painting in France and Federal Germany for eight years and also visited Belgium, Switzerland, Italy, Singapore, India and the Soviet Union.

While in the Soviet Union, he sponsored an exhibition of his paintings, in which he and the well-known Soviet artist Nesterov and engraver Kraschenka exchanged works. Xu Beihong also cemented a deep friendship with the Soviet sculptor Merkyloff.

While assimilating and developing the essence of traditional painting styles, Xu dared to reject the dross. He absorbed those aspects of Western painting which he found useful and applied them

to Chinese paintings. His works, possessing both traditional Chinese and Western qualities, are marked both in appearance and spirit by a precision of proportion, shape and perspective, and a vital energy. His paintings of horses are so lifelike that they seem to be galloping out of the frames.

Xu Beihong ardently pursued art and knowledge his whole life. He cherished masterpieces as dearly as his own life. One day in December 1937, he discovered that a famous Tang-Dynasty painting named *Eighty-Seven Immortals* was in the hands of a foreign art collector. He immediately negotiated a price and spent all his savings to buy it and add it to his own collection. However, during the War of Resistance Against Japan, the painting was stolen which left him in a state of extreme anxiety. Several years later, he again learnt the whereabouts of the national treasure and bought it back using large sums of money which he put together by selling his paintings. The strong need to regain the painting is a telling indication of the love and respect he held for the art of his country.

Xu Beihong—Life of a Master Painter also covers changes in Xu's marriage and family life, to give another angle on the artist's personality.

In May 1917, Xu and Jiang Biwei, who bravely fought against an arranged marriage, boarded a steamer at Shanghai bound for Japan to begin a new life together. Their elopement made the headlines at the time. Later, Xu and Jiang went to France to study, where their relationship began to turn stale, and the two finally agreed to divorce.

In 1942, Xu Beihong met and fell in love with Liao Jingwen. But, because Xu was 28 years older than Liao, Liao would not immediately make a final decision about marriage.

Minority Groups Respect the Old

'ZHONGGUO JIHUA SHENGYU
BAO'

(China Family Planning)

Guangnan County in Yunnan Province is an area inhabited by the Han and Zhuang people. The two nationalities speak the same language, live in harmony and are related by marriage.

People in the region have the greatest regard for the elderly. To show their love and esteem, they have built wayside pavilions in many villages where old people can relax. The pavilions are also used as places to mediate differences between villagers. When a problem arises, the two parties concerned invite some old people who enjoy high prestige and command universal respect to make peace in the pavilion.

The Hani nationality passes on its tradition of respect for the elderly from generation to generation. Old people are invited to drink water first and to rest when they work with young people. The eldest takes the seat of honour during family meals. The oldest person of the village is invited to take the first mouthful of meat at meals held during village festivals and other public activities. Families that butcher pigs or have particularly tasty dishes invite the

old people of the village to dine with them.

The 15th day of the first lunar month is the Hani's Festival of Respect for the Aged. After the singing and dancing are over, the person in charge of the festival asks the old people to talk one by one about their living conditions. Members of the younger generation who show respect and love for the elderly win praise, while those who do not show generosity towards their elders are criticized and forced to correct their behaviour within a set time.

The Drung, Nu and Lisu nationalities, which inhabited the Nujiang River basin in Yunnan Province, are also known for respecting old people. When hunters return from hunting, they always deliver the best meat to the homes of old people, particularly widowers and widows. On New Year's Day and other festivals, when villagers butcher pigs and oxen, they give preferential treatment to the widowers and widows, who also receive frequent visits from villagers bearing gifts. Villagers carry water for widowers and widows, and when they die the villagers work as one to make arrangements for their funerals. Members of these nationalities consider that it is auspicious to see people who have lived a long life.

The Lahu nationality lives along the Lancang River in Yunnan Province. The Lahus arrange for old people to live in bright and warm rooms. Members of the younger generation always fill a bowl with rice for the old people first during family meals. At celebrations and festivals, the elderly are always asked to taste the delicacies. When members of the family are to get new clothes, the elderly take precedence. When old people go on a journey, the family must send someone to accompany them. And when they fall ill, they receive special care from the family.

It is a tradition of the Tibetans and Mongolians to present a piece of silk called a *hada* as a gift to visitors and the elderly.

Minority nationalities in the Xinjiang Uygur Autonomous Region are also particularly solicitous and courteous to old people. Members of the Uygur, Kazak and Kirgiz nationalities invite old people to enter first when the family returns home. When people go out or travel in a group, they ask the elderly to walk at the head of the group. At family meals the oldest person takes the seat of honour. When old people go to see a performance, people spontaneously offer them the best seats. Old people are invited to speak first in discussions. All of this is common practice.

(April 22, 1988)

To show how strong his love for her really was, Xu determined to make the long journey from Chongqing to Guiyang to spend the New Year holidays with Liao. He started out on the trip in a post bus which broke down on the way. Then he boarded a long-distance public bus which also met with problems. He then hopped on to an open freight wagon, and that also broke down. In the last 20 kilometres of the journey, he had to walk. When Liao heard of this,

she was deeply moved and readily agreed to the marriage.

The biography gives accounts of Xu Beihong's ideas on fine arts, his representative works and other background information and artistic analyses. It also gives readers an idea of the assistance and support Xu received from others in his long artistic career, and the concern and friendship he showed towards these teachers, students and friends.

The author's writing style is graceful and restrained. The characters are presented in vivid pictures and a minute description is given of the inner world of Xu Beihong and the author herself. The book is very readable: many accounts of true situations are highly dramatic and some chapters are full of emotion. The book contains pictures of representative works from various periods in Xu's life, as well as his own photographs. (Sun Zhilong)

NO RMB Devaluation Planned

China does not plan to devalue the Renminbi (RMB) against major foreign currencies since the nation is expecting to reduce its foreign trade deficit this year, an official from the Exchange Control Administration said on June 21 at the China-US Joint Session on Industry, Trade and Economic Development in Beijing.

The official said that exchange control for a long time took a back seat in China's national economy while China was closed to the outside world. The open policy and reforms to the price and

foreign trade systems called for adjustment to Chinese currency (RMB) and the adoption of more flexible policies.

The exchange rate which was RMB 1.5 yuan to the dollar in January 1981 was adjusted to 2.79 yuan to the dollar in January 1985, and 3.2 yuan to the dollar in October of the same year. The rate has remained at 3.7 yuan to the dollar since June 1986.

The official feels that as China opens to the outside world and increases its foreign trade, exchange control will play an increasingly important role in China's national economy. ■

the form of even further reduction or exemption should be granted:

— Equipment for production, equipment for business operations, building materials, and means of transportation and office articles imported as investment or as additional investment shall be exempt from industrial and commercial consolidated tax.

— Products for export produced by development zone enterprises, except for crude oil, finished oil and the small number of products governed by other regulations, shall be exempt from industrial and commercial consolidated tax. Products for domestic sale shall be taxed according to relevant regulations. With respect to raw and processed materials, spare parts and components, primary parts and packaging materials imported by these enterprises, that portion used to produce export products shall be exempt from industrial and commercial consolidated tax; that portion used to produce products for domestic sale shall be taxed according to the standard regulations.

— Reasonable quantities of household articles and means of transportation that investors' personnel who work or reside in the open economic zones bring in for their own use shall, when issued with a certificate from the local government department, be exempt from industrial and commercial consolidated tax.

— In order to encourage the import of quality livestock and crops, and to ensure China's quarantine regulations are met, an investors who build testing farms for growing crops or raising livestock in trial centres on designated islands or the sandlands of the rivers in Guangdong, Fujian, Zhejiang, Jiangsu and Shandong provinces, shall be exempted from all taxes for five years beginning from the profit-making year. ■

Tax Cuts for Foreign Investors

In order to encourage foreign businessmen to invest in the open economic zones of the Liaodong Peninsular, Shandong Peninsular, the Changjiang (Yangtze) and Zhujiang (Pearl) river deltas and Fujian Province, China has recently issued a package of Interim Provisions on the Reduction of and Exemption From Taxation for Foreign Investors in the Coastal Open Economic Zones. The main items include:

— With respect to productive enterprises operated by investors (hereinafter referred to as economic enterprises) in the open coastal economic zones, where the projects are technology- or knowledge-intensive, or where the amount of investment is in excess of US\$30 million and the time of recovery of investment is long, or where the projects involve energy development, communications or port construction, enterprise income tax shall be levied at a reduced rate of 15 percent.

— Enterprises not meeting the

above conditions for tax reductions but including machine building, electronics, metallurgical, chemical, building materials, construction, light industry, textile, packaging, medical apparatus and instruments, pharmaceuticals, agriculture, forestry, animal husbandry, aquaculture and processing businesses, upon approval according to the Chinese tax law, may have their enterprise income tax calculated and levied at 80 percent of the tax rate.

— Investors who do not have establishments in China but have income from dividends, interest, rentals, and fees for the use of proprietary rights, other than income that is exempted from income tax according to law, shall have income tax levied at a reduced rate of 10 percent. When investors provide capital or equipment on preferential terms, or transfer advanced technology, the provincial, municipal and autonomous regional people's governments shall determine whether preferential treatment in

Jianlibao (Turbal) Enters World Market

The first batch of Jianlibao (Turbal) drinks went on sale on the Hong Kong market this summer, raising a challenge against many international brand drinks.

Turbal produced by the Guangdong Jianlibao Group Co. Ltd. is an electrolytic drink with a fresh orange or lemonade taste. Containing natural spring water, honey, fresh fruit juice and various minerals, the drink won popularity among consumers soon after its release. It was selected as a drink of the state banquet, the 1990 Asian Games and the 23rd and 24th Olympic Games, and the special drink of the Chinese women's volleyball team.



Jianlibao general manager Li Jingwei has been named one of China's top entrepreneurs in 1988.

Turbal is an energy drink which balances the alkali and acid levels and maintains blood sugar and moisture content in the body. It provides very effective relief from exercise fatigue.

Turbal won the praise of well-known sport personalities for its unique taste and efficacy. "I have



View of the Jianlibao Factory.

WEI FENG

always drunk Turbal. It's refreshing and helps me keep ahead when I'm playing table tennis," said Jiang Jialiang, men's singles champion in the World Table Tennis Championships. The famous high jump athlete Zhu Jianhua also commented on Turbal's effectiveness in quickly relieving fatigue. Coptsrud Schodi, chairman of the Federation of the International Weight Lifters Association, said: "I recommend that weight lifters all over the world drink Turbal rather than stimulant drinks." He added that players are able to produce better performances after drinking Turbal.

During the 23rd Olympic Games held in 1983, the Chinese team won 14 gold metals. *Tokyo Shimbun* reported that the team's victory had a lot to do with some sort of magic water. All the Chinese players drank Turbal and seemed to be revitalized after every drink. Greater efforts are expected to be made towards studying the composition of the magic water starting a revolution in sports drinks.

Turbal has won wide praise in its birth place Guangdong Province where the product's sales volume is four times that of Coca-Cola. At present, the Jianlibao

Group has established sales outlets in 22 provinces. In 1985, the Jianlibao Group co-operated with foreign businesses to import advanced equipment to increase output.

In the first half of this year, Turbal output exceeded 50,000 tons. The group's general manager Li Jingwei said the sale of Turbal in Hong Kong is the first step towards entering the world market. He expects an improvement in product quality and is hopeful of gaining a large world market in the future.

by Zhang Wei

News in Brief

■ A beauty parlour to serve foreign diplomatic officials, representatives of foreign agencies stationed in Beijing and foreign tourists opened for business in the Beijing International Club on June 15. All equipment is imported from Japan and the hairdressers and barbers with five years' experience received training in Japan.

The beauty parlour offers services by appointment and keeps a customer file so that frequent visitors may receive preferential treatment. ■

Folk Art Works Shown in Beijing

A recent exhibition of folk papercuts from Xunyi County and folk art from Xinjiang County provided Beijing residents with a welcome glimpse of northern Chinese folk arts.



Papercut opera characters.

XIE YUCUI

Xunyi County in Shaanxi Province is one of the birthplaces of Chinese culture. Some 3,000 years ago, it was the site of the State of Bin, established by the Zhou tribes. "Binfeng" (Customs in Bin), a chapter in China's earliest *Book of Songs*, describes the local conditions and customs in the state.

Xinjiang County in Shanxi Province is a centre of local opera with a long cultural history. Folk music played mainly with drums and gongs, which was developed there early in the Tang Dynasty (618-907 AD), has been handed down to today. The Ming and Qing dynasties (1368-1911) saw the increasing development of woodblock New Year pictures, embroidery, papercuts and shadow puppet shows.

Papercuts occupied pride of place at the exhibition. Xunyi's exquisite papercuts are colourful and simple, and naive in style.

Traditional designs include animals and plants growing together, living and non-living things mixed together and human heads on animals' bodies or vice versa. Experts believe the designs show traces of totemism.

Xunyi papercut artist Ku Shulan, 69, creates a stereoscopic world containing elements of the old and the new through her distinctive style and unique techniques. As she cuts, the



Cock pecking at a scorpion.

SU LANHUA

cheerful old woman sings songs related to her work. Her *White Peony With Green Branches and Leaves*, looks like a flowering tree with many roots and beautiful blossoms, but the trunk of the tree is a female figure. The work depicts the life of women and captures the indomitable vitality of human beings.

Xinjiang's papercuts are mostly monochromatic traditional opera figures. In the past, villages in Xinjiang, big and small, generally had stages on which operas were performed every year. This influenced the region's folk papercut artists, and traditional opera figures gradually replaced flowers, birds and insects as the

main subject of papercuts.

Su Lanhua, 82, started to learn the art of papercutting in Xinjiang at the age of four. She has created thousands of works, and is particularly known for her opera characters, which are meticulously done and show a sense of humour.

The folk art works displayed in Beijing were selected by a group of experts. Last summer, eight scholars led by Professor Yang Xianrang, head of the folk art department of the Central Academy of Fine Arts, visited 40



Papercut opera character.

SU LANHUA

localities in the middle reaches of the Huanghe (Yellow) River. They collected some 7,000 works of folk art which are becoming increasingly rare and investigated folk customs and traditional ideas. The works they collected will be shown in the United States.

by Wei Liming

Cherish the Memory of Shen Congwen

Shen Congwen, one of the most artistically rich personalities among contemporary Chinese writers, died on May 10 at the age of 86.

Shen was born into the family of traditional Chinese medicine practitioner in central China's Hunan Province. He graduated from school in 1918 in his home county of Fenghuang and became attached to a local army unit. Later, he formally joined the army and once worked as a tax collector.

Monotonous army life in remote mountain areas taught Shen to think things over and gave him an understanding of the diversity of human life. He began to question the old ways of living and look forward to the future. Influenced by the May Fourth new cultural movement which started in 1919, he came four years later to Beijing, where he hoped to pursue further studies. Unable to realize this dream, he began to write.

During this period, he made friends with the accomplished writer Ding Ling and poet Hu Yebin, and co-edited and published a magazine with them. Hu Yebin was murdered by Kuomintang reactionaries in the 1930s, while Ding Ling became a prominent woman writer. She died in 1986.

From the end of the 1920s through the 1940s, Shen published several well-known works including *Border Town*, *Long River*, *Autobiography of Congwen* and *Random Travel Notes From Hunan*. In his unique style, he drew a picture of social reality from different angles, describing the happiness and sorrow of people in his home town; the disillusionment of young people; rank-and-file members of the

army; and conditions in rural areas.

But this versatile writer was forgotten for a time. In 1953, some publishers proclaimed that his works were out of fashion and could not be published. From then on, people seldom saw his works in bookstores.

This caused Shen great suffering but he did not know what to do. Several times he wanted to take up his pen to produce literary works, but he had to put it down.

At the age of over 50, he turned to the study of cultural relics and ancient clothing. He worked first at the Palace Museum and later moved to the History Research Institute under the Chinese Academy of Social Sciences, where he stayed until his death. His hard work and warm feelings towards people and the country spurred him to great accomplishments in his new field. His outstanding monograph *Studies of Ancient Chinese Dress and Personal Adornment* was his, last major work.

During the past 10 years, Shen's literary works have been re-published. Again, they have been warmly received. An increasing number of critics argue that the author should have a place of honour in the history of contemporary Chinese literature. Some say he was the century's best writer after Lu Xun. His works are exerting a great influence on young people in China and abroad.

In a memorial article, the famous writer Wang Zengqi, a follower of Shen, called the deceased man a "sincere patriot."

"He had less interest in fame and wealth than anyone I have ever seen," Wang wrote. "Both his character and morals make him so."

Ma Yueran, a member of the Royal Academy of Sweden and an adjudicator of the Nobel literature awards, called Shen "China's

greatest writer of the 1920s." Ma said that the author used his distinctive style to tell the story of China's ordinary people and he was a pure Chinese writer with whom no westernized writers can be compared. ■

Advance Scored In Plant Genetics

A tobacco plant with a human gene sequence has been successfully cultivated at the Genetic Research Institute of the Chinese Academy of Sciences.

The achievement marks the first time that human genes have been expressed in a plant and the first time that a plant has produced human protein.

The genetic-engineering breakthrough was achieved by Chen Ju, a postgraduate student at the institute, under the guidance of his tutor, Professor Li Xianghui.

Nearly all vertebrates possess an interferonic gene. Interferon is a highly active and multi-functional protein. Although the protein has little effect on normal cells, it can affect abnormal cells, for example, by helping them to resist virus infection. Experiments show that interferon can affect plants in the same way, but, to realize these effects in plants is extremely difficult. Although experiments have been made in several world-famous laboratories, little has been achieved.

Chen began his research in 1986, under the supervision of his tutor. After two years of hard work, they successfully produced molecules which contained human interferon. They introduced the molecules into a tobacco cell and got a new tobacco plant. Results of the experiment show that the new plant had a human gene sequence and interferon induced by the genes.

The discovery shows that it is possible to breed a new kind of anti-virus plant through genetic engineering to produce foods containing human protein, and at the same time, to obtain cheap interferon from plants. ■

Rock Paintings In Inner Mongolia

Ancient rock paintings dating back 3,000 years were recently found in the remote grassland in Inner Mongolia, northern China. Most of the paintings are in good condition.

Scattered on the rocks of seven different hills in Sunid Left Banner (county), the paintings depict nature and scenes from the lives of ancient herdsmen. Some of the birds and animals—including eagles, antelope and deer—are rarely found in rock paintings discovered in other areas. Other animal paintings include two neighing horses, two sheep sitting together, camels on the move and animals mating.

Some paintings have human figures with girdle ornaments resembling the tails of animals: Some of them seem to be dancing; some are herdsmen or sorcerers. A number of the paintings illustrate activities such as hunting, fighting and sex. ■

Memorial Concert for Charlie Tam

A memorial concert and an academic forum were held separately in Beijing in mid-June to commemorate the 40th anniversary of the death of China's contemporary composer Tan Xiaolin (Charlie Tam).

Sponsored by seven units including the composing and theory committees under the

Chinese Musicians' Association, the Central Philharmonic society, and the Music Research Institute under the Central Music Conservatory, the concert and forum were unique being neither government sponsored, nor funded by any enterprise or individual. They were made possible by the voluntary efforts of Tan's students and followers—all for the sake of art. They made every effort to collect manuscripts lost during the "cultural revolution," and spent their spare time rehearsing.

The concert featured many of Tan's main works, including *Spring on the Lake* (for traditional Chinese ensemble), *Violin and Viola Duet*, *Romanza* (for viola and harp), *String Instrument Trio*. Songs composed around the verses of W. S. Walker's "Too Solemn for Day," T. Hardy's "Drummer Hodge," Chinese poet Guo Moruo's "Parting" and the ancient poet Zhang Jiuling's "Since You Went Away" were also performed.

Tan's works are exquisite in style and composition and free of affectation. They exude the spontaneous charm of traditional Chinese music. Tan reached a high level of artistic accomplishment through a deep involvement with traditional Chinese music and a mastery of modern Western skill.

The forum was held a week after the concert on June 22. The main theme was the style and accomplishment of Tan Xiaolin's composition and his academic career.

Born in Shanghai in 1911, Tan could already play a number of traditional Chinese instruments at seven and began composing at 11. He went to the United States in 1939 to continue his studies after graduating from the Western composing theory department of Shanghai's State Music Institute. He studied four years under the contemporary master Paul Hindemith at Yale University in the early 40s, and was one of

Hindemith's favourite students. In 1944, Hindemith played viola for Tan's *Romanza* and the following year, he twice conducted Tan's *Drummer Hodge*. Tan's *String Instrument Trio* was awarded the John Day Jackson prize and cited as "an outstanding work of chamber music."

Returning to China in 1946, Tan became professor and head of the department of composition theory at the Shanghai Music Institute. There he might have served to bridge the gap between Western and Chinese music if not for his early death from polo at the age of 37 in 1948. His death marked a great loss to China's music circles. "Yet what is a greater pity and even more thought provoking is that his works were not played nor recognized until 40 years after his death," well-known composer Luo Zongrong—one of Tan's students at the music institute—commented before the memorial concert.

by Xiao Pan

News in Brief

■ China will soon publish its first history of the Kazaks, nomads who live mainly in the Xinjiang Uygur Autonomous Region.

■ "American Art Today" has been jointly published by the Chinese and American governments to promote cultural exchange between the two countries.

Translated into Chinese and published by the Liaoning University Publishing House, the book includes 268 major American paintings of the 1980s and introduces 250 noted modern artists and different schools of painting. ■

