

A CHINESE WEEKLY OF NEWS AND VIEWS

Beijing Review

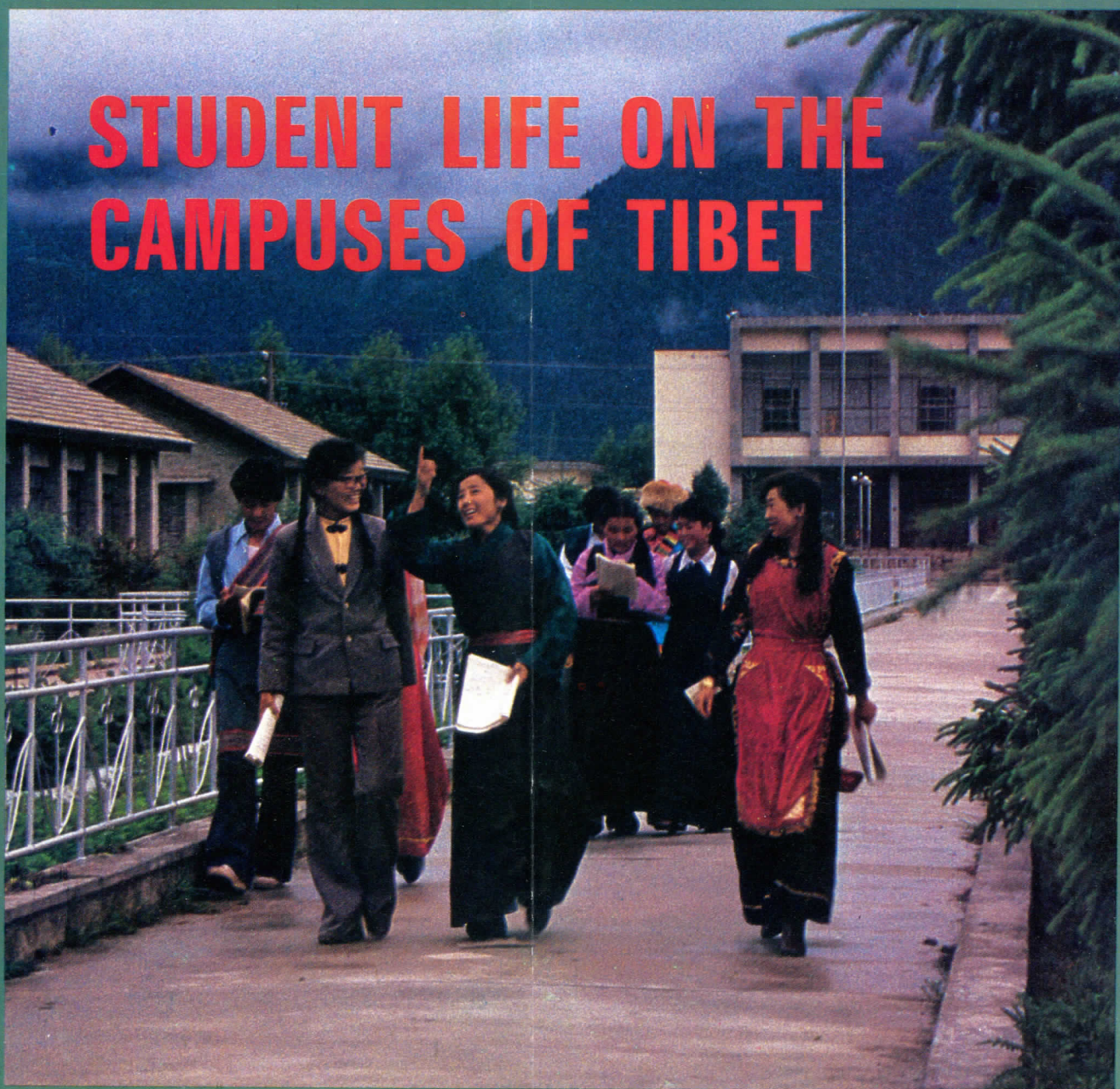
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Chinese Premier Embarks On Three-Nation Tour

STUDENT LIFE ON THE CAMPUSES OF TIBET





Snapping what they like.

by Lian Haisheng

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	Xue Chao

HIGHLIGHTS OF THE WEEK

Moscow Urged to Abide by Geneva Accords

■ The Soviet decision to suspend troop withdrawal from Afghanistan has caused worry in the international community. They urge Moscow to continue its troop pullout, to fully honour its commitments to the Geneva agreements and stop looking for any pretexts to delay the withdrawal. (p. 4) Another article describes the serious Afghan refugee problem created by the Soviet invasion of Afghanistan (p. 19).

Premier Li Makes First Trip Abroad

■ Chinese Premier Li Peng started his official visit to Thailand, Australia and New Zealand on November 10. In Bangkok, Li explained China's stand on the Kampuchea question and its four principles in regard to its relations with the ASEAN countries (p. 5).

New President Will Promote Sino-US Relations

■ The presidential election of the United States has evoked repercussions in China. Mr. Rong Yiren and Professor Fei Xiaotong, both vice-chairmen of the Standing Committee of the National People's Congress, think that George Bush will further promote Sino-US relations without a significant change of policies towards China (p. 14).

A Retrospective View of the Lhasa Riots

■ Three riots occurred in Lhasa, capital of the Tibet Autonomous Region, in September and October 1987 and March 1988. Many readers have since written to us, asking why they happened and how the Chinese authorities dealt with them. To answer these questions, *Beijing Review* interviewed officials from the Chinese Ministry of Public Security, the Supreme People's Court and the Ministry of Foreign Affairs (p. 15).

Meeting Directs Writers, Artists

■ The five-day meeting of the CFLAC's national conference starting on November 8 saw hot discussions on restructuring organization and promoting literature and art that reflects New China. (p. 5).

A Worrisome Soviet Decision

by Liu Shui

On November 4, Soviet First Deputy Foreign Minister Alexander Bessmertnykh told a press conference in Moscow that his country would suspend its troop withdrawal from Afghanistan because of increased guerrilla attacks on civilians. He said the withdrawal that began last May was "due to the good will of the Soviet government" and would occur only under "honourable conditions."

The announcement came — as a jarring note, indeed — at a time when many "hot spots" around the world are cooling down, and the international community is applauding the advent of a new period of detente. More worrisome, the Soviet decision on troop-pullout suspension followed Soviet moves to beef up the Kabul regime's troops. Reports say Soviet SS-1 surface-to-surface missiles and sophisticated MiG-27 warplanes have been deployed in Afghanistan in recent weeks. Although Bessmertnykh reaffirmed the Soviet commitment to the Geneva accords, which require that Moscow complete its troop withdrawal by February 15 next year, these recent Soviet moves have inevitably cast a shadow over the prospect for an earlier political settlement of the Afghan problem.

As is known to all, Afghanistan is the world's first hot spot where, under the mediation of the United Nations, hopes for a political settlement of the regional conflict rose this year. Last April saw the signing of the Geneva accords on the Afghan issue as a result of the Afghan people's resolute re-

sistence to the Soviet aggression, the mounting pressure of the international opinion on Moscow, as well as the Kremlin's wise decision.

The Soviet decision to postpone its troop pullout from Afghanistan disappoints the world's people and raises doubts about whether the Soviets are going to live up to the Geneva accords. The Soviet Union should adhere to the Geneva agreement and withdraw its forces from Afghanistan as scheduled. No excuse whatever will do.

According to the terms of the Geneva agreement, the Soviet Union must withdraw half of its more than 100,000 troops from Afghanistan between May 15-August 15. It did that and thus won appreciation from the international community.

The world felt encouraged to hope that Moscow would continue to withdraw the remaining half of its military forces by February 15, as was also provided by the agreement. At this juncture, however, came the Soviet decision to suspend the withdrawal, which seriously disappointed the world's people and raised doubts about whether the Soviets are going to live up to the Geneva agreement.



The various flashpoints in the world are interrelated in one way or another. A political settlement of one of them would promote political settlements of others. It was precisely the signing of the Geneva accords on the Afghan question in April that led to dialogues and negotiations on many other regional issues, contributing to the general trend towards relaxation in international relations. On the other hand, a setback in one hot spot would exert adverse influence on others. So, it is the hope of all the peace-loving people of the world that Moscow should avoid doing anything that might weaken or even reverse the general trend towards detente.

Furthermore, the Soviet troop withdrawal is the key to a comprehensive settlement of the Afghan problem. Only when the Soviet Union pulls out all its troops, stops interfering in Afghanistan's internal affairs and allows the Afghan people to decide their own destiny can national reconciliation in the country have a sound premise.

In view of all this, the Soviet Union, as a principal party to the Afghan conflict and a signatory to the Geneva accords, should implement the agreement in earnest and withdraw all its military forces from Afghanistan as scheduled. It should not look for any pretexts to delay its troop withdrawal. ■

Li: Principles on Kampuchea & ASEAN

Both the Chinese and Thai prime ministers, Li Peng and Chatichai Choonhavan, urged Viet Nam to withdraw its troops from Kampuchea as soon as possible so as to effect a just and reasonable solution to the Kampuchea question.

The two prime ministers expressed the hope during their talks in Bangkok on November 11.

Bangkok is the first stop of Li's official visit to Thailand, Australia and New Zealand. On November 10 Li took off on his first trip abroad since he became premier of the State Council last April.

"Viet Nam's policy has not changed," Li said. "It is still trying to find excuses for delaying its troop withdrawal."

Briefing the Thai prime minister on China's position on the Kampuchea question, Li said China seeks no private interests on the Kampuchea question. It is completely for upholding justice and opposing aggression, he said, that China supports Kampuchea in its struggle against Vietnamese invasion. China stands for a fair and reasonable political solution to the Kampuchea problem, he said.

Li said, it is not enough for Viet Nam to merely make oral declarations. It should work out a short timetable for withdrawing all its troops from Kampuchea.

China supports the establishment of a provisional quadripartite coalition government under the leadership of Samdech Norodom Sihanouk, he said. The candidates of each party participating in the provisional government should be nominated by the party itself and accepted by all other parties. China stands for the quadripartite coalition in Kampuchea, and

opposes any single party to be excluded or to take power exclusively. China does not agree to the establishment of a dual or tripartite government. The establishment of a so-called coalition government based on the Heng Samrin regime cannot be accepted either.

Li said, after the establishment of a provisional quadripartite coalition government in Kampuchea, the troops of various parties in Kampuchea should be frozen. They should not take part in politics, nor should they intervene in the general election, thus enabling the Kampuchean people to conduct a free election without external interference and threat of force. In order to prevent a civil war, the original armed forces of various parties should be dissolved or reduced in number. China stands for the proposition that each party retains an armed force not exceeding 10,000. This is a measure conducive to guaranteeing peace in Kampuchea.

Li added, effective international supervision should be exercised over Viet Nam's troops withdrawal, the maintenance of peace in Kampuchea and the conducting of a free election. The Chinese government supports the suggestion that international troops for maintaining peace and an international supervision committee be stationed in Kampuchea.

If the various parties concerned can reach an agreement on a political solution to the Kampuchea question, China is willing to join other countries in making an international guarantee for Kampuchea's status of independence, neutrality and non-alignment, the Chinese premier said.

At a press conference on November 13, the day Li concluded his visit, the Chinese premier said that it would be best if Viet Nam can withdraw its troops from Kampuchea before next June.

Principles On ASEAN: In a speech at a dinner hosted by Thai Prime Minister Chatichai Choonhavan on November 10, Li cited four principles under which China will energetically develop its relations with the ASEAN (Association of Southeast Asian Nations) countries.

First, said Li, China strictly adheres to the five principles of peaceful co-existence in state-to-state relations. "China and the ASEAN countries have different social systems, however, this should not hinder the establishment and development of genuine good-neighbourly relations between them."

Second, China upholds the principle of opposing hegemonism under any circumstances. China does not and will never practise hegemonism, and at the same time it opposes any attempt to seek hegemony.

Third, China upholds the principle of equality and mutual benefit and the attainment of common prosperity in its economic relations with other countries.

Fourth, China abides by the principle of independence, mutual respect, close co-operation and mutual support in international affairs. ■

Meeting Directs Writers, Artists

More than 1,500 Chinese writers and artists gathered at the Great Hall of the People in Beijing on November 8 to discuss ways to promote the country's literature and art, and restructure their own organization—the



Zhao Ziyang, Deng Xiaoping and other Chinese top leaders meeting the writers and artists during the conference.

China Federation of Literary and Art Circles (CFLAC). They are the delegates to the CFLAC's fifth national conference, which held its opening ceremony of the five-day meeting.

In front of the rostrum were two rows of potted red flowers and on the backdrop, 10 red flags and a flower-shaped emblem formed by the Chinese characters *wen* and *ren*, meaning "literature" and "humanity."

Zhou Yang, CFLAC chairman and senior literary critic, was unable to attend the opening ceremony because of illness. Zhou's contemporary, Xia Yan, a noted writer, delivered the opening speech, which concluded with the call, "Chinese writers and artists should be aware of their solemn historical responsibilities and sacred artistic missions. They should broaden their vision, improve their artistic accomplishments and create outstanding works worthy of our predecessors and our times, with a strong sense of participation and deep concern for the future of mankind."

This was followed by a congratulatory message delivered by Hu Qili on behalf of the Communist Party of China and

the State Council. In the speech, Hu, a Standing Committee member of the Political Bureau of the CPC Central Committee, extended hearty congratulations to literary and art workers. He talked about the historical period China finds itself in today and the tasks of Chinese writers and artists. He particularly explained how to strengthen and improve the CPC's leadership of literature and art.

Hu said, "We need to criticize outmoded conventions and bad customs, but we need all the more to eulogize the spirit of the times; we need to expose things negative and ugly, but we need all the more to praise heroic deeds; we need to review and ponder profoundly over our past, but we need all the more to look into the future."

He said, though diverse in form and colour, the social impact of works of art and literature should only be to heighten people's awareness of their responsibility to promote national revival and social progress and enhance their sense of national pride and self-confidence.

Also congratulating the conference were representatives of the All-China Federation of Trade

Unions, All-China Federation of Women, the Communist Youth League, the People's Liberation Army, Ministry of Culture, and Ministry of Broadcasting, Film and Television.

Most of the delegates are engaged in such fields as literature, drama, music and fine arts. More than half of them are aged between 40 and 60. They are among the most active in China's ideological field. Behind them are some 200,000 people professionally involved in artistic creation.

To mark the opening of the conference, *People's Daily* carried an editorial on the same day entitled "Create a Good Environment for the Prosperity of Literature and Art." The national paper described the past decade as "one of the best times" for the steady development of literature and art, despite some controversies and problems that should not be ignored.

It said that the prosperity of literature and art needs "a stable policy as well as an environment and atmosphere marked by democracy and harmony," and urged Party and government leaders to truly implement the Party's policies on literature and art and exchange views with writers and artists frankly and sincerely.

The assessment of literary and art works should be made by readers, writers and artists themselves through normal, democratic discussions. Personal views aired by leading cadres are the same as opinions from ordinary readers. They are not Party and government decisions and can be accepted or rejected, it said.

Whether works of a writer or an artist are successful depends on their own worth. The attempt to promote sales of a book, a theatrical production or a painting by the aid of a leading cadre's remarks is always ill-fated. It said

newspapers and magazines, particularly those run by the Party, should not just publish articles whose views are identical with their own, while rejecting articles with different opinions. The press could promote healthy literary and art criticism by presenting different opinions.

On November 12, the CFLAC's new committee elected Cao Yu, a renowned dramatist, as executive chairman of the federation. The nine vice chairpersons include composer Wu Zuqiang, writer Feng Jicai, film director Xie Jin, Peking Opera singer Zhang Junqiu, painter Yin Zhoushi and Tibetan singer Cedain Zhoima. ■

Yunnan Quake is Decade's Deadliest

An earthquake registering 7.6 on the Richter scale struck the Lancang and Menglian areas of southwestern Yunnan Province at 9:03:15 pm on November 6, according to the provincial earthquake bureau. China's most deadly quake this decade caused heavy damages, killing hundreds of people, destroying houses and roads and cutting telephone lines.

Deaths totalled 722 and 2,225 seriously injured had been recovered by November 12, according to the *People's Daily*. More than 300,000 houses were destroyed and some 510,000 damaged in the worst-hit areas.

The epicenter of the quake was located 22.9 degrees north latitude and 100.1 degrees east longitude, about 400 kilometres southwest of Kunming, capital of Yunnan Province just inside the border with Burma.

About 1,300 after-shocks ranging from 3 to 6.9 on the Richter scale have shaken the same area in the wake of the major quake, said Fang Zhangshun, head of the State Seismological Bureau, on

November 11. The after-shocks were occurring within a 100-kilometre radius around Lancang and Gengma counties, which have a population of about three million, mainly minority ethnic groups.

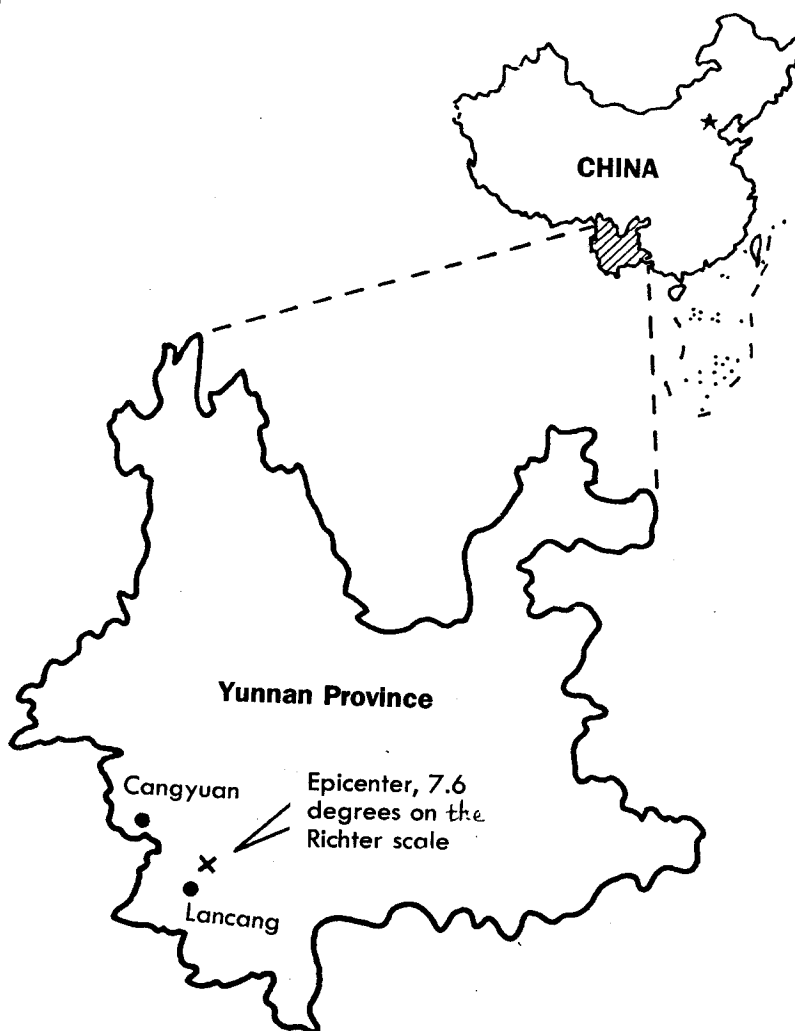
The continuous tremors injured more people and damaged more of the mainly wooden and bamboo houses, worsening the chaotic situation for survivors and rescue workers.

Chen Yong, deputy director of the State Seismological Bureau, said in Beijing on November 10 that the death toll may exceed 1,000.

The earthquake drew immedi-

ate responses from government officials. On November 7, Premier Li Peng urged government departments concerned to make utmost efforts to help the Yunnan provincial government in its earthquake relief work. That same day, Fang and some experts were sent to the quake-stricken areas. He Zhiqiang, governor of Yunnan Province, flew in to direct rescue operations in the disaster areas.

On November 9, the Chinese Communist Party (CPC) Central Committee and the State Council jointly sent a message to express their condolences to the people directly affected, and a delegation headed by Song Jian, member of the CPC Central Committee and



the State Council, was sent to assess rescue efforts in Yunnan.

To help alleviate the disaster's impacts on the local population and economy, on November 10 the ministries of civil affairs and finance allocated 2 million yuan in relief funds to earthquake-stricken areas. Nine medical teams and about 2,000 rescue workers in 39 teams have transported 27 tons of food and 16 tons of drugs, medical supplies and construction materials to the affected area.

The provincial government has also decided to allocate 15.7 million yuan in relief funds. Meanwhile, insurance companies have paid out 8.5 million yuan in advance to the victimized areas.

Earthquakes occur very frequently in Yunnan Province, and there has been a severe earthquake every ten years, according to Chen. State statistics show that 18 earthquakes above magnitude 6 on the Richter scale have taken place since 1965, among which five were above 7 on the Richter scale. Lancang area was hit by an earthquake registering 7 on the Richter scale in 1941 and another registering 5 on October 15, 1988.

Chinese experts earlier this year said that China is entering a period of renewed seismic activities that is predicted to peak after 1990. ■

Reforms Deepen, CCP's Rui Says

The speculation abroad that China's reforms have come to a halt is a misunderstanding, said Rui Xingwen, member of the Secretariat of the Central Committee of the Chinese Communist Party. On the contrary, he said, they are deepening in full swing.

Rui made the statement in his meeting on November 4 with Lokos Zoltan, editor-in-chief of the *Vasarnapi Hírek* (Sunday

News), a Budapest-based Hungarian news-weekly, and journalist Kiss Peter of the newspaper, who were visiting China at the invitation of the *Beijing Review*.

During the meeting, Rui briefed the Hungarian guests on the process of China's reforms, which were initiated at the end of 1978, the problems facing the programme and the task the country is going to undertake. He also answered their questions.

Explaining why the misunderstanding could rise, Rui said that in order to curb the inflation, China is setting rectification of the economic order and improvement of the economic environment as its main tasks for now and the next two years. This decision, consequently, has slowed the pace of price reforms. Perhaps that is one of the reasons that have led to the misunderstanding, he said. Price reform is just one important part of the reform programme, but not the whole, he added. China has made some adjustments in the concrete steps to be taken, but the general direction of reforms has not changed.

The current rectification of the

economic order is designed to pave the way for a smooth unfolding of reforms, and many measures of the rectification themselves are an important content of the reform programme, he continued.

Rui said that China needs to check its overheated economy and curb capital construction in order to redress the situation, in which the general demand far exceeds supplies, and harness the evident inflation. However, he stressed, those projects that have already been contracted to foreign countries will not be affected, while new projects will be selected carefully. For example, he said, hotels and restaurants have been overdeveloped in recent years and therefore should be restrained, but advanced productive projects, such as the Shanghai-based Shanghai-Santana car-production joint venture between China and West Germany and the joint production of McDonald-Douglas airplanes between China and the United States, are still quite welcome. China hopes that more co-operative projects like these can be set up, he said.

by our correspondent
Dai Yannian

Rui (second from right) talks with Dr. Lokos Zoltan (second from left). CHEN ZONGLIE



Cabbage Craze Stirs Beijing

Since the beginning of November, thousands of heavily-laden trucks have been carrying their cargoes of Chinese cabbage into Beijing at all hours.

Chinese cabbage is indispensable for making delicious dumpling-like turnovers called *jiaozi* and as garnish with instantly boiled mutton, which are the most popular foods in Beijing. The cabbage can also be cooked with sliced pork and vermicelli made from bean paste. But the main reason for its popularity is its low price.

More than 300 million kilograms of cabbage are expected to be on the market, 10 percent more than was available last year, according to Chen Xingye, an official of the municipal Chinese cabbage headquarters.

However, the municipal government bought the vegetable from farmers for 14 Chinese cents a kilogramme, double the 1987 purchase price, Chen said, but are selling it to the public at the price of seven cents, the same amount charged last year. This will cost the government an additional 30 million yuan (about US\$8 million) in subsidies, he said.

But the biggest headache associated with the city's "cabbage fever" is the disposal of leftover outer leaves that remain strewn around the streets when the buying spree is over.

An official of the city's sanitation department estimated that as much as 50,000 tons of vegetable garbage has to be removed from the downtown area in the Chinese cabbage season. "We have to work round-the-clock just to clean up the mess, he sighed. ■

Weekly Chronicle (November 7-13)

POLITICAL

November 8

■ The fourth meeting of the Seventh National People's Congress Standing Committee unanimously adopts a law on the protection of wildlife, which will go into effect March 1, 1989.

Protection will extend to animals and aquatic wildlife that are faced with extinction and those of economic or scientific value.

■ Meeting with more than 30 scientists from the Chinese Academy of Sciences in Beijing, Zhao Ziyang, the Party's general secretary, says that the domestic situation as a whole is good, but quite a number of problems are being dealt with.

"We must see clearly that the only way to improve the economic environment and rectify the economic order is to pursue reform," he says.

November 9

■ In a joint congratulatory message sent to George Bush on his being elected as the next United States' president, Yang Shangkun, president of the People's Republic of China and Li Peng, Chinese premier of the State Council, hope that during his term of office relations between China and US will further develop in a consistent, healthy and stable manner on the basis of the principles of the three Sino-US joint communiques.

ECONOMIC

November 9

■ By the end of October, the China International Trust and Investment Corporation (CITIC) had launched 90 Sino-foreign joint ventures, 149 Chinese-funded joint ventures and 13 firms with its

sole investment, *Renmin Ribao* (People's Daily) reports.

Since its inauguration nine years ago, the CITIC has become a comprehensive enterprise group with 21 subsidiary companies, including one bank in Beijing and another in Hong Kong.

November 11

■ Zhao Ziyang, general secretary of the Chinese Communist Party Central Committee, meets with Stanley Fischer, vice-president of the World Bank and chief economist.

During the meeting, Zhao and Fischer conferred on the scope of China's macroeconomic management. In regard to the co-operation between China and the bank, Zhao says that it is proceeding smoothly and the results have been good.

CULTURAL

November 7

■ A new 800-odd metre section of the Great Wall, located 140 km from Beijing proper, will soon open to the public, *Xinhua* reports.

The Simatai section, where the scenery is quite different from Badaling and Mutianyu, will be the third one near the capital opened to tourists.

SOCIAL

November 8

■ A sudden craze to work and study abroad is sweeping over the young workers and students in Shanghai City in recent years, *Gongren Ribao* (Workers Daily) reports.

According to recent statistics, the city saw 10,000 of its residents go abroad in 1986. The figure doubled in 1987 and jumped to 23,000 during the first four months of this year. Most of them went to Japan, and all of them travelled at their own expense.

UNITED STATES

Bush's Victory: Roses and Thorns

The intense race for the presidency between Republican George Bush and Democrat Michael Dukakis has finally ended with a result that surprised few: Bush is going to be the 41st US president. The spoils of victory include detente and deficits.

The historic moment for George Bush, Republican nominee in the 1988 presidential election, came on November 8 when he claimed a landslide victory of 426-112 in electoral votes over his Democratic rival, Michael Dukakis.

Bush's election marked the first time since 1836 that an incumbent vice-president won the presidency. It also created the longest record in more than half a century for a consecutive term in that office by the Republican Party.

Judging from the results of the election, the key factors responsible for Bush's victory are the persistent growth of the US economy for six successive years, the widespread opportunities for employment and low inflation.

The prestige of incumbent President Ronald Reagan, to a great extent, also contributed to Bush's election. For a while Bush lagged behind Dukakis for some 10 percentage points due to the former's lackluster, presidential-coattail image. But Bush soon reversed the trend by boasting his role in helping President Reagan bring about the two biggest achievements during his presidency: at home, the persistent economic prosperity and abroad, the relaxation of US-Soviet relations.

However, the president-elect will face a series of thorny issues when he moves into the White Office next January. First, the

current economic momentum is both auspicious and ominous. The Reaganomic legacy includes a large trade deficit, a serious budget deficit (US\$150 billion) and US\$400-billion foreign debt. The Congress has demanded that the new president wipe out the budget deficit during his presidency. Bush pledged neither to cut military spending nor to increase taxes, so it remains to be seen how he will eliminate the deficit.

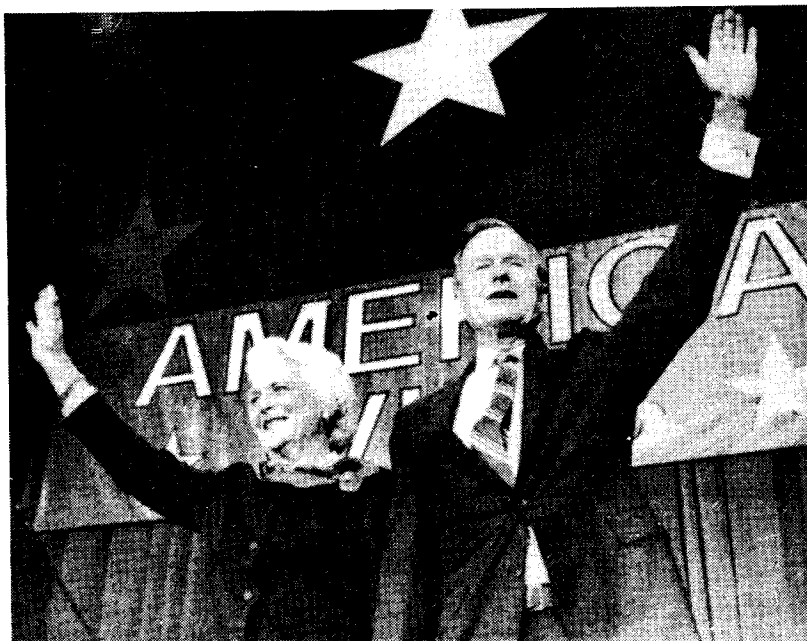
In regard to diplomacy and defence, Bush is likely to encourage further detente between the United States and the Soviet Union, but many people believe

that the new task facing the president-elect is to convince the nation's West European allies and Soviet rival that any reduction of US nuclear weapons does not signify military impotence or a reluctance to use arms.

The stubborn trade deficit already has sharpened frictions between the United States and major Western industrial countries. The value of the US dollar has been plummeting for a long time. Can the new president continue to co-ordinate economic policies with Japan, West Germany and other countries? Most noteworthy is that by 1992 a unified European market is to emerge and, under the circumstance, how is the new president going to break the West European protectionist barrier?

Likewise, many social problems that served as ammunition for attacks by both candidates are now all transferred to the new president for resolution. With the post-World War II generation becoming the mainstay of American society, drugs, medicare and

An exultant Bush celebrates victory with his wife, Barbara.



education have become obstinate problems in the United States. Bush will have to make painstaking efforts to live up to his campaign promises.

The co-operation of the new Congress, once again under control of Democrats, will be a further challenge for Bush.

Above all, it will be a test of Bush's ability whether he can lead the United States successfully into the last decade of this century.

Many Chinese people seem to have an intimate feeling about Bush because of his experience as head of the US liaison office in Beijing during 1974-1975. Partly because of this, they wished Bush could win the election, serve well as the next US president and contribute to developing friendly ties between the United States and China.

by Jin Xianfa and She Duanzhi

ZIMBABWE

Mugabe Policies Harvest Rewards

The success of Zimbabwean agriculture in recent years has been due to the wise policies of President Robert Gabriel Mugabe, this year's African Leader Prize winner.

This past September, the International Anti-starvation Organization awarded this year's African Leader Prize to the Zimbabwean President Mugabe for his great contribution to developing his country's agriculture.

Agriculture plays a very important role in the national economy of Zimbabwe. Since the country's independence in 1980, the annual growth rate of its agriculture rose to 4.5 percent. The overall growth rate of the national economy this year is expected to be 5 percent.

Zimbabwe's agricultural development is due to the government's appropriate policies. In the past eight years, the Mugabe government has paid much attention to learning from the experiences of other countries in developing agriculture and formulated economic policies according to Zimbabwe's actual conditions.

The government gives priority to agricultural development. About 70 percent of the Zimbab-

wean population are connected directly or indirectly, with agriculture. In order to revitalize Zimbabwe's economy, the government has made a series of successful plans to carry out land allocation, organize rural co-operative groups and increase credits on agriculture.

Zimbabwe's agricultural plans have developed in view of three governmental concerns:

First, the interests of white commercial farmers are safeguarded. Nowadays, there are 4,500 large-scale commercial farms belonging to whites, accounting for nearly 40 percent of the total cultivated areas. Due to their advanced equipment and favourable locations, these farms' output is high, and 90 percent is for export. Their incomes are more than 70 percent of the country's total agricultural output value.

The government safeguards those farms' interests without intervening in their methods of management. Measures are taken

to add to their quota of foreign exchange and decrease the import tax on agricultural machinery. Furthermore, the government allows the white commercial farmers to have their own organizations such as the Association of Commercial Farmers. The government's concerned ministers often talk with farmers and discuss problems in agriculture, thus, giving full play to the farm-owners' initiative in production.

Second, village-community peasants are supported. For the purpose of promoting enthusiasm for production, the Zimbabwe government adopted such measures as hiking the purchasing prices of farm produce, greatly increasing the agricultural credits and strengthening the technical guidance towards agriculture. Currently, the grain output in village communal regions makes up 40 percent of the national output.

Third, economic diversification is encouraged. The government argues that just planting one or two kinds of crops will bring about dangers. So the government encourages peasants to plant diversified crops. Tobacco is the chief economic crop in Zimbabwe with an annual output of more than 100,000 tons. The gross income from exporting tobacco comprises 20 percent of the national income in foreign exchange. In recent years, the output of cotton and oil crops has increased greatly.

However, developing Zimbabwean agriculture is not easy. As a country exporting primary products, Zimbabwe is often affected by the international protectionist trade practices and price falls of farm products in the international markets. Also, the threat of natural disasters is one of the obstacles to the development of agriculture. Nevertheless, the Zimbabwe government persists in

its policy of prioritizing agriculture and thus continues the honour of being a "granary" in southern Africa. Mugabe fully

deserves the prize awarded by the International Anti-starvation Organization.

Shi Luo

POLAND

Thatcher Extends "Preachy" Hand

Early this month British Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher visited Poland, and the country's leader appraised their bilateral talks as a diplomatic coup. However, the "Iron Lady" still had some reservations.

During her stay in Warsaw, British Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher held talks and exchanged views with Polish leaders on bilateral relations and international issues. This helped narrow the economic and cultural gaps between Poland and Britain. But by the end of the talks, Thatcher still had some coercive political advice to offer her host.

The British prime minister's visit was originally scheduled for May this year, but was postponed twice because of the US-Soviet Moscow summit and a change of government in Warsaw a month ago. Informed sources said, however, that the main reason behind the postponements was that Thatcher insisted on meeting Lech Walesa, the leader of Solidarity trade union, and the Polish authorities were unhappy about it.

However, in recent years Anglo-Polish relations have improved considerably. High-level political exchanges have included visits to each other's capitals by British Foreign Secretary Geoffrey Howe and Polish Foreign Minister Marian Orzechowski, a visit to Poland last year by the Speaker of the British House of Commons, Bernard Weatherill, and Polish Deputy-Prime Minister Zdzislaw Sadowski's visit to Britain earlier this year.

Mutual visits by economic and trade officials and business people have also increased.

Under such circumstances, Thatcher made her recent trip to Poland, the first by an incumbent British prime minister. At the banquet in honour of Thatcher on November 3, Polish leader Wojciech Jaruzelski said a solid foundation for establishing peaceful co-existence in Europe is to respect policy differences, renounce political preaching and practise non-interference in national sovereignty. He also complained that sanctions the West imposed on Poland in 1981 had caused tremendous losses to the country, and pointed out that Poland's relations with the West had not been fully normalized.

In their talks the two leaders advocated further constructive development in all aspects of the conference on security and co-operation in Europe. They exchanged views on bilateral relations, disarmament and the possibilities of promoting East-West relations.

Poland implemented an economic reform in 1982, that now has entered the second phase. Therefore, the country needs more active economic co-operation and trade with Britain, including the establishment of joint ventures. Poland is now Britain's second-

largest trade partner in Eastern Europe. Britain's exports to Poland this year are expected to maintain last year's level of 181 million pounds (about US\$320 million), while imports from Poland are expected to reach 340 million pounds (about US\$600 million) above last year's. However, Poland owes a foreign debt of about US\$40 billion, of which US\$2.3 billion belongs to Britain.

At a press conference before her departure, the British prime minister said that Polish-British relations will become closer, particularly in regard to cultural exchanges, management training, and student and teacher exchanges. However, she said that on financial matters there would be no new Western credit until Poland reaches an accommodation with the International Monetary Fund, expected early next year, on a reform programme.

The main difference between Poland and Britain is on the outlawed Solidarity trade union. The British prime minister on November 4 travelled to the northern city of Gdansk, where she met with Solidarity leader Walesa for nearly three hours. She expressed strong support for Solidarity.

At the banquet in her honour Thatcher said, "It is so vital there be a real dialogue with representatives of all sections of society, including Solidarity. "When that happens, when that great day comes, you will find your friends ready, not just to stand and cheer, but to help in practical ways," she promised.

However, her view on Solidarity recently has been criticized by leader of the British Labour Party Neil Kinnock, and the Polish authorities are still attempting to close the Lenin Shipyard in Gdansk, where Solidarity was born and its leader works.

by Ren Yan

LEBANON

Disunity Stunts New Leadership

A recent political crisis in Lebanon has aroused international attention, and calls for efforts to save the country from partition have intensified.

Lebanon, the war-ravaged country, recently has plunged into its worst political crisis since it gained independence in 1943. The Lebanese parliament failed to elect a new president and speaker, a peculiar situation — two governments without a president — occurred, and the country is facing the danger of partition.

The Lebanese crisis began a month ago when its parliament failed to muster a quorum to elect a successor to former President Amin Gemayel. Syria first recommended former Lebanese President Sulaiman Franjiya as presidential candidate, but failed. Then, it nominated another pro-Syrian parliament member, Mikhail Daher, who was put forward as a compromise candidate after US-Syrian talks. This was again opposed by Christians. Christian deputies, who form the majority in the parliament, have three times boycotted parliament sessions since August 18 in order to block the election of Syrian-designated presidential candidates.

Before Gemayel ended his six-year term on September 23, government army commander Michel Aoun, a Christian Maronite, was appointed prime minister of a military caretaker government. However, the Moslem cabinet headed by acting Sunni Prime Minister Salim Hoss continues to function as the government. So there are two rival governments, Christian and Moslem, and without a president.

The failure of presidential elections and the appearance of two governments made Lebanon's political situation more unstable. As a result, the annual election of a parliamentary speaker also came to a premature end.

Syria backs the Hoss cabinet and charges that Aoun and his military supporters have perpetrated a "coup d'etat." Moslems opposed the Aoun government, but Aoun stressed his government is a legal one.

The Moslem leadership in Lebanon, however, objects to "internationalizing" the Lebanese problem, while Christian leaders supporting the Aoun government have appealed for international and Arab help to avert the danger of partition.

Lebanon's political crisis has caused deep concern in the international community, especially the Arab world. French Foreign Minister Roland Dumas even suggested the United Nations Security Council send UN peace troops to Beirut to be responsible for the security of a presidential election. The United States said it would continue to comply with its agreement with Syria. It also coordinated with France and the Vatican City to promote the holding of a presidential election as early as possible.

So far, leaders of nine Arab countries, such as Egypt, Jordan and the United Arab Emirates, have demanded the convening of an emergency meeting of the Arab

League to resolve the crisis. Only three Arab states, Iraq, Egypt and Libya, have recognized Aoun's military government until now. Most Arab and non-Arab countries are maintaining a neutral attitude.

On October 28, Iranian Foreign Minister Ali Akbar Velayati unexpectedly visited Syria and immediately held talks with Syrian President Hafez al-Assad to discuss ways to avoid Lebanon's partition.

Analysts see that the present conditions in Lebanon are not conducive to a presidential election. Now, it is difficult for the Arab world to reach unanimity on the problem in Lebanon, and the United States and Syria are not expected to take major measures to change the situation. Diplomats in Beirut generally believe that Lebanon's present division, two governments without a president, is likely to continue a long time.

by Zhu Jiefei



Bush's Familiarity Stirs Sino-US Hopes

by Our Correspondents Liu Youyuan and Zhang Xiaodong

The result of the 1988 US presidential election was announced on November 8, 1988, via a national electoral vote: Republican George Bush, the current vice-president, won a landslide victory as the 41st president of the United States of America. While the country's Republicans were jubilant and the Democrats dejected, countries all over the world expressed their reactions. Although China and the United States are separated by many miles, because of their growing bilateral ties and China's familiarity with Bush, China has paid a great deal of attention to the election.

Why did the Americans, who are always on the lookout for whatever is novel and like to periodically change the ruling party, choose the Republican Party, already eight years in power, to continue governing the country? What is the prospect of Sino-US relations in the Bush administration? How is the democracy of the US presidential election to be appreciated? With these questions, we interviewed Rong Yiren, a well-known Chinese industrialist, and Professor Fei Xiaotong, a famous sociologist, and both vice-chairmen of the Standing Committee of the National People's Congress (NPC).

When mentioning this year's US presidential election, Rong said that in his visit to the United States last September he had predicted that neither a Republican nor a Democratic victory would change the nation's overall policies towards China. Rong believes that because Bush once headed his country's diplomatic

mission in China, and afterward has returned on visits, he has become familiar with many Chinese leaders. Compared with Michael Dukakis, Bush has a better understanding of China, and China also has a better knowledge about him.



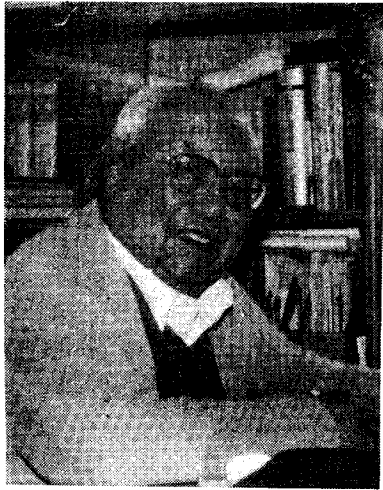
Rong said, "Although intellectual circles of the United States prefer Dukakis to Bush, the middle-class want stability. In the eight years of the Reagan administration, the country's economy has developed steadily. As vice-president, Bush has certainly made no small contribution during this time. Therefore, he has won support from the middle-class. Besides, Bush is comparatively more experienced in diplomatic affairs and has achieved some success in this respect, while Dukakis has not. In regard to personality, Bush's amiable appearance and capabilities proven by successes in many jobs have won him a favourable impression with many people."

Looking forward to the future of Sino-US relations, Rong said

that the prospects for further development are generally good, but not without problems. He hopes for a positive resolution of those problems. He particularly expects a strengthening of Sino-US economic contacts and more technological transfers from the United States. Bush's anti-protectionist trade position in international economic contacts is also a factor favourable to promoting Sino-US trade relations, he said.

When speaking of the relationship between the China International Trust and Investment Corporation, where he is chairman of the board, and the United States, Rong said that his company has some investments in the United States and at the same time, the US industrial and commercial enterprises have interactions with the corporation. He expects to further develop these contacts on the basis of equality and mutual benefit. He places his hopes on the coming Bush administration.

In view of global changes and current American thinking, Fei analysed the US presidential election. He said, "Human history has entered a new era and a brand-new global setup will be formed in the 21st century. One main reason for this change is the rapid strides in science and technology, manifested in war weapons. Because of their increasing capacity to destroy, nuclear weapons are denying themselves utility. They exist just as a deterrent force. In the 80s, powers realized this dangerous potential for atomic annihilation and began a new, more intense competition—economic war. In



the late period of the Reagan administration, the US-Soviet relations have obviously been relaxed. Hoping to maintain his peace momentum, the Americans called for a continuance of the Reagan administration's policies. Thus, Bush, an advocate of those policies, was elected to play the rôle. This reflects the Americans' psychological desire for stability."

In regard to whether big changes will appear after the new

president comes to power, Fei said that during the presidential election, each party can propose as many ideas as possible, but they are not substantive. In fact, concrete policies are influenced by various interest groups, especially big enterprises, and the current international situation. Therefore, the change of presidents is of no decisive significance. No matter which party rises to power, little change will happen to government policies.

When asked his opinion about the democracy of the US presidential election, Fei said that, in the past, we usually accused the US election of being a "dishonest sham" and "bourgeois fraud," but received nothing beneficial from that propagandist slogan review. "Without a serious study or analysis of the US election, how can we really learn anything useful?" Fei said. Presidential elections are a way for people to participate in politics—an exercising of the democratic spirit. Although the presidential election alone does not reflect all the

people's will, it at least offers a chance for the public to make a choice. To take part in the election is essential for democracy. Moreover the literacy rate of the American public is comparatively high, so that they are able to make their own choice in the election.

As to Sino-US relations now and in the future, Fei thinks that present help from the US appears great, but is actually very little. According to the professor, the United States should give China more technological transfers and increase its investment in China.

He hopes that Bush will appropriately understand the significance of Sino-Soviet efforts to improve their relations towards world peace. As to China's unification issue, the professor thinks that the United States only upholds China's unification in words, but not in deeds. He expressed his hope that the new president will offer some effective activities to promote China's unification rather than commit regretful ones. ■

Questions and Answers on the Lhasa Riots

In September and October 1987 and March 1988, three riots occurred in Lhasa, capital of the Tibet Autonomous Region. Many readers have since written to us, asking what these riots were all about and how the Chinese authorities dealt with them. To find answers to these and other questions concerning Tibet, "Beijing Review" recently interviewed officials from the Chinese Ministry of Public Security, the Supreme People's Court and the Ministry of Foreign Affairs. Following are extracts from the interviews — Ed.

Question: Some people have said that the demonstrations which occurred in Lhasa in 1987 and 1988, despite being peaceful, were forcibly suppressed. Is this true?

Answer: The demonstrations which occurred in Lhasa in September and October 1987 and

March 1988 were by no means peaceful. These riots were deliberately instigated by a handful of separatists, who waved flags of "Tibetan independence" and shouted slogans clearly aimed at separating Tibet from China and threatening national unity and stability.

The rioters also committed a series of criminal activities. For example, on September 27, 1987, the rioters wounded 24 policemen who had come to maintain order and destroyed two vehicles. In the October 1 riot, they destroyed and burnt 43 cars and motorcycles, set fire to the police station in

Bajiaojie Street, and wounded 325 security officials and policemen.

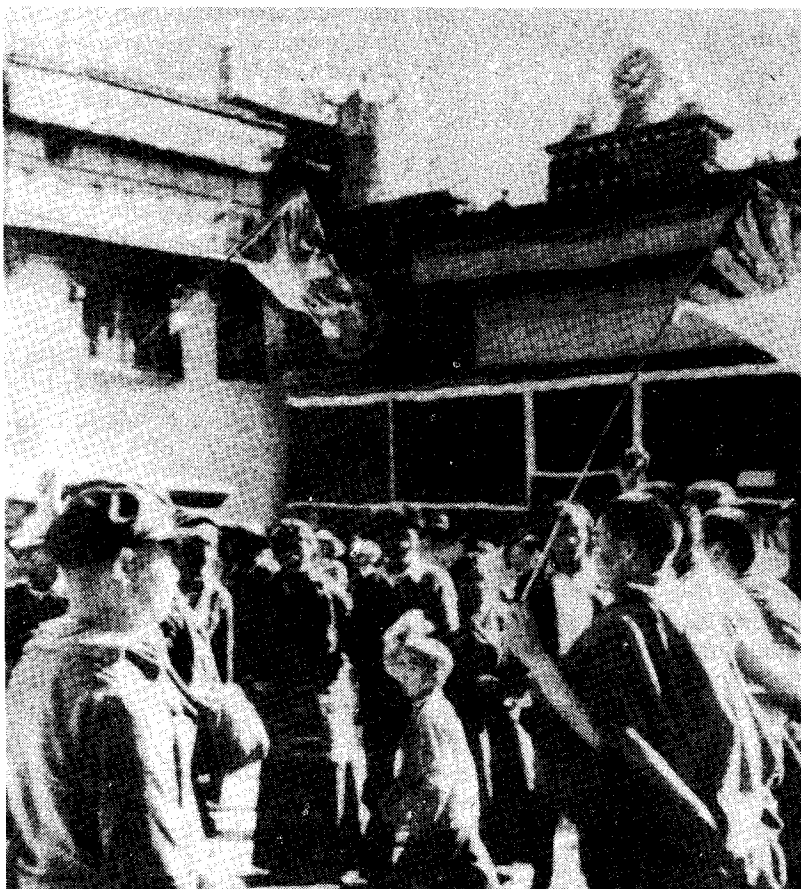
On March 5, 1988, the rioters destroyed a TV vehicle which was parked in the Jokhang Monastery for the live broadcast of a summons ceremony, and overturned and burnt a car belonging to the Tibet Autonomous Regional Buddhist Association. They also killed one policeman and wounded 328 others.

Article 4 of the Constitution of the People's Republic of China rules that any acts which undermine the unity of the country's nationalities or are aimed at instigating secession are prohibited. Article 92 of the Criminal Law of the People's Republic of China stipulates: "Whoever plots to subvert the government or dismember the state" commits counter-revolutionary crimes. The handful of separatists who instigated the riots obviously violated both the Constitution and the criminal law.

Q: What caused the riots, and did it have anything to do with the Dalai clique?

A: A host of facts have revealed that the Lhasa riots were caused by a handful of separatists at the instigation of the Dalai clique.

In 1959, the Dalai clique tore up the Agreement on Measures for the Peaceful Liberation of Tibet reached in 1951 between the Central People's Government and the Tibetan local government. They then launched an armed rebellion before fleeing to India. Since then, some members of the clique have never ceased in their attempts to split the motherland by advocating the "independence of Tibet." The central government has adopted a policy of leniency towards them, welcoming them to return. However, as they regard the leniency of the people's government as an expression of weakness, they have intensified their separatist activities. Some



XINHUA NEWS AGENCY

In the riot of October last year, a group of national separatists waved flags of "snow mountain lions" and shouted slogans advocating "Tibetan independence."

have disguised themselves as tourists on sightseeing trips or visits to their relatives. They have distributed fly-sheets advocating national separation and calling on the people to make trouble. Others have been to Tibet to form separatist forces.

In September 1987, the Dalai Lama, taking advantage of his visit to the United States, tried to turn the world opinion in favour of the "independence of Tibet." Some US politicians took the opportunity to interfere in the internal affairs of our country. They allowed the Dalai Lama to announce his "five-point plan" for the solution of the Tibet problem at a subcommittee of the House of Representatives, and then transmitted his speech to Tibet either as

a broadcast or through other channels.

By taking advantage of the masses' religious sentiments and the mistakes and errors that the authorities of the Tibet Autonomous Region had committed in their work, some separatists at home conducted agitational activities. Most of the excuses they used stemmed from events that occurred during the special historical conditions of the "cultural revolution." These misdoings have either been corrected or are being corrected. The People's Government of the Tibet Autonomous Region has plenty of evidence that the Lhasa riots were closely connected with the separatist activities of the Dalai clique. When interviewed by reporters

from a French newspaper on October 18, 1987, the Dalai Lama himself even admitted that the Lhasa riots had something to do with his activities in the United States.

Q: How do religious leaders and the residents of Lhasa view these riots?

A: These riots in Lhasa were plotted by a handful of separatists who have close connections with the activities of the Dalai clique. Their aim was to undermine the unity of China and the stability of Tibet in close co-ordination with the Dalai Lama's overseas activities attempting to separate Tibet from the motherland.

These riots have been strongly condemned and denounced by people from all walks of life, including workers, farmers, herdsmen, intellectuals, monks and nuns, and even the upper stratum of religious circles.

In repudiating the riots, Bainqen Erdini Qoigyai Gyaincain, one of the two principal leaders of Tibetan Buddhism, said they were instigated by a handful of separatists in Tibet who were at the beck and call of the separatist clique residing abroad. He added

that they ran counter to the will of the Tibetan people and were unpopular, saying, "Their criminal attempt will never succeed."

He called on all the Tibetan people to contribute to maintaining national unity and stability.

Other religious leaders in Tibet have also strongly denounced these riots. Lama Luosang Pingcuy, director of the Jokhang Monastery's Committee for Democratic Management, said: "I am sorry that a few lamas participated in the riots. By being involved in violence against people and property, they have not only violated Buddhist canons but also the laws of the state." Cemolin Danzengchilie, vice-president of the Buddhist Association of the Tibet Autonomous Region, said: "The instigation of riots by a handful of separatists is by no means a religious problem. They do not represent the broad masses of ecclesiastical people."

Most residents of Lhasa strongly opposed the riots. One said: "This handful of separatists do not represent us. Their attempt to split our country can never succeed." Another said: "We are

very busy. We hate these rioters who have nothing to do other than make trouble every day."

Q: Some people have said that in putting down the riots in Lhasa, the police arrested and beat people indiscriminately, killing quite a few. What is the truth?

A: In putting down the riots, the Lhasa police detained and arrested some of the principal trouble-makers who took the lead in smashing, sabotaging, looting and burning. Some of them were taken away from the spot and subsequently released after education. Others, who confessed after interrogation, were released because their crimes were not serious. Of course, it is true that a few wrongful arrests were made in the heat of the moment. These people were set free as soon as they were found to be not guilty.

During each of the riots, Tibet Autonomous Regional leaders ordered the police not to fire on the rioters. However, a few had to use their guns or batons in self-defence when they were in danger. A thorough investigation indicates that in the October 1, 1987 riot, six trouble-makers and onlookers died: two by stones thrown by rioters, one falling from a high building, one by a ricocheting bullet, one shot accidentally and one shot directly. In the March 5, 1988 riot, four rioters and onlookers died, two were killed by stones thrown by rioters, and two, who were wounded by bullets on the spot, died later despite emergency treatment.

Q: Of all those arrested in the riots, how many have been set free and how many are still in prison? How well are they treated in prison? What will happen to them? How many rioters, if any, were executed?

A: All these questions were clearly answered by Doje Cering, chairman of the government of the Tibet Autonomous Region, on

Tibetan religious believers attending a service at the Jokhang Monastery after the riot of March 5 this year.

KANG SONG



August 9, 1988, when he met Winston Lord, US ambassador to China, in Lhasa. He said that in the riot of March 5, 1988, the Lhasa Public Security Bureau detained more than 220 people for interrogation.* Most of them have been released after a period of education because of the minor nature of their crimes and a full confession. There are over 20 still in custody.

Most of those detained in the 1987 riots were released before January this year.

All those still in custody have been well treated. When their crimes are clearly confirmed, the judicial organs will put them on trial. So far no rioters have been executed.

Q: Were any foreign tourists or reporters at the scene of the riots? If there were, were they detained, warned or deported?

A: In both the riots of October 1, 1987, and March 5, 1988, there were foreigners on the spot. Some even participated in the riots. The public security organs gave some of the foreigners who took part in the riots either an oral warning or a fine. On October 8 last year, the Foreign Affairs Office of the People's Government of the Tibet Autonomous Region summoned 15 foreign reporters who violated the news coverage regulations of the Chinese government and ordered them to leave Tibet within 48 hours.

Q: Why were foreigners not allowed to travel nor foreign reporters permitted to cover news in Tibet during riots?

A: First of all, it should be made clear that Tibet is one of the areas of China open to the outside

world. China welcomes foreigners to travel and cover news in Tibet.

During the riots, the People's Government of the Tibet Autonomous Region at one point decided not to receive any foreign tourists or visitors except those groups whose visits had been previously approved and contracted. It made this decision because of the then chaotic situation in Tibet and out of consideration for the personal safety of foreign tourists.

According to the regulations of the Information Department of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, foreign reporters going to cover news in Tibet's open areas should apply for a permit at the Foreign Affairs Office of the People's Government of the Tibet Autonomous Region. They can go when their application is approved. In fact, many foreign reporters have already gone to cover news in Tibet since the beginning of this year.

Q: What procedures should foreigners go through if they want to travel in Tibet?

A: Foreign friends are welcome to Tibet. Handicapped by limited tourist facilities, Tibet can only accept a limited number of tourists. These tourists can apply for an entry visa at any overseas Chinese embassy or through any tourist agency. Foreigners who are already in China can contact local tourist agencies, who will organize them into groups and then contact and co-ordinate with the tourist bureau in Tibet.

Q: What counter-measures have the Tibetan authorities taken since the riots? Are the masses allowed to hold parades and demonstrations?

A: Measures have principally been taken in the following two areas: strengthening patriotic and national unity education among the cadres and masses and exposing and smashing the plots of separatists; and continuing to

implement the Party's policy on nationalities and religion and accelerate Tibet's economic and cultural development.

The Ad Hoc Regulations of the Lhasa Municipal People's Government on Assembly and Demonstration adopted at the second session of the Standing Committee of the Fifth People's Congress of Lhasa on October 9, 1987, have been put into effect. All assemblies and demonstrations which conform to these regulations are permissible in Lhasa.

The major points of these regulations are:

1. Organizers of assemblies and demonstrations must hand in a written application to the municipal public security bureau five days in advance, specifying the purpose, number of participants, time and place. The public security bureau will supply its answer within three days from the day after it receives the application. Assemblies and demonstrations not approved by the public security bureau are illegal.

2. No assemblies and demonstrations are allowed to be held in Bajiaojie Street, Beijing Road and Yutuo Road.

3. Participants of assemblies and demonstrations must take good care of public property and observe public order. No one is allowed to engage in illegal activities that will encourage splitting the country or undermining national unity. No one is allowed to disturb public order, block the traffic or interfere with production, teaching and studying, work and normal religious activities. No one is allowed to carry weapons, stones, inflammable materials or explosives.

4. During assemblies or parades, anyone preventing government personnel from fulfilling their tasks according to the law by threats of resorting to violence, engaging in other illegal activities or violating articles 2 and 3 mentioned above will be held

* The Bainqen Lama has recently said that most of the 300-odd lamas and nuns arrested during and after the March riots have been released (See article "Bainqen Discloses Buddhist Group," *Beijing Review*, issued No. 41, p. 6). A subsequent check put the figure at around 220.

criminally liable.

Q: What about the situation in Lhasa after the riots?

A: Generally speaking, the situation in Lhasa after the riots has been stable. This is because the vast majority of the Tibetan people, especially the Tibetan farmers and herdsmen, who make up more than 95 percent of the total Tibetan population, very much treasure their hard-won happiness and cherish stability and unity. They are opposed to

those who engage in activities aiming at splitting the country, undermining national unity, instigating riots and impairing social stability. The riots occurred only in a small part of Lhasa. They were all instigated by a tiny handful of people — about 0.5 percent — and were put down very quickly. All these are enough to say that the riots were unpopular.

Q: How many leaders, if any, of the Tibet Autonomous Region have been dismissed or pro-

moted because of the riots? Have more troops and police been dispatched to Tibet?

A: The riots were instigated by a handful of separatists and put down very quickly. Now, all work in Tibet is going smoothly and social order has long been brought back to normal. No leader of the Tibet Autonomous Region has been dismissed or promoted because of the riots. The state sees no need to station more troops and police in Tibet. ■

Refugee Camps: Neighbours' Burdens

by Yang Mu

The Vietnamese armed forces overran Kampuchea on December 25, 1978, and one year later, on December 27, 1979, the Soviet Union invaded Afghanistan. This is not coincidence but fulfillment of the same expansionist policy. People around these two warring "hot spots" fled to neighbouring countries, placing a heavy burden on Thailand and Pakistan who have won universal praise for their proper arrangement for the refugees and organization of international humanitarian aid. The refugee camps along the Thai-Kampuchean and Pakistan-Afghanistan borders have become corridors exposing the wars of aggression and unveiling international humanitarianism.

Between 1980 and 1986, I have been to the Thai-Kampuchean border more than 20 times as a reporter and witnessed the vicissitudes of the Kampuchean refugees. Towards the end of last October and in early November, I stayed in refugee camps on the Pakistan-Afghanistan border. The terrible plight of the refugees aroused my greatest fury. How long are these innocent people

going to suffer?

It was in early 1980. Vietnamese troops advanced along the Kampuchean highways and forest paths, killing all and burning all. They drove several hundred thousand people into Thailand's eastern and northeastern parts. They had no shelters besides plastic-sheet tents put up on the bare ground. When the rain came, mothers with their emaciated children in their laps sat on a rock to be protected only by a wash basin that they placed on their heads. Later, they were accepted into camps put up with the help of the United Nations and international humanitarian organizations. In June 1982 the Coalition Government of Democratic Kampuchea was founded, and the three anti-Vietnamese factions set up camps to receive refugees for a settled life. The UN and Thailand were left to take charge of a few large refugee camps.

During the peak days, there were 1 million refugees (including those in the camps) scattering along the border. With the assistance of the Thai government and the UN, around one-third of them have moved to Europe,

America, and Australia, or returned home. The total number of refugees in the Thai border areas now stands at 300,000.

When I set foot in the North West Frontier Province of Pakistan, I was amazed at the number of refugee camps, which totalled 251. Together with Baluchistan, the two provinces housed 3.2 million Afghan refugees, which is 10 times more than those in Thailand. At present, the Afghan refugees need US\$1 million of international aid each day, half of which is offered by Pakistan. They seldom move again, either to a third country or back home. Only 80,000 of them have migrated to Europe and America. A Pakistan-based official from the Office of the United Nations Higher Commissioner for Refugees said that since the Soviet Union pulled out its 50,000 occupation forces from Afghanistan last August, only some 200 refugees had returned home. However, people kept coming into Pakistan seeking asylum.

That is to say, the burden on Pakistan is heavy and long-standing. Under such circumstances, it has adopted a policy

that is different from that of Thailand. The latter places a strict control over the refugees who are not allowed to travel or be employed inland. Job training courses are permitted to run inside the camps, as are self-supporting workshops and small shops. But the refugees are prohibited from engaging in stockraising of a permanent nature.

But it is very different in Pakistan, whose government follows an open policy. The refugees are issued an identification card so they may travel freely, be employed and settle down.

On October 24 when we were in Peshawar, we met Fabimullah Khattack, chief commissioner for Afghan Refugees under the Government of Pakistan. During the interview, I asked, "Do you consider Afghan refugees a heavy burden on your country? What's the purpose of your open policy?"

He said with a smile, "The burden is heavy to be sure, but our people are happy about what they are doing. The refugees are Moslems. Many of them are Pashtuns and speak Pashto. That is to say, they share the same religious belief with the Pakistanis and belong to the same ethnic group of our people in the North West Frontier Province. It has been a tradition for people on both sides of the border to visit each

other freely. They have a close relationship between them. Our religion teaches us to help our brothers who are in trouble with all our might. How can we close our door? The refugees are allowed to open shops and handicraft workshops in Peshawar and other cities and towns. They are even permitted to buy land and houses by using the names of their relatives and friends in Pakistan.... You can see while you are in Peshawar what we mean by an open policy."

Peshawar, capital of North West Frontier Province, was a quiet town 10 years ago. However, its population shot up from around 300,000 to over 1 million, after the Soviet invasion of Afghanistan. The refugee population is four times more than that of the local residents. It has become a veritable refugee city. When we took a walk along the street, we saw here and there groceries, carpet-weaving shops, and fruit and vegetable stalls run by the refugees. Many of the motor tricycles, horse carriages, and trucks also were owned by a few of them. Among the pedestrians, the refugees mixed well with the locals in physical features, clothing and language. The commissioner said that of every family in the refugee camps, there are one or two members

working in Pakistan, totalling 1 million. This is a special feature of Pakistan's refugee policy.

However, the open policy has brought about some social problems. Our friends told us that fierce competition has unfolded between the local people and the refugees in transport and a number of commercial departments. Scuffles often took place between them in the street. Consequently, even employed refugees were longing to return home. Only a few who were rich had chosen to stay. The Pakistan people will be glad to see their Afghan brothers back home.

The war of aggression lies at the root of the refugee problem. People hope that after withdrawing half of its occupation forces, in compliance with the Geneva agreement signed on April 14, the Soviet Union will pull out all its troops in February 1989 as scheduled. This will be the most important prerequisite for the refugees to return to their own country.

When looking at the Kampuchean problem, we see nothing of an unconditional withdrawal of the Vietnamese troops. The Kampuchean refugee problem will come to an end when the Vietnamese authorities call off their policy of aggression and pull out all their troops from Kampuchea. ■

Random Notes From Tibet University

by Yang Xin and Duo Fen

Standing beside the Lhasa River in the eastern suburbs of the Tibetan capital are an orderly series of dormitory and teaching buildings surrounded by flowers and trees. This is Tibet University, the autonomous region's first comprehensive institution of higher learning founded in 1985.

In early autumn when we visited the university, its 1,200 staff and students were giving a warm send-off to its first group of graduates.

Establishment

Ciwang Junmei, the 40-year-old

president of the university, is a descendant of a former Tibetan noble family. Himself a graduate of the Beijing Teachers' University, he said that since Tibet's democratic reform, which was completed in 1961, several tens of thousands of university graduates had come to work in the region.

Most of them had been trained in Beijing, Shanghai, Xian or elsewhere, and so although they formed a talented workforce for the construction of a new Tibet, they were not well versed in traditional Tibetan habits and customs. As a result, Bainqen Erdini Qoigyi Gyaincain, vice-chairman of the Standing Committee of the National People's Congress, had suggested on several occasions that higher education in Tibet should be oriented to maintaining and developing Tibetan culture and, in particular, teaching should be conducted in Tibetan. He raised the idea of founding a comprehensive Tibetan university in 1980, and on subsequent inspection tours of the region he discussed the idea with local government officials. Finally, they decided to upgrade the Tibet Teachers' College, and Tibet University was born.

In 1984, the state earmarked a large amount of funds for 43 key construction projects in Tibet. One of these was Tibet University, and by the end of the year, more than 40,000 square metres of floor space had been completed. To bring the college's Tibetan medicine and science laboratories up to the required academic standards, teaching aids and experimental equipment were imported from various parts of China. A first-class audio-visual room was built and 130,000 books were added to the library. The same year, the university enrolled its first batch of students—the ones who have now just graduated.

Characteristics

At present, the university has 778 students majoring in 17 courses. Of its eight departments, three concentrate solely on Tibetan subjects—Tibetan language, Tibetan medicine and Tibetan arts.



A view of the Tibet University campus.

CHEN ZONGLIE

The university opened the department of Tibetan language to meet the needs of people already well versed in the language. Its director, Suo Ping, said, "The Tibetan language has a history of more than 1,300 years, during which time it has been used to write a great many classic books. Now there is a place to study Tibetan in its true environment, many students interested in the language have applied to the university from various parts of the country."

In the student dormitory, Caidan Zhuoduo, a female Tibetan student from Qinghai Province, said, "Of the eight departments in the university, those of Tibetan language, Tibetan medicine and Tibetan arts are unique and the best. That is why I crossed the Tanggula Mountains to study here."

The university now has 17 professors and associate professors. Among them 14 are Tibetans, of whom six are considered academic authorities in the Tibetan language and Tibetan medicine.

Sang Dan, 48, is the deputy director of the Tibetan Medicine Department in charge of teaching. He began to study medicine with his elder brother at a hospital in Lhasa when he was young. As early as the 1950s, the two brothers' skills were renowned across Tibet. Now, Sang Dan's elder brother is the Dalai Lama's private doctor, while he trains a new generation of Tibetan medical workers. All his teaching materials were written by himself, and at the time of writing he was busy editing the volume on Tibetan medicine for the Encyclopaedia of Chinese Medical Sciences.

In the dormitories of the Department of Tibetan Arts, we saw several *tangka*—traditional Tibetan scroll paintings—created by students who had mastered drawing skills in monasteries of Lamaism's yellow Sect. To develop their technique, these students often visit the Potala Palace and Lhasa's three major monasteries to copy Buddhist frescoes. According to Dan Qu, the deputy director of the university's teaching department,

tangka paintings copied or created by the students have been exhibited in Lhasa and Beijing, and some foreign tourists and Buddhists have offered high prices for them. He added, "After graduation, most of the students will go to work in cultural departments to help preserve religious arts in the region's monasteries and to copy and renovate their frescoes."

Geared to the World

When interviewed, Ciwang Junmei proudly said, "At present,

the university's priority is training people to meet Tibet's development needs. However, our ultimate goal is the establishment of the centre of Tibetan culture in China, geared towards training top-class research workers in Tibetan culture around the world."

Although it has only existed for three years, Tibet University has aroused much attention in international academic circles. Already more than ten countries, including the United States, Japan, Australia and Switzerland, have expressed a wish to send students

to the university to study Tibetan language and medicine.

Every year, the university invites foreign experts and teachers to give lectures, and so far, three groups of American and British teachers have taught there. Moreover, the university has sent its first group of students to study in the United States.

Among the university's immediate plans are the erection of a residential building for foreign teachers and students and a series of short-term courses to train workers in the research of Tibetan culture to be run by the Tibetan Language Department. ■

Korea Reconstructs and Forges Ahead

Inspired by the slogan of "Chollima" (winged steed), the Democratic People's Republic of Korea has made much headway in its economic construction. However, it keenly admires reunification with its southern counterpart.

by Our Correspondent Yao Jianguo

Korea is a friendly neighbour of China's. At the end of September, when the country had just celebrated the 40th anniversary of its founding, a group of journalists from China's Bureau of Foreign Languages Publishing and Distribution Administration visited the country.

Pyongyang, the Capital

During the Korean War (1950-53), Pyongyang was almost reduced to ruins by US bombers. After more than three decades of painstaking efforts of reconstruction, the city has reappeared as an eye-catching modern capital. Clusters of buildings that combine



YAO JIANGUO

"Chollima," the Winged-steed, symbolizes Korean progress.

national characteristics with modern architecture, such as the Korean Hotel, the People's University and Pyongyang Children's Palace, dot the capital.

The city is still under heavy construction and new building areas are everywhere. Most of the projects are residential areas with matching services and facilities, such as gymnasiums and cinemas. Visitors can't help admiring the grandeur and scale of the construction drive.

'Chollima Speed'

"Chollima (winged steed) Speed" is the slogan of a rapidly developing Korean economy.

Early in the 1960s, Korea was world-renowned for its speed in economic development. Nowadays, the *Chollima* speed has been embodied at every front of Korea's economic reconstruction. The West Sea Water Gate in Nampo is a good example.

The huge water gate was built on the Taedong River in 1981. The dam is 8 km long, which includes three water gates wide enough to accommodate a 50,000-ton ship, a 20,000-ton ship and a 2,000-ton ship at the same time. It also includes three water gates for fishes and 36 sluice gates. Its scale, capacity and efficiency are unique. The project, which cost four billion wons, has been finished in five years.

Currently, the whole country of Korea is engaged in the second 200-day battle (September 26, 1988-April 15, 1989) in order to accomplish the Third Seven-Year Plan (1987-93) before schedule. We believe that during the 200-day battle the Korean people will achieve a better record of *Chollima* speed.

Residential Construction

Achievements in residential construction in Korea impressed us.

In Pyongyang, we visited with great interest the residential construction site of Kwangbok Street. Tower-cranes stood like a forest along both sides of the 6 km-long and 100-metre-wide street, where trucks, coming and going, transported goods. Many 20-to-40-storey residential buildings have begun to take shape. These tall, diverse buildings, shaped like stairsteps, cylinders, and semicircles, are streamlined and multi-folding-style. They adapt themselves well to the hilly terrain.

Choi Tie Chun, the person in charge of the Department of External Work for Kwangbok



Modern buildings line Pyongyang's thoroughway to the future.

YAO JIANGUO

Street Construction, told reporters that residential construction comprised half of more than 260 projects in Kwangbok Street, which were built with a state investment of US\$4.7 billion. A total of 25,000 flats will be erected. Each family, according to its size, may be allotted a 80-to-120-square-metre flat, which has a closet, kitchen, and sanitary facilities.

He said these dwellings will be allotted to various units on the basis of an organization system. Not only government officials and state cadres, but also ordinary labourers will be allowed to live there. Nurseries, kindergartens, schools, commercial services and other necessary facilities also were being built in the residential areas.

Rural residential construction is another on-going Korean project. At the Zhaiyan Korea-China Friendship Co-operative Farm more than 40 kilometres away from Pyongyang, the farm's chairman spoke about the 97 two-to four-storeyed buildings that will be completed soon. All these residences were built with state funds, and more than 500 families, among the farm's members, will

move into new homes by the end of this year.

All these houses built with state investments provide labourers a place to live with very low rent. We understood that since the victory of the Fatherland Liberation War in 1953, Korea has built more than 3.5 million flats. Residents in cities have generally moved into two-to-three-room flats with sanitary facilities, and its per-capita living space has outranked that of some Asian countries.

Residential construction likewise occupies an important role in the Third Seven-Year Plan. According to projections, the state will annually build 150,000-200,000 flats. In order to realize the goal, nearly one million builders are working now at various sites. As the plan is completed, a quarter of the country's population of 20 million will move into new residences, and per-capita living space will increase about 130 percent.

Free Education

There are many countries in the world with compulsory education,



BY YAO JIANGUO

The demarcation line at Panmunjom still marks disunity between North and South Korea.

but few countries have free compulsory education. The Democratic People's Republic of Korea, which does not have great economic strength, has taken the lead in this aspect.

In this country, education has been given an especially important position. During the period of economic recovery after the war against US imperialism, this country declared compulsory primary education in 1956. In 1958 it added the compulsory middle education, and in 1959 the government adopted the policy of universal free education, including nurseries, kindergartens, primary and middle schools, as well as universities and adult education. Therefore, the state now allocates a large sum of money to education each year.

In Pyongyang we visited the first high school on the bank of the Potong Gang. This school consists of a ten-story and a two-story building with an area of 30,000 square metres, making it the largest middle school in the country.

Li Zeng Sam, vice-principal in charge of education, told us that this school is a part of an 11-year free compulsory education pro-

gramme that includes one-year pre-school education, four-year primary education and six-year middle education. It has 1,700 students. Besides a small amount paid by students for their studies, other student fees in this school are completely undertaken by the government. Even their seasonal clothing is subsidized and provided at a cheap price. Some students are even provided with subsidies for residence and food.

The vice-principal said that

because universal, free compulsory education is carried out, the parents are not worried about their children's education. Likewise, students do not have to be concerned about the matters of tuition and other fees. The students who study in universities and colleges can receive grants-in-aid from the government. The state investment on education for a person from birth to graduation from the university is 15,800 wons.

To train children to become socialist labourers, the government has done far more than providing the benefits of free education. In the countryside we noticed that the best buildings are those of the kindergartens and schools. In the cities, kindergartens have the most interesting toys and sports goods. In Children's Palaces there are not only wide and comfortable grounds for activities, but there are also qualified teachers and outdoor equipment. Schools also house advanced teaching equipment and experimental instruments. In this country, where children are "kings and queens," it may be said that the state gives the best things to children.

The universal free compulsory

Korean children playing traditional instruments ensure a cultural heritage.

YAO JIANGUO



education and a good study environment have allowed the new Korean generation to receive secondary education, the illiteracy in this country has been basically wiped out, and the people's mental attitude and moral standards have improved greatly.

Thirst for the Unification

In Korea, the sentence "There is only one Korea" can be heard and seen everywhere. Realizing the unification of the country and the national reunion has become the common long-sought goal of the people all over Korea.

Korea is a single-nationality country. According to history, Korea was a united country until it was invaded and divided into two

parts in modern times. The division has continued to the present time.

In order to realize the unity of the country, the DPRK has put forward a total of 220 proposals, including the holding of consultations and dialogues between the two sides' Red Cross units, high-level politicians and military leaders; ceasing military exercises and decreasing troops in phases; and establishing a Korean federal republic and a North-South joint parliamentary conference.

But all these proposals were rejected by South Korea. Nevertheless, in order to ease the tension on the Korean Peninsula and accomplish an early unification of the country, the DPRK still continues its effort. In 1986, the DPRK unilaterally declared that

it would cease military exercises and cut back by 100,000 troops. It also evacuated 150,000 troops from the border and put them into the socialist construction. Now the officers and men of the People's Army can be seen at every construction site from Taechon Hydroelectric Station to Suncheon Vinalon Complex and Kwangbok Street in Pyongyang.

The unification of North and South Korea will not only meet the desires of people all over Korea, but will also bring the benefit of peace to Asia and the world. Although there are still some obstacles on the road to the unification, Korean unification will ultimately be realized through consultations between the two sides without the intervention of foreign forces. ■

FACTS & FIGURES (A Decade of Reform IX)

Improved Living Standards for Farmers

by the State Statistical Bureau

Chinese farmers' income has greatly increased with the rapid development of the rural economy during the last decade of reforms. The per-capita net income of farmers in 1987 was 462.6 yuan, an increase of 329 yuan over the per-capita income of 133.6 in 1978. This figure constitutes an average annual increase of 14.8 percent, or a 12.3 percent increase after adjustment for price increases. In the 29 years between 1949 and 1978, however, the net income of farmers increased only 90 yuan on the average, or an annual increase of 3.1 yuan. Therefore, the net income of Chinese farmers in the 10 years beginning 1979 was 2.7

times higher than in the previous 29 years. With higher incomes, the pattern of farmers' consumer spending has changed, mainly in the following ten areas.

Full bellies and warm backs for most farmers. The percentage of poor households, defined as those with an average per-capita annual net income of less than 200 yuan, decreased from 82.6 percent in 1978 to 8.3 percent in 1987. Households assured of adequate food and clothing, with an average per-capita annual income of between 200 and 500 yuan, accounted for 56 percent. Those with an average per-capita annual income of between 500 and 1,000 yuan constituted 30.3 percent.

And households defined as well-off, with an average per-capita annual income of over 1,000 yuan, represented 5.4 percent. These findings indicate that since 1978, about 74.3 percent of poor households have cast off poverty and are now leading fairly comfortable lives.

Raised consumption standards. In 1987, the average amount of per-capita living expenses, counting both cash and commodities, was 398.3 yuan, 3.4 times above that of 1978 (282.2 yuan), with an average annual growth rate of 14.7 percent, for a growth rate of 12.3 percent after adjustment for price increases.

In 1987, the amount of money

Breakdown of An Average Farmer's Spending

	1987 (in yuan)	Increase over 1978 (%)
Eating	219.7	160
Housing	57.8	1,470
Daily necessities	47.2	520
Clothing	34.2	130
Fuel	19.3	130
Cultural items	13.6	330
Others		11.5

spent by farmers for food, housing, daily necessities, clothing, fuel, and cultural or recreational activities doubled and redoubled.

With their material lives improved, farmers began to turn their attention to cultural life.

Improving living conditions.

(1) Improvements in the pattern of daily food consumption and food quality. No longer satisfied with full stomachs alone, farmers are now paying more attention to nutrition. Grain, the primary food before 1978, has given way to various foodstuffs. In 1978, the per capita expenditure on staple food was 51.3 yuan, accounting for 65.3 percent of total food spending. That amount grew to 87.5 yuan in 1987, for a growth rate of 70.6 percent. However, money spent for non-staples and dining away from home grew faster, and even surpassed the amount spent for staple food consumed, which accordingly dropped to 39.8 percent of the total food expenditure. The consumption of flour and rice as staples rose from 49.4 percent in 1978 to 81.5 percent in 1987. At the same time, money spent on meat, edible oils, poultry, eggs, fish and shrimps, sugar, alcoholic drinks and cigarettes showed a considerable increase. Therefore, the overall nutritional level of farming families was raised. The daily intake of calories for each farmer in 1987 was 2,482 Kcal. an

increase of 271 Kcal above 1978. Protein consumption increased by 3 grams per day to 67 grams, and fat consumption increased by 16 grams to 41 grams per day.

(2) Basic improvements in housing conditions included expansion of living space and improved quality of construction. By the end of 1987, the average housing space per capita reached 16 square metres, 7.9 square metres more than in 1978. The percentage of brick and reinforced concrete used in total housing rose from 37 percent in 1978 to 56.9 percent in 1987. Among newly constructed homes in 1987, 82.9 percent were made of brick and reinforced concrete. In comparatively developed parts of the country, two-storey and multi-storey buildings constituted a large proportion of new housing.

(3) A marked tendency to select ready-made and fashionable clothing. In the past, farmers and their families preferred durable and cheap clothing. Now their clothes have become more colourful and stylish. In 1987, twice as much ready-made clothing was purchased by farming families as in 1983. Compared with 1983, the per-capita purchase of cotton clothing in 1987 decreased 14.3 percent, while that of chemical fibre and nylon clothing respectively increased 74.2 percent and 200 percent. In addition, wool knits and woven woollen fabrics rose by 75 percent. Trendy young

people in the countryside have paid particular attention to style, colour and material, just as young people do in the big cities.

(4) Increasing purchases of durable consumer goods. Domestic electrical appliances have entered the homes of farmers. In 1987, for every 100 farming households, there were 98.52 bicycles a 220 percent increase over 1978; 49.79 sewing machines, a 150 percent increase; 46.92 clocks, up 92.8 percent; and 161.22 watches, up 490 percent. Also in 1987, there were 24.38 television sets for every 100 households, up 14.5 times over 1982; cassette recorders were owned by 9.68 families out of 100, up 14 times, and electric fans were owned by 19.76 of 100 families, up 8.2 times. Some well-to-do households also purchased washing machines, refrigerators and cameras.

■ **Changed consumption patterns.** With inadequate food and clothing before 1978, the order of priorities for farmers' spending included: eating (which accounted for 69.6 percent of their budgets); clothing (13.1 percent), fuel (6.7 percent), and housing (3.3 percent). By 1983, however, the order of the priorities had changed, with eating and clothing still ranked first and second, but followed by housing as the third place priority, with 11.4 percent of the budget allocated for it, while fuel fell back to fifth priority. The order of priorities since 1984 has been eating, housing, expenditure for daily necessities, clothing and fuel. Clothing dropped back to the fourth place, while housing and expenditures on daily necessities rose to second and third place priorities. All these changes show that when farmers had no problem meeting food and clothing needs, they turned their attention to improving their housing and taking care of daily necessities.

■ **Rising degrees of commercial consumption.** In 1986, the

per-capita cash living expense of farmers was 243.8 yuan, a 5.4 times increase over 1978. This accounted for 64.5 percent (38.6 percent in 1978) of the total living costs. Accordingly, money spent on food increased from 24.1 percent in 1978 to 46.4 percent in 1986; that spent on clothing went from 89 to 98 percent; spending on daily necessities increased from 87.7 percent to 99.7 percent, and housing went from 95.1 to 98.3 percent.

■ **Nationwide improvements in living standards of farmers.** The average annual per-capita living expenditure in coastal areas in 1987 soared to 454.4 yuan, 2.5 times higher than 1980. In central areas, it was 356.2 yuan, up 2.3 times, and in western areas, 302.9 yuan, up 2.1 times. Food was the first spending priority in all regions for farming families but in the coastal and central areas, housing was the second spending priority for farming families, followed by expenditures on daily necessities, clothing and fuel. In the western regions, the order of priorities was the same except for housing, which ranked next-to-last, taking priority only over fuel.

■ **Change in consumption from a unitary pattern to a dual pattern.** In the past, the unified and collective management of rural production demanded little spending from farmers for sideline household occupations. Farmers therefore spent most of their income on everyday life. With the introduction of the contracted household responsibility system in 1978, farming households became both consumer units and manufacturing units, creating a change in consumption patterns. According to a sample survey, investment for production increased to 28.3 percent of total yearly spending in 1987, far exceeding the 1978 figure of 12.5 percent. Meanwhile, the proportion of living expenses to total annual expenditures decreased from 83.5 percent to 65.9 percent.

■ **Diminishing size of farming families.** Farming families in 1978 averaged 5.74 persons per household. The number gradually declined to 5.01 in 1987, a drop of 12.7 percent. The change, challenging the traditional large-family way of rural life, raised farmers' relative per-capita income and consumption capacity.

They are spending a larger amount of money on everyday life and becoming more and more dependent on society.

■ **Decrease in the proportion of spending for food.** The proportion of spending for food compared to total living expenditures decreased from 67.7 percent in 1978 to 55.2 percent in 1987, indicating that the consumption standards of farming families is on the increase and farmers now have more spending choices.

■ **A growing variety of cultural activities.** In 1987, the average amount of money available for spending on cultural consumer commodities such as books and magazines was 11.76 yuan. In addition, an average of 6.37 yuan per annum was paid for tuition, technological training and recreational services. These two sums added up to 18.13 yuan, 13.39 yuan above what was spent for the same items in 1984, for an increase of 3.8 times. In recent years, television sets, films, cassette recorders and radios have entered the countryside and have enjoyed a ready market in some areas. All these have brought a variety of information to farmers and enriched their cultural lives. ■

International Studies

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More Working Women in High-Tech Trades

"RENMIN RIBAO"

(People's Daily, Overseas Edition)

According to a sample survey conducted by the State Statistics Bureau in 1987, the number of Chinese working women in 1987 amounted to 69.33 percent of the total female population aged 15 and over, while that in 1982 accounted for 70.06 percent.

The major reason for the reduction has been a drop in the proportion of young working women. In recent years more females have been entering schools of a higher grade. The proportion of female students between the ages of 15 and 19 increased to 23.34 percent in 1987, a 8.24 percent jump from 1982. Another reason is that the proportion of housewives has increased.

The survey also shows that the trades and occupations for women are becoming more reasonable. In 1982, working women were mainly engaged in heavy physical labour and jobs with low-level technology. This unreasonable situation has been improved to some extent. In 1987, the proportion of working women in the trades of geological survey and prospecting, construction, communications and transportation, post and telecommunications has dropped.

In service trades and other areas suitable for women, such as commerce, catering, sanitation, sports, public welfare, finance, insurance, Party and government organizations, and mass organizations, the proportion of women has increased.

Moreover, the number of women with occupations related to high-level technology, such as

scientific research personnel, engineers and technicians, doctors, economists, judicial administrators, college and university teachers, and leading officials in enterprises and institutions, has increased in recent years. This is certainly true of female economic workers, whose proportion among all members in economic departments increased from 38.92 percent in 1982 to 50.75 percent in 1987, outnumbering the men.

(July 29, 1988)

Private Clinics Spread in Beijing

"ZHONGGUO XINWEN"

(Chinese News)

Various private clinics and people-run hospitals are seen everywhere in the streets and lanes of Beijing.

An official from the Beijing Public Health Bureau said that Beijing had 1,731 registered private doctors and 131 people-run hospitals and clinics.

Private clinics and hospitals began in 1985. At first, most of the doctors engaged in dentistry, bone-setting and massage, as well as other kinds of therapies. Now the private clinics and hospitals possess almost as many departments as the state-run hospitals have.

The growth of private clinics and hospitals, on the one hand, resulted from state policies and its tax-free stimulation; on the other hand, a great number of medical personnel aged 60 began to retire from the state-run hospitals, so private medical institutions tried to recruit them. The official said that medical science requires

experience. Doctors at the age of 60 are just entering their golden age. The rigid retirement system is a loss to the state-run hospitals.

Although Beijing has many private hospitals, state-run ones are still crowded with patients. The reason is that most of the patients enjoy free medical care. Medical expenses cannot be reimbursed if one sees a doctor in a private hospital.

(September 23, 1988)

Female Scientists Contribute to China

"GUANGMING RIBAO"

(Guangming Daily)

Chinese female scientists and technicians have made remarkable achievements since 1978.

The number of female scientific personnel has increased dramatically. According to the State Statistical Bureau, China had a total of more than 4.44 million female scientists and technicians by the end of 1986, accounting for 31.7 percent of the country's total, or an increase of 37.3 percent over 1978; while the number of female engineers and technicians increased 152.9 percent; and female agro-technicians were up 60.3 percent. In 1987, the State Science and Technology Commission approved 51 young and middle-aged female scientists and technicians who made outstanding contributions as state-level experts. At present, China has 63 female experts at the state level.

The quality of female scientists and technicians has improved greatly in the last ten years. During this period, a number of female scientific and technical personnel have sprung up in the fields of high-energy physics,

genetic engineering, micro-electronics, laser and cosmic observation, satellite-launching and other sophisticated technologies.

The title of member of the General Assembly of Academia Sinica is a laurel for people in China's scientific and technical circles. In the 1950s, only Lin Qiaozhi, an expert in gynaecology and obstetrics was a female general assembly member. Up to 1981, the number of general assembly members had expanded to include 15 women. They are physicians, chemists, geologists, geopalaeontologists, astronomers and experts of gynaecology and obstetrics. These female experts have made outstanding contributions to the advancement of science and technology.

He Zehui, an expert of nuclear physics, has played a positive role in the research of high-energy astrophysics, cosmic rays and space science.

The youngest female general assembly member, Ye Shuhua, is an influential scientist in international astronomy circles. Her "accurate determining of world time" won a major achievement prize at the National Science Meeting in 1978. In 1981, she became China's first female observatory president.

Wang Zhiren, a prominent woman in scientific circles, used to be an ordinary worker with only a primary education. Through 30 years of hard and conscientious study, she finally became a deputy chief designer on new-type carrier rocket and launched man-made satellites one after another.

A large number of young female scientists have also sprung up.

Han Yu, with a doctorate degree in electronics, accomplished her international-level doctoral paper in only one and a half years, during her study in an industrial university in the Federal Republic of Germany. Upon

returning to China, she guided the biomedical engineering department of Nanjing Engineering Institute to carry out 19 scientific research projects and won many results.

Li Huamei, China's first woman to take part in an Antarctic expedition, overcame all kinds of difficulties and obtained a lot of valuable materials. She was highly praised by departments concerned. And she was named heroine in the ice and snow wasteland.

The middle-aged female biologist Qin Zisheng discovered, after a long, careful investigation and analysis, that the rare panda could become nearly extinct owing to a lack of staple food. She worked out a series of protective measures so that the pandas might peacefully spend years that could have been disastrous.

The female engineer Wang Juzhen of the Shanghai Bulb Factory won the only one first-class prize and one third-class prize for the 1987 state inventions. Her invention has obtained patents from the United States, Japan and countries in Europe.

Micro-circulation expert Xiu Ruijuan is known for her "the Xiu Theory" in scientific and technological circles both at home and abroad.

(August 28, 1988)

Trade Unions Survey Retired Workers

"SHEHUI BAOZHANG BAO"

(Social Insurance)

Through the sample-survey outline it issued to 52 enterprises in seven cities, the All-China Federation of Trade Unions has come to know the general situation of 40,478 retired workers. The

itemized report is as follows:

The number of retired workers is increasing every year. Workers retired before 1970 comprised 4.45 percent of the total retirees, compared with 34.6 percent during 1970-80 and 61 percent after 1980. It is predicated that the percentage will keep rising in the future.

Living standards of the retired workers are comparatively low. Their average monthly income is 85 yuan (including all allowances), but since each retiree has to support 0.5 person, the actual living costs per person is only 56.43 yuan. According to the 1986 statistics of the State Statistical Bureau, urban dwellers' per-capita monthly living expenses were 75.8 yuan.

More than half of the retired workers are in good condition. Moreover, they are experienced and knowledgeable, with one-fifth being technical and administrative personnel at or above the fourth grade level.

(July 23, 1988)



Guangzhou Prunes Service Projects

Guangzhou, one of the first Chinese cities to open to the world, has strengthened its management of foreign capital to encourage investment in industrial and infrastructural projects rather than non-productive enterprises such as hotels and bars.

During the first nine months of 1988, the city signed 222 contracts with overseas companies. More than 90 percent of these were for manufacturing or processing projects.

Among the major agreements signed have been a US\$7.5 million investment deal between the Guangzhou Timber Co. and a Hong Kong company to import a cement board production line capable of outputting 30,000 cubic metres annually, a modernization scheme involving foreign capital

at the Guangzhou Steelworks, and a deal to expand production and transport facilities in the Guangzhou Dongjiang Estuary Dock.

Across China, the government is cutting back the construction of non-productive projects. Yuan Zongtang, deputy director of the State Tourism Administration's Business Department, has said that state approval will not be given to joint venture hotels in the country's major tourist cities unless they are essential.

Since 1980, agreements have been signed on 589 joint venture hotels which, when they are all completed, will have a total of more than 60,000 rooms. To date, 250 of these hotels have opened, offering around 39,900 rooms to tourists.

by Li Ning

production of jet engine components for an American company. Its parts all passed a strict quality control test at the first attempt. The rapid expansion of its trade has led to plans for establishing a warehouse in the United States.

The Chinese government plans further growth in the export of aircraft spare parts and components.

by Liu Jianjun

News in Brief

■ With help from China, Mali's general diplomatic radio station in Bamako, the nation's capital, was completed on October 17.

With full transmission, reception and telegraph facilities, the station's main purpose is providing a link between the government and its overseas embassies. This network will become fully operational when work is completed on 18 branch stations.

■ On November 1, the Finnish company Lenita Airisto hosted a show titled Finland's Successful Story in the Great Hall of the People aimed at giving a brief introduction to the Scandinavian nation's industry, culture, scenery and life-style.

During the last two years, bilateral trade between China and Finland has developed rapidly. In 1987, total volume amounted to US\$224 million, up 53 percent on 1986. The US\$148 million of trade conducted in the first nine months of 1988 was 40 percent more than in the same period last year.

Economic co-operation between the two countries is also progressing. Already, one Sino-Finnish joint venture has started operation, agreements have been signed on another four, and a further four are under negotiation.

China plans to hold a return exhibition in Finland some time in the near future.

Sales of Plane Components Soar

Major advances in the scale and technical standards of China's aviation industry have led to the export of US\$10 million worth of aircraft components this year, according to Sun Lipeng, general manager of the CITIC Industries Corp.

After a period of stagnation in the early 1980s when China drastically cut its armed forces, the country's military aircraft factories switched their attention to civil aeroplanes. To boost its commercial airlines, China imported a series of Western models. But from 1986 onwards, the government has insisted that increasing numbers of components and spare parts be produced in China.

This gave the national aviation industry the boost it needed, and

to date, contracts totalling US\$100 million have been signed to supply parts over the next decade with companies from the United States, Britain, France, the Federal Republic of Germany, Canada and Sweden. Already landing gear, main and auxiliary wings, fins, engine components, forged and cast parts, noses and stabilizers have gone into production.

The Harbin Manufacturing Co., for example, has manufactured landing gear for British Aerospace and wings for Short Brothers, as well as numerous parts for Sikorsky's Black Hawk helicopter.

As business has expanded, technological standards have advanced. The Chengdu Engine Manufacturing Co. has begun

Computers Date Chinese Relics

Huang Qixu, age 38, was the first to successfully introduce computer archaeological seriation analysis to China. In the late 1980s, he used this computerized programme to analyse the age of unearthened tombs.

Archaeological units were previously dated according to the number, shapes and constitutional changes of unearthened artifacts. The Stone Age, Bronze Age and Iron Age were categorized in this manner.

In 1951, G.W. Brainerd, an American archaeologist, proposed to decide the dates of unearthened artifacts found in different sites in accordance with the quantitative coefficient of similar number, shapes and constitutional changes. W.S. Robinson, an American statistician, confirmed the feasibility of this method and helped solve the problem. In the 60s, some people, first in Britain, then the Federal Republic of Germany, proposed their programmatic systems which, in the early 80s, were perfected by a German statistician by the name of P. Ihm. In 1985 when Federal Germany's experts, for the first time, computerized this analysis theory, Huang, then an overseas Chinese student, took part in the work there.

After returning to China, Huang undertook new designs and experiments. First, he chose to work with a minicomputer. Second, he adopted an operational method that is concise, concrete and easily learned because few users know about both archaeology and computers. Third, he programmed the

computer dialogues in Chinese and at the same time, provided compatible Western-language systems, such as English, for research purposes.

As one of the supplementary methods for date analysis in archaeological work, the system has twice been tested and verified before receiving the nation's formal recognition. It was first used in regard to research on the Chu Tombs of the Eastern Zhou (770-221BC) in the Yutai Mountain, central China, which were unearthened in 1975. This computerized system appraised 423 tombs belonging to 109 categories and 1,162 artifacts. The dates resulting from computer analysis and a former archaeological

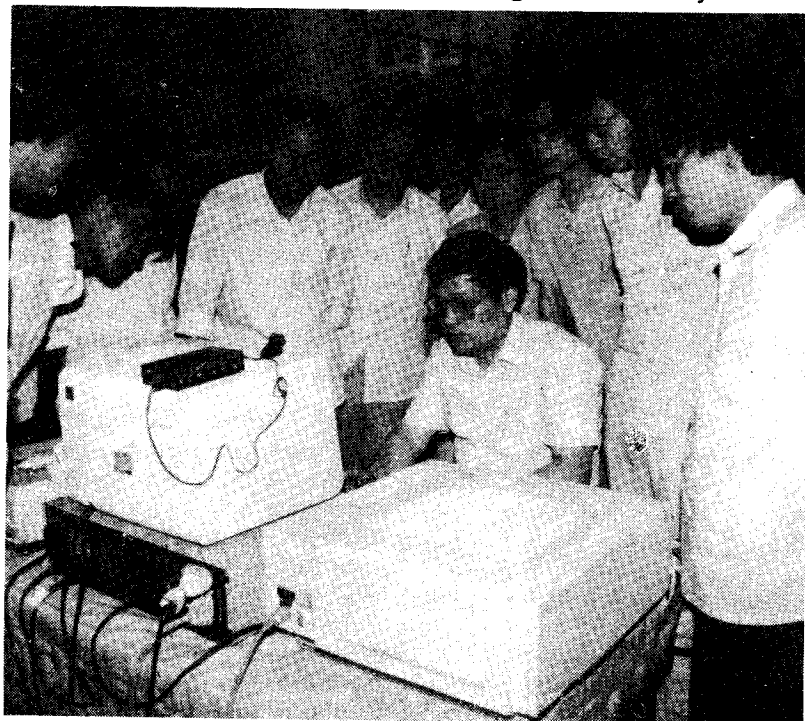
report correlated by 99 percent. The remaining percent reflected a difference of opinions among the archaeologists.

In June 1988, the system was once again used to date Late Pleistocene animal fossils found in north China. Within 30 seconds, 122 fossils belonging to 36 species, collected from eight different spots, were appraised.

Furthermore, this system in English has already been used in analysis by the History Department of the Universität Bamberg, Federal Germany, to issue a report on a cemetery of the Frank people.

Huang, who attended the Institute of Archaeology, Beijing, as a post-graduate in 1978, now

Experts examine Huang Qixu's computer archaeological seriation analysis.



works for the Museum of Chinese History, sole patron for his study. He expects his self-designed archaeological computer system, through further testing and verification, to become popularized and perfected.

by Wei Liming

Plum-Blossom Artist Exhibits in Beijing

Taiwan artist Kou Peishen held an exhibition in the last ten-day period of September at the Beijing Academy of Traditional Chinese Painting.

Influenced by his family since childhood, Kou is a lover of calligraphy and plum-blossom painting. In 1954, he left Taiwan for Japan where he lived for 30 years.

Kou's meticulous dedication to his art has made it world famous. His art enjoys high prestige in Japan's political and economic circles and among overseas Chinese. The late Chinese painting master Zhang Daqian praised it as "first-class all over the world." Kou's calligraphy has been awarded prizes in Taiwan.

Plum blossoms are particularly favoured by Kou. According to traditional Chinese symbolism, plum blossoms blooming in a hard winter represent a faithful and unyielding spirit. Unlike the few branches portrayed by other painters, Kou's plum blossom paintings are always blooming, full of power and grandeur. In 1983, he left for the White House to present a plum blossom painting, which is 4.5 metres long and 1.7 metres high, to the American President Ronald Reagan and his wife. Former Japanese Prime Minister Kakuei Tanaka and Yasuhiro Nakasone also have Kou's plum blossom paintings in their offices. When-

ever his works are exhibited in Japan or Taiwan, they create great public attention.

In the exhibition held in Beijing, there were 70 calligraphy works and paintings, many more than 10 metres long. Some huge calligraphic works contained about 1,000 characters. To avoid differences in the ink marks, Kou patiently had accomplished each piece in one setting. These works truly reflected the spirit of a "plum-blossom" artist.

by Wei Liming

Mixed Reviews For TV's Pu Yi

The 28-episode Chinese TV serial *The Last Emperor* was introduced to thousands of enthusiastic Chinese viewers via CCTV last August. It faced the formidable task of being compared with the much-praised film version by the Italian director Bernardo Bertolucci, which swept nine Oscars.

Viewers, in general, noted that

though similar in content, the two differ in terms of historical accuracy and artistic conception. Both TV and studio films focused on the 60-year life history of the 20th century Chinese emperor Pu Yi, who was enthroned at the age of 3 and overthrown in the 1911 Revolution; who later became the puppet emperor of the Japanese-occupied Manchuria in the 1930s, and who was imprisoned as a war criminal at the end of the Second World War and then freed by a special pardon and died an ordinary gardener.

The TV serial was typical of a Chinese historical drama in which the producers filtered history through a tragi-comic lens. The personal life of Pu Yi was intermingled with a couple of significant incidents in modern Chinese history, giving full expression to the suppression the Chinese people suffered during that dark and absurd age.

The TV took advantage of its length and attached great importance to the complete and faithful depiction of historical facts. From beginning to end, the

Two "little emperors"—Chai Yuanhang, now 13, and Zhang Meng, now 8, who portrayed Pu Yi as a child in the TV serial, chasing after a grasshopper. LI JIANGUO





Empress Wan Rong (left) and Emperor Pu Yi were well-characterized by Luo Lige and Chen Daoming.

producers pursued one important narrative line—to be or not to be an emperor, the gains and losses, the dismay and humiliations of an emperor, and the return of his human nature as an ordinary man during a time of great upheaval.

Audiences agreed that the TV drama was outstanding in its characterizations. Instead of simply imposing a mask or label on Pu Yi, or delineating the trifling court life, for example, the film made great efforts to expose the inner world of the emperor. Young actor Chen Daoming skillfully portrayed the image of Pu Yi emphasizing his nervousness arising from a split nature.

Many veteran Chinese actors and actresses also created unforgettable images. These were highlighted against a historical atmosphere. Details of court life and the social customs recreated a manner that was beyond the reach of any foreign film maker.

The TV serial outshined the film in many respects, especially in its faithful representation of historical events and figures. Every detail in the serial, such as the coronation ceremony, the routine rites in the court, as well as the costumes, food consumed and sound track, was carefully studied, remade and accurately portrayed.

However, viewers' opinions

differed on the merits of the serial's extravagant use of details. For some, the detailed presentation was too formal, lacked imagination and like a mirror. They believe that Chinese directors should learn from Bertolucci's romantic approach to history.

Other critics were displeased with the serial's ideological slant. They said that the serial was too generous in showing sympathy towards the emperor of a feudal dynasty and revealing a regret that Pu Yi lost his imperial power, which is not so desirable in terms of social progress. Some viewers even resented that the TV film sometimes elevated Pu Yi's life.

The audience also made comments on the structure of the serial. They found the serial loose and superfluous in some places and too strict in others, and the ending too close-minded, leaving little for people to think about.

Many raised expectations that Chinese film artists will become more mature in artistic conception and creation, and more liberated in their thinking.

News in Brief

■ The First China Break and Disco Dance Competition was held in Xian, Shaanxi Province, from November 5 to 10. It's the first competition that combines both break and disco in China and requires participants to have techniques of both kinds of dances.

■ People in Russian-language countries will soon have the opportunity to learn about China directly in their own language as a Russian edition of Nexus Magazine will be published in Beijing this month.

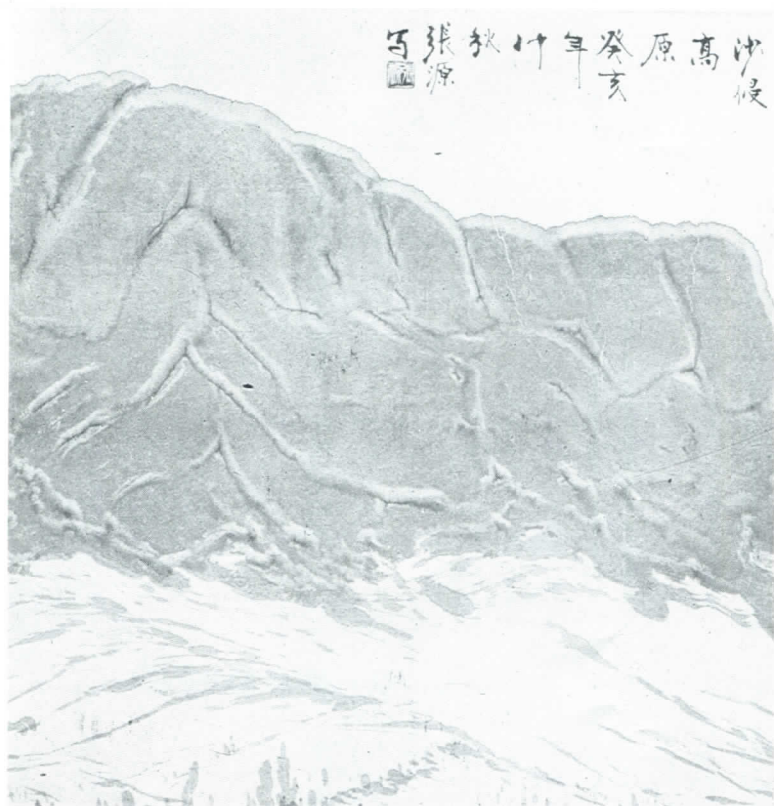


Goldfish.

ART PAGE



Cat.



Mountains.

Chinese Paintings by Zhang Yuan

Zhang Yuan was born in Tongxian County, Beijing in 1932. Now he works at the Chinese Calligraphers' Association.

He specializes in Chinese painting, calligraphy and woodcuts. His works are simple, clear and natural.

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BEIJING REVIEW, a political weekly on current affairs. Available in English, German, French, Spanish and Japanese.

PEOPLE'S CHINA, a monthly in Japanese.

CHINESE LITERATURE, a literary quarterly in English and French, containing novels, stories, poems and essays by modern Chinese writers.

EL POPOLA CINIO, a monthly in Esperanto compiled and published by the All-China Esperanto League.

WOMEN OF CHINA, monthly in English.

CHINA SPORTS, monthly in English.

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CHINA'S FOREIGN TRADE, monthly in Chinese, English, French and Spanish.

SHANGHAI PICTORIAL, bimonthly in Chinese and English.

SOCIAL SCIENCE IN CHINA, quarterly in English.

CHINA PHILATELY, bimonthly in English.

New magazines —

Nexus: China in Focus, a non-government funded magazine of general interest. Quarterly in English, monthly in Chinese.

CHINAFRIQUE, monthly in French, mainly for distribution to African countries.

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