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Three-Gorges Project Given the Go-Ahead



China's Multi-Party
Co-operation Analysed

The life of a centenarian couple: Top: Yuan and his wife enjoy raising birds.
Bottom: Yuan teaches his great-grandson to study.

by Ren Long



CONTENTS

NOTES FROM THE EDITORS 4

Sino-Indian Relations Mark a Milestone

EVENTS/TRENDS 5-9

Experts Okay Three Gorges Project

Qian's Moscow Tour 'Resultful'
China, Mongolia Pen Border Pact
Conference Boom Crowds Railways
CCAST to Recruit More Scientists
World AIDS Day Activities Held in Beijing

Burglars Boost Security Needs
Weekly Chronicle
(November 28-December 4)

INTERNATIONAL 10-13

PLO: Visa Veto Blocks Play for Peace

Soviet Union: Far-East Drive to Lure Investors

OPEC: Quota Agreement Awaits Hard Test

France-USSR: Short Stay Sets Long-Term Affairs

Fei Xiaotong on Multi-Party Co-operation 14

Pioneer of China's Fight Against Leprosy 17

STVF '88 Opens a Window to the World 20

Is Student Business Good for China? 24

Crack Down on Antique Smugglers 26

FROM THE CHINESE PRESS 28-29

BUSINESS/TRADE 30-31

CULTURE/SCIENCE 32-34

COVER: Fei Xiaotong, chairman of the Central Committee of the China Democratic League.

Xue Chao

HIGHLIGHTS OF THE WEEK

Why China's Political Parties Co-operate

■ The Communist Party of China and the country's eight democratic parties have a long history of co-operation. In an interview, Fei Xiaotong, chairman of the China Democratic League, analyses the evolution of this co-operation and explains why the confrontation witnessed in many other countries has not emerged. Although there is occasional friction, Fei anticipates an even closer relationship between China's various political parties (p. 14).

Changjiang River's Biggest Dam Backed

■ After a two-year-long re-examination, experts who participated in the feasibility studies of the Three Gorges project suggested that this controversial dam be built (p. 5).

Chinese Foreign Minister Visits Moscow

■ As a continued procession towards the normalization of Sino-Soviet relations, Foreign Minister Qian's Moscow tour bore fruit. The possibility of a summit meeting of the two countries was explored, and an early settlement of the Kampuchean issue was agreed upon (p. 6).

Indian Prime Minister to Visit China

■ Indian Prime Minister R. Gandhi will soon pay a visit to China. This is a big event in Sino-Indian relations and will further improve the bilateral ties (p. 4).

US Vetoes Arafat's UN Visit

■ The US administration decided on November 26 to deny an entry visa to PLO Chairman Yasser Arafat to block him from attending debates on the Palestinian issues at the current UN General Assembly session. The international community has responded strongly to this (p. 10).

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Sino-Indian Relations Mark a Milestone

by Our Guest Commentator Ma Guan

Indian Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi will pay a visit to China on December 19 at the invitation of Chinese Premier Li Peng. This is a major event in the Sino-Indian relations.

The Indian prime minister's tour of China comes at a time when global tensions tend to be relaxed, producing a situation favourable for the betterment of Sino-Indian relations.

Both China and India have put a major emphasis on developing the economy and raising the people's living standard and require a long-term peaceful environment in which to do so.

After he came to power, Gandhi worked out an ambitious national development plan. Speaking of the goal targeted for his country's development, he said that by the 21st century India will become a vigorous, modernized country. He also said that by the end of this century India will increase grain production by 50 percent and expand the rate of industrial growth from the present 8 percent to 10 percent, or more.

China and India are the most populous developing countries in the world, and they both have their own strong and weak points. Together they can exchange experiences and learn from each other's strong points in order to offset their own weaknesses. Although the two countries differ greatly in regard to social and economic conditions, they have a vast potential for mutual co-operation.

In recent years India and China have conducted cultural, scientific and technological exchanges. From January of last year to March this year 27 Chinese delegations visited India and 26

Indian delegations came to China. Last May China and India signed an agreement on cultural co-operation. In accordance with this agreement, China and India will establish and develop close relations in the fields of culture, arts, education, social sciences, physical culture, sanitation, journalism, publishing, radio and TV broadcasting.

Direct trade between China and India was restored in 1977 after it had been suspended for 15 years. Since then the trade volume has increased annually. In 1986-87 the trade volume amounted to US\$144 million. Of course, this has not yet matched with the true potential for trade between the two countries. The Sino-Indian trade protocol of 1988 set no ceiling on the quotas, aiming to encourage the increase of bilateral trade as much as possible. India will export to China some new products, including oilfield equipment, chemical products, electronic pieces, fertilizer, pesticides and synthetic fibre. China will export to India raw silk, pearls, medicines and pig iron.

The border controversy is the major issue of the Sino-Indian relations, and this has been left by history. The Sino-Indian border is about 2,000 kilometres long and has never been formally demarcated. Before the Western colonialists came to the East, the Chinese and Indian peoples had lived in harmony. For many years a mutually respected, traditional and habitual borderline has been formed according to each other's administrative scope.

The so-called "McMahon Line" is illegal and invalid. The Chinese governments have never recognized it. Although the

present position along the Sino-Indian border is extremely unreasonable, China has always adopted a positive attitude towards the settlement of the boundary question in the interests of safeguarding peace in the Asian region and the friendship of the Chinese and Indian peoples. China has also always stood for the just and reasonable settlement of the boundary question in a spirit of mutual accommodation and compromise and through friendly consultation. Before the settlement of the boundary question the two sides should maintain peace and stability in the border area.

Since 1981 China and India have held eight rounds of talks on the boundary question at the officials' level. All these talks have not made substantial progress, but they have increased mutual understanding. In the eighth round of talks held in New Delhi in November last year, the Indian side said that the boundary question is complex and needs time to resolve. The two sides agreed to create favourable conditions for the settlement of the boundary question by developing their friendly relations.

China and India are both big countries of Asia. Historically they have endured similar sufferings. In the 1950s the leaders of the two countries jointly initiated the famous Five Principles of Peaceful Co-existence; today they both face the tasks of developing a national economy and raising the people's living standard.

We wish that Gandhi's visit to China will put vigour into the improvement of Sino-Indian relations. ■

Experts Okay Three Gorges Project

A two-year-long re-examination of the proposed Three Gorges Project (TGP) of the Changjiang (Yangtze) River was concluded at the end of November. A report green-lighting the project is expected to be passed to the National TGP Examination Committee, headed by Vice-Premier Yao Yilin, and to the State Council for approval early next year.

According to many experts participating in the latest studies, the TGP will be the largest key water control project in China, with flood control, power generation, navigation and other benefits. The project is technically feasible and, economically reasonable. And it's better to build it than not to build; better to do it early than late, they suggested. They also said that it is strategically significant for the economic development of southwest, central and eastern China.

The Changjiang River is the biggest river in China, rich in water resources. In the early 1970s, the country built the Gezhouba water conservancy project, the first successful harnessing of the river's power. In 1984 the State Council approved in principle the feasibility studies on the TGP to further exploit the

river and decided to start the project in 1986. But the plan never got off the ground due to the disagreement at home and abroad.

So, the project was shelved until the State Council decided in June 1986 to set up a TGP studies committee. In order to get a new slant on the issue, experts in different fields, with varying views, were drafted to serve. The committee was commissioned to do more investigation, restudy the feasibility of the project and write a research report.

During the past two years, the 412-member committee has mulled over 14 topics relating to the project, including geology and seismology, hydrology, sedimentation, population shift, ecology and environment, project buildings, construction, investment evaluation, electrical machinery and equipment, water level and evaluation of the economic value.

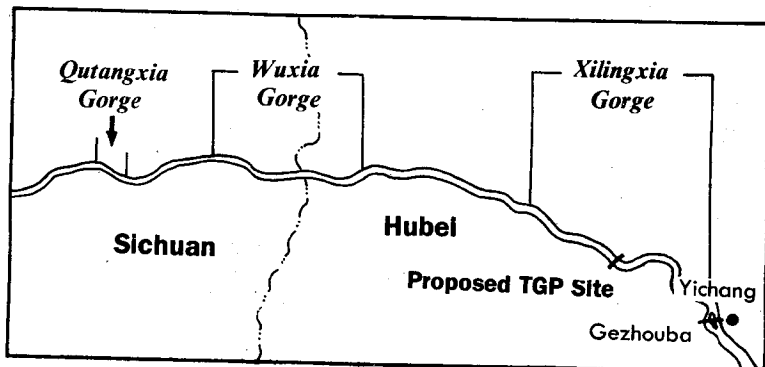
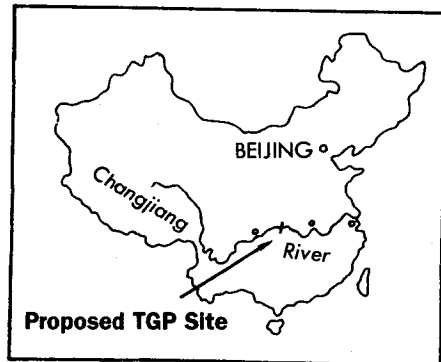
It is the first time in the country's construction history that such large-scale studies were carried out. As a result of such pondering, the majority of scientists and specialists signaled a go-ahead for the plan in these 14 areas. A few still have doubts.

According to the report, the geological conditions are favour-

able; the future reservoir won't cause an earthquake. The sedimentation problem is resolvable. Some negative impacts on the environment of the project region are expected to be minimized and compensated if proper measures are taken. And, as many as 1 million evacuees will be resettled, although the shift will take about 20 years.

The cost of the project will be about 36.1 billion yuan based on the late 1986 value of the yuan, the studies said. Of this, construction investment will be about 18.8 billion yuan, and 11 billion yuan and 6.3 billion yuan will go respectively for resettlement and for a power transmission project.

In view of the fact that China is now riding herd on its economic environment in order to revamp the economic order, the experts also estimated the project's burden on the national budget. It is calculated that during the 20-year-long construction period, the project will make up 1.23 per thousand of the national income and 0.73 per thousand of the GNP (gross national product). The experts said that the project's economic effects are worth it, and the project is primed to produce these effects in the midst of its construction. They said that the country can bear the cost and that it won't ruin the country's shot at quadrupling its 1980 GNP by the year of 2000.



The TGP is designed to have one ladder, with a dam 185 metres in height and 2,800 metres in breadth. The normal pool level is 156 metres in the first stage and 175 in the second. And the reservoir's flood storage will be 22.1 billion cubic metres. Twenty-six generating units with a total capacity of 17.68 million kilowatts will be installed to produce an average of 84 billion kwh of electricity annually, about six times what the Gezhouba project can turn out.

It will be the largest hydro-electric power plant in the world when it is completed.

by Yao Jianguo

Qian's Moscow Tour 'Resultful'

In a short statement on December 3 to the Soviet television at the end of his three-day visit, Chinese Foreign Minister Qian Qichen said, "I am satisfied that during my visit we reached the goals that we had expected."

Qian said that the continued process for normalizing the Sino-Soviet relations is "a gratifying fact that accords with the basic interests of the Chinese and Soviet peoples."

Qian, who is the first Chinese foreign minister to visit Moscow since the late Chinese Premier and Foreign Minister Zhou Enlai visited the Soviet Union in 1956, had intensive talks with his Soviet counterpart Eduard Shevardnadze on December 1-3.

Before his departure, Qian told a press conference that his talks with Shevardnadze had focused on the Kampuchean issue and on the normalization of Sino-Soviet relations. He described these talks as "resultful."

He told the conference that the two sides had "deeply discussed

the Kampuchean problem and multiplied the points of commonality." But he did not give any details. Meanwhile, he said differences between the two countries on the issue still remain and that "some differences can continue to exist."

Before taking off for Moscow, Qian had told a news conference that China and the Soviet Union both expressed willingness to help ensure a fair and reasonable settlement of the Kampuchean issue at an early date. Qian added, "We need to talk over what we can do."

He said that the two countries differ over the timetable for the withdrawal of Vietnamese troops from Kampuchea, but that this can be discussed. China has proposed that Viet Nam pull out all its troops by June 30 next year.

On December 2, the Chinese foreign minister met for more than an hour and a half with Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev in the Kremlin. Qian described the meeting as "a substantive one" and said both sides believe that there exists the possibility for a Sino-Soviet summit meeting, which is expected to be held in the first half of 1989.

Both China and the Soviet Union agreed at the meeting to start serious preparations for such a summit and viewed Qian's Moscow tour as part of the preparations.

Both countries also agreed that their future relations should be of a "new type," mainly based on the Five Principles of Peaceful Co-existence.

Qian proposed at the meeting that all countries stop military aid to factions in Kampuchea as soon as Viet Nam pulls out its troops. He said such a move would guarantee peace and stability in Kampuchea.

Gorbachev expressed his country's hope for normalized Sino-Soviet relations and for a

Kampuchean settlement as quickly as possible.

In order to continue discussions on international and bilateral issues and to make further preparations for a summit meeting, Shevardnadze is to go to Beijing early next year for an official visit, the first since former Soviet Foreign Minister Andrei Gromyko visited China in 1959.

China, Mongolia Pen Border Pact

A treaty on the border system and on a solution to border issues was signed between the Chinese and Mongolian governments in Beijing on November 28.

The treaty targets at maintenance of stability at the Sino-Mongolian border and peace in the border region. It also aims to enforce a mutual respect for the border system and to solve border issues on the principles of mutual understanding and co-operation.

The accord also stipulates rules in order to pilot a resolution of issues and other related affairs.

Chinese Vice-Foreign Minister Liu Shuqing and Mongolian First Vice-Foreign Minister Daramyn Yundong signed the document on behalf of their respective governments, with Chinese Foreign Minister Qian Qichen present on the occasion.

After the signing ceremony, Chinese Vice-Premier Wu Xueqian met the Mongolian vice-minister.

Yundong noted that the treaty is of real importance to maintaining stability and peace in the border area.

Wu concurred, saying that the document is conducive to strengthening stability in the border area and promoting the development of the friendly relations between the two

countries.

Prior to the signing ceremony, Qian Qichen also met Yundong, and both expressed their satisfaction over the improvement and development of bilateral relations in recent years through joint efforts.

Yundong said that Mongolia has only two neighbouring countries, one on the north and the other on the south. Mongolia, he went on, is willing to maintain friendly ties with both China and the Soviet Union, and also wishes to see these two countries further improve their bilateral relations.

He wished success for Qian's forthcoming visit to the Soviet Union in December.

Qian replied that China hopes Sino-Mongolian relations will continue to advance on the basis of the Five Principles of Peaceful Co-existence and that the two countries will conduct economic co-operation to their mutual advantages.

The possibility of joint ventures being established in Mongolia between Mongolia, China and the Soviet Union was affirmed by Yundong. Qian said China will take this step into consideration.

Yundong is here as a guest of the Chinese Foreign Ministry. Prior to his arrival, he toured China's Inner Mongolia Autonomous Region. ■

Conference Boom Crowds Railways

As more and more national conferences convene at some famous scenic spots, the already-overloaded Chinese railways are groaning. The travelling of ordinary people is seriously inconvenienced, an official from the Ministry of Railways said.

Statistics show that between October 1 and November 20, Zhengzhou, Shanghai, Jinan and

Liuzhou turned into the sites of 22 big conferences, of which seven were attended by more than 10,000 participants each.

As a result, the official said, major railway stations, such as Yantai, Zhengzhou, Nanchang, Xian, Fuzhou and Guilin, had to stop selling tickets to ordinary travellers in order to accommodate conference delegates.

For example, between November 13 and 17 the five regular passenger trains leaving Yantai Station were used as special trains to transport more than 60,000 delegates attending a national chemical conference there. Nanchang, capital of Jiangxi Province and a scenic spot, has become the busiest railway hub recently due to a number of big conferences.

According to the official, the Beijing-Guangzhou and Beijing-Shanghai railways, China's two largest transportation arteries, have now doubled their overload, with conferences as one of the major causes.

During the past few months almost all the hard-sleeper train tickets in major railway stations were taken by delegates to different conferences, railway sources said. On November 17 alone, the Beijing Railway Station kept 90 seats and 80 hard-sleeper berths on the No. 145 Beijing-Nanchang train for conference delegates.

In Hubei Province, the Hankou Railway Station did not sell hard-sleeper tickets to ordinary passengers for 67 days in the second quarter of this year, for 43 days during the third quarter and for a couple of weeks in October.

Chinese railways, as a whole, now transport a record number of 3.3 million passengers every day. This is 30,000-40,000 more than in same period last year.

The crunch has brought about widespread complaints from travellers. Hence, the railways minis-

try recently called on departments and other ministries to reduce the number of nationwide conferences. ■

CCAST to Recruit More Scientists

The China Centre of Advanced Science and Technology (CCAST) is scouting worldwide for a third batch of young and middle-aged Chinese scientists to work in the centre, a spokesman for the office of CCAST said.

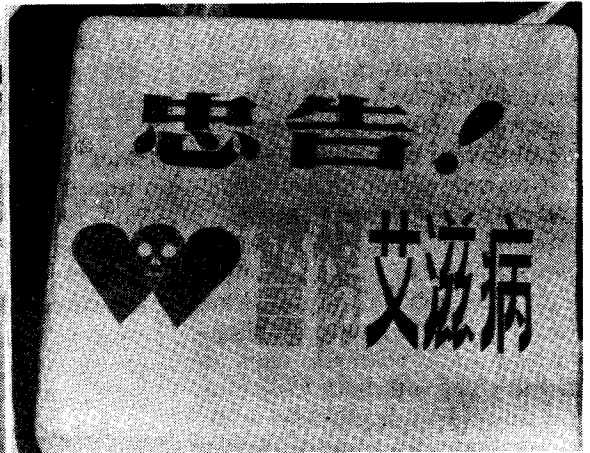
Doctor Qiu Zhaoming said that the deadline for applications is January 20 for domestic scientists and March 1 for overseas applicants. These will be examined by a committee of distinguished scientists, and the final decision will be made by professors Tsung-dao Lee and Zhou Guangzhao, both directors of the centre.

CCAST is a non-governmental scientific research organization. Ever since its establishment in October 1986, it has been funded by the World Laboratory and supported by Chinese and Italian governments.

"The centre aims to create an ideal environment for scientific research in China," Qiu said, "so that Chinese scientists can work out internationally advanced achievements in their own country. It will also help build up relations among research organizations and scientists of China and other countries."

He explained that since its establishment CCAST has received two groups of scientists, totalling 131, including some famous young and middle-aged scientists and some prominent young doctors. Nearly all of them have been studying or working overseas and have returned to China in the past few years.

CCAST deals mainly with the study of physics. The centre is



World AIDS Day Activities Held in Beijing

An Acquired Immune Deficiency Syndrome (AIDS) and Venereal Disease (VD) Prevention Exhibition opened on December 1 in Beijing's Zhongshan Park. It was Beijing's first large-scale exhibition of its kind, which will last for about two months. It was also part of a programme by the Beijing Public Health Bureau, China Venereal Diseases Prevention Centre and

other related organizations to support World AIDS Day.

The exhibition presents models, specimens and more than 200 photos, as well as video shows on the rapid spread of AIDS in the world and on VD cases in China during the past few years. The exhibition also explains the ways the diseases spread, and how they can be prevented and treated.

On opening day, six Beijing hospitals, including the Jishuitan Hospital and Union Medical College Hospital, held AIDS and VD prevention consultations. In Jishuitan Hospital (the left picture), within one hour more than 1,000 pamphlets were distributed. The right picture shows a bulletin board in that hospital, which warns people to "Guard against AIDS?"

by Yang Liming

made up of four institutes, namely, the Institute of Theoretical Physics, the Institute of Condensed Matter and Radiation, the Institute of High Energy Physics and Synchrotron Radiation and the Institute of Astronomy and Astrophysics.

Qiu said that scientists working in the centre have scored great successes in the past two years. High-tech superconductor expert Zhao Zhongxian and optical crystal expert Chen Chuangtian have won recognition from international academic circles for their research achievements. Members of the centre have published 450 scientific papers in the past two years, among which 162 were published in international physics journals.

The centre especially stresses international exchanges in science and technology, he noted. Five

symposia have been held in the past two years, and at each symposium a dozen outstanding foreign scientists were invited to lecture on subjects which have potentials for future development in China.

A new CCAST building with 4,000 square metres will be completed early next year, a vax 8550 computer has been ordered and will be installed in the new building, and the Chinese Academy of Sciences have also provided some apartment houses to accommodate members of the centre, Qiu said. ■

Burglars Boost Security Needs

Increasing cases of burglaries in China's cities have indicated that highrise apartment buildings

require more effective security systems.

According to a spokesman for the Ministry of Public Security, burglaries have accounted for more than 60 percent of all thefts in the country since 1986.

During the first half of this year there were 148,000 burglaries reported in the country. The figure represents an increase of 16.8 percent over the same period last year.

"Many of the burglaries were committed in newly built highrise apartment buildings," the spokesman said, citing the example of Jinshi City in Hunan Province, where about 76 percent of the robberies and thefts were committed in apartment buildings.

Highrise dwellers should heighten their vigilance against suspicious interlopers, while up-to-date security systems be installed in

apartment buildings, he said.

The state is plowing more funds into the raising of multi-storey office and apartment buildings, which are often vulnerable to burglars and outright thieves, he said.

Earlier this year, Beijing police nabbed two proficient sneakers who had forced entry into 150 households throughout the country since 1985 and lifted coloured TV sets, video-tape recorders, cameras, jewelery, cash and state treasury bonds worth 150,000 yuan.

They confessed that most of their unwary victims live in apartment towers where neighbours are often strangers to each other, making it easy for burglars to gain access.

Another reason that high-rise dwellings offer easy pickings to burglars and thieves is that numerous buildings lack effective security systems.

"Many of the doors and locks are made of poor-quality materials that can be easily broken," the spokesman said, adding that balconies are very close, making it convenient for thieves to swing from one to another and gain access to rooms.

"Stouter doors and better-designed buildings can effectively help fight against burglaries and robberies," he said.

It is proposed that highrise building residents use better locks and better-quality doors be adopted to prevent burglars from easily breaking in.

A police station in Shanghai has advocated the use of burglar-proof iron doors and other improved measures in 7,100 local households, and only two burglaries have been committed in the more secure buildings in the past three years, he said. ■

Weekly Chronicle (November 28-December 4)

POLITICAL

November 28

■ A Chinese Foreign Ministry spokesman expresses regret over the US State Department's decision, announced November 26, to deny PLO Chairman Yasser Arafat his entry visa for participation in the UN General Assembly special session on the question of Palestine.

The US decision has violated the relevant agreement between the US, as the host country, and the United Nations and in no way helps efforts for a peaceful solution to the Middle East question, the spokesman says.

December 1

■ At a weekly news briefing in Beijing, a Chinese Foreign Ministry spokeswoman says that all negotiations by other countries on the Nansha Islands constitute "acts of disregarding China's sovereignty and territorial integrity."

She was commenting on a recent joint communique by foreign ministers of the Philippines and Viet Nam, which states that the dispute about the Nansha Islands must be settled by "all available peaceful means."

ECONOMIC

November 28

■ An official from the State Statistical Bureau predicts that China's inflation rate will peak at 20 percent by the end of this year.

He says that the retail price index for the first 10 months of 1988 rose by 17 percent as compared with the same period of last year. But the country's recent panic buying spree has almost cooled down due to urgent measures taken by the central government.

December 1

■ So far, 13 oilfields have been discovered in an area of 12,000 square kilometres along the Liaohe River since 1980, and more than 100,000 workers and 3,000 oil rigs have been assembled in the area to exploit oil reserves, the overseas edition of *Renmin Ribao* (People's Daily) reports.

November 29

■ A ram wing hovercraft, which can travel at a top speed of 130 kilometres per hour, recently passed an appraisal by the China Scientific Maritime Research Centre in east China's Jiangsu Province.

The hovercraft can travel up to 30 metres above land and sea. This has made China the third country after the Soviet Union and Federal Germany that can claim such high technology in this field. A 15-seat model will be developed by the end of this year.

December 3

■ Chinese Communist Party's General Secretary Zhao Ziyang meets more than 50 outstanding representatives of Chinese students returning from abroad.

All of them went to study and work abroad after 1978, and they have made remarkable achievements in their respective units after coming back. Now more than 10 of them have become the leaders of various colleges and institutions.

SOCIAL

November 30

■ The aftershock that hit the quake-stricken Lancang area of Yunnan Province injured at least 13 people and destroyed 620 houses, according to the provincial government.

The epicentre of the aftershock, in Zhutang township, registered 6.7 on the Richter scale. ■

PLO

Visa Veto Blocks Play for Peace

The US decision on November 26 to veto an entry visa for PLO Chairman Yasser Arafat, which follows an anti-PLO congressional bill of last December, is seen by the world community as another attempt to block, rather than tackle, efforts for peace in the Middle East.

The US administration has surprised the world community by its decision on November 26 to deny an entry visa to Yasser Arafat, chairman of the Palestine Liberation Organization (PLO). He had a speaking engagement on the Palestinian question scheduled at the December 1-2 session of the UN General Assembly, which has subsequently been postponed.

This unwise decision tags the heels of a US congressional bill of last December, which attempted to shut down the PLO observer mission to the United Nations. This effort was aborted in May this year after entertaining worldwide condemnation supported by a World Court ruling that pointed a finger at the United States' violation of duties obliged by its 1947 UN headquarters agreement.

The recent move to block Arafat from US territory represented a second swipe at the agreement, under which the host country may not "impose any impediments to transit to or from the headquarters" of persons invited by the United Nations.

The United States nixed the chairman's request under the pretext that he "knows of, condones and lends support to" acts of terrorism. This is completely groundless.

First of all, the PLO is by no means a "terrorist" organization and, as known to all, Arafat has been deemed a "moderate" by the world community, as well as by

the American public. He has always condemned terrorist acts while doing his utmost to seek a just, lasting and peaceful solution to the Arab-Israeli conflict.

A majority of UN member states and officials find it especially startling that the US decision should come in the wake of the 19th special session of the Palestine National Council (PNC), which was held in Algiers during mid-November. That session won thumbs-up reviews worldwide and was described by UN Secretary-General Javier Perez de Cuellar as "providing new chances for peace in the Middle East."

The core of the Arab-Israeli conflict is the Palestinian question. The United States, along with Israel, has always held the PLO's recognition of Security Council Resolutions 242 and 338 and Israel's right to exist as preconditions for peace talks on the Middle East.

The latest PNC session created a historical first. While trumpeting the birth of an independent Palestine state and upholding the Palestinian people's right to self-determination, it adopted a political resolution that embraces UN Security Council Resolutions 242 and 338 and censures terrorism.

This should be considered as the biggest concession the PLO has ever made, demonstrating its sincere desire for peace.

Even the US State Department statement, which denies the visa for Arafat, grants that the outcome of the PNC session was "in a constructive way" and "encouraging."

Therefore, there can be no more excuses for the United States to bar Arafat from coming to the United Nations.

Most UN member states and officials have expected the US administration to give Arafat a shot at further clarifying the PLO's new policy from the podium of the UN General Assembly, at a time when the climate is right for some co-operative effort to revive the stalled Middle East peace process.

Regrettably, the US government has failed to live up to the expectations of the world community, and its decision has cast a willful eclipse on the new hope for ending the prolonged Arab-Israeli conflict. By being blind to its UN obligation, the United States has virtually blotted out the rightful opportunity for the UN member states and American people to directly hear the just voice of the Palestinian people. This once again reveals the lack of political will on the part of the United States to seek a peaceful settlement of the Middle East issue.

This toe-trampling decision is even less popular than the previous drive to slam diplomatic doors. It has drawn sore outcries and strong condemnation from the UN and the whole world as well. And it may cost the United States dearly in political terms. Arab nations are expected to recommend moving the scheduled UN debate on Palestine to the UN's European headquarters in Geneva so that Arafat can attend.

The UN General Assembly has never previously moved out of New York in protest against American policies. If such a migration should happen, it would greatly damage the image of the

United States in the world. The United States should join other UN member nations and become a building block, rather than a stumbling block, in regard to efforts for a Middle East peace.

To this end, the legal committee of the current UN General

Assembly session adopted a draft resolution by 121 votes to two on November 29. The resolution urged the United States to reverse the decision so that Arafat might come to New York to participate in debates on the Palestinian question.

by Qian Wenrong

SOVIET UNION

Far-East Drive to Lure Investors

The Far Eastern area is gaining greater importance in the Soviet ongoing campaign to accelerate the country's development.

In a speech made in September this year in Krasnoyarsk, a Soviet Far Eastern city in southeastern Siberia, Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev declared that his country will adopt preferential measures to accelerate foreign economic connections of its Far Eastern area. He also expressed the wish that the Soviet Union, Japan and China would set up a multilateral co-operative relationship in developing the Far East. These were major decisions the Soviet leadership adopted to shift its economic focus eastward in order to speed up the development of the Soviet Far East.

The Soviet Far East consists of two frontier regions—Khabarovsk and Primorskij, four counties—Amur, Magadan, Kamchatka and Sakhalin, and the republic of Yakut, with a total area of more than 6 million square kilometres, about 28 percent of the country's total. In sharp contrast, the population of this vast area is only 7.8 million, less than 3 percent of the total.

The area is rich in many resources: 35 percent of the Soviet Union's forest coverage, 26 percent of its wood reserve, 27 of its percent potential water-power reserve and 17 of its percent maritime biological resources on continental shelves. Some 70 kinds

of mineral resources have been found in the region. But the economic development here is still in its primary stage because, according to some Soviet scholars, of an underdeveloped infrastructure and inadequate social services facilities.

The Siberian and Far Eastern area is the base for the production of heavy machinery, power machinery, metallurgical and agricultural machinery, yet most of the products, unsuitable for the region, are transported to the western part of the country. On the other hand, equipment, daily necessities and food badly needed for the region's development have to be transported from outside. The cost of such large-scale in-and-out transportation is estimated at around 8-10 million roubles annually.

The cold weather is another adverse factor adding to the technical difficulties and cost of development. The cost of building a new city here is 50-100 percent higher than in the Soviet European part, while that of placing a worker is 150 percent higher than in other parts.

In the 1970s, the Soviet Union had already begun to make use of foreign co-operation to develop its Far Eastern area, but such co-

operation was only in the form of trade. In recent years, with the profound changes in people's ideas brought about by *perestroika* (restructuring), the Soviet Union is paying more attention to opening new channels of international co-operation. In addition to publishing a law on joint ventures, it has further advanced the concept of "free economic zones" to be set up in coastal areas. Some research institutions have been set up. At a round-table meeting on the topic organized by the *Izvestiya* (News), some scholars pointed out that it is a trend in the world economic process to establish free economic zones, which are needed not only by developing countries but by developed countries as well. The United States, for example, has 123 such zones.

To promote the goal, the Soviet Union is actively stepping up its diplomatic efforts towards Asian-Pacific countries and formed a National Committee on Economic Co-operation With the Asia-Pacific Area in a bid to strengthen economic ties with the region. Last September, it announced that Primorskij is no longer a forbidden zone. It even invited delegates for the first time from 35 countries to attend an international symposium on dialogue, peace and co-operation in the Asian-Pacific region held in Vladivostok.

The Soviet blueprint of setting up free economic zones has aroused special interest from Japan. Some Japanese business people even suggested that a multilateral co-operative special economic zone be opened inside the Soviet Union where the borders of the Soviet Union, China and the Democratic People's Republic of Korea come together. In early September, Japan held an international seminar exploring the possibilities of economic co-operation among

nations surrounding the Sea of Japan.

Apart from its abundance of natural resources, the Soviet Far East has another advantage—its scientific research force. The Far Eastern branch of the Soviet Academy of Sciences has 40 institutions and sub-institutions employing thousands of specialized technical personnel. The completion of the second trans-Siberian railway will bring further vigour to this region. The current relaxation of international relations and the rapid economic prosperity of the Asian-Pacific region provide a sound international environment for developing the Far Eastern area.

Of course, there are difficulties and obstacles. The reforms, which were started not long ago, are slower in the Far Eastern area. Foreign investors still have doubts as to the prospects of co-operation. The Soviet Union hopes to develop an export-oriented economy and take part in the international division of labour through co-operation with foreign partners, but foreign investors usually are interested only in the Soviet domestic market. The bulk of Soviet exports are resources, whereas Asian-Pacific countries are undergoing an industrial structural transformation towards new resource-saving, technology-intensive industries, which reduce the demand for raw materials. This makes it difficult for the Soviet Union to overcome the shortage of foreign exchange arising from trade deficits. Furthermore, the prospects of co-operation are affected by the restrictive measures imposed by the Paris-Based Coordinating Committee for Export Control, the territorial dispute with Japan and the military confrontation in the Asian-Pacific region with the United States.

by Zhou Xiangguang

OPEC

Quota Agreement Awaits Hard Test

The accord reached on November 28 by the OPEC ministerial council is aimed at lowering oil output to stabilize oil prices. But the real implementation of the agreement remains unclear.

The 84th Ministerial Council of the Organization of Petroleum Exporting Countries (OPEC), through eight days' repeated consultation, eventually hammered out an agreement on how to keep prices up and production down. The agreement trims the current oil output of 22.5 million barrels per day by OPEC member states to 18.5 million barrels and calls for hiking prices from about US\$10 a barrel to the official OPEC figure of US\$18 for the first half of 1989. When the news was revealed, prices in oil markets immediately rose, as did hopes for stability in the near future when the overall price level approaches the official OPEC figure.

Before the conference, OPEC was on the ropes. On the one hand, regardless of the OPEC production quota of 16.6 million barrels per day, many OPEC member states over-produced, pushing the actual oil output of 17.85 million barrels per day in the first half of this year to the current 22.5 million barrels. Thus, supplies increasingly overshot demands, and even though the latter in the fourth quarter was as high as 19 million barrels per day, there were 2 million barrels' surplus. After several landslide drops, oil prices had fallen to US\$12-13 per barrel, one-third lower than OPEC's official bottom-dollar prices. Experts generally believed that if OPEC failed again to effectively call the shots on oil output and indulged its member states, prices would drop further, even down to US\$5.

On the other hand, in recent

months, the OPEC oil price committee's efforts of seeking a stable price by limiting oil output were repeatedly muddled. The failure of this conference, it seemed to some, could lead to the collapse of OPEC itself.

The essential problem was that Iran and Iraq were still at loggerheads on quotas. For two years, Iraq's demand for parity with Iran had not been met, so Iraq cranked up its oil production in spite of the previous OPEC agreement. This, to some extent, had brought about the general overproduction of OPEC oil. Therefore, to herd Iraq back into OPEC's regulatory fold was the key point of this conference.

OPEC countries, such as Nigeria and Algeria, took advantage of Iran's willingness to bury the hatchet, after its war with Iraq ended. They persuaded Iran to accept Iraq's bid for parity by increasing Iran's quota and plugging Kuwait's and Saudi Arabia's 300,000 barrels per day flow into Iraq. Thus, the knottiest problem has been resolved. Besides, OPEC's new production quotas are up 1.9 million barrels, and all member states have synchronized their quota adjustments accordingly.

Towards the tail-end of the conference, Saudi Arabia provoked another dispute by suggesting that oil prices be lowered from US\$18 to US\$15. Although the final agreement supported the former price, the suggestion itself expressed a schism in price trends. Some countries hoped to keep sufficiently high by limiting

output; the rest were inclined to seize more shares of oil markets with lower prices. Many observers thought that the latter intention, to some extent, was more in line with the Western oil-consuming countries' hopes because they wanted to shrink inflation rates.

Facing a glutted market, if OPEC strictly abides by its set

quotas, strengthens co-operation with non-OPEC oil production countries longing for a stable oil market and effectively controls the oil output and exporting volumes, it is possible to raise oil prices to the official OPEC level and stabilize the oil market. If not, OPEC's days may be numbered.

by Dan Lin

FRANCE-USSR

Short Stay Sets Long-Term Affairs

French President Francois Mitterrand left Moscow on November 26 after a two-day official visit. Political barometers on diplomatic affairs, as now read by international press, indicate fair weather for Franco-Soviet relations.

French President Francois Mitterrand called on the Soviet Union from November 24 to 26, during which time he twice held talks with Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev, while senior officials from both sides conversed in plenary meetings.

Each party considered these discussions very substantive. Underlined themes included East-West relations, disarmament, human rights, co-operation among the European countries and their bilateral relations. The results were made evident in the accords, those pledges of fidelity at a time when the world's political atmosphere is changing.

During the talks, Mitterrand, not wanting France to have a "one-night stand" with the Soviets, voiced hopes for the development of a well-rounded relationship between the countries.

On the other hand, the thrust of Gorbachev's concern was towards propelling Soviet-Franco dialogue to the frontline of current world affairs.

As a consequence, the two powers consented to rendezvous between each nation's top leaders and between foreign ministers.

The former will exchange visits at least once, and the latter, at least twice, every year.

The two countries also nurtured the growth of their economic and technological bonds. According to the agreements mutually marked during the visit, France will forward US\$2 billion in loans to the Soviet Union, and the two jointly will pool 1 billion francs to help the Soviets expand a large aluminium-making factory in the Soviet Republic of Armenia. This will make it top-giant among joint-funded ventures set up in the Soviet Union by a Western country. Finally, plans were laid for the convening of a Franco-Soviet economic committee in February next year to probe new co-operative projects.

One long-term co-operative agreement bilaterally sealed was on space navigation. During his visit, Mitterrand, escorted by Soviet Foreign Minister Eduard Shevardnaze, went to the Baikonur Cosmodrome in the Soviet Republic of Kazakhstan to watch the launching of a spaceship with a Soviet-French crew. The flight is the second Soviet-French space exploration and will last until December 21. The first shared-

flight took place in 1982.

So, all in all, it would seem that Franco-Soviet relations are going places. Mitterrand's visit seems to point in the direction of an enduring normality.

This was necessitated, the French newspaper *Le Monde* observed, by France's desire to find its own position in the current East-West dialogues. After the US-Soviet summit held in Moscow last May, the affairs between the Soviet Union and the Western European countries and between the West and East European countries have improved greatly. Testifying to that fact are the Council for Mutual Economic Assistance and the European Community approaching each other, the recent successive treks to the Soviet Union by leaders of the Western European countries and the intense interest of the Western European banks to provide Moscow with loans. In light of all this bustle, France, of course, does not want to lag.

In his confidences with the Soviet leader, Mitterrand expressed his support for the US-Soviet nuclear disarmament talks and agreed to discuss the weighty issue of reducing conventional weapons in Europe at the Conference on Security and Co-operation in Europe.

During their diplomatic dance, while the Soviet Union consented to French proposals concerning the holding of an international conference in Paris to discuss the banning of chemical weapons, Mitterrand praised the Kremlin for its "marked progress" on human rights issues, indicating that France might support the Soviet proposal to hold the projected international human rights conference in 1991 in Moscow. Change is in the air these days, and it seems to be drawing France and the Soviet Union closer together.

by Zhang Qihua

Fei Xiaotong on Multi-Party Co-operation

To discover how China's democratic parties established their co-operative relations with the Communist Party of China (CPC), "Beijing Review" interviewed Fei Xiaotong, chairman of the Central Committee of the China Democratic League and vice-chairman of the NPC Standing Committee. The following are his views on multi-party co-operation.

by Our Correspondent Lu Yun



Fei Xiaotong

LU YUN

Foreign friends viewing China from a Western perspective often puzzle over its political system of multi-party co-operation. The fact is that the system, a special product of China's distinctive history, conforms to the country's national conditions.

As far as I know, multi-party co-operation started during the War of Resistance Against Japan (1937-45). Long before this period, in 1924, the Kuomintang and the Communist Party,

Fei Xiaotong, 78, who has been awarded five international academic prizes and honorary titles since 1980, is also the director of the China Sociology Association.

China's only two parties at that time, had united to fight against imperialism and feudal warlords. This first round of Kuomintang-Communist co-operation stopped in March 1927 after the Kuomintang betrayed and massacred 5,000 Communists in Shanghai.

Japanese imperialist aggression in 1937 prompted the formation of the anti-Japanese national united front, the second round of co-operation between the Communist Party and the Kuomintang, but also including numerous small political groups of intellectuals and noted social personages under the leadership of the Communist Party. After the Japanese surrender, however, the Kuomintang, backed by US imperialists, launched an all-out civil war in an attempt to wipe out the Communists.

The small political groups united in 1941 to organize the Chinese Democratic and Political Group League, and attempted to reconcile the differences between the Kuomintang and the Communist Party through a united coalition government. The league broke up during the Civil War. Many of its members (the predecessors of the present democratic parties) then fought with the Communist Party against the Kuomintang until the latter was forced to retreat to Taiwan. The founding of the People's Republic of China in 1949 under

the CPC's leadership was accompanied by the establishment of the multi-party co-operative system.

The Communist Party, as the vanguard of the working class and the representative of the workers and peasants, has now grown into a mass party with 46 million members. In comparison, the democratic parties are minute; their combined memberships total less than 300,000, but as this includes many intellectuals and businessmen, they are fairly influential.

Tortuous Course

After the founding of the People's Republic, the Communist Party incorporated representatives from all the democratic parties into the new government. Two were appointed vice-chairmen of the Central People's Government and quite a number of them were given ministerial posts. A subsequent over-emphasis on class origins, however, led to the democratic parties being criticized as representatives of bourgeois and intellectual forces. At first, because of their history of co-operation with the CPC, their members were treated as colleagues in need of re-education. But the surge in leftist ideology within the CPC in 1957 led to the exclusion of many democratic members from the



WU QIANG

In a small town in Jiangsu Province, Fei Xiaotong talks to a group of retired people.

government. During the 10 chaotic years of the "cultural revolution" (1966-76), all the democratic parties became targets for attack, and their activities were all halted.

After the "cultural revolution," the CPC re-adopted its principle of "long-term co-existence and mutual supervision" and the eight democratic parties resumed their activities. As leftist influence waned, the CPC, many of whose members had also been persecuted over the previous decade, paid more attention to the democratic parties. The CPC Central Committee also put forward a new principle of "treating each other with all sincerity and sharing weal or woe." As Zhao Ziyang stressed in his talk with leading democratic party members and other patriots with no party affiliation on October 11, 1978: "The long-term practice of China's revolution and construction has proved that the CPC and all Chinese democratic parties have remained together through thick and thin. The active co-operation of the democratic parties has played an indispensable part in all the achievements of the

CPC. Whenever the Communist Party had hard times, so did the democratic parties." The CPC Central Committee has also commented that the democratic parties have been an important and dependable force in China's united patriotic front, fully engaging themselves in the modernization drive and the maintenance of stability and unity.

Some foreigners wonder why there is no opposition party in China. Theoretically, the reason is that after the socialist transformation of the ownership of the means of production. Thus, the fundamental interests of all the Chinese people are identical. Occasional conflicts of interest between different social strata therefore can be reconciled through consultation instead of class confrontation and struggle. In practice, however, as Deng Xiaoping once pointed out, China's principal task at present is to develop productivity through reform and opening up in a peaceful environment. Because of this, neither the Chinese people

nor the democratic parties want political turmoil—which explains why China has no opposition party.

Forging Bonds

We place ourselves under the CPC's leadership because it is the vanguard of China's revolution. The vanguard is imperative for the nation because China's 1 billion people have a wide range of different views, interests and levels of political consciousness. Hence they cannot spontaneously accomplish the transition from a traditional small-scale peasant economy to a planned socialist commodity one with all the accompanying cultural upheaval this necessitates. But it is also imperative for the nation to have a broad united patriotic front, and it is in forging these links that the democratic parties perform their function.

The Communist Party should be pure in organization, correct in ideology and strict in discipline. Only in this way can it play its leading role in national construction. At the same time, to handle various social contradictions, the Party should listen attentively to the views of the masses and establish a democratic political system.

The democratic parties should all be patriotic, despite their different levels of political consciousness and views. Because their memberships are drawn from many sections of society, they are able to know about, speak for and exert influence on people of all walks of life. Consequently, they play an important part in the construction of a democratic policy. Of course, we won't allow the formation of two opposed extremes such as exists in capitalist societies. China must take the socialist road and strive for the realization of the four moderniz-

ations. So we accept the CPC's leadership and participate actively in China's revolutionary cause.

Frankly speaking, it is rather difficult for the democratic parties to fulfil the above-mentioned tasks.

First, as a result of their tortuous history since 1957, these parties recruited almost no new members for more than 30 years. Now, the China Democratic League has a membership of over 81,000, of which around 60,000 have been recruited in the last ten years. The problem we now face is bridging the age gap between the older members of the 1940s and 1950s and those who joined in the 1980s. This has been an arduous task. We recently failed to fulfil the CPC's request to recommend qualified personnel for government work, as we felt our members were either too old or somewhat inexperienced.

In China's transition from centralized state management to a planned commodity economy, we have to make special efforts to avoid conflicts and contradictions through open-mindedness and a frank exchange of views. Simultaneously we have to re-organize our personnel. To solve the age break problem of the China Democratic League, about 29 percent of the older deputies, including the chairman and vice-chairman of our Central Committee, voluntarily gave up their seats to new comrades. At the recently opened Sixth NPC, about 25 percent of new deputies were elected onto the league's central committee. Now, about half of the committee members are younger comrades. We hope that after proper training they will form the majority of our next central committee.

Our second problem is how to strengthen the China Democratic League so it can participate fully in multi-party co-operation. This entails dropping our old style of work and learning how to take the

initiative in speaking for intellectuals' legal interests. All the league's feudal and patriarchal practices must be replaced with democracy.

Participation & Supervision

Multi-party co-operation entails the China Democratic League playing the following roles.

First, the league should act as a link between the government and the people. It can relay public opinion on new policies, and at the same time, by pooling the specialist knowledge of its members, it can study problems and offer suggestions. Thus, it can actively participate in state affairs.

We favoured the expansion of village and township enterprises in the early 1980s. This has now become state policy. In July this year, the league's central committee suggested to the CPC Central Committee and the State Council

that multinational economic zones be opened on the upper reaches of the Huanghe (Yellow) River. The idea was well-received and is now under consideration. Zhao Ziyang has stressed that the Communist Party will not only consult with the democratic parties after important policy decisions are taken, but also invite them to take part in government decision-making procedures.

Second, Zhao Ziyang has said that the Communist Party is in need of supervision by both the masses and the democratic parties. Here, the problem is developing suitable methods of supervision, and in one area we are uniquely qualified: out of the league's 81,000 members, some 50,000 work in education (including 161 principals of universities, colleges or secondary technical schools, and 8,729 professors or associate professors).

Zhao Ziyang stressed recently that the CPC's achievements in education in recent years would

Fei Xiaotong on a tour of a peasant-sponsored agro-technical school in Jiangsu Province.

WU QIANG



not have been possible without the suggestions and supervision of the democratic parties. For example, the formulation that the fundamental purpose of education is to raise overall national quality originated from a suggestion made by the China Democratic League. Today, some CPC cadres still do not realize the significance of education, therefore the league should continue its supervisory role in this field.

In general, as China's reform is

now at a critical juncture, the league should actively participate in helping the Communist Party to bridge all difficulties.

The democratic parties also have much to offer in the peaceful reunification of the motherland. All their members, including myself, are ready to help eliminate the political gulf that separates Taiwan from the mainland. We would like to pave the way for the third round of Kuomintang-Communist co-operation, and

create a favorable atmosphere for future bilateral talks.

In short, multi-party co-operation under the CPC's leadership has defined the orientation and fundamental structure of China's political system. This co-operation should deepen and grow more fruitful over the coming years. Any further improvements in this system will undoubtedly promote the construction of socialist development and democracy in China. ■

Pioneer of China's Fight Against Leprosy

In our previous issue, we reported on the 13th International Leprosy Congress held in the Netherlands last September. The Chinese delegation was to have been led by Dr Ma Haide, the leading figure in China's struggle to eliminate leprosy. Due to illness, he was prevented from going, and on October 3, he died. We publish this article as a tribute to the more than 30 years Ma devoted to fighting the disease in China.

by Our Correspondent Wang Jian

Ma Haide was born Shafik George Hatem in the United States. He first arrived in China at

the age of 23 in 1933, and soon became well acquainted with other foreign supporters of the Chinese

Ma poses with Mongolian herdsmen during a visit to a national minority area during the campaign to eliminate sexually transmitted diseases from China.



Communist Party such as his fellow American, Agnes Smedley, and the New Zealander, Rewi Alley, as well as the wife of the late Sun Yat-sen, Soong Ching Ling.

He quickly became engaged in revolutionary work—investigating social conditions, shielding revolutionaries and reporting contemporary events. In 1936, he travelled with the American writer Edgar Snow into the Communist-held areas of northwest China. When Snow left to write his now classic account of the Chinese revolution, *Red Star Over China*, Ma volunteered to remain behind to care for the wounded. He learnt Chinese and adopted the name Ma Haide. In 1937, he joined the Chinese Communist Party and married a Chinese woman. In 1950, he became a full Chinese citizen.

From then on he devoted himself entirely to the needs of public health in China. During the 1950s, he strove to eradicate sexually transmitted diseases



Ma and his wife during a visit to Buffalo in the United States in September 1983.

across the country, and then he initiated and led a campaign of leprosy prevention and treatment.

Ma maintained that leprosy was incompatible with modern civilization. Or as he put it, "Communism with leprosy is unthinkable." During his life he travelled to every corner of the country, both treating patients and encouraging thousands of leprosy workers with his example. After 30 years, 430,000 leprosy sufferers have been cured, and only 70,000 remain to be treated across China.

Ma constantly stressed that the emphasis had to be put on prevention. He assured his colleagues that a complete medical and health care network was the only answer, as long-term and large-scale physical examinations were the major means of eliminating leprosy.

In 1981, Ma announced that China should aim for the eradication of leprosy by the end of the century. At a meeting earlier this year, he likened this task to climbing a mountain: although

there were only a few hundred metres to go to reach the summit, this last assault called for an even greater effort than the rest of the climb.

By the time of his death, Ma had devoted his last ounce of energy to combating leprosy — a struggle in which he often enlisted the aid of

his wife (a film actress), his son (a photographer) and several of his grandchildren. During his life, he had held various leading posts in the Chinese medical service, including being senior adviser to the Ministry of Public Health, a council member of the Chinese Medical Association, and president of the China Leprosy Association.

His work had also been widely recognized internationally. Among the many honours bestowed on him from abroad were the Belgian Damien-Dutton Leprosy Award in 1982, the Albert and Mary Lasker Foundation's Public Service Award in 1986, and the International Gandhi Award in 1988, as well as others from the Lebanese government, his hometown in the United States, and an honorary doctorate from New York State University.

From the 1970s onwards, Ma suffered from various serious illnesses, including prostate cancer. Despite three major operations between 1976 and 1984, however, he untiringly continued his work without thought of retirement. After presiding over China's first anti-leprosy day at

Ma with members of his family at Beidaihe in 1986.





All photos by ZHOU YOU MA

With a group of international doctors, Ma examines a patient at Guangdong's Pingzhou Leprosy Hospital.

the beginning of this year, he once again was forced to enter hospital. A medical examination in the United States revealed no malignant tumors, so he returned to China.

In early August, he gathered leprosy doctors from across China in Beidaihe to discuss the forthcoming International Leprosy Congress to be held in the Hague. A relapse, however, forced his return to Beijing for further medical treatment.

Ma had been looking forward to heading China's delegation to the congress. He said it would undoubtedly be a milestone in the long struggle to eradicate leprosy around the world. But unfortunately his desire to report on China's achievements in this cause and to announce the country's goal of wiping out the disease by the year 2000 could not be fulfilled because of his poor physical condition.

Instead he prepared a message of greetings to the congress on behalf of China's 10,000 leprosy workers, its 70,000 patients currently being treated and the 176,000 already cured but in need of rehabilitation. He also re-

quested that the 15th congress could be held in China in 1997.

On hearing that illness had prevented Ma from attending the congress, many participants paid tribute to his work in their speeches. I recorded them at the time, intending to give him a tape of their best wishes on his birthday. But when I returned to Beijing I heard the unfortunate news of his death. For me, it was unimaginable that this silver-haired gentleman, always brimming with vigour, was no more with us.

Replaying the tape, I heard again the voices wishing him a speedy recovery and praising his work in the struggle against leprosy. There was Michel Lechat, President of the ILA: "I'm happy to send all my greetings to Dr Ma Haide, who has done so much for leprosy work in China. Your experience is invaluable for other countries because of the efforts you have made to control important social diseases in a large country."

Then there was Kommer Braber of the Netherlands Relief Association: "We all miss you, not only because of your professional

contributions which make the congress a more meaningful event, but also for your personality and lovely humour which is always with you."

Many others gave personal messages. Jane Neville of Leprosy Mission International remembered how Ma's Christmas card was always among the first to arrive in her office, and how much she enjoyed the pictures. The tributes flowed from many countries: Australia, India, Japan, and several others. But perhaps the feelings were best summed up by Anwei and Henry Law: "Although you are not here, your spirit is, and many people speak of you."

At a meeting in 1983 to celebrate the 50th anniversary of his arrival in China, Ma had summed up the beliefs that had motivated him over the last half-century: "I have been glad to dedicate my life to the Chinese people and to their ideals. The meaning of a man's life lies in ever struggling against difficulties and scaling new heights."

An American surveying the same 50 years wrote: that Ma was "the only American who had seen, and been part of the whole story: Chiang Kai-shek, international settlements, life in the Communist-held area, Japanese invasion, civil war, Communist victory." And as Rewi Alley pointed out, it was a shame that he had never had either the time or the inclination to write his memoirs, as they would have been an invaluable record of a unique life.

But if this record to Dr Ma Haide's life does not exist, it is because his true memorial lies in the countless thousands of lives he has saved across China, in the work he has done to eradicate leprosy around the world, and in the links he has built between the peoples of China and the United States. ■

STVF '88 Opens a Window to the World

Like no other medium, television has shaped the 20th century. It has bridged cultures and linked minds across the world. In China, it has advanced rapidly towards maturity over the last 30 years—progress which culminated in the Shanghai TV Festival '88 held in the country's largest metropolis towards the end of October.

by Our Correspondent Dai Gang

The evening of October 22, 1988, was by no means an ordinary occasion for French film star Catherine Deneuve. Not only was it her 45th birthday, but she was also in Shanghai to open STVF '88.

The ceremony took place in the city's main stadium, transformed for the evening into a world of flowers, smiles, songs and dances. The arena was bathed in the rays of more than 30,000 coloured lights, 1,700 metres of neon tubes and 700 spotlights. Suspended above them all were two huge letters explaining everyone's presence—TV.

The show, which naturally was televised live to the people of Shanghai, had a host of singers and dancers from both China and overseas. Zhu Rongji, the mayor of Shanghai, welcomed the audience by declaring that television was the most convenient means of promoting understanding and friendship among the peoples of the world.

He said that Shanghai's long history as an international metropolis made it the ideal junction for Chinese and all other cultures, and so it should play its own part in the development of human civilization.

The ceremony then moved to a climax with a chain of folk songs and dances taken from each of the 12 major participating nations, before ending with a majestic performance of Beethoven's Ninth Symphony.

Window of the World

By the time the curtain rose on STVF '88, every one of Shanghai's 13 million population must have known their city was playing host to its second international television festival. The slogans "I love Shanghai, I want STVF '88" and "STVF '88, a Window of the World" had been daubed along countless billboards, buildings and public buses.

The city is no stranger to international arts festivals. Over the past few years it has hosted an international art festival, an international photography exhibition, a Shakespeare theatre festival and an international

championships for Chinese-style piano works, as well as STVF '88's predecessor, the Shanghai Sister Cities Television Festival, in 1986.

This last event brought together 23 television stations from 15 nations—distinctly small-scale compared with STVF '88's 140 television stations and companies from 37 countries and regions, a programme trade fair and a television and radio equipment show.

Front Runners

Fighting it out for the festival's major prizes were 77 television films and 100 documentaries.

Shanghai-born Judy Ongg, one of Japan's most popular singers, returned to her hometown to give a series of sellout concerts during STVF '88.

GONG JIANHUA



After an initial round of judging, 17 of the former and 18 of the latter were selected to be shown to an international panel of film and television directors.

Among the documentaries, the presentation and focus on reality of the overseas entries impressed Chinese audiences. The most notable entries included *Mum, How Do You Spell Gorbachov?* (Film Australia), the portrayal of a school pupil's efforts to come to terms with the Reagan-Gorbachev arms reduction talks; *AIDS—The African Connection* (Britain) which discloses not only that many people in the central African states are dying from AIDS but also traces how it has effected the rest of the continent; and the USSR's entry, a musical profile of the Soviet composer Georgi Sviridov.

Three Chinese documentaries—*Only in China: A Place Dominated by Bicycles*. (China TV Drama Centre), *Moso People* (Shanghai TV) and *The Maiden Float of the Changjiang River* (Sichuan TV)—were put into the final.

One genre that fared particularly well in the preliminary rounds was travel and tourism. *Oslo Live!* (Mekano, Sweden) offered a vivid portrait of Norway's capital; *Journey to Prague* (CBC, Canada) was a stunning visual poem in which CBC radio broadcaster Otto Lowy revisits the remains of a 1,000-year-old Jewish community that was all but destroyed during the Second World War; and *Festivals of the Far East* (Beyond, Australia) featured a colourful journey across the Sri Lankan jungles, the Maldivian Islands, India's central plains and the Lamaist temples of Ladakh.

The television films embraced a wide range of styles and themes. Some of the entries had already been awarded prizes in their country of origin, such as *From the Northern Country* (Japan), a



The American series "L.A. Law" added a Metropolis prize to its four Emmys at STVF '88.

subtle tale of passion between youngsters coming of age, and *The Oath of Hippocrates* (Chongqing TV, China), a philosophic examination of medical ethics.

Among the others which caught the eyes of the judges were: *What About Me, Darling?* (Czechoslovak TV), a comedy centred on the social responsibilities of middle-aged intellectuals perplexed at the conflicts thrown up between their jobs, loves and human relationships; *Cassandra* (Beyond, Australia), a story of how incest can torture the mind shown through a mixture of reality, flashbacks and nightmares; and *The Bomb* (Federal Republic of Germany), a suspense-packed political thriller based on public concerns and fears about nuclear war.

Two full-length epics, *A Patriotic Woman* (Egyptian TV) and *Days of Fire* (Turkish Radio and TV Corp.) concentrated on struggles for independence and freedom. Another couple in the final were adaptations of famous novels: *The Great Change of a Woman's Life* (TF1, France) taken from a novel by the

Austrian writer Stefan Zweig about a young girl in rural Austria, and *Historica* (SACIS, Italy), a moving story of a woman teacher who gave birth to an illegitimate son after being raped by a German soldier based on a best-seller of the same name by Elsa Morante. Both novels have been translated into Chinese.

The two Chinese productions nominated were *A Man of Eighteen* (Shanghai Film With CCTV) and *A Dotted Pigeon* (Shanghai TV).

Star Guests

Catherine Deneuve had never expected to celebrate her 45th birthday in China until she was invited to join STVF '88's international jury. When she arrived at Hongqiao International Airport, Deneuve was surprised to be greeted by a group of Chinese fans asking for her autograph. In recent years, however, many of her films have been widely shown in China.

On the evening of October 23, Deneuve attended a showing of *Le*



A scene from Shanghai TV's "A Dotted Pigeon," one of the two Chinese television films selected for the festival.

Dernier Metro to mark the opening of a one-week retrospective of her films. At a press conference, she declared "I see film as half my life," despite the fact that she first acted on screen at the age of 15. She added that she has always tried to create art rather than simply being a star, saying, "It is more important to love than be loved."

At the moment, she revealed, she is working on an autobiography. But in the future she would be very willing to star in a Chinese film if it was possible.

During the festival itself, Antoinette Fouque, director of the French publishing house Des Femmes, gave a press showing of a new video profile of Catherine Deneuve.

The Indonesian film actress Chritine Hakim told Chinese journalists that she had been greatly touched by Chinese hospitality on this, her first, trip to China. She said with a smile, "I thought people in a socialist country like yours would always wear a serious look on their

faces." Ever since she started her career with *First Love* in 1973, Hakim's films have won accolade after accolade. She now has five CITRA prizes and three Asia-Pacific regional film awards.

Like Deneuve, Hakim has played many diverse roles, from innocent maiden to prostitute, and even national heroine. Just three days before arriving in Shanghai, she completed her latest feature film, *Tjoet Nyak Dhien*, based on a tribal uprising against the Dutch on Atjeh Island 100 years ago. The film took two-and-a-half years to make and cost US\$6 million. Hakim said she was satisfied with her portrayal of the native leader after whom the film is named, and organized a special showing for the Chinese press.

Prize Winners

At STVF '88's closing ceremony on October 29, four Magnolia Prizes and six Metropolis Prizes were awarded to the festival's best programmes and actors.

The Closing of the Takeshima Coal Mine (KBS-TV, Japan) picked up the only Magnolia documentary prize. The three Metropolis documentary awards went to *Moso People*, Shanghai TV's description of life among the Moso tribe of southwest China, *Only in China: A Place Dominated by Bicycles*, a 15-minute-long examination of the incredible uses bicycles in a Guangxi village, and *A Duckling's Tale*, a Japanese video tracing the passage of a family of ducks from a pond at the foot of a highrise tower block to a creek near Tokyo's Imperial Palace and then out into the wild. Set against the noise and bustle of Japan's capital, it's lyrical charm attracted all-round praise.

Among the nominated television films, *From the Northern Country* (Fuji TV, Japan) and *A Man of Eighteen* (Shanghai Film

With CCTV) were crowned with Metropolis Prizes, as was the American series *L.A. Law* (20th Century Fox), which had already picked up four Emmys in the United States.

The Magnolia film prize went to Film Australia's *Custody*. The American actor Christopher Walken, already with an Oscar under his belt for his part in *The Deerhunter* (1978), carried off the Magnolia best actor award with his portrayal of reporter Don Stevens in *Witness in the War Zone* (Creative Film, FRG), a tense political thriller acted out against the backdrop of war-torn Beirut.

The Magnolia best actress award was given to the Russian actress Angerina Schepanova for her leading role in the Soviet television play *Please Remember Me*. Born in 1905, Schepanova, has starred in many popular Russian films, including *War and Peace*, *Twenty Warless Days*, and *They Fight for the Motherland*. For her contributions to drama, she was awarded the Soviet State Prize for Art and Literature in 1958.

Panel Comments

STVF '88's international jury told the press that almost all of the programmes they had seen were of an extremely high quality. The Chinese entries came in for especial praise. Jean Rouch, France's representative on the jury and the director of the Film Archives of France, spoke highly of the exquisite nature of Chinese documentaries. He said, "Even some Australian and American documentaries are far behind."

Rouch singled out *Only in China: A Place Dominated by Bicycles* as his favourite, saying it was hard to concentrate so much content in so short a period, while Richard Leacock, an American documentary maker, said *Moso*

People stood close to the best of anthropological film-making.

The Japanese juror, Junichi Ushiyama, director of the Japanese Film Archives, said that television documentaries should devote more attention to reflecting social reality and human relations, as in the Magnolia winner *The Closing of the Takeshima Coal Mine*. The Soviet juror, S.N. Kolosov, stressed that the principle guiding the jury's decisions, however, had been what made all the programmes uniquely suitable for television as opposed to any other medium.

During the festival, it was announced that STVF would become a biannual event, with the next one taking place in 1990. As the Chinese juror Shi Fangyu, vice-chairman of the Chinese Association of Film Workers, pointed out, it is only through greater exposure to the best of the rest of the world that Chinese television programmes can expect to reach international standards. However, the success of China's top programmes should offer an example for all other programme makers to emulate.

International Offerings

Over the week of STVF '88, a series of concerts, shows and film screenings were mounted around Shanghai to give the city's residents an opportunity to see what the rest of the world had to offer.

At a series of five sell-out concerts in the 18,000-capacity Shanghai Stadium, the American recording star Troy Cory performed some of the United States' favourite pop and country music. Backed by four female singers and an eight-person band he worked his way through familiar hits such as John Denver's *Country Road*, The Carpenter's *Yesterday* and the



Four of the Panellists on the international jury.

YU JING

theme from *Love Story*. At one of the concerts, he was joined on stage by Leonid Prochorov, a Soviet singer from Leningrad.

The Grand Theatre in central Shanghai played host to another series of concerts featuring Chinese, Japanese and Hong Kong artists. The most popular was Judy Ongg, a Shanghai-born Chinese who now lives in Japan. Not only is she a prize-winning film actress and popular singer, but she also knows several languages, designs fashions, researches cooking and publishes the Chinese language magazine *Tokyo*, highly popular among Japan's Chinese community.

This was Judy Ongg's first return visit to her hometown, and she wasted no time in re-establishing links with her fellow Shanghaiese. In her performances, two songs went down particularly well: *Love's Infatuation* and *Prayer*, the latter written by her father.

During her visit, she revealed that she hoped to host a concert on the Great Wall in 1990 with other international singing stars to sing together for world peace.

Programme Market

STVF '88 also featured China's first programme fair, at which 87 television programme makers from the UN Audio-Visual Section and 20 countries and regions around the world as well as China advertised nearly 500 programmes for sale.

Chinese television stations and producers concentrated on looking at what their overseas counterparts had to offer while simultaneously pushing their own products. Buyers from abroad showed great interest in documentaries on China's landscape and the life and culture of the country's 56 national minorities.

Among the Chinese programmes sold at the fair were Shanghai TV's newly-completed series *Family, Spring, Autumn* based on a trilogy of novels by Ba Jin, along with *Liaozhai Tales*, *Anecdotes of Monk Daoji*, *The Water Margin* and the *Mansion of Due Yueshan*. Although STVF '88 opened directly after Autumn MIPCOM in Cannes, the largest purely commercial television pro-

gramme market in the world, many foreign companies including New World International Television and Lorimar Telepictures (USA), RAI Radiotelevision Italian, Hamburg Telepictures and Japan's Yomiuri Telecasting Corp. brought the best of their programme libraries to the fair.

Most of China's television stations purchased the showing rights of various foreign films. The most popular choices were Italy's *A Budding Father* and *Sicilian*

Mission, Hong Kong's *Hollywood Legend*, and *Sledgehammer* and *High Mountain Rangers* from New World International of the United States.

Other genres on display included a dazzling array of sports from ESPN Inc. (USA) ranging from water skiing and show jumping through to boxing and football, while USIA's Worldnet rented three booths to advertise the four hours of news, culture and sport its transmits daily by

satellite. Altogether, some 100 deals were done at the fair involving 1,000 hours of programmes.

The TV Equipment Exhibition mounted alongside STVF '88 and the programme fair proved equally successful. Several dozen domestic and international manufacturers displayed their latest products. Contracts worth US\$1.7 million and letters of intent involving another US\$1 million were signed at the fair. ■

Is Student Business Good for China?

A recent survey of a Beijing university discovered that more than half its student body was busy selling one thing or another, and in other colleges across the country academic groups and societies have begun supplementing their income with commercial activity. While some people have praised this blossoming entrepreneurial spirit, others have claimed it is a major distraction from study and research.

by Our Correspondents Lou Xinyue and Feng Jing

Over the past few years, many market stalls appeared on university campuses across China. Selling all manner of small items, they are usually run by students themselves, eager to earn some money. In the Hunan Medical College, for example, 20 commercial groups were formed by students from March to July of this year alone, and out of a total student body of 2,000, some 200 are involved in business activity of one form or another. Even some academic groups and societies have started trading.

A recent survey of the People's University of China in Beijing similarly revealed that around 40 percent of students had taken part in commercial activity of one form or another, while 10 percent were engaged in regular business.

Student business broadly falls into two categories. The first is

selling small items such as groceries, books and cassette tapes on the campus itself. The other is setting up temporary stalls offering T-shirts, blue jeans, sunglasses, or imported cigarettes on roadsides or in front of cinemas. A few sell or advertise products for factories. Students usually engage in business activities after college hours, and their business scale is not large. Illegal businesses such as reselling automobiles, colour televisions or video recorders are rare.

Although students involved in business are small in number, a widespread public debate has arisen on the pros and cons of such activity. One side argues that these students are using their own initiative to develop business skills which could prove invaluable in the future, including fostering social connections and gaining a

practical understanding of the commodity economy.

A postgraduate at Shanghai's Fudan University summed up this position, "A doctoral hat cannot produce fried beef pies. The primary task for today's college students is to learn how to support life, rather than learning how to appreciate it."

However, many people worry that the campus "business zeal" has adversely affected students' willingness to study. According to *Renmin Ribao* (People's Daily), a sample survey made in Fudan University indicated that from 8-10 am, only 40 percent of students were actively studying. Meanwhile, 10 percent of them chatted, 10 percent watched television, 7 percent read books unrelated to their subject, and 7 percent were with their boy or girl friends. As a consequence, many seats in

reading rooms remained empty, while in the evening less than 50 percent of students used classrooms for self-study.

Many people believe that campus business activities have not only diverted the energy of those actually involved, but have also lessened the enthusiasm of other students. Furthermore, a young observer's commentary titled "Business Tide on Campuses Should Be Stopped" in *China Youth News* claimed that students taking part in business activities would disrupt the circulation of commodities.

The survey of Fudan University concluded that the study of professional knowledge was the primary task for college students, and therefore, they should not be encouraged to embark on business while they are studying.

This summer, ten students from Fudan University toured China's coastal economic open zones by bicycle investigating students engaging in business in their spare time. After one month of research, they concluded that it is not worthwhile for students to combine study with commercial activity, as their major priority should be the acquisition of skills and techniques which would enable them to play a full role in a technologically oriented society.

Business Zeal Fades

The debate on the rights and wrongs of students' business involvement, however, has gradually started to be resolved of its own accord. After the initial flush of enthusiasm to participate in economic activities, many students have realized that their major contribution will stem from the professional skills they acquire through study.

Associate Professor Wang Junyi of Beijing University's International Economics Department

has noticed this trend, "My students are now more diligent in their studies than they were before, few of them are absent or late from my classes." And the manager of the university's bookstore, Dun Xiong, added confirmation, saying that a recent exhibition of social science books in his shop had attracted 1,000 students each day.

The renewed interest in academic matters has manifested itself at Fudan University in a series of lectures on "China and the World" organized by eight student societies including the International Issues Society and the Yanyuan Literature Society. More than 1,000 students attended these seminars.

At the same time, new academic journals have appeared on the campus, essay writing competitions have been held among new students, and a series of debates have taken place, including one involving other colleges in Shanghai on the value of various controversial books.

One of the most exciting of recent developments has been the establishment of the Futurology Society in Beijing University. One of its founders, Hu Bing, a second year student in the department of political science and administrative management from Xinjiang, said, "We have a sense of historical mission. I would like to unite the various branches of the sciences both within and without the university to make a comprehensive study of world development, and in particular the development of China."

With another student, Hu read two papers titled "Transcendent Model" and "New Balance" at the International Futurology Society's 10th congress held in Beijing, both of which brought favourable comments from Chinese and foreign futurists.

The greater interest in intellectual matter, however, has not

led to a retreat from the world. More and more university students now pay attention to integrating their present education with the future demands of work, while the universities have made a conscious effort to supplement academic activities with practically applicable knowledge.

Beijing University's English Club, for example, has started courses in oral English, including establishing an "English Corner" in front of the university library where students gather after supper to practise their oral skills.

A series of social skills training classes run by the university's Public Relations Association have been warmly welcomed by students.

New Thoughts

The changes in Chinese society brought about by the reform programme over the last decade have been a major subject of debate on campuses across the country. Interest was raised in particular by the television series *The River Died Young* screened by the China Central TV Station this summer, which proposed the argument that however great China's ancient civilization might have been, it has long since declined and was of little relevance to modern China.

The day after the final instalment was broadcast, the People's University of China's "New Thinking" group borrowed a video of the series and mounted a showing in seven audio-visual rooms across the university's campus. All of them were crowded with viewers, and subsequently the series' directors and writers were invited to discuss the programmes' contents.

In general, the discussion of state affairs has become a popular topic among China's students. One of the most popular events

held recently at Beijing University's Postgraduates' Union was a discussion on China's reforms in which various well-known Chinese and foreign specialists and academics took part.

Another issues that excites students are the discussions on and demands for the perfection of socialist democracy. Dan Jun, a young teacher at Beijing University, said, "The reason for this is that people have a growing consciousness of and demand for democracy. We know that the democracy of our country has various imperfections."

Social Practice

Over the past couple of years, increasing numbers of students across China have taken part in

projects involving working with local communities and industry. Known as social practice, the underlying aim is to jointly enable students to apply the knowledge they have acquired and to widen their horizons.

During this summer's long vacation, tens of thousands of Shanghai's student population conducted social investigations or offered scientific services free of charge. Over the last two years, they have completed 188 projects in the poorer areas of Jiangxi Province including training 5,000 people. It has been estimated that the province benefited to the tune of 1 million yuan because of the students' technical help.

One of them, Yu Dingwen, surveyed a township plastics factory which had shut down for two weeks because of problems with its machinery. The survey

was carried out during the university's technical service team's tour to Qinhuangdao this summer.

This year, Beijing University has organized 1,400 people into 35 service groups to offer technical services and conduct socio-economic investigations in China's coastal provinces, cities and around Beijing. Various departments of the university also sent more than 1,100 students for teaching practice in schools and colleges.

Teachers and students share the view that social practice helps develop practical skills while simultaneously providing an opportunity to serve and gain a deeper understanding of society.

To encourage students to take part in social practice, a credit system involving special funds and awards has been introduced. ■

Crack Down on Antique Smugglers

Many of China's ancient tombs and archaeological sites have been ransacked in recent years by thieves in search of valuable artifacts to ship abroad. To stop this drain of irreplaceable treasures, the government has stepped up measures to catch and prevent the smugglers.

by Our Correspondent Yang Xiaobing

In March 1987, the 2,200-year-old head of one of the terra-cotta soldiers excavated from the vaults of Emperor Qin Shihuang's mausoleum in Xian disappeared. It was recovered when Xiao Jianguo, a worker at the Shaanxi Metal Structure Factory, attempted to resell it. After being tried at the Xian Intermediate People's Court in September this year, Xiao was sentenced to life imprisonment and deprived of his political rights.

Xiao's crime, however, is by no

means unique. During the last few years, many cases of stealing, smuggling and reselling China's cultural relics have been reported across the country. In the pursuit of illegal gains, ancient ruins have been destroyed and many irreplaceable antiques have been stolen and shipped abroad.

Xian's terra-cotta army is just one of many major sites to have suffered. Relics have been stolen from the Western Han Dynasty (206-24 AD) Mawangdui tombs, and the tomb of Ming Dynasty

(1368-1644) Emperor Le An was blown open and emptied of 300 artefacts buried beside him. Even the Qing Dynasty seal of Zhenfei stored in Beijing's Palace Museum has been the target of several attempted thefts.

Taking advantage of the ignorance of many rural dwellers, some grave robbers have spread rumours that "those who want to become 10,000-yuan households should go and empty tombs in the evening," visiting them afterwards to relieve them of their stolen

goods.

To counter the problem, the Chinese government passed its Law on the Protection of Cultural Relics. But because various regions failed to effectively implement the law, trade in antiques remained widespread. To reinforce the law, on May 26, 1987, the State Council issued a circular titled *Cracking Down on the Excavation of Tombs and the Robbery and Smuggling of Cultural Relics*. This stated that, "people's governments at all levels should firmly implement the Law on the Protection of Cultural Relics and the public security, judicial, industrial and commercial, customs, cultural and administrative organs should co-operate with one another and resolutely crack down on the illegal activity of robbing tombs and smuggling cultural relics."

The State Council has also stressed the bad effect black market selling of antiques has had on the legitimate trade in cultural relics. It has specifically instructed that anyone found breaking the law should be criminally and not economically punished.

The government's spotlighting of the issue produced some immediate results. Public security organs put people suspected of smuggling under close surveillance, with the result that within a few days of Emperor Lean's tomb being blown open, everyone involved was arrested and all the stolen objects were tracked down and recovered.

This March, the police exposed another smuggling gang composed of government officials and chauffeurs. With help from the Zhengzhou customs, 52 valuable cultural relics were seized, and 12 people were arrested and sentenced.

China's customs have also scored some notable successes by themselves. On June 22, officials at Wenjindu Customs in Shenzhen

noticed something peculiar about a goods lorry loaded with paper boxes. They called in anti-contraband personnel, who rapidly discovered 147 items of antique porcelain. A close inspection revealed that they were all covered by the state's ban on the export of certain cultural relics, and that 12 of them were particularly valuable.

The Chinese public security organizations and customs have done a lot in cracking down on antique smugglers. But the fact is that the illegal excavation of tombs has switched from northwest to southern China, and collaboration has strengthened between the smugglers and antique dealers in Hong Kong and Macao.

Customs have also been waging a war against illegal shipments of antiques to Hong Kong and Macao by coastal fisherman and small merchant ships. For example, on May 1, Shantou Customs intercepted a cargo ship which was discovered to have 81 cultural relics hidden in its cabins.

To iron out problems in China's antique trade and stamp out black markets, industrial and commercial administrative departments have suggested that all buying and selling of cultural relics should be conducted under the unified leadership of the country's various cultural relics departments. A clamp down on a rural fair held near Beijing's Xianglai Street is cited as an example. Formerly, antique dealers from overseas were regular visitors to the market. But last year a combined

raid by the police and the capital's municipal industrial and commercial bureau seized many illegally purchased or counterfeit goods. Everyone found guilty was duly punished and the area's black market has completely vanished.

According to the latest statistics available, China's public security organizations and customs recovered more than 100,000 antiques in 1987—Guangdong Customs confiscating 15,800 alone. This success was celebrated in a major exhibition in Beijing of 1,500 recovered items, many of them priceless or unique, mounted by the Bureau of Museums and Archaeological Data, the Ministry of Public Security, China's customs and the State Administration for Industry and Commerce. The exhibition also outlined current work in the fight against the smugglers.

The greater emphasis on the protection and surveillance of China's archaeological sites and treasures has led to a 30 percent drop in thefts in the first seven months of 1988 compared with the same period last year, while the numbers of antiques seized by customs has fallen by 80 percent in the first half of this year.

Although this trend is encouraging, the State Administration Bureau of Museums and Archaeological Data offers a warning note. The illegal excavation of tombs has switched from northwest to southern China, and collaboration has strengthened between the smugglers and antique dealers in Hong Kong and Macao. At the same time, a growing internationalization of the trade has led to the opening of new routes, away from the coastal provinces such as Guangdong and Fujian towards Tibet and Yunnan in the west of the country. Government departments are currently drawing up a new strategy to cope with these developments. ■

Measures Summon Economic Overhaul

"LIAO WANG"

(Outlook Weekly)

Not long ago, economist Liu Guoguang said that the most important measures to rectify the Chinese economic order are as follows:

Government-run enterprises be transferred to local management. This sector of the economy depends on mandatory planning and administrative power for support. In contrast, the locally operated enterprises depend on market regulation and managerial benefit for sustenance and development. The Chinese economy should transform its dependence from mandatory planning and administrative power into regulation through the market and efficiency.

Fair competition be promoted and monopoly management opposed. Monopolizations of a government-run economy, and of enterprises managed by local people should be discouraged. Presently in China, some enterprises managed by the local people are actually run by the state departments or local authorities. Relying on their connections, they monopolize commodities and materials and engage in speculations and profiteering. Elsewhere in the world, many countries have created anti-monopoly laws in order to safeguard fair competition. This is very important. In regard to some natural monopoly trades, such as railways, they also should be locally diversified.

A sellers' market be changed into a buyers' market. A sellers' market is decided by the sellers and has no competition. Under this situation, the sellers are insufferably arrogant, while the buyers always submit to humili-

ation. Thus, a sellers' market will undoubtedly create a monopoly. Under the pre-supposition of a limited buyers' market, the new order will build up consumers' rights. So, the goal should be for the total supply of commodities to be little more than the total demand. This will compel enterprises to improve management, administration and service, as well as to create competition between them and raise their efficiency.

Essential factors of production be commercialized. Various essential factors of production, including the means of production, funds, technology and labour, must be allowed to flow freely as commodities. In order to establish a national unified market, policies and regulations should be formulated as quickly as possible to break with various self-enclosed markets and to check the establishment of a roadblock that will hinder free circulation of these essential factors.

Business activities be carried out in cash. At present, some places use "lateral economic ties" as a pretext for trading in kind and for engaging in various kinds of bilateral trade on favourable terms. This practice is disadvantageous to the development of the commodity economy because bartering materials for materials opens the door for tax evasion. Therefore, all business activities must put goods on sale with prices clearly marked and use cash, bills and contracts. Moreover, some favourable terms must be written clearly in contracts.

Individual income be more accurately recorded. To a great extent, the present unfair system of distribution is a product of unreported incomes, especially those of individuals. The main reasons are as follows: First, some

organizations and enterprises always withhold information about the amount of bonuses and materials handed out to their staff members. Second, leading cadres' incomes do not include material treatments due to them, such as housing and specially supplied goods. Third, some people receive unreported sales commissions. Therefore, China urgently needs to introduce billing and notarization and perfect its accounting system.

Cadre's assets be made known. Party and government organizations must be kept clean. To this end, effective policies and measures should be formulated. For cadres of these organizations, their incomes and property must be made known to all to see if they tally with their positions. At present, some leading cadres' positions and incomes are not high, but their quality housing and consumption of high-grade goods don't suit their positions. Therefore, they should be mandated to declare their incomes and property to higher authorities and to state clearly source of incomes.

The double-track pricing system be changed into a single-track system. A single-track pricing system must replace the double-track one, which currently has both planned and market prices. This change would signify a choice, not a regression. The single-track pricing system is an important factor for the development of a new economic order. Of course, changes in economic mechanism, the establishment of laws and regulations and the changes in cultural background are also important. But the most urgent task is to change the double-track pricing system into a single-track one. Currently however, the Chinese market system has not been developed, and it would be unrealistic to effect such a change overnight.

(No. 43, 1988)

Mao Swims in Changjiang River

"YANHUANG ZISUN"

(Descendents of Emperors Yan and Huang)

In the summer of 1956, Mao Zedong came to Guangzhou and lived on a small island. One day, he called his chief bodyguard, Li Yinqiao, and said, "Let's go swimming in the Changjiang River."

At that time, some of the central and local leaders accompanying Mao and his private doctor were all against his swimming in the Changjiang River. As Mao Zedong put it, "Obstruction is great."

Luo Ruiqing, then minister of public security, hurried to dissuade Mao, but he did not listen and insisted on swimming. Luo did not agree, saying that it was not a matter that concerned only Mao himself.

Mao said with a loud voice, "It is noting, but you are afraid I shall drown. How do you know that will happen?"

Luo explained, "Chairman, I don't mean that. To protect you is my duty given by the Party and people. Anyhow, I don't want you to take risks, however little they may be."

Mao answered with a smile, "There is no safe place even if you sit at home, the house might collapse!"

Following Luo, some other people tried to dissuade him. Neither side was ready to yield. Mao called one of his bodyguards to make an on-the-spot investigation.

This guard, named Han, also advised against Mao swimming in the river. He went to the river banks and inquired some people about whether it was possible to swim in the river. The answer was

no, for there were too many whirlpools in it. The guard hurried back and repeated the people's words to Mao.

Mao knitted his brows and asked, "Did you swim in the river?"

Han blushed with shame to say, "No, I did not."

Mao said angrily, "How can you know that it is impossible without having a swim there?"

Mao turned around and said, "Ask Sun Yong to come! Sun was his deputy chief bodyguard. Mao told Sun, "You go again and find out for sure whether the Changjiang can be swummed in or not."

Sun went and swam in the Changjiang River as soon as he arrived. Then he returned and reported to Mao, "No problem at all."

"That's right. One should have a taste if he wants to know the flavour of pears," said Mao.

Before setting out, Mao said, "Old Han does not tell the truth. How can you draw a conclusion without entering the water yourself? We won't let him go swimming. Ask him to leave here."

After some time, Mao cooled down and said, "Old Han is a good man. He is loyal and devoted and works conscientiously. He is wrong only in this matter."

Mao took a plane from Guangzhou to Changsha and swam across the Xiangjiang River to prepare himself. Then he flew to Wuhan. He was very happy because the obstruction had been eliminated. Speaking cheerfully, he stepped onto a ship. He ordered all the other ships that protected him to leave. Only the doctor's ship was left to follow him quietly at a distance.

Sun jumped into the water and helped Mao enter the river at the site where the Wuhan Changjiang River Bridge was to be built later.

(No. 8)

Old People Speak Out

"ZHONGGUO YIYAO BAO"

(China's Medical News)

According to a recent survey of 200 people above the age of 60, old people have the following requirement:

Desire for good health and a long life.

Of the people surveyed, 95 percent agreed on this. They wish the government would strengthen medical and health care for the aged, so that when they are ill they can conveniently see doctors;

Demand for work. Most old people hope to do what they can for society in their remaining days.

Demand for study. Most old people like to read books, newspapers, magazines, especially articles about medicine and health knowledge. Some are engaged in calligraphy and paintings.

Demand for recreational activities. Most old people wish to have a public place for entertainment where they can chat with each other, play cards, mahjong pieces and bridge in order to pass time. Some people like to grow flowers and go fishing.

Demand for support. Owing to the decline of vigour, physical strength and memory, the old people's abilities are not equal to their ambitions. They hope their original work units will be concerned about them, and their children will show filial obedience and support them.

Desire to give counsel. Old people, with more suspicions, anxiety and gossips, wish other people to ask for their opinions.

Desire to remarry. Of the 200 old people surveyed, 12 had spouses who have died, and five wish to remarry.

(No. 359, 1988)

Coal Exports Undermined

Shortages of transport capacity and loading problems at China's ports make it unlikely that the planned target of exporting 17 million tons of coal this year will be met.

The country's domestic supply is also encountering difficulties as the expansion of the economy puts ever-greater stress on China's energy resources—70 percent of which are generated from coal.

According to official figures, in the first ten months of 1988 coal production totalled 757 million tons, only 4.21 percent up on the same period last year.

Because industrial output has risen by 17.5 percent in the same period, a policy of guaranteeing raw materials to selected industries has meant that several commodities, including coal, oil, rice, sugar and cotton, face having their exports curtailed.

The Shanxi Antaibao Coal Mine, jointly managed by the Chinese government and Dr Armand Hammer, chairman of Occidental Petroleum, is a major supplier of China's coal exports. But its own technological problems have affected coal supply.

According to *People's Daily*, the Antaibao mine's expected output for 1988 was 5.29 million tons. In the first eight months of 1988, however, it only produced 1.93 million tons. The local railway network has also had to cope with transporting urgent supplies into the area following an epidemic and flood in early spring.

According to *Economic Daily*, all parts of China, but especially the east and northeast, now face an energy crisis. Coal reserves at many power stations have fallen to dangerously low levels. To ensure the country's electricity supply, the railways have concentrated on transporting coal to the

power stations. As a result, they failed to fulfil their contract with the Antaibao Coal Mine between January and August, leaving 1.25 million tons of coal untransported.

Such transport difficulties only add to the problems at China's ports. The China National Coal Import and Export (Holding) Corp. (CNCIEC) currently has to pay US\$20,000 every day for keeping ships standing at anchor.

CNCIEC has also had its trade undermined by the Chinese government's granting of export licences to five other companies at the beginning of 1988. Previously CNCIEC handled all the country's coal trade, meeting 95 percent of its contracts on time. For 1988, it had signed contracts to export 19 million tons of coal. But when its five competitors undercut its prices to sell 2.7 million tons, not only did CNCIEC's sales suffer, but China's overall coal plan was severely distorted.

As a result, the government has reorganized its policy guidelines on the overseas sale of coal, and on October 11, one of the five companies, China Kanghua Development Corp., was ordered to halt its exports.

In an interview with *Beijing Review*, Cao Baoshu, a CNCIEC official, said his corporation had signed contracts to supply three Finnish companies with a total of 400,000 tons of coal this year. Only 250,000 tons will be supplied, including 150,000 tons which will not arrive until next spring.

He said CNCIEC had apologized to the Finnish companies, and added that in order to maintain China's reputation great efforts were being made to remedy the situation, including supplying

other grades of coal and offering discounts. Two 50,000-ton coal ships sailed for Finland in mid-October from Qinghuangdao, said Zhao.

by Yue Haitao

China Rubber '88

Three metres high and weighing 3.5 tons, the world's largest tyre was on display at China Rubber '88, the first international exhibition organized by China's rubber industry.

The tyre was made by the Tianjin United Tyre and Rubber International Co. Ltd., a joint venture between Canada's United Tyre and Rubber Co. Ltd., the Hong Kong Trinity Development Co. Ltd. and the city of Tianjin.

Altogether, 45 companies from the United States, Western Europe, Japan and Hong Kong participated in the exhibition, displaying their products and machinery. All of China's 126 rubber factories and research institutions had goods on show, ranging from tyres and shoes to mattresses.

Tan Zhuzhou, vice-minister of chemical industry, said China had started to concentrate on developing an export-oriented rubber industry. Overseas businesses and compatriots from Hong Kong, Macao and Taiwan were being encouraged to invest in either the modernization of existing factories or the establishment of solely foreign-owned companies using supplied raw materials and designs.

Since 1984, the export volume of Chinese rubber goods has been rising 20-30 percent annually. Last year, US\$280 million worth were sold abroad, including 100 million pairs of rubber shoes worth US\$170 million and 1.24 million sets of tyres worth US\$60 million. This year, exports are expected to reach US\$400 million.

China has striven to ensure that its rubber goods are up to international standards. Its tyres meet the requirements of the International Organization for Standardization (ISO), while the products of the Shanghai Dazhonghua Rubber Factory, the Qingdao No. 2 Rubber Factory and the Shanghai Zhengtai Rubber Factory have been approved by the US Department of Transportation and the Economic Commission for Europe. Condoms manufactured by the Tianjin Latex Factory have been licensed by the US Food and Drug Administration.

by Li Ning

American Express Builds Up Business

Since American Express started issuing credit cards in China on July 15, more than 1,700 companies and 100 individuals have become cardholders. Among them are one vice-chairman of the NPC Standing Committee, one former state councillor, and several ministers.

It is estimated that by the end of the year American Express cards in China will have been used to carry out US\$140 million worth of transactions.

Speaking recently, Simpson Y. T. Chua, vice-president of American Express International Inc., TRS-China, said the company had spent US\$500,000 on promoting their card through a series of advertisements and introductory talks. He added that they were going to introduce various special measures for Chinese cardholders including exemption from membership fees and a reduction in the service charge for issuing a card.

Chua believed these measures would appeal strongly to China's 400,000 enterprises lacking hard currency, especially as increasing numbers of Chinese business

representatives were travelling abroad each year.

Chinese companies have found that credit cards, with their monthly statements, are one of the best means by which financial departments can control non-work expenditures.

Sino-Canadian Economic Matchmaking

Chinese and Canadian businessmen and women discussed urban development here recently.

A technology transfer mission, sponsored by the Canadian International Development Agency (CIDA), brought together the Canadian business people and their Chinese counterparts in discussions over technology transfers and cooperative projects concerning urban planning, public transportation and environmental protection.

The representatives from 13 Canadian companies chose Shanghai as their first stop of the trip. Since their arrival on October 29, they have met with local urban planning authorities, toured selected facilities and talked with their partners here.

One project under discussion is technology transfer for a pipe cleaner which helps clean old clay pipes without having to dig them out and risk breaking them.

Another project focuses on improving water quality for fish farming by using ultraviolet light to kill bacteria in tanks.

A sewage project is being prepared for bid and a traffic project is under further study. Some projects have gone to the stage of price negotiations and contract signing.

"I feel very pleased to see so much eagerness and satisfaction on both parts," said Susan Ram, head of the mission and official of the CIDA. "The mission is

At present, a dozen international credit cards are accepted in China, including the Bank of China's Great Wall Mastercard. American Express, however, dominates the business, accounting for 60 percent of all credit card transactions in the country.

by Yue Haitao

significant in that it helps my people look at China in a more realistic way."

She said the people on the mission appeared sensitive and adaptive when they tried to transfer useful and appropriate technology to their business-minded Shanghai partners.

"Shanghai people, on the other hand, have understood the importance of mutual benefits beyond good feelings toward each other when getting down to business," she added.

The mission is coordinated by Canadian Consult Asia Inc., which aims to provide market information on China and other Asian areas.

Chinese representatives investigated Canadian products and technology in June of this year during the first phase of the mission. As the second phase, the representatives of selected companies paid follow-up visits to Shanghai, Hangzhou, Shenyang and Beijing from Oct. 29 through Nov. 12.

Ram was optimistic about the result of the mission when she referred to her responsibility and that of her Chinese counterparts as that of a matchmaker. "We are all expecting babies in a few months," she said.

Shanghai, the biggest industrial city in China, has become the major interest of the Canadian people on the mission. In fact, many of them are looking forward to more visits to settle more issues.

Sex Education Part of Rock Art

Fertility rites acknowledging the importance of sexual intercourse in human reproduction were a part of the Inner Mongolian art about 3,000 years ago. This was made evident by the recent discovery of over one hundred rock paintings dating back to the Bronze Age.

The discovery has aroused great interest among archaeologists. Gai Shanlin, an expert on ancient rock paintings, said that these fertility paintings can roughly be classified into four subject areas: male or female sex organs, scenes of sexual intercourse, fertilization by divine footprints and the dance for conception.

Human sex organs are prominently displayed in many of the rock paintings. One found on the Ulanqab Grassland shows a naked female figure intricately carved with her arms stretching out, fingers unfolding and legs slightly curved. Her breasts and vaginal orifice are disproportionately accentuated, with two small dots carved below the latter. On a huge stone at Tongkugou are carved many pictures of male and female sex organs. One depicts a naked male hunter whose genital organ is burgeoning into the shape of a hammer.

Scenes of sexual intercourse are a basic part of the rock paintings. However, the sexual postures described in the paintings are quite different from the common practice of today. One engaged couple was depicted with heads facing in opposite direction, legs and thighs intermingled. Some pictures have only one couple while some have more, indicating that group sex and communal marriage were still existing in some areas of Inner Mongolia

during the Bronze Age.

Fertility rites are also reflected in another group of rock paintings called the "footprint pregnancy." These depict a superstition of the ancient people that taking a step in the footprints of the gods cause pregnancy. Such scenes are found in paintings located from the Ulanqab League in the east to the Alxa League in the west. They likewise explain the origin of a Chinese legend that says the first ancestor of the Zhou Dynasty, Hou Ji, was born because his mother had stepped on the footprints of the God of Heaven.

Another group of rock paintings shows dancing women praying to conceive. Some of the women are giving birth, and some of the naked dancers are imitating the act.

Similarities have been found between the rock paintings in Inner Mongolia and those discovered in Xinjiang and Yunnan. Some of the images also resemble those found in Japan, the Soviet Union, the People's Republic of Mongolia, Western Europe and Africa. This wide dispersal supports the idea that there was an age of fertility worship in human history.

These discoveries are a sociological gold mine in regard to the study of ancient psychology, lifestyles and sexual perceptions. They are also clues to the historical relationship between population and production and religious superstitions in childbearing.

The paintings show that primitive people were beginning to discover the real cause of human reproduction. They sensed that human beings are a product of sexual intercourse, and that this is a basic human desire. The ancient

people lived in severe natural conditions and needed to increase the population in order to confront the elements and survive. Therefore, it is not surprising that a large part of their legacy consists of fertility rites paintings.

Some of the excavated Inner Mongolian rock paintings now have been published. China's tourist units are planning to organize rock painting tours in the near future.

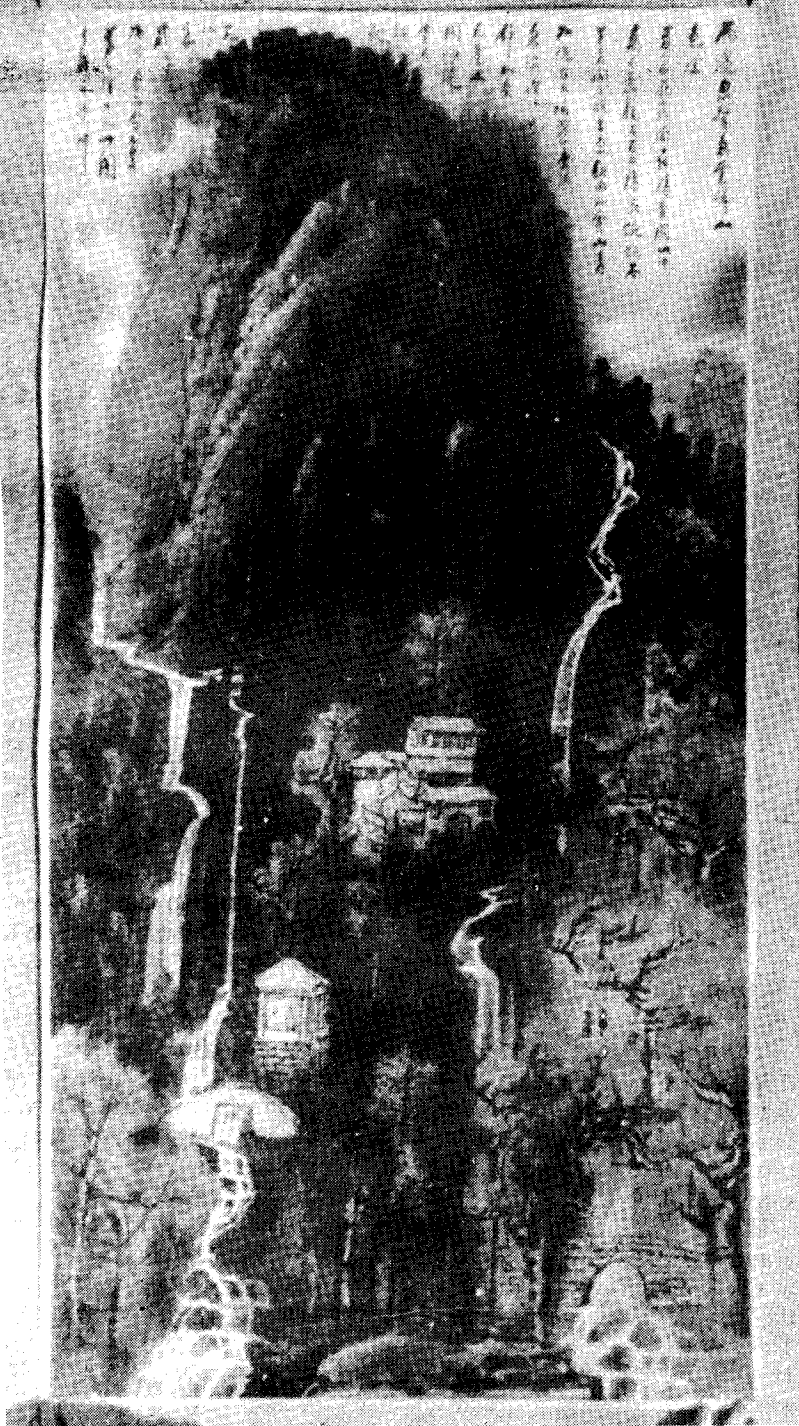
by Liu Jianjun

Ink & Wash Exhibit Blends Old & New

The 1988 International Ink and Wash Painting Exhibition, held recently in Beijing, gave a multi-dimensional view of how this art style has developed.

On display were 135 outstanding works by artists from France, the United States, Federal Republic of Germany, Peru, Chili, Austria, Singapore, Japan, Greece, Malaysia, Britain, Yugoslavia, Hong Kong and China. Apart from works by such world-renowned masters as Zhao Wuji, José Venturelli, Li Keran, Liu Haisu, and Wu Zuoren, there were also works of 13 contemporary artists from Taiwan. Awards were given to nine works by both foreign and Chinese young and middle-aged artists.

China is the hometown of ink and wash painting, which has a history of more than one thousand years. During this lengthy period, many Chinese ink and wash masters have perfected the art form. At this exhibition, the artists presented their masterpieces such as *Spring Water* by Li Keran, *Work No.1* by Zhao Wuji, *Wind Through the Pines* by Huang Yongyu and *Rapids of the Yellow River* by Fang Zhaolin. These works were highly acclaimed either for their traditional painting



Spring Water.

by LI KERAN

Mountains of Cloud.

by WU GUANZHONG

techniques or for their modern perceptions and presentations. The foreign exhibitors also showed a variety of artistic feelings in their works, making full use of the special skills and materials typical of this traditional Chinese art form.



During the exhibition, artists and critics had heated discussions focusing on such topics as "Traditional Spirit in Chinese Ink and Wash Painting" and "Chinese Ink and Wash Painting: Present and Future."

In recent years, many Chinese artists have been worried about the future of traditional Chinese paintings in view of the strong challenge posed by modern Western paintings. They consider it urgent to reform traditional Chinese paintings in order to cope with the great changes in painting materials and aesthetics. They believe artists should reflect more of the present reality in their works while incorporating this with the best from traditional concepts and techniques.

Consequently, artists have begun to explore various new approaches, techniques and subjects. Many artists have tried to express modern thoughts on the basis of traditional skills, while employing some new painting techniques in order to accomplish this. Such a new trend was clearly represented at this exhibition.

It was also evident some foreign artists had taken much "nourishment" from traditional Chinese artists in order to express the inner world of human beings or themes such as the relationship between humanity and nature. Commenting on this, Li Keran, president of the Academy of Traditional Chinese Paintings, said: "Chinese ink and wash paintings are a common wealth for humanity.



Ink and Wash-Work No. 2

by ZHAO WUJI

They do not belong to the Chinese alone. Chinese artists should have an open mind and learn from the world, as the world becomes increasingly aware of the importance of traditional Chinese paintings. This age has provided conditions suitable for such communication.”

by Wei Liming

City Games Drill Athletic Reserves

The City Games, designed to discover and train reserved talents for China's sports activities, ended on November 2 in Jinan, capital of Shandong Province. More than 3,000 contestants from 40 cities

throughout the country attended the intense 10-day competition. During the events, records were broken and weaknesses were spotted.

The City Games is the first grand municipal sports gathering to take part since the founding of the People's Republic of China. The games consisted of events in 12 Olympic categories: shooting, track and field, badminton, soccer, basketball, volleyball, table tennis, weightlifting, wrestling, swimming, judo and gymnastics.

Li Menghua, minister of the State Physical Culture and Sports Commission, said that the games were a trial-effort for reform that will benefit the development of municipal sports movements. Until now China's sports teams were organized mainly at the state

and provincial levels. The opening of the City Games will play an active role in accelerating and exploring the potential of municipal sports talents, as well as training athletes in reserve for competitions.

A large number of promising, young athletes gained recognition at this first session. For example, Cui Yingzi from Shenyang took part in the walking race and clocked one of the best times in the world. Wang Liwei from Zhengzhou surpassed the best Asian record by scoring at 703.2 rings during the men's free rifle 60-shot prone shooting competition. However, in view of the overall performances at this session, prospects are not optimistic.

The swimming competition, an area where new breakthroughs were made at the 24th Olympic Games, didn't create any new records here. The achievements of the track and field and shooting events were about average. Nor did any new stars shine on the badminton and table tennis courts. At the same time, some teams competing in the ball games showed techniques that were unresourceful and out-of-date. In regard to gymnastics, there were some excellent competitors, but few new hands, and the quality of the performances given in men's gymnastics was generally poor.

Yuan Weiming, vice-minister of the State Physical Culture and Sports Commission and ex-coach of the Chinese Women's Volleyball Team, called on the city coaches to seriously undertake the basic training of young hands. He noted that coaches need to strengthen and train in regard to techniques, sporting tactics and psychology, so that those young sportsmen who showed their skills in the City Games will strive to show progress at the 25th Olympic Games.

by Zhang Wei

ART PAGE



Chinese Paintings by Huang Qiuyuan

Huang Qiuyuan (1913-79) was born in Nanchang, Jiangxi Province. He was barely known as a traditional Chinese painter before he died. Because he used to mount paintings, he became absorbed with learning about famous artists and their works. First, he tried to study and copy traditional techniques, then he painted from nature while he travelled famous mountains and rivers throughout China. His skills lie in many fields, such as poetry, calligraphy and painting. He especially favoured landscape paintings.

Posthumously, Huang became honorary professor of the Central Academy of Fine Arts, the highest fine arts institute in China. Here are three of his traditional Chinese landscape paintings.

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