

A CHINESE WEEKLY OF NEWS AND VIEWS

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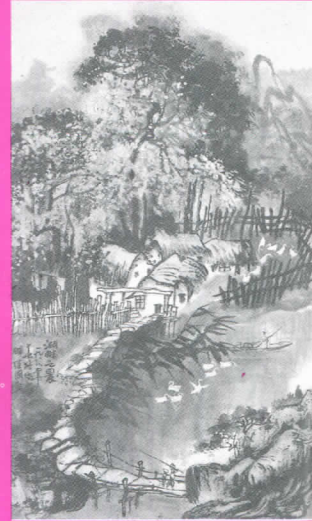
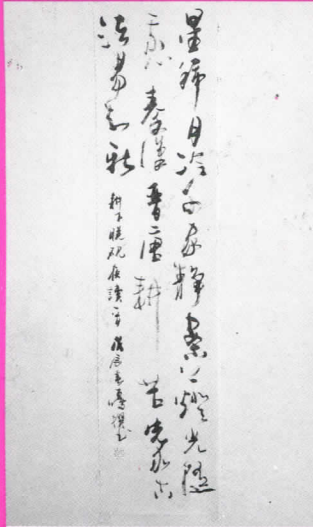
Vol. 32, No. 48 November 27-December 3, 1989

CHINA'S FIGHT AGAINST CANCER



Marxism-Leninism—the
Banner of Our Time

Chinese Art and Calligraphy Correspondence University



The Chinese Art and Calligraphy Correspondence University is a non-governmental art university offering four curricula -- calligraphy, Chinese painting, applied fine arts and fashion dress designing. The special courses of calligraphy and Chinese painting take three-years, applied fine arts one and a half years and the fashion dress designing a year to complete.

Sponsored by the Chinese Senior Citizens Research Association of Art and Calligraphy and approved by the National Chinese Senior Citizen Committee, the Correspondence University was established at the end of 1984. The university curricula were approved by the Beijing Municipal Adult Education Committee.

Liu Ningyi, the president of the Chinese Senior Citizens Association of Art and Calligraphy, is honorary president, and Wang Guoquan, is president; Alan, Zhang Daorong and Zhu Bu are vice-presidents of the Correspondence University.

The educational goal of the university is to train students into useful people with a high level of knowledge of specialized theories and techniques of art and calligraphy, and noble moral character.

The Correspondence University opened in May 1985. Famous scholars, experts and professors in the art and calligraphy field were invited to teach part-time. Among them are Liu Haisu, Liu Boshu, Liu Bingsen, Qi Gong, Alan, Sang Jiewu, Liang Shunian, Liang Piyun, Kangyin, Huang Zhou, Huang Jun and Huang Runhua.

Because of the special characteristics of the Correspondence University, it pays close attention to the compilation of teaching materials. During the five years since it was established, a more than 9-million word based system of teaching material, covering 102 different aspects curricula, was compiled. Some 64 educational video tapes were also recorded to meet the objective, practical needs of art and calligraphy lessons. This is a first for our country in teaching methodology and, as a result, the programme was acclaimed by both the public and art and calligraphy circles.

In five years, the university has enrolled over 80,000 students from home and abroad, and in the past two years nearly 40,000 have graduated. Some have taken up positions at a variety of associations, such as calligraphers' and artists' associations, some have exhibited their works abroad and some have given lectures in foreign countries.

The door of the Chinese Art and Calligraphy Correspondence University is open to those from home and overseas who are devoted to the study of traditional Chinese art and calligraphy. All are welcome to contact us at any time.

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□ The Chinese government has lodged a strong protest against the United States government after the House of Representatives and the Senate adopted an amendment on sanctions against China. Such action adopted by the US Congress is based on false reports and rumours, and thus gravely damages Sino-US relations (p. 7).

Deng Meets Last Foreign Guests Officially

□ Just retired Chinese senior leader Deng Xiaoping met a Japanese business delegation on November 13 in Beijing, the last group of guests he said he would meet officially. To practise true retirement, he said he would no longer meet visitors in the name of the collective, the Party or the state (p. 5).

China's Fight Against Cancer Under Way

□ We publish in this issue three articles on China's efforts to fight cancer. Through large-scale investigations and studies conducted in recent years, China has come to better understand the law governing the epidemic cancer and its causes. Effective measures have been adopted to prevent and promptly treat the disease and good recovery rates achieved for certain cancers by combining Chinese and Western treatment methods (p. 19).

Marxism-Leninism—The Banner of Our Time

□ The first of a three-part series, written by Zhang Zhen, president of the China National Defence University, this article expresses the view that Marxism-Leninism is not out of date, but, rather, remains the banner of our time, and the fundamental ideology guiding our work now and in the future. It also refutes the theory spread by the exponents of bourgeois liberalization that Marxism-Leninism is a thing of the past (p. 13).

Namibia's Plebiscite on Independence

□ SWAPO, the biggest national party in Namibia, won the recent election, paving the way for Namibia's independence from South African rule. Achieving independence by the continent's last colony is an event of great importance to be hailed by the people of Africa as well as the whole world (p. 11).

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by Chen Youlin

Unless written by Beijing Review correspondents, the opinions expressed in signed articles do not necessarily reflect the view of the Beijing Review editorial board.

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Deng Urges PLA To Stay Loyal

The Chinese People's Liberation Army (PLA) will continue to follow the theory and principles on army building laid down by Deng Xiaoping under its new leadership. It will push forward with its revolutionization, modernization and regularization.

The PLA's future task was set at a three-day enlarged meeting of the Military Commission of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of China (CPC) which ended in Beijing on November 12.

Deng, who had just resigned as chairman of the military commission, and other Party and state leaders met November 12 with senior military officers at the meeting.

"Ours is an army of the Party, the socialist state and the people, it should always remain loyal to the Party, the state, socialism and the people," Deng told the senior military officers.

He urged the PLA under the leadership of the Party Central Committee to contribute more to safeguarding the independence and sovereignty of China, the country's socialist construction and the line, principles and policies formulated since the Third Plenary Session of the 11th CPC Central Committee in 1978.

He said he believed the PLA would surely live up to its nature as the army of the Party, the socialist state and the people.

Referring to the military commission's new leadership headed by Jiang Zemin, Deng said, "Jiang is the qualified chairman of the military commission because he is the qualified general secretary of the Party."

The Party Central Committee with Jiang as its nucleus is a correct choice made by the whole



Jiang Zemin (right), newly appointed chairman of the Military Commission of the CPC Central Committee, and Yang Shangkun, first vice-chairman of the commission, spoke to the enlarged meeting of the readjusted military commission.

WU SENHUI

Party, he noted.

"Though I have left the army and retired as well, I will still concern myself with the cause of our Party and state as well as the future of our army," said Deng.

The enlarged meeting of the readjusted military commission was held mainly to discuss and arrange next year's work.

The participants were unanimous in their belief that although Deng resigned his post as chairman of the military commission, the theory and principles he raised for army building will be followed.

They were also unanimously in favour of the readjustment of the military commission members made by the CPC Central Committee, and determined to co-ordinate their efforts to improve army work under the commission headed by Jiang.

The commission called on army officers and soldiers to resolutely carry out decisions made at the Fifth Plenary Session of the 13th CPC Central Committee and work hard with one heart

and one mind with all Chinese people to improve economic re-vamping and deepen reforms.

In his speech, Jiang highly praised Deng's achievements in leading the army. He said that in the past 10 years the army has made tremendous achievements in revolutionization, modernization and regularization under Deng.

There has been a strategic change in the guiding ideology for army building, which was made in line with the development and changes in the international situation and a shift made in the focal point of the work of the whole Party, Jiang said. Structural reforms and streamlining have been carried out and the task of reducing the number of army officers and soldiers by 1 million has been accomplished. A number of ordinances and regulations have been proclaimed and a new system of military ranks is in place in the army. Education and training have been improved, raising the military and political quality of the

army. Many great achievements have been made in science and technology for national defence.

Jiang said the PLA is the people's army and called on the entire Party and governments at all levels to strengthen awareness of national defence and actively support and promote army building.

He also stressed the necessity of the Party's absolute leadership over the army and the importance of the building of the Party organizations at all levels and of strengthening and improving political and ideological work in a bid to keep the army and the CPC Central Committee united ideologically, politically and in action. □

economic environment and rectify the economic order are aimed at achieving still greater progress.

He said China's economic development in the past was too fast, resulting in weak staying power. "But on the whole, we feel no regret over the past reform programmes," Deng said. "China has taken a major stride, not a small step, forward."

He explained China's three-step development plan to his Japanese guests.

China finished its first step two years ahead of schedule, but at the same time problems such as inflation and unbalanced supply and demand have surfaced, he said.

"So we decided to spend two or three years to correct and improve the economy before taking the second step," Deng continued. "And when we finish our second step, economic development will progress more smoothly."

Deng stressed that China's economic development plan required domestic stability, international co-operation and world peace.

Discussing Sino-Japanese economic relations, Deng said co-

However, "if I have any useful ideas and suggestions, I will gladly convey them to the new leaders," he added.

Deng said that Jiang Zemin is an "outstanding intellectual and more knowledgeable than I, though not as experienced." But experience can be gained through practice, he added.

During their 80-minute talk, Deng assured the Japanese businessmen that China's policies of reform and opening to the outside world will remain unchanged.

The country's development strategy will be unchanged too, he said, adding that China's current efforts to improve the eco-

Deng Meets Last Foreign Guests Officially

Deng Xiaoping met a Japanese business delegation on November 13 in the Great Hall of the People in Beijing, the last group of guests he said he would meet officially.

"I want to take this opportunity to bid farewell to my political life and political career," Deng said when talking with Eishiro Saito, president of the Japanese Federation of Economic Groups, and Ryoichi Kaiwai, president of the Japan-China Economy and Trade Association, leading the 35-member delegation.

"You're the last group of respected guests I will meet," Deng told his guests. "Retirement must be a true one so that new leaders will not feel embarrassment in their work. To practise true retirement, I will no longer meet visitors in the name of the collective, the Party or the state."

When Saito expressed the hope of meeting Deng again, Deng replied: "We will have the opportunity to meet, but not officially. It is impolite not to meet old friends when they visit China in the future. In that case, I can visit them at the place where they stay. We will chat about friendship and non-political affairs."

"The Party, government and army leaders should be given a free hand in their work, and I will not meddle in their affairs," Deng said. "This is essential for their growth and work."

Deng Xiaoping meets Eishiro Saito (left), chief adviser to a Japanese business delegation, visiting Beijing on November 13.

LI PING



operation between the two countries has a solid foundation and will continue.

Deng thanked his guests for their enormous efforts to expand Sino-Japanese friendship and cooperation.

Saito praised Deng for his

great contribution to the development of China and the world as a whole. He also spoke highly of Deng's concern for his country's and the people's welfare after his retirement. He, too, stressed the importance of Sino-Japanese friendship. □

Li Wraps Up South Asian Tour

China will not change its social system just because of the changes taking place in Eastern Europe," Chinese Premier Li Peng said during his recent visit to Pakistan.

"We have to wait and see whether changes in the German Democratic Republic are good or bad, for they have to be tested through practice," Li told a press conference in Rawalpindi on November 16.

"China is willing to maintain and develop its relations with the United States," he added. Yet, it does not want to barter away its principles, he said.

The premier said the United States was responsible for the worsening of bilateral relations after China cracked down on anti-government riots in Beijing in early June, because Washing-

ton went ahead with its sanctions against China.

Sino-US relations had otherwise been developing smoothly since the two countries restored normal relations in 1972, Li said.

The economic sanctions against China by the West are, in fact, "political ones," the premier noted.

"China will never close its door, and nobody can do it from the outside either. Sanctions are useless."

The Chinese premier also discussed Sino-Indian ties during the press conference, saying that the border dispute between the two countries could be solved through peaceful negotiations and consultations.

Li left Beijing on November 14 for Pakistan to start his week-long South Asian visit, his first

since the June turmoil. His tour also included Bangladesh and Nepal.

Sincere and friendly talks were held between the Chinese premier and the leaders of the three South Asian countries. Bilateral ties were reaffirmed and both regional and international issues of common concern were discussed. Several agreements were signed during Li's visit.

Pakistani Prime Minister Benazir Bhutto told the Chinese premier that her country was still concerned about the Afghanistan issue, because civil war continues in Afghanistan and more than 3 million Afghan refugees remain in Pakistan.

Li said that China shared the same concern over Afghanistan. He hoped that a broad-based coalition government could be formed through consultations, so that peace would return to Afghanistan and the refugees would soon go back to their country with dignity.

When visiting Bangladesh Li said that China hopes for a truly peaceful, non-aligned and democratic Kampuchea but would never seek any interest in that country.

Total withdrawal of the Vietnamese troops from Kampuchea under United Nations' supervision is the most important condition for solving the Kampuchean issue.

He said China had been supporting the Kampuchean resistance forces only because Viet Nam occupied that country.

A coalition government to be composed of three resistance forces and the Viet-Nam-backed Phnom Penh regime will be another important condition for a settlement of the Kampuchean conflict, Li said.

The Chinese premier also discussed the world situation with Bangladesh President Hossain Mohammad Ershad, saying that although some regional disputes

Upon arriving in Islamabad, Chinese Premier Li Peng is warmly welcomed by Pakistan Prime Minister Benazir Bhutto and the Pakistani people. LIU SHAOSHAN



remain unresolved, the factors for peace are increasing.

Li criticized some Western countries for interfering in internal affairs of other countries in the name of "human rights and

freedom."

China Daily, the Chinese English language newspaper, said Li's three South Asian nation tour "promotes peace" in the region on the basis of Five Principles of Peaceful Co-existence. □

China Protests US Congress Bill

China expressed its utmost indignation at the US government and lodged a strong protest with regard to an amendment on sanctions against China adopted by the House of Representatives on November 15 and the Senate the following day.

The protest was lodged on November 19 by Chinese Vice-Foreign Minister Liu Huaqiu in a meeting by appointment in Beijing with James Lilley, US ambassador to China.

Liu pointed out that since the Chinese government put down the counterrevolutionary rebellion in Beijing in early June in accordance with the Chinese Constitution and the laws, the US Congress has meddled in China's internal affairs and stirred up an anti-China wave by adopting one resolution after another on this matter which is purely the internal affairs of China.

Even with the truth about China's quelling of the rebellion well-known to everyone, the US Congress still goes ahead with the adoption of a resolution on sanctions against China, basing itself on false reports and rumours, Liu said. This action gravely damages Sino-US relations and hurts the national feelings of the Chinese people, he added.

It has exposed the fact that some members of the US Congress still stick to their position of hegemony which has been universally condemned, Liu said. People cannot help asking where on earth the US Congress wants to lead Sino-US relations by acting so wilfully, he said.

"On matters involving safe-

guarding its sovereignty, independence and dignity, China is absolutely not vague and has never yielded to foreign pressure," he stressed. "History has testified to the fact that no economic sanctions can crush the Chinese people and, on the contrary, such practice will only have the United States eat its own bitter fruit and see its own interests harmed."

Liu pointed out that the amendment on sanctions against China adopted by the US Congress represents further poisoning of Sino-US relations, guided by the Five Principles of Peaceful Coexistence affirmed by China and the United States in their successive joint communiques. "Obviously, the US government bears an unshirkable responsibility for this," Liu said.

The US government has stated on many occasions its desire to bring about the resumption of normalization and improvement of Sino-US relations, he noted, adding that "we welcome such statements, but what is more needed now is concrete action by the US government in this regard."

China hopes that "the US government will, proceeding from the over-all interests of safeguarding Sino-US relations and the fundamental interests of the Chinese and American peoples, adopt effective measures and take a clear-cut stand against this amendment. Otherwise, it is only the US government that will be held responsible for all the serious consequences arising therefrom." □

News in Brief

More Airports to be Built

China is expected to spend 1.1 billion yuan this year in building or expanding more than 20 civilian airports, a spokesman for the Civil Aviation Administration of China said on November 15 in Beijing.

By the end of October, the building and upgrading of eight airports had been completed. The airports include Xiantao in Shenyang of Liaoning Province, Huanghua in Changsha of Hunan Province, Huangshan in Anhui Province, Xiangfan in Hubei Province, Jiangbei in Chongqing of Sichuan Province, Wujiaba in Yunnan Province, and Qiqihar and Heihe in Heilongjiang Province.

New airports are now being built in China's coastal cities such as Ningbo, Yantai and Wenzhou, which are open to foreign investment.

Farmers Earn More

The average income of a Chinese farmer in the first nine months of the year jumped 19.3 percent over the same period last year to 442 yuan, but not all of it came from farming.

A survey by the State Statistical Bureau of 60,000 rural households in 30 provinces, municipalities and autonomous regions showed that much of the farmers' money came from rural businesses. The figure was 26 percent higher than that for the same period last year.

18,000 Projects Suspended

China suspended 18,000 construction projects in the first three quarters of this year, an official from the State Statistical Bureau said on November 14 in Beijing.

The suspension will help the government reduce total con-



Deng Xiaoping, Jiang Zemin and Li Peng meet Korean leader Kim Il Sung (saluting at honour guard) at the Beijing Railway Station. CUI BAOLIN

Kim Il Sung Visits China

Kim Il Sung, general secretary of the Central Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea and president of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, paid an unofficial three-day visit to China early in November.

The International Liaison Department of the Chinese Communist Party's Central Committee said in a statement on November 13 that the Korean leader was in Beijing from November 5 to 7.

Deng Xiaoping greeted Kim Il Sung at the Beijing Railway Station when he arrived. The two leaders held talks and had lunch together. Their meeting proceeded in an extremely cordial atmosphere.

General Secretary Jiang Zemin also held talks with Kim Il Sung, who was met, on different occasions, by Chinese President Yang Shangkun, Premier Li Peng and Deng Yingchao, widow of the late Premier Zhou Enlai.

During their talks and meetings, both sides briefed each other on their domestic situations. They also exchanged views on furthering the friendly relations between the two Parties and two countries and on the international situation and other issues of common concern. Their opinions on these issues were identical. The talks and meetings further deepened mutual understanding and the friendly relations of co-operation between the two Parties and two countries.

Both sides expressed their determination to persist in Party leadership and the socialist road. □

struction investment by 67.5 billion yuan (about US\$18.2 billion).

The suspended projects, including 2,500 hotels and other buildings, are those not conforming to state industrial policy, lacking proper construction conditions or not in urgent need, the official said.

Biggest Telescope Installed

Hundreds of Chinese astronomers gathered at Xinglong Astronomical Observatory on October 13 to mark the opening of China's biggest telescope. The 92-ton telescope, which has taken 15 years to build and cost 25 million yuan

(about US\$6.7 million), is believed to be the largest in the Far East.

The largest mirror of the optical telescope, perched on a 960-metre peak in the Yanshan mountains 200 kilometres north of Beijing, is 2.16 metres in diameter.

Cruel Boss Sentenced

The owner of a private leather workshop in Sichuan Province was sentenced to two-and-a-half years' imprisonment on November 15 for mistreating his employees.

Zhou Jian, who once served a three-year term of education through labour for theft and fighting, set up his workshop in October last year without approval from the industrial and commercial authorities. He hired 63 labourers including 11 children, to keep his factory in operation.

During the 10 months of its operation, Zhou often beat his employees with chains and belts, injuring nine of them, including two child labourers. After an investigation and hearing, the Jinniu District People's Court in Chengdu sentenced Zhou.

When the case was exposed in October, Premier Li Peng said that cases like this could not be tolerated in socialist China.

Leading Engineer Dies

Mao Yisheng, vice-chairman of the National Committee of the Chinese People's Political Consultative Conference and a bridge-building expert, died in Beijing on November 12. He was 94.

Mao was also the honorary chairman of the central committee of the Jusan Society, a democratic party in China, and of the National Committee of the China Association for Science and Technology.

Mao designed and supervised the construction of China's first railway bridge, the Qiantang River Bridge, between 1933 and 1937. □

El Salvador and Central American Peace

by Xiao Yu

Alfredo Cristiani, presidential candidate for El Salvador's extreme right-wing Nationalist Republic Alliance who won the March general elections, was officially sworn in as head of El Salvador on June 1. His new status as president aroused wide concern over whether there would be any changes in El Salvador and whether the Central American peace process would be affected.

Problems Facing the Cristiani Government

Obviously Alfredo Cristiani has inherited a turbulent El Salvador from the Christian Democratic Party and must continue to shoulder two tremendous burdens—civil war and economic difficulties—which former president Jose Napoleon Duarte failed to remove as he had promised.

The civil war, stretching over nearly nine years, has resulted in more than 70,000 deaths and many casualties. More than 1 million El Salvadorans have been made homeless and forced to wander abroad destitute. In El Salvador itself, a disgust for the lasting war is growing. Attempts by the US-backed Duarte government to wipe out the guerrillas by force produced little results. Currently, the guerrillas occupy nearly one-third of the country. Their activities in 13 of the country's 14 provinces have pinned down 65-85 percent of the government's military forces. The El Salvadoran authorities, assigning its major force to safeguard economic facilities, have found it hard to resist the nationwide offensives launched by the guerrillas.

Moreover, terrorist activities

have become rampant in recent years—nine mayors have been killed since March 1988, and 80 of the country's 260 mayors had been forced to resign.

The Cristiani government also faces the challenge of severe economic difficulties, resulting from the prolonged civil war. Unsuccessful land reform, the Central American Common Market crisis, the drop in prices of raw materials in the international market, as well as bad management and war chaos have reduced El Salvador's exports by half, compared with that of 1979. Income from coffee exports dropped by US\$150 million. According to the US embassy in El Salvador, losses due to sabotage amounted to US\$1.6 billion between 1979 and 1988, about 86 percent of El Salvador's foreign debts, and 67 percent of US aid to El Salvador during the same period.

In other words, it is the large amount of aid from the United States that has prevented El Salvador's economy from completely collapsing. It will be difficult for El Salvador to rejuvenate its economy as long as the war continues.

El Salvador's financial deficits this year are expected to reach US\$460 million and its currency reserves will be exhausted. The debts it has defaulted to foreign banks will rise to more than US\$30 million. Calling his country bankrupt, Cristiani has instituted some measures to rescue the economy. He has privatized public enterprises, banks and some foreign trade enterprises, and has promised to continue to carry out the land reform law after some amendments have been made. His government has

also devalued the country's currency.

It remains difficult to predict the results of these economic measures, which have been criticized by the opposition parties. Some people maintain that Cristiani's economic liberalization scheme will only favour the oligarchy groups and worsen the situation for labourers and small producers. Fidel Chavez Mena, leader of the Christian Democratic Party, asserted that economic privatization means adding fuel to the flames of contradictions and war.

Apart from its inherited burdens, the Nationalist Republic Alliance has other problems to surmount.

First, it must significantly improve its image. The alliance was founded in 1980 with a programme to safeguard the interests of large plantation owners and industrial barons and to oppose social reforms. It maintains that a hard-line stand must be adopted towards the guerrillas and other opposition parties. The organization has a very close relationship with the terrorist death squads that engage in kidnapping and assassination. Its founder, the notorious Roberto D'Aubuisson Arrieta, is suspected of being involved in the assassination of the Roman Catholic Archbishop of San Salvador, Oscar Romero Y Galdames.

However, since D'Aubuisson resigned his post as head of the organization, the Nationalist Republic Alliance has taken on a relatively mild image because entrepreneurs and organizations for farmers and workers are in control. Its victory in the March elections was mainly due to its efforts to improve its image. As

well, the Christian Democratic Party could boast few political achievements and was divided.

D'Aubuisson distanced himself further from the party by giving up his presidential candidacy, and Cristiani, a large coffee exporter and a representative of the moderates, was chosen.

Although Cristiani immediately declared upon his victory that D'Aubuisson would not take part in his government and that the Nationalist Republic Alliance would not keep all powers to itself and would provide political parties with "political space," it still remains to be seen whether the public's bad impression of the party can be changed completely.

Second, mending its relations with the United States has become the most important and toughest part of the Cristiani government's foreign policy. The United States used to grant US\$1.5 million in aid every day to El Salvador's Christian Democratic government in an attempt to encourage democracy, to prevent the spread of Nicaragua's influence, and to restrain El Salvador's violent right-wing elements. In the past few years, death squad activities increased and US relations with El Salvador's right-wing elements became even more tense after several US missionaries and embassy guards were found murdered. In 1988, when the head of the Nationalist Republic Alliance visited the United States to mend fences, he was given the cold shoulder. The Nationalist Republic Alliance maintains that one of the biggest errors of Duarte's government was to yield to US direct intervention. So Cristiani stated openly 48 hours after he won the election that no direct intervention by the United States would be allowed.

However, El Salvador has a deep-rooted connection with the United States politically, econ-

omically and militarily. As far as the economy is concerned, American aid is the major resource of El Salvador's economy. US aid to El Salvador in the past eight years amounted to US\$3.5 billion, more than 77 percent of American aid to the whole Central American region. Take 1987 for example, the Duarte government received US\$700 million in aid from the United States, exceeding the state budget for the first time. In 1984, US aid only accounted for one-third of El Salvador's exports, while now it has risen to two-thirds. For this reason, the El Salvadoran government had to face reality.

Therefore, Cristiani, while saying that no US direct intervention would be allowed, expressed his willingness to improve US-El Salvadoran relations. He visited the United States soon after he took office and briefed Washington on El Salvador's political, economic and military situation, and pledged that his government would respect human rights. A recent visit to El Salvador by US Vice-President Dan Quayle indicated that the United States has recognized the Cristiani government.

Third, the Cristiani government must mend its relations with the military force. Before 1982, the military had been in power for 50 years and continued to maintain a strong influence on El Salvador's politics after the civilian government took power. In the March elections, the military voiced open support for the Christian Democratic Party's candidate Fidel Chavez Mena. As El Salvador's military force is strongly influenced by the United States, the Nationalist Republic Alliance has always been at odds with it. Although Cristiani has expressed his willingness to improve relations, the military has not made a definite response on whether it will co-operate with the government.

Impact on the Regional Peace Process

The focus of the Central American problem is US-Nicaraguan conflicts.

Central America turned into a "hot spot" in 1981, not long after Ronald Reagan became president of the United States. Inspired by Nicaragua's successful revolution, anti-government armed forces rapidly grew in Central American countries. In El Salvador, anti-government guerrillas launched a nationwide offensive to seize power.

El Salvador therefore became the focal point of US-Central American policy because Reagan was determined to contain communism in Central America and to prevent El Salvador from becoming a "second Nicaragua." Although the United States later brought the situation under control, it proved difficult to wipe out the El Salvadoran guerrillas. Reagan viewed Nicaragua's help to the guerrillas as the basic cause of US failure. He spearheaded a campaign against Nicaragua and pledged to overthrow the Sandinista government. US-Nicaraguan conflicts sharpened and became the focus of the Central American problem. Now under the administration of US President George Bush, American policy on Nicaragua has changed to one of diplomacy. However, El Salvador still poses a problem for the United States.

The confrontation between the two conflicting sides in El Salvador continues.

Since Cristiani came to power, his government has had two rounds of talks with the guerrillas. The two sides held their first round of negotiations in Mexico City from September 13 to 15 and agreed in the end to meet every 30 days. Second-round negotiations took place from Octo-

ber 16 to 18 in San Jose, Costa Rica, and resulted in both sides agreeing to a ceasefire and peace through political consultations. They also decided to hold their third round of talks on November 20 and 21 in the Venezuelan capital, Caracas.

In spite of this, little hope of peace can be seen in the near future. The guerrillas are continuing to launch military offensives. Murder, suppression and terrorism are escalating in the country. On November 2, the guerrillas announced they were suspending talks with the government. They accused extreme right-wing elements in the military of attacking the headquarters of a national trade union. On November 11 in San Salvador, the guerrillas launched their most ferocious offensive in the past nine years against the government. The El Salvadoran authorities were forced to impose a curfew and martial law. The si-

tuation is worrisome.

However, some changes favourable for the Central American peace process have taken place.

First, US-Soviet relations have eased. For a long time, the two superpowers have intervened in Central American affairs by giving political and military aid to the party they support. Intervention by the Reagan administration had been the most flagrant. In El Salvador, the United States supported the Duarte government in suppressing the guerrillas, who are backed by the Soviets, Cubans and Nicaraguans. However, the past few years have proved that no party can easily wipe out its rival completely. With the easing of relations, the superpowers have also changed their methods in the Central America contest. The Bush administration has suspended military aid to the Nicaraguan contras, while the Soviet Union declared it would not give

military support to the Sandinista government. This will surely play a significant role in restoring peace in Central America.

Second, Nicaragua's attitude towards the El Salvadoran guerrillas has changed. It has suspended its military aid and the guerrillas have moved their headquarters out of Nicaragua and back to El Salvador. Nicaragua has also urged the guerrillas to negotiate with their government.

Moreover, other Central American countries are in need of a peaceful environment for their own interests. In short, the situation in El Salvador cannot reverse the Central American peace process. However, El Salvador is part of Central America and what happens in the country will certainly have some direct effect on the region. Therefore, the Central American peace process is expected to progress slowly along a bumpy road. □

Namibia: A Key Step Towards Independence

by Ren Bei

The South West Africa People's Organization (SWAPO), which fought a 23-year bush war against South African rule, won the most votes in Namibia's pre-independence elections, which lasted five days. SWAPO won 41 seats of the new 72-member assembly, but it wasn't enough to claim total power. The biggest nationalist party will have to bargain with its rivals when writing the constitution. The Democratic Turnhalle Alliance (DTA), a major rival of SWAPO, won 21 seats in the assembly. The 10 remaining seats went to the United Democratic Front which won four, the Action Christian National which took three, and one

seat each to the National Patriotic Front, the Federal Convention of Namibia and the Namibia National Front. Three other minor parties failed to win seats.

A special representative of the United Nations has certified the electoral process as having been free and fair and the results are correct. Leaders of all Namibian parties accepted the election results.

According to the 1982 constitutional principles attached to UN Security Council Resolution 435, SWAPO leader Sam Nujoma would convene the assembly seven days after the elections to draw up the constitution and fix a date for Namibian independence from South Africa. But

because SWAPO failed to win a two-thirds majority thus allowing it to write its own constitution, it must form a coalition government with six other parties.

"The victory that SWAPO has won is a historic achievement not only for SWAPO, but also for the whole Namibian nation," Nujoma told a press conference after the elections. "There are no losers" in this election, he said, because Namibia has won its long-denied right to self-determination.

"None of the parties that has won seats has any interest in delaying the country's independence," Nujoma said, and stressed that SWAPO looks forward to

"the co-operation of all" in the critical months ahead, during which a new foundation will be laid for Namibia.

SWAPO's victory is the result of the prolonged struggle of the Namibian people. Namibia was formerly a colony of Germany and was lately annexed by South Africa. In order to end South African rule and gain the right to self-determination, the Namibian people have struggled continuously under the leadership of SWAPO. They did not yield in the face of cruel military suppression or the so-called "internal solution" put forward by South Africa. In recent years, while continuing its armed struggle, SWAPO has been carrying out a political struggle to expand its influence and arouse the people's nationalist spirit against the unlawful rule of South Africa. The Namibian people's unyielding struggle and massive support from all over the world finally pressured the South African re-

gime into accepting Resolution 435, thus laying the foundation for the elections. SWAPO has made great contributions towards gaining Namibia's independence. Because it united most of the people in its struggle, it gained wide voter support.

People in Africa and throughout the world have supported Namibia's fight for independence. The Organization of African Unity (OAU) has viewed Namibia as an important part of its work and has made every effort to give aid to the Namibian people. The African countries of Tanzania, Zambia, Zimbabwe, Mozambique, Angola and Botswana made great efforts to promote the independence of Namibia. The UN Security Council's adoption of Resolution 435 reflected international concern and support for Namibia. To guarantee the independence of Namibia through a fair and free election, the UN sent its special representative and the

7,400-member Transition Assistance Group to Namibia to inspect the country's process towards independence. All this has shown that the massive support of the international community has played a positive role in promoting the independence of Namibia, the last colony on the African continent. Therefore, the victory obtained by the Namibian people is also the victory of Africa's national liberation cause and all the just peoples and countries in the world.

Namibia's independence will surely encourage the South African people in their fight against apartheid.

But it should be noted that the future for the Namibian people will not be smooth. They will face many difficulties in the construction of their government, national reconciliation and economy. But we are confident that the Namibian people will overcome all of these difficulties and experience independence soon. □

International Studies

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Marxism-Leninism Is the Banner of Our Times (I)

The following is an article written by Zhang Zhen, president of the China National Defence University. The author is of the view that Marxism-Leninism is the revolutionary theory born in the struggle between the international working class and the international capitalist class. Marxism-Leninism, which guided the Chinese revolution to victory, will remain the fundamental ideology guiding all our work in the future. The article refutes the fallacies of bourgeois liberal trend of thought. Published in this issue is the first of a three-part series, which refutes the so-called outdatedness of Marxism-Leninism. The next two parts, which refute "the theory of harmfulness" and "the theory of pluralism," will be published in our next two issues.—Ed.

by Zhang Zhen

At the First Session of the First National People's Congress of the People's Republic of China 35 years ago, Mao Zedong solemnly declared in his opening address, "The force at the core leading our cause forward is the Chinese Communist Party and the theoretical basis guiding our thinking is Marxism-Leninism." This aphoristic language is not only the summation of China's experience gained in several decades of revolution but is also the fundamental principle guiding the nation's work.

In recent years, however, because of the unrestrained spread of bourgeois liberal trend of thought, Marxism-Leninism has been so seriously denounced and attacked that some people have questioned whether it can continue to be the theoretical basis guiding our thinking. Therefore, to refute the fallacies mouthed by exponents of bourgeois liberalization on this fundamental issue and to clarify what is right and wrong theoretically is an



important task confronting us.

The common argument used by those favouring bourgeois liberalization to negate Marxism-Leninism is none other than "outdated theory." Taking advantage of changes in human history of the past decades they arbitrarily assert, "Marxism-Leninism belongs to a certain past, cultural period. Like clothes showing signs of wear, it should be changed."

Is that how things stand? No.

It is known to all that Marxism-Leninism is the revolutionary theory born in the struggle between the international working class and the international bourgeoisie in the 19th century.

After summing up the practical experience of the struggle for liberation of the international working class and critically adopting the best ideology of their time, Marx and Engels founded the materialist conception of history, an act of epoch-making significance in the history of science. Where bourgeois scholars could only see the motives of the people, Marx and Engels perceived the historical causes which lay hidden behind the motives; where bourgeois scholars could only perceive isolated historical events, Marx and Engels could see the law of history running through these historical events.

With materialist conception of history as the weapon, Marx and Engels dissected the capital-

ist society and discovered the capitalists' secret of exploiting the workers which lay hidden in the creation of the surplus value. As a special commodity, the labour force carries in itself the unique property of being a source of value. After the "equal" exchange of commodities, in the process of the use of labour, labour force creates the value of its own, it also creates a surplus sum which exceeds its own value. The increment of the value was called by Marx and Engels surplus value. The discovery of surplus value was a revolution in the political economy and illuminated a field in which classical economists had long been groping in the dark. The uncompromising contradiction between the bourgeoisie and working class was laid bare all at once.

Because of the founding of materialist conception of history and the theory of the surplus value, socialism was transformed from a utopian theory into a scientific one. As Lenin confirmed, Marx's conclusion that the capitalist society will inevitably be changed into the socialist society, was made solely on the basis of the law governing economic movement in modern society. Since the capitalist class and the working class are two diametrically opposed classes with regard to their fundamental interests, the conflicts originate in capitalism's private ownership and its system of wage labour. Since this economic system has seriously hampered the growth of the productive forces, capitalism would itself prepare the material conditions and class forces necessary for the new social revolution; the new social revolution in which the "expropriators will be expropriated" will be unavoidable.

It is thus clear that Marxism

brought to light the general trend and the general law of the great epoch that mankind would move from capitalism to socialism and then, to communism and, so long as the great epoch is in process, Marxism will forever be the theoretical banner for the development of this epoch. Because its fundamental interests keep in step with the general trend and the general law of the development of the epoch, the proletariat has become the leading class in the epoch. The historical mission incumbent upon it is to complete the great task of abolishing capitalism and building socialism and communism. Marxism, on its part, is the theoretical expression of the proletariat's fundamental interests and is the guiding theory of the great historical mission of the proletariat. So long as the proletariat exists and its epochal task has not been completed, the proletariat will forever hold high the banner of Marxism to forge ahead courageously.

Already, Marxism has a 100-year history. During this time, and especially after World War II, great changes have taken place throughout the world and many new situations and problems have developed. There have been the relative stability and prosperity of capitalism and the errors and twists and turns in the development of socialism. These changes, however, have not altered the fundamental contradiction, essential content and the developmental trend of the great epoch, but are, instead, minor happenings.

The relative stability of the fundamental contradiction, essential content and developmental trend of the great epoch in the transition from capitalism to socialism and communism is the historical basis for our adherence to the basic theory of Marxism. Constant changes in

the relatively stable world situation are the historical requirement for the development of Marxism. The vitality of Marxism lies in the fact that it develops along with the advance of practice, and this is the inherent basis on which Marxism is the banner of the epoch.

Mao Zedong made an incisive exposition when speaking on the "process of all things." He said, "The fundamental contradiction in the process of development of a thing and the essence of the process determined by this fundamental contradiction will not disappear until the process is completed; but in a lengthy process, the conditions usually differ at each stage. The reason is that, although the nature of the fundamental contradiction in the process of development of a thing and the essence of the process remain unchanged, the fundamental contradiction becomes more and more intensified as it passes from one stage to another in the lengthy process. In addition, among the numerous major and minor contradictions which are determined or influenced by the fundamental contradiction, some become intensified, some are temporarily or partially resolved or mitigated, and some new ones emerge; hence the process is marked by stages." (*On Contradiction*)

The mistake made by advocates of the "outdatedness" theory lies in their ignorance of the Marxist theory on the process of development of things.

In the eyes of Marxists and Leninists, the relative prosperity which has emerged in the capitalist countries in the last decades has been shaped by certain historical conditions and has something to do with the various reform measures pursued by capitalist countries after World War II, with the breakthrough in the development of

science and technology and with their exploitation of third world countries. It has not changed the essence of capitalism and abolished the contradictions inherent in capitalism. Capitalism is still capitalism and the relationship between the capitalists and workers is still one of the exploiting and the exploited classes. Although, along with the changes of the industrial structure, the ranks of the working class have changed and the number of the "white-collar" workers is still on the increase, both the "white-collar" and "blue-collar" workers are still exploited by capitalists. Surplus value is still the excess value of the labour force itself, created by the labour of all the workers, "white-collar" workers included. Although workers' wages have increased by a big margin, it shows only that, along with the development of the capitalist society, the reproduction conditions and expenses of the labour force have also changed. In no way does it indicate that the exploitative relationship has changed.

The relative prosperity of capitalism involves profound social contradictions. The capitalist society has always been plagued with inextricable economic stagnation, the sluggish growth of labour productivity, the serious unemployment, the endless strikes, the increasing number of criminal cases and plots hatched by the international monopoly capitalists against each other. No one, including the many representatives of the capitalist class can deny this fact. Currently, although no revolutionary situation exists in capitalist countries, what merits our attention is that workers' parties in some developed countries are exploring new paths to emancipation in accordance with the new situation. They live in a

developed capitalist society, but they don't believe that capitalism has entered a stage without class conflicts. Conversely, they still view capitalist society as a society full of contradictions and evils, one which should undergo revolutionary reform in accordance with the direction charted by Marxism-Leninism.

Marxists and Leninists do not view the twists and turns, errors and setbacks and the consequential reforms emerging in socialist practice as a proof of Marxism-Leninism being "outdated." On the contrary, it proves that Marxism-Leninism is the inviolable, objective truth. Let's leave aside the fact for the moment that, in history, one social formation replacing another must undergo prolonged, tortuous and repeated struggle, and that the substitution of socialism for capitalism which is the most profound social change in human history. As far as setbacks and errors are concerned, they did not result from our adherence to but, instead, from our violation of certain scientific tenets of Marxism-Leninism. When socialist states adopted the model of a certain country in their economic construction and thus formed an ossified economic structure, it was not because they adhered to but instead ran counter to the principle that a country must be based on its specific features in taking the socialist road, an idea repeatedly emphasized by Marx, Engels and Lenin. When leaders in some socialist countries formerly practised the cult of personality, which harmed the socialist democracy and the legal system, it was not because they upheld but instead violated the historical materialism of Marxism-Leninism on mutual relations between leaders, political parties, classes and the masses. In

the past, impatient for success, we made blind and premature advances and practised the "great leap forward" in our socialist construction. In was not because we adhered to but rather went against Marxist-Leninist theory of seeking truth from facts and respecting the objective law.

Currently, many socialist countries are carrying out reforms on the basis of summing up their experience and lessons. Reforms are a means of self-perfection and self-development of the socialist system under the guidance of Marxism-Leninism. The great historic turn of a decade ago in China was attained under the guidance of the principle of Marxism-Leninism and Mao Zedong Thought on seeking truth from facts. The great achievements made in China's construction, reform and opening up in the past decade are great victories for Marxism-Leninism and Mao Zedong Thought. The facts fully prove that Marxism-Leninism is the victorious banner guiding our advance.

All in all, the world today is developing along the general direction charted by Marxism-Leninism. It remains the banner of our time; this is the common understanding of Marxists and Leninists the world over, as well as the conclusion of some serious Western scholars. A noted US scholar said in 1980 that Marx's works could still have such an impact after one century. Clearly, he pointed out, it is because of Marx's method of social analysis which made him unique in social theory. Those who explore the motivation of social development and those who are engaged in social critical studies must learn from Marx. □

Initial Success for Economic Rectification and Improvement

In the first nine months this year, China has gained initial success in rectifying and consolidating the national economy but some new problems have occurred, according to the State Statistical Bureau.—Ed.

by Our Staff Reporter Li Ping

From January to September, China made some achievements in the rectification and consolidation of the national economy. Supply continued to increase, the economic structure improved, consumer demands initially were gotten under control, the recovery of money went well, the rate of price increases decreased monthly and the contradiction between supply and demand eased. As a result, the economy as a whole is developing favourably. Supply and demand, however, caused by the overheated economy in the past few years, remain unbalanced and the structural contradiction still exists. With the deepening of rectification and improvement, some problems have cropped up along with the progress.

Achievements

The National Economy Continues to Grow. In the first nine months this year, the gross national product, based on comparable price, increased by 5 percent over the same period last year. In agricultural production, although there were serious natural calamities in some parts of the country, there was a record harvest of early rice. The total output of summer crops and early rice increased by 3.51 million tons over the same period last year. By the end of September, the amount of grain purchased by the state increased by 4.95 million tons over the same period of 1988, including an in-

crease of 3.27 million tons sold by way of signed contracts. The areas sown for autumn grain expanded and with the occurrence of serious natural calamities, the output of autumn grains is expected to be lower in some areas of three northeast China provinces (Jilin, Liaoning and Heilongjiang provinces) and north China. In other areas a good harvest is still expected. Meat production keeps increasing. Aquatic, fresh vegetable, fresh fruit, silk-worm cocoon production are better this year than last. From January to September, the total industrial output value throughout China amounted to 961.7 billion yuan, an increase of 8.9 percent over the same period last year. And its growth rate dropped by 8.6 percentage points. Of this sum, the state-owned sector registered 599.5 billion yuan, up 5.2 percent and the collective sector 321.3 billion yuan, up 12.5 percent (including 144.1 billion yuan for rural industries which were up 17.4 percent).

Investment in Fixed Assets Under Control. First, since the start of economic cleanup, more than 18,000 fixed assets projects have been halted and suspended throughout the country. This is expected to reduce investment by 67.5 billion yuan. Second, the number of newly opened projects has been reduced considerably. In the first nine months this year, there were a total of more than 10,000 state-owned capital construction and renovation projects

each involving more than 50,000 yuan, a two-thirds drop over the same period last year. Third, progress has been made in reducing investment. In the first nine months this year, the state-owned sector's investment in fixed assets came to 126.1 billion yuan, a drop of 9.7 billion yuan or 7.2 percent from the same period last year. Of this sum, a total investment of 77.4 billion yuan went into capital construction, down 5.2 percent, and some 34.9 billion yuan into renovation, down 17 percent. If price factors are taken into consideration, the actual cut was more than 20 percent, the largest decrease since 1982. At the same time, the investment structure has improved. From January to September, a total investment of 33.6 billion yuan went into the energy field, an increase of 5.3 percent, the proportion in the total investment increasing from 23.5 percent in 1988 to 26.7 percent in 1989. The proportion investment in raw materials, transportation and communications, agriculture and education picked up. The construction of office buildings, halls, hotels and hostels has been brought under control. To date, some 2,500 such projects have been halted and suspended. This is expected to reduce investment by some 26 billion yuan. However, it is still far from fulfilling the requirements of the plan.

Consumer Demand Initially Harnessed. In the first nine months, payments to workers and staff

members were 178.4 billion yuan, an increase of 18.2 percent, including 31.4 billion yuan in bonuses, up 26.7 percent. The growth rate dropped by 19.9 percentage points compared with the same months last year. China's banks paid 12.5 billion yuan in wages to rural enterprises and institutions, up 11.3 percent, and the growth rate dropped by 22.4 percentage points over the same period in 1988. Government departments and social institutes paid 52.1 billion yuan for consumer goods, an increase of only 6.2 percent over the corresponding period last year. The above, if allowing for price hikes, represents an overall minus growth in consumer demand. The supply on the retail market in the year is expected to be 40 billion yuan short of demand, compared with last year's 80 billion yuan.

Bank Loans Under Control With Balance Between Cash Receipts and Payments Turning for the Better.

Since efforts were made to launch inflation-proof deposits and control the issue of credit and money, cash revenue and expenditure signs are positive. Based on the beginning of the year starting balance, the deposit-loan difference of banks and credit co-operatives throughout the country dropped by 29.8 billion yuan by the end of September as against the same period last year. Also by the end of September, banks had recovered some 5.16 billion yuan. They had issued a net of 39.6 billion yuan in the first three quarters last year.

Growth Rate of Prices Slowed. In the first nine months of this year, the general level of retail prices throughout the country increased by 22.3 percent over the same period last year, including a 25.8 percent rise

in April, 24.3 percent in May, 21.5 percent in June, 19 percent in July, 15.2 percent in August, and 13 percent or so in September. This year, the main characteristics of price fluctuations are: First, there was few new factors contributing to price hikes. From January to September, new inflation for the entire country accounted for 7.6 percentage points of the retail price index, much lower than last year. Second, the growth rate of the price index of basic living expenses in cities dropped sharply, from 26.2 percent in January to 8 percent in August. Third, the price of non-staple foods was basically the same as last December.

In the first nine months this year, total volume of retail sales amounted to 607.3 billion yuan, an increase of 12.3 percent over the same months last year. Allowing for price hikes, it actually dropped by 8.2 percent. This is the first time in a decade there

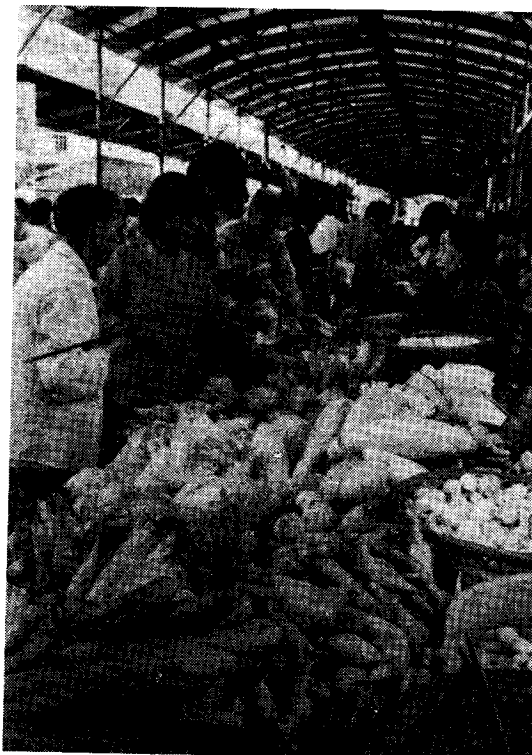
has been such a big decrease.

Problems

Economic operation of the first nine months of the year indicated that achievements had been made in macro-economic rectification and improvement. The development was basically favourable and advanced towards the predetermined direction. Some new problems have occurred, however, and aroused the attention of relevant departments.

Industrial Growth Rate Declined Sharply. Since entering the third quarter, the monthly growth rate of industry has been slower. Compared with the same period last year, there was an increase of 9.6 percent in July, 6.1 percent in August, and only 0.9 percent in September, the lowest for a month in this past decade. Industrial production in the fourth quarter is expected to increase slowly. The reasons for these include both economic and non-economic factors. First, economically, some measures to reduce investment and control consumption have effectively lightened the market pressure on industry. For example, processing and high-grade consumer goods industries were stagnant; their production was brought under control. Also, rural enterprises' production dropped sharply. Second, an excessive industrial increase of the past few years allowed the proportion between agriculture and industry to expand beyond control to bring more restrictions to bear upon basic industries. Production that used agricultural and sideline products as raw materials was considerably slowed. With a lack of electricity, coal and raw materials, production in some areas operated under capacity. Third, enterprises had

Urban citizens are provided with a rich variety of vegetables and stable prices this year. Pictured is a vegetable market in Xiamen. CHEN ZONGLIE



some difficulties in circulating funds, and were in credit arrears of nearly 100 billion yuan. As a result, the normal development of production was restricted. Basing their judgement on non-economic factors, some enterprises didn't fully understand the country's policies and so had some doubt about the reason for their implementation. Generally speaking, the drop in industrial rate in recent months was principally based on the excessive growth rate of industry last year. But, the average growth rate was not low while the industrial production level remained very high. For instance, the average daily output value in September increased by 5.6 percent over the same month last year and when viewed against the drop in growth rate, the industrial structure has done well. The growth rate of energy, electric power, raw materials and some products for the support of agricultural production picked up steadily. This is the inevitable outcome of various measures of the rectification and improvement. Of course, the influence of various non-economic factors on production should be prevented and corrected so as to maintain a favourable increase of industrial production.

Sales on Market Declined. Since summer, discount sales have spread throughout China. Although prices of goods have dropped by 5-30 percent, the purchasing enthusiasm still remained low and domestic sales weakened. Compared with the same months last year, total volume of retail sales in July increased by 7 percent and dropped by 0.7 percent in August and 1.1 percent in September. If allowing for price hikes, the drop was actually larger. Sales volume of most commodities dropped, the first time in the last decade. The reasons for such stagnant sales are: First, the raised interest rate of inflation-proof deposits, the issuing of government bonds and the raising of

funds in society siphoned off some of the purchasing power. Second, the masses last year purchased, a great number of commodities and so current sales on the domestic market are affected. Third, the institution of the policy of honest and clean government improved the general climate of society. The waste of public money, unnecessary banquets and indiscriminate issuance of money and goods were all reduced. With excessive prices, poor quality and unmarket ability, overall consumption of some products were lowered. Meanwhile, the appearance of a buyers' market for some products helped to readjust the structure. It should be noted, however, that stagnant sales on the market had a negative influence on China's economic development. Both commercial and industrial supplies, for example, were overstocked. A rough estimate of the average growth rate between 1984 and 1988 shows that the stocks for industrial and commercial enterprises were 50 billion yuan above the normal rate. Most of the newly issued floating funds for industrial enterprises were held up in stocks, constituting an important reason for short supply of funds. If this situation continues for a long time, China's economic stability will be adversely affected.

Economic Returns for Enterprises Dropped. In the first nine months of the year, the amount of taxes and profits turned over to the state by budgeted state-owned industrial enterprises increased by only 1.8 percent over the same period last year. Of this, profits had a drop of 16.2 percent. By the first half of the year, the losses of enterprises in the red exceeded last year's annual level and by the end of September, it had reached 9.8 billion yuan, an increase in losses over last year of 120 percent. Production costs rose by 20.1 percent. Meanwhile, the amount of enterprise taxes and profits in arrears was 7.69 billion

yuan, an increase of 3.05 billion yuan over the same period last year. Overall, economic returns for commercial enterprises were low, their profits down and expenses up.

Unbalanced Finance and Foreign Exchange Revenue and Expenditure. As economic returns dropped and price subsidies increased this year, the revenues were reduced while expenditures increased. The result is that the annual budget will be very difficult to be fulfilled.

Resources for exports are in short supply. The imbalance of foreign trade expanded this year because of difficulties in the turnover of funds and the turbulence and counter-revolutionary upheaval which took place during May and June. Non-trade earnings in foreign currency were not as good as desired and the contradiction between revenue and expenditure in foreign capital is sharpening. From January to September, the total volume of imports and exports according to customs amounted to 78.9 billion yuan, an increase of 14.3 percent over the same months last year. Of this sum, exports accounted for 36.2 billion yuan, up 10.6 percent, and imports 42.7 billion yuan, up 17.7 percent. Allowing for processing of supplied materials, the equipment imported by foreign businessmen as investment and donation, as well as materials which entered without payment of foreign capital, the cost of import was 3.9 billion yuan more than exports. By mid-September, the favorable balance between non-trade cash revenues and expenditures was 2.17 billion yuan.

Finally, agricultural production is in a difficult situation. With the deepening of rectification and consolidation, the pressure of unemployment will tend to expand. This is caused by the surfacing of the contradictions pent up in the past few years and cannot be avoided in the process of retrenchment. □

Anti-Cancer Work in Progress

Since the start of China's investigation into the cause for the onset of various cancers, the nation has made progress in preventing and treating it at an early stage. By combining Chinese traditional and Western medicines, it has managed to achieve significant results in treating some tumours.—Ed.

by Wang Rukuan

With serious environmental pollution, unhealthy life styles and customs and a big reduction in the incidence of certain diseases, particularly infectious diseases, and in the corresponding patient death rate for those diseases, cancer has gradually become one of the major causes of death in the world over the past 30 to 40 years.

Statistics show that, of the total 5.2 billion people in the world, each year about 6.8 million suffer from cancer, some 5 million of whom will die from the illness, 10 percent of the total number of all the world's deaths. Among China's total population of 1.1 billion, the incidence of cancer and the resulting death rate each year are about 1.4 million and 1.05 million respectively, both of which are higher than any other country in the world.

China's anti-cancer campaign was begun in the face of such dire statistics.

Development

Cancer in China has a recorded history of 2,000 years. Beginning with China's first medical work, *Huang Di's Canon of Internal Medicine*, completed 2,000 years ago, Chinese medical books have continued to include much material about tumours. Before

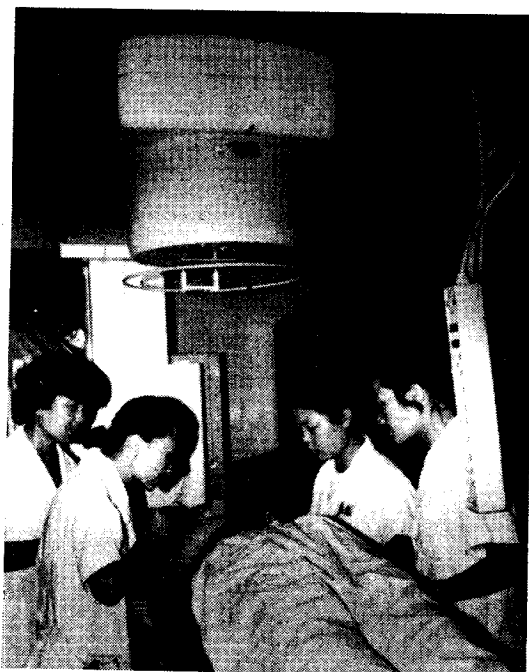
the founding of the People's Republic of China, however, only a few experts and some small hospitals specialized in cancer treatment.

Since 1949, the Party and government have paid great attention to the study, prevention and cure of cancer. The late Premier Zhou Enlai many times called on the whole country to surmount the difficult medical problem of cancer, study the various means of treatment, practise the combination of traditional Chinese medicine with the Western medicine, and establish more preven-

tion and treatment centres. Under Premier Zhou's guidance, cancer was rated as key disease to study, prevent and cure right after the founding of New China. Experts from the medical and other related scientific fields were organized to conduct joint research and many tumour hospitals, oncological institutes and various tumour prevention, treatment and research organizations established by the end of 1950s.

In 1958, China set up the first state-level cancer research centre, the Beijing Tumour Hospital and the Beijing Institute of Oncology attached to Chinese Academy of Medical Sciences. Since then, China has established 146 tumour hospitals and institutes of oncology in addition to tumour departments and tumour wards in some comprehensive and common hospitals; four national tumour societies and 16 national professional institutes, all of which publish 11 medical journals including one English edition; and the Chinese Tumour Information Society and the national information exchange network. The wide international cooperation and exchange of recent years have resulted in the establishment of World Health Organization's (WHO) co-operative

Doctors of the Beijing Tumour Hospital examine a patient.
CHEN ZONGLIE



cancer research centres in such cities as Beijing, Shanghai and Guangzhou.

In order to have a direct hand in and lead the anti-cancer work, the Ministry of Public Health set up the national tumour prevention and cure office in 1969 and officially established the national tumour prevention, cure and research leading group in 1986. The central tasks of the group through its administrative office are to put forward an orientation for development, a strategic focus, technical policies and major measures in regard to cancer work; organize and work out long-term state plans on prevention, cure and study of tumour; and organize and co-ordinate major research problems and projects. Relevant organizations in all levels have been or are being set up.

Due to the country's ability to effectively combine medical theory and practice, and its focus on the study of prevention, early recognition, and early stage treatment, China's major anti-cancer achievements of the past 30 years have drawn world attention.

Investigation and Prevention

In order to better understand the reasons for the onset of cancer and to explore methods of prevention, the most important aspects of anti-cancer work lay in tumour investigation and examination.

Since the late 1950s and early 1960s, China has conducted various surveys and investigations including multiple scientific, comprehensive investigations of cancer's epidemiology and etiology among patients suffering from oeso-

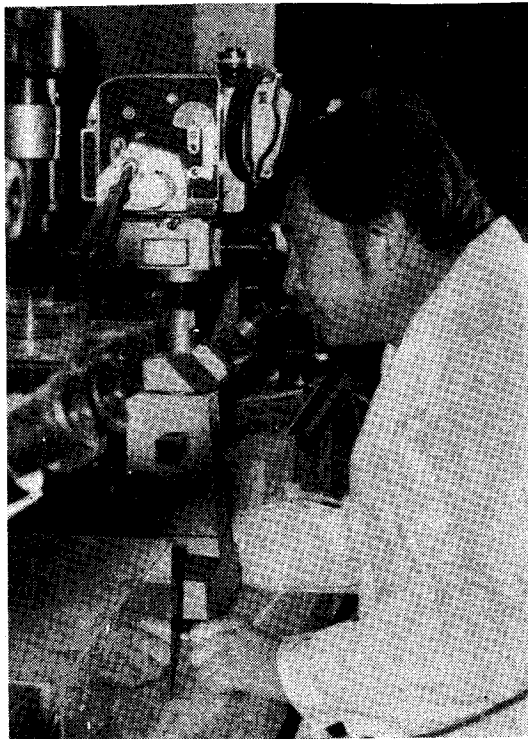
phagus, liver, lung and stomach cancers, as well as analysing the danger signs of occupational diseases. The largest sample survey, in which about 1 million medical workers participated, was conducted between 1975 and 1979. Using self-designed methods, medical researchers and workers completed a remarkable survey of 56 diseases, including the various death causing cancers between 1973 and 1975 in 395 prefectures and cities and 2,392 counties of 30 provinces, municipalities and autonomous regions (except Taiwan), and drew up *The Tumour Atlas of the People's Republic of China*, the best publication of its kind in the world today. The survey and the publication of the atlas were highly praised by foreign experts as a solid foundation in the fight against cancer.

The survey indicated that 90 percent of all cancers in China are of the stomach, oesophagus, liver, cervix uteri, lungs, intestines, leukaemia, nasopharyngeal and breast, and the number of patients suffering from the first three mentioned cancers account for over 60 percent of the total. Most of the nine cancers have clearly defined areas of high incidence. For instance, stomach cancer is seen mainly in coastal areas and northwestern provinces; oesophagus cancer, in Taihang Mountains, Dabie Mountains, northwestern Sichuan, northern Jiangsu, southern Fujian and northeastern Guangdong; liver cancer, in southeastern coastal areas including Qidong County of Jiangsu Province and Fusui County of Guangxi Zhuang Autonomous Region.

The high concentration and clear regional distribution of cancer types offer very favourable conditions for researchers to develop a comprehensive, three-in-one (laboratory, clinical and site) research method. Beginning in the 1970s, more than 30 key tumour prevention and treatment sites were established in regions of high cancer rate, including the Linxian County Oesophagus Cancer Site in Henan Province, Qidong Liver Cancer Site in Jiangsu Province, Fusui Liver Site in Guangxi Zhuang Autonomous Region and Zhongshan County Nasopharyngeal Carcinoma Site in Guangdong Province. Due to the fixed population and clear delineation of regions, research workers were able to develop step by step their studies by analysing the external environment (both natural and unnatural en-

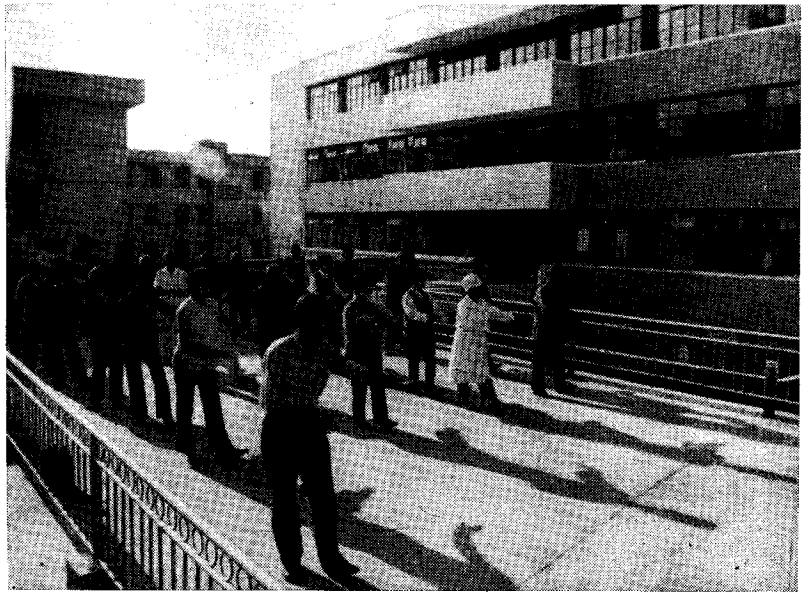
Ge Ming, an associate research fellow of Henan Institute of Oncology, has treated patients suffering from various cancers using cell transplant technology for many years. The conditions of 87 percent of his patients improve. His research receives international attention.

WANG GANGFA



vironment) and the relationship between the internal factors of a person's body and the causes of some common cancers. For instance, the research results proved that liver cancer has a connection to the hepatitis B virus infection, aflatorin and the polluted drinking water, while oesophagus cancer has to do with nitrosamine compounds, moulds and their toxins, malnutrition and unhealthy living habits.

Based on study results, a practical plan for preventing tumours and cancers has been developed. In areas with high incidence of tumours and cancers, medical workers and researchers first eliminate known carcinogens and put into place the most readily available precautions. Second, they provide early recognition of cancer's danger signs, followed by treatment to deal with pathological changes occurring before cancers' onset. The results have been good. For instance, by combining Chinese and Western medicines in treatment, tests of severe hyperplasia of esophageal epithelium show that the eight-year rate of worsened illness dropped from 21.78 percent to 5.45 percent in Linxian County, Henan Province. In Qidong County, after the comprehensive preventive measures taken to prevent and cure hepatitis, prevent mildew and eliminate poison, improve the availability of potable water, treat liver cell hyperplasia, and provide Chinese medical treatment before cancers' onset, the incidence of liver cancer was lowered by a big margin. Also in Qidong, in co-operation with the World Health Organization, Chinese medical workers inoculated 2,500 newborn babies against hepatitis B. Because of the shortage of the trace element selenium in the human body and environment, Chinese research workers, together with American researchers, are currently in a large scale campaign



Patients suffering from late-stage cancers do *Qigong* under the guidance of a medical worker to build up their resistance to disease. ZHU YUNFENG

for many people living in areas with a high rate of liver cancer. The first test results indicate that the incidence of liver cancer and hepatitis are tending to decline.

Diagnosis and Treatment

Over the past 30-odd years, on the basis of imported technology, China has successfully developed many advanced medicinal equipment and technology including X CT machines, computerized fluorescent detection systems for cancer cells, various photosensitive diagnostic units and a monoclonal antibody technique, all of which are helpful in cancer diagnosis, particularly in the early stages. Medical workers can now test oesophagus cancer with the esophageal balloon-rocket electrophoresis and reverse hemazylutination testing alfa-fetoprotein (AFP); and nasopharyngeal cancer with an immunoenzyme labeling method which test antibodies against the EB virus antigen and other early stage antigens testing is effective overall in some 90 percent of cases and in over 70 percent of early stage patients. Also, medical workers

can test for pre-cancer pathological changes several months to several years ahead of time and can estimate the development of cancer eight years in advance. In addition, the diagnostic results using computers resulted in a 50 percent increase in the discovery rate of early stage stomach cancer of some 37,000 patients. Chinese medical workers also lead the world in the study of the regularity and dynamic changes of early stage serum AFP and in the diagnosis standards for clinical and pathological studies of symptom-free liver cancer. Chinese medical scientists have won prizes for their work in tumour immunity in the USA.

Treating cancer by combining Chinese and Western medicines is one main method of tumour prevention, treatment and study, and is an important reason behind the good results achieved to date. Over the past 30-odd years, clinical practitioners have used more than 3,000 traditional Chinese medicines to cure cancers and have successfully developed a batch of new medicines, including cephalotoxins, camptothecines and colchicines, all of



Using a new method of combining traditional Chinese medical therapy with high-temperature treatment technology to cure advanced-stage cancers of the lungs and intestines, Yin Xiaoming, a doctor of traditional Chinese medicine in Nanchang, has obtained positive results in 56 cases. Yin Xiaoming (right) treating a patient.

WANG SHAOYE

which have played a significant role in cancer treatment. Test results have proved that by activating the blood flow and removing blood stasis, traditional Chinese medicines can reduce blood viscosity; enhance vascular permeability; advance blood circulation; help blood production, facilitate the action of anti-cancer medicines, immune cells and other agents on tumours to prevent further cancer development or transformation, the supply of oxygen to the cancer cell and support the curative effect gained by radiotherapy. Voluminous material also proves that treatment by traditional Chinese medicines can reduce the side effects of radiotherapy and chemotherapy, relax symptoms, and, reduce complications, thus helping radiotherapy and chemotherapy treatment to proceed smoothly, aiding the consequent patient and prolonging lives. For instance, few persons suffering from late-stage liver cancer may live for a long time after even a

single treatment of radiotherapy and chemotherapy, but the one-year and five-year survival rates of patients who received traditional Chinese medicines along with radiotherapy and chemotherapy were 72.7 percent and 10 percent respectively; the five-year survival rate of patients suffering from advanced-stage stomach cancer who were given both traditional Chinese medicines and chemotherapy reached 53.8 percent; the cure rate of patients suffering from early-stage carcinoma of cervix uteri who received only Chinese medicinal "San Pin" (white assenic, realgar and alumen) was 100 percent; and the rate for patients with pre-oesophagus cancer who received the traditional Chinese medicinal treatment was 85 percent. Moreover, during such treatment, Chinese acupuncture and *Qigong* therapies may help alleviate the patients' suffering and bring about varying degrees of recovery in their health.

The positive results achieved

by combining traditional Chinese and Western medicines, are seen in many types of cancers. After receiving combined treatment, the five-year survival rate of patients suffering from fibroma reached 80 percent (of which, the rate for early-stage fibroma patients may reach 100 percent); that of oesophagus cancer patients may be 46 percent (of which, the rate for early-stage patients may be 100 percent); that of liver cancer patients may be 21 percent (of which, the rate for patients who have received medical operation may be 27 percent); that of patients suffering from stomach cancer reached 62 percent (of which, the rate for early-stage patients may be 90 percent); and that of patients suffering from lung cancer may reach 42 percent.

Basic Research

Basic tumour research has developed rapidly since the founding of the New China. Research workers have discovered the oncogenes of liver cancer, stomach cancer, oesophagus cancer and nasopharyngeal carcinoma cancer. For instance, six oncogenes with different functions have been discovered in liver cancer and in the nearby organs. Experts believe the formation of liver cancer may be closely linked to these six oncogenes. In immunology, researchers have successfully developed monoclonal anti-bodies against liver cancer, stomach cancer, lung cancer, colon cancer and breast cancer and the trial use of micro-biological "missiles" made of monoclonal anti-body, cross-linking fonin, nuclein and anti-cancer medicines has begun. The recent successful hybridoma monoclonal anti-body for use against tumours was important because it is a breakthrough in China's use of monoclonal antibodies. □

Two Chinese Tumour Experts

Chinese tumour experts, Zeng Yi, 60, and Tang Zhaoyou, 59, in their highly regarded fight against cancer, have much in common. Both are from south China's Guangdong Province, both graduated from Shanghai Medical University, and both, each in their field, have pushed their research to advanced world levels.—Ed.

by Our Staff Reporter Cui Lili

Zeng—an Expert in Nose and Throat Cancer

Zeng is now vice-president of the Chinese Academy of Preventive Medicine and director of the Virus Office of the Tumour Institute. Energetic and of medium build, Zeng talked eloquently about his field during an interview in his laboratory.

"It is getting simple and convenient to diagnose nose and throat cancer," Zeng explained. When a person suddenly finds himself with concurrent symptoms of tinnitus, reduced hearing, intermittent nasal bleeding, blood-stained spitting and migraine for about three weeks, he can simply prick one of his earlobes or any of his fingers with a sterilized needle, drip a drop of

Zeng Yi in his laboratory.

his blood on a clean piece of paper and, when it is dry, send it in an envelope to my institute. We then examine the blood carefully and verify within a day whether the host is suffering from nose and throat cancer or whether these organs are likely to become cancerous.

Nose and throat cancer is malignant and has no apparent symptoms at the early stage," Zeng said. "That is why it is not easily discovered and often misdiagnosed. People come here after symptoms have become apparent, often some 70 percent of them are already at the advanced stage. It is then difficult, if not impossible, to cure," he said. Zeng's method of

ZHANG FENG

diagnosis, however, is capable of discovering the disease five to eight years before it becomes apparent.

In 1964, Zeng said, British scientist Epstein-Barr found that the new virus he discovered was closely associated with Burkitt's lymphoma. The virus was later named EB after the British expert. Two years later, in 1966, an American scientist discovered that the EB virus was closely linked by way of serum with nose and throat cancer. Since then, many American and European scientists have found research into nose and throat cancer a good starting point wherefrom to investigate the cause of tumours. Many people ignored research on prevention and diagnosis, however, because of the low incidence of nose and throat cancer," Zeng said.

"Our country, though, approaches the problem differently," he said. "Nose and throat cancer is one of nine major forms of malignant tumours. In some south China provinces and autonomous regions with a high risk of developing cancer, such as Guangxi and Guangdong, deaths from nose and throat cancer account for 10 to 15 percent of the total. In tumour research, our aim is to alleviate patients' suffering. Therefore, we must continue to concentrate our research, first, on prevention and diagnosis and, then, on causation."

Zeng has made much headway in virus research since he began his present career in 1973. Some three years later, in 1976, he succeeded in diagnosing nose and throat cancer by using imported



"immunofluorescence." However, the prohibitive price of fluorescence microscope made it hard to popularize the method, so he concentrated on developing a new, simple alternative.

About one year later, Zeng's "immunoenzyme labelling method" was born. Sensitive and easy to use and popularize, the method has been gradually improved to the point that an entry-level doctor can easily diagnose nose and throat cancer with a drop of the patient's blood, a small box containing some immunoenzyme agent and an ordinary optical microscope.

In 1978, Zeng and his fellows tried out his "immunoenzyme labelling method" in the Guangxi Zhuang Autonomous Region, an area with a high rate of nose and throat cancer. With the help of local governments and medical-care departments, they opened a nose and throat cancer prevention and research centre in the county of Cangwu and the city of Wuzhou successively. In the following two years, among the more than 200,000 people they scanned, some people tested positive for the EB virus capsid antigen-A immuno globulin (IgA/Vca). By using histological and cytological methods in concert, they established that some of these people had nose and throat cancer, 90 percent of whom were at the early stage. With careful, timely treatment, some of the patients were in remission longer than five years and had a good chance of recovery. Statistics show that all of the patients in the early stage of nose and throat cancer, who are treated with radiation, are in remission longer than five years.

Zeng's success in the diagnosis of nose and throat cancer stimulated him to delve into the cause of cancers. In his study of 1,600 kinds of plants (including medicinal herbs and medical preparations), he found that more than 50 kinds (more than 40 of which grow in areas of Guangxi with

high rates of nose and throat cancer) contain substances which stimulate the EB virus or other substances which induce cancers. He also found, in areas with a high risk of developing cancers, such foodstuffs as salted fish contain carcinogens or substances which induce EB viruses. Even in local soil samples, he discovered substances which have a strong capacity to induce cancers. Plenty of evidence led Zeng to establish a close link between environment and carcinogenesis. In his genetic study of nose and throat cancer, Zeng also discovered that in a family of two nose and throat cancer patients its descendants also carry the genes making them susceptible to cancer. Zeng's comprehensive, multi-discipline research laid down a solid foundation for

Tang Zhaoyou—an Expert in Liver Cancer

Tang is currently a member of the International Liver Diseases Society and president of Shanghai Medical University. He began clinical diagnosis and surgery of liver diseases when he was fresh from the university in the 1950s and continued until the mid-1960s when he turned his attention to the study of liver cancer. He and his aides discovered in their research that changes of serum AFP in the body of early-stage liver cancer patients are closely associated with the evolution of liver cancer. The continued rise and fall of serum AFP at low level reflects the pathological background of the growth of liver cells. If AFP continues to rise steadily or in a wave-like manner for two months, it reflects the proliferation of liver cancer cells. On this basis, they established a reliable measurement for diagnosis and prognosis of early-stage liver cancer. Measurement of serum AFP by use of this theory advances the diagnosis of liver cancer seven to eight months ear-

establishing his systematic theoretical hypothesis about the cause of nose and throat cancer. He concluded that genetic factors were the basis for the development of nose and throat cancer, that the EB virus plays an important role in the process, and that environmental carcinogens and cancer-inducing factors work synergistically. This hypothesis of Zeng's put him at the forefront in the world's study of the cause of nose and throat cancer.

Now a member of the advisory group of tumour experts of the World Health Organization, Zeng has extended his research into the field of leukaemia and AIDS, and has won initial success in monitoring the AIDS virus by using his "immunoenzymological method."

They are thus able to discover many cases of early-stage symptom-free liver cancer, which would not have been discovered in the past. In doing so, Tang and his aides made an historic leap forward, from diagnosis of liver cancer, readily apparent because of size, to diagnosis of small symptom-free liver cancer of less than 5 cm in diameter, making China the world leader in liver cancer research. In 1979, in recognition of his efforts, the research result won the gold medal of the US Cancer Research Institute.

Tang, however, did not rest on his past laurels of liver cancer research. Again, he discovered in clinical practice that surgery proved to be one of the most effective therapies to deal with liver cancer, a cruel killer of some 100,000 Chinese people every year. The size of liver cancer, he found, is an important factor determining the post-operation survival rate. The smaller it is, the higher the five-year survival rate. With one centimetre increase in

diameter of the liver cancer, the five-year survival rate drops more than 10 percent. Tang's breakthrough in the diagnosis of early-stage liver cancer has allowed treatment of many early-stage patients, thus raising the survival rate by a large margin. From 1967 to 1988, Tang conducted operations on 132 liver cancer patients (tumour smaller than 5 cm in diameter). Post-operation patients had a five-year survival rate of 70 percent and a ten-year survival rate of 53 percent.

"The Chinese people's achievements in the diagnosis and treatment of early-stage liver cancer are unimaginable to us Westerners," said a Western liver-cancer expert at a recent international cancer symposium.

Still, for Tang, the work is not over. Like Zeng, Tang is working away at new discoveries and new developments. Since 1978, Tang and his colleagues have launched

a new programme to tackle advanced stages of liver cancer by using what he calls "comprehensive treatment" and "second-stage removal." In the past, the size of liver cancer and its close proximity to big blood vessels made it barely possible to operate. Even with the tumours removed, 80 percent of the patients died within five years. In co-ordination with pathological, radiation and nuclear medical organizations, Tang found in his simulated human liver cancer experiment on mice that the application of a single therapy could only prevent the growth of tumours for a time while the combined application of several therapies could reduce and even eliminate the tumour. They have applied this "comprehensive treatment" to 26 patients whose liver cancers were too big to be removed with surgery (So far "second-stage removal" has been used in only ten cases outside of

China). They have applied, in concert, ligation of hepatic artery, chemotherapy of hepatic arterial catheterization, radiation and mixed bacterial vaccine immunotherapy, all of which are designed to reduce the size of liver cancer small enough to be removed in the "second-stage operation." The five-year survival rate of these 26 cases is 56.1 percent, with some patients having lived as long as eight years.

This new achievement of Tang's, some experts conclude, opens up a new way to cure and probably eliminate liver cancer in the 1990s.

Almost all those who know him say Professor Tang is demanding not only of himself but also of his work and as regards his work, is not in the least negligent. On Tang's desk stands his motto: Be diligent, be enterprising and work towards creating advanced world standards. □

China's Largest Tumour Research and Treatment Centre

by Our Staff Reporter Cui Lili

The Tumour Institute and Hospital under the Chinese Academy of Medical Sciences is located in southeast Beijing.

Statistics indicate that the five-year survival rate of malignant tumour patients discharged from hospital after recovery averages at least 50 percent, the most successful rate of treatment in China.

The former site of this comprehensive institution covered only some 20,000 square metres when it was founded in 1958, but it has since grown into the country's largest tumour research and treatment centre, occupying more than 90,000 square metres. The hospital's outpatient service building is capable of accommo-

dating 1,000 people a day and has an inpatient capacity of 600 beds. It is well furnished with such advanced experimentation equipment as ultrasonic diagnostic machines, radioisotope scan, CT diagnostic, nuclear magnetic resonance and automated biochemical detection devices. The institute's 14-storey building houses a dozen or so research sections and offices involved in chemical etiology, tumour epidemiology, as well as studies in tumour immunity, nutrition and cancer. The 100 research studies include those designated as key state projects. Some of the research results have reached or approached advanced world level. The molecular oncology laboratory, one of China's ten largest, has recently

been completed and put into operation.

The rapid development of the institute and hospital over the past 30 years is, of course, closely tied to government support. The most important reason lies in the dedication and pioneering spirit of the outstanding research workers.

Chinese Doctors' Clinical Practice

The staff of the institute was the first Chinese medical group to begin research on the application of Chinese medicine to the clinical treatment of tumour. Beginning in the 1970s, such research focused on two fields—strengthening patient resist-

ance and stimulating blood circulation to end stasis. Sun Yan, now senior physician of the tumour hospital, chose to investigate the former field. He noted that the side effects on the patient treated by the Western medical methods of chemical therapy and radiation therapy led to complete debilitation of the majority of patients and that their immunological capability was far lower than that of a healthy person.

Sun wondered whether an analysis of treatment methods based on Chinese medical theory such as the strengthening of resistance and the nourishing of vital energies would demonstrate their efficacy in helping improve the patient's immunological capability. With this problem in mind, he and his study group in 1974 began to conduct a comprehensive, systematic clinical and laboratory investigation into the use of Chinese medicine for strengthening resistance and the theoretical basis for such use.

During the experiment, Sun and his assistants gave the patient an all-round pre-treatment physical examination and expounded and proved the Chinese medical theory and, approaching the question from the angle of immunology, developed a detailed picture of the patient's blood and of the immunological and adrenal cortex function. In the course of treatment, several medicinal herbs were used. These included radix astragali and fructus ligustri which are efficacious in strengthening patient resistance. After a period of treatment, another physical check indicated that the Chinese medicine helped to raise the cell's immunological function and, to a certain extent, to reduce the negative effects of chemical and radiation therapy, particularly the inhibiting ef-

fects on the functions of adrenal cortex, the marrow and the alimentary canal.

To prove the accuracy of their conclusion, Sun and his group delved deeper into how the Chinese medicine strengthens patient resistance. The mixed cultivation of lymphocytes of a healthy person and of a patient demonstrated that the malignant tumour patient's inhibitory cell (Ts) activity is very pronounced. Radix astragali and fructus ligustri, however, are capable of curtailing or eliminating the Ts. Sun and his group also discovered through laboratory tests that radix astragali has the function of stimulating the human macrophage which has a vital role in the destruction of the tumour cells.

The announcement of Sun's research results in the 1980s caused a sensation both at home and abroad. Presently, the Chinese medicine used to strengthen patient resistance is one of the most effective substance for the clinical treatment of tumour through the combination of Chinese and Western medicines. This method has been popularized throughout the country, and has received the widespread attention from overseas medical circles. The number of Chinese medicinal herbs used to clinically strengthen patient resistance has increased from several when the method was first used to



Lu Shixin, director of the Tumour Institute. CHEN ZONGLIE

more than 20 at present.

On-Site Research on Cancer of the Esophagus

One important reason for the institute's outstanding achievement is its long-term, intensive studies in areas with a high rate of tumours. Lu Shixin, head of the Tumour Institute and Hospital and a research fellow in chemical etiology, and his group have consistently followed this methodology in their study of cancer of the esophagus.

In the late 1960s, an article in a foreign journal, pointing out that the nitroso compounds could cause cancer of the esophagus in animals, aroused his interest in further study of esophagus cancer.

In 1971, he led a 12-member group to Henan's Linxian County, an area with a high rate of esophagus cancer and lived there for five years. During this period, they conducted large-scale, comprehensive investigations and experiments. Lu Shixin conducted continuing analysis, test and verification on water samples he collected four times a year from 495

A medical worker at the Tumour Hospital's Radiation Treatment Section uses computer to work out the best patient treatment plan. CHEN ZONGLIE



village wells. He and his assistants showed that the nitrosamine content in food in Linxian County was far higher than in other areas with a lower cancer rate. The amount of nitrosamine taken in by local people each day exceeded 500 microgrammes, compared with the normal amount of less than 100 microgrammes. Taking note of the fact that local people like to eat pickled Chinese cabbage, Lu then collected fungus from the pickled Chinese cabbage, and put it in *wowotou* (a steamed bread of maize) to ferment. His findings demonstrated that the fungus promoted the synthesis of nitrosamine. This was a "first" among cancer research results in the world and its publication in 1979 strongly affected the continuing investigations into the cause of cancerous tumour.

Lu and his assistants, beginning in the 1980s, switched the focus of their research from animals to humans. In the past decade, they've cultivated the tissue of 200-300 fetal esophagus which, when acted on by nitrosamine, showed signs of hyperplastic change and human embryo squamous epithelial carcinoma

of the esophagus. This is the first instance wherein nitrosamine was used to induce tumour on the epithelium of the human esophagus. The result marked a theoretical breakthrough by indicating that nitrosamine can cause esophagus cancer not only in animals but also in humans. In further cancer studies of the past few years, Lu and his assistants travelled to four provinces, eight counties and cities across the country to conduct on-site investigations involving large numbers of people. Their discovery that vitamin C and E and trace elements such as zinc can check the synthesis of nitrosamine in the human body, provided an important scientific basis for developing methods to prevent and treat esophagus cancer.

Selenium and the Prevention of Liver Cancer

Attention to the study of how best to prevent tumours is the third salient feature of the Tumour Institute and Hospital. Its laboratory studies of the prevention of tumour in humans encompass most disciplines and have been conducted on a wide

scale throughout the country. These studies have included looking into the role of selenium in preventing liver cancer.

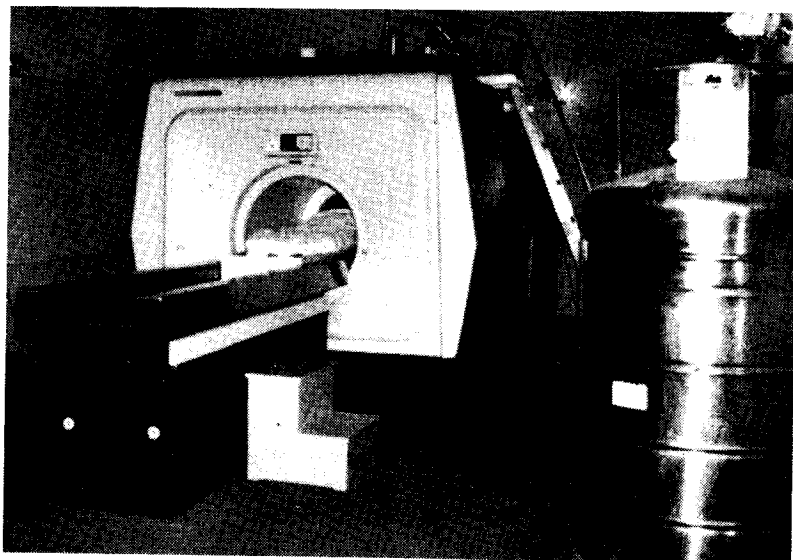
As early as the 1970s, some people abroad had a hunch that the selenium content in the human body and the cancer rate had an inverse relationship, but there had been no on-site test over a large area to prove the hypothesis. In 1980, Yu Shuyu, research fellow of the biochemical research department at the Tumour Institute and her study group went to 24 counties in eight provinces, where they investigated selenium's relationship to liver cancer. Yu discovered that in Jiangsu's Qidong County, an area with a high rate of the selenium content, particularly evident in the foodgrain, in the southeast of the county was four times that of the northwest, and that the rate of liver cancer in the southeast was far lower than in the northwest. This led her to conclude that selenium played some role in preventing cancer.

Yu then spent four years observing two different flocks of ducks and discovered that the cancer rate of the flock fed with selenium was lower than the one not fed with selenium. Yu also discovered from the dissected duck liver that the livers of ducks fed with selenium were entirely normal, while the livers of ducks not fed with selenium were grey in colour, exceptionally large and had manifestations of unusual pathological changes.

On the basis of these findings, Yu and her colleagues began selenium testing on 20,000 people. Three years later, statistics showed that the rate of liver cancer and hepatitis of people with selenium was lower than those without it. Since 1986, Yu and her group have co-operated with US researchers in conducting cancer-related tests of a group of 200,000 people. □

This nuclear magnetic resonance scanner efficiently diagnoses tumours.

CHEN ZONGLIE



China Vows Quality Coal for Japan

Both Chinese and Japanese coal experts say they hope China will increase its coal exports to Japan despite the criticism they traded on November 14 at a joint coal conference in Beijing over alleged breaches of contract.

Wei Guofu, general manager of the China Coal Import and Export Corp., said leaders of both governments have suggested that China should be permitted to increase its coal exports by 2 million to 3 million tons a year over the current export quota of 3.7 million to 4.1 million tons.

But they failed to reach a final agreement on this because many other problems in the bilateral coal trade remain unsolved.

Japan is China's largest coal importer, taking in nearly 30 percent of the 15 million tons China exports each year.

Under contracts signed by the two governments, he said, Japan was supposed to have sent ships to carry 1.46 million tons of coal from April to October. But only 1.03 million tons was shipped out, leaving 430,000 tons or 30 percent of the coal in Chinese ports.

Customers

Katsushige Tanaka, director of the China Coal Committee under the Council of Japan-China Long-Term Trade Agreement, said Japanese customers complained that the Chinese side failed to meet the timetable for delivering the coal.

By November, only 78 percent of the coal was delivered, causing disruptions in the supply to Japanese customers.

Tanaka said that, undoubtedly, Japan will increase its coal imports in the next few years. Imports of coal for power production are expected to grow to 30

million tons in the next five years, he said.

"We hope China can become a reliable coal exporter to the world market and further im-

prove the quality of its coal for export," he said.

Wei Guofu told the conference China will take effective measures to improve the quality of export coal and would cut coal-fields' export quotas if they fail to meet export standard.

by Xu Yuanchao

China Helps Foreign-Funded Enterprises

According to Yu Xiaosong, director of the Foreign Funds Department of the Ministry of Foreign Economic Relations and Trade, the Chinese government has decided to take new measures to help foreign-funded enterprises having difficulties in the supply of raw materials and funds. The measures include:

□ The Ministry of Materials and Equipment allocated some important raw materials for use by foreign-funded enterprises.

□ The State Planning Commission and the People's Bank of China are paying special attention to foreign-funded enterprises that have difficulties in the turnover of funds and make available special arrangements.

The Shanghai Volkswagen Corp., a Sino-Federal German joint venture, for example, has some difficulties in sales because the purchase of cars is strictly controlled in China. The relevant authorities of the State Council have already decided to take measures to help them resolve the difficulties.

Although China's new measures are not able enough to resolve all the problems met by foreign-funded enterprises during the economic readjustment, they indicate China's determination to continue the opening up to the outside world and improve the investment climate.

China will further redefine the industrial orientation to encourage foreign investors, Yu said. Even enterprises approved to start business which do not accord with China's present industrial policy will be helped by the Chinese government.

According to Yu, China will continue to simplify the approval and examination procedures and strengthen the soft investment climate. As the present foreign laws and regulations are examined, those found unsuitable are expected to be revised. Meanwhile, Chinese law-makers plan to revise the Law of the People's Republic of China on Joint Ventures Using Chinese and Foreign Investment. The aim is to make the law more in line with international practice. □

New Co-operative Projects in Tianjin

A total of 54 new projects in Tianjin call for foreign co-operation, announced an official from the city's Foreign Investment Service Centre in

early November. They involve machinery, electronics, metallurgy, motor vehicle, light industry, medicine, chemicals, textiles, and building materials. Form of

co-operation may be joint management, co-operative production or compensatory trade.

According to an official of the Foreign Economic Relations and Trade Commission in Tianjin, outstanding characteristics for these new ventures are that they have a bigger rate of investment returns, a bright development future and benefit both the Chinese and foreign investors. He added that government assistance and support will be provided for transport, energy, raw materials and funds.

These projects are tendered for according to the principles guiding the use of foreign funds for Tianjin development: gear the investment towards the develop-

ment of basic raw materials industry, renovate traditional existing industries, speed up the improvement of the quality of products, develop the new technological industry and export products and import substitutes. Offshore oil, chemicals, automobile and electronics industries are expected to become the leading industrial sectors in Tianjin. Emphasis is also on the development of machinery, high quality steel products, fine chemicals, medicine and new building materials.

In addition, 59 more technology export projects were announced.

by Kou Zengling

Lockheed Expands Co-operation with China

Guangzhou Aircraft Maintenance Engineering Co., co-sponsored by the Lockheed Aeronautical Systems Co. of the United States, the CAAC Guangzhou Bureau and the Hong Kong Hutchison China Trade Holding Ltd., began operations in October.

With total investment of US\$30 million, the company now owns China's largest maintenance hangar which can hold one B-747 and two to four B-737s. The company provides such services as the maintenance of airlines, periodical examination, repair and special check-up, repair of plane structure, overhaul of engine parts and repackaging of service facilities for Chinese and foreign clients.

The company is China's first joint venture with the Lockheed Co.. Before this, the Lockheed had co-operated with Beijing, Shanghai, Shaanxi and Heilongjiang on airplane manufacturing and engine parts production. Currently, the company is

co-operating with the China Aero-Dynamic Development Centre (CADDCC) in Mianyang, Sichuan Province, on wind tunnel experiment and at the same time producing airplane parts in Shenyang, Liaoning Province in the form of compensatory trade. Last year, the Lockheed Co. sold two L-100-30 super-hercules to China.

To carve a bigger share of the China market and expand co-operation, Lockheed attended the 1989 International Aviation Exhibition held in Beijing and signed a letter of intent on co-operation with the China National Aero-Tech Import and Export Corp. and CADDCC.

John S. Gibson of the Lockheed Co. said that the establishment of Guangzhou Aircraft Maintenance Engineering Co. and the company's past co-operation with China have helped his company to further expand its business in China. He said he is confident about future co-operation with China.

by Li Ming

Export of Confucian Family Liquor Increased

The low alcohol Confucian Family Liquor, whose export volume is second only to the *Maotai* of Guizhou Province, is estimated to be 60,000 cartons (20 bottles for one carton), a 10 percent increase from last year.

Qufu is the hometown of Confucius, the most famous scholar in Chinese history. The Confucian Family Liquor was first established in the workshop run by Confucius' descendants in 1790, who produced the liquor as a tribute to the royal family of the Qing Dynasty. The Confucian Family Liquor was named a national top-quality product in 1984 and won a gold medal at the Beijing International Fair held in 1989.

In 1987, China exported 23,000 cartons to 13 countries and regions including Singapore, Japan, Malaysia, the Federal Republic of Germany, the United States and Hong Kong, earning US\$1.2 million in foreign exchange. In 1988, the export volume rose to 50,000 cartons with the bulk of sales to Southeast Asia, Japan and Taiwan.

The Qufu Liquor Factory which makes Confucian Family Liquor is the biggest producer of top-quality liquor in Shandong Province. At present, the factory has 14 million yuan of fixed assets and 12,000 workers. In 1988, its annual production reached 8,000 tons. Kong Dechao, director of the factory's management office, said that in addition to the Confucian Family Liquor they have four newly developed liquors: Confucian White Liquor, *Qufu* Long-Stored Liquor, Confucian Liquor and *Xingtanchun* Liquor, which they've just begun to export.

by Han Guojian

Large Pictorial Albums of Contemporary China

The large coloured pictorial albums *Reform in Rural China*, *Open China*, *The Rivers Flow On* and *Into Outer Space* give a realistic account of China's reforms, opening to the outside world, water conservation efforts and aerospace industry over the past 40 years, particularly the last decade.

They are a record, from different perspectives, of the footsteps taken by China. With vivid pictures and accurate texts, the albums are ideal for both scholarly study and casual reading. All of the albums are available in Chinese and English. They are edited by the China Pictorial Press and distributed by the China International Book Trading Corp. (Guoji Shudian), P.O. Box 399, Beijing 100044, China.

Who's Who in China: Current Leaders

Who's Who in China: Current Leaders is the first reference book published in China to introduce her current leaders. There are entries on 2,185 senior officials in central and local governments, the Communist Party and army. There are profiles of the president and vice-presidents of the People's Republic; leading officials of the National People's Congress Standing Committee, Chinese People's Political Consultative Conference National Committee, State Council, CPC Central Committee, central committees of democratic parties and national organs of major mass organizations; high-ranking officers of the Chinese People's Liberation Army and the Chinese People's Armed Police Force; major leading cadres of provinces, municipalities, autonomous regions, special economic zones and cities whose economic planning is under direct supervision of the State Council.

Each entry has a detailed introduction of 200-300 words to as many as 2,000 words with accurate and reliable data. Categories and a table of major organizations and their

leading officials is attached. Indexes in both English and Chinese texts make it easy to look up entries.

The bilingual English-Chinese edition (with the Chinese in unsimplified characters) contains 600,000 words and comes in hardcover, 16 mo.

It is a valuable reference tool for foreign readers and overseas Chinese, as well as for Hong Kong, Macao and Taiwan compatriots. It is edited and published by the Foreign Languages Press of China and distributed by the China International Book Trading Corp. (Guoji Shudian), P.O. Box 399, Beijing 100044, China.

Latest Edition of 'Atlas of the People's Republic of China'

The Atlas of the People's Republic of China (English edition) has been published to commemorate the 40th anniversary of the founding of the People's Republic.

This is the first English-language atlas published in New China since its founding in 1949. It consists of maps of China's provinces, cities and administrative divisions, their topography and an index.

This atlas will give foreign readers a general idea of China's provinces, municipalities and autonomous regions. Following each map is a brief summary of population, nationality, area, climate, basic products, topography, major cities and towns and major tourist attractions. The index in the second half of the atlas provides detailed information about place names and their locations on the maps.

The atlas has two useful appendices—a table of "Pronunciation of Chinese Phonetics With Approximate English Equivalents" and a table of "Pronunciation of the Chinese Phonetic Alphabet With International Phonetic Symbols"—to assist foreign readers to read out Chinese names in the Beijing dialect.

The atlas details the most recent alterations in the composition of New China, such as the establish-

ment of Hainan Province and recent boundary adjustments between provinces and regions. It is the most up-to-date edition of maps of China.

The atlas is a valuable reference book for libraries, universities and research institutes all over the world, and a useful guide for foreign tourists and visitors to China.

The atlas has 163 pages, and comes in hardcover, 16 mo. It is edited and published by the Foreign Languages Press of China, distributed at home and abroad by China International Book Trading Corp. (Guoji Shudian), P.O. Box 399, Beijing 100044, China.

Rare Pictures of the Great Wall

The Great Wall is the grandest relic left on earth by mankind. The Wall, about 50,000 kilometres long, has well-preserved sections frequented by tourists from all corners of the world. But many more sections are located in precipitous mountains or along dangerous marshes and have never been seen, even by Chinese, in modern times. The photographers who worked on this book overcame many difficulties and hardships in frontier areas. Their pictures have artistic value as well as scientific and historical significance.

It took over a period of more than 2,000 years to build, connect the various sections and renovate the Great Wall which is no longer a defence barrier. It remains, however, a symbol of the spirit of the Chinese nation and its long history. The exquisite and difficult-to-obtain pictures are preceded by an introduction and accompanied by captions that provide detailed information on the Great Wall in relation to the vicissitudes of China's political and socio-economic history.

It is published by the Beijing Zhaohua Publishing House, distributed by the China International Book Trading Corp. (Guoji Shudian), P.O. Box 399, Beijing 100044, China. □

Warmly Support the 'Anti-Porn' Campaign

I am 59 years of age and started reading *Beijing Review* in April 1988. I have much respect for China's national and cultural roots and so am concerned with your country's policy developments. After reading the article 'Campaign to Beat Down Pornography' in issue No. 36, I warmly applaud the speech of Li Ruihuan, member of the Standing Committee of the Political Bureau of the CPC Central Committee. You are perhaps aware of a person, aged 26, who was arrested near Tokyo for the murder of four young girls. The reason for this crime was the decadent bourgeois ideology found in the great number of pornographic audio-video cassettes which have poisoned the minds of young people. Even if such a thing had not happened, I would still insist on prohibitions on the making and selling of materials which endanger the healthy growth of teenagers of Japan, a country practising liberalism. Although the 'Anti-Porn' campaign is your country's own affair, I agree with its goal and wholeheartedly support you. Now, increasing Chinese students have come to Japan and when some of them return to China, they take back with them the pornographic audio-video cassettes which are also a cause of shame in Japan. I would like to shout: 'Don't bring back such a thing, don't pollute China.' If I were a Chinese leader, I would stipulate that every person abroad must return to the country once each two to four years so as to be cleansed of the bourgeois pollution.

Akiraishi
Tokyo, Japan

Interest in Specific Reports

I've read *Beijing Review* with great interest for nearly 20 years and have been a subscriber for seven. Though I haven't written to you for a time, I still hope that you know I continually receive your magazine on time and that I enjoy reading its

interesting articles.

I'm interested in *BR*'s specific reports on China, because your articles have a deeper analysis than the newspaper. The articles on socialist and international policies are particularly interesting because they explain so well the different views of our respective social cultures. I like *BR* not only because of its content but because it helps me analyse the daily newspaper.

One of the most current questions of interest is how to train young people in their political thinking. This can't only be based on the will of adults but needs to be carried out in accordance with social developments. There is a Spanish saying: 'None like another's lesson.' Young people prize their own experience more than that of the older generation. This is harmless. In some European countries, young people don't like politics, because they only think of their present interests. That they receive a liberal education doesn't change this attitude, they want to maintain a regular life-style at a certain level even though the future is unknown. Politics is not their concern. I don't know the solutions to the problems of our young people here, I'd like to learn more about China's experience with its young people.

Lastly please accept my congratulations on the 40th anniversary of the founding of the People's Republic of China. Your country with its vast territory and large population has written the most magnificent chapter in the 20th century story of the defeat of colonialism, imperialism and feudalism, and of the socialist construction and modernization. A centenarian would have called it a Utopian dream. But the Chinese people have made this come true by their combination of vigour and Marxism-Leninism and Mao Zedong Thought.

Please accept my warm greetings, wish you all success in your work.

J.R. Azago Gassiot
Spain

Computer in Chinese Medicine Therapy

The computer is the best and most loyal disciple I have had in my lifetime. With it, I shall die without regret."

So said 80-year-old Li Jingzi, a senior doctor of the Beijing Huguo Chinese Medicine Hospital, who is noted for treating coronary heart disease. Li has cured many patients over the years, but as he got older he found he had to reduce his case load because of his failing health. In 1983, however, Li's hospital co-operated with a Beijing research institute to programme his experiences and methods into computer software. In the following five years, the programme was spread throughout the country, leading to the diagnosis and treatment of more than 37,000 patients. This greatly surpassed the figure Li treated in five years and the effectiveness rate reached 97.78 percent.

The idea of marrying the computer to traditional Chinese medicine appeared in the 1970s. Before that, the preservation and carrying forward of traditional Chinese medical techniques were very difficult tasks for China's public health departments.

Chinese medicine differs from Western medicine in its highly personal approach to individual patients. After an examination that may include feeling the pulse, watching the coating on the tongue or reading the patient's complexion, the doctor makes a diagnosis. He then prepares a prescription of medicinal herbs, taking the patient's constitution, mental condition and the influence of the local environment into consideration. Because the treatment varies from patient to patient, the substance of traditional Chinese medicine depends, to a high degree, on a

doctor's clinical experiences. In recent years, the deaths of many old doctors, who left behind no written works, caused incalculable losses. This is one of the reasons why researchers turned to the computer.

In 1979, the first Chinese medicine software was used successfully in diagnosing and treating liver trouble. This came as a result of four years of work by one of its designers, Guo Rongjiang, now a senior engineer at the China Computer Technology Service Corp.

Like many Chinese, Guo believes in traditional Chinese medicine. When he read reports about the computer systems used by some Western doctors, he was inspired to provide the same powerful tool to Chinese practitioners. Guo believed that if the experiences of old Chinese doctors were available in computers, the problem of passing on their techniques would be solved. Moreover, those experiences would be more widely available.

Guo and his colleagues visited Guan Youbo, a well-known Chinese doctor specializing in the treatment of liver disease. The old doctor gladly accepted Guo's proposal and provided him with the details of many cases, prescriptions and clinical experiences. Using these, Guo worked out a programme.

Guo's achievement immediately stirred wide interest and response and work in this field mushroomed over the following ten years. So far, more than 200 computer systems for Chinese medicine have been established, among which 60 have received state approval. In 1984, the Ministry of Public Health formally listed specialist computer systems for traditional Chinese

medicine as one of its key research projects. In 1986, a hospital of Chinese medicine in Suzhou, Anhui Province, was the first to establish a computerized diagnosis system. Other institutions began to develop similar programmes based on the experiences of Guan Youbo and other noted Chinese doctors.

Clinical experience has proven the advantages of using computers. For instance, it has made Chinese medicine more standardized, systematic and precise. Through computerization, all the theories and experiences accumulated over a lifetime by a noted Chinese doctor can be screened, generalized and programmed. Preserved in the computer, these techniques can be tested and perfected in clinical practice.

What is more, the computer system has made experts' skills accessible to far more patients. The Guan Youbo system for liver trouble has been used in at least 40 hospitals throughout the country.

"That means we have 40 Guan Youbos," its maker Guo Rongjiang said.

Because the Chinese medicine programmes are usually put in micro-computers, they have gone into hospitals on the prefecture and county levels. This means doctors have been able to use computers to make a diagnosis and give treatment long before they would normally have the opportunity to study a certain expert's thinking. Undoubtedly, this is good news for patients in China's broad rural areas who want access to the methods of noted doctors.

More importantly, there is now a group of Chinese medicine doctors who are familiar with

computers. This opens up a broad and hopeful future for traditional Chinese medicine.

Zhao Shuyi, a senior doctor of Xiyuan Hospital of the Academy of Traditional Chinese Medicine in Beijing, is one of this group. After she graduated from college in the 1940s, Zhao became a gynaecologist using the clinical practices of Western medicine. At the end of the 1950s, however, Zhao became a student of Qian Boxuan, a well-known expert in gynaecology of Chinese medicine, and diverted to the practice of Chinese medicine.

In 1980, Zhao co-operated with a software research institute of the Chinese Academy of Sciences to develop a computer programme based on Qian's experiences in diagnosing and treating dysmenorrhoea (painful menstruation). After reading all of Qian's recorded dysmenorrhoea cases, she enumerated more than 120 symptoms, 300 prescriptions and 200 forms of the illness. Then she drew out 40 symptoms from the 120 and matched them with corresponding descriptions and treatments which were put into the computer. Thus the first Qian Boxuan Expert System was born.

Using the programme in 1983, Zhao found that the system could not precisely express the thinking of the expert in the face of complicated clinical requirements. So Zhao re-programmed it into two categories of primary and secondary symptoms. With the two categories complementing each other, any specific illness can be given a proper clinical description by the computer. The new system has been applied in clinical practice and its effectiveness has markedly increased. A survey of 1,769 patients, who received treatment by this programme three times or more, showed a 100 percent effectiveness rate.

Now Qian is dead but his rich

experiences over 70 years have been stored in 15 computer programmes that have been spread to more than 40 hospitals in China. Zhao herself is still shuttling between traditional Chinese medicine and the computer, ready to programme more software on the basis of new clinical experiences.

Traditional Chinese medicine programmes have even entered

the software market and some have been exported. At the Sixth World Medical Science Information Symposium held in October 1989 in Beijing, Chinese experts read more than 30 academic theses, most of which were about Chinese medicine software. They were received with interest by the participants, including those from developed countries.

by Cui Lili

Successors to the Qi School

The Qi school of art, named after Qi Baishi, shows a special reverence for the simple objects of everyday life.

A leading disciple of Qi Baishi is the contemporary painter Lou Shibai, and the first symposium of the Shibai Art Association was recently held in Beijing.

Lou Shibai grasps the essence of the Qi school in poetry, calligraphy, painting and seal-cutting. Members of the Shibai Art Association are taught directly by Lou and the more than 130 works presented at the symposium showed there are plenty of successors to carry on the Qi genre.

Qi Baishi's works featured many natural scenes: On a river bank a frog gazes at swimming tadpoles; in the light of an oil lamp mice stealthily eat crabs; chicks peck at food under a hanging gourd. With their rich, idyllic flavour, these paintings display a profound understanding of life and nature.

Although Lou was Qi's student for 25 years and their painting styles are very similar, Lou shows his originality in terms of subject matter. For instance, Lou is extremely fond of ducks as a result of his experiences in the countryside during the "cultural revolution." So under his brush, ducks are very lively.

When he did a freehand brush-

work in ink and wash of snowy scenery on Changbai Mountain, he employed the chiaroscuro technique as part of his effort to merge traditional and modern, Western and Chinese styles of painting.

While Qi grasped a certain corner of a scene and carefully described it, Lou merges the scenery into the broader natural background. His cattle resting under willow trees are accompanied by the setting sun and remote mountains.

Some works at the symposium were typical of the Qi school. For example, *Vegetable Garden* by Liu Wenhe centres around the basic vegetables consumed by Beijing's average families. In Li Zhuqi's *Flowers, Birds, Grass and Insects*, birds and insects are worked out in *gongbi*, a traditional painting method characterized by fine brushwork and close attention to detail, while flowers and grass are done in freehand brushwork. Other typical works include *Pumpkin* by Guo Zhongyong, and *Crabs* respectively by Liu Zhongxin and Lu Youyi.

Some works differed from the Qi school in terms of technique and expressive effect. For example, Liu Cunhu's paintings of autumn scenery are built with chunks of colour, creating the effect of a wood-cutting. In one of

his pictures the stone steps of the thatched cottage are uneven. Together with old trees, young chickens and a bamboo fence, the picture presents the happy scene of a farmer's family life.

Sun Xiaobin's works display a different style. With sparrows as subjects, the pictures are so simple and light that it is impossible to add anything more. In *Bathing in the Sun*, for instance, there are nine sparrows resting on naked branches, seeking warmth from the winter sun. In *Whispering*, a group of sparrows appears to be whispering with each other, carefree and at

leisure, like retired old men in Beijing's streets.

Works of seal-cutting in the exhibition, although following Qi Baishi and Lou Shibai, showed different degrees of originality. Guo Zhongyong's works were vigorous while Liu Chongli's were more traditional.

As different as the works in the exhibition were, they revealed the artists' love for and understanding of the common daily life. This is the most moving and prominent factor in the arts of the Qi school and the very reason why they impress audiences so deeply.

by Lou Linwei

Prizes Awarded for Defence Articles

Out of 5,000 articles on the modernization of China's national defence, 120 were awarded prizes recently in Beijing.

The contributions were solicited last year with the aim of promoting China's achievements in building a modern national defence over the past 40 years. The sponsors were 50 news media organizations including a committee formed by the China Writers' Association for Science Popularization, *Renmin Ribao* (People's Daily), *Jiefangjun Bao* (Liberation Army Daily) and CCTV.

After the notice soliciting contributions was released, scholars, scientists, cadres, teachers, journalists, college and high school students, PLA officers and soldiers wrote and compiled articles. Some of them were senior military leaders, including Defence Minister Qin Jiwei, Deputy Chief of General Staff He Qizong, and President of Academy of Military Sciences Zheng Wenhan.

Among the contributions, there were more than 100 about the achievements in modernizing

China's national defence. Articles about aerospace technology and nuclear weapons were particularly impressive. For instance, Tu Shoue, a well-known rocket expert and the chief engineer of the Ministry of Aeronautics and Astronautics, drew on his personal experience to write "Past and Future of China's Astronautics Technology," which illustrates the brilliant achievements of China's aerospace industry.

"Standing up Among the World's Nations" by Li Yingxiang from the China National Nuclear Industry Corp. describes how, relying on its own resources, China strengthened its defence capabilities by developing atomic and hydrogen bombs despite its weak industrial base.

Many of the articles introduced advanced Chinese and foreign weapons and equipment, popularizing knowledge about China's defence modernization. For instance, "Varieties of Modern Mines," which received a first-class prize, tells how the old-fashioned mine, in order to meet the requirements of modern warfare, was transformed from a defensive weapon to an

offensive one.

"New Stealth and Anti-Stealth Weapons" also won a first-class prize. It tells how the use of stealth technology to make weapons "invisible" to radar and other electronic sensing equipment has added a whole new dimension to defence.

"Dauntless Fighters in Future Space War" and "Space Army, Space War and the Fourth Battlefield" show how space has joined the land, sea and air to become the fourth arena of human activity. Therefore, in future wars, space will inevitably become the fourth battlefield.

"Strategy and Tactics of Sun Wu and Electronic Warfare," "Mysterious Contest," "Laser Confrontation in Military Affairs" and "Blitz in Future War" introduce extraordinary methods of modern warfare. "Subtle Biological Missiles," "A New Generation of Rockets in Space" and other prize-winning essays introduce the structures, functions and uses of the most advanced weapons, broadening the readers' vision and helping them know more about the characteristics of modern warfare and the nature of advanced military equipment.

Generally speaking, the articles had the following characteristics:

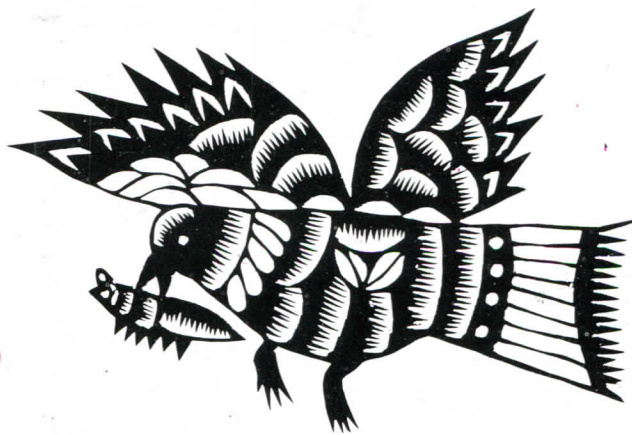
- The subjects were novel and the materials rich. Most articles introduced China's achievements in building a modern national defence, including new equipment, new technology and new materials for China's armed forces. This showed the impact of the worldwide technological revolution of the 1980s on military affairs.

- The articles displayed several writing styles—description, explanation, commentary, news reporting—to good effect.

- Theory was combined with reality, connecting the lessons of modern wars with China's current military situation. □



PLA Soldier Lei Feng.



Flying Pigeon.

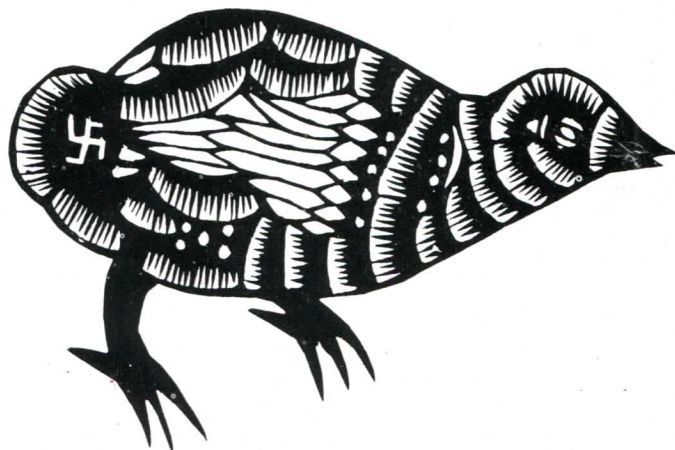
ART PAGE

Papercuts by Fan Yunying And Fan Cunming

Fan Yunying and her younger brother, Fan Cunming, were brought up in a farmer's family in Gaomi County, Shandong Province. Influenced by folk papercuts, they are both adept at the art. Their works win acclaim from local people because they contain both traditional concepts and new ideas.



Long-horned Grasshopper.



A Quail.



A General of Ancient Times.

BEIJING REVIEW

A Window on China



Beijing Review, China's only weekly foreign language current affairs magazine, was first launched in English in March 1958. It is now available in English, French, Spanish, German and Japanese. As well as the regular English edition, a North American edition is printed and distributed in the USA.

In January 1988, *ChinAfrique*, a monthly in French, was published by *Beijing Review* for distribution in African countries.

The six editions are essentially similar in content but vary to cater for the readership in different regions of the world. The magazine aims to

- provide information on political, economic, cultural and social developments and trends in China;
- offer insight into the theories, lines, principles and policies of the Chinese Communist Party;
- acquaint readers with Chinese views on major international issues.

Beijing Review is an important source of information for overseas government officials, experts, scholars and business people interested in recent developments in China. It is often quoted by foreign media and is used by professors as a source of reference for students of overseas universities.

The back cover of *Beijing Review* carries colour advertisements.

Beijing Review is airmailed to over 150 countries and regions. It is distributed by the China International Book Trading Corporation (Guoji Shudian), P.O. Box 399, Beijing, China.