

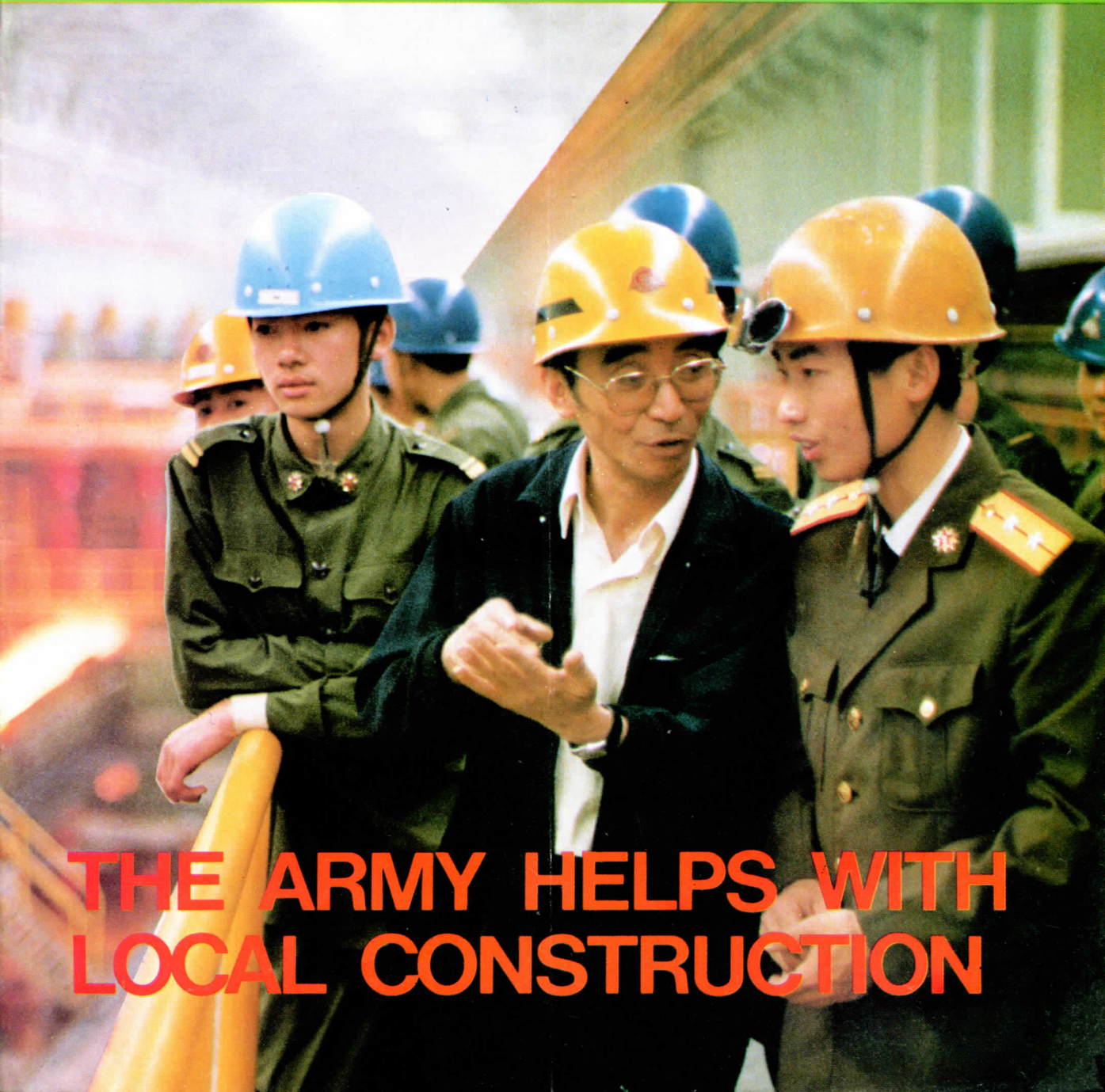
A CHINESE WEEKLY OF NEWS AND VIEWS

Beijing Review

北京周报

Vol. 33, No. 31 July 30-August 5, 1990

Yellow River Dams: Unbreached for 40 Years



**THE ARMY HELPS WITH
LOCAL CONSTRUCTION**



A Dai nationality woman by the river bank in her native village. *Photo by Li Zhixiong*



Army Helps in Local Construction

□ This report describes how officers and men of a PLA unit in Yantai, Shandong Province, have contributed to local development. Estimates indicate that since 1985 they have offered 2.4 million workdays to local construction projects and taken part in 80 disaster relief and emergency operations. They have also done a lot to improve the living conditions and social order, and enrich Yantai's cultural life. Through these efforts, they have forged as close a relationship with the local people as "fish with water" (p. 13).

The US-Japan Trade Talks

□ The US-Japan trade talks ended on June 28 with an agreement to remedy their trade imbalance and remove barriers to open up trading. However, because of existing structural problems in the trade mechanism of the two countries, it is unlikely that they will overcome their differences in the near future (p. 9).

China Promotes Public Legal Education

□ China's criminal and civil case records indicate that many people commit crimes because of ignorance of the law. Consequently, a nationwide campaign was kicked off in 1986 to promote legal knowledge among the citizens. The campaign has helped foster a sense of civic responsibility and enabled citizens to use the law to protect their legitimate rights and combat illegal activities (p. 17).

Huanghe River Unbreached for 40 Years

□ Until the founding of the People's Republic of China, floods posed the greatest danger to the lower reaches of the Huanghe (Yellow) River. After the birth of New China, however, the government began to harness the Huanghe, considering such action a key measure for stabilizing the country. Since then, a total of 12.8 billion yuan have been spent over a period of some 40 years on flood-control projects, which have successfully kept the river from overflowing its banks (p. 23).

Water Shortages Plague Chinese Cities

□ Most cities in China have suffered severe water shortages over the past ten years. And the situation is still getting worse. At a recent National Working Conference on Water Saving in Cities, State Councillor Zou Jiahua said that leading government officials at all levels must take the water shortage problem as seriously as grain shortages and a possible population explosion (p. 6).

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Photo by Wu Jinsheng and Chen Zonglie	

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Published every Monday by BEIJING REVIEW
24 Baiwanzhuang Road, Beijing 100037
The People's Republic of China
Distributed by **China International Book
Trading Corporation** (GUOJI SHUDIAN)
P.O. Box 399, Beijing, China

Subscription rates (1 year):
Australia.....A.\$30.50
New Zealand.....NZ.\$40.50
UK.....£16.50
USA.....US\$30.50
Canada.....Can.\$30.50

China, Saudi Arabia Knot Diplomatic Ties

The People's Republic of China and the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia established formal diplomatic relations, according to a joint communique signed by the representatives of the two countries in Riyadh on the evening of July 21.

The full text of the communique, endorsed by Chinese Foreign Minister Qian Qichen and his Saudi counterpart Prince Saud Al Faisal, reads as follows:

"The governments of the People's Republic of China and the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia have decided to establish diplomatic relations between the two countries at the ambassadorial level as of 29 Thul Hijjah 1410 A.H., corresponding to 21 July 1990 A.D.

"The government of the People's Republic of China supports the policy of the government of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia in pursuit of achieving its security, stability and national interests.

"The government of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia recognizes that the government of the People's Republic of China is the sole legitimate government that represents the entire Chinese people.

"The two governments have agreed to develop co-operation and friendly relations between the two countries on the basis of the principles of mutual respect for sovereignty and territorial integrity, mutual non-aggression, non-interference in each other's internal affairs, equality and mutual benefit, and peaceful coexistence."

The two foreign ministers agreed, at a joint press conference after signing the communique, that the establishment of diplomatic relations between the two countries not only is in accord with the fundamental interests of the people of both

countries but also contributes enormously to peace and stability in the region and the whole world.

The Chinese foreign minister said the establishment of Sino-Saudi diplomatic ties is an event of great significance, which marks a new epoch in the history of bilateral relations between the two countries and fulfils the wishes of the two peoples.

Qian said that the friendly relations between China and Saudi Arabia have a long, long history and that bilateral co-operation in all fields has improved rapidly over the recent years.

The event is sure to open up broader prospects for the further development of the traditional friendship and the friendly co-operation in all fields between the two countries, Qian said.

Saudi Prince Faisal said that China enjoys a high international prestige that attracts the attention of all peoples. The establishment of diplomatic ties is an important move that will benefit not only Saudi Arabia and China, but also the Arab nations and the Islamic countries.

With common efforts made by Saudi and Chinese leaders, the bilateral relations between the two countries were agreeable even before the establishment of their diplomatic relations, Faisal said, adding that both sides now enjoy a broader prospect for bilateral co-operation. ■

Kampuchea Should Keep UN Seat

Kampuchea's seat in the United Nations should not be left vacant before an agreement on a political settlement of the Kampuchean issue is reached, a Chinese Foreign Ministry spokesman said in Beijing

on July 19.

Jin Guihua made the remark during the weekly news briefing when asked to comment on the United States' withdrawal of its recognition of the Kampuchean resistance coalition.

Jin pointed out that for years member states of the United Nations have adhered to the position of supporting the government of Democratic Kampuchea holding a legitimate seat in the United Nations. Currently, parties concerned are having consultations, exploring ways of settling the Kampuchean issue.

A vacant seat for Kampuchea "will not help promote a comprehensive, fair and reasonable settlement of the Kampuchean question," he said.

Denouncing the US move, Prince Norodom Sihanouk, president of Kampuchea and leader of the Kampuchean National Resistance, pointed out that it was "an act of very grave injustice because it constitutes a great payoff to the Phnom Penh regime and Viet Nam aggressors which at present still maintains in Kampuchea more than 40,000 elite troops."

Commenting on the US decision to hold talks with Viet Nam on the Kampuchean issue, Jin said the issue was created by Viet Nam's invasion 11 years ago.

At present, however, Viet Nam and the Phnom Penh regime fostered by Viet Nam, persisting in their rigid position, are attempting to maintain the present status of the Phnom Penh regime and its military forces and refuse the reasonable formula of a comprehensive and fair settlement of the Kampuchean issue.

"This is the main crux which has brought the issue to a stalemate," Jin said.

He added that he believed the countries concerned should keep in mind the main cause of the stalemate of the Kampuchean is-

sue.

The existence of four political and military forces in Kampuchea is a fact that has been recognized internationally, he said.

"None of them should be left out or considered the dominant one" when the Kampuchean question is to be addressed, Jin said.

He suggested that a summit committee with all four parties and chaired by Prince Norodom Sihanouk be established in Kampuchea before the general election. He also suggested that all the Kampuchean military forces be either unarmed or the number of weapons reduced after assembling at a place appointed by a UN supervisory group. ■

Wizkids' Vintage Chemistry Olympiad

Chinese students added to the glory of China by winning four gold medals at the recent 22nd International Chemistry Olympiad held in Paris on July 10 and 11.

Their topnotch performance with a total mark of 335.01 came in the wake of the excellent showing by another Chinese team who won five gold medals and one silver at the 31st International Mathematics Olympiad held in Beijing.

The winners in Paris included Wu Jie, a girl from Beijing who took first prize with a mark of 92.40, and Lin Ao, who placed second. At 15, Lin from Anhui Province was the youngest of the Chinese winners. Xia Yu from Jiangsu Province placed fourth and Wang Qinggen of Hubei Province came in fifth. Third prize went to West German student Frank Steffen.

Altogether, 13 gold medals, 20 silver medals and 30 bronzes were at stake. A total of 112 chemistry students from 28 countries took part. Each coun-



Four Chinese students won top honours at the 22th International Chemistry Olympiad. Bringing home medals for China are (left to right) Wang Qinggen, Wu Jie, Lin Ao and Xia Yu. XU BU

try was allowed to send four students under the age of 20.

The International Chemistry Olympiad is an annual event. Next year, the host country will be Poland.

About the same time, good news came from the 21st International Physics Olympiad in Holland. The Chinese team of five students produced a second-place finish, their total mark a mere 0.35 less than the champions. The five Chinese won two gold medals, one silver and two bronzes. The team's performance was a great improvement over last year's 10th place finish for China.

China first entered the mathematics olympiad in 1985, the physics olympiad in 1986 and the chemistry olympiad in 1987, and has greatly improved with each passing year. China also achieved good results last year when its students took part in the first Information Olympiad.

To help students compete at the international level, special

Olympic schools have been set up in China as well as a system for tutors.

Many people believe that a specialized Olympic-level training system will offer an alternative to the standardized fare of ordinary schools, thus making it possible to raise the intellectual level of the most talented. ■

LM-2E Rocket Ready for Business

China's "Long March 2E" (LM-2E) carrier rocket, which finished a successful trial run on July 15 at the Xichang Space Centre in Sichuan Province, will launch two large Australian telecommunications satellites in 1991 and 1992.

The two telesats, owned by the Aussat Company of Australia, were developed and manufactured by the Hughes Aircraft Company of the United States.

The Aussat satellites, equipped with perigee kick motors and weighing 7.4 tons, will be placed

into near-earth orbit by the LM-2E rocket along with their perigee rockets. The orbit is 200 to 400 kilometres above the earth. After that, the perigee kick motors will conduct the transfer-orbit flights to put the satellites into geostationary orbit.

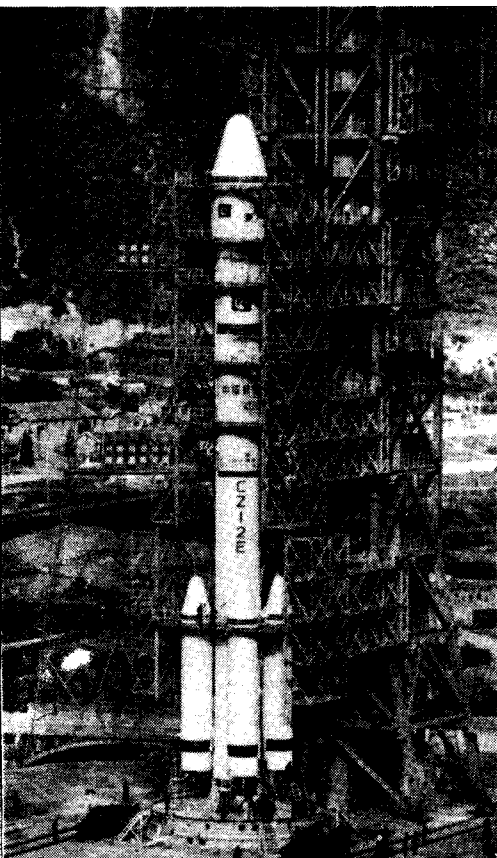
The LM-2E rocket carrier is by far the most powerful launcher in China. It is capable of placing a payload of 8.8 tons into near-earth orbit and is also one of the largest commercial launch vehicles in the world.

The successful manufacture and launch of the LM-2E carrier rocket has greatly boosted China's satellite-launching capability, and it marked a new stage in the development of China's space technology.

The design and manufacture

The "Long March 2E" carrier rocket poised for action.

ZOU YI



of the carrier took only 18 months, making China one of the few countries in the world with the technique of reinforcing existing rocket carriers with boosters.

With LM-2E and the existing launching vehicle and the rocket carrier under design, China will have the capability to meet the need of the domestic and international satellite launching market.

However, China has declared repeatedly that its commercial launching service is only a supplement to the international launching market and it poses no threat to counterparts in other countries. ■

Cities Cry Loud For More Water

Of China's 450 cities, 300 are short of water by as much as 10 million tons a day, according to an official with the Ministry of Construction.

His words come as no surprise. Since the 1980s, water shortage has been worsening in numerous cities across China. Improvements in water supply projects and the continuing water-conservation drive have made little impact.

Speaking at the Second National Working Conference for Water Saving in Cities, State Councillor Zou Jiahua said that leading officials must take the water shortage problem as seriously as grain shortage and a possible population explosion.

He urged leading departments in various localities to attach more importance to the problems of water supply, water conservation, industrial waste water recycling and developing more water resources.

According to Wang Guangtao, director of the Urban Construction Department of the Ministry of Construction, the state has in-

vested 8.19 billion yuan in urban water supply facilities and river diverting projects over the past seven years, thus increasing the nation's daily water supply capacity by 20 million tons.

As well, multiple ways to conserve water have been introduced over the past seven years and 6.3 billion tons of water were thus reserved, Wang said. The rate of water recycling for industrial use has risen to 45 percent in 1990 from 20 percent in 1983.

Early in the 1980s, the daily tap water supply capacity in the cities was enough to meet 90 percent of peak consumption, but now it can just afford 86 percent. In 50 cities where water shortages are critical, it's as low as 65 percent.

Last summer, the water supply to about 35,000 households in Dalian, a city in northeastern China, was in danger of running dry. About 400,000 residents in Harbin City in Heilongjiang Province could only get their daily supply of water during the night.

According to a survey of 94 cities in the provinces of Shandong, Liaoning, Jiangsu, Heilongjiang and Shaanxi, the industrial output value dropped a dramatic 12.7 billion yuan last year solely because of severe water shortages.

Wang said that China's per capita water supply is only one-quarter of the world average. He added that a long-term low pricing system for tap water supply has led to lavish consumption and waste in factories, institutions and households.

At the conference, Construction Minister Lin Hanxiong suggested seven measures to enhance water conservation in cities, including strengthening the control over water use, establishing a rational water pricing system, educating the public on water-conservation techniques and improving the management of un-

derground water resources. ■

Excessive Water Hits Much of China

Several parts of China has been hit by serious floods this year, with 915 people dead and 210,000 houses toppled in Hunan, Guangdong, Sichuan, Jiangxi, Fujian, Hubei and Shaanxi provinces, according to incomplete statistics.

The floods have affected 4.22 million hectares of farmland, causing direct losses of 3.7 billion yuan (US\$ 787 million).

Just the first two weeks of July witnessed at least 48 people die in the floods caused by torrential rains.

At least 27 people were killed in central China's Shaanxi Province as floods swept through 18 cities and counties. A third of the affected area received more than 100 millilitres of rain on July 6, with 193 ml recorded in one location.

Thousands of villagers were stranded when dikes along the Hanjiang River broke—something that happens once every 20 years along the river.

Total economic losses have been estimated at more than 300 million yuan (US\$63 million) in Shaanxi Province. Nearly 70,000 hectares of farmland were damaged or destroyed as well as 17 small hydroelectric power stations, 41 bridges and more than 10,000 houses.

Heavy rains were also reported in northeast, northwest and south China, where up to 118 ml of rain fell on July 7 over a 24-hour period.

In Sichuan Province, the flood crested with a volume of 12,900 cubic metres per second—a record torrent only seen once in a hundred years in the Jialinjiang River, a tributary of the Yangtze River—and swept over Guanyuan, leaving more than 10,000

people homeless.

All 48 townships in Guanyuan, northern Sichuan, were flooded. More than 7,750 houses collapsed and 50,000 hectares of crops were washed away.

Parts of the Inner Mongolian Autonomous Region as well as Jilin, Heilongjiang and Hebei provinces were hit by hailstones as big as 50 millimetres in diameter.

Showing no mercy, nature continued on its path of destruction. At least 14 people were killed in Wenshui County in northern China's Shanxi Province in floods that began on July 11. Nearly 50 people were injured and five others were reported missing.

Officials with the Beijing-based State Flood Control Headquarters confirmed that 133 hectares of farmland have been inundated and 4,800 homes have been affected, 230 of them completely destroyed.

On the morning of July 12, seven people were killed in a mudslide caused by a storm in Liangshan Yi Autonomous Prefecture in Sichuan Province. Eleven people were injured in the mudslide and 26 remain missing.

One bright spot occurred on July 12 when the largest flood peak on the Yangtze River passed Jiangsu Province and entered the East China Sea without causing any major damage.

There were some tense moments the day before, however, when the crest reached Jiangsu, causing the water level of a 400-kilometre-long section of the river to rise above the safety line. The flood peak coincided with high tide, putting even more pressure on the dikes along the Yangtze. In some places, the dikes did partially collapse but major damage was averted thanks to the flood waters' quick passage to the sea. ■

News in Brief

Investigation of Zhao Continues

The investigation of Zhao Ziyang, former general secretary of the Communist Party of China, is continuing, said a Chinese Foreign Ministry spokesman in Beijing on July 19.

When asked to comment on a foreign dispatch which reported that Zhao was about to make an inspection tour of the provinces, the spokesman said that "it was a groundless rumour."

New Electrified Railway in Use

A 635.6-kilometre-long electrified railway linking Kunming and Guiyang, respective capitals of Yunnan and Guizhou provinces in southwest China, began full operation on July 17.

Electrification of the railway began in 1982 with a total investment of 630 million yuan. The "iron road," a trunk line in southwest China, meanders its way through many mountains and valleys on the Yunnan-Guizhou Plateau. The two capitals are located 1,891 and 1,250 metres above sea level respectively.

Largest Dinosaur Remains found

Chinese and Canadian scientists have discovered the fossils of a dinosaur, believed to be the world's largest, in northwest China's Gobi Desert.

The discovery was made in mid-July in the Jungar Basin in the Xinjiang Uygur Autonomous Region, at the end of a four-year field survey.

The findings include a complete skull and 10 pieces of cervical vertebrae. The dinosaur, estimated to have been 30 metres long, is believed to be the largest ever found in the world.

The fossils, dating back 140 million years, have been shipped to Beijing for laboratory analysis. ■

Houston Summit Ends in Compromise

by Chu Qimen

Problems such as economic aid to the Soviet Union, agricultural subsidies and environmental protection remained unsolved when leaders of the seven industrialized nations wound up the Houston summit, which cost more than US\$1 million to stage.

One of the hottest topics at the summit was whether to give financial assistance to the Soviet Union. Leaders of the "Big Seven" — the United States, Britain, Japan, Canada, France, Italy and West Germany — unanimously agreed to bolster Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev's economic reform efforts.

At a news conference on July 11, US President George Bush claimed that the success of the Soviet reform conformed with the common interests of the seven industrialized nations.

The Political Declaration of the summit stated that the "Group of Seven" was driving to provide aid to Moscow in a bid to help it establish an open society and a multi-party democratic system and change to a market-oriented economy.

However, opinions differed about how to provide financial aid to Moscow. Washington declined to promise direct financial aid but agreed to provide immediate technical aid, while West Germany and France pushed for an immediate package of loans to save the ailing Soviet economy, a move opposed by Britain and Japan. Through bilateral and multilateral negotiations, they final-

ly decided to dispatch an international expert team, conducted jointly by the World Bank, the International Monetary Fund, the European Bank for Reconstruction and Development and the Organization for Economic Co-operation and Development, to study what has happened in that country and what help Moscow really needs. The United States and Britain said that it would be useless to send money to Moscow without guarantee that Gorbachev would further move towards a market economy. Bush told reporters that he "wouldn't set a time frame on if or when the United States would decide to go forward."

The United States opposed direct aid to the Soviet Union on the grounds that the latter still provides US\$5 billion in aid to Cuba and has failed to substantially cut its military spending. As well, US aid to Moscow has been banned by the US Congress.

As for agricultural subsidies, the United States believes the Uruguay round of trade talks

should produce an agreement on the elimination of subsidies to ensure a free farm trade.

However, the US position was strongly opposed by West European countries, which heavily subsidize their farmers to prevent US farm products from flooding their markets. No consensus was reached on the issue.

On the subject of China, the "Big Seven" eased their position against China by allowing some World Bank loans for environmental projects. But they decided to keep in place the sanctions imposed last year against China following the Chinese government's quelling of the counter-revolutionary rebellion in Beijing. Japan informed its summit partners that it intended to resume lending money to China when the summit ended. British



George Bush (second left) speaks at the Summit.

Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher stated that she did not oppose Japan's position. Bush's position is that Japan might pursue the policy it chose in dealing with China.

On environmental issues, the seven industrialized nations decided to move forward in reduc-

ing global warming and global climate change. The United States especially was pressed by other countries to do more in protecting the world environment. Bush, however, indicated the United States would not be making any commitment to more efforts in this field. ■

ance of trade was aggravated and eventually the United States became the world's biggest debtor nation.

According to a survey of 429 enterprises by the Japan Federation of Economic Organizations, 80 percent of them believe US-Japan trade relations will not improve within a few years because American companies have not made enough efforts to extend exports to Japan. Sixty-three percent of the enterprises hold the view that American-made products would have difficulty entering the Japanese market because of their poor quality. They also said US enterprises have failed to adopt a positive attitude towards exporting their products to Japan.

Another problem is that productivity levels in the American manufacturing industry are low, a weakness which has forced the country to rely on foreign enterprises for manufactured products. Forty percent of heavy-duty trucks and two-thirds of industrial machines bought by US factories are coming from Japan or other foreign ventures. In the semi-conductor industry, the value of orders from the rest of the world totalled about US\$55 billion in the first quarter of 1989. In the last quarter of the year, it had decreased to US\$51 billion. Japan's products are more competitive and the productivity of its labour force is growing more rapidly than that of the United States. Japanese investment in the United States has skyrocketed. In the last year a total of 250 Japanese factories were built, providing work for 200,000 Americans in 1989, compared with 180,000 in 1988. These factories in California, New Jersey, Georgia and some inland states produce goods ranging from automobile and electronic spare parts to machinery.

Because industrial products are the main export goods of the

Problems Behind the US-Japan Trade Dispute

by Wu Delie and Yu Qing

The most recent round of talks between the United States and Japan aimed at correcting their trade imbalance ended on June 28. The "final report" signed by the two countries involved slashing America's huge trade deficit with Japan and removal of barriers to open up trading. However, to what degree the "final report" will reduce the tensions between the two countries remains to be seen.

Structural problems are the main reasons why the two countries have failed to overcome their long-term differences. In the talks held in Tokyo between June 25 and 28, the United States raised six problems with Japan's economic structure. It denounced the imbalance between Japanese savings and its investment in public projects and asked Japan to extend its public spending to a rate of 10 percent of its gross national product (GNP). Japan responded that its public spending accounted for as much as 6.7 percent of its GNP which was even higher than that of the United States. The United States also criticized Japan's complicated distribution system

and its policy of consumer restraint, which has slashed Japanese imports. It demanded that Japan at least open its market to American-made satellites, large computers, timber and other products in order to ease anti-Japanese feelings in the US Congress and its pressure on the government. Japan maintains that the bilateral negotiations between the two countries do not mean that Japan must do whatever the US government asks it to do.

In its turn, Japan raised seven problems existing in the American economic structure and urged the US government to adopt measures to adjust them. It demanded that the US government remove some of its economic "evils," such as extravagant spending, a high deficit and the imbalance between savings and investment in industries.

Between 1980 and 1985, US domestic investment grew rapidly while bank savings fell behind. As a result, the US government was faced with a money shortage and forced to absorb foreign investment at high interest rates. The unfavourable American bal-

two countries, the level of manufacturing industrial productivity has become the standard to judge the competitiveness of the nations on the world market. Japan produces 1,500 limousines every hour while the United States produces 1,280. Japan's automobile giants have set up production and sales bases in the United States and Europe. They have kept production costs low and the quality high. Although Japan has been forced to restrict its exports to the United States, the sale of its new cars (excluding light-weight and small-sized cars) has increased at a rate of 500,000 each year since 1987. The number of automobiles made in Japan on the US market increased to 24.7 percent in 1989 from 20 percent in 1985. The Toyota and Nissan automobile giants are planning to double the number of their factories in the United States in the 1990s.

There is also great change in the balance of US-Japan economic strength.

Japan has moved from a big trading power to a "big investment power." It has become the biggest creditor nation in the world while the United States has fallen into the biggest debtor nation. In 1988, Japan's net overseas capital totalled US\$291 billion. Its direct investment abroad amounted to US\$34.2 billion in 1988 and increased to US\$43.8 billion in 1989. Japan has shifted the focus of its investment to the United States with nearly half of its foreign investment concentrated there. The situation is different in the United States. It has been faced with a high deficit for several years running and its balance of payment has been lopsided. Its foreign debt has increased rapidly, growing to US\$600 billion in 1989 from US\$532.5 billion at the end of 1988.

In the past, the United States helped Japan restore its economy by providing Japan with capital

and technology and opening markets to it. Today, the United States has to depend on Japanese capital to reduce its financial deficit and expand its investment. The Japanese, relying on their stable currency, substantial funds and huge profits, are striving to squeeze into the US market. They have bought up many US enterprises, hotels and office buildings. This has aroused concerns among Americans, and Japanese investors worry that Americans will adopt measures to control foreign investment.

In order to maintain its dominant position in world affairs, the United States has imposed

some limitations such as export control laws, regulations on buying American goods and severe restrictions on imports. All these laws are obviously directed at its main trading partner, Japan. However, these laws have also proved limiting to the United States itself.

It is common knowledge that one-quarter of American exports go to Japan while one-third of Japanese to the United States. Japan is also the main market for US agricultural products. As a result, if a full-scale trade war broke out between the two countries, both would fall victim. ■

A Symbol of Sino-Bangladesh Friendship

by Our Staff Reporter Zou Sicheng

When visiting Sino-Bangladesh Friendship Primary School on June 30 during his China visit, Bangladesh President Hussain Muhammad Ershad praised the school as "an important symbol of the friendship" between China and Bangladesh.

Previously known as Beijing No.1 Experimental Primary School, the school is located to the north of Liulichang Road — a well-known cultural street in Beijing.

Many traditions and a long history are associated with the school. Deng Yingchao, former chairwoman of the Chinese People's Political Consultative Conference, worked in the school from 1920 to 1921. The school has trained many outstanding graduates.

The original building on the site was a primary school at-

tached to the Beijing Higher Teacher's School founded on September 5, 1912. After the founding of the People's Republic of China in 1949, the primary school was renamed Beijing No.1 Experimental Primary School in 1956. And last year, it acquired a new name — Sino-Bangladesh Friendship Primary School.

As one of the friendly exchange programmes between China and Bangladesh, the Bangladesh government decided in 1986 to provide China with a grant of US\$1 million to build a Sino-Bangladesh friendship primary school in Beijing. The Beijing municipal government chose Beijing No.1 Experimental Primary School. In November 1986, a special envoy of the Bangladesh president arrived in China's capital and signed the agreement with Beijing Mayor Chen Xitong.

Bangladesh President Hussain Muhammad Ershad visited the school on June 30. Pointing out the sights beside him is headmaster Tian Yutan. SHI XIAO



On July 3, 1987, President Ershad and his wife, Begum Raushan Ershad, made a special trip to China to attend the ceremony to lay the foundation stone of the new building. Deng Yingchao also attended. It took two years to build the new schoolhouse. President Ershad sent his wife as envoy to attend the inauguration ceremony on September 20, 1989. Zhu Lin, wife of Chinese Premier Li Peng, was also pre-

sent. The two women cut a ceremonial ribbon and planted a "Sino-Bangladesh Friendship Tree" in the schoolyard. A Bangladesh children's art ensemble performed Bangladesh dances at the ceremony.

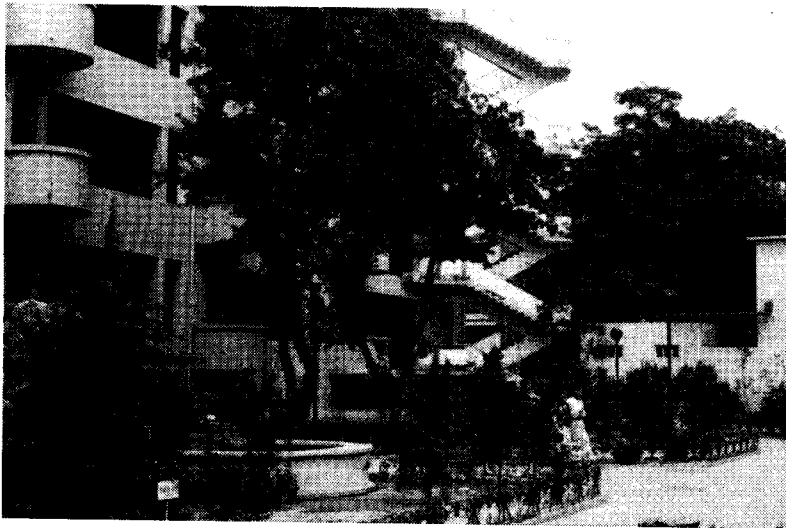
The new schoolyard is artfully landscaped with trees and flowers, the playground is wide, and classrooms are bright and spacious. Most of the US\$1 million grant was used to build the new

school building and went to buying advanced teaching equipment, and the rest was put towards paying for friendly exchanges between the two countries. The school has an advanced computer classroom and a language laboratory. There are now six grades and 32 classes with 1,936 pupils and 107 teachers and staff. The pupils study nine main subjects including the Chinese language, mathematics, geography, history, general knowledge, physical training, etc. They may also take part in different group activities according to their interests: calligraphy, painting, music, track and field, and meteorological observation.

Last year, President Ershad and his wife invited some of the pupils to visit Bangladesh. The Xiao Xiao Art Troupe of the Sino-Bangladesh Friendship School accepted an invitation from Begum Raushan Ershad to spend six days in Bangladesh. The Chinese troupe's presentation of Bangladesh dances and songs was well-received and videotaped by a local television

The schoolyard is adorned with trees and flowers.

ZOU SICHENG



station. The president and his wife met with the children and watched their performance.

This year, during their June state visit to China at the invitation of Chinese President Yang Shangkun, the Bangladesh president and his wife visited the school. It just happened to be the Bangladesh president's 60th birthday. The school band played and hundreds of children waved flowers to greet the guests as the presidential motorcade drove into the schoolyard. Two pupils presented flowers to the president and his wife.

In a speech to the gathering, Ershad said that ever since he laid the school's foundation stone he had been looking forward to seeing for himself the new building and his little Chinese friends.

"It is no secret that we have taken a very special interest in the school because it is an impor-

tant symbol of the friendship between our two countries," he said.

The Bangladesh president also expressed his thanks for the fruitful efforts of building the school by the Beijing Municipal People's Government and Mayor Chen Xitong.

Regarding the exchange of visits between the two countries' children's art troupes, Ershad said he considered such exchanges conducive to the understanding of each other's culture, language and civilization. He disclosed that Bangladesh will send teachers to the school to teach the pupils the Bengali language and help them learn the traditional music and dances of Bangladesh.

Ershad's speech was warmly applauded. The children then played music and danced for the guests. They also sang in Bengali the song "Building A New Bang-

ladesh," the words of which were written by Ershad himself.

Stopping in at a history and geography classroom, Ershad and his wife were impressed by the children's knowledge of Bangladesh history and geography. Ershad told the pupils that China and Bangladesh will be friendly forever. Speaking with Tian Yutan, the school's headmaster, Ershad said he considered his visit to the school an important activity during his China tour. Before leaving the school, the Bangladesh leader and his wife watered the "Sino-Bangladesh Friendship Tree."

In recent years, China and Bangladesh have seen fruitful cooperation in political, economic, scientific and technological and cultural fields, and the friendship between the two countries has further developed. The Sino-Bangladesh Friendship Primary School personifies that close friendship and co-operation. ■

Begum Raushan Ershad, First Lady of Bangladesh, with pupils and teachers.

SHI XIAO



PLA: Of the People, for the People

by Our Staff Reporter Lu Yun

One of China's 14 coastal cities opened to the outside world in 1984, Yantai, Shandong Province, covers an area of 13,500 square kilometres and has a population of 6.07 million. Within its jurisdiction are two districts, three satellite cities and six counties. It is an area which includes the famous Changshan Islands. The army officers and soldiers stationed in Yantai regard the city as their hometown and, as they guard the sea coast and defend the state, they also play an important role in local economic and cultural development.

The once desolate Changshan County with its 32 islands has taken on a new look. Liu Shouji, vice-chairman of the county people's congress, says that ten projects constructed by or with the help of the armed forces on the

islands were each the first of their kind in the area. They built the first dyke connecting two biggest islands and the first middle school, steamboat, highway, factory, wharf, small reservoir, well, aquicultural cultivation farm and asphalt road. In the past, the county town had only one street, lit by six lamps, and a loudspeaker to make announcements to local residents. Now, cement-paved roads link all parts of the county, new buildings are everywhere and Changshan leads China's other 11 island counties in seven main economic indices. Such development is tied, in part, to the army. In the last three years, the armed forces have given away 200,000 square metres of housing for local development and contributed 85,900 workdays to the construction of 36 projects.

A 'Shock Force'

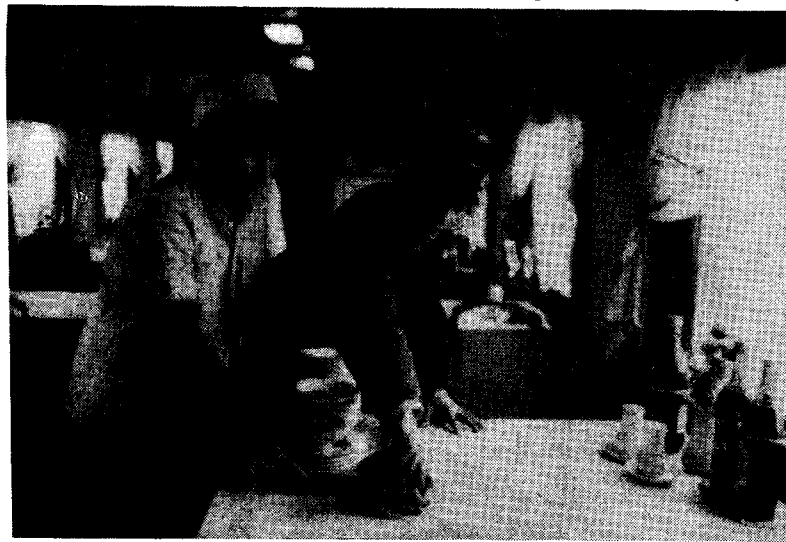
The armed forces stationed in the city serve as a reserve force for local engineering construction and as shock troops in the struggle against natural calamities and other emergencies.

On the bank of the Jiahe River stands a stone sculpture of a soldier and a rural woman holding a flower basket, a symbol of the joint efforts of the army and civilians to develop the area. It was erected in memory of the help given by the armed forces during the second stage of construction work on the Jiahe River. When, towards the end of 1986, the work became quite complex. A regiment learnt of the difficulties and dispatched 500 officers and soldiers to the site. Braving the cold, the officers and soldiers took off their cotton-padded clothes, rolled up their trousers and jumped into the one-metre-deep water to clear the river bed. After 45 days of back-breaking work, they finished the project which brought farmland under irrigation.

On September 16, 1988, when the Xiangjiao Dam on the Jiahe River, a guard against the entrance of sea water, suddenly broke and 2.5 million cubic metres of fresh water rushed into the sea, the supply of drinking water for local residents was threatened. Local people were mobilized to repair and reinforce the dam. The garrison in Yantai sent 1,100 officers and soldiers to help and, together with the resi-

A soldier from the Yantai Garrison helps clean a dining car.

WU QIANCAI



dents, they were able to rebuild a new dam in six hours. In November of last year, an irrigation project in Penglai had to be completed before the frost season set in. With the help of ground, sea and air forces in Penglai the project was completed in time. The armed forces also helped in the construction of the most difficult 15-km section of the Yantai-Qingdao express highway.

The officers and soldiers have been crucial in protecting the lives and property of people in the struggle against natural calamities and dealing with other emergencies. One cold night in 1987, for example, a fishing boat in a safe harbour on Daqin Island caught fire. The port was filled with more than 100 large and small fishing boats valued at 10 million yuan. If the fire had spread, the boats on which the livelihood of the fishermen depended would have been destroyed. It was in the still of the night and all the fishermen were sound asleep. Fortunately, a soldier on patrol duty discovered the fire and, together with his colleagues, was able to put it out in time.

Last June, when an earlier than normal rainy season caused

troubles for the wheat harvest, the armed forces arrived with trucks to help and used their cement grounds to dry the wheat. After five lean crops, the area is expected to have a record harvest this year, due in part to the help given by 5,000 officers and soldiers in harvesting some 260 hectares.

Since 1985 the military in Yantai has contributed 2.4 million workdays to local construction projects and joined in 80 operations against natural calamities and emergencies. Their participation was a key part of the local economic development.

At the same time, the armed forces stationed in the city get a lot of help from the local people. The Yantai government repaired arsenals, built training grounds and helped to recruit and train soldiers. Since 1985, the local government has allocated 3 million yuan for the army, built 178 hectares of farms, refurbished 67,000 square metres of living quarters and donated some 30,000 pieces of goods to soldiers.

The armed forces in Yantai have done a lot to improve the living environment, social order and ethics and enliven the cultural life of local residents.

Several years ago, quarrels and fights frequently occurred in Nancun Village on Daqin Island. To alleviate the problems, the armed forces built a "youth home" "women's home" and organized villagers to discuss literature and attend lectures; they also arranged sport games and cultural performances. Officers and soldiers also gave lectures on legal matters and explained the law to one family after another. With the help of the soldiers, the village won first prize in a competition on legal knowledge held among the county's young people. Every household in the village subscribes to the *Shandong Legal News*. Quarrels and fights are less frequent and there have been no new criminal cases. The village has been cited as a model of civilized behaviour in the county for three years running.

Soldiers now regularly hold get-togethers with people from nearby factories and schools and there are often cultural performances, sport meetings, shooting competitions, legal-knowledge quizzes and New Year's Day celebrations.

Still another benefit the PLA brought to the area was the increase in the acreage of "green" land in Changdao County. It rose from 2.1 percent in the late 1940s to the current 4.5 percent thanks to tree saplings and manpower supplied by the army in a move to balance the island's ecology.

Parents of the PLA

The PLA men who are stationed in Yantai make it a point to carry forward the fine tradition of loving the people and in this way have fostered a relationship as close as that between the fish and the water.

Cao Rangchen, acting political instructor of the Third Company stationed in Fushan District, learnt of an 80-year-old childless woman named Liang Hongxiu in

Lin Shuping, deputy head of a farm built with the army's help, introduces Lieutenant Xu Xichao to the farm's abalone production area.

LU YUN



Xiliugong Village. Although the village had made adequate arrangements for her daily life, Cao felt a desire to help her the way he would his own mother. He carried water, chopped wood, bought food grain and tidied up her home whenever he had the time. On Sundays, he washed quilts and repaired the roof of her house. In winter, he bought an electric blanket with money he had saved up. On her birthday, he bought her a birthday cake and new clothes. He helped her like this for eight years. Later, when he left the village for training, six new soldiers came to the woman's help in his place.

Several dozen soldiers from the Second Company also took time to look after seven elderly people in a welfare home in Dongliugong Village. During Spring Festival, the traditional time for family reunions, the soldiers would buy New Year's cake (made of glutinous rice flour), canned food, New Year's pictures and firecrackers for both the elderly in the welfare home and Liang Hongxiu. Together, they made dumplings, set off firecrackers and had a joyous celebration of the New Year's Eve. In Penglai County, as well, a rural



WU QIANCAI

Officers and soldiers from the Yantai Garrison reinforce the Xiangjiao Dam on the Jiahe River.

al welfare home was set up in 1958. Soldiers from a navy unit have held activities for elderly without children every year since the home was established.

Soldiers helping elderly has become commonplace in Yantai where there are 16,000 "Learn From Lei Feng Groups." (Lei Feng was a soldier famous for his warmhearted help to others.)

A PLA hospital in Yantai has been opened to the public and those with financial difficulties could always come for treatment

at reduced rates or free of charge. The hospital has also added 50 household beds and makes regular home visits to patients.

Xue Deping's mother at Changyu Village in Penglai County suffered from hypertension and coronary heart disease for a long time. Two years ago, after a sudden attack of cerebral hemorrhage, she was left unconscious and paralyzed. After being hospitalized for two months, she finally pulled through and, since then, has been given a regular check-up at home by army doctor Feng Jidong.

The hospital is in an area which lacks convenient transport facilities. There is also no blood bank in Changdao County and so even the best doctors feel quite at a loss when confronted by critically ill patients, especially those suffering massive hemorrhage. One evening at ten in April this year, for example, Wang Kuofang, a woman from Houkou Village on Tuoji Island, experienced a massive hemorrhage and shock because of a miscarriage and her life was in imminent danger. Thirty soldiers of a PLA unit stationed on the island of-

The armed forces stationed in Penglai help with a local irrigation project.

LU JINGBO



fened to donate their blood and a test determined that six of them had a matching blood type. The doctors were able to successfully save the woman's life. "It is our people's army that gave me a second life," the woman said.

Caring for the Men —A PLA Tradition

by Liu Congli and Zhu Yuanyuan

For Your Reference

In the past decade, the PLA has participated in the construction of 1,500 key local and national projects, contributed 38 million workdays and the use of 2 million machines and motor vehicles.

In the Jinan Military Area, the navy and the air force assigned 17,000 officers and men to undertake the arduous task of building a reservoir, sluice gates and an oil harbour for the Shengli Oilfield. After two years of hard work, they completed the project with good quality at a low cost. Some 1,000 officers and men were assigned the herculean task of building the tunnel on the Mawei Highway from Fuzhou to the economic development zone. In 900 days, they levelled four hilltops and chiselled the double-track tunnel 3,138 metres long.

During the construction of a railway in northern Xinjiang, some 1,000 PLA officers and men pitched camps on the Gobi Desert and built a 22.5-kilometre-long roadbed in four months. Soldiers from an air force unit built the Taoxian International Airport in Shenyang. Despite the short construction period and difficulty of the task, they finished their work one year ahead of schedule. PLA officers and men also took part in the construction of the main project of the electron-position collider in Beijing and in the installation of complex equipment. The quality of their work was well received by experts.

When a battalion of men from a guided missile brigade was scheduled to return to camp after field work early this year, its base camp was hit by a cold spell and the temperatures plummeted to 25 degrees Centigrade below zero. The brigade commander and political commissar decided to welcome them with well heated rooms and *jiaozi* (Chinese ravioli), the soldiers' favourite food. For two full days, the entire brigade actively made preparations; the political commissar even made *jiaozi* for the returning troops in person. When the soldiers returned, ushered into warm rooms and served hot food, many of them were moved to tears, overwhelmed by their commanders' and fellow soldiers' camaraderie.

"Our leaders treat us in the same way as our parents," said the soldiers. "With such loving care, we are willing to endure all hardships."

Founded on August 1, 1927, the Chinese People's Liberation Army has a fine tradition of officers taking special care of their men, sharing their weal and woe. This camaraderie was a decisive factor in making the army a formidable force opposing reactionaries and imperialists during years of war. Today, in times of peace, the Chinese army still carries on this fine tradition which makes the army still a formidable force of national defence. A

good example is the guided missile brigade, founded in 1985 and stationed in Hebei Province.

"We'll Never Forget Him"

When the brigade was first founded, one battalion was garrisoned in adobe houses. One night during a storm, the brigade commander and political commissar called the battalion leaders and warned them of the danger of possible collapse of the houses. The deputy brigade commander and logistics head rushed ten km into the heart of the storm in order to reach the battalion camp site in time. Greatly moved, the soldiers said that with such leaders, they were willing to endure all hardships.

In 1988, an assistant to the officer in charge of military supplies had to receive medical treatment in Beijing; he would be accompanied by his wife, who worked for a local factory. The brigade leaders, realizing that his wife would not be paid during her time away from work, found the couple an inexpensive place to stay in the capital and earmarked sufficient funds from the brigade's non-military income to cover the woman's loss of wages.

A 28-year-old soldier's wife had undergone two still births. When she became pregnant again, the brigade's political commissar convinced her husband to take his wife to the hospital for examination and, when

she was about to give birth, the commissar arranged for a car to take her to the hospital. The woman gave birth to a healthy boy. "The political commissar treats us like his children," said the young soldier, smiling as he held his young child in his arms. "We'll never forget him."

Money Spent on the Soldiers

In the last few years, the guided missile brigade has generated an income from a gold mine, a feed additive factory and a few other enterprises. The money was used first and foremost to improve the life of the soldiers. A satellite ground station was erected deep in the mountain areas where TV programmes were difficult to receive for the convenience of two battalions. All battalions were given ping-pong tables and each company was set up with a club, furnished with musical instruments and sports facilities. Despite the changes and improvements provided for the soldiers, there were no changes made to the brigade headquarters' offices: the old desks, old chairs and old bookshelves remained. When the brigade leaders received two new jeeps, they were sent to two battalions for use by the soldiers.

While the life of soldiers is improving with each passing day, families of the leaders still live in modest housing and, even though new housing construction has been proposed, the brigade leaders have refused the offer. For many years, they have never demanded any special benefits from the gold mine, orchard or breeding farm and, in following their example, the brigade has been united as one. It is because of this solidarity that the brigade has been cited as an advanced PLA unit for many years. ■

Disseminating The Law Among Citizens

by Our Staff Reporter Wu Naitao

China began promoting legal knowledge among its citizens in 1986 to foster a sense of civic responsibility so that they can use the law to protect their legitimate rights and combat illegal activities.

"Legal illiterate," a phrase coined a decade ago in China, refers to people who lack basic legal knowledge. Although no statistics are available as to how many "legal illiterates" there are in China, the records of criminal and civil cases in China indicate that many people commit crimes out of an ignorance of the law. This is especially so during the current development of the commodity economy as economic disputes become more common due to the lack of legal knowledge.

For a long time after national liberation in 1949, construction of the legal system took a backseat in China. Since the introduction of reform and the open policy, however, there have been marked improvements in legislative work. From 1979 to 1989, building on the Constitution, the National People's Congress (NPC) and its standing committee promulgated 80 laws, 20 amendments and 40 regulatory decisions. During the same period, the State Council enacted more than 900 administrative regulations and decrees, and the various provinces, autonomous regions and municipalities di-

rectly under the central government adopted more than 1,000 local laws and regulations.

To ensure that China's laws do not become mere scraps of paper and in order to genuinely transform the country into a nation ruled by law, an important step is public legal education. In November 1985, the NPC Standing Committee, in a special decision, decided that beginning in 1986, "a major educational endeavour will be made for a period of at least five years to disseminate legal knowledge among citizens in a planned, step-by-step way."

The nationwide education campaign focuses on citizens from 14 to 60 years old—some 750 million of China's 1.1 billion, including more than 400 million farmers. Using the Constitution as the foundation, the education programme covers criminal law, the civil law and other basic laws, as well as other legal matters closely related to people's daily life. According to Wang Hongyi, director of the Publicity Department of the Ministry of Justice, 640 million people nationwide, or 85 percent of the total targeted population, had taken part in the education programme by the end of 1989.

Diverse Methods

A variety of educational methods have been adopted depending on the "student" and the ma-

terial being taught. Curricula for legal courses have been designed in institutions of higher learning, secondary and primary schools, government organizations, people's organizations and enterprises and institutions on the basis of differing conditions among students. In some institutions, for example, short-term training courses or lectures are utilized while in other institutions a long-term approach is used.

In economically and culturally backward rural areas, there is a large scattered population of "legal illiterates" and, so, those who design law programmes for such areas must take local conditions under consideration. In addition to giving lectures during the slack farming season and using radio broadcasts, they often have advanced audio-visual aids, such as films and video. Art troupes have been organized to publicize legal knowledge at rural fairs and praise those who observe the law and criticize law-breaking activities through such popular traditional folk art forms as ditty and *quyi* (ballad singing, story telling, comic dialogues, clapper talks, cross talks, etc.). A seven-

member art troupe of Taoyuan County, Hunan Province, toured every village in the county over a period of four years and gave some 1,547 performances, each attended by several hundred people.

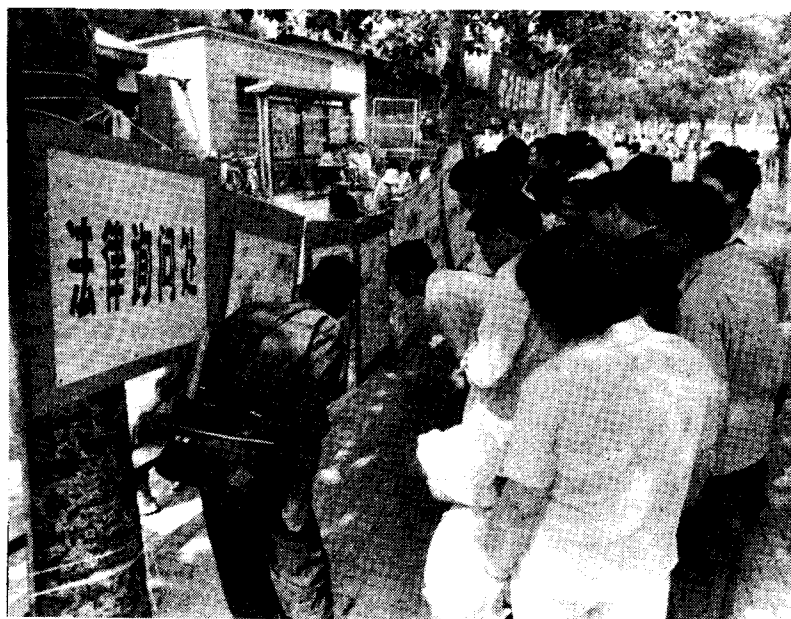
In Jingxian County, Anhui Province, villagers attend meetings to mediate disputes or conflicts along with legal experts and the parties central to the conflict. At the meetings, legal experts provide an explanation of the laws which guide the cases before the three parties come to a joint decision. Mountainous Jingxian has a scattered farming population, and it is extremely difficult for farmers to attend lectures. However, whenever court officials went to the villages to handle disputes openly, the local farmers' curiosity would attract them to see that the case was handled properly. It was a good opportunity to kill two birds with one stone—the farmers could participate in the proceedings and be educated in legal knowledge. With their interest aroused, the results are much better than if legal clauses were simply read to them.

Other means of publicity include legal knowledge quizzes, speech contests and exhibitions. For instance, the Shanghai Television Station sponsored a competition of the knowledge of Constitution last December which was attended by 120,000 people—young and old—government officials, ordinary workers and farmers. Cartoonists in Handan Prefecture, Hebei Province, drew 350 cartoons which were then exhibited 250 times in 64 rural fairs. The humorous pictures with their equally witty and pithy titles attracted many local residents.

The mass media has played an active role in this campaign. In addition to the *Legal Daily*, a national newspaper with a circulation of 1.5 million, and various legal papers in all major cities with a population exceeding 1 million, almost every other newspaper publishes regular or special legal education columns to explain the relevant clauses of the law which pertain to specific cases. According to a spokesman for the Ministry of Justice, in recent years, the central authorities and the various provinces, autonomous regions and municipalities made more than 400 short TV programmes dealing with the law. Last April, the Ministry of Justice, working in co-operation with the press, sponsored the first national competition of outstanding special law programmes and TV plays on legal issues. In addition, publishing houses have compiled, published and distributed many books in order to popularize legal knowledge and, based on the needs of the target audience such as cadres, workers, farmers and armymen, have published special editions along with various supplementary readings in an effort to explain laws in a simple, straightforward language.

Video tapes, now quite popular in China, are also used to con-

A Beijing lawyer (second right) gives a law course to the public on the street.



duct legal education. Many educational videos have been made which combine specific rules of law with lively stories. The tapes are quite popular in rural areas, factories, mines, schools, institutions and military barracks. In areas where there is a large population of "legal illiterates" and people with only a partial understanding, the method has proved very effective. For instance, in Xingping County, Shaanxi Province, legal educational coordinators organized a mobile videotape projection team which, since 1986, has given more than 3,000 shows to 1 million people.



Photos by CHEN ZONGLIE

A legal advisory station on a Beijing street attracts many visitors.

Initial Results

Last April, in a summary of the efforts made to promote legal knowledge among the public in the past five years, Cai Cheng, minister of justice, noted that the work had been proceeding smoothly in a down-to-earth manner throughout the country and had achieved marked results. The campaign enabled people from all strata of society to learn basic legal knowledge and had fostered a better sense of each citizen's rights and responsibilities under the law.

In Qinghai Province, the local township and village cadres used to deal with problems through administrative measures. If persuasion failed, they often resorted to coercive measures, taking the law in their own hands. After undergoing legal education, they discovered that many of their past practices were illegal. Now, in a dramatic shift, they always try to solve problems according to law. One day, for example, when two big trees owned collectively by the Louzitan Village were stolen, some people asked the village leaders to search the suspect's home. If such a request had been made in the past, the village leaders would have agreed. This time, however, they

patiently explained that a search, if conducted without a warrant, would be illegal. Today, an increasing number of rural grassroots cadres are handling such matters strictly according to the law. In general, the public's sense of legal procedure has increased.

In the campaign to promote legal knowledge, many localities have emphasized the combination of legal education and legal practice as well as the solution of conflicts according to legal norms. This emphasis has not only deepened the thrust of the education campaign but also brought various economic and social matters into the legal orbit. For instance, Qujing, Yunnan Province, has combined ongoing legal education with the economic rectification. Although the state promulgated the Economic Contract Law before 1986, many people had a weak knowledge of the law and gave those acting illegally and those who had "briefcase companies" a chance to take advantage of loopholes in the law and engage in fraudulent activities. As a result, the city lost a total of 360 million yuan. After the education campaign started, however, the city's publicity, judicial and industrial and commercial administrative

departments jointly promoted the Economic Contract Law and helped the various trades set up contract management organizations. With their help, a large number of economic contract disputes and economic frauds were dealt with and more than 3 million yuan in economic losses retrieved. During the campaign, every industrial and commercial enterprise and township business in the city held a contest to honour those who excelled in "respecting the law and abiding by contracts."

In the past five years, the public's sense of civic responsibility has been enhanced. This is not only manifest by their increased legal knowledge and social responsibility but also in their ability to use the law to safeguard their own legitimate rights and interests, and call to account, criticize and file charges in court against those who commit illegal acts. For instance, the waste water discharged by a chemical factory in Yunnan Province polluted adjacent farmland and resulted in decreased output. After the local farmers lodged complaints with relevant government department, there was an investigation by environmental protection workers. The related govern-

ment department compelled the factory to pay a compensation of 100,000 yuan for the farmers' losses. The decision was based on the stipulation of Article 18 of the Law of the People's Republic of China on Environmental Protection that reads, "Pollutant discharges exceeding state standard should be charged a waste discharge fee on the basis of the amount and density of the pollutants." It also urged the factory to clean up within a specific time.

While affirming the achievements of the law promotion campaign, Minister Cai noted that about 20 percent of all areas and units nationwide had turned the legal education campaign in to a mere formality. Some failed to emphasize actual results; some failed to combine study with application; and some officials still did not know how to handle affairs according to law—all to the dissatisfaction of the public. However, he noted, generally speaking, the first five-year plan for the promotion of law has proceeded smoothly, yielding obvious, even if initial, results.

According to officials of the Ministry of Justice, the second five-year plan will begin in 1991 to continue to popularize legal knowledge among all Chinese citizens, increase their ability to handle affairs according to law, promote the management of business in light of the law and gradually bring various kinds of economic activities into the legal sphere. The second five-year plan for the promotion of law will emphasize the study of the nation's Constitution and the popularization of specialized legal knowledge. The target audience of the campaign will be the leading cadres of various localities, departments and trades, staff of the state executive law organization, and college, secondary and primary school students. ■

Northern Tibet After the Heavy Snow

by Jiang Zuozhong, Zhang Chunbao and Liu Wei

From September 1989 to May this year, the northern area of Tibet was hit by a long spell of heavy snow, the 240,000 square km of land transformed into a white ocean.

The snowfall, an exceptionally heavy one in Tibetan history, was half a metre thick on the fields and three metres deep on the shadowy slopes of the mountains. More than 220,000 Tibetan herdsmen were stranded and 5 million head of cattle and sheep at the verge of death.

After three visits to the stricken areas, we found that scenes of misery—of dead animals lying about and of herdsmen either dead or homeless—were conspicuously missing.

This storm season did not result in widespread hunger. There were neither people frozen to death nor people turned overnight into beggars without a home, and 4 million out of 5 million head of livestock survived.

Response from Beijing

The governments and Party committees at all levels in Tibet were concerned about the safety of those living in the hard hit area and, by March this year, the government authorities and Party committees at the prefectural, county and township levels had sent 249 work groups of 951 people to organize the relief work.

On March 24, ignoring his own illness, Li Guangwei, secretary of the Nagqu Prefecture, hurried to Lhasa, capital of Tibet Autonomous Region, to report the situation and ask for emergency help. At 9:00 pm that evening, the regional Party committee and government held an emergency meeting also attended by army leaders. They appealed to all Party committees and government authorities to give their full support to the relief work and guarantee that no herdsman starved or died from the cold. At the same time, they also reported the serious situation to the Party Central Committee, the State Council and the Central Military Commission and asked for their assistance.

The next day, the Party Central Committee and the State Council in Beijing held a special meeting and decided to send planes with relief materials and goods to Tibet. The State Council also telegraphed the residents of northern Tibet to express the government's sympathy and solicitude.

On the afternoon of March 26, huge transport planes of the air forces of the People's Liberation Army arrived at Lhasa, the pilots overcoming various difficulties such as mountain sickness, unstable air currents, thin air and poor visibility. On the next day, the planes made a successful flight to the stricken areas and,

the following day, dropped the first batch of relief goods including food, clothes and fuel. At the sight of the planes and of the relief goods which fell from the sky, the herdsmen were moved to tears.

On the afternoon of April 3, deputy secretary of the autonomous regional Party committee Radi, vice-chairman of the regional government Puqung and deputy commander of the Tibetan Military Area Gao Changjin, after more than 20 hours of travel, arrived at the most severely affected area—Baqen County—to assess the situation for the Party Central Committee and the State Council.

On April 26, a State Council work group, entrusted by the Party Central Committee and the State Council, arrived in northern Tibet from Beijing.

By mid-May, the regional, prefectural and county financial departments had allocated about 10

million yuan for the afflicted areas and air-dropped or transported to these areas more than 5,000 tons of grain, tea and fuel, enough for the residents to survive until the end of August.

On May 22, at a State Council meeting presided over by Premier Li Peng, the central government decided on a special allocation of state revenue for the stricken areas of northern Tibet.

The entire nation showed its concern for the people of northern Tibet with messages and telegrams expressing their sympathy and solicitude and by donating to the Tibetan disaster victims some 3.2 million yuan of cash and goods.

All these efforts breathed new life into northern Tibet—once more cooking smoke drifted from the tents of herdsmen, Tibetans enjoyed their buttered tea and roasted barley flour, and large numbers of starving cattle and sheep regained the strength

to stand on their feet.

A Struggle Against Calamity

A total of 247,000 square km had been hit by the snow storm, an area larger than the combined total of Beijing, Tianjin, Shanghai, the Ningxia Hui Autonomous Region, and Zhejiang and Hainan provinces. The area, sparsely populated, has poor transport and communication facilities. It is very common, for example, that trucks are blocked by heavy snow for up to three days.

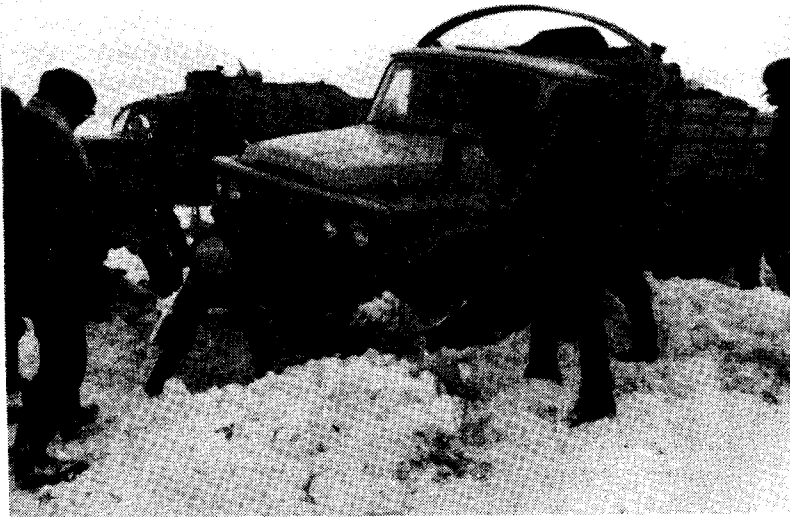
The effort by disaster relief groups was instrumental in averting a calamity. After the heavy snow arrived, PLA soldiers and policemen helped workmen, night and day, to clear the highways. When hungry, they ate hardtack and roasted barley flour with melted snow. When sleepy, they dug snow pits for a nap. Zhaxi, a platoon leader

Government trucks in Nagqu Prefecture were mobilized to deal with the blizzard.





Zhaxi (right), head of the Nagqu Prefectural People's Hospital, tends local herdsmen.



Photos by TUBDAN

Highway maintenance workers clear the road for trucks loaded with relief material.

of the Nagqu police, told us that he felt great relief as the flow of goods and materials made its way past him on its way to victims of the disaster.

Cering Dagar, deputy director of the Baqen County Post Office, struggled seven days crossing the Tanggula Mountains with a transmitter-receiver on his back in order to restore the contacts between the county authorities

and the Gomri Township.

Li Guangwen, secretary of the Nagqu prefectural Party committee, inspected the severely hit areas in Baqen and Sog counties four times and travelled to Lhasa three times to report on the situation despite his heart problems and high blood pressure.

Tubdan Tangra, an official from the Nagqu Prefecture, had gone to Beijing for the Third Ses-

sion of the Seventh National People's Congress soon after a stomach operation. He planned to have further treatment in Beijing after the congress, but when he learnt of the situation in northern Tibet he rushed back immediately to inspect the severely hit areas on horse back.

In mid-March, the roads of Zangrug Township, Lhari County, were covered by one-metre deep snow. Tents were half buried. Herdsmen were out of food. When the county head, Gyamcan Wangzha, arrived at the township, his feet and shoes were frozen together, his eyes were red and his face swollen by the cold. The sight of him moved the local herdsmen to tears. Relief goods were able to reach the township by following the tracks he had made.

Cering Wangqug, deputy head of Baqen County, braving his painful knee joints, crossed the Tanggula Mountains to reach Gomri County which had been cut off by the snow storm.

The Sog County Party committee secretary, Li Huanting, lost his way for ten days as he was bringing grain to the stricken area.

Cezhon, a 108-year-old woman from Biru County, said tearfully, "In a blizzard 60 years ago, the old government authorities and the tribal chiefs did not care about the lives of herdsmen. Even worse, they still forced us to hand over grain and taxes. The blizzard took a heavy toll of local residents and livestock. Six of my seven sons were killed in the storm. Now, it is different although the disaster is the worst I ever experienced. This time, the government sent planes and trucks to bring us food and fuel. The government is really concerned about us. I am too old to make any contributions. I can still pray for the continued prosperity of our country." ■

Huanghe River: Unbreached for 40 Years

by Our Staff Reporter Li Rongxia

It is now the flood season of the Huanghe (Yellow) River. According to the meteorological department, there is a possibility that the Huanghe River will have its worst flood this year and Henan and Shandong provinces in the lower reaches of the river are particularly vulnerable.

Prior to the founding of New China, the greatest danger to the lower reaches of the Huanghe River had been floods. However, along this area of some 2,000 kilometres, the most prominent achievement in harnessing the river in 40 years since the birth of New China has been flood control and the ability to keep the river dykes and embankments from breaching during high water seasons.

The Huanghe River is China's second largest river and originates from a basin 4,500 metres above sea level at the northern foot of the Bayan Har Mountain in Qinghai Province, northwest China. It flows through nine provinces and autonomous regions—Qinghai, Sichuan, Gansu, Ningxia, Inner Mongolia, Shanxi, Shaanxi, Henan and Shandong—eventually emptying into the Bohai Sea in Kenli County, Shandong. The river is 5,464 kilometres long and covers a river valley area of 750,000 square kilometres.

The Huanghe River valley is the cradle of the Chinese nation as well as the birthplace of China's ancient culture. Although it nurtures a vast expanse of the fertile North China Plain, its frequent floods and droughts have

brought untold suffering to the people. Many historical records say that in time of serious drought, a thousand *li* of barren land would appear and that, in time of flood, the lands would be inundated and littered with floating corpses.

Floods occurred mainly in two sections—the upper and, more seriously, the lower. According to historical records, during the 2,540 years between 602 BC and 1938 AD, there were floods on the lower reaches of the Huanghe River 1,500 times, breaching the banks twice every three years and the river changed course 26 times, once every 100 years. Between 1938 and 1946, the Huanghe River crossed the Huai River and flowed into the sea, submerging eastern Henan, northern Anhui, and northern Jiangsu for nine full years, leaving 12.5 million victims and taking a toll of 890,000 deaths. The area was known worldwide as the “Huanghe River flood area.”

After the founding of New China, the state regarded the harnessing of the Huanghe River as an important measure for stabilizing the country and, in 1952, during his inspection tour of the Huanghe River, Chairman Mao Zedong issued the call “Work on the Yellow River must be done well.” He later listened to reports on the work of harnessing the Huanghe River and issued many important instructions in this regard. In 1958, when there was a flood on the lower reaches, the late Premier Zhou Enlai personally directed the control effort

and later twice chaired conferences on how to control the Huanghe, listening to more than 20 reports on the matter. In July 1955, the Second Session of the First National People's Congress approved the first programme for the comprehensive control and development of the river in Chinese history, and adopted the Resolution on the Comprehensive Plan for Bringing the Huanghe River Floods Under Permanent Control and Developing the River Water Conservancy.

Over the past 40 years, harnessing the Huanghe River has always been a key project in China's construction. The state has invested a total of 12.8 billion yuan in the project, 4.5 billion yuan of which was used in the construction of flood-control projects on the lower reaches of the river. The effort involved completing nearly 1 billion cubic metres of spadework and 17 million cubic metres of stonework, basically establishing an auxiliary flood-control engineering system. It was a tremendous achievement which kept the Huanghe River from breaching its banks for 40 years and made it possible for the nation to earn 50 billion yuan in direct economic returns.

Flood-Control Project

The lower reaches of the Huanghe River witness four flood seasons each year. An ice run comes at the turn of winter and spring and, due to the geographical location of the river's course at the lower reaches, the ice floes block the river's flow; the spring flood season comes around March and April, but because the flow is limited, it does not pose a great threat to the lower reaches; the summer flood season occurs during July and August and the torrential rain in the river valley often cause serious floods; the continuous spell of rain in September and October causes fairly serious floods and marks the arri-

val of the autumn flood season. In summer and autumn, there are major floods on the lower reaches of the Huanghe River.

The major floods during these seasons occur mainly from Huayuankou of Zhengzhou to the area between and above Sanmenxia.

Based on the characteristics of the Huanghe River flooding, the flood-control projects in the lower reaches consist of trunk and tributary reservoirs, dykes and river course realignments as well as flood-diversion and flood-detention basins.

The Sanmenxia Reservoir, the first flood-control reservoir built in 1957 on the mainstream of the Huanghe River, is a key flood-control project on the lower reaches. It basically controls flood waters coming from above Sanmenxia. The use of flood detention by means of reservoirs can reduce the flow of the flood peak by twofold. At the same time, by controlling the volume of water detained in the river course on the lower reaches, the threat posed by ice run season is reduced.

The Luhun Reservoir on the middle reaches of the Yihe River, a tributary of the Huanghe River, has a storage capacity of 650 million cubic metres. The Guxian

Reservoir on the middle reaches of the Luohe River, a tributary of the Huanghe River, has a capacity of 800 million cubic metres. With these two reservoirs, 85 percent of the project has been completed and the remainder is expected to be finished in 1993. These two tributary reservoirs and the Sanmenxia Reservoir combine to curb the flood waters and lower its height.

The dykes along the lower reaches of the Huanghe River provides the main protection against the flood. It has been rebuilt gradually based on what remained of dykes from days gone by. Since 1949, the project has been reinforced three times. The third repair, conducted in 1974, was the largest construction undertaking since the founding of the People's Republic. Involving capital construction investment of 1.1 billion yuan, the Linhuang Dyke is 1,395.6 kilometres long, its top 7-11 metres wide, and it can withstand 22,000 cubic metres/second flood at Huayuankou.

The Huanghe is a wandering river and so, unless the river flow is curbed, flood control is inefficient. Therefore, in order to control and guide the main flow of the river, protect the banks and the dykes, people along the

Huanghe River have gone all out to realign the river course. They built dams, stacks and bank revetments to control and guide the river's mainstream; now, the project extends 311 kilometres.

In the lower reaches of the Huanghe River, the river course narrows gradually down stream, resulting in the situation in which the flood-drainage capacity is smaller in the lower end than in the upper end. To remedy this situation, in 1951, a flood-detention reservoir was opened on the northern bank of the Huanghe River. In 1958, the Dongpinghu Reservoir was built on the southern bank. If a 15,000-22,000 cubic metres per second flood were to occur at Huayuankou, it could be diverted into the Dongpinghu Reservoir and the floodwater released downstream at a speed not exceeding 10,000 cubic metres/second. This occurred, for example, during a serious flood in 1958, when the Dongpinghu Reservoir lowered the flood peak and reduced the threat to the lower reaches of the Huanghe River.

In addition, the floods are under the watchful eyes of the local people. When the high-water season comes, the more than 2 million people will be organized to work day and night along the embankments of the Huanghe River should a serious flood occur.

Before liberation, people in the lower reaches of the Huanghe River became vulnerable whenever the floods reached at a speed of 10,000 cubic metres/second. Since the founding of the People's Republic, although the country has witnessed 12 floods flowing at speeds exceeding 10,000 cubic metres/second, the worst one reaching 22,300 cubic metres/second, China has managed to weather them all.

A Mixture of Joy and Worry

Despite the nation's success in harnessing the Huanghe River, it

The flood-detention reservoir being built on the lower reaches of the Huanghe River.

WANG HOULIN

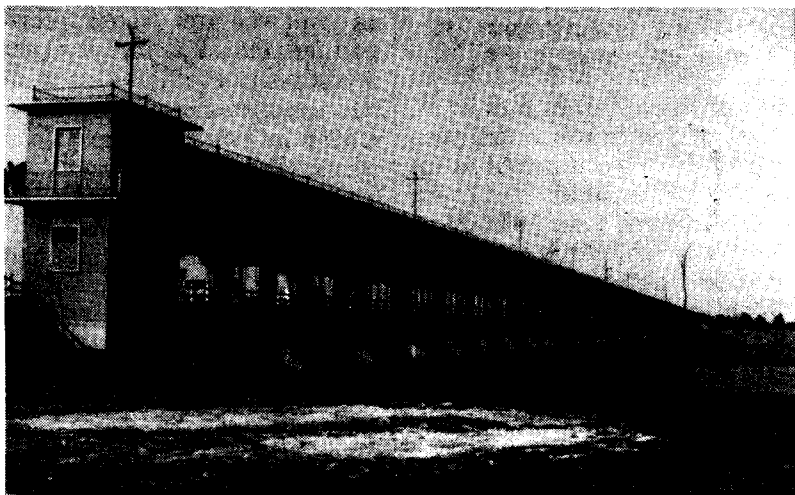


is not a time to be complacent. At present, the flood-control standard is set at 22,000 cubic metres/second. If a flood with a force exceeding this standard occurred, it would be difficult to ensure safety. It is estimated that under the current climatic conditions, if a rainstorm came during a flood, the worst possible flood could hit the velocity of 46,000 cubic metres/second.

The existing flood-control projects of the Huanghe River are far from complete. Some embankments are not high enough and there are still more than 40 dangerous areas and weak links which have not been reinforced. Hidden troubles and crevices on the embankments appear every year. In some places, the corner stones are so weak that collapses often occur in certain sections of the embankments. It is still necessary to constantly reconstruct and reinforce the embankment. Otherwise, the nation will forfeit what has been achieved.

The Huanghe is the most silt-laden river in the world, carrying some 1.6 billion tons of silt a year. The thickening silt deposits constantly raise the riverbed, so much so that since 1949, the river course has risen by two to three metres. Some sections of the Huanghe River are running three to seven metres above the ground. In some cases it runs as high as ten metres, which means instant danger once an embankment is breached. Moreover, silt is accumulating at a rate of 10 centimetres a year and, consequently, the embankment has to be steadily heightened. The higher the embankments, the more dangerous the situation. Such a method of defence by which the embankment and the river compete with each other cannot be a long-term policy.

Because there have not been any disaster caused by floods of the Huanghe River over the past 40 years, many people have lowered their guard, particularly



The flood-diversion sluice in Qucun Village by the Huanghe River.

those under 40 who have never witnessed a disastrous flood. This is particularly important because some 890,000 people live in the beach areas. If a serious flood were to occur, they would be the first to be endangered.

The Sanmenxia Reservoir can only accommodate the flood waters from the area above Sanmenxia while floodwater between Sanmenxia and Huayuankou is controlled by the embankment. If serious flooding were to occur, the safety of the people could not be guaranteed.

It is imperative to thoroughly solve the problem of floodwater on the lower reaches of the Huanghe River. While summing up experience in harnessing the Huanghe over the past 40 years, experts point out the need to adopt basic measures which have proved effective in practice.

After comparing and analysing the plans for harnessing the Huanghe River, experts believe that building the Xiaolangdi Water Conservation Key Project up the mainstream of the Huanghe River is a key link to harnessing and developing the river and is the only practicable plan.

Xiaolangdi, located about 130 kilometres below the Sanmenxia Dam, is the last gorge through which the Huanghe River flows; it is also the only place capable of

forming a reservoir with the capacity to hold the flow of Huanghe River mainstream down Sanmenxia. It grips the head of the plain on the lower reaches and controls the key area of the floodwater and silt in the lower reaches of the Huanghe River. The Xiaolangdi Reservoir can not only control the floodwater between Sanmenxia and Huayuankou, but it can also curb nearly 100 percent of the sand that enters the lower reaches (some 1.6 billion tons). Therefore, Xiaolangdi Reservoir is a key, comprehensive project which will be able to provide flood control, ice control, silt reduction, water supply, irrigation and power generation.

The project has been under preparation for more than 20 years. The Huanghe River Water Conservancy Committee has conducted consultation and design work with several companies from France and the United States. The project has also gone through assessment of the China International Engineering Consultancy Corp. In 1989, the design for the Xiaolangdi Reservoir was formally submitted to the Chinese Ministry of Water Resources. Detailed planning for invitation of bids is now under way. Early completion of the Xiaolangdi Reservoir will usher the task of harnessing the Huanghe River onto a new stage. ■

Foreign Interest Grows in Shanghai

Foreign businessmen this year are increasingly interested in investment opportunities in Shanghai. As of now, some 10,000 foreign businessmen have come to Shanghai to invest. By the end of May this year, Shanghai had signed 61 investment project contracts with investors from 11 countries and regions such as the United States, Hong Kong, the Netherlands and Japan, absorbing some US\$70 million in foreign investment.

American investment worth US\$27 million, five percent higher than the same period of last year, was the largest amount invested; 12 million Hong Kong dollars ranked second and investment from the Netherlands followed. A dozen world-famous companies have invested near the Pujiang River in Shanghai. In May, the AT&T of the United States decided to jointly manufacture optical fibre transmission equipment in the area. Following this, the Shanghai Du Pont Chemical Industrial Co., a joint venture between China and the Du Pont Co. of the United States, decided to manufacture high-efficient and low-toxicity insect sprays.

Almost all the investment projects approved this year were industrial. Currently, foreign-funded industrial projects in Shanghai make up 76 percent of the total number of joint ventures, co-operative and foreign-owned enterprises. Seventy each have an investment of US\$5 million or more (35 projects have an investment of US\$10 million each). Statistics indicate that the success rate of industrial foreign-funded enterprises in Shanghai reached more than 98 percent, the best in the country.

Besides new investment projects, there are more than a doz-

en joint ventures whose foreign partners intend to increase their investment. A Sino-Thai joint venture has netted profits of US\$16 million each year since it was established five years ago. To expand production, the Thai partner has, up to date, made an additional investment totalling US\$42 million.

In the past decade, Shanghai has spent more than 20 billion yuan in improving communications, post and telecommunications, power and public facilities. The implementation of economic laws and regulations in 33 local places has helped bring the soft environment up to the standards of an international metropolis. This year, many international consortia have granted loans for construction of infrastructure such as the Huangpu River Bridge, the first phase of the subway project and computer-controlled telephone lines, steps which had heightened foreign investors' confidence in Shanghai.

by Li Ming

Silk Export Earns US\$1 Billion

Although the international silk market continued to stagnate, China has made progress in promoting sales, improving the quality of products, readjusting the export structure and prices of some products. According to statistics released by the China Silk Import and Export Corp., China's silk export value registered nearly US\$1 billion in the first half of this year, an increase of 11.1 percent over the corresponding period last year.

As the world largest silk exporter, China represents 90 and 50 percent of the world total raw and processed silk export. Raw

silk is China's well-known traditional product for export. A few years of rectifying the raw and processed silk exports has resulted in normal order of domestic silk purchase, improvement of the quality and increase in purchase volume this year. It has provided an ample supply for export.

Over the past decade, China's silk production and export have both shown a large increase. Silk export reached US\$1.84 billion in 1989, more than double 1978's figure.

In light of China's leading position in the international silk market, the corporation official says that China will continue to stabilize prices, improve quality and develop marketable products so as to increase its competitiveness on the international market.

While strengthening its market in the West Europe, North America, Japan, Hong Kong and Macao, China will actively explore and develop its markets in the Soviet Union, East Europe and other countries. ■

Rules for Pudong Area

Rules and concrete plans for development of the Pudong area will be publicized in August, according to Yang Changqi, director of the Pudong Development Office of Shanghai.

These rules include opening the mainland's first free trade zone in the Waigaoqiao district of Pudong, where zoning is in progress. Also, procedures for examination and approval of overseas investment projects, preferential terms and land use policies are being drafted.

Yang noted that the Lujiazui-Huamu area looking over a strip of water to the Bund is a profit-

able area of Pudong and that emphasis will be placed on the development of finance, trade, commerce, information, real estate and consulting services. Activities to solicit international designs for the area will be held this year.

Shanghai, one of China's largest industrial cities, is a financial and economic centre. The Pudong area on the east bank of Huangpu River covers an area of 480 square kilometres. Pudong is a second area opened to the outside world in April this year since Hainan Province. Yang also said that in developing Pudong much attention would be paid to the experience of foreign countries, other domestic areas and Taiwan.

Several thousand foreign businessmen from more than 20 countries have visited Pudong to discuss investment, some of whom have signed letters of intent. ■

Liaoning Opens Its Doors Wider

Liaoning Province, the largest heavy industry base in northeast China, has decided upon its key projects for the Eighth Five-Year Plan (1991-1995) period.

Wen Shizheng, deputy governor of the province said that key projects calling for foreign investment and technology during the Eighth Five-Year Plan period include the construction of energy, traffic and telecommunications facilities and the upgrading of the petroleum, chemical and electromechanical industry. The details are as follows:

● **Petrochemical industry:** Emphasis will focus on the development of the five large petrochemical cities of Panjin,

Jinxi, Jinzhou, Fushun and Liaoyang and on such industries as basic chemical raw materials, fine chemical industry, ethylene, fertilizer and rubber industry.

● **Machine-building industry:** Export bases for 100 electromechanical products will be built. These will include 12 bases for manufacturing complete sets of equipment for heavy industry, mining, power transmission, lifting facilities, fertilizers, agricultural machinery, automobile and engineering machinery.

● **Electronic industry:** Emphasis will be placed on the development of computers, numerical control display equipment, electromechanical instruments such as telecommunications and office automatic equipment, integrated circuit, household electrical appliances, electronic components, energy-saving devices, frequency changing and speed regulators, and special materials for electronics.

Wen said that during the five years Liaoning plans to develop 1,000 joint ventures, co-operative and solely foreign-owned enterprises. The export of local products will reach US\$3.5 to 4 billion and, of this amount, the proportion of industrial products will increase from 30 percent to 60 percent.

by Li Ming

Ningbo Steps Up Port Construction

The Beilun harbour industrial district in Ningbo, Zhejiang Province, has been listed as a key, large-scale development project, the Ningbo government announced in early July.

In recent years, Ningbo has invested nearly 1 billion yuan in the construction of Beilun Harbour and, at present, 42 berths

have been built with a designed handling capacity of more than 30 million tons. Moreover, China's first large-scale special berth for third- and fourth-generation containers will be completed within the year. The communication and distribution network is gradually taking shape. In addition, there have been notable results in constructing railway, airport and highway and in improving power, water and telecommunications.

To make the most of the Beilun Harbour, Zhejiang Province has decided to mainly develop large-scale energy and raw material industries, adopt policies favourable for land development and attract foreign investment.

The district, with an area of 70 square kilometres, was set up in 1986 upon State Council approval. It is one of the most advanced harbours in the world. Its deep water prevents silting up or freezing in the winter and can handle 150,000-ton cargo ship at high tide. In addition, the Beilun district has enough land area to store imports of raw materials such as ore and crude oil and to set up coastal industries for the production of iron and steel, power, chemicals and building materials and oil refining.

More and more overseas clients have come to invest in the Beilun industrial district. There are plans to set up iron and steel, petroleum and chemical projects. Currently, the construction of the joint-venture Zhejiang Chemical Plant and solely foreign-owned China Ningbo Synthetic Fibre Co. Ltd. is under way.

It is estimated that after ten years or more, the Beilun harbour industrial district will be a large-scale international harbour, an important energy and raw material base and a foreign trade base in Zhejiang Province and Ningbo.

by Kou Zhengling

Characteristics of State Business

WENHUI BAO
(Wenhui Daily)

China's socialist enterprises owned by the whole people are based on the planned commodity economy under such economic conditions, they represent only an immature ownership by the whole people. The immaturity is manifest in three aspects: It is suited to the preliminary stage of the development of social productive forces; it shows different degrees of power division; and it contains elements of the collective ownership. These characteristics lend to these enterprises some complexity in their operation. For instance, they should have both unity and flexibility, should increase the vigour of their economic activities while avoiding disorder in production and should serve the interests of the state and their own interests.

Enterprises owned by the whole people are incomplete commodity producers and managers. They must operate in accordance with the law of value and must at the same time be subject to and restricted by the socialist basic economic law and the law of planned and proportionate development of the national economy.

These enterprises are relatively independent economic units. Besides implementing state plans for production, purchase and sale and financial income, they must take into account the interests of the state, enterprise and workers in profit distribution.

They keep some initiative in their own hands, but they take as their goal the development of social productive forces and meeting people's increasing needs. They must not deviate from the

purpose of socialist production.

They must have their own material interests but must not infringe upon the interests of the state and consumers and the long-term interests of workers.

Their renovation and development must be in accordance with the requirement of the state macro-economic plan.

The enterprises owned by the whole people must exchange at equal value but should not haggle over every ounce. Apart from this, they must promote socialist co-operation.

They must compete with each other. However, the basis, scale, purpose and method of the competition are different from those between capitalist enterprises.

The enterprise management must be strengthened by strict discipline, but the status of the workers as masters of the enterprise must not be hurt.

Factory directors have the authority to manage the production. However, the enterprise must adopt democratic management and nobody is allowed to act arbitrarily.

(July 14, 1990)

China's Largest Energy Port

CHENGXIANG KAIFA BAO
(Urban & Rural Development News)

With features such as no freezing or silting, deep waters and few waves, the Qinhuangdao has served as an important outlet in the north China for nearly 100 years.

Since China's liberation in 1949, investments from the state have enabled the harbour to undertake large-scale renovation. The construction of the first modernized crude oil wharf was completed in 1973. Now it has two berths for ships respectively of 20,000 tons and 50,000 tons. It

handles 15 million tons of crude oil annually.

Beginning in 1978, the state pumped investment into the construction in three phases of a large-scale specialized coal wharf. The first and second phases were completed in 1983 and 1985 respectively, with a total handling capacity of 30 million tons annually.

The third phase has passed state quality examination after its completion at the end of last year. Its annual handling capacity amounts to 30 million tons. Thus the coal wharf has become the largest energy export port in Asia.

With the vast expanse of land covering parts of the north and northeast China, the port links main railway lines such as Beijing-Shenyang, Beijing-Qinhuangdao and Dalian-Qinhuangdao. Recently, Qinhuangdao has established economic and trade relations with more than 100 countries and regions, and takes in and sends out more than 2,000 freighters annually.

(Issue No. 136)

No Replacement of Traditional Values

RENMIN RIBAO
(People's Daily, Overseas Edition)

Under China's present policy of reform and opening to the outside world, it is necessary to assimilate foreign cultures and ideas that would benefit China in her quest for modernization. Although the door to Western cultural practices may open, a total Westernization is neither needed nor desired. It is important for China's future development to incorporate ideas and technology from other countries without completely replacing her traditional values. It will

not be possible to achieve modernization quickly without Western technology and finance. With this Western influence will also come Western values. If Chinese national traditions are totally disregarded, or even worse, if ancient philosophers and writers are deemed unnecessary to modern China, China will lose her heritage.

Recently, it was fashionable to attack the ancients. The more fierce the attack, the more modern the attacker felt. We know that everything passed on by the old philosophers and builders is not all useful or applicable to the present modernization policy, but that also does not mean that everything from the past is useless.

Many Chinese, to avoid boasting, play down historical accomplishments of the motherland. Examples of these are, "the four great inventions," acupuncture and *qigong*, to name but a few.

Chinese writings from ancient periods are known throughout the world. *Cai Gen Tan* is a book that has sold well in Japan and has gone through many reprintings. It is, however, not well known in China. Foreign publishers offer many books that are either not published in China or not well known. Sun's *The Art of War* is always a best selling book in the West, so also is *The Romance of the Three Kingdoms*. The publishing house Harper & Row purchased the copyright to the ancient Daoist book, *Dao De Jing*. They paid US\$130,000 for this 5,722-character book which is seldom seen in China. The *I Ching*, or *Book of Changes*, is very popular in the West. The *Three Character Classic*, published in Singapore, has been selected as a Children Moral Education Book Series volume by the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO). Western cul-

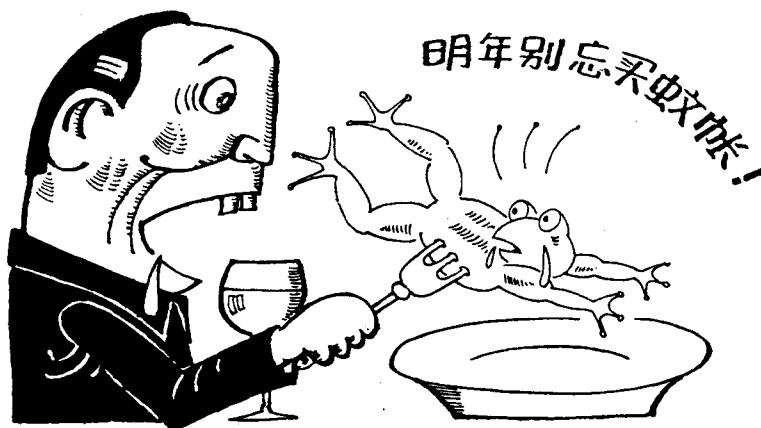
tures, which are deemed pragmatic in China, acknowledge many of the ancient Chinese philosophers as sages. Westerners who have these books available to them are able to introduce and assimilate Oriental knowledge and ideas into their Western culture. They do this without drastically changing the culture of their country.

China also can take what foreign countries have to offer that is useful. These offerings can be assimilated into the Chinese culture without drastically changing the traditional values or usurping the national heritage.

Lu Xun, the great Chinese

writer, ever pointed out, "Some of experiences passed down from the ancients are really of value, because they have charged fore-runners a lot and benefitted the later generations a lot." In the meantime, he relentlessly opposed to deceive oneself as well as others by placing it (traditional culture) on the incense burner table or throwing it into the toilet. His analysis to historical culture is in accordance with Mao Zedong, who had ever advocated to separate it into nutriment to be absorbed and dross to be discarded.

(May 24, 1990)



Eat me and beware the mosquitoes next year.

XIA ZHENGDA



Big is not always beautiful.

HANG JINRONG

Aid China: A Memoir of A Forgotten Campaign (1937-49)

By David Crook

Author: Arthur Clegg
Foreword by Dr. Joseph
Needham
Publisher: the New World Press
First edition 1989
Pages 208
ISBN 7-80005-079-3

Aid China is a great little book far more exciting than its title suggests. (Why not *China Campaign*?). The author has put it clearly: "In recent years there have been many books describing the 1930s, autobiographies of poets and politicians, historians and accounts of various political movements. In some, the British campaigns to aid movements in the Spanish Republic or Czechoslovakia get a worthy mention but aid to China hardly figures at all, even in the autobiographies and biographies of those who were active in the campaign."

Arthur Clegg was active during those years, exceptionally so given the state of his health, in marches and demonstrations much harassed by police against the Japanese invasion of China and calling for a British boycott of Japanese goods. He was an energetic and effective national organizer of the China Campaign Committee which co-ordinated strikes against Britain's immoral and suicidal export of scrap metal to Japan.

But Clegg, now 76, is not only an activist. He is a painstaking historian, a Marxist free from dogmatic jargon, who has a fund of human interest anecdotes, free-wheeling criticism of positive characters, including himself, and a good-natured sense of

humour and irony. The day after he went to Liverpool, Britain in 1941, he pointedly notes, the town was bombed. He had gone there to help Chinese seamen on British ships fight discrimination in pay and protest the shore housing which was worse than their Hong Kong slums. The sailors received him with typical Chinese hospitality which included a banquet and a bottle of whisky. "I had only tasted whisky twice before in my life but I couldn't let down the honor of the British comrades. My glass was replenished as soon as it was drained although none of the Chinese drank. I finished the bottle... and slept like a dog that night."

But this book is not about whisky. It is about the Chinese Campaign Committee (CCC) which "came into existence to express the common interest of the British and Chinese peoples in their resistance to war and aggression. The organization asserted that friendship with China could only be on the basis of equality. To this end, it demanded an end to unequal treaties and the return of Hong Kong..." It organized thousands of meetings, wrote and distributed millions of leaflets and built a united front of actresses, artists, writers (including J. B. Priestley, H. G. Wells and Stephen Spender), archbishops, aristocrats, Communists, Quakers, dock workers and high-ranking naval and military officers.

Clegg's account of the activities of the time, using a sharp Marxist analysis and describing step by step the ongoing historical scene, is never dry or abstract but, rath-

er, enlivened by his frank characterization of friends. Of the remarkable Christian Socialist Anglican Bishop of Hong Kong, R.O. Hall, Clegg points out that he became friendly with Soong Ching Ling, supported sending CCC donated blankets to Yanan and acknowledged the need for Communist-Kuomintang unity. However, in a pamphlet he wrote, called "China Fights for Freedom," Clegg notes that the bishop "took a 'non-political' stand." The organization faced all sorts of difficulties. The aid to China campaign, for example, was all too often colored by the fear of being branded a "Red." Forging a broad united front clearly called for a balanced and at times critical view of one's supporters, a combination of unity and struggle. The CCC, with Clegg as its National Organizer, was constantly called upon to exercise these qualities in order to unite the many complex personalities who supported it. This is shown, too, in Clegg's review of a remarkable man, Victor Gollancz, whose Left Book Club which had a massive membership, first published Edgar Snow's *Red Star Over China*. Gollancz for years dedicated his dynamic energy to the defence of China, publishing, propagandizing, organizing, speaking at meetings to "Stop China"-until the dastardly betrayal of Czechoslovakia by Neville Chamberlain and other "Men of Munich" in 1938. Gollancz believed that Czechoslovakia's cause was inseparable from China's. With its betrayal, Clegg states, Gollancz "suddenly crum-

pled. Suddenly, the Left Book Club fell silent. It had been defeated."

Not so the Communist Party. "Our greatest and most consistent supporter," writes Clegg, "was the Communist Party... it was the first Party to take a position defending China, the first to issue a pamphlet for China, the first to organize a Hyde Park meeting, where, on August 23, J.R. Campbell demanded a Japanese withdrawal." And again, a year later, at the time of the Munich betrayal, "It was left to William Gallacher, the sole Communist M.P., to uphold the honour of the House of Commons and denounce Chamberlain's treachery." This treachery was expressed on behalf of the British government through its ambassador to Japan, Sir Robert Craigie, who said in Tokyo on March 28, 1940, that Britain and Japan were "striving for the same objective in the Pacific." The CCC responded to this stand soon after with the statement that "it is ironical that the country which claims to fight for democracy, for the maintenance of law and order in Europe, shakes hands with the criminal aggressor in the Far East."

Clegg's careful historical research and his dialectical approach expose not only the crude calculations and miscalculations of the British ruling class but also the generous and heroic internationalism of the British people and the long, deep roots of its friendship and admiration for the Chinese people.

Arthur Clegg is well qualified for the task he has taken on. As the book's jacket states: "His interest in China dates from the flood and famine years of 1930-31. It increased after September 1931 when Japan invaded N.E.China... At the university, he came into contact with the League Against Imperialism and eagerly read its bulletins about the Chinese Soviet areas. In

1935-36, he joined the Friends of the Chinese People which in September 1937 merged into the China Campaign Committee set up to help China resist the expanded Japanese invasion. He became National Organizer of the body..." Within a year, the CCC had held nearly 3,000 meetings, distributed over a million leaflets, issued pamphlets, papers and information reports, held major conferences, initiated the International Peace Hospitals and aided the Industrial Co-operatives and the Training School of the Chinese Red Cross. This work continued as the organization's strength permitted following Britain's entry into World War II, despite increasing difficulties such as air-raids, conscription and the shifting focus of Britain's attention to its own war in Europe and maintenance of the British empire.

The CCC's work was appreciated early on by Mao Zedong who, in a 1939 letter to *China Week*, called for financial and material help and medical supplies for China. The message read: "On behalf of Comrade Zhu De (Commander-in-chief of the 8th Route Army), the men of the 8th Route Army, our soldiers at the front and those in the rear hospitals, as well as on my own behalf, I want to tell you how much your concern and commitment encourages us and raises our spirits." Mao Zedong's gratitude and praise were merited. As Clegg's book shows, from the end of 1941, when Britain entered the war against Japan until VJ Day in August 1945, the CCC under difficult conditions had carried out an immense amount of propaganda on the struggle of the Chinese people against the Japanese invaders. Despite its limited resources, the CCC publicized the key role played by the 8th Route and the New 4th armies in defeating Japan. It also made known to an otherwise ill-informed British public, the work

of the Chinese Defence League, led by Soong Ching Sing, the heroic achievements of Norman Bethune and the International Peace Hospitals and the democratically administered work relief provided to refugee craftsmen from the Chinese Industrial Co-operatives. The CCC exposed the corruption of the Kuomintang and its blockade of Communist-led Liberated Areas, which sabotaged China's war effort. As the author states (page 149): "Our chief concern was to spread news of the 8th Route Army, to defend the need for unity and democracy in China and to raise the question of China's membership in the United Nations by ending the system of extra-territoriality and doing away with the old concessions. This included the return of Hong Kong to China..."

This was a tall order of a prophetic nature. All the more so when one remembers that the CCC was not a government organization. Indeed, it often met with obstruction from the government. It was a democratically run, united front people's organization.

It is as such that it deserves to be remembered.

The book's subtitle is: "A Memoir of A forgotten Campaign." One of the most damaging setbacks to humanity's advance is that each generation tends, tragically, to forget the lessons learnt by its predecessors. This memoir, into which the author has put years of arduous effort, is a valiant attempt to prevent a repetition of such unfortunate amnesia among China's wartime allies—the British people. The New World Press deserves the gratitude of its readers for defying the economic odds against the book and publishing the work. It is hoped that Clegg's book will receive the promotion it deserves in Britain so as to continue the friendship between the two peoples which began half a century ago. ■

Breeding Site of Rare Birds Found

Ornithologists have long wondered about the location of the breeding site of Saunder's Gulls, a rare bird species threatened with extinction.

The mystery was solved in May by a team of Chinese and

British specialists that included David Melville, an adviser to the Marshland Programme of the World Wildlife Fund, and researchers from the Chinese Ministry of Forestry.

During an investigation of the



Researchers photograph a Saunder's Gull nest at the Shuangtaizi Estuary Nature Reserve.



A Saunder's Gull chick. The species is now believed to breed only in China.

estuary of the Shuangtaizi River in Liaoning Province in northeast China, they found seven nesting areas and a large group of Saunder's Gulls. The discovery proved that the species, of which just 2,000 survive worldwide, propagates in China.

Saunder's Gulls (*Larus Saundersi*), which have silver grey backs, white bellies and black heads, are seen in Hong Kong, Taiwan, Japan, Viet Nam and coastal areas of southeast China, where they feed in tidal salt marshes.

Little information is available about the birds, even in *Distribution of Birds in China*, China's main ornithological guide. Concerning the birds' breeding habits, it says simply, "Little is known."

Some foreign material had claimed that Saunder's Gulls breed in the Soviet Union and Mongolia but research indicates otherwise. The birds have appeared in the Soviet Union only twice in the last 100 years and a team of experts from the German Democratic Republic found no Saunder's Gulls during a survey of Mongolia 15 years ago.

Nesting sites were found in 1984 at the Yancheng Nature Reserve in eastern China's Jiangsu Province and researchers found two more in the Shuangtaizi Estuary Nature Reserve last year. But where was the birds' major breeding site?

At the annual meeting between the Ministry of Forestry and the World Wildlife Fund in March of this year, an agreement was reached to carry out an investigation of Saunder's Gulls in the Shuangtaizi estuary.

The May 24-June 12 field trip succeeded in finding seven relatively large nesting areas and gained valuable data concerning the birds' nests and eggs. Experts were even able to photograph chicks hatching. A preliminary study of the birds' behaviour and

mating habits indicates that the gulls breed only in China.

The Shuangtaizi Estuary Nature Reserve, about 30 kilometres southwest of the city of Panjin, is bisected by the main course of the Liaohe River. The western section consists of salt marshes but the east contains more open terrain. When the nature reserve was established in 1985 the focus was on the western section, home to rare water birds like the red-crowned crane.

Saunder's Gulls, however, nest

on the eastern part. Several years ago, this area was included in the "Liaohe River Delta Development Plan" but the Panjin government is now considering experts' suggestions on how to maintain the birds' habitat while developing the local economy.

Experts plan further study of Saunder's Gulls in order to formulate effective protection measures. In addition, they are going to propose to the State Council that the birds be listed as a protected species.

by Meng Sha

Anti-Cancer Drug Inventor Wins Award

Wang Zhenguo of Jilin Province in northeastern China received the highest award at the 38th Eureka Invention Fair in Brussels late last year for his anti-cancer drug Tianxian.

The drug's efficiency rate reached 81 percent in clinical tests on 287 patients whose cancers were regarded as too far advanced for radiation treatment or chemotherapy. Tumors showed significant reduction in 16.6 percent of the patients.

An examination conducted by a US cancer centre and the Chinese Academy of Traditional Chinese Medicine proved that the drug's effectiveness in cancer treatment reached international standards. These successful results are proof of the broad scope of traditional Chinese medicine in treating cancer.

Wang was born to a poor, rural family on Changbaishan Mountain in Jilin. When he was a middle school student he picked medicinal herbs to sell so he could buy school supplies. As a result, he was soon able to recognize a great variety of herbs and became familiar with their healing powers.

After graduation from high

school he began to use his knowledge to treat minor diseases. When he learned that some people in his village had the flu, he formulated an effective herbal remedy. Later he was sent to study in the county hospital and became a "barefoot doctor" in his township.

Wang's interest in finding an effective treatment for cancer developed after he was unable to help a woman suffering from terminal liver cancer. The woman had a daughter who cried bitterly for her mother. Haunted by those tears, Wang dedicated himself to finding a method to attack the disease and began collecting material and local prescriptions.

In the 10 years he has worked on this project Wang has collected more than 1,200 local prescriptions and studied works by renowned Chinese pharmacologists Li Shizhen (1518-1593) and Zhang Zhongjing of the Eastern Han Dynasty.

Because he had no money to buy the necessary equipment when he began, he was forced to improvise. He borrowed money from his relatives to buy more than 100 beakers and several dozen guinea pigs. He used the vegetable cellar as a refrigerator

and the *kang* (a heated brick bed common in northern China) as a drying oven. His laboratory was a shanty of no more than two square metres.

As he still had to go to work everyday, Wang did his research during holidays and at night. He spent hours grinding herbs into powder. Some of these herbs were poisonous and the powder floating in the air caused his lips, eyelids and throat to swell. He had to stuff cotton into his nose and ears to continue his work.

He extracted his first anti-cancer drug in the summer of 1983. In order to check its toxicity, Wang took the drug for a week and kept a daily record of its effects. He experienced swelling and was very weak: It was a test of life and death.

Shortly thereafter Wang had an opportunity to test his drug on a cancer patient who volunteered to take it. Two months later the patient's malignant tumor had shrunk from an original size of 3x4 centimetres to 1x0.5 centimetres. The patient began to gain weight and Wang was greatly encouraged.

In the four years that followed, he travelled to Beijing and Changchun, the provincial capital, many times to meet with experts. Finally, in September of 1989, his Compound Tianxian Capsule was put into production with the approval of the Ministry of Health. Since then, more than 200,000 cancer patients in 30 countries, including the United States, Federal Germany and Japan, have used the drug with satisfactory results.

Now, with the support of the relevant departments, Wang has established the Pharmaceutical Research Institute of Changbaishan under the Anti-Cancer Association of Jilin Province. He has listed nine subjects in his research plan, including the making of Tianxian and a drug to treat AIDS. ■

Golden Travel Tours in Hebei

As a province famous for its many tourist attractions, both historical and natural, Hebei Province is also a prominent northern hub of politics, economy and culture. Beijing, the nation's capital, is located in the centre of the province.

With beautiful natural scenery ranging from seaside resorts to mountains, lakes and plains, Hebei's outstanding cultural heritage and its many historic relics have been preserved throughout several dynasties.

The area has 37 state level key cultural relics and places of historical interest and 330 scenic locations which rank among China's best.

The Great Wall. The well-known 10,000-km Great Wall has more than 200 km of its best preserved sections in Hebei Province. They include the Shanhaiguan Pass, the first pass of the Great Wall; the ancient adobe city wall of the Qin Dynasty; the Jinshanling section of the Great Wall, well-known for its spectacular scenery; and the Jiaoshan section of the Great Wall, renowned for its dangerous precipice. Each shows a distinctive architectural style and characteristics of the Great Wall.

The Jinshanling section of the Great Wall lies amidst undulating mountain ranges. Looking into the distance, you have a panoramic view of the surrounding mountains and the location, so compared with the Beijing Badaling section of the wall popular with foreign tourists, is more interesting. Along the one-km section, a beacon

tower was erected every dozen or so metres so that soldiers could better keep an eye out for the enemy. There are also special caves used for hiding soldiers and caves from which soldiers could attack the enemy by rolling stones out from the opening. Paths, scattered at random, were used by soldiers on patrol, and a rare single-faced wall, a section of which is the original, has been restored to the way it was 1,000 years ago. From a beacon tower on the highest northern peak, one can see the evening lights of Beijing several hundred kilometres away in the distance.

Another tourist spot on the Great Wall, Jiaoshan is admired for its precipitous drop there, travellers, after a climb up wooden ladders, get a bird's-eye view of the Great Wall.

China's Largest Imperial Garden and Religious Architectural Complex. A three-hour drive north of Beijing will bring you to the Chengde Summer Resort. China's most impressive imperial garden and group of religious temples combine features from both north and south China. The many buildings and grounds underwent nearly a century of renovation and construction under the rule of three Qing emperors.

The wall of the imperial garden extending about 10 km surrounds many palace buildings of different styles and designs. The towers and pavilions also combine the style of landscape found in northern and southern China. The area is a miniature of China's famous classical gardens. Numerous historical relics

and historical legends of the area add to the attraction. Eight temples located outside the garden are of various religious architectural styles—Manchu, Han, Mongolian, Hui and Tibetan. The miniature Potala Palace, a smaller scale of the original in Tibet, was visited by the Sixth Bainqen Lama during his unity call on the Qing emperor.

Asian Games' Water Sports at Beidaihe. Located at the coastal city of Qinhuangdao, Beidaihe, a famous seaside summer resort, will host the yachting events of the Asian Games. The only tournament grounds for water sports outside of Beijing, it was built at a cost of more than 100 million yuan. When the Asian Games opens, Beidaihe will offer two pleasure-boats, each capable of holding more than 1,000 people for visitors who want to watch the competition and sight-see along the coast.

Hebei Province travel departments will also arrange a variety of special tours. These include a tour of China's sand-sliding ground, a visit to mountain areas, a folk customs tour, a view of the Manchu lifestyle, and visits to an ancient steam-engine manufacturing factory, the largest fresh-water lake, a tour of Baiyangdian water village, and a Chinese medicinal herb fair. There will also be a tour of calligraphy and arts of the ancient city of Baoding, a visit to see Cangzhou *wushu* (martial arts), a trip to the ruins of Tangshan earthquake and a bird-watching expedition.

The unique scenic areas and travel routes are all within travel distance of Beijing and can be reached within several hours' drive. Overnight accommodation are available at more than 30 comfortable hotels.

by Liu Jianjun

Sketches by Wang Jindong

Sculptor Wang Jindong, born in Beijing in 1932, now works at the Sculptural Creational Art Office of Henan Province. He created these sketches when he lived in a rural area of Henan Province.



An Artist Making Clay Figurines.



A Rural Landscape.



A Mountain Area.

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.