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China's Athletes— Their Odds at the Asian Games

TOWNSHIP ENTERPRISES PRESS AHEAD





A senior citizen's life rhythm.

Photo by Peng Hong



Rural Enterprises Poised for Another Boom

□ The on-going austerity programme has resulted in close-downs of thousands of factories and millions of lay-offs. But all this is a price to be paid in return for another boom of the Chinese economy (p. 13).

Mainland Official on Taiwan Joining GATT

□ The mainland is not opposed to Taiwan's application for GATT membership, said an official of the Ministry of Foreign Economic Relations and Trade, on condition that first, its GATT membership must follow the restoration of China's position as a GATT signatory; and second, the Taiwan authorities should consult the central government before it applies for GATT membership (p. 31).

Military Training for University Students

□ Beginning last October, all the freshmen of Beijing University received ten months of military training to enhance their military knowledge and build up their physical health. This successful step in educational reform also helped them to mature both politically and ideologically (p. 28).

China at the Asian Games: A Prediction

□ Visitors to the forthcoming 11th Asian Games, a grand gathering unprecedented in Asian sports history in terms of its scale, will witness tough competition among athletes from the 38 member states of the Asian Olympic Organization Committee. Evaluating the challenge from many top-notch athletes from the other Asian nations, experts predict how the Chinese will perform at the games in Beijing (p. 22).

International Folk Art Festival

□ The First China International Folk Art Festival opened in Beijing on August 14, with a total of 350 artists participating from 12 countries in Asia, America and Europe. "Peace and friendship" was the theme of the festival. Chinese Premier Li Peng, who was visiting abroad then, sent a message of congratulations to the festival (p. 4).

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- Beijing's Summer, 1990 Centrefold

COVER: The Pinggu Xinyi Down Clothing Factory was twice awarded the Gold-Cup prize for township enterprise export commodities. It has created a variety of new styles and designs to meet the changing trends and demands of both the domestic and international markets. The factory's Miaolan-brand down clothes enjoy a high reputation. Here Cui Fugang (first from left), factory director, and technicians discuss how to improve the quality of their new products.

Photo by Xue Chao

General Editorial Office
Tel: 8314318
TLX: 222374 FLPDA CN
FAX: 8314318
English Dept. Tel: 8315599 Ext. 546

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Festival Dedicates to Friendship, Peace

A total of 350 Chinese and foreign artists performed for an audience of 3,000 in Beijing at the first China International Folk Art Festival, which opened August 14.

Thunderous applause rewarded the artists from Austria, Belgium, Cuba, the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, India, Italy, Mongolia, the Philippines, Turkey, the Soviet Union, the United States and China as they stepped into the newly built Yuetan indoor stadium, dancing and singing to the rhythm and beat of their respective folk music.

In his opening speech, Seypidin Aze, vice-chairman of National People's Congress (NPC) Standing Committee and the first honorary president of the festival, declared that the theme of the festival was "folk art dedicated to peace and friendship."

Each country's folk art, he explained, is not only a treasure of its own culture, but also an important part of the entire art of the world.

He also said he believes the festival will promote folk arts in the world, strengthen solidarity and friendship among artists and the people of all nations, and contribute to world peace.

"The festival is transitory but the friendship to be forged by it is forever," the honorary president said.

State Councillor Li Tieying read a message from Premier Li Peng, who was visiting abroad.

"Since ancient times, the Chinese people have had a tradition of friendly exchanges of culture and art with the people of other countries," the message said. "Today, this good tradition has flourished in the course of reform and opening to the outside world."

Alexander Veigl, managing secretary general of the International Organization of Folk Art, and the leaders of every troupe also gave speeches.

Among Chinese leaders who attended the opening ceremony was Wan Li, chairman of the the NPC Standing Committee.

The audience was fascinated

by the artists' performances, especially the climax—the traditional Chinese dragon and lion dance. The merry-making of a 50-metre-long dragon and six big lions brought the house down.

The festival was sponsored by the China Federation of Literary and Art Circles.

In addition to performing in Beijing, the artists will tour cities in northern China's Hebei and Liaoning provinces. ■

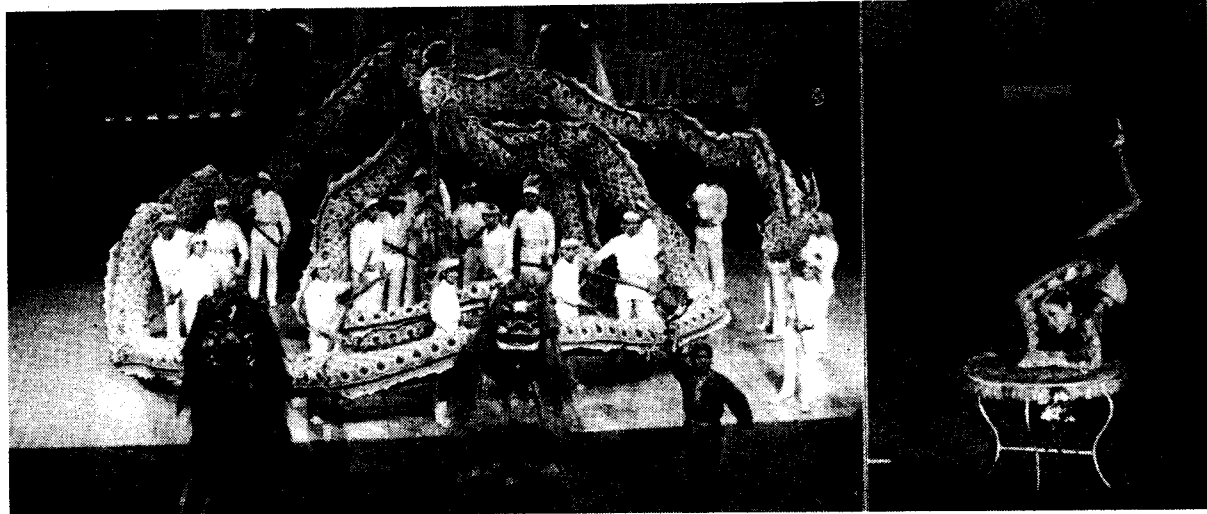
Role of Party Schools Stressed

To raise the level of consciousness of Marxism-Leninism and Mao Zedong Thought among Party officials, especially leading officials, is an important task of Party schools, and the most important way to improve the ability of these officials, said Jiang Zemin, general secretary of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of China (CPC).

Jiang made the remarks at a conference of the presidents of Party schools from 30 provinces, autonomous regions and municipalities, held in Beijing on June 12.

Chinese traditional folk art: Dragon and Lion Dance (left), and Mongolian folk art: Little Skills.

QIN XUZH



He pointed out that Comrade Deng Xiaoping and Chen Yun, chairman of the CPC Central Advisory Commission, have stressed many times the importance of studying Marxist theory. The CPC Central Committee, he added, has decided that Party officials at all levels should be trained at party schools to strengthen their work ability.

The general secretary said: "In my speech at the meeting in celebration of the 40th anniversary of the founding of the People's Republic of China, I said, 'We must resolutely change the situation in which many leading officials are bogged down in everyday matters, slacken theoretical study and pay no attention to ideological and political tendencies.' Efforts should be made to raise the theoretical level and political awareness of the whole Party."

This, he added, is an arduous task set by the CPC Central Committee for the new period of Chinese history.

To build a socialist country with Chinese characteristics, it is not only necessary to put the Party, state and army in the hands of large numbers of leading officials who are faithful to Marxism. There should also be a contingent of Marxist theoreticians. Marxism is always the guiding line of the Party, working class and other labouring people in understanding and changing the world, Jiang said.

Speaking of Party school construction, he said, the schools must persist in the principle of linking theory with practice and emphasize the importance of instilling Party spirit.

Jiang noted that under the present situation—antagonism and struggle between proletarian and bourgeois ideologies, and between Marxist and anti-Marxist thoughts—Party schools at various levels should

stress education in Marxist theory in combination with China's socialist modernization programme, and reform and open policy, as well as the development of contemporary socialism and the international communist movement.

Jiang pointed out that the schools should also help students study and solve problems they encounter, distinguish right from wrong, be confident in communism, continue to take the socialist road, and raise their theoretical ability to resist various erroneous political tendencies.

In training Party officials, the schools should place emphasis on the accomplishments of the Party. He urged Party committees at all levels to strengthen their leadership of Party schools.

He said Party committees should regard the schools as important departments to strengthen Party building and bring forth a vast contingent of Party officials.

China now has more than 3,000 Party schools with over 80,000 officials and staff. Jiang called on them to make new achievements. ■

Turn Shanghai Into A Trade Centre

Shanghai, hitherto China's leading industrial base, should make the historic shift to become the country's largest economic trade centre, local economists say.

And this can only be achieved by diversifying the trade, including not only imports and exports but also trade in capital, investment, commodities, real estate, transportation, technology and information.

The economists also argued that minor reforms based on to-

day's local industrial and city regions would bring no real breakthrough for the metropolis in the 1990s.

They stressed that international competition would intensify in the last decade of the century, and the city could only seek its existence and development through the widening of both international and domestic markets.

In this sense, trade means the city's fortune. And the real impetus for the opening up of the Pudong Economic Development District and the revitalization of Shanghai lies in market demands, they said.

With this in mind, the economists proposed that Shanghai rebuild a new economic order to turn itself into a real multi-functional economic centre. The city should adopt the experiences of early industrial Britain, postwar Japan and the four Asian economic powerhouses—Korea, Singapore, Hong Kong and Taiwan.

The rebuilding of Shanghai's economic position, however, faces such difficulties as a sluggish market, lack of raw materials, shortage of funds and aging fixed assets. Only the development of diversified trade will allow the city to get rid of these problems, they argued.

Opportunities, however, exist for the city, particularly the opening up of Pudong.

The economists suggested Shanghai adopt a new guideline on the improvement of its services and industrial restructuring. It should consider substituting industry with diversified trades to take a lead in the nation's economic revitalization.

Based on these considerations, they proposed the city utilize its superior manufacturing and export industry to take on international competition. ■

China Continues To Fight Corruption

An official in charge of education in Wuhu, Anhui Province, has been demoted for abusing his power in trying to get his daughter into college.

Guan Deming's demotion came after a two-month investigation by the State Education Commission and the Ministry of Supervision together with the provincial educational and supervisory departments.

In 1988, Guan, then deputy director and Communist Party secretary of Wuhu's Education Commission, asked the president of an architecture institute to send a written message to the local enrolling committee saying that his daughter should be admitted to the institute despite the fact that her examination marks failed to meet the requirements. The president obliged and the student was enrolled in the institute.

When the abuse of power was brought to light by angry local people, the State Education Commission and the Ministry of Supervision immediately sent an investigation team to look into the case.

Guan was also punished by the local Party Committee.

The Ministry of Supervision, meanwhile, has reported that during the first six months of this year, a total of 17,757 government officials were dismissed, demoted or warned for violations of discipline, a 75 percent increase over last year.

Officials disciplined included four at the ministerial level, 48 at the bureau level and 738 at the county level, the ministry said.

As well, supervisory departments across China filed 23,645 cases for investigation between

January and June. More than 15,000 of those cases have already been settled.

Through investigations, supervisory departments retrieved for the government 117 million yuan.

Investigations over the past year in south China's Guangdong Province revealed that 1,341 private houses were built for local government leaders at various levels at the public expense. About 8,200 officials, including 588 at the bureau level, used public funds to renovate and repair their houses far beyond the standards set for their living conditions, investigators found.

By the end of last June, 514 cases relating to major violations of regulations on housing conditions came under investigation. Already, 343 of those cases have been settled and 145 officials have received their due punishment according to law or Party discipline.

So far, the province has recovered a total of 21.50 million yuan in public funds and confiscated 46 houses that were built illegally. ■

5 Million Seek New Ethnic Identity

Being "mistakenly registered" as a member of the Han nationality, Tai Hang, a 48-year-old doctor at Beijing's Jiuxianqiao Hospital, petitioned the municipal ethnic affairs committee to have her nationality registered as a Manchu.

Because all of her identification papers proved Tai's parents were both Manchus, the committee decided to meet her request.

Tai is among five million Chinese in the past decade who have asked to have their nation-

ality re-registered.

According to an official from the ethnic affairs committee, some requests come from those whose nationality had originally been registered in error.

Many Hans in northeastern China, however, have asked to be recognized as Manchus for "historical reasons."

The official explained that many Manchus, a nationality that ruled China during the Qing Dynasty (1644-1911 AD), did not dare claim their true identity because they feared prejudice and discrimination after the overthrow of the feudal regime.

Allowing people to straighten out their ethnic backgrounds has been a way to help carry out the state's ethnic policies, said experts with the Political and Law Department of the State Nationalities Affairs Commission.

But the Chinese government, they added, was cautious on this issue and has tried to keep the number of nationality registrations as low as possible.

"A large-scale change-over can result in a chain of problems," one of the experts said.

An enlarging population of ethnic minorities could lead to establishment of new minority autonomous zones.

China has 57 autonomous regions, prefectures and counties, with a minority population accounting for about 9 percent of the country's 1.1 billion people.

"And this will elicit changes in many policies," the expert said.

Some people want to change their Han nationality just to gain benefits granted by the government to minority people, said an official from the state ethnic commission.

The state has offered preferential treatment for ethnic minorities in such areas as educa-

tion and family planning

To address these problems, the commission, along with the Population Census Leading Group under the State Council and the Ministry of Public Security, issued a circular in June, which laid out the ground rules for people who want to re-register their nationalities.

According to the circular, requests to change nationality identities will be contemplated "strictly according to practical conditions and the applicants' own wills, as well as in reference to family tree documents."

Almost all applicants 18 years and under who had been registered as Han Chinese have been permitted to re-register. Such requests have often been put forward by their parents who are members of national minorities. Those aged 18 to 20 can re-select their nationality identities by themselves. Those over 20 are allowed if their parents are identified as members of the same national minority.

In China today, there are 55 ethnic nationalities that have been identified in accordance with "the practical situation" and "wills of these groups." The last ethnic group—Jinuo—was confirmed in southwestern China's Yunnan Province in 1979.

However, about 10 groups, mainly in southwestern China, have continued to apply to become recognized as "distinct ethnic groups," the experts said. Their requests have been rejected so far. ■

News in Brief

Fuel Shortage Eases

China saw its fuel shortage abate in the first seven months of the year, said an official with the China Association of Fuel Distribution.

He predicted that the fuel

shortage would not worsen during the rest of the year because there would be no excessive increase in industrial production in the second half of the year. As well, output has increased and the quality of energy has improved.

The price of coal and oil products have also dropped continuously since the beginning of the year, the official added.

Rural Savings Grow

The Agricultural Bank of China achieved a sustained increase of savings deposits by 20.85 billion yuan during the first half of the year, the biggest increase in the history of the bank.

Bank President Ma Yongwei noted that 19.99 billion yuan of the increase, or 95.9 percent of the total, was in fixed deposits.

Such a rapid growth in savings was attributed to the bumper harvest, pay raises and stable prices. Some private businessmen have closed their enterprises and deposited their capital in the bank.

Evacuation from Kuwait

The Chinese government has decided to withdraw from Kuwait Chinese citizens engaged in business, trade and other activities as they are unable to continue their work and daily lives due to the current situation, a Chinese Foreign Ministry spokesman said on August 14.

He said that China is contacting the Iraqi government in the hope that it will take safety measures to ensure the smooth return to China of Chinese citizens in Kuwait.

The Chinese Embassy in Kuwait will be responsible for organizing the return of these citizens.

Boat In Half, 21 Missing

Twenty-one men were missing after a fishing boat carrying 50

mainlanders being repatriated was sheared in half on August 13 by an escorting Taiwan warship, according to reports in Taiwan and Hong Kong newspapers.

Survivors interviewed at a news conference held by Taiwan military authorities said there was little hope of survival for the missing people since rescue efforts were halted. They also accused Taiwan's military of "acting too late to rescue them."

The tragedy took place about 13 nautical miles north of Taiwan's Keelung Port where the fishing boat from the mainland was forced to leave for Fujian Province across the Taiwan Straits.

This is the second tragedy in the Taiwan authorities' repatriation operations. On July 22, 25 mainlanders were found suffocated in sealed cabins on a fishing boat.

Top Banker Punished

Lei Zuhua, vice-president of the Bank of China (BOC), had received an administrative demerit for attending lavish dinners paid for with public funds, the Ministry of Supervision announced on August 16.

The ministry said Lei had accepted three dinner invitations last December and this January. The banquets cost a total of 7,491 yuan (US\$ 1,590) in public funds. One of the banquets had been held at Beijing's Diaoyutai State Guesthouse by Li Xiongguang, mayor of Jiangmen, Guangdong Province under the pretext of honouring guests from Hong Kong.

The ministry has told Guangdong provincial authorities to discipline the Jiangmen mayor and ordered the other people at the banquets to pay for the dinners. ■

Iraqi Invasion Provokes Worldwide Condemnation

by She Duanzhi

As many people in the world began to savour "post-cold war" euphoria with tensions between the superpowers giving way to detente and cooperation, regional conflict in the Middle East intensified, dashing hopes for universal peace and a harmonious "global village."

At 2 am, August 2, Iraq launched an unexpected blitz attack against its tiny neighbour Kuwait and subsequently annexed it, turning the Persian Gulf into a hot spot once again.

Backed by 350 tanks and a formidable air force, Iraqi forces, numbering about 100,000, crushed Kuwaiti troops—about 20,000—and captured the Kuwaiti capital, Kuwait City, in just four hours. During a battle around the Kuwaiti royal palace, the Emir's younger brother Fahd and his two sons were killed. Fahd was president of the Asian Olympic Council.

Tensions between the two Arab nations have been building since mid-July, when Baghdad suddenly began to accuse Kuwait and the United Arab Emirates of violations of oil production quotas designated by the Organization of Petroleum Exporting Countries (OPEC).

On July 17, at a mass rally commemorating Revolutionary Day, Iraqi President Saddam Hussein severely criticized the Gulf nations for their "irresponsible oil policy," which he claimed had caused a US\$14 billion loss to Iraq in the first half of this year alone.

Then, Iraqi Deputy Prime Minister and Foreign Minister Tareq Aziz published a memorandum that Iraq sent to the Arab League on July 15, in



On August 5, Kuwaiti Crown Prince and Prime Minister Sheikh Saad al-Abdullah as-Salim as-Sabah (left), Saudi King Fahd (middle) and Saudi Crown Prince Abdullah ibn Abd al-Aziz discussed Iraqi invasion of Kuwait in Jeddah, Saudi Arabia.

which Baghdad censured by name Kuwait and the United Arab Emirates for over-producing oil and depressing oil prices.

Aziz also accused Kuwait of extracting oil at the disputed Rumaila oilfield since 1980, when Baghdad was at war with Iran. Iraq demanded US\$2.4 billion in compensation from Kuwait.

To increase the pressure, Baghdad, in an unusual show of force, massed 30,000 troops—the elite Republican Guard—along the Iraq-Kuwait border in late July just before an OPEC session began in Geneva to settle the oil quarrel.

To defuse the mounting tensions between the two Arab nations, Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak, after holding emergency consultations with leaders of Saudi Arabia, Jordan and Syria, shuttled between Baghdad, Kuwait and Riyadh. This resulted in Saddam promising through Mubarak that he would not at-

tack his neighbour. As well, both sides stopped bickering and agreed to meet in Jeddah, Saudi Arabia. To show its "sincerity," Baghdad even withdrew its troops from the border on July 26, prompting an optimistic Mubarak to call the spat "a cloud that will pass with the wind."

No one expected that a new Middle East war would break out soon—this time not between the Israelis and the Arabs, the long-time rivals, but between the Arabs themselves.

The invasion provoked immediate and strong international reaction. For the first time, the two superpowers were united in jointly condemning the aggressor and demanding an unconditional withdrawal. US Secretary of State James Baker cut short a visit to Mongolia, also a first-time event, to hold talks with his Soviet counterpart Eduard Shevardnadze. For years Moscow and Washington, locked in their long-standing cold war confron-

A Big Step to Korea's Reunification

by Zhang Jinfang

tation, had never quite agreed on any world issues. This time, they issued an unprecedented joint statement. The Soviet Union stopped military supplies to Iraq, while the United States froze all the bank assets of Iraq and Kuwait in the United States and called on other nations to halt weapons sales to Baghdad.

The United Nations Security Council unanimously passed two resolutions condemning Iraq's invasion and calling for worldwide economic sanctions and an arms embargo against Iraq.

The Arab world was at first stunned, then confused by Iraq's seizure of Kuwait. Most nations agreed that the invasion would not serve to resolve the differences between the two countries but would intensify the tensions and damage the over-all interests of the Arab world. An emergency summit meeting of the Arab League on August 10 adopted a resolution that condemned Iraq's invasion of Kuwait and urged Baghdad to pull its forces out of Kuwait unconditionally. Some countries, such as Libya, Jordan and Yemen, seemed sympathetic or supportive of Iraq.

The United States sent a formidable air, sea and ground force to Saudi Arabia on request and to the Gulf to protect vital US interests there, notably the oil supplies. Some other Western nations have followed suit. This has caused worries that the conflict will further escalate rather than subside.

While voting for the UN Security Council resolutions in condemning the Iraqi invasion, China has consistently suggested that the conflict be resolved peacefully through friendly consultations within the Arab world. In principle, China opposes the involvement of foreign powers in regional conflicts, but China respects and understands the steps taken by Saudi Arabia out of its security concerns to invite foreign forces to the kingdom. ■

After 18 months of discussions at the deputy ministerial level, the Democratic People's Republic of Korea and South Korea reached an agreement on July 26 to hold meetings between their prime ministers. The agreement, signed at the Truce Village of Panmunjom, stipulated that the first round of talks between DPRK Premier Yon Hyung Muk and South Korean Prime Minister Kang Young Moon would be held from September 4 to 7 in Seoul. The second round would take place the following month from October 16 to 19 in Pyongyang.

The purpose of the meetings will be to seek an end to military and political confrontations and begin co-operation and exchanges in various fields between the two sides.

Work towards the high-level meetings began early last year when the two sides held preparatory negotiations. On January 16, 1989, Yon Hyung Muk wrote a letter to his South Korean counterpart, proposing that the two sides form delegations consisting of the prime minister or premier and military chiefs and discuss political and military matters aiming to ease confrontations between them. The South Korean prime minister wrote back a week later and agreed to begin discussions. Between February 8, 1989, and July of this year the two sides met eight times. Although there were many differences on what topics the two leaders should discuss and even what the meetings between the two men should be called, a consensus was eventually reached.

Korea has been a nation divided for the past 45 years with people on both sides, especially the 10 million separated family members and relatives, being quite vocal in their requests to reunite their motherland peacefully. They have been anxious for the two sides to

begin talks in order to improve relations.

In recent years, DPRK has presented many guidelines for talks leading to reunification, and has made a series of proposals. Leaders of the DPRK and major organizations have proposed that the two sides of Korea be reunited this decade. South Korean people from all walks of life have constantly organized activities to express their wishes towards realizing reunification as soon as possible. Therefore, the upcoming meetings between the two leaders conform to the needs and wishes of the people on both sides. With the talks, the cause of Korea's reunification will enter a new phase.

Because Korea has been divided for so long, major distinctions exist in the thoughts and beliefs of the people and the social system. Reducing those differences will obviously be difficult.

Past meetings between the two sides showed that South Korea is mainly interested in co-operation and exchanges while DPRK feels that priority should be given to ending military and political confrontations. Discussions on ending those confrontations would centre around such measures as:

- The complete withdrawal from South Korea of US troops;
- Step by step reduction of armed forces on both sides;
- Halting large-scale military manoeuvres;
- Removal of the concrete wall on the South Korean side of the dividing line and of the wire entanglements on the north side;
- The abolition of such South Korean laws that prevent the two sides from making contact and conducting exchanges.

The two sides have adhered to their respective views on these issues, making it extremely difficult for the leaders to overcome their differences quickly.

As for the withdrawal of American forces, not only have the South Korean authorities opposed the move, but so has the United States, which has no intention of pulling out of South Korea. As well, there has been no indication that the United States and South Korea will end their annual large-scale joint military exercises. DPRK has insisted that the concrete wall on the south side along the military demarcation line be removed, but South Korea has denied the existence of the wall. Recently, South Korea proposed that the two sides join the United Nations either at the same time or individually, but DPRK is opposed to the suggestion. It favours the two sides join the UN as a member country. Because of all these complications, it's not expect-

ed the upcoming meeting will run smoothly.

The other important topic—to “start co-operation and exchanges in various fields”—coincides with a current sore point, that of “free travel and opening borders.” On January 1, DPRK President Kim Il Sung proposed the removal of the concrete wall on the south side along the demilitarized zone, to bring about free travel between the two sides. The South Korean president, Roh Tae Woo, evaded discussion of the wall and only agreed to open the borders to free travel. Roh Tae Woo also proposed on July 20 to open the Truce Village of Panmunjom for a five-day free travel period starting August 13 to mark the 45th anniversary of Korea's liberation from Japanese colonial rule. Responding to the pro-

posal, DPRK demanded that Seoul remove travel barriers, namely, the concrete wall; that Seoul abolish South Korea's National Security Law, and that Seoul release South Korean people who were arrested because of their visits to the DPRK. Along with exchanges and co-operation, the issue of travel restrictions will likely be discussed at the upcoming meetings.

Observers believe the meetings' success will depend on whether the two sides can reach a common understanding on overcoming their differences and their distrust of each other, and on ways for reunification.

If the two leaders can reach a consensus, then confrontation and misunderstanding will gradually be removed and ways for Korea's reunification will be found. ■

A Common Understanding on Cambodia

by Yang Mu

A common understanding was reached on the Cambodian issue between China and three members of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations—Indonesia, Singapore and Thailand—during Chinese

Premier Li Peng's recent tour.

This understanding will surely play an important role in seeking a political settlement of the Cambodian issue now at a critical moment.

The Chinese Premier, accom-

panied by Foreign Minister Qian Qichen and other ranking officials, paid a formal goodwill visit to Indonesia and Singapore and a working visit to Thailand between August 6 and 14.

Besides discussions on issues concerning bilateral relations, Li and Qian also held indepth consultations with their hosts on the Cambodian question. They reached a general understanding on the basic elements of the issue, based on a joint statement the six ASEAN foreign ministers made in July at the Jakarta conference held to search for a comprehensive political solution to the Cambodia issue.

Some points of the common understanding:

—It is now time for the international community to solve the Cambodian problem and end the war that has lasted nearly 12 years. No one will benefit with delays.

On August 8 Chinese Foreign Minister Qian Qichen (left) and Indonesian Foreign Minister Ali Alatas (right) sign the memorandum of understanding on the resumption of bilateral diplomatic relations. Premier Li Peng and President Soeharto watch the signing.

WANG JINGDE





Chinese Premier Li Peng views an honour guard on August 11 in the company of Singapore's Prime Minister Lee Kuan Yew.

GUO ZHANGYING

—In July, the five permanent members of the United Nations Security Council produced two documents on the military problems and on political power of Cambodia for its transition period. This provides a basic framework for a comprehensive political settlement of the Cambodia issue and should be implement-

ed.

—They support the setting up of a Cambodian Supreme National Council, under Samedech Norodom Sihanouk, which comprises the four Cambodian factions with none of them dominant by the exclusion of the others.

—ASEAN is to play an enh-

anced role in the region to support the co-chairmen of the Paris International Conference on Cambodia to convene a Cambodian four-party conference in Jakarta. This is to facilitate the establishment of the Cambodian Supreme National Council as soon as possible.

—The council should be set up before the opening of the United Nations General Assembly this year and occupy the Cambodian seat in the UN. Prior to its establishment, Cambodia's status at the United Nations should remain unchanged.

This position of China and the three countries, and their coordination will surely promote a comprehensive political settlement of the Cambodian issue and push forward the peace process.

Just as Singapore Prime Minister Lee Kuan Yew said on August 11, "The world can become a safer place only when an aggressor who invades another, especially a weaker country, be punished, not rewarded," and "Viet Nam must not be allowed to block the formation of the Cambodian Supreme National Council."

Memorandum on Resumption of Sino-Indonesian Diplomatic Ties

Chinese Foreign Minister Qian Qichen and his Indonesian counterpart, Ali Alatas, signed a memorandum of understanding between their governments on the resumption of diplomatic relations in Jakarta on August 8. The full text of the memorandum reads as follows:

The Government of the People's Republic of China and the Government of the Republic of Indonesia, pursuant to the agreement reached in Tokyo on February 23, 1989, and communique signed in Beijing on July 3, 1990, on the normalization of relations between the two countries on the basis of the Ten Principles of the Bandung Conference and the Five Principles of Peaceful Coexistence, have decided to resume their diplomatic relations effective as of today, August 8, 1990, and have reached the following understand-

ings concerning relevant questions relating to their bilateral relations.

The Government of the People's Republic of China appreciates the position of the Government of the Republic of Indonesia in consistently adhering to the one-China policy and its recognition of the Government of the People's Republic of China as the sole legal government of China with Taiwan as an integral part of China. The two governments have reached the understanding that Indonesia maintains only economic and trade relations of non-governmental nature with Taiwan.

Both governments reiterate their position of non-recognition of dual nationality for their nationals. Those people of Chinese origin residing in Indonesia who have been naturalized as Indonesian nationals or have acquired Indonesian nationality do not any

more possess the Chinese nationality. Similarly, those people of Indonesian origin residing in China, who have been naturalized as Chinese nationals or have acquired Chinese nationality, also do not any more possess Indonesian nationality.

The two governments enjoin their respective nationals, who retain their respective nationality and reside in either one country as aliens, to abide by the laws of the country of residence, respect local values and customs and live in harmony with the people of the country of residence. Both governments declare that they will, in accordance with the relevant laws and regulations of their respective countries and in accordance with international practice, protect and respect the legitimate rights and interests of the nationals of each side who reside as aliens in their respective countries. ■



Premier Li Peng holds talks with Thai Prime Minister Chatichai Choochavan (right) on August 13.

WANG JINGDE

As is well-known, members of ASEAN devoted their efforts to economic construction during the 1970s and 1980s. Their economies rapidly developed. They also co-operated closely in the diplomatic field and gradually raised their international status.

But then in December 1978, Vietnamese troops invaded Cambodia. They occupied Cambodian territory and many times violated Thailand's borders, thus

seriously threatening ASEAN safety and stability in the South-east Asian region.

Therefore, ASEAN countries are victims of Viet Nam's invasion of Cambodia and, at the same time, protectors of peace in the region, of the whole continent and of the Pacific. So, the developments in Cambodia are closely related to ASEAN.

Viet Nam's invasion of Cambodia also harmed Sino-

Vietnamese relations. As its neighbour, China is particularly concerned about a political solution to the Cambodian issue.

Meanwhile, in the past 12 years China has maintained close contacts with ASEAN on the issue, which has made enormous efforts in pushing the Cambodian peace process.

Now, the main obstacles to peace are clearly from Viet Nam and Phnom Penh.

In a recent interview with Chinese correspondents in Jakarta, Indonesian Foreign Minister Ali Alatas expressed his concern over whether Viet Nam would ask Phnom Penh to show up at the four-party Cambodian conference with sincerity.

Also, Thai Foreign Minister Siddhi Savetsila told Chinese correspondents that a final, comprehensive, just and reasonable solution to the Cambodian problem depends on Viet Nam's sincerity. This position is shared by the international community.

In short, it is better for Viet Nam to draw its lesson from the Cambodian war and get involved in the Cambodian peace process. ■

Joint Press Statement by China and Singapore

China and Singapore have agreed to conclude the negotiations on the establishment of diplomatic ties between the two countries as expeditiously as possible. The full text of a joint press statement released in Singapore on August 13 reads as follows:

Premier Li Peng of the State Council of the People's Republic of China paid an official goodwill visit to the Republic of Singapore from August 11 to 13, 1990, at the invitation of Prime Minister Lee Kuan Yew of the Republic of Singapore. Accompanying Premier Li Peng on his visit were his wife Mme Zhu Lin, Foreign Minister Qian Qichen and his wife Mme Zhou Hanqiong, Mr Zheng Tuobin, minister of Foreign Economic Relations and Trade, Mr He Chunlin, deputy secretary-general of the State Council and concurrently director of the Office of Special Econo-

mic Zones under the State Council, and assistant foreign minister Xu Dunxin.

During the visit, President Wee Kim Wee of the Republic of Singapore met with Premier Li Peng. Premier Li Peng and Prime Minister Lee Kuan Yew held talks in a cordial and friendly atmosphere. The two sides had an in-depth exchange of views on the development of bilateral relations as well as regional and international issues of common concern and found many common points of view. They agreed to conclude the negotiations on the establishment of diplomatic relations between the two countries as expeditiously as possible.

Premier Li Peng also met with Mr Goh Chok Tong, first deputy prime minister of Singapore. Foreign Minister Qian Qichen and Minister of Foreign Economic Relations and Trade Zheng Tuobin had talks with Foreign

Minister Wong Kan Seng and Minister of Trade and Industry Lee Hsien Loong respectively.

The two sides held that contacts and exchanges of visits between leaders of the two countries were vital to the maintenance and development of the bilateral friendly relations and co-operation. On behalf of President Yang Shangkun, Premier Li Peng invited President Wee Kim Wee to visit China at his convenience, and President Wee Kim Wee accepted the invitation with pleasure. At the invitation of Premier Li Peng, Prime Minister Lee Kuan Yew will pay an official goodwill visit to the People's Republic of China this year.

Premier Li Peng expressed his deep appreciation to Prime Minister Lee Kuan Yew and the government and people of Singapore for the warm and kind hospitality accorded him during his visit. ■

Readjustment Improves Rural Enterprises

by Our Staff Reporter Han Baocheng

The high-speed development of the 1980s has made rural enterprises an important part of China's national economy. The current readjustments will rationalize industrial structure and product mix, improve the management, update technical standing and raise economic efficiency.—Ed.

In 1989, there were more than 18 million rural enterprises nationwide. They turned out 840.3 billion yuan in output value, an amount equal to the nation's 1979 gross product of society. After China initiated the historical process of economic reform in 1979, the total industrial output value of rural enterprises from 1981 to 1989 increased at an annual rate of 28.6 percent, thus playing an increasingly role in national economic development and social life.

Among rural enterprises of various kinds of ownership, the township- and village-owned enterprises and farmers' joint-stock enterprises assume a dominant position. Take southern Jiangsu Province for example. Its township- and village-owned enterprises turn out 90 percent of the area's gross product. In 1989, the total output value of enterprises at township and village levels throughout the country amounted to 4.65 billion yuan, 75.1 percent of the nation's total output value from all rural enterprises. Thus the development of township and village enterprises has helped consolidate the economy of socialist public ownership in the countryside.

Rural enterprises have changed the former mono-economic structure dependent on farmland and become a means by which the total output value of rural enterprises, as a propor-

tion of the gross product of rural society, increased from 31.4 percent in 1978 to 58 percent in 1989. From 1979 to 1989, rural enterprises ploughed more than 80 billion yuan from their profits into rural undertaking, laying a solid foundation for the development of education, health care and welfare facilities in the rural areas.

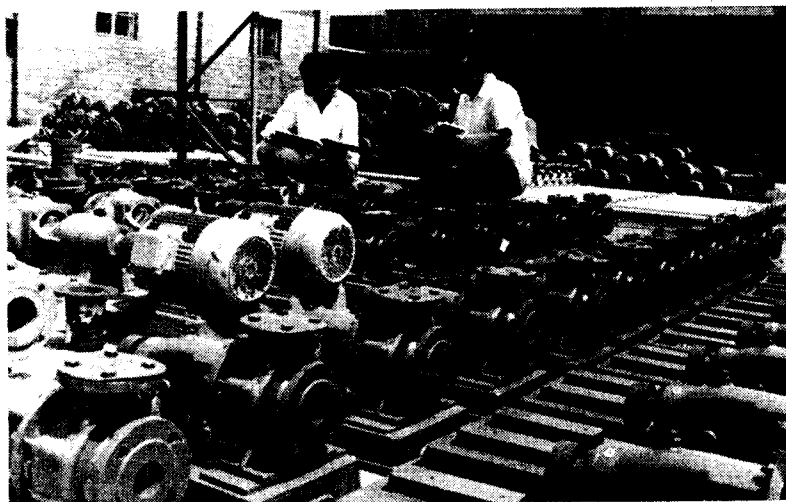
The rural enterprises have also become an outlet for surplus rural labour force. In 1989, some

93.67 million people worked in rural enterprises, accounting for 23 percent of the total rural labour force, or 62 percent of the increased labour force from 1978 to 1989, or half of the current total labour surplus. Since these people still live in the countryside working in rural factories though not in the fields, the problem of a large farmer population flowing into cities has been avoided.

During the past 11 years,

The "No. 2 magical prescription," produced jointly by the Beijing Dongsheng Pharmaceutical Factory and the Academy of Traditional Chinese Medicine for curing some male diseases, is well received in the market. Here, the factory director Shang Hongrui (second right) and technicians examine the product.





The Beijing Water Pump Factory is a township enterprise with an annual production capacity of 3.5 million pumps in 22 specifications and six series. These pumps are ready for delivery.

township and village enterprises' direct subsidies for agricultural production was about one-third of the total state investment in forestry, water conservancy and meteorology during the same period, thus forcefully promoting agricultural production.

In these 11 years, farmers across the country gained one-fourth of their net income from rural enterprises, and during the recent four years, the proportion rose to 50 percent.

Since 1985, the net increase in taxes from rural enterprises has accounted for 50 percent of that in the state financial revenue. In those areas where rural enterprises are highly developed, local financial revenue is mainly from rural enterprises.

From 1984 to 1989, the total export value of rural enterprises reached US\$35.5 billion, as much as US\$10.5 billion in 1989 alone, representing about one-fifth of the county's total export.

Rural enterprises are functioning as an important social commodities supplier. In 1989, they produced 348 million tons of coal, 65.3 million tons of cement, 4.9 million tons of machine-made paper, 745 million sets of

farming tools, 2.33 billion suits of clothes and 13.07 billion kwh of electricity.

In recent years, more than 500 million yuan of rural enterprises' profits has been used annually for town construction. The consequent concentration of rural enterprises has promoted the formation and development of rural towns with their number up from 2,600 in 1980 to 12,000. Rural enterprises invest 700 million yuan in the rural cultural and educational undertakings every year in order to train farmers. The development of rural enterprises, moreover, has reduced differences between city and countryside and promoted ideological progress nationwide.

Of course, the development is not balanced. Generally, coastal areas are better off than the interior areas and the south better off than the north. Southern Jiangsu Province around the city of Wuxi is widely regarded as the birthplace of rural enterprises.

A Pioneering Cause in Qianzhou

In a spacious meeting room in the town of Qianzhou, Wuxi County, Feng Youze, deputy ge-

neral manager of the Qianzhou Industrial Corp. spoke about the history and current situation of the township businesses. In Qianzhou, the 281 township and village enterprises are all affiliated with the corporation.

Qianzhou, about 14.5 km to the north of Wuxi, is some 36.6 square km in area. About 90 percent of the town's 21,900 labourers now work in enterprises. Last year, the town's total agricultural and industrial output value amounted to 800 million yuan, some 785 million yuan from industrial enterprises, the highest of the 124 townships in Wuxi County. The average farmer's income from the collective economy reached 1,254 yuan last year.

According to Feng, Qianzhou is now completely different from the past. An example is the Beijing-Hangzhou Grand Canal which runs through Qianzhou. Partly because the riverbed was higher than the surrounding areas and partly because of lack of drainage works, there was water-logging damage with each rainfall. Water conservancy projects and relief from the plague of floods were always the long-cherished dream of local farmers. Even though the state invested heavily after the founding of the People's Republic of China, the problem remained unsolved.

In the late 1960s, in order to raise funds to build water conservancy projects, the people's commune of the time decided to set up some factories under the jurisdiction of the commune and production brigades. By 1970, the Qianzhou People's Commune had established more than 50 factories turning out some 1.5 million yuan in annual output value and 300,000 yuan in profit. These enterprises specialized in manufacture and maintenance of farm machines.

From that time on, they have ploughed a portion, a lion's share

at the beginning, of their annual profits for agricultural development, effecting a dramatic change in agricultural production. The drainage network now is composed of trunks, branches and sublaterals crisscrossing the land. When it rains, farmers are no longer worried about waterlogging. In the past, a 50 mm rainfall would leave 75 percent of the land flooded. However, now even a pour of 200 mm will not damage crops. Moreover the grain yield per hectare has risen from 4,500 kg in 1970 to 10,000 kg today.

After 1978, rural enterprises gradually went beyond their traditional production scope of serving agricultural production to reach out into other fields of production. With management scope enlarged and technological level improved, they rapidly became an important sector to the rural economy. In the mid-80s, they began to look at the international market. Last year, export from Qianzhou Township reached 120 million yuan in value, the first for the whole city of Wuxi.

Two township-run enterprises are pace-setters in Qianzhou. One, the Qianzhou Woollen Mill, now has more than 700 employees and 6,400 spindles, and annually turns out 1,600 tons of yarn. It imports raw materials from foreign countries and exports all its products. The other, the Qianzhou Printing and Warping Equipment Factory, was a small hardware factory with only 14 hammers in 1966 when it was set up. Now the factory can produce more than 70 kinds of products and has fixed assets of 4 million yuan. Feng noted that the textile equipment turned out by rural enterprises enjoyed a good reputation in the domestic market. At a national textile equipment order-placing conference, they got one-fourth

of all the business.

Influenced by the austerity programme of economic rectification and readjustment last year, rural enterprises quickly cooled down. Feng, however, said that the ten-year development established the position of rural enterprises in the national economy and in rural social development. Their achievements are acknowledged internationally. However, the rapid speed of development brought problems. For some enterprises, the product mix should be adjusted and the quality of management level and personnel improved. Some factories with outdated products, poor efficiency and serious pollution must be closed. An investigation found that, among the 281 enterprises in the township, 100 have operated efficiently, while some 20 others have fought a losing battle because of poor management. According to Feng, many machine manufacturing and textile factories operate under capacity because of the sluggish market. These factories should be supported and encouraged to take the opportunity to improve themselves instead of being hastily closed. The

machine-manufacturing market began to pick up in the first quarter of this year and it is forecast that the textile market will also make a turn for the better within the year.

At the beginning of this year, when Premier Li Peng visited Qianzhou, he gave once again recognition to the merits of rural enterprises.

According to Liu Hui, a Wuxi Economic Committee official responsible for rural enterprises, the city's one county, two urban districts and two county-level towns boast a total of 12,000 township and village factories. Last year these factories turned out 21.987 billion yuan in output value, an increase of 9.24 percent on the previous year, the lowest growth rate ever seen in the last ten years. Last year and in the first quarter of this year, 198 enterprises, run mainly by villages were closed down, 226 more suspended production and another 600 operated under capacity. The municipality chose 300 enterprises for support, mainly in the form of increased funding.

Liu said that the number of workers and staff of these 300

The high-grade "Mandarin Duck" brand beds made by the Beijing Anle Wooden Furniture Factory, a township business with 30 people and an annual output value of 1 million yuan, are in high demand. Here, a Mandarin Duck is in the making.



enterprises account for 2.5 percent of the total workforce employed by the city's rural enterprises. However, their output value represents 25 percent, their taxes 43 percent, and export value 71 percent. He believes the successful management of these 300 enterprises will help stabilize and promote rural industry, and, if possible, make an overseas outreach.

City Teeming With Rural Enterprises

Zhangjiagang City, located on the south bank of the Changjiang (Yangtze) River and only 50 km to Wuxi, is a rising port city with more than 2,000 enterprises, three-fourths of which belong to towns or townships. Last year, their output value accounted for 76.3 percent of the city's total and their export value made up 85 percent of the city's total. As a popular saying has it, "Without township enterprises, there would be no Zhangjiagang."

Zhangjiagang used to be a sandbank named Shazhou County (county of sandbank) in 1962. In 1986, it was given the name of Zhangjiagang. The local people, living on agriculture, were mired in poverty.

What with the policy of reform and opening to the outside world China introduced in 1979, and what with the convenient transportation system and the access to Shanghai's strong technology and market, many rural enterprises have quickly sprung up in the Zhangjiagang area. Textile and light industry occupy a dominant position in Zhangjiagang, as in southern Jiangsu Province. The city has 180,000 labourers, or 60 percent of its total workforce, engaging in non-agricultural production. About 50 percent of its financial revenue comes from rural enterprise. Over the past ten years, farmers'



A workshop of the township-run Xinyi Down Jacket Factory, a twice export commodity gold cup winner in Beijing.

income from the collective economy has multiplied. Driving in downtown or in the suburbs, one sees newly built workshops, public facilities and beautiful residential buildings everywhere. Asphalt roads link one village to another. Since 1978, the city's rural enterprises have ploughed a total of 300 million yuan into agricultural production, rural education, health care, welfare and urban construction.

Their products have entered the international market, one indication that the production and management of rural enterprises have reached a new height. Last year, the city's foreign trade volume reached 723 million yuan, a ten-fold increase over 1984. In the past, however, above 70 percent of all exports were agricultural and sideline products. Now, agricultural and sideline products account for only 3 percent. There are 34 rural enterprises each with an annual export value of over 5 million yuan, 15 of which surpass the 10 million yuan mark. Two textile enterprises earn more than 40 million yuan from export. Such an export scale dwarfs many large state-owned enterprises.

In recent years, the city has imported advanced technology and equipment to improve production and raise product quality. Sino-foreign joint ventures have developed rapidly. In 1986, there were only two such enterprises in the city. Now there are more than 60. Last year alone, 23 such enterprises were set up with partners from Japan, Singapore, the United States, the Federal Republic of Germany, as well as Hong Kong and Taiwan.

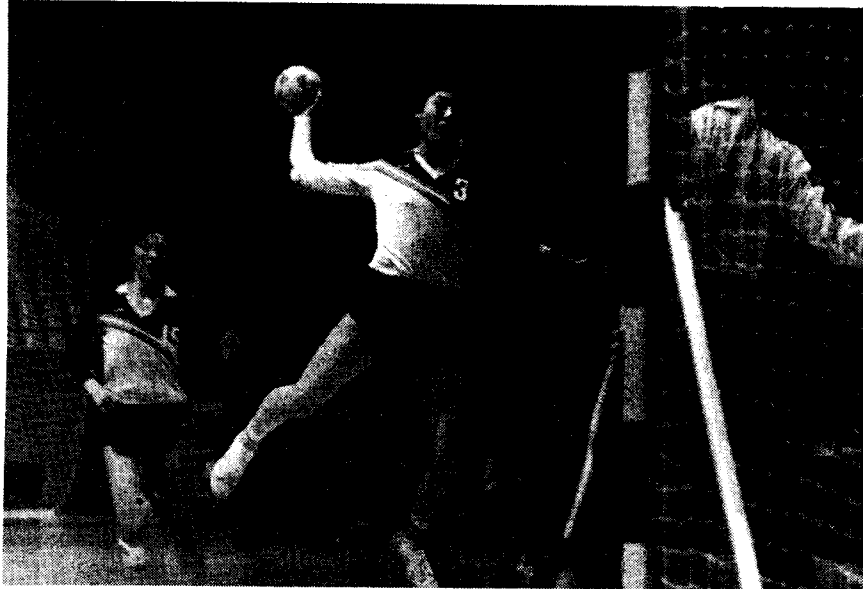
The Huafeng Electronic Equipment Co. Ltd., up and running in November 1989 in Zhao-feng Township, is an electronic parts producer co-established by the Hong Kong Hua Mou Industrial Co. and a local township enterprise. The push button produced by the company for colour TV sets is the first of its kind to have UL recognition. Some 70 percent of the products are sold in the international market.

Jiang Hao, vice-mayor in charge of economic relations and trade with foreign countries, said that Zhangjiagang not only has a geographical advantage, but is blessed with a natural harbour. Its containerhandling capacity

Beijing's Summer, 1990



Sparks of the sacred fire for the 11th Asian Games left Lhasa for Beijing on August 8 and, on August 22, they will be used to kindle the flames of the Asian Games. The "Asian Games Sights" torchlight relay activities will be conducted in four directions throughout China.

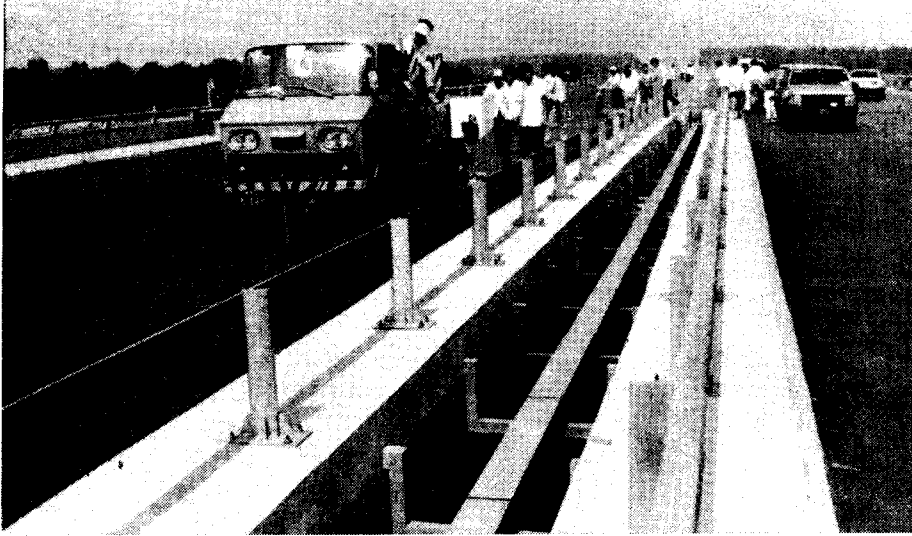


Beijing No.1 Women's Handball Team had a match with Beijing No.2 Women's Handball Team on July 30 in the multi-use hall of the newly built Olympic Sports Centre.



During the summer vacation, pupils from the Guanyuan Primary School in Xicheng District help the people's police keep order on Beijing streets.

An 83.8-kilometre section from Beijing to Tianjin in the Beijing-Tianjin-Tangshan Expressway is open to traffic on August 25.



During summer vacation, many university students look towards the National Library of China as a place to continue their search for knowledge.



Farmers from the Henanzhai Township of Miyun County, at three o'clock every morning, carry all kinds of fresh vegetables into Beijing's many vegetable markets.

Leaders of the Enterprise Gen County often go understand and Zhongfang (right manager, is at the ture Factory.

Each operator from the Beijing Long-Distance Telephone Exchange, one of China's largest communications networks, is required to handle 120 pieces of telephone requests every four hours; a veteran operator can handle some 60 pieces per hour.



Workers from the Foreign-Language Printing House responsible for printing *Beijing Review*.



The newly opened Taiwan Hotel, located at the north end of Wangfujing Street, has become an ideal lodging place for Taiwan businessmen and tourists. Young waitresses provide quick and efficient service.



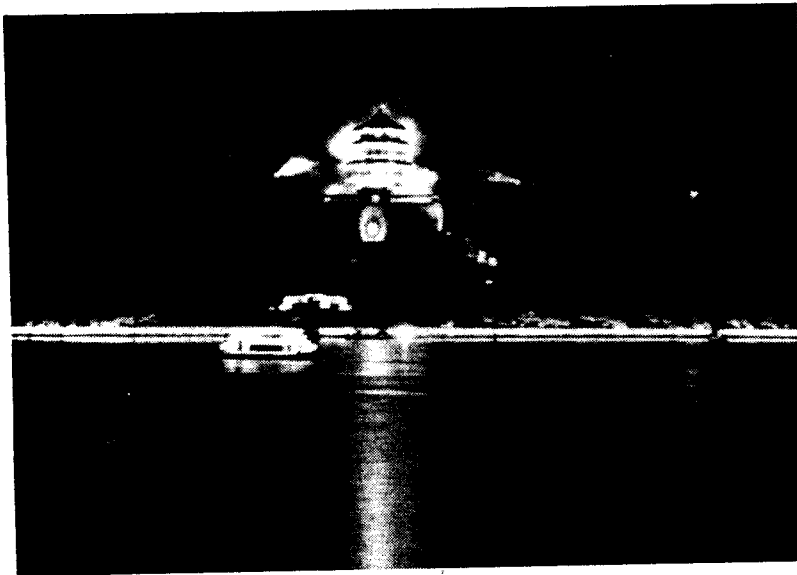
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Lu Gang (left) and Lu Yan, twin brothers, are both part-time collectors of items connected with their work. The former, a bus driver, has collected more than 300 models of vehicles; and the latter, an art editor, is proud of his collection of foreign advertising products and key chains.

The Night of Kunming Lake, from July 28 to August 5, attracted many visitors to the Summer Palace. When night fell, the pavilions and terraces appeared to visitors as if in a mirage under the colourful lamplights.



The colour lamps made by coal miners of Shanxi Province in their spare time have been exhibited in Beihai Park since August 1. About 173 lamp formations which create images of traditional Chinese stories, legends, mythology, drama, mountains and rivers of China and famous scenic spots are well liked by visitors. This lamp drawing material from Magu Congratulates on Birthday tells how immortals descend to earth to congratulate the common people.

Photos by our staff reporters Xu Xiangjun, Xue Chao and Yang Liming and Xinhua reporters.

In dusk on July 25, a Beijing Folk Art Summer Evening Party was held in the watchtower over Zhengyangmen. One musician played the bass drum as he held candles in his mouth, a style of musical performance not seen in Beijing for many years and a great surprise to audiences.



ranks sixth in the country. The second-phase harbour project is now under construction with state investment. After its completion in 1995, its annual cargo-handling capacity will reach 10 million tons. Jiang added that the construction of the harbour will give rural enterprises a leg-up for off-shore expansion, attract more funds and more technology from abroad and bring in more opulence for the city of Zhangjiagang.

Focus on Economic Efficiency

Because the township enterprises in southern Jiangsu Province began earlier than in other areas, their management level is generally higher than that found in inland areas. The coast promotes the advantage of quickly adapting to market changes. Inland township enterprises, on the other hand, have more problems. Zong Jinyue, a high-ranking official in charge of the policy research in the township enterprise bureau under the Ministry of Agriculture, said that the most glaring problems have been blind development of some trades, enterprises and products, and an irrational industrial structure

and distribution; poor management and lack of information which resulted in repeated low-level construction projects and a waste of energy and raw materials; low standard of employees, old and backward equipment, lack of technical and administrative personnel which resulted in poor quality of products; and high consumption of materials and serious environmental pollution. The shortage of funds, raw materials and energy has also been a major problem hindering the development of the township enterprises. Some of these problems were caused by rapid development, and some were related to present policies, management systems and the general national production level.

Zong said after readjustment during the past year, there have been some basic improvement in rural industrial development. Last year, the total social output value of township enterprises increased 14.4 percent over the previous year. Of this, the output value of township industries increased 15.6 percent over the previous year, thus overcoming the continuous over-growth for several years in the past and maintaining an appropriate rise.

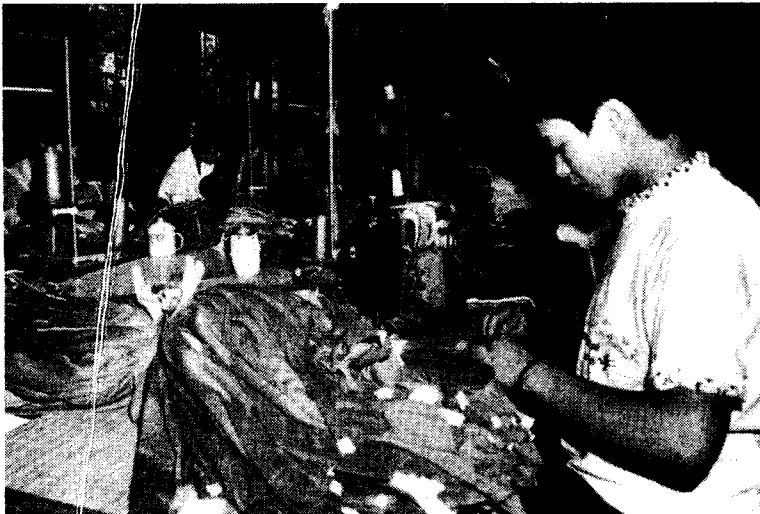
Last year about 78,000 inefficient enterprises were either closed or used for other purposes, saving a large quantity of raw materials and energy resources. More than 20,000 projects under construction were stopped, thus reducing investment by about 10 billion yuan.

Zong said that township enterprises have undergone fundamental establishment nationwide and efforts will be made to further develop them. The Ministry of Agriculture has called on township enterprises to take advantage of the present economic rectification and make strategic changes. The ministry says emphasis should be put on building up economic, social and balanced ecological profits instead of simply increasing output value and investment; development of both domestic and foreign markets instead of relying only on the domestic market; and use of modern scientific management. In management orientation, the ministry encourages those projects which use local resources to engage in the processing of agricultural and sideline products and co-operate with large industries so that products can enter international market.

Zong said that, in future, an excessive production increase in township enterprises should be avoided and that the development speed of the township enterprises should suit the general needs of the state's macro-economic development, and be confined within the capacity of the rural economy. It should also cope with the development of state-owned industries and agriculture. It is necessary to keep the annual increase of rural industry's total output value at about 15 percent and the increase in industrial output value at 10 percent. Zong said that by carrying out economic rectification and readjustment, China's township enterprises will show greater vitality in the 1990s. ■

The Yunji Knitting Mill, a branch-out of the Beijing No. 4 Knitting Mill, produces children's clothes. The trend -setting style of its products wins it a brisk market in China.

PHOTO BY XUE CHAO



Chinese Performance at the Asian Games: A Forecast

by Our Staff Reporter Cheng Gang

The 11th Asian Games, which will be kicked off in September in Beijing, will see some tough competition among athletes from all the 38 member states or regions of the Olympic Council of Asia.

China, which has generously provided finance, manpower and materials for the forthcoming games, has announced the formation of a 799-member sports delegation. It includes some 100 coaches and 600-plus top-notch athletes chosen from among the 1,500 who participated in the intensive training sessions in Beijing and some provinces. In the face of the many excellent athletes coming from other Asian nations, how will the Chinese competitors perform? Those who are familiar with both the competition and the athletes predict tough going ahead.

Traditional Superiority Challenged

Table Tennis. Everyone in the world knows China is good at table tennis. However, in recent years the Chinese players found themselves facing a severe challenge from players of other countries. They are losing their edge in nearly every area. A case in point is the 40th World Table Tennis Championships when the European players pocketed gold cups for all the men's events. Quite often, the Chinese men's team appeared to be at the end of their tether when confronted by their

European counterparts driving loops to either side. When the Chinese performing poorly, however, Korea's Li Geng Shang, known as the first chopper in the world, and Kim Sheng Hi give the Europeans a headache with their unbelievable skills. No one has forgotten that the South Korean men's team won the team event at the last Asian Games. The men's teams from the Democratic People's Republic of Korea (DPRK) and South Korea will prove to be the Chinese team's chief rivals.

The Chinese men's team, however, has a chance to win. Chinese playing skill, known for fast attacks over the table, is still a powerful weapon. Although they suffered a debacle in the world championships, none of the team members has become downhearted. Chen Longcan, one of the Olympic men's doubles champions, has reportedly improved his skill. Ma Wenge, the world's men's single champion, and Chen Zhibin, a veteran player, are all in high spirit for a win. At the No.1 World Cup Table Tennis Team Events held not long ago in Japan, they defeated both the South Korean and DPRK teams 3:0.

Compared with the Chinese men's team, the Chinese women's team will fare somewhat better. Although all the top eight women's players are Asians and those from the DPRK and South Korea are on a par with their Chinese counterparts technically, the Chinese women's team is, on the

whole, more skillful. China's Chen Jing, Qiao Hong, Deng Yaping, Ding Yaping, Chen Zihong and some other young players have in the last few years won most of the women's events at important world championships. Deng Yaping, 17, was awarded the title of Best Player for her excellent performance at the First World Cup Table Tennis Team Events. While Deng impressed the viewers with her flat hits, Chen Zihong, a rising star, often conquered her contestants with calmness and wisdom, reflecting the supreme confidence of the Chinese women's team.

Badminton. In the late 1980s, badminton was almost an invincible game for the Chinese. At the 1987 World Championships and 1988 World Cup games the Chinese shocked the world by pocketing all the gold medals. The announced inclusion of the sport into Olympic Games two years ago, however, served to egg on many other countries to plunge into intensive training. As a result, many excellent players came to the fore. Coached by Tang Xianhu, an overseas Chinese who used to be a member of the Chinese badminton team, Indonesia's Alan Budikusuma, Joko Supriyanto and Ardy Wiranata have become full fledged, defeating many of the world's master players. Coached by Han Jian, a retired and famous player with the Chinese team, Malaysia's Sidek brothers and Foo Kok Keong have defeated for two

times the Indonesian team in Thomas Cup finals. The South Korean team is still considered to be formidable enough, however, to defend their title of the world's men's doubles champion.

While the others are advancing in skill by leaps and bounds, the Chinese team is short of reserve force. Although Yang Yang, Xiong Guobao and Zhao Jianhua are among the world's top-notch players and Li Yongbo and Tian Bingyi are among the world's best pairs of doubles and succeeded in defending their honour as the world's champions at the world's Thomas Cup in June, they are somewhat "advanced" in age when compared with the others.

The Chinese women's badminton team is composed of only two veteran players, Guan Weizhen and Shi Fangjing: The new hands, however, can match Li Lingwei and Han Aiping, the ex-world champions, in skill. At the Uber Cup contest last June in Tokyo, the solid performance of these young women—including Tang Jiahong, Huang Hua and Zhou Lei—made it possible for the Chinese women's badminton team to win the championship for the fourth time.

Weightlifting. Statistics collected after the 59th World Weightlifting Tournament show that the success rate of the Chinese lifters stands at only 40 percent. As the forthcoming Asian Games

have gold medal awards for total scores only, the Chinese team, which is stronger in the snatch event, is faced with higher demands.

In group contests, China's Liu Shoubin and He Zhuoqiang, two of the world's top weight lifters, may have certain edge over their rivals. But the strength of the DPRK and South Korean teams can't be neglected. In heavy weight events, Iran and Iraq boast the world's best lifters. It is expected that the Chinese can beat the others only in a few individual events.

Shooting. China is very good in shooting competitions. The many Chinese crack shooters who have broken world records or won world champions include Li Dan, Li Xin, Li Duihong, Wang Yifu, Xu Haifeng, Zhang Shan, Shi Yujie and Wu Lanying. With a sober mind, however, they all understand that this is past glory. Champions of the Asian Games will need to be prepared for a fresh struggle. Zhao Guorui, the chief coach of the Chinese shooting teams, predicted that the Chinese teams will meet tough opponents from Japan, the DPRK and South Korea in some events because they have made big progress.

Gymnastics. Although the retirement of such famous gymnasts as Li Ning, Tong Fei and Lou Yun has weakened the

strength of the Chinese men's team, its third place finish at last year's World Cup is proof that it is still the strongest in Asia. Li Chunyang won the horizontal bar gold medal and Li Jing the parallel bars gold medal—proof that China's men gymnasts are of advanced world level. However, China's advantages in pommel horse and rings have disappeared, and no young gymnasts have come to the fore to take the veterans' place. This will cast a shadow on not only the individual events but also the individual all-round. The Chinese women's team, after a few years' lack-luster performance, has become one of the world's top teams again. At the recent World Cup, the Chinese women's team won a bronze medal and Fan Di received a full mark at the uneven bars. However, team coaches say some of its members are inconsistent in performance; at the World Cup, Yang Bo lost her medal after a fall from balance beam. "Yang Bo and her fellow team members must overcome their weaknesses if they want to win at the Asian Games," said the team coach.

Basketball. Sun Bang, the chief coach of China's men's basketball team, stresses speed, and defeating tall opponents with speed is the demand he has set for the team. At the same time, he stresses collective defence. At the 15th Asian Men's Basketball Tourna-

Chen Zhibin in contest; Fu Minxia, 11, who won the championship for the 10-metre platform diving event at the Friendship Sports Meet held recently in the United States.

ZHANG MING

HAN WICE



ment held last year, the Chinese team gave full play to their speed and tight defence and defeated the South Korean team with an impressive lead in scores.

Unlike their male counterparts, the Chinese women's team adopts a tactic based on the world's No. 1 woman centre, Zheng Haixia. This tactic led to victory over South Korea at the Asian and world women's basketball matches, but only with the insignificant score of one and two. Defence is the weak spot of the Chinese women's basketball team. Its inflexible attacks often offer the South Korean team the opportunity for a counterattack.

Women's Volleyball. China's women's volleyball team had won world championships five times running. Since the retirement of veteran team members and the recruitment of new hands, however, the team was placed only the third at the Seoul Olympic Games and the World Cup in Japan. Its recent victory over the world's champion team of Cuba and the Olympic champion team of the Soviet Union shows that it is making a fast comeback. Lang Ping, the world-renowned "iron hammer," has returned to the team after she announced retirement years ago. Her powerful smashes at the recent friendship sports meet are proof that she is still one of the world's ace spikers. Li Yueming and Lai Yawen are

also famous for their wild cat spring attack and blocking. Wu Dan is good at a running smash at the No. 2 position. Organized into a closely-knit team by Su Huijuan, the setter, they are expected to easily win the competition.

Diving. China is very successful in defending its leading position in diving competition. Xu Yiming, the chief coach, is very far-sighted. The Chinese team has some of the world's best divers, including Gao Min, Xu Yanmei, Chen Xiaodan, Tan Liangde and Xiong Ni. In the recent international contests, however, the winners have been the younger, less well-known divers. According to Xu, these young divers are all good and can rival their big brothers and sisters.

Tennis. China's tennis team has made great progress during the year. A number of the team members have been widely accepted as Asia's most competitive players. The women players Li Fang, Tang Min and Chen Li won the single championship, and the men players Pan Bing, Xia Jiaping, Zhang Juhua and Liu Shuhua once defeated Indonesian and the Philippine teams to enter, for the first time, the Davis Cup world group. They are expected to perform well at the forthcoming Asian Games.

Fencing. China and South Korea are both good in fencing. Although Luan Jujie, the epee mas-

ter, has retired, new hands such as Xiao Aihua and E Jie are also quite good. Their combination is to the Chinese team's advantage but whether China can defeat South Korea depends on performance.

Considerable Progress in Basic Events

Swimming. The Japanese have always taken the lead in the swimming competition but this time the Chinese are expected to give them a good challenge in Beijing.

At the Ninth Asian Games, the Chinese men swimmers walked off with three golds for the first time in the history of the Asian Games.

At the 10th Asian Games, the Chinese men's and women's swimming teams (four men and six women) splashed home with ten gold medals.

At the Asian Swimming Championship held in April 1988, the Chinese team carried away 24 golds, outshining Japan for the first time in Asian competitions. Yang Wenyi broke the world record in the 50-metre free style by 24.98 seconds.

At the Seoul Olympic Games five months later, Yang Wenyi, Huang Xiaomin and Zhuang Yong captured three silver medals for China. Previously, no Chinese swimmers had ever en-

Zhang Hongyuan at practice; Zhuang Yong, winner of the 100-metre free-style silver medal at the Seoul Olympic Games.

ZENG ZHILIAN



LAN HONGGUANG

tered the last 16 swimming pool events of the Olympic Games.

These recent events show that China has made a lot of headway in swimming. Currently, the Chinese women swimmers have gained the upper ground in Asia and the records of many of them have advanced to the top ten in the world. Apart from Yang Wenyi, Huang Xiaomin and Zhuang Yong, Qian Hong, Lin Li, Wang Xiaohong and Xia Fujie have also become strong competitors in swimming circles and it will be no surprise if some of them break world records at the Asian Games.

Shen Jianqiang's 50-metre free style, 100-metre free style and 100-metre butterfly records were among the world's ten best in 1989.

The Japanese, however, will not easily give up their swimming positions. They have had the honour of taking 14 gold medals at the previous Olympic Games, placing themselves fourth in the world. Although Suzuki Daichi, the Japanese champion of the Seoul Olympic Games, decided not to take part in the forthcoming

Asian Games, a news report said that new Japanese swimmers are powerful competitors. The swimming records of some Japanese women swimmers, in particular, have surpassed Chinese swimming stars. Experts predict a gruelling swimming competition between the Chinese and Japanese swimmers.

Track and Field. Except for some good records set by Chinese track athletes in jumping, China's field and hurling events lag behind other countries. However, after Li Meisu whose shot put ranked third place at the 1988 Seoul Olympic Games, Chinese women athletes won gold and silver medals at some important competitions last year. It is certain that in their attempt to distinguish themselves at the Beijing Asian Games, they are sure at least to give a good show.

In March 1989, Huang Zhihong was the women shot put silver medalist at the Second World Indoor Track and Field Championships.

In August 1989, Huang Zhihong and Hou Xuemei won the shot put and discus golds at the

15th World University Games.

In September, Huang Zhihong won a gold medal, the first for Asia in a world track and field competition, at the Third World Cup Track and Field Competition. Hou Xuemei and Zhang Li also stood on the winners' podium to receive women's discus throw and javelin throw silver medals.

In the same month, the Chinese team won the team champion, individual gold and silver medals of the women's 15-kilometre race at the Seventh World Championships.

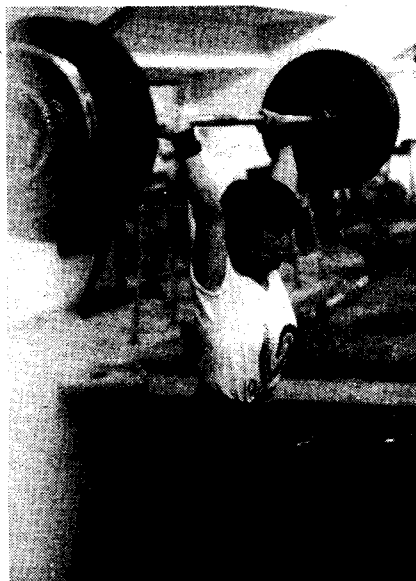
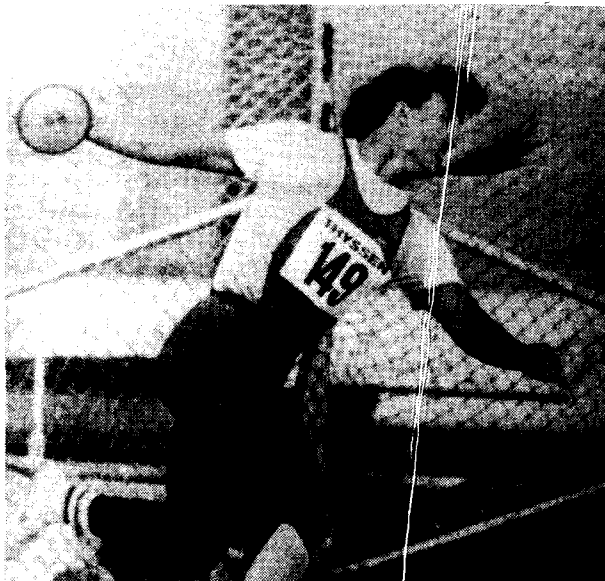
In addition, the Chinese athletes also won the women's silver team title of the 10-kilometre heel-to-toe walking at the World Cup and third place at the women's World Cup marathon.

In a dim room near the track and field playground of the training bureau under the State Physical Culture and Sports Commission, Huang Zhihong, who has just finished practising barbell, was engaged in hurling practice under the direction of her coach Kan Fulin. Although some consider Huang a careless, talkative girl, she is scrupulous about her

Hou Xuemei in a competition. She won the gold medal for discus at the 15th World University Student Sports Meet; Xing Feng won the championship for the world's 44-kg women's weightlifting tournament two times in succession.

ZJANG RIQQO

PAN JIAMIN



training. By the end of June this year, she threw the shot 21.52 metres, the world's second best this year, exceeding her own record in Asia.

In many other events, the records of Chinese women athletes are also on the top in Asia.

Liu Shuzhen has jumped over 6.9 metres in the women's long jump, a record approached by some of her team members. Their target is to clear 7 metres at the 11th Asian Games. Liu Huajin and Feng Yinghua are outstanding competitors in the women's 100-metre hurdle race. Also, some Chinese women athletes are in excellent form in the women's 100 and 200 metre dash. Their major opponent is P.T. Usha from India. The Chinese girls are also good at the women's 4 x 100 metre relay.

Chinese women athletes may lose gold medals in the high jump and other long-distance race events. Earlier this year, the records of Japanese girls' 10,000-metre race and marathon were better than Chinese athletes. But Wang Xiuting, a key member of the Chinese team, was out of the competition with a leg injury. Jin Ling, who set a 1.97-metre Asian record in the high jump, has sustained injury. Japanese athletes may thus gain an upper ground in the two events.

However, worries about women's track and field events are fewer than concern for Chinese performance in the men's field events. Except for Chinese men athletes who have an advantage in 110-metre high hurdles, Chinese records, from 100 metres to marathon, including 3,000-metre steeple chase, are not as good as the Japanese athletes, to say nothing of the latent dragons in western Asia and India. Of course, the

Chinese athletes are also fairly strong in the 100-metre, 4 x 100 metre relay and 10,000-metre race.

Chinese athletes are stronger in most field events than other countries in Asia and have chalked up good results in shot put, discus and hammer throw. But nobody can match favourably with Japan's Mizoguchi Kayo in the javelin throw who has set the record of over 80 metres. Athletes in various Asian countries are pretty well and equal in high jump, long jump, hop and pole-vault. The decathlon event, however, will be a competition between athletes on either side of the Taiwan Straits and Japan's Kaneko Munehiro. Yang Chuanguang, the Asian decathlon champion, said he expected his record to be broken in Beijing.

Advantages in New Events

The Chinese athletes will hold the upper hand in the newly established events of *wushu* (martial arts), women's softball, women's weightlifting, women's football, rowing, canoeing and yacht racing.

Rowing. In Asia, Chinese athletes have acquired the reputation of being "good at rowing." At the 10th Asian Games, they walked off with nine out of ten golds. As in other events, Chinese women

athletes are better than the men. The Chinese women rowers, in fact, are going to set the pace. At the Seoul Olympic Games, the Chinese women's rowing team won one silver and one copper medal.

Canoeing. Before the 1984 Olympic Games held in Los Angeles, China had already carried out training for the canoeing competition. The sport began earlier in China than in other Asian countries. China also has developed fairly high training skills and techniques.

Chinese canoeing team members are sturdy and tall, flexible in body, good co-ordination with physical conditions matching the world's strongest teams. They are top-notch in Asia. At present, the Chinese women team is strong in three events. In ten men's events, the Chinese will meet the challenge from Japan and South Korea.

Women's Weightlifting. In the past three years, Chinese women weight lifters have won 86 golds in the world and set new world records on several hundred occasions. In Shilong town of Guangdong Province, the home of weightlifting, Chinese weight lifters have undergone hard but fruitful training and have improved their records in snatch and jerk events. Some of their records have greatly surpassed world records.

Women's Football. Although there is only one gold for the women's football, it has singular importance for China in the eyes of many fans who have placed their hope on the Chinese women team. The Chinese women's football team twice garnered the Asian Cup and defeated such strong teams as the Netherlands, France and the United States. All members of the Chinese

Lin Zhiai (right) and Zeng Meilan won silver medals for light-duty two-people, single-oar boating competition at the 15th World University Student Sports Meet. ZHANG RUIYU





GUANG HANYI

Li Qinghua, vice-chairman and secretary-general of the China Taipei Olympic Committee, meets Li Furong, Huang Zhihong and other world champions in Beijing.

women football team are in good shape and quite methodical in their playing. Wu Weiyang and Li Xiufu are outstanding stars of the team and their excellent individual techniques have played the role of "dagger" and "soul" on the team.

Backward Events Improved

Boxing, Wrestling and Cycling. These events have long been China's worst. Chinese sportsmen, however, are determined to make a breakthrough with their counterparts from the DPRK, South Korea, Thailand, Japan, Iran and Mongolia. Some promising Chinese boxing players received training for a period of time in the United States and their skill has improved to some extent as a result. Cyclists often ride a daily distance equivalent to two round trips between Beijing and Tianjin. This has greatly improved their speed and endurance.

Men's Football. Although China is among Asia's strongest football teams, it has never become a real champion in Asia. After their failure to go to Rome, the Chinese men's football team has undergone some changes but, judging from recent warm-up matches, their play is not as good

as people expected. Even though the height of the Chinese team members is the best in Asia, it will really take a lot of effort for the Chinese football team to compete with the Japanese, South Korean and Indian teams. Last year, the Chinese football team has lost much more ground than it has gained.

China's Taipei Delegation

On April 4 this year, Taiwan decided to take part in the 11th Asian Games. The China Taipei Olympic Committee will dispatch a delegation of 414, including 305 athletes, to take part in the games.

Since the 1970 Bangkok Asian Games, Taiwan athletes have not taken part in the Asian Games. Their re-emergence in the Asian Games will offer an opportunity for them to display their strength.

In recent years, athletes from both sides of the Taiwan Straits have had several contacts in international competitions. This will be the first time, however, for them to have a major competition on their own soil. Li Qinghua, vice-chairman and secretary-general of the Taipei Olympic Committee, said that since Taiwan has left the Asian Games for 20 years but will now again take

part in the Asian Games on China's mainland, the participation will be of particular significance to Taiwan.

The Taipei Olympic Committee has decided that Taiwan athletes will take part in 20 of the 29 Asian Games' events in Beijing (including two demonstration events). People from the Taiwan sports circles have paid close attention to their participation in the Asian Games with pre-competition training conducted early this year. In January, the Taiwan Table-Tennis Association selected 12 men and 12 women table-tennis players who trained together with the table-tennis players on the mainland. At the same time, after their first stage of training, the first ten of 20 Taiwanese gymnasts were selected for the second stage of training. In May, six gymnasts were selected to take part in the Asian Games. In addition, work on the selection trials for Taiwan's tennis players and the training of women's football players for the Asian Games had also gotten under way.

Athletes who received training for the Asian Games conducted by the Taiwan Physical Culture and Sports Association entered the last stage in June. They began to receive general training in July for a period of 60 days before the games. In order to enable Taiwan athletes to make a good show, the relevant departments in Taiwan agreed that individual events' associations can send their athletes to take part in competitions and training on the mainland.

Taiwan's strong events include golf, women's softball, women's football, women's tennis, women's judo, shooting and table-tennis. In the track and field events, Wang Shuhua and Peng Huanshu are gold medal winners in youth track and field championships and the men's all-round champions in Asia. In addition, Gu Jinshui and Li Fuen are powerful competitors for the title of "Asia's No. 1 iron man." ■

Military Training for University Students

by Our Staff Reporter Li Ming

Beginning last October, some 728 freshmen of Beijing University received ten months of military training at the Shijiazhuang Army College of the People's Liberation Army (PLA). This experience helped the students improve their academic work and provided them with both ideological and physical training.—Ed.

At six in the morning, He Qing, a female student from Beijing, quickly got up at the first bugle call and put on her army uniform. In four minutes, she and her roommates had lined themselves up for the morning drill. Ten months before, however, the idea that she would be one of the 728 freshmen of Beijing University to receive military training was almost inconceivable to her. She and other students, however, managed to successfully complete their unforgettable life at the military college on July 17 this year.

Educational Reform

Wu Shuqing, a noted economist who took the post of president of Beijing University last year, believes the military training course is a key part of educational reform. At present, he says, the separation of theory from practice is a common problem among university students and has resulted in many being unqualified for their jobs after graduation. In recent years par-

ticularly, the neglect of ideological and political education confused students and resulted in lax discipline. Many students did not have a basic understanding of either China's national conditions or socialism, a problem which prevented them from becoming worthy successors to the socialist cause. Given this situation, Wu pioneered the use of the military course for reform.

According to China's Military Service Law, the students of institutions of higher learning must receive basic military training during their study in school. The aim is to cultivate students' values and love for the Chinese Communist Party, the people, the socialist motherland and labour, enhance their sense of discipline and turn them into outstanding youth with high military and political qualities. In recent years, many institutions of higher learning in China, including Beijing University, offered military training among the students in different ways. Most invited military instructors to train the students

for two to three months. This time, however, Beijing University moved the training on to a military college and extended the programme's length of time.

In a talk about the reform, President Wu said, "The PLA has a glorious revolutionary tradition, a fine style of work and iron discipline. The military college is a place to train senior military commanders where all of the above features are brought into focus. This is why we chose a military college for the training programme. Here, in military barracks, the students feel that they are army-men and, therefore, set the same strict demands on themselves as do soldiers." He pointed out that the extended time for the military training is needed so that ideological education and academic training can be conducted at one time and to ensure that the students have a rich life in the military college.

Major General Xiang Xu, political commissar of the Shijiazhuang Army College, said that he was much taken by the young people. Although his col-

lege, a famous military school, has trained many outstanding commanders, it was the first time that it had hosted such a large number of university students. The new situation required the school to adapt itself to the needs of the students.

According to Xiang, the curriculum is comprised of military training, political education and academic study, 29 percent, 40 percent and 26 percent respectively, with the remaining 5 percent taken up by social investigation and camp and field training. The military course includes military theory, drilling, shooting and hand-to-hand combat. The political and academic courses include the history of Chinese revolution, China's socialist construction, English language, Chinese and 14 other subjects, all of which receive university credit. The audio room for English study in the military college is equipped with up-to-date facilities which compare favourably to the first-rate equipment found in other institutions of higher learning.

At present, China's university graduates are asked to work in

the grass roots for one year after they are assigned a work unit. This is a probationary time and those who prove themselves qualified during probation become regular staff of the state. The students who have undergone the one-year military training, however, are exempt from the probationary period and become regular staff of the state upon graduation after four years of study in the university.

Unforgettable Experiences

Students who have undergone the military training have good things to say about the programme.

Luo Jun, a student from Yibin, Sichuan Province, said, "To me, military training is an extraordinary experience. I've learned a lot."

Wang Yan, a female student, said, "Whether or not we admit it today, one day we will realize the advantages military training provided us."

Most students found that the military training taught them many things they had never come across before and enhanced their collective spirit

and their sense of organization and discipline.

Sun Hong and eight other girls from the department of biology made up the fifth group of the 19th squadron. Looking very tanned now, they said that they were not used to life at the camp when they first arrived. Their hair was cut short and they had to get up very early in the morning. The most unpleasant thing, however, was that they were criticized for "trivial matters."

Yang Qing, the group head, had responsibilities similar to that borne by the head of an army squad. "In daily life," she said, "the demands on us were as strict as on cadets of the military college. There were all sorts of stipulations, such as the way the quilt was to be folded, the place where military caps were put, how towels should be hung and the way a toothbrush was to be placed."

However, the students found the camp and field training an unforgettable experience. During the training in early May this year, they marched 250 km to Taihang Mountains. Although their skin was sunburnt and many had blisters in their feet, no one dropped out.

The squadron leaders and political and military instructors are the most outstanding officers and teachers of the army college faculty. Wu Afeng, 34, lieutenant colonel, was the 19th squadron's political instructor. Although she trained soldiers for the military review on National Day in 1984, she says that training students was even more demanding. "It was easy to get along with the students. But it was extremely difficult to get them used to the army's style of work and discipline. At the beginning, they didn't understand

Students bid a sad farewell to their instructor at the Shijiazhuang Railway Station.

ZHANG XIARUN



why they should fall in and line up for anything. This was a particular problem with the girls. More sensitive, they easily shed tears. Now, however, they're much different."

The students said Wu, though she was very stern with her criticisms, looked after them as if she were an elder sister. She commanded respect and obedience from everyone.

All the students feel that although their experience in the army college was only temporary, it was one they would not have found anywhere else and would exert a great influence on their lives in the future.

Life-Long Benefits

A student who joined the Communist Party during the military training said, "There, I learnt what it's like to have a collective spirit, unity, tenacity and the ability to bear hardships. These non-intellectual factors are necessary for academic studies. It doesn't negate creativity."

The ten-month military and political training helped the students gain a profound understanding of the roles played by the Chinese Communist Party in leading the Chinese people to carry out revolution and construction. Many applied to join the Communist Party during the military training, and 38 were enrolled.

The military training not only enhanced the students' military knowledge and built up their physical health, but also helped them mature both politically and ideologically. When he summed up the gains made by the students, General Xiang Xu noted that they affirmed their belief in socialism, drew clear distinctions between the right

and wrong concerning cardinal political issues, combined diligent study with patriotism, and strengthened their value concepts.

According to General Xiang, the army college organized the students to study Marxism, Leninism and Mao Zedong Thought and to learn about China's national conditions. In the first term, very few students brought any political books with them. In the second term, however, when the students returned after the winter vacation, 90 percent of them brought Marxist-Leninist classics. The students, on their own, also organized several dozen Marxist-Leninist study groups which later encompassed nearly all the students. Through such study, the students said, they have a new understanding of Marxism, Leninism and Mao Zedong Thought and socialism.

During the camp and field training, the students marched to the Taihang Mountains, a trip which offered them an opportunity to get to know China's national conditions. The Taihang Mountains were a revolutionary base area during both China's War of Resistance Against Japan and the Liberation War, and the local people there made tremendous contributions to the victory of China's revolution. After 40 years of construction, great changes have taken place there, but it is still quite backward in many respects. The students saw first hand the living and working conditions of the local people and, afterwards, had a stronger understanding of the need to maintain social stability. A student told this reporter, "Modernization in a country like China must be based on the country's own national conditions; China must blaze its own road and not

blindly copy Western methods. I feel the heavy social responsibility on my shoulders. The only way for the youth of my generation to help China is to integrate ourselves with the workers and peasants and combine what we have learnt with practice."

President Wu Shuqing said the outcome of the military training was as expected. It was, he says, a successful attempt at educational reform.

A Continuous Practice

On July 7, President Wu told more than 60 Chinese and foreign reporters on a visit to the Shijiazhuang Army College that the educational reform of military and political training among students would continue. He said that the 1,600 freshmen to be enrolled at Beijing University this year will first receive military training at the Shijiazhuang Army College and at another military school.

At the ceremony marking the end of the military programme on July 17, Li Tieying, minister of the State Education Commission, disclosed that the State Council had agreed that the Fudan University in Shanghai will follow the example of Beijing University and send its freshmen to receive military training at two military colleges beginning this year.

Despite the successful efforts by Beijing University in this reform, many people doubt whether it can be put into practice by every institution of higher learning throughout China. The number of military colleges is, after all, limited and they lack the resources to train all university students. Other universities and colleges, therefore, need to explore new ways to provide military training for their students. ■

Mainland Official on Taiwan Joining GATT

An official with the Ministry of Foreign Economic Relations and Trade recently said that there was no question of the Chinese government standing in the way of Taiwan joining the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade (GATT), much less the mainland deprives Taiwan of its "international living space."

When GATT was established in 1948, the official said, China was one of the 23 signatories to the treaty. After the founding of the People's Republic of China in 1949, the Taiwan authorities illegally declared withdrawal from GATT in March 1950 in the name of the Republic of China. The most important question is the resolution to the matter of China resuming its position as a signatory to a treaty. In July 1986, the Chinese government formally requested that its GATT position be restored. This was welcomed and supported by the other signatories. Since then, great progress has been made in negotiations.

The official stressed that Taiwan is part of China. In light of the principles of international law and related international practice, Taiwan has no right to apply for GATT membership. If Taiwan does want such a status, the following two premises must be considered first. First, its membership must follow the restoration of China's position as a GATT signatory; second, the Taiwan authorities must solicit the central government before it applies for GATT membership.

Some Taiwan compatriots, arising from their desire to help the Taiwan economy and develop its foreign trade, hope to resolve as early as possible the problem of Taiwan's GATT membership. The official said, however, they do not understand historical conditions and are unable to see through the Taiwan authority's attempt to split the country and foment "one Taiwan, one China" and "one country,

two governments" by using the question of GATT membership.

He also said that only the realization of reunification of the motherland can create a bigger space for Taiwan to manoeuvre, and a more favourable external environment for Taiwan's economic development. He hoped that the Taiwan authorities should adopt a sensible attitude and practical measures to contact and consult with the mainland in order to create the necessary conditions for Taiwan's GATT membership. All problems could be resolved if the two sides sit down and talk, he said. ■

ST' Apparatus Well Received Abroad

With evident positive effects for the cure of many diseases, particularly epilepsy, the ST-bionics wide-frequency therapeutic apparatus has enjoyed brisk sales abroad. The amount of goods ordered by foreign businessmen is continuously increasing; products are now sold to 15 countries and regions including the United States, Japan and Taiwan.

The apparatus was developed by the Guangdong Zhaoqing Dinghu Biomedical Engineering Research Institute under the supervision of the Chinese Medical Association. Trialelinal application indicates that it has quite good effects in promoting metabolism, regulating the nervous system, and improving tissue repairment, the body's immune system and organ regeneration. A cure rate of epilepsy of more than 95 percent has been reached.

In addition to the mentioned products, Li Bing, head of the Dinghu institute, said that his institute had also developed bionics wide-frequency **Sauna** product. This product, by irradiating the body, can improve blood circulation and speed up metabolism. It is an ideal keep-fit equipment which helps get rid of fatigue and treat diseases. The product now similarly enjoys a ready market abroad. ■

Janssen Medicine Co. Goes Well

The Xian Janssen Medicine Co. Ltd., a Sino-Belgium joint venture, grew in both production and sales during the first half of this year. Sales, for example, exceeded 95 million yuan including US\$3 million in export, earning 13 million yuan of profits.

The company's 1989 export totalled US\$4.3 million with sales of 78 million yuan. It is estimated that this year exports will reach US\$10 million while sales 189 million yuan.

With a total investment of 152 million yuan, the Janssen company, China's largest pharmaceutical joint venture, has largest variety and the most complete forms of medicine. With imported equipment, the venture conducts auto-assembly line processes and programme control operation in line with standards of medical production and management established by the World Health Organization. The venture was partially put into production in April 1989 and the remaining part in March this year.

According to Feng Sijing, the company's chairman of the board of directors, all the venture's products were selected from patent products invented by the Janssen Co. of Belgium. Of small dosage, they are easy to use, safe and reliable and create good effects. It is learned presently, eight different types of products, six forms of medicine and 20 specifications are available in the market.

The company's Belgian representative said that the Janssen was satisfied in the successful cooperation with China and confident of the future for the joint company. It is learned the Janssen Medicine Scientific Research Institute of international standards, funded by the Belgian government, will be established in the Xian Janssen Medicine Co. By then, the world-acknowledged technology used to produce selected and effective medicines will be applied to the Chinese pharmaceutical industry. ■

'China Pictorial' Celebrates 40th Birthday

I have been a subscriber to *China Pictorial* for more than 30 years. I read each issue with great interest. Most of my knowledge and understanding of your beautiful and great country I owe to your lovely magazine."

So wrote Jean-Jacques d'Anne, a senior UNESCO official, in expressing a common view held by readers of *China Pictorial*, which celebrated its 40th birthday on July 18.

Founded in 1950, *China Pictorial* is a large format, richly illustrated monthly pictorial published in 17 languages: Chinese (inland and Hong Kong editions), Tibetan, English, Russian, French, German, Japanese, Thai, Hindu, Swedish, Korean, Arabic, Urdu, Spanish, Italian, Swahili and Romanian. No other Chinese magazine has so many different editions.

By July of this year it had published 505 issues—it did not even stop publication during the "cultural revolution." It now sells 600,000 copies a month, 50 percent of the total of all of China's foreign-language magazines. It is sold in more than 150 countries and regions.

In reflecting on the past 40 years, director and editor-in-chief Xing Yan said proudly, "*China Pictorial* has made a candid and vivid record of the basic conditions and social transformation of socialist China. The important activities of Party and state leaders, development of Sino-foreign relations, achieve-

ments in industry and agriculture, in culture and education, the new life and spirit of the people of all the nationalities in China have all been reflected in *China Pictorial*, providing its readers a comprehensive picture of socialist New China.

"In the past 10 years, especially, we have worked hard to improve our magazine, enrich its content and make various reforms in consideration of subject matter, pictures and layout which resulted in remarkable improvements in the pictorial.

"For example, *Hello, Xiaoping*, published in the 12th issue of 1986, took the lead in introducing the life story of Deng Xiaoping with many valuable historical pictures. The report has been reprinted in many Chinese and foreign magazines.

"In recent years, articles about reform and opening up to the outside world have taken a leading position in the pictorial's subject matter, such as the detailed introduction to the Shenzhen Special Economic Zone (SEZ), the Shantou SEZ and the Zhuhai SEZ, sea port cities like Shanghai, Tianjin, Guangzhou and Dalian, and the rapid economic growth in China's rural areas.

"Many reports, such as *Beijing's Overloaded Transportation, Housing Problem in Beijing* and *The Vegetable Basket of Shanghai People*, have attracted wide social concern."

During the past four de-

acades, *China Pictorial* reporters have been to all parts of the country and many parts of the world, have witnessed many historical events and shot more than 400,000 excellent pictures that have been edited into picture books such as *China Sceneries, Chinese Wonders, The Silk Road—On Land and Sea, Cultural Relics Unearthed in China, Potted Landscapes* and *Chinese Dishes*.

Party and state leaders have held *China Pictorial* in high regard. The late Chairman Mao Zedong wrote the name of the magazine in his own calligraphy and the late Premier Zhou Enlai provided many specific instructions. On the occasion of the magazine's 40th anniversary, Party General-Secretary Jiang Zemin, Deng Xiaoping and Premier Li Peng all wrote congratulations.

Xing extended special thanks to the more than 130 foreign experts who have worked for the magazine during the past four decades. These experts not only shouldered many heavy tasks in translation and polishing work but also helped their Chinese colleagues to improve their professional skills.

They also made worthwhile suggestions on improving the magazine's content and layout and some even wrote articles. The foreign experts have made outstanding contributions to *China Pictorial*, Xing said.

by Hong Lanxing

International Fine Arts Awards

Jia Youfu, Song Yugui and Dong Jining—three painters who have made outstanding contributions to Chinese art, received the Art Award by the Beijing International Fine Arts Federation.

The Beijing International Fine Arts Federation, established in 1985, was the first Sino-foreign (Japanese) joint venture in the cultural field. It contributes profits to the Art Fund and presents the annual Art Award by the Beijing International Fine Arts Federation to outstanding artists, theorists, educators and activists, as well as to inventors of art techniques and equipment.

The appraisal committee consists of such well-known artists as Zhou Sicong, Jin Shangyi, Liu Shubo and others, with Wu Zuren, chairman of the Chinese Artists' Association, as honorary chairman. The awards this year were open to artists under the age of 55 who work in the Chinese ink-and-wash medium. They were judged not on the quality of one painting, but a group of works from October 1984 to December 1988.

In November 1988, guidelines for the nomination of candidates were issued to provincial and municipal artists' associations. By May last year, 100 painters had been recommended in 22 provinces and municipalities. The Third Beijing International Fine Arts Chinese Ink-and-Wash Exhibition was then held at the China Art Gallery in Beijing. The appraisal committee made a preliminary selection of 30 pain-

ters and then, after further examination, chose ten candidates. After discussion, it was agreed unanimously that the awards be given to Jia Youfu, Song Yugui and Dong Jining.

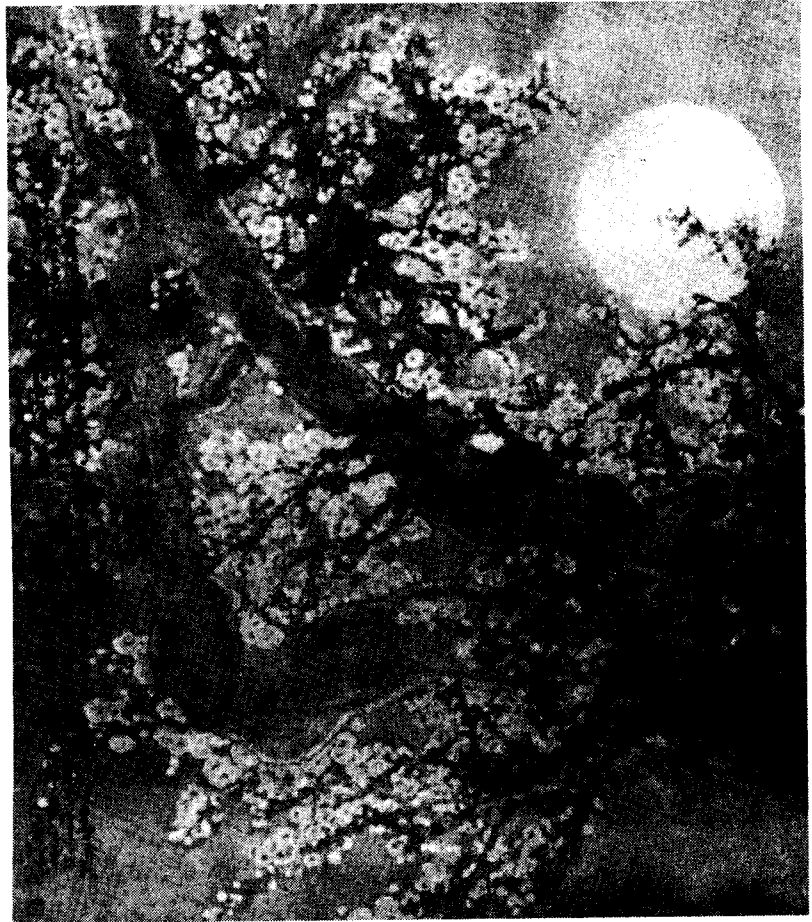
Jia Youfu's paintings (some were published in *Beijing Review*, No. 7, 1987, together with an introduction), "widened the scope of *shan-shui* (mountain-and-river) painting," the com-

Holding the Moon.

mittee said. Each of Jia's works displays a radiant splendour and rich atmospheric style. *Meditation in the Moonlight* faintly shows a person lying inside a thatched cottage in the moonlight; there are a round table and two round stools outside. The painting illuminates the artist's state of mind through its portrayal of the largeness of the universe and the smallness of the human figure.

Large splashes of black, white and gray form the endless universe in Jia's heart. *Morning Walk* depicts a man sauntering along on a donkey through a white snowy world with a crescent moon high in the sky. The superficial image is of the natural world but it reveals the feelings of the painter. *Crossing the An-*

SONG YUGUI



cient Castle and *Silent Poetry* display the outstanding skill of the painter in using the Chinese ink-and-wash style. Both show a stretch of high mountains and convey the painter's thoughts about the truth of the universe and human life.

When accepting the award, this associate professor of Chinese ink-and-wash painting of the Central Academy of Fine Arts described his ideals and motivation: "I want to lay a deep foundation of art on this special Chinese land, to build a jade tower of Chinese ink-and-wash painting in the contemporary world with Chinese national spirit."

Song Yugui gives the impression of not being a good talker but his paintings speak eloquently of his clever characteristics. Song, 50, a senior member of the Liaoning Studio, excels at large

compositions. One of his *shan-shui* landscapes is more than ten metres wide and 1.3 metres high. Works on such a scale are rare among painters of his generation.

Song's award-winning paintings display his inner skill and quality. *Holding the Moon* has excellent colour tone. It is light, harmonious and tasteful. A small white flower bathed in the light from a round moon and set against a warm gray background leaves people drunk with fascination. *Listening to Frogs* and *Faded Wild Flowers* have rich colours. Song has made every effort to use traditional elements to achieve new results.

Dong Jining, a 35-year-old teacher at the Hubei Art College, is the youngest of the three painters. His paintings, like himself, are vivid and natural. His mountains and stones look so hard that you would expect them to ring

when touched. His outlines are clear. When mentioning why he selected Chinese ink and wash as his medium, Dong recalled his life in the villages. "The expanse of nature makes me love the grass and trees in villages. Magnificent mountains make me learn how to become independent and strong. I can feel the expanse and simplicity of the vast fields and enjoy the interesting rural life of mountains, springs and streams. Mountains, rivers, grass and trees have become a part of me."

These experiences have deeply influenced his painting style. His paintings are full of mountains, trees and rivers. *Mountain God* and *Spots of Red Frosted Leaves* all depict the grandeur and strength of mountains. He painted the trees very simply—stout trunks with sparsely spaced short, thick, branches. Just a few drops of colour here and there represent leaves. The trees are drawn on a bright background, creating a very strong impression. In Dong's works, contemporary Western techniques have been integrated with traditional brush and ink, creating a unique and interesting style of his own.

These three painters have different characters and styles. They all painted the moon but Jia Youfu's *Meditation in the Moonlight* shows supernatural beauty in a quiet environment; Song Yugui's *Holding the Moon* expresses the nobility and elegance of a painter; Dong Jining's *Moonlight Song* makes people feel the bold grandeur and strength of the mountains. In their different ways, they have instilled Chinese ink-and-wash painting with new vitality. Their use of traditional and contemporary methods represents a valuable experiment in combining Oriental and Occidental arts.

by Hong Lanxing

Mountain God.

DONG JINING





A Tree.



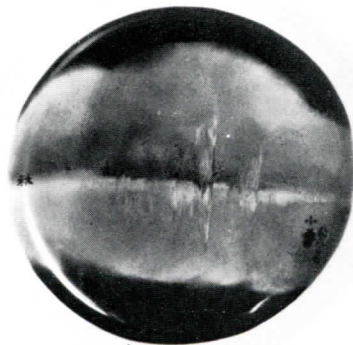
Tulip.

Painted Porcelain Plates

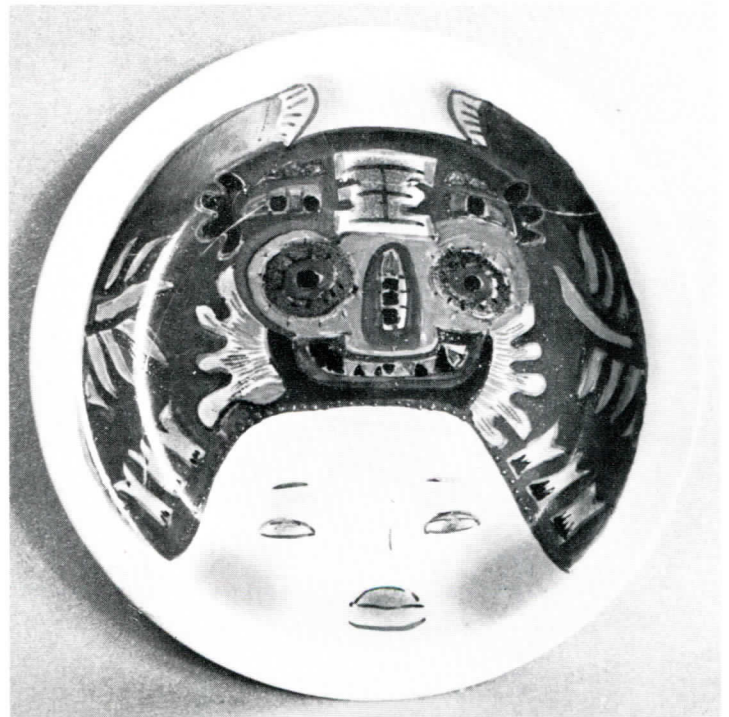
Xiao Lei, born in 1964, made these painted plates by baking them under high temperature. These pieces combine the beauty of fine art and the special characteristics of glazed colored pottery after being processed at high temperature.



Miao Nationality Women.



Autumn.



A Child Wearing a Tiger-Shaped Cap.

BEIJING REVIEW

A Window on China



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- offer insight into the theories, lines, principles and policies of the Chinese Communist Party;
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