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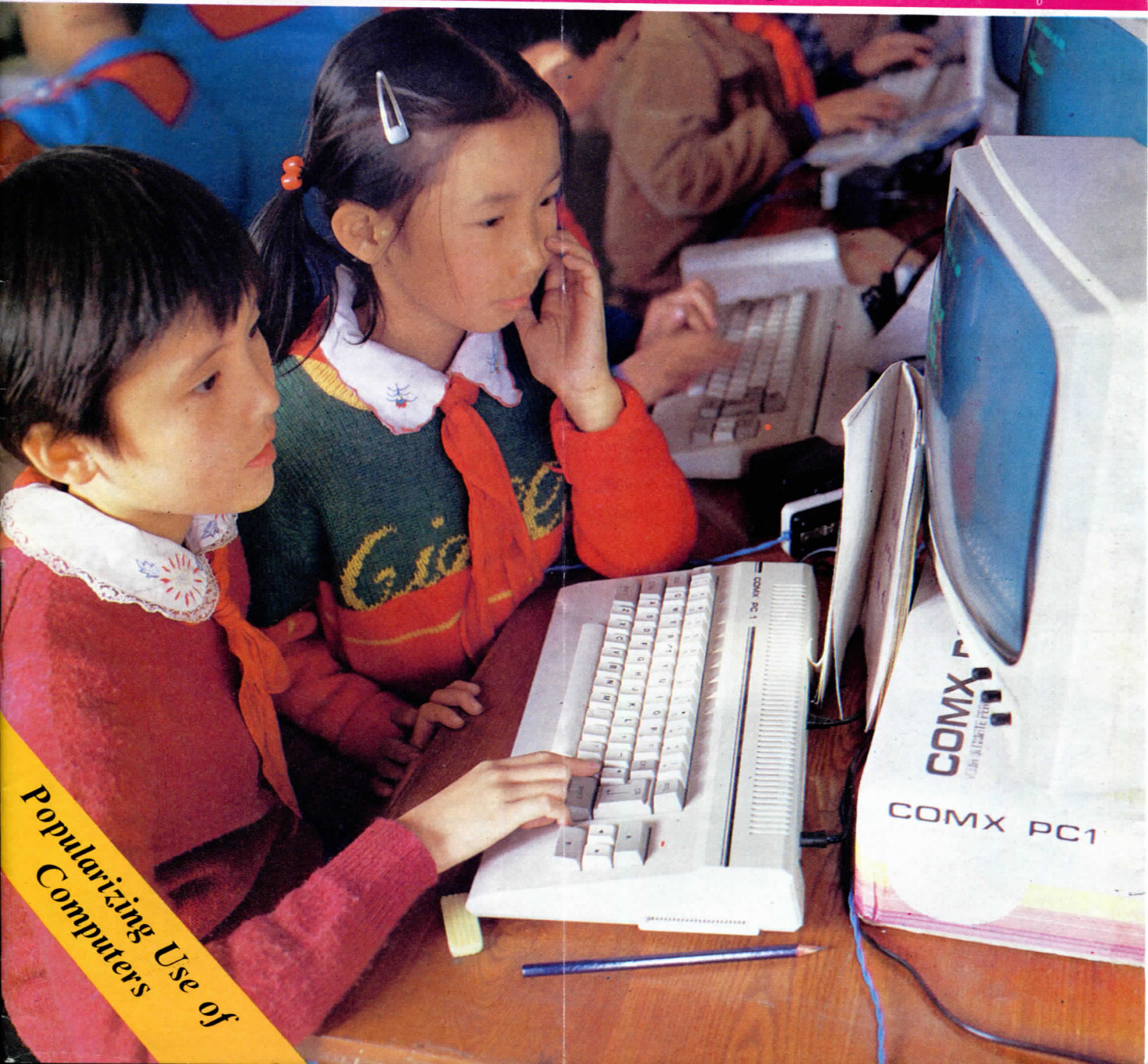
BEIJING REVIEW

北京周报

A CHINESE WEEKLY OF
NEWS AND VIEWS

Why No Polarization Between Rural Rich and Poor

New Trends in Chinese Thought



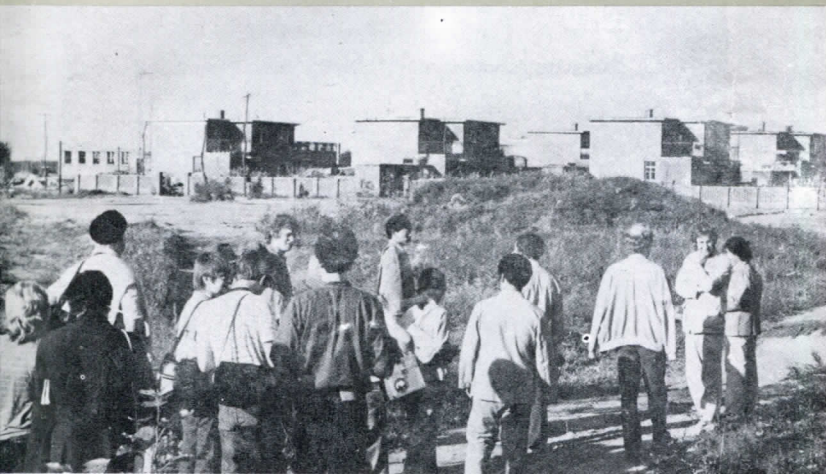
**Popularizing Use of
Computers**

One-Day Tourism in Xisheng Village

Xisheng village, outside Shenyang in Liaoning Province, recently opened its doors to day-long tourist visits. While visiting Xisheng, tourists are treated to an introduction to peasant life in China.



Foreigners on their way to Xisheng village in a horse cart.



A view of Xisheng village with 265 families and 1,000 people.

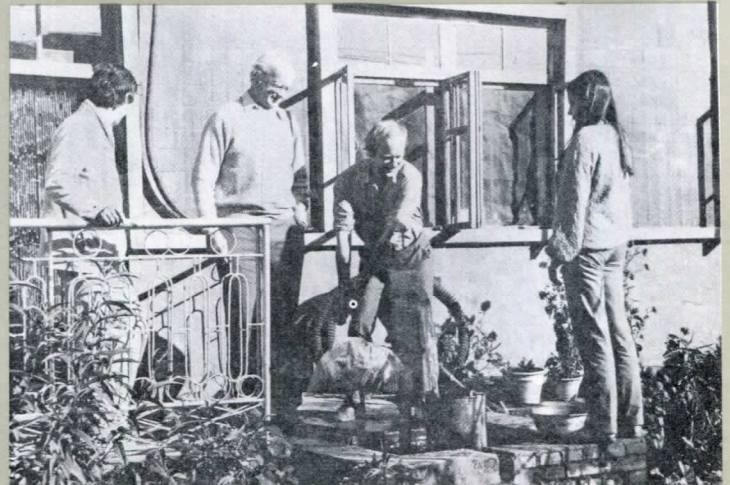


A dinner prepared with local products.

Some foreigners helping the peasants pull up peanuts.



Pumping from a well.



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CONTENTS

NOTES FROM THE EDITORS	4
Will Peasants Be Polarized by Changes?	
LETTERS	5
EVENTS & TRENDS	6-10
Students, Leaders Working for China's Modernization	
Premier Zhao Tours Brazil	
Chinese Farmers Turn Consumers	
Education on Sex Broaches Old Taboo	
INTERNATIONAL	11-14
UN Resolution: Foreign Troops Out of Kampuchea	
Latin America: Area Economics Get Second Wind	
Soviet Union: Bringing Prosperity to Siberia	
Eureka: Cementing the Uncertainty	
Socialist Culture and Ethics in the Making	15
Prognosis for China's Computer Fever	17
Facts and Figures: Commercial Management Diversified	21
Factory Takes Lead to Convert Criminals	22
Economic Situation South of Sahara	24
FROM THE CHINESE PRESS	27-28
BUSINESS & TRADE	29-30
CULTURE & SCIENCE	31-33
SPORTS	34
COVER: Pupils in Beijing's Yumin Primary School having a computer class. Photo by Xu Xiangjun	

HIGHLIGHTS OF THE WEEK

New Trends in Chinese Thought

China's current reforms have led to the emergence of many new trends in the country's ideological fields, including rationalism based on seeking truth from facts, and the development of socialist individuality (p. 15).

Prognosis of China's Computer Fever

Computers, considered the core of the high-tech revolution sweeping the world, have also begun to infiltrate almost every part of Chinese society. Now in the throes of its own computer craze, the world's most populous country has plugged in more than 90,000 computer workers, eight research establishments, 111 factories and 40 service networks (p. 17).

Common prosperity Still Socialism's Goal

Will China's flexible rural policies lead to polarization in the countryside? What steps are being taken to ensure common prosperity for the peasants? *Beijing Review's* economic editor tackles these questions in this week's "Notes From the Editors" ((p. 4).

Paper Mill Recruits Former Delinquents

Reformed delinquents are generally unwelcome at most organizations. But the leadership at a paper mill in Hebei Province has stretched out its arms to an assortment of one-time thieves and burglars, and has in so doing helped them mend their ways (p. 22)

Foreign Troops Out of Kampuchea

One hundred and fourteen countries voted on November 5 for a UN resolution that calls for the withdrawal of all foreign troops in Kampuchea. This shows that the Vietnamese aggression and occupation of Kampuchea has become more and more unpopular (p. 11).

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Will Peasants Be Polarized by Changes?

by **WANG DACHENG**
Economic Editor

Since 1979 when China adopted the contract responsibility system based mainly on individual rural households, there has been an improvement of living standards for the peasants as a whole. But while some families have become well off, others remain rather poor. Does such a situation indicate that China's countryside is being divided into wealthy and poor polar extremes? Will this polarization be intensified?

The answer is "No." As everyone knows, the aim of socialism is that all people achieve common prosperity. Common prosperity, however, does not mean simultaneous prosperity. For a fairly long time in the past, we did not properly understand this question. On the contrary, we indulged in the egalitarianism of "everybody eating from the same big pot." As a result, the peasants' enthusiasm for production waned. There was no common prosperity, only common poverty.

China is vast, and its natural and production conditions vary from place to place. Even among individuals, differences also exist. Therefore, the pace at which the areas and people become prosperous will never be simultaneous. When China advocates that some places and some people enjoy prosperity before others, the aim is to get rid of egalitarianism and the practice of "everybody eating from the same big pot." It is hoped that by doing so, the peasants' enthusiasm for production will be

stimulated. Practice has shown that this policy is effective.

In recent years, China's production of grain, cotton and oil-bearing crops has developed rapidly, and with it, the annual average per-capita income for peasants increased from 133 yuan in 1978 to 355 yuan by 1984. While a small number of peasant households are becoming rather well off, the majority of them have witnessed obvious improvements in their living standards and the percentage of

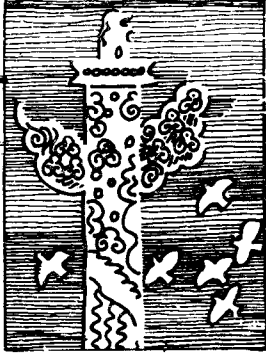
The goal of socialism is to achieve common prosperity for all people. Common prosperity, however, does not mean simultaneous prosperity.

poor households is on the decline. According to a survey of 11 counties in Heilongjiang Province conducted by the State Statistical Bureau in 1984, affluent households — those with per-capita incomes above 500 yuan — accounted for 18 percent of the total, while households with per-capita incomes between 200 and 500 yuan accounted for 60 percent. The low-income households made up 22 percent. The percentage of households that earn 10,000 yuan or more each year is very small. A survey conducted in Beijing, Hebei, Shandong, Liaoning, Jiangsu, Shaanxi and Heilongjiang revealed there are 150,000 households earning at least 10,000 yuan a year in the six provinces and one municipality, making such households only 0.3 percent of all peasant households.

China's rural situation is by no means one of polarities or extremes. By polarization, we mean the division of classes, that is, a small number of people owning the means of production and profiting from others' toil. In China's countryside, however, although the land has been contracted to individual peasant households, who are in turn allowed to recontract it to others, land still remains under public ownership. Moreover, most of those peasants who have prospered have won their prosperity through their own labour. Some of them have mastered comparatively advanced agricultural technologies and have implemented scientific farming techniques; some have done well in diversified development; some are more skilled in management than others, and some have bought new machines and equipment.

It is true that hired labour has appeared in China's countryside. However, this is rare. At present, the related state departments are making preparations to draft a law in this field. The principle is, on the one hand, to turn hired labour into a co-operative effort, and on the other, to restrict the unfettered development of hired labour through policies and taxation. As repeatedly pointed out by Chinese leaders recently, public ownership and common prosperity are the fundamental socialist principles to which we must adhere. If polarization appears because of our policies, it will be our failure.

In order to help the underdeveloped areas and poor households achieve prosperity, large-scale activ-



ities are now being advocated in China's countryside to encourage the wealthy areas and households to help poor ones. At the same time, the state has also adopted a policy to render support to the poor, such as delegating more decision-making powers to them, exempting them from agricultural and income taxes, and allocating funds for the poor areas and households to improve their production conditions and raise their productivity. In 1984, a total of 2.43 million poor households with an annual per-capita income under 150 yuan received support of one kind or another. Among them, 1.3 million have since seen improvements in living standards.

With the development of production, some peasant households have volunteered to organize new economic entities. Within these new economic organizations, there is both division of labour and co-operation. Unlike the old rural co-operatives, which were based on villages and administrative regions, these are economic entities that bypass natural barriers and are set up on a voluntary basis by the peasants according to the different needs of production, marketing and raw material supplies. By the end of 1984, the number of such economic organizations had exceeded 460,000 and involved more than 3.5 million people, roughly 1 percent of the total rural labour force. Though a small number, these co-operative efforts indicate the trend for future development in China's countryside. No doubt, the new economic organizations will help the peasants achieve common prosperity.

LETTERS

Comments & Suggestions

I am writing about the sports article in the recent issue of *Beijing Review*, vol. 28, No. 30 dated July 29, 1985. As a subscriber for many years, this particular article was of special interest to me as I am confined to a wheelchair with MS, or multiple sclerosis. The photo of the athletes parading at the Beijing marathon caught my eye. The wheelchairs the athletes were using are of a design so much different than the ones we usually see. It looks much more comfortable and useful than mine. I would like to know if I might obtain some information about it. I know from experience what it is like to be confined to a wheelchair and that any convenience it provides is so welcome. This article was very well-presented and was on a subject that most people don't know much about. Please keep up the excellent publication.

Willard G. Sibus
NY, USA

I read your magazine while on a tourist boat on the Yangtze River.

I especially appreciated the articles about your internal affairs. China has fine wishes and a practical spirit. I also appreciated views on the third world and on peace, and your efforts in these areas. Would you please report on China's geography, agriculture, ecology, irrigation, arts and literature?

Because China has so many interesting things to tell, I could hardly know which is the best subject for me. But I think stories on Chinese culture should include classical music, *Wushu* and *Tai Ji Quan*.

Negre Simone
Moissac, France

Spotlight and Art Page Appreciated

I do not much care for your front and back covers, but I like the inner front cover and the "Art Page." I also especially like the "China-Japan's Humour Exchange Show" (No. 30 issue, in Japanese Edition). I was disappointed, however, in the black and white photos on your inner front cover. The Chinese workers' humour pictures on this show, showed me that the Chinese artist could use one picture showing all his thoughts. It is different for the Japanese artist, whose pictures usually show everyday life stories, which may be hard for the Chinese to understand. The Chinese humour pictures are easy to remember, and very funny.

Mikio Sudo
Chiba, Japan

In addition, I particularly like the "International" column. The international articles made me think of the uncountable contributions the Chinese people and CPC had made in the struggle against imperialism.

Ferdi Med Lyamine
Setif, Algeria

I think the layout of *Beijing Review* should be brighter and more striking. The layout should be in this order: 1. international news, 2. current policy and trends, 3. reports and 4. everyday life.

I think the most important thing is, to publish articles in series about Chinese history, tourism and culture. You might also publish stories about the Silk Road, religion and the historical ties between China and the West.

Lore Kohler
Munchen, FRG

Students, Leaders Working For China's Modernization

Students in Guizhou University never thought they would be having supper with the provincial Party committee secretary, Hu Jintao, when he visited their campus recently.

Over the meal the hosts and their guest chatted about how to take advantage of the natural resources of Guizhou, in southwest China, and how to improve living standards.

Hu, at 42, was following the practice of many leading Party officials nationwide who have visited universities and colleges in the last few weeks to hold discussions with students. The main themes are last September's national Party conference, domestic and international affairs. During the visits the leaders turned a ready ear to student views on the current economic reforms.

After looking around the campus, Hu was invited to a dormitory, where a group of students were playing chess and asked him to join them. "I'll have a go with you next time. It's my first time to your university and I want to make more friends," he told them.

A law student told the secretary she was afraid she would not be able to become a judge because of the social prejudice against female judges.

"I have never heard of any rules that bar women from becoming judges," he told her. "Don't worry! You will be a judge one day."

At a routine class meeting, Hu

told the students about his life as a student in the 1950s. He encouraged them to share China's historical responsibility and to study hard so they would be able to help with the country's modernization drive.

Earlier this month, the secretary of the Beijing municipal Party committee, Li Ximing, visited Beijing University. He praised the students for their great concern about China's modernization drive yet criticized some of the students who did not know how to channel their views effectively.

"The reality of China's modernization needs an international environment of peace and domestic stability and unity," he said.

If the big-character posters and other practices prevalent during the chaotic decade of the 'cultural revolution' were allowed today, he said, it would jeopardize social stability and scuttle socialist modernization, and would hamper the democratic rights of the majority of the people.

Meeting students on October 9 at Hebei University, the Party

secretary of Hebei Province, Xing Chongzhi, spoke highly of the students' role in developing the province.

"Young people today, particularly those in the institutes of higher learning, are the most vital force in the nation, being more sophisticated and sensitive to the social and political problems," Xing said.

Xing Chongzhi, who took office a few months ago, visited several universities and colleges in Baoding, Hebei Province.

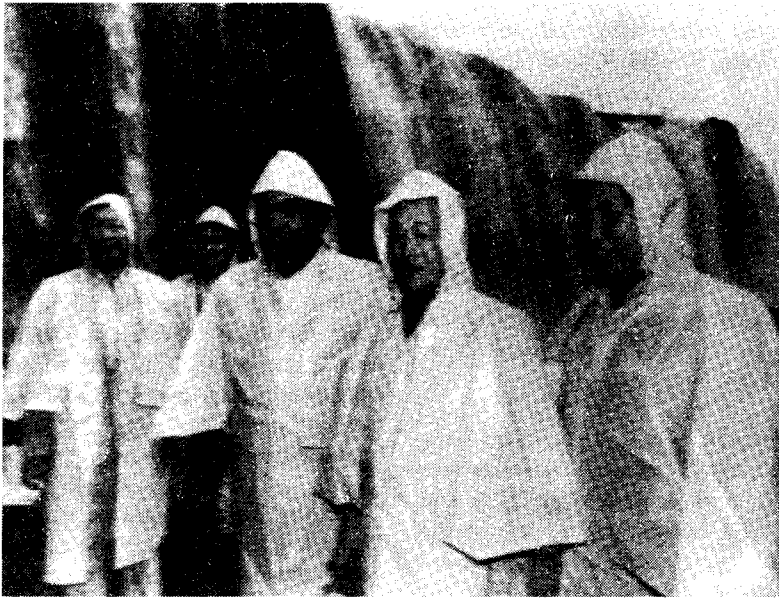
He told the students that "they must not only be capable intellectually, but should be filled with socialist morals, ideals and discipline." Xing urged the students to have a good grasp of Marxism.

Speaking about the Party's style of work, the secretary said the overwhelming majority of Party members were up to mark. But there was a small number of them whose behaviour had infringed on the interests of the masses. "The Party Central Committee has already sounded a warning and we should believe that after persistent efforts of the whole Party, the fine style of work of the Party will be restored and the Party will regain its prestige as never before." Xing said.

Premier Zhao Tours Brazil

Before Premier Zhao Ziyang arrived in Argentina on November 5 to begin the third leg of his history-making Latin America trip, he wrapped up his week-long stay in Brazil with two days of heavy travel in that country.

On the morning of November 2, he took off from Brasilia, and after a 1,400-km flight north arrived at Carajas Iron Mine. In the afternoon he flew back to the Brazilian capital, where he caught another flight that took him to



Premier Zhao (second right) visits the Iguacu Water Falls.

Iguacu in the south. That day alone, Zhao logged 5,000 km.

What the premier saw was a fertile land that is no less famous than its soccer king, Pele. A land that boasts some of the world's "firsts": the multimillion-square-kilometre forests of the Amazon basin, a natural habitat for an amazing number of animals and plants and a veritable treasure-chest of minerals; the forest-rimmed Carajas Iron Mine with an iron-ore reserve of 18 billion tons; and the Itaipu Hydroelectric Power Station that, when completed in 1990, will produce 75 billion kwh of electricity each year.

God's Endowment. The Chinese premier was so amazed by the overflow of wealth nature has endowed on the Amazon area that he could not help feeling a bit envious. "It seems God likes the Brazilians more than anyone else — that makes me jealous," he said, eliciting knowing smiles from his hosts. But he quickly added, "I'm happy about that, though, because Brazil, after all, belongs to the third world."

His admiration for Brazil's picturesque landscape was equally

candid. But when strolling along the magnificent 196-metre-high Itaipu Dam on the Parana River on November 3, he found himself up against a host who would not take Zhao's matter-of-fact "yes" when responding to a question about the beauty of the scenery. "Mr. Premier," said Ney Braga, president of the Itaipu project, "according to Chinese custom, you should use your thumb to show that you really appreciate something" Zhao obliged and yanked out his thumb in reply.

Thirty-six km from the power station stands one of the world's most spectacular natural wonders, the Iguacu Water Falls, which tumble in deafening thunder, 269 feet down a narrow ravine, bursting into hundreds of cascading patterns. Lost in the awesome miracle of nature, Premier Zhao failed to respond to a reporter who had asked him to compare his impressions of the power station and the falls. "I found it hard to answer his question," Zhao later remarked during a banquet given by the governor of Parana State, Jose Richa. "But now let me put it this way: As much as I was touched by the gorgeous falls, my impression of the Itaipu Hydro-

electric Power Station is both deep and indelible. The power station exemplifies the immense wisdom of the Brazilian people in building up their country."

Political Affinity. That sentiment ran through Zhao's entire week-long Brazilian visit. "When I leave your beautiful country, we will take with us your profound friendship and all that we have learnt from you," he said at a return banquet in Brasilia.

The Chinese fraternity was reciprocated by the hosts of the banquet. "Your Excellency's remarks and the talks between us have enhanced our faith in China's major role in the world arena," said President Jose Sarney. "They also have deepened my own admiration for the Chinese people and their unrelenting efforts in breaking new ground."

During the six-day visit, the two leaders conducted two rounds of talks, in which President Sarney discovered that Brazil and China "have many things in common, whether in their foreign policies or in their efforts to meet the challenges of social, economic and scientific development."

On the basis of such political affinity, both nations signed five documents on bilateral collaboration in politics, culture, science and technology. These new agreements are sure to boost the Sino-Brazilian friendship that dates back to the early 1900s, when the first batch of Chinese arrived in Brazil to open tea plantations.

Hong Xinqiu, a special correspondent for the *Beijing Review* currently touring with the premier in Latin America, learnt that trade between China and Brazil had risen to US\$830 million by last year, whereas that figure stood at only US\$19.4 million a decade earlier. Sino-Brazilian trade accounted for about 51 percent of all Sino-Latin American trade in 1984, and this year the volume is ex-

News in Brief

Keiichi Morishita, president of the International Natural Medical Association, announced in Tokyo on November 1 that the association had chosen China's Xinjiang Uygur Autonomous Region as one of the world's longevity areas. Of the region's population of 12 million, 865 are over 100 years old.

China has developed a new type of automobile fuel — M15, which contains 85 percent of petrol and 15 percent of alcohol and solvent. It is believed that if all China's motor vehicles are fueled with M15, the country can save more than 1 million tons of petrol each year. The new fuel also helps reduce pollution, as it produces less carbon monoxide than conventional gasoline. Cheap, easy to make and with abundant raw materials, M15 enjoys bright prospects for future development in China.

Ramps will soon replace steps leading to public buildings along Beijing's four main streets for the convenience of handicapped and elderly people, the Beijing Municipal Civil Affairs Bureau announced recently. According to a municipal government decision, all new public buildings — shops, restaurants, libraries, cinemas, etc. — must include facilities so that the handicapped can have free access to them.

pected to top US\$1 billion. Such progress made China the 10th largest Brazilian trade partner in 1984. And an even brighter future lies ahead, for during Zhao's visit, China indicated it would buy more Brazilian iron and steel products, timber and petrochemicals, while Brazil showed a willingness to buy more Chinese crude oil, coke, rice and other farm products.

Common Ground. Backing the flourishing bilateral relations are six conditions shared by China and Latin America, as put forth by the Chinese premier during the second round of his talks with President Sarney:

— Both are endowed with rich resources and can supply each other's needs to make up for what the other is short of.

— Both are at more or less the same level of economic development. Each has its own strength in technology and large markets that are favourable for mutual exchanges.

— Both are exploring their way of development according to their own conditions, and the rich experience thus gained can benefit each other's future development.

— They understand each other's plight and difficulties.

— Both treasure the principles of equality, mutual benefit and common progress in their foreign economic relations and trade.

— The most important common condition is that China and Latin America have the political desire to develop their mutual relations, which is an important part of promoting the South-South co-operation.

These common conditions, Zhao added, have provided a stable basis for better Sino-Latin Ameri-

can co-operation. But he warned that the growing trade relations could be marred by a single problem confronting the entire third world: The shortage of US dollars, currently used as the major instrument of payment in international trade. He suggested barter, instead of the foreign-exchange-dominated buying and selling, to promote trade between developing countries. Zhao pointed out that China and Brazil had greatly benefited from the use of barter in their bilateral trade relations.

For the last fortnight or so, the Chinese premier has become a household name in Latin America. Local newspapers claim his visit has opened up a new chapter in the annals of the Sino-L. American relations. An Argentine newspaper said the visit had "strengthened China's relations with Latin America," while an Uruguayan paper emphasized that the visit showed "China's support for Latin America." These statements serve as fitting descriptions for Zhao's 16-day visit, which is about to end in Venezuela as we go to the print.

Chinese Farmers Turn Consumers

Chinese farmers will spend an average of 300 yuan on daily necessities this year, an increase of 9.6 percent over last year, according to estimates by the State Statistical Bureau.

"Now that the rural residents have enough to eat and wear, they are turning their attention to building houses and buying durable goods," a bureau official said.

The rural spending figures are increasing with each passing year, as is evidenced by the fact that the per-capita expenditure reached 273

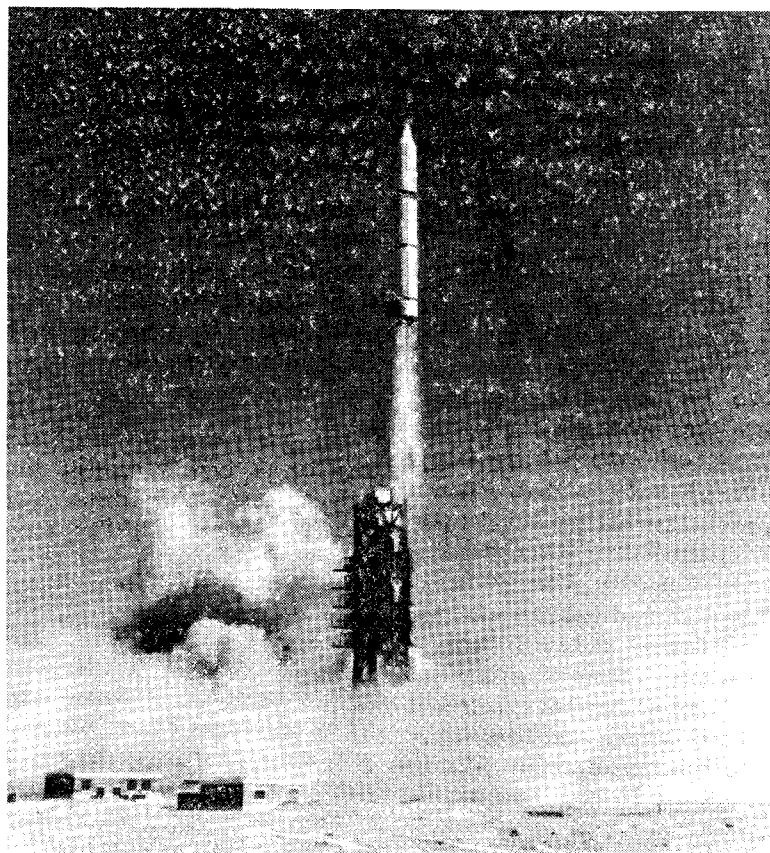
yuan last year, almost two and a half more than the 1978 figure.

Instead of making clothes and other daily necessities by themselves, as they have done in the past, farmers are now buying ready-made clothes, and high-grade synthetic fabrics are replacing cotton. Last year, farmers bought 97 percent of their clothes and daily necessities from stores.

Between 1978 and 1984, the proportion of rice and wheat flour in the daily diet of farmers increased from 49 percent to 75 percent. The proportion of meat, cooking oils, eggs, fish and poultry has also become larger.

Investment in housing has jumped since 1978. About half of the rural families across the country have built new houses in the last seven years, and floor space per person has reached 13.6 square metres. The old adobe houses have given way to brick and tile ones.

The statistics official said that in the future main foodstuffs would still be grown by the farmers themselves but that markets for meat, oil, eggs and milk would have to open up to meet the growing demands. Housing investment will also continue to rise, he said.

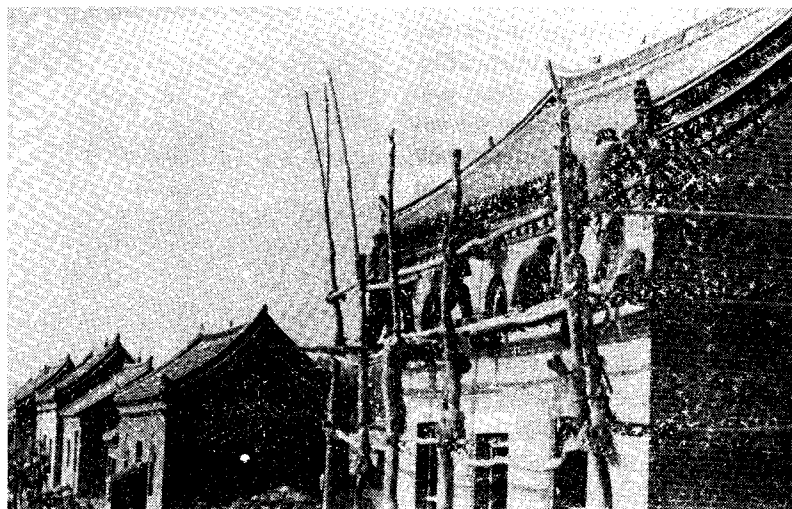


Long March No. 2 Takes Off

A satellite for scientific research and technological experiment launched by China on October 21 was recovered five days later as planned. This achievement will help to bring space technology to the service of the national economy and to promote international space co-operation.

Here, the carrier rocket Long March No. 2, which orbited the satellite, takes off from the launching site.

Farmers from Lankao County, Gansu Province, building a new house.



Education on Sex Broaches Old Taboo

The thick veil that has covered the topic of sex in China is gradually being lifted as sex education classes are being introduced in some secondary schools.

A sex education programme was launched this semester in more than 40 secondary schools in Shanghai to help students with the problems of going through puberty, according to reports from Shanghai. The programme is scheduled for 400 more secondary schools in the city if it proves suc-

cessful during this trial period, the reports said.

The programme was hailed by *Renmin Ribao* (People's Daily) as a "break with taboos," and as an effort to "educate adolescents about physiological and psychological changes in their bodies and minds."

Sexual anatomy and physiology was often omitted from courses on physiology before 1966, the year the "cultural revolution" broke out, and it was excluded from the curriculum altogether when schools reopened in the early 1970s. It is believed this should be attributed to the influence of Confucianism that dominated China for more than 2,000 years.

The neglect of sex education has caused distress and confusion for adolescents. Many girls are puzzled when they have their first menstrual periods and boys worry about their sexual ability.

Some experts believe the lack of sexual knowledge and proper guidance is one of the causes for sexual crimes among youngsters. A recent dispatch by the China News Service said, "Despite a big drop in the national crime rate in recent years, the number of sexual offences has been increasing. The offenders are mostly adolescents."

Over 60 percent of Chinese girls at the age of 12 to 13 have begun their menstrual periods, and puberty in boys now begins at about 14 years old, according to medical surveys. The majority of adolescents learn about sex from films, novels and television.

This phenomenon, reaching puberty at an earlier age, has caught the attention of many educators, and the Beijing Educational Bureau has been calling for more attention to physiological education recently. Now most schools give lectures on hygiene as soon as the students enter junior secondary schools, and some are showing sex education films.

"It is quite necessary for the students to know the essential facts about physiology, for it can help them deal with their personal problems," said Hu Geshun, a teacher from the 110th Middle School of Beijing.

She said, however, that there has been some pressure from parents, who don't believe schools have the right to teach their children about such things. They are concerned that information about sex will lead their children astray.

But one young woman, Zhang Xin, a 14-year-old student from Beijing, said, "the education of puberty hygiene helps us a lot. Since I'd already listened to the lecture, when I had my first period I wasn't confused and knew what to do."

In August, a conference and series of lectures on sex education was held in Shanghai, drawing 100 social workers, teachers and social science researchers from all parts of China, according to the English-language newspaper, *China Daily*. They discussed ways to promote healthy attitudes about sexual psychology, sexual morals and methods to spread information about sex among the youth.

Today, attitudes of the Chinese towards sexual morals vary greatly. In a discussion sponsored by the Guangzhou-based magazine *Home*, the majority of the letters said young people should stand by traditional values and that premarital sex would cause serious social problems. But one letter said there was nothing wrong about unmarried lovers having sex if both of them were willing.

The result of a sample survey of university students also showed different attitudes towards sexual morals. Sixty-two percent of the students agreed that virginity until marriage was sacred; 24 percent had no opinion either way; and 14 percent were opposed to the idea.

China & the World

China, Bulgaria Resume Parliamentary Ties

"Let bygones be bygones," said Peng Zhen, chairman of the Standing Committee of the National People's Congress at a meeting with a delegation from the Bulgarian National Assembly led by its chairman Stanko Todorov on November 6. Peng said he was glad that the contacts between the two parliaments had been resumed after a 20-year interruption. Communist-led socialist countries should also abide by the Five Principles of Peaceful Co-existence, he said. In reply, Todorov said he agreed with Peng that both sides should adopt a forward-looking attitude in developing their bilateral relations.

Paper Awarded for Excellent Population Reporting

China Health Daily was honoured as a "best specialized periodical" at a meeting to the fifth annual media awards for excellence in population reporting held at the Great Hall of the People in Beijing on November 5. Wang Wei, minister of the State Family Planning Commission, stressed at the meeting that China would go ahead with its current birth control policy while striving to improve its nation-wide family planning programme. Wang said China's population growth had dropped from 1.455 percent in 1981 to 1.081 percent in 1984. This is the fruit of China's policy endorsed by the people.

UN Resolution

Foreign Troops Out of Kampuchea

The UN General Assembly once again adopted a resolution calling for the withdrawal of all foreign troops from Kampuchea. This was another valuable action of the United Nations in its efforts to uphold justice and world peace.

by **REN YAN**

AFTER two days of intensive debate about Kampuchea, the United Nations General Assembly on November 5 adopted a resolution, reiterating the UN's conviction to remove all foreign troops from the country. The resolution said that "the withdrawal of all foreign forces from Kampuchea, the restoration and preservation of its independence, sovereignty and territorial integrity, the right of the Kampuchean people to determine their own destiny and non-intervention in the internal affairs of Kampuchea, are the principal components of any just and lasting resolution of the Kampuchean problem." The resolution also stated that the General Assembly demanded all previous resolutions on Kampuchea be implemented.

One hundred and fourteen countries voted for this resolution, sponsored jointly by 59 states, with 21 voting against it and 16 abstaining. This particular resolution gained four more votes this go around, in comparison with that of last year. The four nations that abstained from voting last year but voted in favour this year were Guinea, Trinidad and Tobago, Panama and Saint Christopher and Nevis. Twenty-one countries, including Viet Nam and the Soviet Union, voted against the resolution, one fewer than last year. Guyana switched

from opposition to abstention this year.

During the debate on the situation of Kampuchea, representatives from 44 countries made speeches. Many of them once again condemned Viet Nam for its armed invasion and occupation of Kampuchea. They warned that if Viet Nam persisted in its policy of aggression, it would be further isolated from the international community.

Birabhongse Kasemsri, representative of Thailand, condemned Viet Nam for its "unwillingness to give up its scheme of conquest and domination," and its arrogance in defiance of the UN Charter and previous UN resolutions on Kampuchea.

Vernon Walters, representative of United States, said that "Hanoi must by now realize that the world will not accept its aggression against Cambodia any more than the Khmer people will accept Vietnamese colonization." Walters expressed the hope that the Soviet Union would use its influence to move Viet Nam towards a peaceful and political solution in Kampuchea.

China's representative to the United Nations, Li Luye exposed Viet Nam's "diplomacy of lies." "In January this year," Li said, "the Vietnamese authorities put forward the so-called 'five-point proposal' for settling the Kampu-

chean question, assuming a posture that they were willing to seek a political solution through negotiations." But Li stressed that the basic points in the Vietnamese proposal were "the removal of one group of the resistance forces of Kampuchea so that they can wipe out all the resistance forces one by one."

Last August, when they declared their "complete withdrawal by 1990," the Vietnamese authorities attached a pre-condition to the proposal. That is, whenever they felt "the peace and security" of the puppet regime in Kampuchea was being "undermined," they would "take appropriate measures." During his UN speech, Li said, "evidently, such appropriate measures meant the continued occupation of Kampuchea. To put it bluntly, this was not at all a proposal for troop withdrawal, but rather a reproduction of the "limited sovereignty doctrine." Li also said that "history has repeatedly punished begemonists and expansionists who worship armed force, practise power politics, bully the small and oppress the weak."

Yugoslavia's representative, Ignac Golob, said, "There is no doubt that in Kampuchea the solution can be found only in the withdrawal of foreign troops and the elimination of foreign intervention."

Charles Flemming, representative of Saint Lucia, said, "We are faced with a new and dangerous principle in international relations, namely, that a militarily stronger state has the right to attack a militarily weaker neighbouring state and impose a puppet regime on its people, simply because it does not like the government of that state." "If we allow this precedent to go unchallenged," he added, "we may

one day find ourselves the victims of similar aggression."

The General Assembly, the resolution stated, reaffirmed its decision to reconvene the international conference on Kampuchea at an appropriate time and appealed once again to all states of Southeast Asia and others concerned to attend the conference.

As the dry-season is approaching, the Vietnamese authorities are pre-

paring for its eighth offensive in Kampuchea. Under such circumstances the UN resolution should give support and encouragement to the coalition government of Democratic Kampuchea and its people. The responsibility of the international community is to further exert pressure on the Vietnamese authorities, expose their political chicanery, and push them to carry out the UN resolutions on Kampuchea.

lion tons in 1960 to 33 million tons in 1984 and is expected to reach 35 million tons by the end of 1985.

Because of the recession that swept the West in the early 1980s, Latin America also experienced an economic downturn marked by declining output, increased unemployment and runaway, double-digit inflation. In 1981, the economic growth rate for the region was only 1.5 percent, and fell to minus 1 percent in 1982 for the first time in 50 years. By 1983, the rate bottomed out an all-time low of negative 3.3 percent.

Latin America

Area Economics Get Second Wind

In the early 1980s, much of Latin America was economically distressed. Recently, however, some Latin American countries appear to be coming back to life, showing shades of the growth that hit the region during the post-World War II years of high productivity, comparatively low inflation and tolerable levels of unemployment.

by XIAO FANGQIONG

AFTER World War II one of the key factors contributing to Latin America's collective economic development was an insistence by area leaders that their nations replace imports with domestic products and that their exports be promoted. Another important factor helping to build up regional economies that emerged later was the nationalization movement, which aimed in part to recover area sovereignty over natural resources and the incomes those resources would provide. This type of Latin nationalism helped build better conditions for restricting foreign capital and developing national economies, and ultimately led to the economic growth the region experienced in the 1970s. That growth was characterized largely by the addition of new industries, including steel, petroleum, chemicals, automobile, shipbuilding, aviation and electronics.

During the post-war years the

most prominent characteristic of the region's economy was its high growth rate, with the gross domestic production (GDP) averaging an annual 5 percent increase, surpassing that of the European Economic Community and almost trebling that of Asian and African nations during the same period. The economic upturn was also marked by great changes in the overall structure of area economies. In contrast with the 1950s, industry in the 1960s developed faster than agriculture; by 1983, the region's industrial output value had risen to the level that accounted for 42.5 percent of the GDP while agriculture dropped to the level that made up about 12.4 percent of the GDP.

The emphasis on industrial output and growth in Latin America has resulted in the proliferation of a variety of industries, including machine-building, oil exploration and refining and mining. Steel output in the region also increased significantly, going from 4.75 mil-

To date Latin America remains tormented by massive foreign debts, which have not only hampered its economic revival, but have also contributed to social unrest and political upheavals in the region. The sum of the area's US\$360 billion foreign debt is half the total foreign debt of the entire third world, and is equal to one half of the region's total GDP, or four times its export earnings. Servicing the interest on the debts alone costs Latin America US\$35 billion every year, or 35 percent of the region's total export earnings.

Latin American countries have taken a variety of steps to solve their financial dilemmas. Included in these measures have been a reduction in capital investment and construction, an emphasis on encouraging agricultural output, diversifying energy and trade, reducing financial deficits, cutting public spending, regulating exchange rates and encouraging exports while restricting imports. Some of the countries also have adopted joint measures to handle their foreign debts. They have called for the abandonment of protectionist measures that cut into their exports and have made arrangements with their creditors to restructure debts due for repayment.

The above measures, together with the economic recovery in the

West that dates back to 1983, have resulted in a regional economic upturn for Latin America, where the average GDP growth rate stood at 2.6 percent in 1984. A favourable trade balance of US\$37.8 billion also was registered that year, which is up from the previous

year's figure of US\$9.2 billion. In the first half of 1985, the area's trade surplus amounted to US\$20 billion. It is predicted that good prospects for sound economic development lie ahead for Latin America, in spite of its severe difficulties.

Siberia, to France, the Federal Republic of Germany, Italy and Austria. It will also co-operate with East European countries to build the longest natural gas pipeline in the world.

As far as transportation is concerned, railroad transport will play an even more important role in future. Baikal-Amur Railroad — open to traffic on the eve of the 67th anniversary of the October Revolution in 1984 — is the second railroad to traverse Siberia from east to west. Its completion should propel the economic development of Siberia and the Far East region.

The largest Soviet seaport in the Pacific region, the Vostochny Port, has been completed. When it goes into full operation, its handling capacity will reach 70 million tons of freight.

The Soviet Union still confronts many obstacles as it opens up Siberia. More than two-thirds of the Siberia region are what is known as permafrost subsoil. Its temperature in winter can get as low as 60°C below zero. It will be quite some time before manpower, technical standards, housing, food and education will meet the needs of the people in the region.

Nevertheless, the continued development of Siberia should help to set the Soviet industrial distribution in balance. By taking advantage of the natural energy resources and improving transportation, the metallurgical, petrochemical, nonferrous metals and the timber processing and papermaking industries could be moved from its European sources to parts of Siberia.

The development of Siberia should also expand the economic and trade relations between the Soviet Union and West European countries. During the process of building the natural gas pipeline from Siberia to Western

Soviet Union

Bringing Prosperity to Siberia

The Soviet government is forging ahead with the development of Siberia and the Far East region in order to set straight the unbalanced distribution of its industries and get ready for its take-off in the 21st century.

by LI CHANGJIU

OPENING up Siberia will have a great influence on the improvement of the Soviet industrial distribution and development of foreign trade relations, Soviet authorities recently stressed.

Although Siberia and the Far East Soviet region account for 57 percent of the entire Soviet territory, only 10 percent of the Soviet population is located here. Most of the Soviet population and industries are pooled in its European region. Although Siberia is far behind in agricultural and industrial production, the area is rich in natural resources. The oil deposits in Siberia account for more than 50 percent of the Soviet's total, reaching 9 billion tons. Natural gas, coal, forests, water and electricity resources all make up 60 percent of the Soviet's total. Gold deposits in the Soviet Union are mainly in Siberia, and the region is besides rich in iron, diamonds, platinum, tungsten, cobalt, nickel and copper.

Siberia first began to open up in the 1960s, with the development of energy resources and

transportation. The oil production of Tyumen Oilfield has increased rapidly since the 1960s, growing from 28 million tons of oil in 1970 to 357 million tons in 1983. The proportion of its output in the Soviet's total went from 10 percent to 60 percent. More than 40 trillion cubic metres of natural gas deposits have been uncovered in Siberia, 30 trillion of which are found in Tyumen. Last year, the natural gas output in Tyumen was 324 billion cubic metres, reaching 55 percent of the Soviet's total.

Siberia is also picking up speed in building petroleum and natural gas pipelines, and hydroelectric stations in order to transport fuel.

Siberia's proportion of coal yields has increased from 32 percent in 1970 to 38 percent in 1983. Officials estimate that in Kuzbass alone, 900 billion tons of coal deposits have been uncovered.

With funds, technology and equipment provided by West European countries, the Soviet Union has set up a natural gas pipeline more than 4,000 kilometres long, from Urengoy, in

Europe, the European countries provided the Soviet Union with loans of funds, technology and equipment. According to an agreement on natural gas, the Soviet Union agreed to supply Western Europe with 40 billion cubic metres of natural gas over the next 20 years from 1984. By 1990 the natural gas provided by the Soviet Union is expected to make up 20 percent of the amount

required by the 10 European Economic Community countries. The share of Soviet natural gas supplied to the FRG and France will come to about 35 percent of their needs.

The Soviet Union will supply natural gas and petroleum in exchange for hard currency, technology, equipment and consumer goods.

economy is a direct result of the gap.

The success of Eureka could restore Western Europe's decisive influence over world economies and politics.

Of course, the success of Eureka will not come easily. Specific proposals remain to be put into practice, and co-operation among the 18 member nations is no easy task.

Although the Eureka conference reached a consensus on some main points, major differences exist among the members, who have become split into two camps. One group, led by France, insists that Eureka must possess the financial strength to compete with the "Star Wars" programme, and to attract private enterprises and research institutions to participate in the project. French Minister for External Relations Roland Dumas had once made it clear that the "credibility" of Eureka was related to its financial stability. Consequently, President Mitterrand pledged 1 billion Francs (US\$ 125 million) of French public funds at the first ministerial conference. This go around, France proposed setting up a permanent agency and increasing government involvement to ensure the success of Eureka.

Federal Germany and Britain argue to the contrary. They believe Eureka should remain primarily a private enterprise with little governmental interference, spending minimal public funds. They also suggest that Eureka respond to the open market.

The two Eureka conferences have indicated the strong desire for strengthening technological co-operation among West European countries. But conflicting interests among the participating nations and lack of funding are destined to make the success of Eureka a long time coming.

Eureka

Cementing the Uncertainty

Eureka took substantial steps forward at its second ministerial conference earlier this month, yet the high-tech co-operation plan stands on shaky grounds.

by XIA ZHIMIAN

THE second ministerial conference of the Eureka project in Hanover, West Germany, pushed the door open a bit more towards technological co-operation among West European countries.

The conference on November 5 and 6, at which a declaration of principles and the first 10 projects for Eureka were approved, brought in more concrete results than the first conference in Paris last July. West German Foreign Minister Hans-Dietrich Genscher described the atmosphere of the conference as "extremely harmonious and constructive" and said "Eureka has taken a huge step forward."

Nevertheless, London and Bonn have been slow to warm up to the high-technology co-operation project, initiated by France, and the plan already has been marred by conflicting interests and funding squabbles.

It took six months for the 18 Eureka member states to formulate

the declaration of principles after French President Francois Mitterrand proposed in April that Europe should offer its own alternatives to America's Strategic Defense Initiative, known as the "Star Wars" space weapons research programme. Some Eureka proponents believe the progress it has made is in sharp contrast to the impotence of the European Economic Community in recent years.

There is no question but that a large technology gap exists between the West European nations and the United States and Japan. The only way Western Europe can challenge the United States and Japan is to pool its manpower, resources and technology. The "Star Wars" programme, therefore, has proved to be a catalyst for the promotion of technological co-operation among West European countries.

Narrowing this technology gap is Western Europe's new imperative, especially because Europe's declining influence on the world

Socialist Culture and Ethics in the Making

The awakening of individuality under socialism is the character of China's socialist ethics, and a motive force which guarantees the continuous development of social ethics.

by **ZHAO FUSHAN***

THE spiritual civilization of a society, which develops among its people in their social practice, includes educational levels, cultural development, moral concepts and moral character. It permeates society and embodies the public's general consciousness, ideology and way of thinking.

Socialist culture didn't fall from heaven, but only emerged in the process of inheriting the excellent cultural legacy of China and the rest of the world and constantly innovating and developing it along the socialist course.

The emergence and development of socialist culture and ethics with a Chinese character can be studied in the following aspects:

The awakening of rationalism, which is reflected in emancipating the mind and seeking truth from facts, is the foundation of socialist culture and ethics.

Ten years of "cultural revolution," as people point out, brought catastrophe to the Chinese people. However, they also have drawn lessons from it and are beginning to think independently instead of blindly accepting orders from the authorities.

One proof was the nationwide debate, in 1977 and 1978, on "Social Practice Is the Only Criterion of Truth." The debate ended with repudiation of the

The author is vice-president of the Chinese Academy of Social Sciences and a professor of its graduate school.

ultra-leftist line pushed by the gang of four during the "cultural revolution," and confirmed the theory that social practice is the only criterion of truth. The debate paved the way for the emergence of China's current economic reforms and the legal system, as well as its policy of opening to the out-

side world, the "one country, two systems" concept, and new moves towards peaceful reunification of the country.

The second proof is the new stress on the social sciences. Marxism is the guiding ideology of China. It is also the subject of scientific research, and so is socialism,

Famous linguist Zhu Dexi, vice-president of Beijing University, volunteers his time for lectures to primary school teachers in Kunming, Yunnan Province.





Li Wenming, a young peasant from Maying Village in Anhui Province, donated 2,000 yuan of his own earnings to help develop his village's electricity network.

the country's basic system. People have begun taking a scientific attitude towards all kinds of social phenomena and economic problems. This is the rational awakening of the Chinese in their hundreds of millions. This kind of rationalism not only embodies the tenets of realism, a trait already deeply imbedded in the Chinese character and modern science, but also develops from current Chinese practice. Rationalism, it can be said, is the basis of Chinese socialist culture and ethics.

People have acquired new knowledge through the current social changes. They are considering how to arrange their lives and how to grasp their destiny in their own hands.

The development of a commodity economy has shown large numbers of low-income rural and urban youths that they can look for new ways to improve their lot, if they are willing to work and learn new skills. In addition, the commodity

economy has accelerated the flowing of population between coastal cities and interior provinces, and between the countryside and cities. With increased circulation of commodities and people, modern science, technology, culture, popular consumer goods and new lifestyles spread quickly to the interior and the countryside. It can be said that adults and young people between the ages of 15 and 60, the group which is the most active physically and mentally and which makes up 56.5 percent of China's population, are thinking of new ways to arrange their lives and be masters of their destiny.

On the surface, it seems that they are considering their own future and pursuing private interests, in fact, they are striving for and helping to shape the country's reforms. Chinese society offers everyone hope and opportunities. At the same time, everyone is required to use intelligence and stamina to realize the country's goals.

The awakening of individuality under socialism is an important trait of China's socialist culture and ethics and a motive force which guarantees continuous development.

For several thousand years, generation after generation of Chinese lived in a society which moved ahead at a snail's pace. They acquired only narrow knowledge of the world, for they were confined in a closed-door society. This situation, which lasted several millennia, was supported by economic autarchy, and was difficult to change. Now, however, things have begun to move. China has opened its door to the outside world, thus accelerating its economic and cultural exchanges with other countries. Young people of today can draw on rich cultural knowledge including classical and

modern, domestic and foreign literature and art. They want to create new images of themselves instead of being moulded by others. Society calls upon people, especially the young, to create new things. With the rural economic responsibility system and now urban reforms, people can make their own choices. This is bound to lead to the awakening of self-consciousness and individuality—an important change in the intellectual life of China today.

Why is it said that the individual character is developing in the direction of socialism?

First, individuality is not necessarily the egoism that completely contradicts the common interest of society. Rather, it agrees with the interests of both the public and the individual.

Second, China's socialist system urges the public to develop individuality which, in turn, propels the development of the country's socialist economy, society and culture. The existence and growth of individuality under socialism is the basic guarantee for the growth of a vigorous, multifarious socialist culture.

Since China implemented its new policies in 1979, there has been obvious progress in education and culture. The establishment of a new educational system will show its superiority in raising the quality of education. China's scientific and cultural level is rising, but lifting it remains a difficult, long-term task. At present, a flourishing socialist culture is taking shape, based on rationalism and marked by the combination of ideal and reality. It is full of optimism for the future and the full development of the individual character.

(This is an abridged translation of an article reprinted from the overseas edition of "Renmin Ribao.")

Prognosis for China's Computer Fever

China is taking the challenge of the worldwide high-tech revolution, which sweeps much of the world, by actively developing its computer technology. The efforts are manifested in the energetic production and popularization of micro-computers and software, as well as the emphasis on educating the young in computers.

by **WEI LIMING**
Our Correspondent

COMPUTERS are the core of a new technology sweeping much of the world. Considered out of the reach of ordinary people only a few years ago, computers now have infiltrated almost every part of society — from communications to cooking, finance to farming, aeronautics to education. Though it once appeared that computer technology might never be a part of China's technological agenda, the world's most populous nation has now been infected with terminal fever, and has plugged in more than 90,000 computer workers, eight computer research establishments, 111 computer production factories and 40 computer service units.

In May 1983 technicians at China's University of Defence Science and Technology completed the painstaking work of welding together the final bits of the main frame of China's first "super-computer." That computer, dubbed "the Galaxy" and capable of executing 100 million operations in one second, was given birth only after six months' efforts by 95 of China's computer experts analysing the potential problems and benefits of such an amazing piece of machinery. Their approval and the subsequent successful completion of the "Galaxy" marked China's entry into the world of high-tech, and into that selected group of countries capable of

manufacturing super-computers.

Since its completion, the Galaxy has contributed to scientific research projects for more than 60 units, including the Ministry of Nuclear Industry, the Ministry of Petroleum Industry, the State Meteorological Bureau, the National Seismological Bureau and Beijing University. Many of the problems tackled by the Galaxy in its 25,000-plus hours of terminal service, particularly those in the areas of national defence and scientific research, would have remained unsolved without the aid of the Galaxy. The National Seismological Bureau, for example, found that other domestic or imported computers were not equipped to perform the calculations needed for determining the causes of earth tremors in China's meizoseismal zones. The Galaxy, however, completed the task in merely 4 minutes, 6 seconds.

In addition to helping the more traditional sciences like seismology, the Galaxy also has furthered research in some of the more complex scientific fields. Dong Shaojing, a doctoral student in physics at Zhejiang University in Hangzhou, was pursuing an elusive breakthrough in the complicated area of quark confinement. His research, he said, was severely hampered by the inadequacy of China's computer capacity. Again, the Galaxy to the rescue. In what seemed like no time, Dong said, his intricate assignment was at last progressing steadily with the Galaxy's help. "The Galaxy," Dong said, "has catapulted China's scientific research to a new high."

China now has altogether tens of thousands of micro-computers, 20,000 of which have been produced domestically. These computers, which are small, inexpensive and easy to operate, conform to China's

Newspaper employees at work on terminals of a computer-laser Chinese character editing system.



market conditions and are expected to bring further benefits for the nation as it faces the high-tech revolution.

The rapid development of the computer industry in China has surprised even some of its most ardent enthusiasts. "A year ago, we were worried about our ability to make computer popular in China," said an official at the Ministry of Electronics Industry. "Now," he said, "with the increase in variety and the overall boost in quality, the demand and use of computers in China has gone far beyond our expectations."

China now produces an assortment of micro-computers, from simple 4-digit models to multi-functional 32-digit ones, and from personal computers for household use to computer programme-controlled systems for commercial use. Some China-made micro-computers, such as the *Great Wall 0520* and the *Zijin II*, are being mass produced at about 10,000 annually. According to one estimate, in two years, China will be able to produce 100,000 micro-computers a year. China also has put considerable emphasis on the research of Chinese character information processing systems, with several dozens of the systems having been developed in the country.

Robotics Also Under Way

Although not as furious a pace as its computer industry, China has set about developing robots as well, and now has about 100 of the mechanical labourers and 2,000 manipulators. Because robotics started in China later than elsewhere, most of the country's robots are still in the experimental stage and have not been used in production. With only 40 robots in Shanghai and about 10 each in Jiangsu, Beijing and Tianjin, experts agree China should make fuller use of robot technology and that robots capable of withstanding heat, toxicity, vibration, dust,



China's first robot programmed to perform teaching functions. The robot, developed by the Shanghai Meters Plant, is also able to make 360-degree turns, while its manipulator arm can pick things up, write and draw.

noise and radiation should be developed.

According to Liu Jianfeng, vice-minister of the Electronics Industry, the country's modernization has placed an ever-increasing demand on computers and computer equipment. It has been impossible to meet that demand with imports, Liu said, because such imports would put a serious strain on the country's foreign exchange reserves. Furthermore, Liu said, some of the more advanced foreign products cannot be imported. It is, therefore, imperative that China strengthen its own computer technology research and development. Liu said it is necessary to draw lessons from the past, to strengthen planning and to avoid excessive importing. At the same time, appropriate protectionist policies should be introduced to facilitate the country's own computer industry, he said.

Popularization of Software

When a new computer supply store opened across the street, shop assistants at the Software Trade Centre, located on Beijing's Xidan Street, began feeling a little jealous.

The face-off between the competitors, however, reflects an important aspect of the flourishing computer industry in China.

Cheng Lu, the 28-year-old manager of the software centre, said competition was inevitable.

"According to market investigations," she said, "1985 was expected to be the 'year of software.' We hope the software industry can open its road to the market through us. Of course, it is almost certain there will be fierce competition."

The commercialization of software is a major breakthrough for China's computer industry, for in the past China's software capabilities were severely limited. Now, however, even a programme designed by an individual can be brought to the software centre for adaptation as long as it has passed the necessary testing.

Cheng Lu said, in the past software development departments did not co-ordinate their production. As a result, she said, there was too much redundant labour and research. Now, however, in a bid to avoid such wasted efforts,

a national software company has been established to facilitate information exchanges and streamline the production of the various software departments.

Cheng said software prices are now in a state of flux and confusion. She said such confusion can be eliminated if software product prices are standardized and if China adopt a "software law."

Computer Marketing

Tianjin, a major port city in north China, now has more than 4,000 computers in operation. About 1,000 of the city's software specialists set up a joint software company that has played an important role in promoting computers there. Since it started operation in July 1984, the company has undertaken 24 medium and large software design projects, including one for the city's water diversion project from the Luanhe River to Tianjin. The company also has designed programmes for the Anshan Iron and Steel Company and some other units, developed and marketed more than 1,500 kinds of software for construction, shipbuilding and petroleum industries, and trained more than 800 people in computer usage.

A nationwide computer service network also has taken shape. Since it was established in 1980, the China Computer Technology Service Company has set up 33 branches throughout the country. In describing the company's role, its general manager, Ouyang Zhineng, said, "Our principal job is to market computers, while providing users with various high-quality technical services."

Through the efforts of the computer service Co., seven textile mills in Shanghai, Changzhou and Shenyang have installed computer-controlled looms.

The company, Ouyang said, encourages its technicians to get first-hand experience in the areas for which they will design and market computer technology. The company's scientific and technological workers visited China's cotton-producing areas to learn about the problems in cotton purchasing. To solve these problems, they devised an automatic, computerized pricing system. And, to help the peasants master the use of the system, they

Educating the young in computers is a necessary condition for making the technological revolution work in China. The needs of the secondary school students should be taken in consideration when a plan for the production of micro-computers is drawn up.

sponsored training classes in the Dezhou and Liaocheng Prefectures in Shandong Province.

Manager Ouyang said, "Marketing, popularization, technical service, and installation and maintenance are the four major tasks in computer service." According to Ouyang, the development and popularization of computer technology in 1985 has been characterized by the development of specialized computers to aid in the technical transformations of various industrial departments and by developing software to complement the hardware systems.

Learning Early

The Yumin Primary School in Beijing, one of the first primary schools in China to teach computer technology, has established its

own software company, which is managed by 10-year-old Wu Min.

In response to Deng Xiaoping's call that the popularization of computers should start with children, the Yumin Primary School formed its first computer study group in 1982. Computer has been taught in three classes in the school since October 1984. According to Chen Lianyu, vice-principal of the school, the focus on educating the young in computers is important. "Primary school pupils learn more easily than adults, making school age the best time to master computer technology," he said.

Chen's evaluation may be correct, for his students have made stunning success of their computer education. Four software programmes developed by the school's Red Scarf Computer Software Company have been bought by the North China Computer Company. The major part of the programmes was designed by the school pupils, with only a small part designed with the help of teachers and middle school students.

Lu Jie, a little boy very experienced in computer usage, said he saw a picture of two little dogs in the *Computer Journal* a few days before and then developed a programme capable of printing dogs after he returned to school. Lu Jie, who comes from a worker family, said in the future he hopes to develop a house-building programme for his father. The young company manager, Wu Min, however, was much more ambitious. She said her goal would be to get a Nobel Prize for her contributions to computer technology.

According to incomplete statistics, computers have been introduced in secondary and primary school classrooms in 10 provinces and municipalities, including Beijing, Shanghai, Tianjin and Heilongjiang. In 1984, 23 factories turned out 150,000 "baby compu-

ters" for use by kids. The planned output of baby computers for 1985 was 200,000. The price for seven models has been reduced from more than 1,000 yuan to around 300 yuan.

Xie Xide, president of Shanghai's Fudan University and a famous physicist, said China's secondary school students should be encouraged to learn computers as early as possible. In her opinion, educating the young is a necessary condition for making the technological revolution work in China. She said China must depend on its younger generation, that is, secondary school students, to see it through the revolution. The small number of secondary schools in China capable of providing students with a sound computer education is not enough. She said related state departments should consider the needs of secondary school students while drawing up a plan for the production of micro-computers, and at least such a plan should give many, if not all, students access to computers.

Computer Usage Spreading

In the office of a Beijing match-making service set up by the Bei-

jing Municipal Women's Federation and the Central Committee of the Chinese Communist Youth League, a reticent 30-year-old man sat in front of a "computer match-maker." When the screen displayed its first question: "Is this your first time here?" the young man, who did not know how to answer, simply nodded in reply.

Most people in China, like this man, are far from familiar with computers. There is, however, no lack of people who intimately understand the advanced machinery. Last summer, an 18-year-old girl from the mountainous area in northern Hebei Province, visited the Beijing Computer Technology Institute. She asked people at the institute to install a computer for her company—the North China Nursery and Bird Company, of which she is manager. She said she wanted to automate her company's office work and management. It is reported that her company has earned a profit of several hundred thousand yuan.

Liu Weichang, director of the Beijing Computer Technology Institute, said since his institute made a "traditional Chinese medicine computer" last year for

Liang Mingxiang and Wang Yuming, two peasants of Henan Province, the institute has received thousands of letters mostly from people in remote areas of the country, who want to buy the computers.

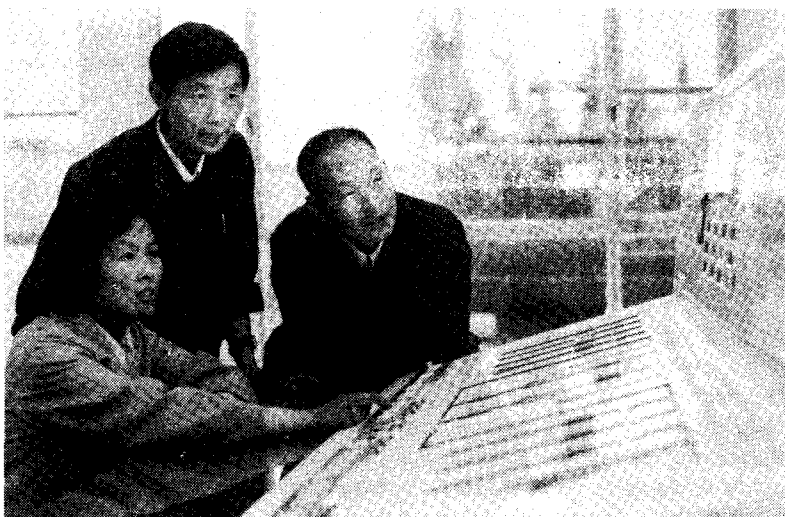
The institute's programme for traditional Chinese medicine was based on the experiences of some of China's famous traditional physicians. Those experiences were programmed into a series of disks at the institute. Now, together with BCM-III micro-computers, the disks help rural doctors diagnose and treat a dozen illnesses, including cardio-vascular disease, sterility, stomach trouble and bone fractures.

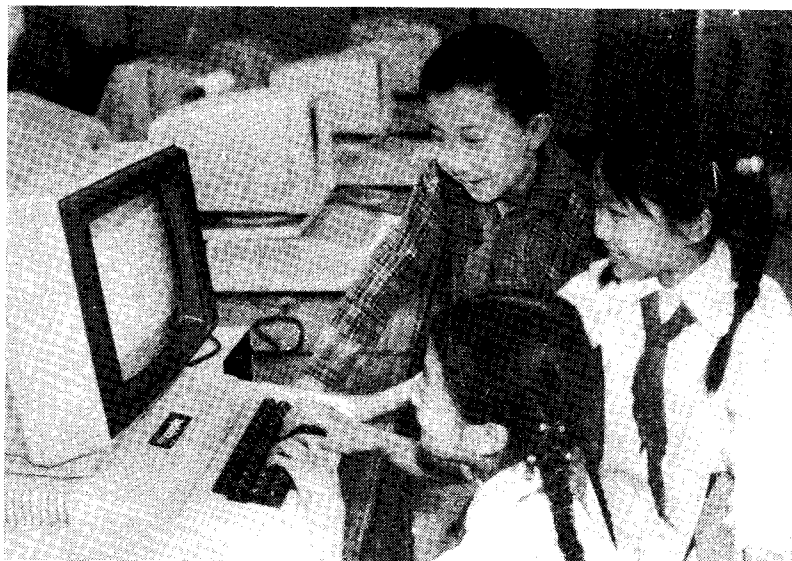
Director Liu said there is a lot of potential for computer development in China's countryside. To encourage the peasants to use computers, the institute has reduced the price of its micro-computer from 30,000 yuan to 15,000 yuan for peasants. At the same time, if the peasants do not have enough money at hand, they can pay by instalments. As a result of the stepped-up marketing, some peasants and rural hospitals in Hunan, Hubei, Henan, Hebei, Shaanxi, Heilongjiang, Jilin and some other provinces have bought computers.

Only a few years ago in China's cities computers were also little more than exhibits and things in laboratories. Now, however, computers are being used in almost every department of the national economy, from the control of steel-making furnaces to the planning of the oil industry, and from auxiliary designing to collecting statistics.

The State Bureau of Materials and Equipment is responsible for the management of more than 6,000 kinds of industrial bearings produced by factories throughout the country. In the past, about a

Technicians monitoring a micro-computer-controlled 35-kv substation in Biyang County, Henan Province.





Wu Min (front), the 10-year-old manager of her school's software company, showing two of her classmates her computer talents.

dozen people kept themselves busy collecting statistics related to the products. In order to streamline the procedure, the bureau's computer department developed an information and management programme for industrial bearings,

complete with the names, models and specifications of all the products turned out by more than 200 key factories. Since accurate statistics are now just a few keyboard taps and can be fed back to producers, the stock held by

the various ministries and commissions has been reduced by more than 30 percent, saving some 200 million yuan each year for the state.

In recent years, Beijing has also devoted some of its attention to using micro-computers in city management—in traffic control, hotel management, bookkeeping and banking.

As China's computer industry becomes commercialized, it is also developing in depth, with its number of computer projects now in use increasing from about 100 in 1980 to its present level of 10,000. According to the principle of "utilization to promote development and competition to promote improvement," efforts are being made throughout the country to usher in a new and even higher stage in China's computer technology; some experts predict that an electronics era characterized by the pervasive use of micro-computers is emerging in China. □

Facts and Figures

Commercial Management Diversified

According to a spokesman for the State Statistical Bureau, many state-run commercial monopolies have been broken down since the Sixth Five-Year Plan began in 1981. This was achieved by reforms in many fields, including the introduction of a diverse economy, a wider circulation of goods and the readjustment of the national commercial framework.

It is predicted there would be 12 million businesses engaging in the retail, catering and service trades by the end of 1985, employing 26.5 million people. Compared with that of 1980, the num-

ber of businesses would increase six times and employment, nearly three-fold.

Ample commodities resources have been provided during this five-year plan period. By the end of 1985, the value of the commodities resources should reach 443.5 billion yuan (about US\$150 billion), achieving an annual increase of 14.8 percent. This would double that of 1980 and would be greater than the first (1953-57) and the fifth (1976-80) five-year plans, which ranged from 3.3 percent to 10.8 percent. The coupons

for the commodities, used at the beginning of this five-year plan period, have been removed from 70 of the commodities because of the abundance of commodities.

The quantity and variety of commercial goods have grown larger during this period. By the end of 1985, it is estimated that total retail sales in the country will reach about 430 billion yuan (about US\$148 billion), doubling that of 1980 and achieving an average annual increase of 15 percent.

The increase in retail sales in terms of quantity and speed is new to the People's Republic of China. Private retail sales, in particular, have gone up by more than 40 times over 1980.

Factory Takes Lead to Convert Criminals

To give a healthy environment to 62 released juvenile delinquents, leaders of a Hebei paper mill stretch out their arms to the youth and offered them jobs in the mill, believing they will change.

by **YANG XIAOBING**
Our Correspondent

ON October 10, 1984, workers at the Shijiazhuang Paper-Making Factory, beating drums and gongs and waving coloured banners and flags, welcomed 62 new workers.

As the fanfare suggested, the new arrivals were a special group — a group for whom such a welcome would come as a surprise. For in that crew of new workers, there were no distinguished leaders or special talents, but only criminals, crooks and truants, who might only rate such a salvo at the news of their incarceration. The leaders and workers at the Shijiazhuang factory, however, chose to make the group as welcome as they

would their new workers, prompting not only sighs of relief from the group, but also a few tears.

Welcome

Getting some of the factory workers to accept these young people, some of whom had just been caught committing petty crimes, while others had been serving prison sentences, wasn't easy at first. Some workers worried that the new arrivals — the "stinking meat," as they thought of them — might "spoil the soup." They were concerned largely because the factory had recently ended a long period in which it had been running at a loss and started making money. The arrival of these "trouble makers," they thought, might upset their now favourable balance.

The factory managers, however, knew what they were doing. They held that though the whole situation of social order has changed for the better in Shijiazhuang, the capital of Hebei Province, the rate of juvenile delinquency still accounts for 60 percent of the crimes committed there. Therefore, they reasoned, a good environment might exert a positive influence on the juvenile delinquents, and help them opt for mending their ways and turn over a new leaves, rather than travelling any farther down the criminal road.

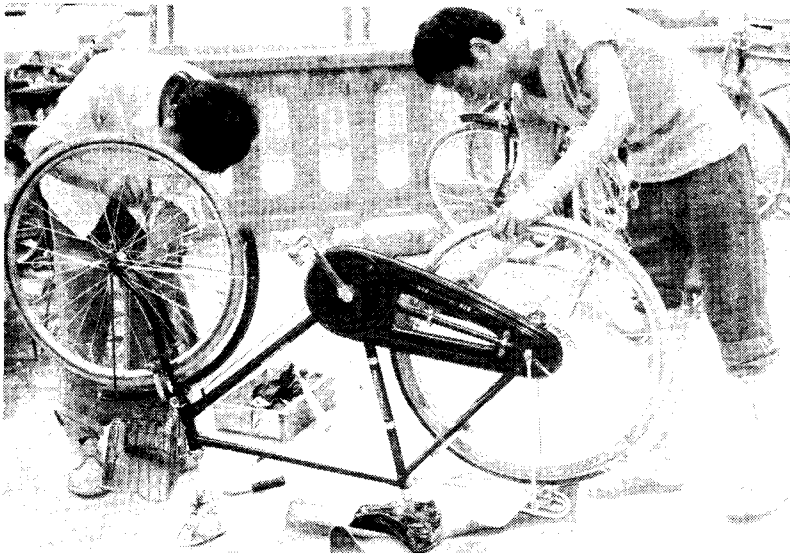
Now that the factory is in good shape, the leaders said, it would be a good opportunity for it to do its part to improve social order by trying to remould these young people. They decided to enlist these young people because they believed a man can change. The management also knew the workers' welfare had improved since the economic reforms, which would be an advantage in attracting new employees.

Proceeding from these assumptions, the factory's Party, trade union and Youth League organizations set out to persuade those who doubted the viability of such a programme into accepting it.

Inspired by one of their employees whose son was being punished for committing a crime, the factory management organized a debate on the topic, "How would you want people to treat a child of yours who had gone astray?"

Jia Ping (left), deputy secretary of the factory's Party organization, at work with one of the plant's former convicts.





Two of the factory's reformed criminals repairing bikes for other workers free of charge.

After the debate, the workers realized the importance of giving young people a second chance and began to warm to the idea of working alongside offenders.

When the 62 "good-for-nothings" showed up, they were given jobs that accorded with their special abilities and situations. For older ones with families to fend for, the factory found simple jobs that would allow them to quickly catch on and start earning money to support their households. To the younger and better educated among the new crew, the factory offered technically demanding jobs, and for those already with expertise in a certain area, the factory put them in positions requiring their particular talent. One young man in the group who had learnt how to repair and maintain cars and trucks in prison now works with the factory's truck fleet—a much sought-after position at which the young man has worked hard and accumulated a lot of overtime.

Despite the enthusiasm of the management, workers and new employees, the task of rerouting the criminals' priorities and get-

ting them to rid themselves of their bad habits has not always been easy. Although the setbacks and problems loomed large from the start, the people at the factory were determined to try.

Help

As soon as the group arrived at the factory, the workers and leaders introduced themselves to their new group. Factory Director Ma Shengli, General Party Branch Secretary Liu Guangyi and workshop heads talked with the men about the factory's history and its rules and regulations. Older workers signed master-apprentice contracts with them in an effort to show their sincerity to work with the men and get them to change their ways.

The factory also solicited help from the government and police agencies in the neighbourhoods where the young people live, asking the officials and the men's relatives to keep an eye on them and convince them of the importance of staying within the law.

In trying to accommodate the

new workers, the factory has, in some instances, even offered preferential treatment. Chen Ronghe, one of the released criminals, has his wife and two small daughters in the countryside. During busy seasons the family needs him with essential tasks. Realizing the importance of Chen's labour for the family, the factory now allows him to work extra during the week, so he can return to his family on some weekends and holidays.

Others among the group have, since starting work at the factory, become married or engaged with the help of the factory's trade union and youth league organizations. One of them, Bian Keying, for example, fell in love with a woman, who found it difficult to believe Bian had really mended his fences. Having learnt this, factory leaders invited the woman to the factory and told her Bian's progress in reshaping his life. Last New Year's Day, the two were married. Bian, who was so eager to return to work, cut his honeymoon short. When he got back to the factory he told his boss that he wanted to put the past behind him and "contribute to my country."

In trying to treat these new employees as they would do the rest of their staff, the factory management praise the men when they do something good and criticize or punish them when they do something wrong. Some of the criminals who were doing exceptionally well were asked to give inmates in reformatories lectures on their unsavory pasts and their need for rerouting their priorities. Providing the lectures, the factory workers educated the criminals and at the same time strengthened their own corrections to improve their lives.

Not unnaturally, however, some have returned to acting up and committing crimes. Fu Qiuli, for example, was arrested three times

before he entered the factory and was detained once afterwards for theft. The factory, however, did not give up on him but instead, bailed him out and treated him as usual. Fu's father, on learning his only son had committed another crime, refused to see him, however. Factory leaders visited his family several times, trying to persuade his father to allow his son to come home. Fu was surprised at the factory's stubborn belief in him and has since repented, saying: "Diehard like a rock, I must change."

Some workers balked when they saw the repeat offenders being treated with such leniency. They said: "The factory is too merciful and soft-hearted in dealing with those who have refused to mend their ways." Jia Ping, deputy secretary of the factory's general Party branch in charge of ideological work, said: "We knew some would drift back to criminal activity. It is a real headache when they choose to act this way. But, if they were left uncared for, they would probably be worse."

Good Results

The factory has yielded good, if not completely satisfactory, results in leading these young people to a new life. One of the success

stories is Zhang Jianmin, who tattooed a dragon and eagle on his arms to show his buddies he could stand anything. After serving a three-year prison sentence on theft, Zhang had stayed home, idle most of his days, and slowly began to lose whatever faith in life he had. He was deeply moved, however, when he learnt he was accepted at the factory. As testimony to his good intentions, Zhang went to hospital and had a skin grafting operation to remove his tattoos.

Another convert is Wang Jianhe, who was jailed for five years for assault and battery. When he entered the factory, Wang thought of the factory as a concentration camp because of the troop of juvenile delinquents working there. Wang kept alert, cat-like. When he saw the factory treated him cordially, and that things ran smoothly he gradually let his guard down and started to take his work seriously. Once when repairing a machine, he fractured his foot. Wang continued his work, though, kneeling down without uttering a single word. Later, his boss discovered his bleeding foot and sent him to the hospital. Upon hearing the story his parents felt proud. "The child has completely changed since he began working at the factory," they said.

These young people not only work hard but also take an active part in recreational activities at the factory, running blackboard newspapers and organizing musical bands. The factory has organized them into a team of barbers and bicycle repairmen. They have volunteered to serve their fellow workers during off-duty hours, and were recognized as a model collective by the Central Committee of the Chinese Communist Youth League.

By the end of last year, 23 of the 62 young people had been cited as model workers and 10 got pay raises. Against some strident criticisms, the factory leadership lowered the qualification criteria for the new workers in order to encourage them to make further progress.

Some people outside the factory have disapproved of the arrangement. "In accepting these people, the paper-making factory is trying to show off," they have said. The factory management, nonetheless, remains firm. "If nobody takes care of these young people, all the talk of the aims of socialism being to save people and to strive for a better social order is empty rhetoric. It would behove more factories to take the lead offered by the paper-making factory." □

Economic Situation South of Sahara

by WANG HEXING

This is the second and concluding part of the article. The first part appeared in our last issue — Ed.

The economic crisis south of the Sahara is arousing worldwide concern. The United Nations has called on the international community to take effective emergency measures to help see Africa through its anguish and starvation.

Readjusting Economic Policies. Awakened to the central role agriculture plays in their national economies, the African countries have begun readjusting their policies to increase investment in farm production. These measures vary from country to country, but in general they include:

— Formulating new development strategies that suit specific local conditions. Many African countries have begun to move

towards diversifying their economic base, with a new stress on agriculture. At the same time they also give due attention to the needs of social development and the living standards of their people.

— Cutting administrative spending and welfare subsidies. Tanzania, for instance, has streamlined its government organizations by reducing the number of ministries from 22 to 15. It also has abolished food subsidies to citizens.

— Increasing agricultural investment and raising the price of farm products. The Nigerian government has boosted its agricultural budget to 22 percent of its total expenditures, from just 6 percent in 1979. Since 1982, Kenya has hiked the purchase price of corn by 37 percent, rice by 54 percent, and wheat by 18 percent.

— Limiting imports and expanding exports. Zambia has announced that it will stop importing limousines for use by government agencies and reduce wheat, rice and cooking oil imports. To stimulate exports, Tanzania allows enterprises to keep part of the foreign currency they earn. The Ivory Coast is encouraging the spread of rubber plantations, with a view to making the country the largest natural rubber producer in Africa by the 1990s.

— Overhauling state-run enterprises and helping small and medium-sized businesses grow. Liberia has decided to transform all state enterprises in a bid to reduce their size and raise their efficiency. Cameroon and Mozambique have given up plans for some large state projects, and are instead turning their attention to the development of smaller factories that require less investment and yield quicker results.

Many countries have plans to systematically move drought victims to better-off areas. To help farmers stay on the land, Senegal has cancelled all their debts and set up a state credit bank to provide them with loans. Ethiopia's emergency relief plan includes measures to protect water sources, resettle drought victims and promote agricultural production. The Addis Ababa government will resettle 1.5 million people this year. Many countries have launched tree-planting campaigns and have tried to solve problems affecting supplies of drinking and irrigation water.

Helping Each Other. In their struggle against disaster, the African countries have demonstrated a new-found solidarity. Putting aside political differences, members of the Organization of African Unity at its November 1984 summit called for collective economic development on the basis of self-reliance and self-sufficiency. The meeting also established a special fund to aid drought-stricken countries south of the Sahara. Algeria and Libya each offered to contribute US\$10 million to the fund.

The Economic Community of West African Countries, at its 7th summit in November last year, passed a resolution on economic rehabilitation which decided, among other things, to set up a foundation for Africa south of the Sahara. The conference pledged to follow a common economic development strategy based on coordinated regional plans. It also promised to take steps to ensure the community's self-sufficiency in grain and to fulfil its reforestation plan to halt the region's desertification.

Early this year, six East African countries set up an inter-governmental agency to cope with the drought and other urgent regional issues. The agency's main task is to provide the international community with information about the latest drought developments there, distribute grain to drought-hit areas, and collect, analyse and publish meteorological data.

Some countries, themselves drought victims, have taken an active part in the relief work. Nigeria has pledged to give US\$6.5 million in emergency aid to Ethiopia and other hard-hit countries. Uganda has supplied Tanzania with 40,000 tons of corn. Togo, the Ivory Coast and Zimbabwe, all suffering natural disasters of their own, also have donated food.

International Aid. The world has

mobilized to give emergency aid to suffering Africa. According to a special report prepared by FAO early this year, the international community has promised a total of 4.413 million tons of food for Africa this year. The World Bank has set up a US\$1.1 billion loan fund to help Africa rebuild its economy. The UN emergency action office for Africa is planning to collect another US\$1.5 billion.

Most international aid has been offered on a bilateral basis and is fraught with political and military significance. Some developed countries have shown reluctance to support multilateral aid programmes. The United States in particular has refused to take part, although it has promised to "coordinate" some of its activities with those of the multilateral aid agencies.

Another feature of the current international drive is the integration of emergency aid with long-term development assistance. In addition to providing emergency food aid to Africa, the European Economic Community last year endorsed a series of measures to help the African countries increase food production and control the spread of deserts. France has formulated an expediency plan for fighting drought and has taken upon itself the task of processing weather forecasts. Japan is also helping some African countries build farm roads and small irrigation projects.

Meanwhile, a popular campaign to aid Africa is developing throughout the world. In the Federal Republic of Germany, Britain, Italy, Belgium, Yugoslavia and many other countries, citizens are calling for donations or raising money for African refugees. In Japan there is a "Donate one lunch" campaign, while in Belgium "Rescue Ethiopia" movement has been gaining popular support. The Chinese government has

decided to give 170,000 tons of grain to African drought victims, and throughout China a donation campaign has been launched.

Prospects

Economic activities in Africa south of the Sahara declined drastically in the first half of the 1980s, leaving the area staggering under the impact of the Western economic recession and a devastating drought. Restoring the region's economy will require much time and effort. Taking into consideration Africa's weak infrastructure and its inherited problems, the prospects for rapid development in the second half of the decade are not good.

The following factors will work to restrain economic development:

— **The prices of primary products, which are the principal exports south of the Sahara, will remain unstable.** Since 1980 world prices of minerals and farm products have experienced frequent fluctuations, with more falls than hikes. This has greatly reduced these countries' export income. If another economic crisis hits the West in the latter half of the 1980s, as has been predicted by some economists, the main market for Africa's goods will suffer heavily. Worse, the trend towards trade protectionism seems set to continue. With the development of new technologies, there will be more synthetic materials and substitute goods on the market. All these will have an adverse influence on Africa's economic growth.

— **There will be little hope for a substantial increase in governmental development aid.** The countries south of the Sahara depend on others for most of their development funds — foreign aid accounted for fully 75 percent of their total investment in the 1970s. The UN declared in 1981 that the world's 36 least developed coun-

tries would each get aid equal to 0.15 percent of their gross national product. The aggregate total was set to reach US\$14.9 billion. But by 1985, according to statistics prepared by the UN Conference on Trade and Development, only US\$8.1 billion had been pledged. Most African countries cannot afford the credits offered by international commercial banks, which demand high interest rates and short repayment terms. A shortage of funds will continue to plague the African countries south of the Sahara for the remainder of the decade.

— **High population growth rates will remain a serious hindrance to economic development.** Most of the countries south of the Sahara still have no definite population policies. Some even object to measures that would control population growth. There is thus little chance of any decline in population. Rapid growth will inevitably consume most of Africa's economic gains and siphon off funds which might have been invested in production, thus obstructing economic and social development and halting the improvement of living standards.

Other unfavourable factors include political instability and constantly changing economic policies. But, from a long-term point of view, there also exist some favourable factors.

First, policy readjustments will help improve economic performance. Most of the countries south of the Sahara have already begun readjusting their economies, obtaining some promising results. The World Bank forecasts that between 1985 and 1995, the low-income African countries will register an economic growth of 2.8 percent to 3.2 percent. If these countries can improve on their current policies, they will be able to at least partly offset the adverse influence of trade protectionist measures adopted by the develop-

ed nations and reach a 3 percent growth rate. Of course, economic transformation cannot be completed overnight. But policy readjustments, managerial reforms and increased efficiency will certainly bring about improvements.

Second, co-operation among the African countries will help reduce the impact of a deteriorating international economic environment. All African states have pledged to carry out the Lagos Programme for Action, a blueprint which calls for strengthened co-operation and collective development. A majority of the countries south of the Sahara have joined regional organizations which promote free trade, mutual reduction and exemption of customs duties, joint transportation projects and the establishment of community banks. These measures will certainly expand intra-regional trade. It is unrealistic to hope that these collective efforts will have much impact on the unfavourable international economic environment. Still, increased co-operation will be an important factor in Africa's future development, and it is a force that must not be overlooked.

In short, internal factors must be given due consideration in Africa's economic future. Policy readjustments will no doubt stimulate development south of the Sahara. If governments there continue to adjust to changing conditions and follow the principle of collective self-reliance, they will probably be able to turn their disadvantages into advantages, or at least reduce the influence of disadvantageous factors to a minimum. With international support and their own efforts, they will ease the economic strains in the latter half of the 1980s. If there is more rainfall in the coming years (some dry areas have already had some), they will find a better economic situation than in the first half of the decade. □

FROM THE CHINESE PRESS

Ba Jin Answers Questions on Ideals

from "JIEFANG RIBAO"
(Liberation Daily)

LAST April ten children from Jiangsu Province wrote a letter to Ba Jin, one of China's most famous authors and chairman of the Chinese Writers' Association, telling of their search for ideals.

The following are excerpts from the students' letter:

"We are all about 11 years old, and all of us have won prizes for our good records at school and for our fine moral characters. But in the last few years we have been confused by some social phenomena. Our parents are always talking about money, and some people in society seem enormously proud of their wealth. One of our teachers earns more than 30 yuan a month. When she was asked about her salary she blushed with shame. One day a girl in our class got 94 out of the full mark of 100 on a mathematics test. She cried because her father had promised to give her 5 yuan if she got a score of at least 95. Many parents encourage their children to get good marks in their studies with offers of money, new clothes or travel. Some pupils look forward to a job in a good unit with high wages and bonuses. With all the financial incentives, it is natural for these pupils to study for money and to want to work for money in the future. Should these be ideals that students of the 1980s seek?

"Grandpa Ba Jin, you are a well-known writer. We have read many of your books. We are always moved to tears by your articles. You are old now, but we know through newspapers and television that you are still working hard. We think you do so because

you are inspired by a fascinating power that is a magic key to the window of our mind. So we write this letter to you for instruction. When you lean over your desk and begin writing, what do you think about, and what do you look for as reward in writing so many books?"

Ba Jin replied to the children's letter in June. The following are excerpts from his response:

"To find ideals is not a task one would expect to accomplish in one or two days. Though often elusive, ideals do exist, however. Some people may spend their whole lives in an unsuccessful search for ideals, while others are easily able to find them and live by them. With different objectives, these people have different understandings of their ideals.

"You all have your own ideals, don't you? You said you felt suffocated by ill-conceived social tendencies that put money first in everything. This indicates then that you do have ideals and they are playing their roles. Was it that because you felt isolated you spoke of yourselves as 'lambs who had lost their way'? In my opinion, however, it isn't you, but the people around you who have lost their way.

"People often say that the situation is excellent. They have their reasons to say so, for there are many good people and things in our lives today. Some people give their lives rescuing people, while others devote their efforts to the socialist cause and help others while disregarding their own. Such things show that the situation is good. If one looks only for bad things, one will certainly feel enclosed by them. Truly, life is

splendid and, if one knows where and how to look, ideals can be found everywhere. There are, however, many troubles. One of these troubles is the propensity for some people to remain intent on little other than profit. In observing such behaviour, some people take this devotion to money lightly, regarding it as only a minor part of the whole situation. So what, these people say, if some pursue wealth to the exclusion of real virtues? So what if people want to be "heroes who make a lot of money and spend it freely," and are fond of empty words and nonsense? So what if people sell bogus medicine, and defective goods or take advantage of their positions to make a profit? These perverse tendencies, they say, cannot overcome the good in society, as it is the good that is far more pervasive.

"By saying this I mean that in any society the struggle between right and wrong, between darkness and light, is inevitable. The final victory, however, is certain to go to justice and the light. Darkness and injustice, however, will conceal or overwhelm justice for a while or for a comparably long period. During this period, victory will be determined by the strength of the two sides. In the struggle between ideals and money, we are not the bystanders or spectators, we are participants. The victory of the struggle is related closely with each of our fates.

"I always wonder why, after publicizing our lofty ideals and excellent situation for dozens of years, we cannot stop the spread of this bad tendency to covet wealth. We have educated the people with ideals for decades and published numerous books, texts and related articles in newspapers and periodicals. Why is it then, that some

students still don't know which way they should turn and are still seeking their ideals?

"Frankly, little friends, I sometimes hesitate when confronted with such complicated problems. I ask myself, what are the real ideals, and whether they are illusory things, and if not where might we find them. I seem to see the minor trend overcome the main trend. But even at this time there is no reason for me to despair because ideals still flare in front of me.

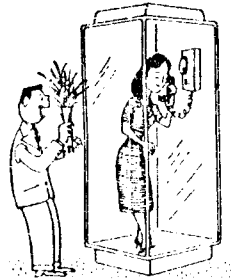
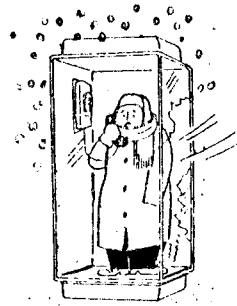
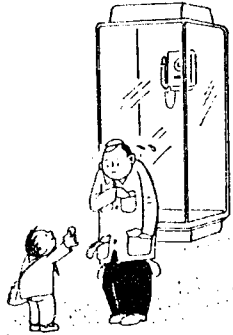
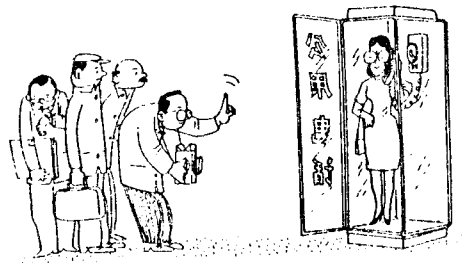
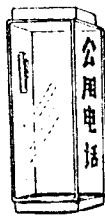
"Again I have seen ideals. They are not cosmetic things, empty words or pet phrases. They are so distinctive and can be seen by everyone. These ideals are closely related to us.

"In the 1920s when I started writing, I once said, 'If we link our fates with the human race as a whole, we will see the continuity but not the destruction of our lives, as the human race flourishes.' In the mid-30s I also wrote that 'every one of us has more sympathy, love, joy and tears than we need in our lives. We must give some to others. If we don't our minds will wither.'

"I have experienced twists and turns in my 50-year career. But I never lost my ideals. They, sometimes like a fire and sometimes like a lamp, have lighted me forward.

"Dear friends, I envy you. Youth is endlessly beautiful, and the young generation is the hope of the human race, the hope of our motherland and our people.

"Ideals don't reject anyone who seeks them. Only if you persist in finding them, will you bathe in their brilliance. Do not fear and do not look down upon yourselves. You are not alone. Please pick yourselves up and proceed. Brave the wind and the waves and stand firmly in the struggle between ideals and money."



Life on the line.

by Wu Jiliang

Symphony Suffers Losses

from "SHENGHUO ZHOU-BAO"
(Life Weekly)

ACCORDING to Chen Xieyang, conductor of the Shanghai Philharmonic Orchestra, many of the orchestra's musicians are leaving China for better-paying positions abroad. "In the past few years," Chen said, "45 members of the orchestra have gone abroad either as students or immigrants." Three out of four newcomers to the Shanghai Philharmonic had their exit passports, entrance visas and plane tickets when they registered with the orchestra, Chen said.

China's premier orchestra, the Shanghai Philharmonic has gained praise from many visiting foreign musicians, including the celebrated Japanese conductor, Seiji Ozawa,

who said the talent of the Shanghai Philharmonic musicians equals the world's best.

Chen said his musicians opt to leave China largely because of their low pay, which is far less than that of China's popular singers. Ambitious musicians, who are serious about their craft, Chen said, have been discouraged by the level of pay and popularity afforded to symphony music in China.

Symphonic recordings are hard to come by in China, Chen said, while popular musical recordings are sold everywhere. People in charge of recording popular music, Chen said, might be surprised to discover that out of 800 musical varieties, classical music accounted for 80 percent of sales at a recent exhibit of foreign and Hongkong musical recordings.

Xiamen Zone Practises New Policies

With the approval of the State Council, as of October 1985 the Xiamen Special Economic Zone in Fujian Province adopted more open policies, including certain policies which will be gradually instituted in the free port.

Now the zone can import commodities it needs and export its own products; it can also handle entrepot and border trade and act as an import and export agent for inland enterprises.

Tax exemption for entrepot trade is an important policy of free ports in the world. With the exception of narcotics and weapons, all foreign goods are allowed to be stored, refitted, processed, labelled and shipped to other countries via the Xiamen port. These goods are then exempt from customs duties and import or valued-added taxes.

With the broadened policy, the special zone now can also establish financial organizations; it allows specialized banks to handle the business of foreign currency deposits for zone residents. The zone can borrow money, issue stocks and bonds and handle over-the-counter trading of stocks and bonds. Foreign banks and overseas Chinese banks are allowed to

start business in the special zone. The Xiamen International Bank, a joint venture, will go into business by the end of this year. The application filed by the United Overseas Bank Group of Singapore for establishing a branch in Xiamen also has been approved.

The Xiamen Special Economic Zone was set up in 1980. At that time a 2.5 square-kilometre area was delineated as the industrial processing district. At present, work on levelling the district's land has been completed. Roads and telecommunications facilities have been built and electricity, water and gas supplies have been made available. A new international airport and four berths for 10,000-ton to 50,000-ton vessels have been built. With the modern international communication system established in the zone, foreign investors have now been provided with better investment environment. By the end of September 1985, 271 contracts for joint ventures, cooperative enterprises and foreign enterprises had been signed. These projects are valued at US\$600 million.

In October 1985, the State Council approved the report sub-

mitted by the Xiamen Special Economic Zone on extending its area from 2.5 square kilometres to 131 square kilometres, to include Xiamen and Gulangyu Island, turning the former industrial processing district into an outward-looking special economic zone to promote the development of industry while also managing tourism, commerce and real estate.

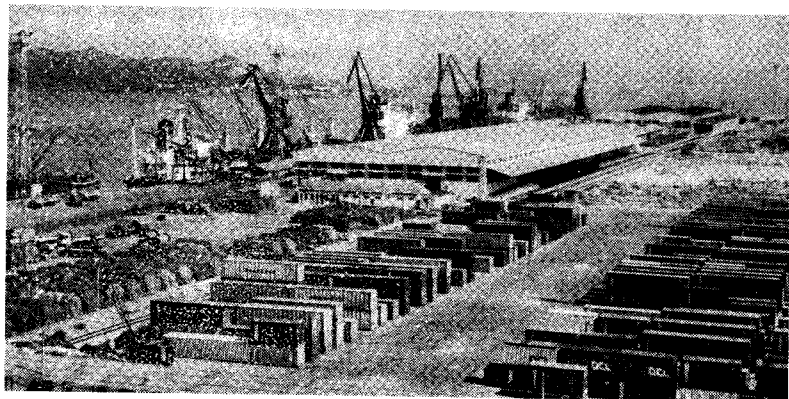
Foreign Funds Aid Farm Production

In the past five years, foreign funds close to US\$830 million have been used by the Ministry of Agriculture, Animal Husbandry and Fishery for various development programmes. With the inclusion of those funds used by departments in various localities, the amount jumps to US\$1,300 million.

The use of foreign funds has enabled China to introduce advanced technologies and equipment to its agricultural sector and expand its scientific and technological exchanges with foreign countries. Though vast and abundant with resources, China's agriculture, animal husbandry and fishery have long been underdeveloped. Because agriculture occupies a decisive position in China's economy, however, the import of foreign funds is a long-term policy needed for China's agricultural growth. In recent years, the political and economic stability of the country, the agricultural development and the vast Chinese market have also attracted the attention of foreign investors.

In the past few years, foreign capital used by the Ministry of Agriculture, Animal Husbandry and Fishery has been mainly from the World Bank, the International

A container wharf in Xiamen.



Fund for Agricultural Development, the World Food Programme, and loans for bilateral projects. China intends to open more channels for the use of foreign funds in the future. Projects built with foreign funds include the project using advanced rice transplanters over a large paddy field, which were imported from Japan by Jilin Province; the Hunan Nanshan Experimental Farm, a co-operative project with Australia; and the Sino-French Joint Wine Co. Ltd. in Tianjin. These projects have yielded good economic results.

The Ministry of Agriculture, Animal Husbandry and Fishery has decided that during the Seventh Five-Year Plan period (1986-90), it will import foreign funds for a number of key projects, such as the construction of the agricultural, animal husbandry and fishery production centres, food and feed processing industries, and aquatic breeding.

Toshiba Corp. Woos China

Members of the Toshiba Corp., Japan's largest comprehensive electronics group, held business talks in Beijing recently with their Chinese counterparts on an investment package worth 10,000 million Japanese yen.

During the talks, Shoichi Saba, president of the Toshiba Corp., said Japan is more careful than European countries in conducting feasibility studies, and that Toshiba's expansion in China is certain.

Toshiba Corp. is Japan's oldest electronics enterprise, and since China and Japan resumed their diplomatic relations in 1972, Toshiba has provided China with equipment for manufacturing colour TV sets, washing machines, fluorescent lamps, medical equipment, and



radar systems for airports and electric locomotives. In addition, Toshiba has imported pig iron, wolfram and other raw and semi-finished materials from China.

It is estimated that the total amount of trade contracts signed by Toshiba and China this year will come to 150,000 million yuan and that the amount of delivery will reach 70,000 million yen (including contracts signed earlier).

Mr. Saba said relations between Japan and China should not be confined to economic ones, but that their contacts should be geared to safeguard and develop peace and friendship between the peoples of the two countries and promote each nation's long-term growth. He also noted if Japan unilaterally exports great quantities to China, disagreements will follow. Therefore, trade between Japan and China should be carried on as much a reciprocal basis as possible. Toshiba, Mr. Saba said, is willing to make efforts for expanding China's exports to Japan.

Mr. Saba came to Beijing to host the Japan Toshiba Comprehensive Technological Exhibition held in early November. The exhibition is the first large-scale fair held by Toshiba abroad since its founding 110 years ago. On display were power generating and electrical control equipment, industrial machines, telecommunication and information processing equip-

ment, medical equipment, audio and video equipment and household electrical appliances.

Germans Buy Chinese Technology

Carl Zeiss, a firm from the Federal Republic of Germany renowned for its precision processing techniques, recently ordered 200 measuring datum plates for three-dimensional measuring machines, from the China National Aero-Technology Import and Export Corp.

Each of the granite surface plates is 2.2 metres long and 1.4 metres wide. Compared with metallic plates, the granite plates are wear-resistant and free from the influence of vast shifts in temperatures. The result of an appraisal conducted by Carl Zeiss experts showed the surface of the Chinese plates deviated only 2.7 micron. Such precision, one of the Carl Zeiss experts said, is seldom seen today.

Carl Zeiss first purchased the plates from the China National Aero-Technology Import and Export Corp. in 1982. At present, standard quartz balls produced by this Chinese corp. have been used as the measuring basis by Carl Zeiss.

Carl Zeiss also recently bought advanced aluminium castings worth 108,000 mark from China.



Sino-Soviet Ballet Exchange Renewed

The Moscow Classical Ballet Company, the first major envoy of renewed Sino-Soviet cultural exchanges since the 1960s, delighted Beijing and Shanghai audiences with a series of performances last month.

Chinese audiences have never forgotten the Soviet classical ballet performances in China in the 1950s by world-famous ballerina Ulanova and other artists from the Bolshoi.

This time, the Soviet dancers introduced *The Creation of the World* and *The Mischieves of Terpsichore*. Their style was not in strict keeping with the company's name, for their performances blended both classical and contemporary dance.

The Creation of the World was an amusing, simplified account of The Book of Genesis in the Old Testament. It interpreted the beginning of mankind and the struggle between God and the devil, good and evil. In addition to touches of humour, the ballet was filled with a touching freshness and innocence, especially in the portrayal of Adam and Eve.

Another ballet, *The Mischieves of Terpsichore*, which was designed to express an international ballet contest, began with dancers' training to the strains of Strauss' *Blue Danube*.

What really impressed the audience were the spectacular performances after the "competition" began.

S. Isayev and T. Paliy stood out with their *pas de deux* from

The Flames of Paris. Isayev's stylized leaps and Paliy's pirouettes won the pair several rounds of applause.

Joining the Moscow ballet troupe for this dance, to give emphasis to the international contest theme, were two Chinese ballet dancers who performed the *pas de deux* to Tchaikovsky's *Sleeping Beauty*. Tang Min and Zhang Weiqiang were winners at the Moscow International Ballet Competition in June. Their exquisite, gentle performance, combined with oriental charm and a blend of classical and contemporary styles, brought a feeling of warm friendship between the two nations' audience and drew loud applause. Tang Min, 23, said excitedly that the performance in co-operation with the prominent Soviet ballet dancers helped to promote Sino-Soviet cultural exchanges.

The same feeling was also expressed by Li Chengxiang, head of China's Central Ballet Troupe.

"We always remember that Soviet veteran dancers trained China's first generation of ballet dancers, as well as the first generation of ballet teachers, instructors and choreographers."

China has made considerable progress in the art of ballet over the past 25 years, Li added. It has put on 15 world-renowned ballets in full length, including *Swan Lake* and *Giselle*. China also created *A Red Detachment of Women*, which deals with Chinese women taking up arms to fight against reactionary forces before the liberation, and *Mermaid*, a Chinese fairy tale about a mermaid and her lover, a

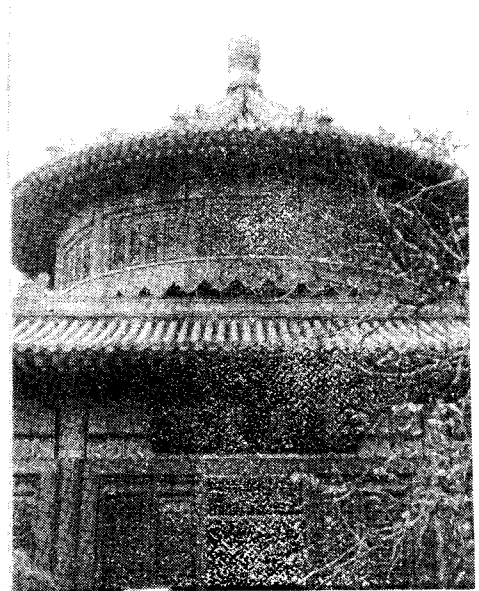


Adam and Eve in the Soviet ballet "The Creation of the World."

hunter, who break a monster's spell and thereafter have a happy life.

In recent years, Li said, a number of young Chinese dancers have won prizes at international competitions in Japan, the United States, France and the Soviet Union. In New China, ballet dancers have more chances to conduct cultural exchanges with their counterparts in other countries, he said, which should help broaden China's artistic vision.

The recent Sino-Soviet ballet exchange was a beginning to the advancement of culture exchanges between the two countries. As Vladimir Vaciliov, head of the Moscow Classical Ballet Company, said, "Everything lies before us."



The ancient bells in the Great Bell Temple Museum (left).
The hall where the 46.5-ton Yongle Bell is kept (right).

Museums Displaying the Past

A museum displaying a collection of ancient bells opened October 4, at the Great Bell Temple in northwest Beijing.

The most distinctive bell in the collection, the "King Bell," or Yongle Bell, measuring 6.75 metres high and 3.67 metres in diameter, and which weighs 46.5 tons, was cast during the reign of the Emperor Yongle (1403-24) of the Ming Dynasty (1368-1644). The King bell, which is inscribed with 230,000 characters of Buddhist scriptures, is said to have been made to commemorate the war dead, and when rung can be heard 40 to 50 kilometres away.

Another 160 bells, dating from the Western Zhou Dynasty (1100-771 BC), are also on display. With weights ranging from 46 tons to 150 grams, most of the bells are made of bronze or iron and come in various shapes.

The exhibit of bells, which have been used widely throughout Chinese history, provides the public with an understanding of the cast-

ing techniques used by the ancient Chinese. In the remote past, ancestors made bells of bamboo, wood and pottery. Later bronze bells were used as musical instruments or for Buddhist rites.

Since 1949 about 500 bronze chimes, China's earliest musical instruments, which can play an eight-octave scale, have been unearthed in various spots throughout the country.

In 1984 China built 150 museums, bringing the country's total to more than 700. Most of these museums exhibit displays of social, historical or revolutionary content. The Shanghai Historical Relics Museum, for example, which opened in May of 1984, is devoted to local history, both ancient and modern.

The number of ethnic and specialized museums in China also has increased. Naxi Autonomous County in Yunnan Province has a museum for ethnic history, which features Naxi relics, costumes, calligraphy and paintings. The mu-

seum's three exhibits in the past six months have attracted 60,000 visitors. The Guangxi Zhuang Autonomous Region and Sichuan Province have built museums in which arts and artifacts of the Miao, Yao, Tibetan and Qiang peoples are collected.

Among China's specialized museums is a 3,100-year-old copper mine, located in Hubei Province's Tonglu Mountain. The antiquated mine, worked from 1200 BC to the 1st century AD, displays ancient China's mining and metallurgical techniques.

Located in Shandong Province is China's first naval museum, which displays about 100 models of ancient ships and maritime equipment as well as the anchors used by the Chinese navy during the 1894-95 Sino-Japanese War. Naval records and other objects are also on display at the museum.

In addition to the ethnic and technical museums, government departments have also built museums devoted to their area of speciality. The water resources department, for example, opened a museum in which the 2,000-year-

old Dujiangyan Irrigation System in Sichuan is the focus, while the textile department now operates a museum on silk in Chengdu. Museums of sports and sugar-refining have also been set up.

Following the nationwide campaign to raise money to repair the Great Wall, the Beijing People's Government decided to build a museum of the Great Wall at the foot of the wall at Badaling, northwest of Beijing.

Almost all the museums are located in major cities. Beijing alone has the Palace Museum (or the Forbidden City), the Museum of Chinese History, the Museum of Chinese Revolution, the Military Museum of the Chinese People's Revolution, the Museum of Geology and the Museum of Natural History.

Art Display in Confucius' Home

Valuable centuries-old books and paintings went on display recently for the first time, in Qufu, Shandong Province, at the ancestral home of Confucius to mark the 2,536 anniversary of the famed philosopher's birth.

Confucius (551-479 BC), a scholar and educator during China's Spring and Autumn Period, was revered for his sagacity by many of China's feudal rulers, and is to date one of China's most well-known figures.

At the Confucian Mansion in Qufu, visitors can now view about 100 ancient books and paintings that date back to the Song, Yuan, Ming and Qing dynasties (960-1911). Director of the Qufu Committee for the Preservation of Cultural Relics, Kong Xiangling, said the oldest work on display is the well-preserved Confucian family tree written by hand during the Northern Song Dynasty (960-1127).

One of the paintings at the exhibit, Kong said, is of particular value for its unusual portrayal of some of Confucius' works. That painting, entitled *The Three Sages*, is one of noted painter Zhao Mengfu's more famous pieces. Zhao, who lived during the Yuan Dynasty (1271-1368), composed the portrait to include not only Confucius and two of his disciples, Yan Hui and Zeng Shen, but also inscribed the 20 sections of the *Confucian Analects* into the painting. *The Analects*, or *Lun Yu*, is a collection of Confucius' notes, journals and conversations logged by his disciples, and is painted in miniscule letters on the robes of the three wise men.

Also on display at the exhibit are scrolls done by renown calligraphers from the Ming Dynasty, as well as paintings by artists from the Qing Dynasty (1644-1911). Included in these are works by artists Ni Yunlu, Dong Qichang and Zheng Banqiao.

Works by noted modern calligraphers and painters including the late Guo Moruo and Zhang Daqian are also on display.

New Adhesive For Skin Grafts

The Shanghai Medical Equipment Research Institute has developed a non-toxic adhesive that helps to reduce the number of stitches needed for skin grafts and save operation time and expenses while reducing the chances of infection.

On August 27, doctors at the Shanghai Ruijin Hospital used the adhesive in an operation on a 9-year-old girl from Hunan Province, using only a few stitches on a large neck wound. Without the adhesive, at least 80 stitches would have been necessary. While the operation would have taken at least

half an hour, it only took a dozen minutes.

The adhesive has proved 98 percent effective in 50 skin graft operations in the past year.

The success rate on another 50 patients who had small wounds and 33 patients who had scar treatment was 100 percent.

Artificial Joint Material Developed

A carbon material was recently developed in China to replace metals, plastics and ceramics in construction of joints.

The technique—carbon cup hiparthroplasty—was officially approved for clinical use at a meeting this August in Jilin Province.

China began working with artificial joints in 1977, and became a successful pioneer by applying ceramics to a peasant's hip bone in 1981. Between 1977 and May of this year, the material was used successfully in 15 cases.

According to doctors at the meeting, carbon material is stable in chemical property and has no biochemical reaction in the human body. It is light, and withstands pressure and corrosion and some experts believe the carbon material will become the leading material for the studies of artificial joint in the future.



Sports Starlets in the Making

To raise a nation's sports level, especially its competitive ability in major world tournaments, China's experts believe that future stars should be selected and trained at an early age.

Baoding Sports Kindergarten, established in the city of Baoding, Hebei Province on August 20, 1984, is known as the "cradle of future national and international sports champions." It is one of seven athletic schools for pre-school children in China.

The sports kindergarten is affiliated with Baoding Key Spare-time Sports School, which has reared more than 500 outstanding athletes over the past 30 years. Many have achieved national and world fame for their athletic abilities.

The goal of the sports kindergarten is to start training athletes from early childhood, in order to lengthen the athletes' competitive age.

There are currently more than 200 children, ages 4 to 6, in the Baoding kindergarten. The sports in which the pupils will participate is determined by their teachers according to each student's figure, stature and personality. Every morning at 7:30, these youngsters are brought to school by their parents. Their morning courses include Chinese, arithmetic, fine arts, music and dance. After 3 pm the students then get down to the serious business of sports training.

The children at Baoding are given quality care and tutelage. The coaches for five of the kindergarten's sports are all national first- or second-grade qualifiers, while the science and literary teachers have passed the required qualifica-

tion examinations. Classes at the kindergarten are always entertaining and fun for the youngsters.

In one of her gymnastics classes, coach Li Xiangru told students to warm up by running some relays. Later, she said, they would begin dancing and sports acrobatics. The class, however, wanted to play games, which are more fun. Li said it was hard for 4-6-year olds to concentrate, and that they are easily bored. If a new programme is introduced before their interest in the old one has died out, however, the children are apt to be more productive and much happier.

Swimming coach Yang Xuan, 34, said the athletic world has still not reached a consensus on the best method for training children. The purpose of the Baoding kindergarten, Yang said, was to foster a sports consciousness in children by teaching them the ABC's of athletics and to improve their conditioning. No intensive training, he said, should be imposed on children. The swimming students, for example, were there to acquaint themselves with water at the earliest possible age. In such a mild introduction, there is no risk of harming the children's health.

Children are quick to learn. Today most of the students who came to swimming class for the first time last winter can now cover more than 50 metres in free style, back-stroke, and breast-stroke.

Liu Yalun, father of a child at the Baoding school, and a bus driver for the Wood Company, said he was very satisfied with his child's progress. He was once a wrestler, and his wife an archer. They hoped their boy would some

day develop an interest in, and prowess for, soccer.

Many parents have found that after their little babies have spent some time in the programme, they are no longer the weak and choocyy only children they once were. Instead, they eat whatever is put before them and have begun to develop independent thinking, modesty and consideration and seem especially immune to colds and other viruses.

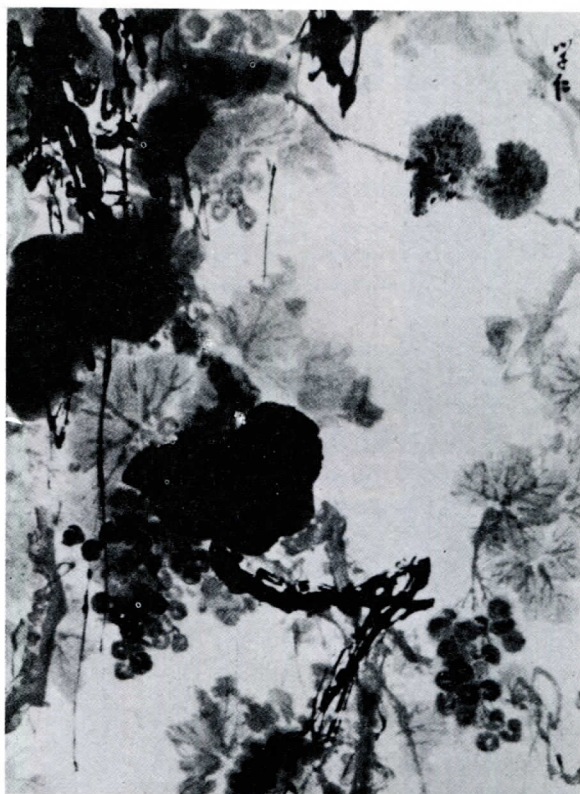
Two physical checks on the children in the kindergarten in November 1984 removed some parents' worries that their children might suffer from the intensive training. A check-up given to 42, 5½-year-olds before they started the Baoding programme showed the children averaged 106.6 cm in height and 17.93 kg in weight, while their chest width averaged 49.6 cm and their hearts beat an average of 110.19 times per minute. Only after six months in the school, the average height increased 2.92 cm, weight 3.85 kg, chest width 6.61 cm and their heart beats diminished to 93.43 per minutes. The students looked much stronger than the children in other kindergartens.

The kindergarten Master Zhang Shifu said of the 94 students who graduated from the kindergarten this August, 73 continued their sports in spare-time sports primary schools, especially the swimming students. Among the 25 swimming graduates only two had discontinued their training. If the others keep going with their training in spare-time sports school, Zhang said, Baoding is sure to have quite a group of sports starlets in a few years.

ART PAGE



Plum Blossoms.



Grapevine.

**Traditional Chinese Paintings
by Shen Xueren**

Shen Xueren, born in 1941 in Weifang, Shandong Province, now works at the Beijing Fine Arts Company. His speciality is painting flowers and birds.



Springtime.

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