

# China

## Reconstructs

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- Socialist Democracy and Legality
- The Art of Beijing Opera
- Ma Yinchu and His Population Theory

Waterfalls at Jingbo Lake in northeast Heilongjiang province.  
*Zhang Shuicheng*



# China Reconstructs

中国建设

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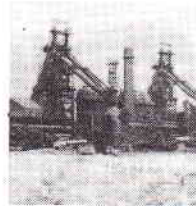
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# Strengthening China's Socialist Law

## —An Interview with Han Youtong

*Many readers have written to ask about socialist democracy and the socialist legal system in China. We requested Han Youtong, noted Chinese woman jurist, to give some answers. She studied law at the Tokyo Imperial University in the 1930s. Now she is vice-director of the Institute of Law of the Chinese Academy of Social Sciences.*

**Q. Why does China now have to strengthen her socialist legal system?**

**A.** Work done in this regard in earlier post-liberation years was later wrecked by Lin Biao and the gang of four. Since the gang's overthrow we have been working steadily to institutionalize our socialist democracy and perfect our socialist legal system.

In point of urgency, to do so is essential to guarantee the smooth progress of our socialist modernization. Moreover, one reason why Lin Biao and the gang of four were able to wreak such social and economic havoc from 1966 to 1976 lay in the imperfections and deficiencies in China's legal system — they took advantage of these loopholes. This has taught us a grave lesson.

I want to stress the socialist nature of China's democracy and legal system to denote their difference from those under other social systems. In China the people as a whole, through different forms, are owners of the means of production and distribution. It is on this basis that the people exercise supreme power over the running of the state. That is what



**Director Peng Zhen of the Commission for Legal Affairs explains draft laws at the Second Plenary Session of the Fifth National People's Congress.**

we mean by socialist democracy. And its expression in terms of institutions and laws is the socialist legal system.

Hence, our motive in strengthening the legal system is to guarantee that the people can really exercise their right to manage state affairs, to guarantee their other democratic rights, and to prevent a repetition of the tragedy of a few careerists usurping state leadership. The law must protect the people's right to

supervise and criticize government units and leaders. It must work against bad practices such as bureaucratism and the pursuit of privilege.

Of course, one reason for strengthening the legal system is to safeguard and develop our socialist economic base. China's laws forbid undermining the economy, disrupting state planning, misappropriating or squandering state or collective property, and acts endangering the public interest, no matter by whom committed or by what means. Embezzlement, theft, profiteering and misappropriation of public property are punishable by law. This is indispensable too, for protecting our achievements in modernization.

**Q. What has been done to build democracy and the legal system since the founding of the people's republic?**

**A.** We wrote a constitution, with subsequent revisions and amendments. On that basis, we promulgated the following laws:

The Organic Law of the National People's Congress, the Local People's Congresses and the Local People's Governments.

An Electoral Law.

Organic Laws of the People's Procuratorates and the People's Courts.

The Land Reform Law, Trade Union Law, and Marriage Law.

Statutes on the punishment of counter-revolutionaries, statutes on arrest and detention, and others.

All these played an important part in developing democracy for



**Huang Huoqing (center), a delegate to the Fifth National People's Congress and Chief Procurator of the Supreme People's Procuratorate, comes to discuss with delegates the strengthening of socialist law.**

the people, curbing enemies, punishing criminals, protecting the rights of the people and guaranteeing the smooth advance of the socialist cause.

But the laws we promulgated after liberation were still imperfect and incomplete. This was because our society was born out of a semi-feudal and semi-colonial old China which had no democratic traditions. Moreover, the ideology, ethics, moral principles and traditional habits and customs of feudalism exert remnant influence in many aspects of our life. And as changes took place in the country's political, economic and cultural life, amendments to these laws or new laws were not made in good time.

**Q. How did Lin Biao and the gang of four go about their disruption?**

**A.** With the beginning of the cultural revolution in 1966, Lin Biao and the gang of four began to avail themselves of the shortcomings and loopholes in the law. Using ultra-Leftist demagoguery they smeared China's socialist legal system as imported from the capitalist countries, revisionist, out-dated and so on. Obviously, with the law discredited and

ineffective they could more easily prepare to seize power.

They also called for dismantling the public security departments, procuratorial organs and judicial system. At the same time they incited anarchy in the departments and regions they controlled and let hoodlums and thugs loose to create general confusion and disorder. They cooked up a host of false accusations, wrong judgments and frame-ups, persecuted thousands of cadres and other innocent people on faked charges, and even hounded many of them to their deaths. This has brought home to us the absolute necessity of a strong, more comprehensive socialist legal system.

**Q. What has been done since the downfall of the gang of four in October 1976?**

**A.** Firstly, the crimes of Lin Biao and the gang of four have been exposed and criticized on a nationwide scale. People are repudiating their ultra-Left line and drawing a clear distinction between right and wrong. The Party and government have insisted on returning to the practical and realistic work style that are among our best traditions.

**Secondly,** a new and revised Constitution was passed by the Fifth National People's Congress in February 1978. In the same period, great efforts were made to throw out false charges, correct wrong judgements and rehabilitate and give redress to the victims of frame-ups. Incomplete figures show that by the end of June 1978 local people's courts had corrected more than 166,000 such cases.

**Thirdly,** in February 1979, various statutes were revised or newly promulgated. They include the statutes on arrest and detention, the Forestry Law, and statutes on the protection of marine products and resources.

On July 1st this year, the Second Session of the Fifth National Congress passed seven important laws: the Organic Law of the Local People's Congresses and the Local People's Governments, the Electoral Law, the Organic Law of the People's Courts, the Organic Law of the People's Procuratorates, the Criminal Law, the Law of Criminal Procedure and the Law on Joint Ventures with Chinese and Foreign Investment.



In a court trial for murder, a public security officer displays a hammer, used to commit the crime.

Shortly after that, the Standing Committee of the Fifth National People's Congress promulgated the Law on Environmental Protection of the People's Republic of China (for trial use). Other laws, such as the Civil Law, the Law of Civil Procedure, a revised Marriage Law, the Birth Control Law, the Factory Law, a revised Labor Law, the Contract Law and an Energy Resources Law, are being worked on.

Fourthly, this year the Sixth Session of the National People's Congress Standing Committee approved the setting up of a Commission for Legal Affairs — with Peng Zhen as director. Its special work is to draft laws. In September its Standing Committee approved the re-establishment of the Ministry of Justice.

Local people's procuratorates done away with by the gang of four have been reinstated. Work meetings of the public security organs, judiciary organs and procuratorates have been held to evaluate their work, and cadres transferred to them to replenish their ranks.

At the same time, four political science and law institutes as well as the Department of Jurispru-

dence at the Chinese People's University have been reopened — in addition to the ones already in existence. Legal research departments have been strengthened and the publication of law journals resumed.

**Q. Could you give us the highlights of the seven laws approved this year by the National People's Congress?**

**A.** I'll try to do so as briefly as possible:

**1. On the people's congresses:** These are China's organs of state power. The new Organic Law of the Local People's Congresses and the Local People's Governments lays down that revolutionary committees set up during the cultural revolution are to be replaced by local people's governments. These local governments will serve as organs of administration under the people's congresses at the same level.

**New Electoral Law:** It requires direct election of people's congress deputies at the county level. This is an important step in extending democracy. Formerly there was direct election by the voters only at the grass-roots level — in municipal districts, people's communes and townships. All dele-

gates of people's congresses above those levels were elected by the congresses just below them.

Another new decision gives electors the right to supervise and recall their deputies. This will help ensure that the deputies keep in constant contact with the voters, listen to their opinions and demands and bring these to the attention of the respective people's congresses and their standing committees. Deputies must be able to perform their functions and powers without obstruction. So the law lays down that no member of a local people's congress at or above the county level may be arrested or brought to trial without the consent of the standing committee of that congress.

**2. New Criminal Law and the Law of Criminal Procedure:** These

were drafted on basis of the experience and lessons of 30 years since the founding of the people's republic. Legal specialists and the people at large were consulted and foreign criminal codes studied. Nearly 40 major revisions were made before the drafts were finalized. The Criminal Law protects the right of person, democratic rights and other rights of citizens against unlawful infringement by any person or institution. It strictly prohibits extortion of confessions through torture, assembling crowds for "beating, smashing and looting," unlawful incarceration and frame-ups on false charges. This is to ensure that such lawless and pernicious acts — committed in large numbers during the period of Lin Biao and gang — will never occur again. Those political careerists made indiscriminate and wrongful use of the label "counter-revolutionary." The new law explicitly stipulates that counter-revolutionary offences are limited to acts undermining the People's Republic of China with the aim of overthrowing the political power of the dictatorship of the proletariat and the socialist system. Listed as such offences are: conspiring with a foreign state, going over to the enemy, armed rebellion, espionage and subverting the government.

Our policy toward lawbreakers has always been one of re-educating as many as possible, narrowing the target of attack and practicing revolutionary humanism. The law imposes capital punishment only for the most heinous crimes that must be punished by death to appease public indignation. All death sentences must be handed down or approved by the supreme court. Some persons sentenced to death may be granted a two-year suspension. If a criminal shows real signs of repentance and performs meritorious service during these two years, the sentence may be commuted to a prison term.

**3. Organic Law of the People's Courts and the Organic Law of the People's Procuratorates:** These define the mutually complementary and mutually restrictive roles of these organs and the public security organs. Public security organs are in charge of investigation, provisional apprehension and inquiry in criminal cases. The people's procuratorate approves arrests and procuratorial proceedings (including investigation) and institutes prosecutions. The courts have the responsibility for trying cases and sentencing offenders. Procuratorates and courts exercise their authority independently. No administrative organs, organizations or individuals are allowed to interfere with them. All persons are equal before the law. In trying cases, the people's courts practice the system of defence counsel and the system of people's assessors.

All the six laws described above go into force on January 1, 1980.

**4. Law on Joint Ventures with Chinese and Foreign Investment:** It defines the basic requirements to be observed by joint enterprises and protects the resources, rightful profits and other legal rights of both China and the foreign participant in a joint venture. It requires that the technology or equipment contributed by any foreign participant shall be truly up to advanced world standards and appropriate to China's needs. It also stipulates that the activities

of a joint venture shall be governed by the laws, decrees and pertinent regulations of China. This law became effective on July 8, 1979.

**Q. Why is China bringing back the use of lawyers?**

**A.** Before the cultural revolution lawyers appeared in court trials as legal representatives or counsels for the defence. Their role was to help the court handle cases correctly, improve the work of the judiciary and protect the legitimate rights of the accused. During the single month of March 1957, according to incomplete statistics compiled by legal advisory departments in ten provinces or equivalent areas, 1,204 criminal cases in which lawyers defended the accused, resulted in partial or complete changes in the nature of the indictment or modifications of the principal evidence in 500 of them. There were 63 acquittals and 49 exemptions from criminal sanction. This demonstrates that with lawyers defending the accused, the quality of investigations, prosecution, trials and sentencing in criminal cases is much improved. But this system was abolished during the gang of four days.

The new law decrees that anyone brought to trial in a court has the right to defence. The accused may engage a lawyer or may request a relative, guardian or any qualified citizen to defend him or her. The court may also assign a lawyer as

defence counsel if it deems this necessary.

Lawyers in China also provide legal advice to the public, answer queries about laws, decrees and policies and draw up complaints, contracts, written pledges and wills. Their work is a part of China's entire revolutionary cause, and so their salaries are paid by the state. Lawyers set up offices collectively in legal advisory departments. Their services are given through the Lawyers' Association at the request of the defendant. Fees are very low and the lawyers individually receive no additional fees. In these ways, our use of lawyers differs from that in other countries.

**Q. Please explain the system of people's assessors.**

**A.** Under the new laws, the system of people's assessors is being restored and improved. In courts of first instance, cases are tried and sentences passed by a collegiate bench consisting of a judge and assessors. The assessors have the same powers as the judge. Any citizen at or above the age of 23 who has the right to vote and to be elected may be chosen as a people's assessor. While fulfilling their duties the assessors receive their full salaries from their original places of employment. Those who do not earn salaries or wages are given an appropriate subsidy by the court. □

**Rehabilitation through labor. Women convicts in the stocking factory of the Beijing prison.**

*Photos by Xinhua*



# GROWTH OF INDUSTRY AND TRANSPORT IN NEW CHINA'S 30 YEARS

## Industrial Production

	1949	1952*	1978
Coal	32,430,000 tons	66,490,000 tons	618,000,000 tons
Crude oil	121,000 tons	436,000 tons	104,050,000 tons
Electricity	4,310 million kwh	7,260 million kwh	256,550 million kwh
Pig iron	252,000 tons	1,929,000 tons	34,790,000 tons
Steel	158,000 tons	1,349,000 tons	31,780,000 tons
Timber (cut)	5,670,000 cubic meters	11,200,000 cu.m.	51,620,000 cu.m.
Cement	660,000 tons	2,860,000 tons	65,240,000 tons
Chemical fertilizer	6,000 tons	39,000 tons	8,693,000 tons
Machine tools	1,600	13,700	183,200
Power-generating equipment	—	6,000 kw	4,838,000 kw
Motor vehicles	—	—	149,100
Tractors	—	—	113,500
Bicycles	14,000	80,000	8,540,000
Cotton cloth	1,890 million meters	3,830 million meters	11,029 million meters
Sugar	199,000 tons	451,000 tons	2,267,000 tons

## Transport

	1949	1952*	1978
Railways	22,000 km.	24,500 km.	50,400 km.
Highways	80,700 km.	126,700 km.	890,200 km.
Inland waterways	73,600 km.	95,000 km.	136,000 km.
Waterway goods traffic	6,300 million ton-km.	14,600 million ton-km.	377,900 million ton-km.
Goods traffic by air	—	—	97 million ton-km.
Civil air routes (domestic and overseas)	—	13,100 km.	149,000 km.

\* The end of the rehabilitation period preceding the First Five-Year Plan.





# PANZHIHUA

## —New Southwest Steel Complex

TANG ZHONGPU

**I**N the far southwest corner of Sichuan province, just over the line from Yunnan province, a new iron and steel complex has risen — Panzhihua. With it was born Dukou, a new city of 300,000 people. Nearby, beneath Panzhihua Mountain is a huge iron ore bed capable of supporting a 1.5-million-ton smelting plant for 100 years. The new iron and steel complex, begun in 1965 and put into operation in 1970, was designed and built under socialist China's program of self-reliance.

The name Panzhihua means "flowers that cover the branches." It is also the local name for the kapok trees which grow all over the surrounding mountains and in March burst forth in clusters of flame-red blossoms that literally hide the branches. According to legend, Panzhihua Mountain got its name from a very ancient kapok tree. Its trunk had a hollow big enough for five men, but its upper part still flourished, so people once believed it to be sacred and sacrificed before it.

Two major rivers, the Yalong and the Jinsha meet at Dukou. Besides the importance of this for production and transport, the locality is famous in Chinese history. In the Three Kingdoms period (220-280) a thousand soldiers of an army under Zhuge Liang, the famous Chinese strategist and statesman, died of malaria and the intense summer heat in this then-barren waste while crossing the Jinsha River here.

It had always been said that there was treasure beneath Panzhihua Mountain. In centuries past many treasure hunters explored the place but found none. Only in 1939 when Chinese geologists made the trek to the mountain on foot to prospect did they find the real treasure — iron and other metallic ores. But the Kuomintang government did nothing about it.

In 1955, four years after the liberation, the people's government sent 1,000 geologists and other workers to explore over several hundred square kilometers of the area. Three years of work verified iron ore deposits amounting to hundreds of millions of tons, and

along with it vanadium, titanium and other rare metals needed in the aircraft, ship building, guided missile and spacecraft industries. In addition there were coal, timber and waterpower resources nearby which could supply a large steel plant.

Construction began in 1965 with tens of thousands of builders pouring in from all parts of China. The first heat of iron was turned out on July 1, 1970, timed for the opening to traffic of the Chengdu-Kunming rail line, which was built to serve it.

Now, with the first stage of construction completed, the complex has three blast furnaces with

The iron and steel plant atop "the leveling."



TANG ZHONGPU is a staff reporter for China Reconstructs.



**Zhao Qingzhi, who is always trying to mine more ore.**

a total capacity of 3,400 cubic meters, three top-blown oxygen converters of 120 tons each, and a rough-rolling mill. These produce 1,600,000 tons of pig iron, 1,500,000 tons of ingot steel and 1,000,000 tons of rolled steel per year. Ore output of the mine supplies the Panzhihua complex and plants in Kunming and Guiyang as well. The complex provides a basis for further industrial development of China's southwestern provinces.

### At the Mine

The train puffs along the Chengdu-Kunming line, crosses the Chengdu plain into the Hengduan Mountains. After passing through dozens of tunnels, 750 kilometers south of Chengdu, it reaches the station at Jinjiang, gateway to the Panzhihua complex. Then a 30-km. road leads you to Dukou, heart of Panzhihua. Paved highways wind through the valley into the mountains. Railroad and auto bridges span the roaring Jinsha. Huge factory buildings and multi-storied apartments climb the mountain slopes from the river in terraces.

Source of raw material for the complex is the open-cut mine

located on the upper slopes of Lanjia Huoshan, which is one of the several peaks of Panzhihua Mountain. There the seams of ore, of a blackish color because of the mixture of minerals, glisten nakedly exposed in the sun and give out their characteristic odor. Young miners are operating power shovels which load the ore into trucks, two shovelfuls to a truck. The trucks take it to be dumped into a 500-meter vertical shaft that bores into the mountain slope. At the bottom the ore drops into railroad cars waiting in a tunnel, which take it to the ore dressing plant—a system of ore transport more convenient than having trains climb the slope.

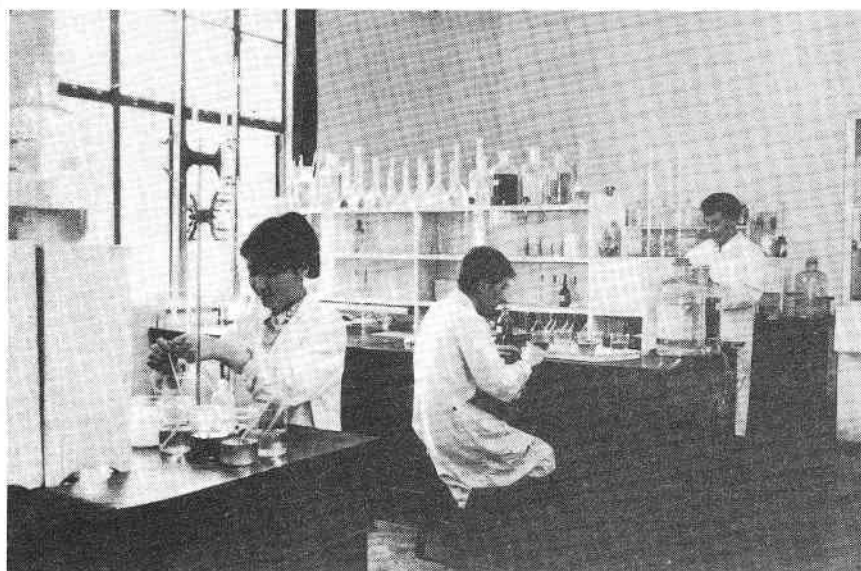
Head of mining team No. 1 is Zhao Qingzhi, 34, son of a northern Sichuan peasant. His drive to mine more ore is almost an obsession. "I just smell that ore and want to get it out and make more steel for the country," he says. Last year when he was a truck driver he was named a pacesetter by his fellow workers for transporting three times his quota of ore. In May of this year his team mined and loaded 250,000 tons, one of the best entries in the national emulation campaign among large ore opencuts.

Zhao tells of the time when he came. There were no houses. The workers lived in sheds made of matting, and had to carry water up from the valley. Now there are apartments, dining halls and bathhouses with electric lighting and running water. Vegetables and fruits are in short supply, but meat, canned goods and wines are plentiful. There are four or five film showings weekly, but not much other entertainment. There is no club for the workers, and Zhao expressed the hope that one would be built soon.

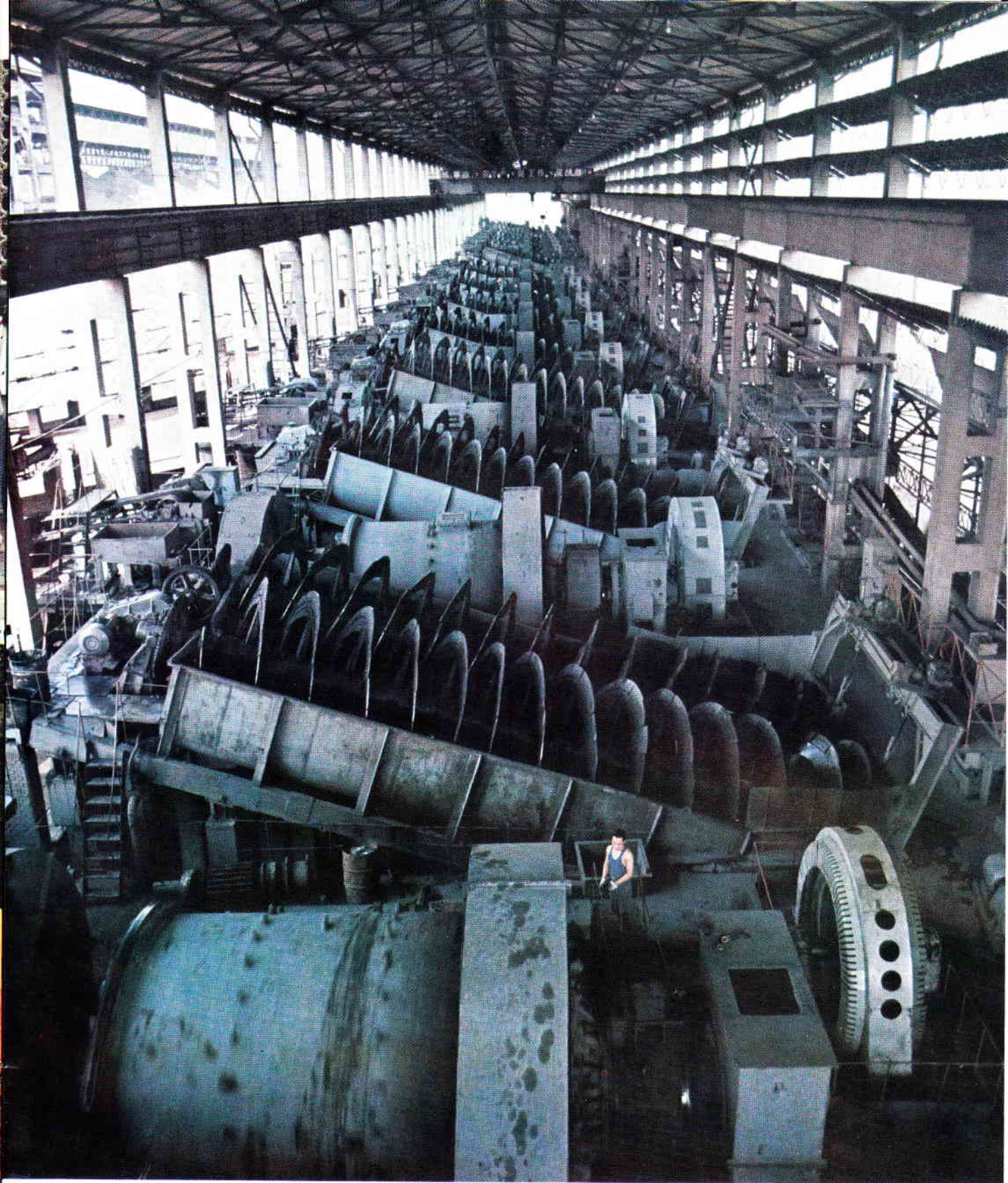
### Producing Steel

The iron and steel plant is located on the north bank of the river. The 2.4-square-kilometer site on which it stands known as "the leveling" used to be a barren hill. In the spirit in which things are done in Panzhihua, it was leveled off in an effort to avoid using precious farmland and provide a site near the mine. A lot of things are done that way at Panzhihua. Now blast furnaces, factory buildings, offices and residences climb the hillside in two dozen tiers to create a small hill town.

The story of the steelworkers is like that of the plant. One of them is a man of Yi nationality with the



**One of the laboratories at Panzhihua's research institute studying ways to utilize more of its riches.**



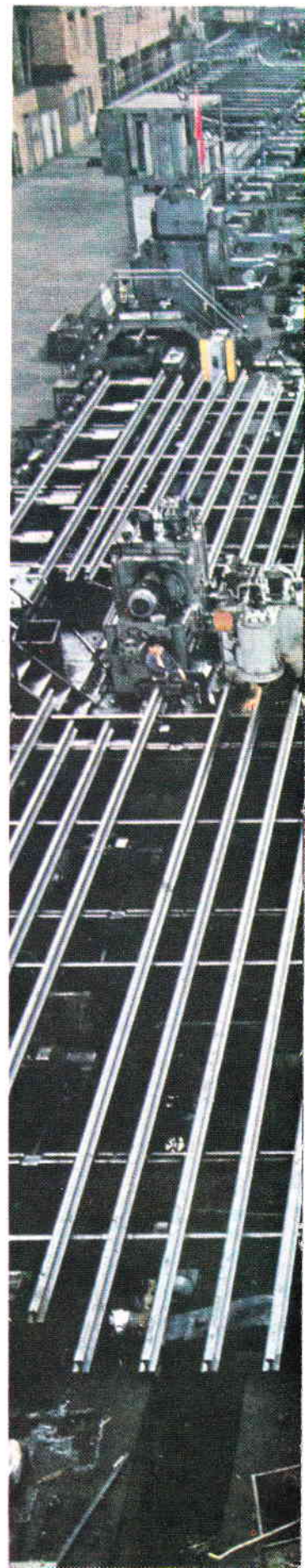
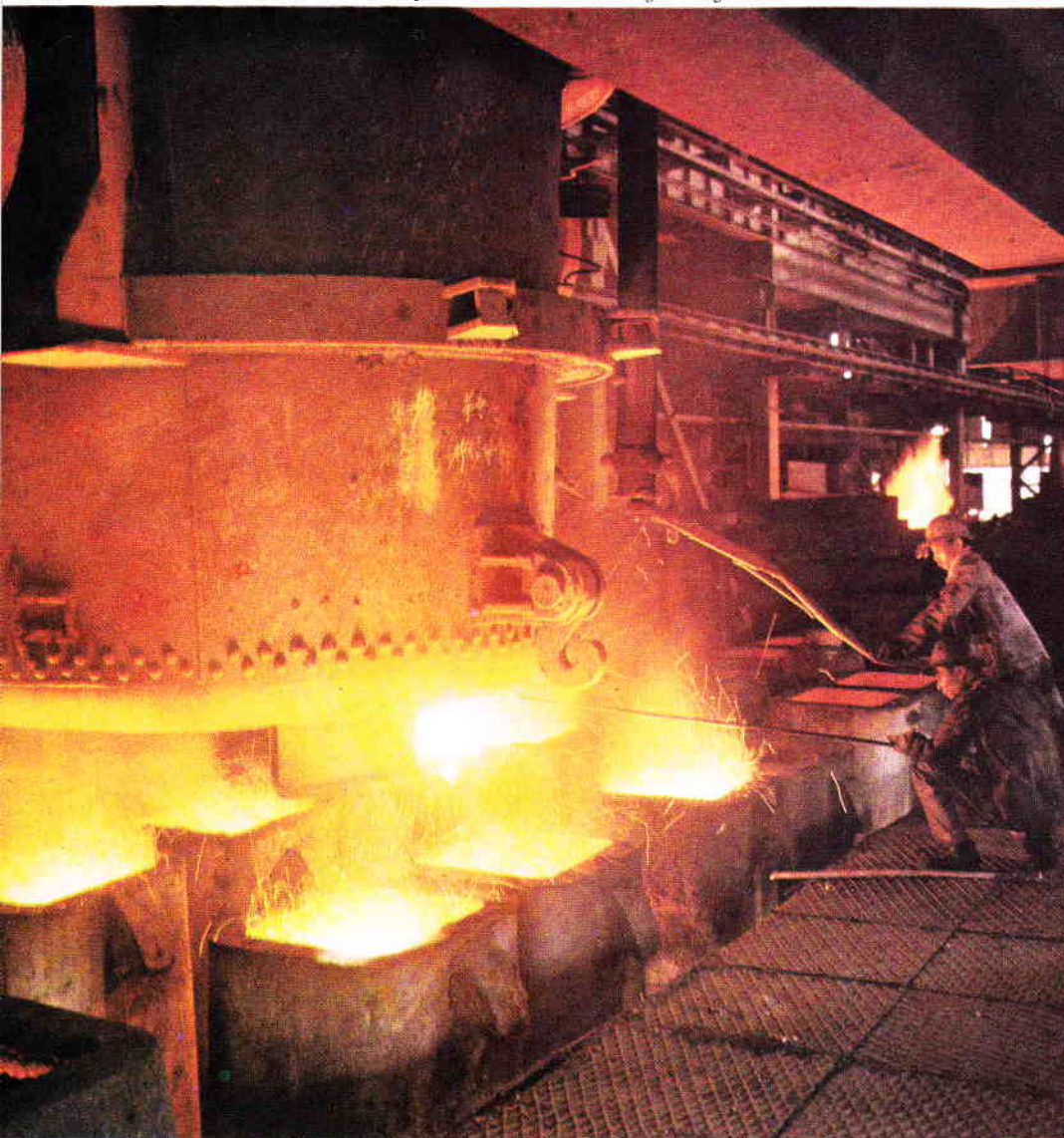
The ore-dressing equipment was designed and made in China.

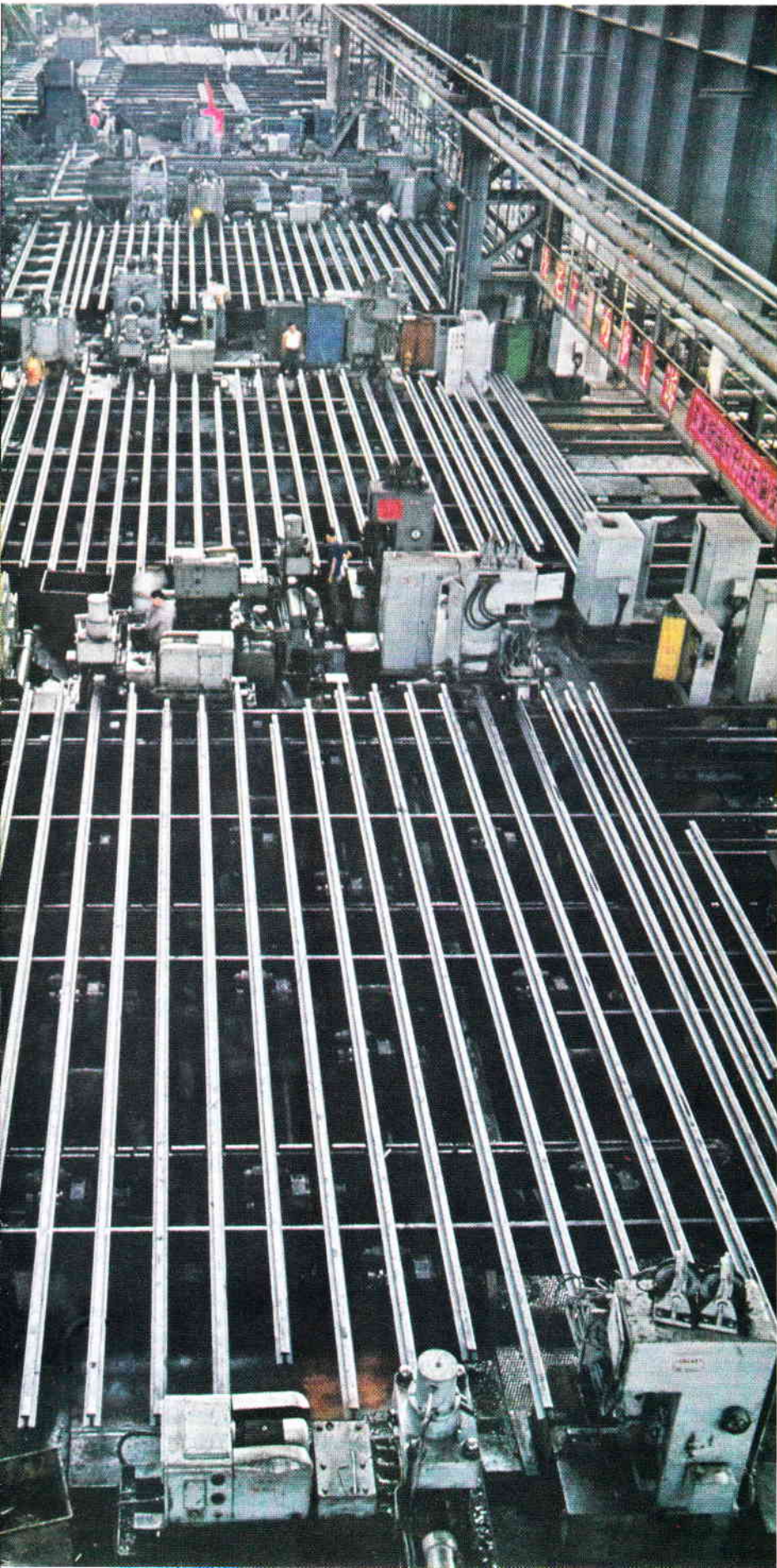


The iron smelting plant.

Molten steel is poured into ingot molds.

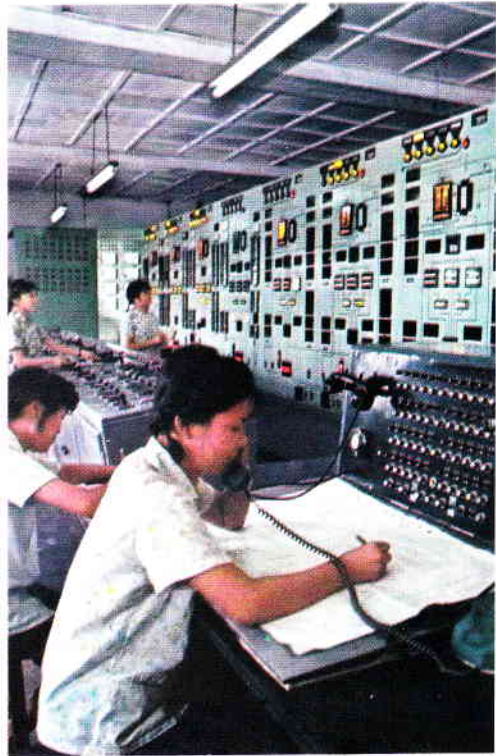
*Zhang Benyi*



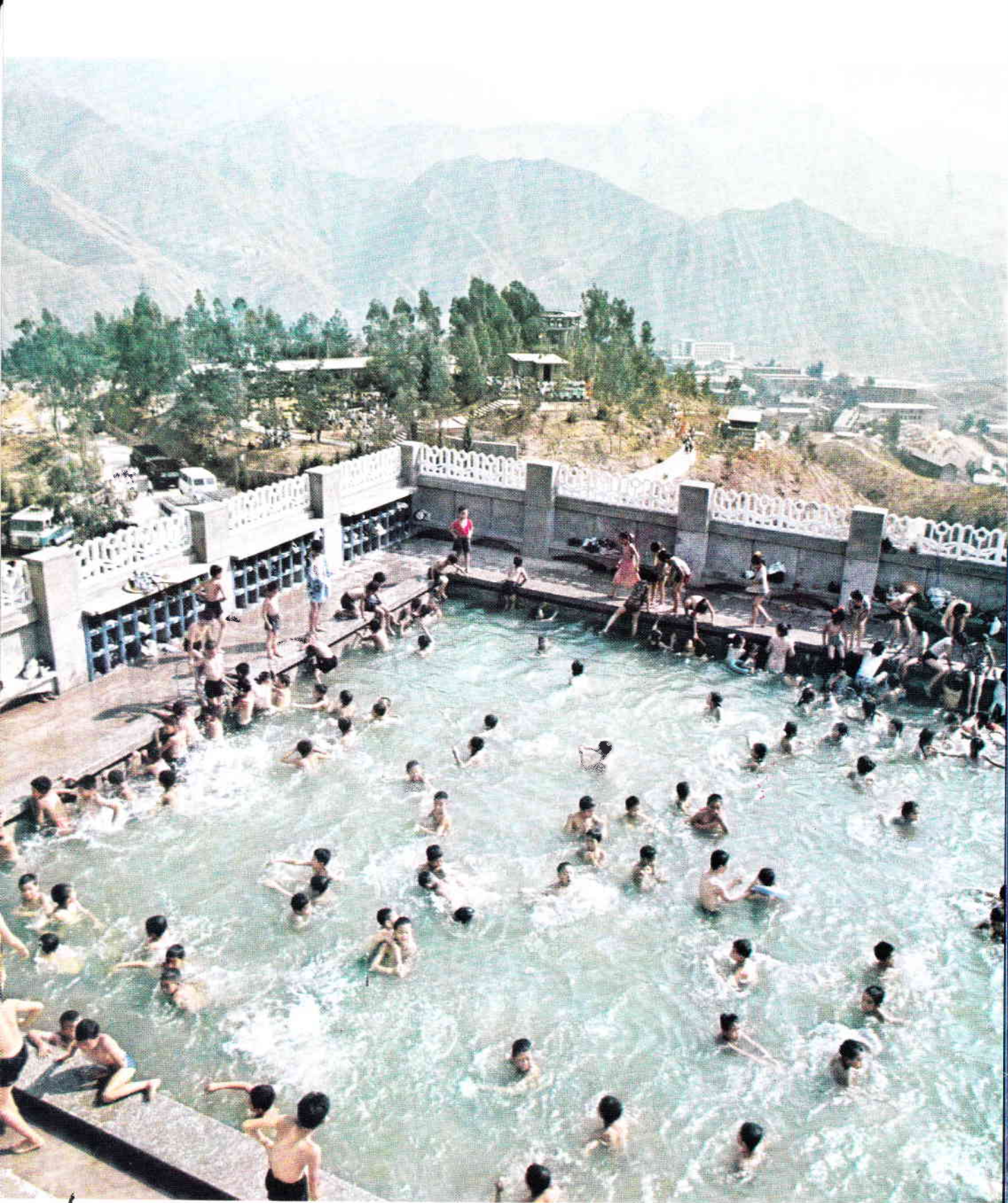


Taking ore from Panzhihua's open-cut mine.

Control room of the dressing plant.



Straightening rails after rolling.



Mountain swimming pool for the miners' children.

*Photos by Wang Hongxun*

unusual name of Dang Jiefang, literally "liberated by the Party." As a slave, before liberation, he was not entitled to have a name of his own. He was simply called Zhawazi, "The Worst," by his owner. Democratic reform among the Yis in 1957 put an end to slavery and brought him a new life. Out of gratitude he chose for himself the name Dang Jiefang. When he heard about the new project at Panzhihua, Dang Jiefang, then 24 and a member of the Communist Youth League, was so eager to go that he sent in one application after another to his commune. In September 1970 he came to Panzhihua. As a construction laborer, he often continued to work into the night while others were asleep. He was later put in charge of a truck repair team, but he still hoped to become a steel worker.

In August 1978 he got his chance. He was transferred to converter No. 1 in the steel smelting shop. Undaunted by his lack of formal schooling, he learned smelting technology from veteran workers in the plant by day and pored over books in his room at night. At the end of five months he was able to work independently.

As the plant increases the varieties of steel it produces and goes into some never before made in China, demands are placed on the workers to rapidly raise their technical level, but Dang feels he will be able to keep up. Technical personnel trained here are of 26 nationalities, including Mongolian, Hui, Tibetan, Naxi, Bouyei (Puyi) and Lisu.

The special mineral content of Panzhihua ore — besides iron, titanium and vanadium it includes cobalt, nickel, chromium and gallium — offers broad possibilities for development. But it also poses certain technical difficulties, both in the production of iron and steel and in extraction of the other minerals. These problems are being solved both by learning from the advanced experience of other countries and other Chinese steel plants, and through new processes created by Panzhihua's own resourceful technicians and en-

gineers. One of these is Sheng Shixiong, 42, a metallurgical engineer. He told me that while he was in college in 1958 a foreign specialist had said that Panzhihua's ore was useless because of the high content of other minerals, and the difficulty of separating them. Sheng didn't want to believe this, and hoped that some way could be found to use this ore. After graduation he was assigned to experiment with ore from Panzhihua. Through years of study he developed a method of smelting it in an ordinary furnace.

One problem was that this particular metal mix in its molten state stuck to the walls of the ladle, so that it had to be cleaned after only two heats. Sheng has devised a way to prevent this.

#### New Products and Rare Metals

Another member of the technical staff, Lin Jianchun, 44, assistant chief engineer of the rail-and-beam mill which under his guidance has developed 20 new varieties of rolled steel previously very difficult to produce in China. In collaboration with an institute in Tianjin, Cong Laichun, a 45-year-old electronics engineer, has designed an integrated circuit system which automates the charging of blast furnace No. 1. The technical group he leads is now

working on the problem of using computers in production.

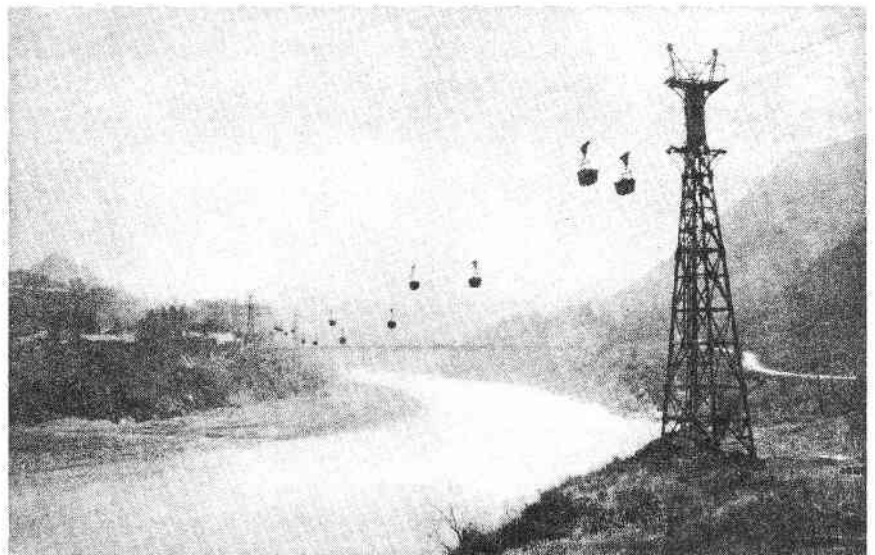
The Panzhihua Iron and Steel Research Institute with 500 researchers is studying problems of extraction and utilization of rare metals. Working with other institutes and universities across the country they feel they have made some achievements. Tailings from the iron ore dressing plant contain a high percentage ilmenite concentrate with a titanium content of 48 percent. They will be processed in China's first titanium ore dressing plant, with a planned annual ore output of 50,000 tons, now being built at Panzhihua.

The institute has found atomization effective in extracting vanadium directly from the molten iron in the furnace. The output of the vanadium plant in the Panzhihua complex today accounts for over half of China's total output of that metal.

However, many problems are still to be solved. The researchers are looking for a way to extract titanium from slag and cobalt and nickel sulfides from iron ore tailings. The plant does not yet have the equipment for making complete series of vanadium and titanium steels. A lot of effort will still be needed to build the complex into a vanadium-titanium base so that Panzhihua Mountain's riches can be fully utilized. □

Overhead cables transport coal from the mine directly to the steel plant.

Photos by Wang Hongrun



# Where Workers Go After Work

LI CHUANG

**E**VERY DAY more than 20,000 workers and their families come to the Beijing Workers' Palace of Culture to relax and enjoy themselves. The grounds

**LI CHUANG** is a staff reporter for China Reconstructs.

were formerly the imperial ancestral temple built just east of Tian An Men gate in 1420. Today the 19 hectares of park, dotted with flowerbeds and ancient pines and cedars, and the 7,000 square meters of building space have become a center for citywide



Weiqi chess in the Workers' Palace yard.

Basketball match between teams of workers in Beijing pharmaceutical industry.



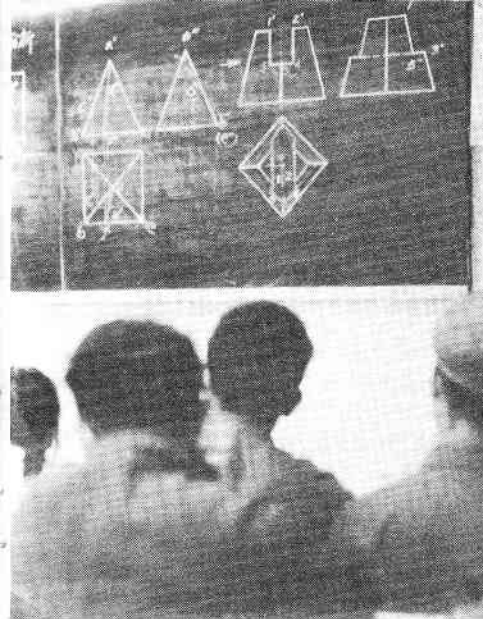
Class on mechanical drawing in the Workers' Palace.

cultural activities organized by the Beijing Trade Union Council.

Several evenings a week performances, all by amateurs, are given of plays, Beijing opera, songs and dances and *qu yi* variety numbers. Amateur writers, artists, photographers, musicians, sportsmen and chess fans also come here to follow their avocations. There are courses in gymnastics and *wushu* (martial arts). I saw an exhibition of traditional-style wrestling arranged by the Palace. Basketball and volleyball games are arranged between factory teams. Workers and their families can come here for these activities or simple to sit and relax in the open air tearoom.

The center also offers classes. I found the weekly schedule posted on the bulletin board outside the Technology Room. It listed courses on television technology, scientific instruments, mechanical drawing and heat treatment among others. More than a thousand people come every day to attend them, or to get-togethers to exchange technical know-how. Before the cultural revolution Ni Zhifu, now a member of the Political Bureau of the Communist Party Central Committee and Chairman of the All-China Federation of Trade Unions, was in charge of this program. He was then a drill operator at the Yongding Machinery Plant in Beijing, known for his technical inventions.





Specialists or teachers from the Chinese Academy of Sciences, the Chinese Academy of Social Sciences, Beijing University, the Central Conservatory of Music and the China Dance School and others teach or advise on courses given at the Palace. In a building set amid the cypress trees, which houses the Palace's 120,000 volume, 120-seat reading room, well-known writers often come to meet their readers.

I saw a teacher from the Central Academy of Fine Arts coaching a group of amateurs. Next door was an exhibition by 400 amateur artists with Chinese traditional paintings, oils, sculptures, woodcuts and papercuts. An exhibition hall was featuring a show of Romanian art.

On an outdoor stage in front of the hall a performance of *qu yi* variety numbers was being put on. One of them was imitating cows, horses, goats, chickens and geese on a *lei qin*, a traditional stringed instrument played with a bow. I learned that he was 49-year-old Zhao Xiang, who works in the darkroom of a photographer's shop. He comes from Tianjin, where such programs are very popular, and loved them from childhood. Too poor to pay the price of admission, he would stand outside a theater or hall and listen through the window. After he came to Beijing at the age of 20, he joined an

amateur *qu yi* group. He is a good singer, accompanying himself on the *lei qin*, which he learned to play only two years ago. His son is a member of his school's traditional instruments orchestra. His son is a member of his school's traditional instruments orchestra. His wife plays basketball in her spare time. Both are accomplished amateur photographers.

Another performance was going on in the auditorium in the rear — by a song and dance group entertaining a delegation of workers from Hongkong. The Workers' Palace is frequently used to receive such guests. A solo dance in ancient costume, "A Moonlit Night by the River," by Liu Liping, a woman railway worker, and acrobatics by Yang Wenchu, who works in an oxygen plant, won hearty applause from the audience. Then Chang Xuexian, a machinist, using the leaf of a Chinese ilex tree, played a stunning solo to orchestral accompaniment.

An entirely different atmosphere prevailed in the chess room. Players were so intent on their game that they ignored the kibitzers whispering and gesturing among themselves on how the next move should be made. Some chess fans are so devoted to the game that they even play it under

the street lights on hot summer evenings.

Behind the Cultural Palace is the old Imperial Palace moat which is used for boating in summer and skating in winter.

As I toured the place I noted a young man with a camera taking a lot of pictures. He was Zhang Kuan, a worker in a printing and dyeing plant who learned his photography in a class right here at the Palace. Now he himself has taught other people. One is Ma Shutian, a doctor at the February 7 Rolling Stock Plant. He has three cameras of different types and his enlarging equipment is always ready for use, giving his home the appearance of a darkroom.

At the Cultural Palace I saw a picture Dr. Ma took of a handsome young man in a Beijing opera costume. Behind his makeup he was Sun Yongzhi, a 57-year-old electrician at the February 7 plant and a long-time actor in its amateur Beijing opera troupe. Many factories have such troupes.

Some of the Cultural Palace's 60 staff members go out to factories to give guidance to such activities, and arrange for citywide workers' theater festivals. And people come to the Cultural Palace for training in how to lead such activities in their own workplaces. □

On the Workers' Palace stage: Solo dance "A Moonlit Night by the River" by railway worker Liu Liping and juggling act by Yang Wenchu from an oxygen plant. Photos by Tian Feng





Hans Shippe with Dr. Shen Qizhen, now vice-president of the Chinese Academy of Medical Science, at the New Fourth Army headquarters listening to a report delivered by Zhou Enlai in March 1939.

# He Died on China's Soil

## The Story of Hans Shippe

WANG HUO

**E**VERY people's revolution has had the active support of men and women from many other countries, and particularly of working-class internationalists. This was no less true of China, in its many struggles against feudal forces and the invasions and intrigues of imperialist powers, than it was of Spain and the Struggle against Franco and his fascist allies.

"Many foreign friends have fought shoulder to shoulder with us on our own soil, some laying

WANG HUO is a writer from Shandong province.

down their lives. We shall never forget them," Soong Ching Ling (Mme. Sun Yat-sen) said last October 1, on the 30th anniversary of the people's republic that emerged out of the Chinese revolution.

One of these unforgettable heroes — the first European to fall in battle on China's soil during her war against Japanese aggression in 1937-45 — was Hans Shippe, a Communist, writer and reporter from Germany who died with a gun in his hand in an engagement with enemy troops on November 30, 1941 in Yinan county, Shan-

dong province. A monument erected near the battlefield says: "For the internationalist cause he worked in Europe and Asia, shedding his blood in the Yimeng Mountains in battle against the Japanese invaders. To the eternal memory of Comrade Hans Shippe." It is signed by Luo Ronghuan, Commander of the Shandong Military Area; Li Yu, Vice-Commander of the Shandong Military Area; and Xiao Hua, Director of the Political Department of the Shandong Military Area.

### Why He Came to China

Hans Shippe first came to China in 1925 during her First Revolutionary Civil War, when the Northern Expeditionary Army (of the first united front between the Communist Party and the then still revolutionary Kuomintang) was advancing rapidly against the feudal warlords backed by imperialism. He was appointed to the staff of the Political Department of that army as editor of its international publicity, a post he held until the rising forces of reaction in the Kuomintang led him to resign. Back in Berlin in late 1927, he summarized his experience of these two years in *Von Kanton nach Schanghai 1925-27* (From Canton to Shanghai 1925-27) published in January 1928 by Agis in Berlin. In the preface of this book Shippe wrote: "The Chinese revolution is alive and fighting. Despite temporary setbacks, the victory of hundreds of millions of poor Chinese city and country people is historically inevitable . . . . To this revolution and its heroic proletarian revolutionary avant-garde, the Communist Party of China, this book is dedicated." He added that he wished to embody in his book the admiration of the international proletarian avant-garde for the vanguard of the Chinese revolution, and the pledges of support and solidarity then being made to the latter by working people everywhere in the world.

An important feature of Shippe's work was his determination to



## 一九三九年三月十四日送恩来西上

Hans Shippe with the staff of the New Fourth Army headquarters on March 14, 1939 at a send-off meeting for Zhou Enlai. From the right (first row): 9th, Ye Ting; 10th, Hans Shippe; 11th, Su Yu; 13th, Chen Yi; 15th, Zhou Enlai. (The writing is Chen Yi's.)

break through the almost complete silence in the world press about the truth of events in China. He wrote steadily and from first-hand experience for the *China Weekly Review* in Shanghai, the monthly *Weltbuehne* in Berlin, and other newspapers and periodicals in several countries. He also found time in this period to continue his research and study of all the comments on China made by Marx, Engels and Lenin, a task which involved many discussions over subsequent years with Chinese comrades.

In 1932, when the Japanese had occupied the three northeastern provinces of China, Shippe returned to China, this time concentrating on reporting and commenting on events in China and the Far East for the quarterly *Pacific Affairs*, published in New York by the Institute of Pacific Relations, and again for the *China Weekly Review* and others. These writings exposed the expansionist ambitions of the Japanese mili-

tarists and sharply criticized the international tendency to ignore the dangers of appeasement. About this time, some foreigners in Shanghai organized a Marxist study group. Shippe was one of the sponsors, together with the American doctor Ma Haide (George Hatem), the New Zealand writer Rewi Alley, the American writer Agnes Smedley and others.

Between 1934 and 1937 Shippe played an active role in the growth in China of the Peace Movement Against War and Fascism. The only foreigner immediately involved, he spoke in many places detailing the rise of fascism in Europe, its connections in Asia and the necessity of a world united front against it. In 1937 a Chinese delegation attended an international conference of this movement in Geneva.

The Japanese attack on Beijing in 1937 aroused China to a nationwide war of resistance. In Shanghai, Hans Shippe was elated to see the Chinese people organiz-

ing and rising to fight the invaders. Besides continuing to write for foreign papers, he helped raise funds to buy medical supplies and in 1939 himself went to Anhui province with a shipment to the Communist-led New Fourth Army. Here he met Zhou Enlai and heard his report on the situation to the army's commanders and officers. Again he poured accurate information into articles for progressive papers in Europe and North America.

By 1941 the New Fourth Army was fighting in northern Jiangsu province and the famous Eighth Route Army was north of them in central Shandong province, both having set up bases of armed resistance behind the Japanese lines. Again the news blackout by the Kuomintang and its foreign backers was almost total. In May, Shippe and his wife, carrying identity cards as a German doctor and nurse, went through Japanese-occupied areas and entered the New Fourth Army's base in

northern Jiangsu. Here, living the simple and Spartan life of the soldiers, Shippe wrote an 80,000-word book, *The Eighth Route and New Fourth Armies in China's United Resistance Against Japan*. This manuscript was unfortunately lost in the fighting. It has never been recovered.

### Crucial Battles in Shandong

The situation was changing rapidly. To the north in Shandong province — also in Japanese-occupied territory — the Eighth Route Army was building up a formidable threat to the enemy. The Kuomintang was cooperating with the Japanese to attack and obstruct it. Meanwhile, conditions among the men of the Eighth Route Army were grueling — thin cotton uniforms even in winter and not enough of them, food of the meanest kind and not enough of it. Yet this people's force stuck unwaveringly to its policy of never giving inconvenience to the peasants, of paying for anything it used, of working in the peasants' fields, spending much time educating them and winning their trust — never changing in its firm confidence and cheerful combat spirit. To tell the world about this amazing army, Shippe decided to go north to central Shandong. His wife, meanwhile, made her way back to Shanghai where she could send out his articles as he wrote them.

The way from Jiangsu to Shandong involved slipping through several Japanese blockade lines along a railroad running between the two provinces, via territory completely controlled by the enemy. Chinese comrades tried to persuade Shippe not to risk the journey, but he pointed out that his articles would be published in influential magazines and papers around the world, correct information being important to China's victory in the war. So he insisted on going to the new battlefield himself, in order that his reports would be accurate. Thus, escorted halfway by a detachment of the New Fourth Army in Jiangsu and met by a unit of the Eighth Route Army in Shandong, Shippe entered

the Yimeng Mountains. He arrived just as the Japanese launched one of their most intense campaigns to wipe out this vital resistance base.

The first foreign reporter to visit the Eighth Route Army in the Yimeng Mountains, Shippe was attached to a unit of the 115th Division. From the start, the Japanese



Memorial plaque for Hans Shippe on a monument erected on July 7, 1944. It reads: "For the internationalist cause he worked in Europe and Asia, shedding his blood in the Yimeng Mountains in battle against the Japanese invaders."

were encircling it — 50,000-strong and pressing in with 11 columns. The days were filled with skirmishes and movements, the nights like scenes out of Dante's *Inferno* — heavy guns pounding, tracer bullets slashing the sky, enemy campfires burning on surrounding hills, the sounds of the enemy's horses and men as they closed in. The commanders of the division decided to move. In an Eighth Route Army uniform and wearing straw and cotton sandals like its men, Shippe tramped with them over mountains and remote paths. Under cover of a heavy fog, 3,000 soldiers under division political commissar Luo Ronghuan broke through to the south. They had succeeded in slipping through three enemy blockades without firing a shot.

This type of maneuver, of which the men of the Eighth Route Army had become masters, led Shippe to write "The Silent Battle," an article for the division's newspaper *Soldiers*. In it he commented on the excellent planning that went into such shifts, and the perfect discipline and high spirits of the men who made fools of the enemy.

Shippe traveled far and wide in the Yimeng Mountains. Everywhere he talked to the peasants and the soldiers, describing the atrocities of Hitler in Germany, the resistance of the people to the Nazis and the common fight that linked the anti-fascist forces in Europe with the revolutionary people in China. He liked the hardy people in these mountains, and they liked him. Warm-hearted, humorous, strong-willed and thoughtful, he made many friends. The fighters and peasants respected him for his early opposition to imperialist war and his arrest during World War I, for his struggle against the rise of Nazism after he was released, for the internationalist spirit that had brought him to China to join her people's fight against these same worldwide forces.

To this day, inhabitants of this mountain area remember him well. Tall and strong, with curly brown hair and merry blue eyes, he would stride along the roads greeting everyone he met with "Hello! My name is Shippe. I'm glad to see you!" They liked him for the unpretentious way he shared their simple life, eating thin millet gruel or spring onions wrapped in a cornflour cake, sleeping on the ground when the soldiers did.

The unit was on the move every day, avoiding the enemy's attempts to annihilate them, maneuvering for counter-strokes in the Eighth Route Army's well-planned way. There were armed clashes day and night, and often the troops force-marched as much as 60 kilometers without rest or food. Shippe's typewriter went with him, always coming out during a lull. His table was a rock in the daytime, or a plank under a tiny oil lamp in some peasant's house at night.

Three of his articles written on the march are still remembered: "The Eighth Route Army in Shandong," "The Battle to Recover Shandong" and "The Silent Battle." In them his razor sharp words laid bare the brutality of the Japanese invaders and the treachery of Kuomintang reactionaries who were fighting the people's armies instead of the enemy, thus sabotaging China's national united front. "Without the Chinese Communist Party and the Eighth Route and New Fourth armies fighting the enemy behind his own lines," he wrote, "it is unthinkable that China could have carried on the war until today."

#### **The Final Sacrifice**

On November 29, 1941, the unit which Shippe was accompanying was suddenly encircled in a base area dominated by Daqing (Big Green) Hill in Yinan county. An entire Japanese division closed rapidly around some 3,000 to 4,000 people with only one company of the Eighth Route Army to defend them. The enemy attacked at daybreak on November 30. Shippe's unit intercepted them on Daqing Hill to cover the evacuation of the peasants. The battle lasted the whole day. Toward evening, Shippe's bodyguards were killed, and a few minutes later his interpreter. Shippe picked up his rifle and continued firing at the Japanese. Hit six times, Hans Shippe, the international proletarian fighter, fell. He was 44.

He was buried, in a simple, heartfelt battlefield ceremony, on the hill where he had fallen. Later his body was moved to Linyi county under a Monument to the Heroes of the Revolution. Today, as always on every *Qing Ming* festival (April 5) when Chinese people honor their dead, they come from many miles around to commemorate their unforgettable heroes of that time, including this man who gave his life on Chinese soil for the cause of the people's liberation — this man who died, as he would have wished, with his gun turned against fascism. □

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# A Test-Case of Farm Mechanization

WANG LAIXI, SUN CHANGFU and TIE YING

**C**HINA'S first experimental center for the extensive use of modern farm machines was set up last year in the sparsely-populated northeastern province of Heilongjiang. It is run by Team No. 2 of Branch Farm No. 5 of the Friendship State Farm.

Last winter, with only 20 workers, the team sowed 416.6 hectares

of wheat using imported farm machines and advanced methods. This summer it harvested 1,426 tons, about 71.3 tons per worker. Three John Deere 145-horsepower combines cut, threshed and loaded the grain on trailer trucks. It was machine-dried and stored. In one week, six workers finished a job that formerly took all the team's

236 workers 20 days to do. More extensive mechanization at once proved its worth.

With up-to-date mechanization, the team now averages one worker per 28 hectares—a great jump from the 0.3 hectare per worker in average commune and 5 hectares per worker on other state farms. Moreover, the average yield—3.4 tons per hectare—is much higher than the general level. The advanced technology also had another plus: it helped team members discard “small production” ideas and widen the horizons of their thinking.

American William Hinton (left), adviser to Team No. 2, talks with farm workers about how the American machines work.



**F**RRIENDSHIP FARM is in the far north, in an alluvial plain bounded by the Heilongjiang (Amur), Songhua (Sungari) and Wusuli (Ussuri) rivers. Known as the “Great Northern Wilds,” it was formerly an endless stretch of almost uninhabited wasteland covered with coarse grass and interspersed with marshes. Soon after the liberation the first batches of reclaimers, composed of veterans of the People's Liberation Army and enthusiastic youths from many parts of the country, came to awaken the long slumbering earth. State farms were set up and gradually equipped with tractors and other farm machines. New villages and towns began to prosper. Within a period of a little more than ten years, the Great Northern Wilds were turned into the “Great Northern Granary.”

However, the cold weather (6 months of winter with a steady temperature of 30° C. below zero), a short frost-free period and sparse population have continued to make agriculture difficult. One crop per year is the rule. The climate allows only a 10-day period for sowing. During this short time

WANG LAIXI and SUN CHANGFU are special correspondents. TIE YING is a China Reconstructs reporter.



Autumn plowing at Friendship Farm.

Automatic sprayers water the corn.



The three generations of tractor driver Li Wanjin's family.  
*Photos by Wang Hongxun*





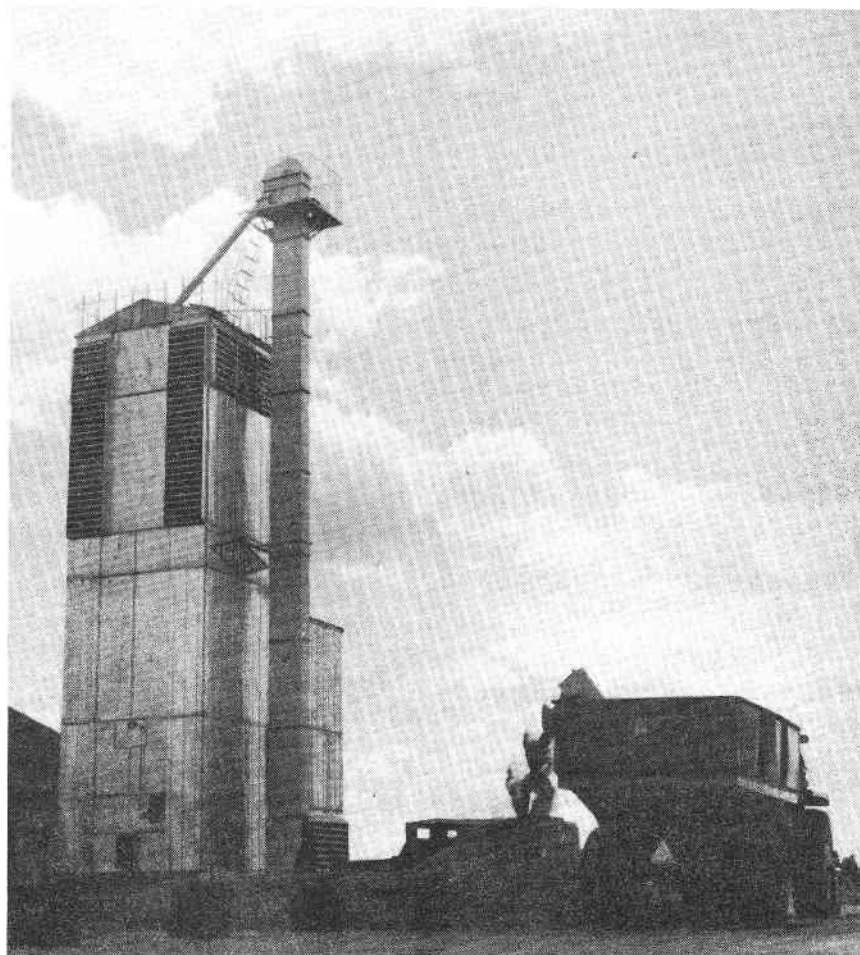
Team No. 2 used to concentrate all its manpower, animals and machines for the job. Even working from morning to night, as often as not they could not finish the sowing in time, thus delaying and sometimes spoiling part of the harvest.

Modern machines and technology changed this. For example, one of the new tractors plows and harrows a path 18 meters wide at 10 km. per hour, finishing 70 hectares in a single day. Then an electronically-controlled seeder does over 80 hectares per day including the application of fertilizer, pesticide and herbicides, and covering and pressing the soil—all done better and more accurately than by hand. Weeding formerly occupied half of the farm workers' time in the fields each year. The use of weed herbicides now eliminates cultivating and weeding.

A drought lasting 58 days struck early this year. The workers used two imported mobile sprinkler machines which can cover an area 800 meters in diameter. The irrigated field yielded 4.23 tons wheat per hectare, 2.28 tons more than those not so watered.

The team had a fair number of machines before, but these did not save much manpower because they were outdated and were not enough to cover all the steps in farming. Manpower was still used for thinning, weeding, binding and stacking straw, and applying fertilizer.

The new machines have brought another leap in the work the area's farmers have had to do. This can be seen from the story of one family. Sixty years ago tractor driver Li's grandfather came to the northeast from Shandong province and worked as a landlord's hired hand. Like all peasants, he dreamed of owning his own piece of land. This only came true with the liberation by the Chinese Communist Party 20 years later. But by then he was too old to work and Li's father tilled their land with primitive tools. His dream was to have machines to do the job.



Unloading wheat at a drying tower.

Hu Wei

In 1965 the 18-year-old son, Wanjin, got a job as a tractor driver in the production team. Finding the machines out-of-date, he dreamed of modern ones—an impossibility in the crippled state of the economy and technology that the gang of four had brought about. Last year when China imported some new farm machinery from the United States to experiment with ways of accelerating the modernization of agriculture, Li's team was chosen for the experiment. On his first operation of a 4440-type tractor trailing a 9350-type seed driller for wheat, it took him only 22 minutes to work down and back a field 1,800 meters long.

Last spring, team leader Liu Xingren and two other workers were sent to study at the John Deere Company in Moline, Illinois, U.S.A. They spent all their time learning, not even going to movies or on tours that hospitable Ameri-

cans had arranged for them. By the end of their term they had the basic knowledge of operation, repair and maintenance of such machines, as well as their working principles and design.

A number of John Deere's mechanics and engineers have come to China to help the team's workers. Gene White, manager of the company's repair department, almost missed his scheduled departure when he chose to help solve some last-minute problems that came up. On a stifling day in June, the company's combine expert, Marvin Krouse, refused to stop work on the motor of a new combine that was not working properly. The company's tractor expert used the parking lot and fields as his classrooms, demonstrating as he talked. The team members felt that here was not only technology but friendship.

**I**N the past the team had to do many more things for itself than was efficient. Besides crop-raising it had to grow its own seeds, dry its grain, transport synthetic fertilizer from the railroad and run its own shop and school. Now the team specializes in grain, and has passed on all auxiliary functions to its leading body, Branch Farm No. 5. The latter takes care of providing good strains of seed, processing grain, schooling and other services for several teams, not just one correspondingly. Team personnel engaged in the activities have been transferred from its own payroll to that of the farm.

With 20 people turning out the crop that formerly required 230, what will happen to the other extra workers? Most of them have gone to open up new land and set up new teams. Some have been organized into a unit devoted to

water conservation and farmland capital construction. Others have been assigned to sideline production. When all the teams are mechanized and there is no more land to reclaim, the extra manpower will be used to turn the farm into a general enterprise combining agriculture, industry and sideline production. A new and wider-ranging economic form in a modernized countryside will thus gradually emerge.

China has a socialist system. She is determined to plan and carry out the redistribution of tasks among her rural working people as productivity advances without unemployment, people

flocking to the cities in search of jobs or similar social dislocations.

Lively discussions have been going on throughout the country as to the national policy of modernization of agriculture. The point generally agreed upon is that since geographical conditions are very different in different regions, many different ways should be used. The success of the No. 2 Team, where things have moved forward so fast by combining socialism with advanced technology suited to local conditions, provides an initial model for the areas of China's far north. While many problems remain to be solved, the experience will be of use to other areas as well. □



## GROWTH OF AGRICULTURE IN NEW CHINA'S 30 YEARS

	1949	1952*	1978
Grain	113.2 million tons	163.9 million tons	304.75 million tons
Cotton	445,000 tons	1,304,000 tons	2,167,000 tons
Oil-bearing crop	2,328,000 tons	3,729,000 tons	4,568,000 tons
Sugarcane	2,642,000 tons	7,116,000 tons	21,117,000 tons
Sugarbeets	191,000 tons	479,000 tons	2,702,000 tons
Jute, hemp	37,000 tons	306,000 tons	1,088,000 tons
Silk cocoons	43,000 tons	123,000 tons	228,000 tons
Tea	41,000 tons	83,000 tons	268,000 tons
Hogs	57,750,000	89,770,000	301,290,000
Sheep, goats	42,350,000	61,780,000	169,940,000
Large animals**	60,020,000	76,460,000	93,890,000
Aquatic products	450,000 tons	1,670,000 tons	4,660,000 tons

\* The end of the rehabilitation period preceding the First Five-Year Plan.

\*\* Includes horses, cattle, mules, donkeys and camels for draft use and milk cows.



Workers on the Xiangyanghong 09 use a redesigned silt collector to get samples from the bottom of the sea. *Song Wenbo*

## Vignettes of a Pacific Survey

WU JIN

**E**ARLY this year China participated in a worldwide atmospheric test sponsored by the World Meteorological Organization (WMO) to which 149 countries contributed their efforts. It was the first such large-scale international project in this field. The results contributed greatly to the study of the earth's atmosphere and the interaction of air and sea. They are expected to increase the accuracy of weather forecasts.

As her share, besides supplying routine meteorological survey data, China sent two ships, the *Shijian* and the *Xiangyanghong 09*, to the Pacific near the equator to make aerological, marine surface meteorological and hydrological observations. They made two voyages of

three months each, together totaling 60,000 nautical miles. Oceanographers and meteorologists from 20 Chinese units took part in the survey, carried out their research assignments at 168 survey locations, cabled 1,178 observation reports and sent 607 tapes of aerological data to the WMO.

The accompanying are summarized sections from Wu Jin's survey notes, which give an idea of what happened, not only scientifically, on the voyages.

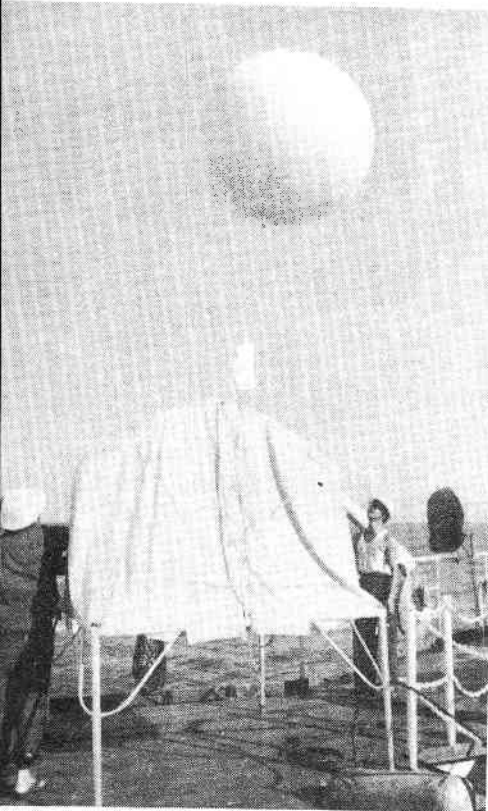
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Not long after the 4,000-ton *Xiangyanghong 09*, under Capt. Wang Shuntang, left for the survey area on April 13 we learned that 1979's typhoon No. 3 was

moving northward at 20 kilometers per hour and the ship might be directly in its path. We closed all portholes and hatches. All men stayed on duty. Meteorologists and oceanographers kept track of the course of the typhoon. When they decided that the typhoon would turn northwestward after it passed the Philippines, the captain ordered the ship to continue on its original course at faster speed. By 2 o'clock on the 16th, we had left the typhoon 180 nautical miles behind.

\* \* \*

From the Sarangani Islands to longitude 170° the 3,000-ton *Shijian* sailed against the wind for nine days. Most of the crew were



Scientists on the *Shijian* launch an aerological survey balloon over the Pacific. Wu Jin

seasick. Five times we met strong winds, and once a gale of hurricane force. At times the ship listed 40 degrees. Great waves crashed on deck, breaking two buffer boards, part of the starboard keel, and destroying the range light. All hands fought well.

\* \* \*

The marine surface meteorological survey covered a dozen items, including wind, clouds, temperature, atmospheric pressure and humidity. At one point all these items had to be coordinated within a half hour. During our second voyage the number of surveys to be taken in some areas was increased from 8 to 24, which meant once an hour. We had never tackled such a heavy job before. Surveying on shipboard is difficult. Conducting surveys from the top of the mast was a tough test for scientific personnel used to working on the ground. We found that while a ship is moving it takes

skill just to get a bucket of water up from the sea to measure its temperature. The trick lay in using the principle of inertia. Still, at night one might even be dragged into the sea if an unseen wave struck the bucket.

Meteorologic team leader Chen Yunshan, who has been working at sea observation stations for more than ten years, kept his team working smoothly. He personally checked all work notes. In three months his team did 1,000 observations, recorded 30,000 pieces of data and sent 10,000 sets of coded material without a single error.

\* \* \*

As we neared the equator the temperature stayed above 30° C. On deck it sometimes went as high as 63° C. To make sea bottom observations we had to let out a steel cable 6,000 meters long. One cast took five to six hours. If the water was swift or the bottom deep, it took a dozen hours. Under the scorching sun many of the men lost their voices, their eyes became inflamed and the skin peeled off their faces.

Geologists on the *Xiangyanghong 09* succeeded in getting com-

plete 4.14 and 4.3-meter core samples from the bottom of the sea at depths of 2,705 and 4,214 meters, even though repairs and innovations had to be made on the collector because in a heavy sea it closed before it reached the bottom. With the revised collector, on May 12 at 5° N. and 165° E., manganese nodules were picked off the sea floor at 4,761 meters.

\* \* \*

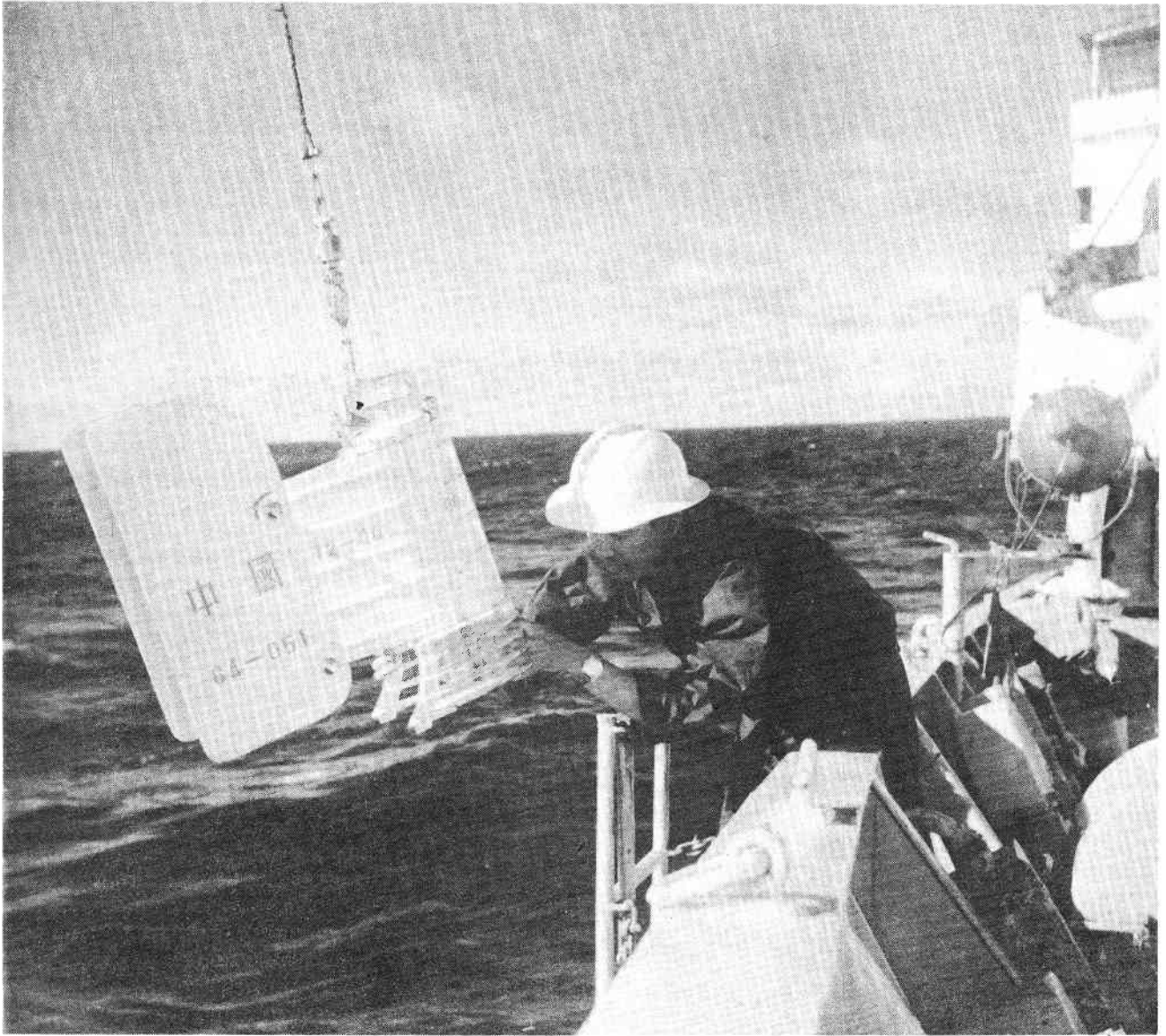
The aerological group of the *Shijian* sometimes had trouble launching their sounding balloons. One stormy night the ship swung so violently that the men couldn't even stand steadily. On the first voyage each survey took more than 40 minutes. The group launched 87 balloons, obtaining data 82 times. On their second voyage they found some radio jamming interrupting their work when they launched balloons at 0:00 and 12:00, the time set by the WMO. They reported this, suggesting changing the launching time. The WMO agreed and praised their conscientious work attitude.

The aerologists adopted many measures to raise efficiency and increased the altitude of their bal-

Core samples from the sea bottom were collected by this cylindrical tube.

Wu Jin





Lowering a marine current meter to measure current velocity and direction at different depths.

Wu Jin

loon to 32,500 meters. Aside from getting data on temperature, humidity and atmospheric pressure over the Pacific near the equator, for the first time they also obtained data on wind direction and speed in this area.

\* \* \*

The scientists of the *Xiangyanghong 09*, besides fulfilling the tasks set by the WMO, experimented on items of their own, using instruments made in China. They succeeded in using a protected reversion meter to measure

the water temperature 3,124 meters down. Their test proved that the meter could stand a pressure of 300 atmospheres. With a heavy marine current meter they found the current velocity at 1,200 meters was 0.48 knots. Using a 13,700-meter benthos winch, they made a 48-hour anchoring test. Their experiment proved that a 4,000-ton ship can anchor at deep sea with an E-shaped anchor and a steel cable 1.4 times the depth of the water when the wind-force is under four grades.

\* \* \*

Near the equator every day we were always wet with sweat. We longed for a bath but none of us wanted to use the stores of fresh water. When it rained we rushed to the deck to get a shower. The cooks fed us well. On off-times we held chess, poker or riddle-guessing competitions. At night the calm sea seemed endless. Some fished for sharks. We saw films on deck. When the ship was taking on supplies at Suva, we had basketball and ping-pong matches with the local people. □

# Ma Yinchu and His Theory of Population

YOU YUWEN

**A**T four p.m. on September 15, the 98-year-old economist and educator Ma Yinchu received a visit from Zhou Lin, Vice-Minister of Education at his home in Beijing. Zhou Lin brought news that would rock China's academic and educational world — the Central Committee of the Chinese Communist Party had decided to rescind all charges made against Ma Yinchu over 20 years ago. Moreover, the Ministry of Education had appointed him Honorary President of

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**YOU YUWEN** is a staff reporter for China Reconstructs.

Beijing University. Students and teachers from the university, of which he had once been president, were there to offer congratulations.

In 1955 Ma Yinchu had become concerned over China's unprecedentedly rapid growth in population and urged that it be controlled. But at that time his views were not listened to. During the movement against Rightists in 1957 and again in 1960 he was subjected to two campaigns of mass criticism. He was removed from his positions as member of the standing committees of the First Political Consultative Conference and the National People's Congress, Vice-

Chairman of the Central Financial Commission and President of Beijing University, and disappeared from public life for over 20 years.

**M**A YINCHU had been one of China's leading economists both before and after liberation. Born in 1882, he had spent the greater part of his life in a China ravaged by domestic conflicts and bullied by foreign powers. He had hoped to use his knowledge of economics to bring some reforms to the poverty-stricken country. But with China's economy in the tight grip of imperialists and bureaucrat-comprador capitalists,



**Ma Yinchu (second left) receives congratulations from Vice-Minister of Education Zhou Lin (seated, third left) and others on being cleared of charges against his name for the past 20 years.**

*Zhang Jingde*

this proved impossible. After the new China was founded in 1949 he saw that the country had the opportunity to prosper and devoted all his efforts to this goal.

One thing in particular he noticed: The national economy was developing rapidly so that living conditions improved greatly. As a result, the death rate fell and there was a marked increase in population. A national survey in 1953 disclosed an increase of several tens of millions a year. How could China's economy which had only recently cast off its feudal shackles cope with such population growth? Ma was concerned that if the situation went on without control, not only would the economy fail to meet the needs of so many more people, but it might be dragged backward.

He conducted three investigations in Zhejiang province in 1955. With the concrete figures obtained, he analyzed the imbalance between production and population and in the same year first presented his views on the question of birth control at a panel meeting in the National People's Congress, to which he was a deputy.

He elaborated his theory of the serious consequences of an uncontrolled birth rate at the Supreme State Conference held in February 1957. There he declared that an undue increase in population would adversely affect the amount of capital that could be accumulated, thus slowing down China's industrialization. Later it would also lead to difficulties in providing employment. If the standard of living was to be raised, Ma stated, the birth rate must be controlled. He suggested initiating mass education on birth control and family planning.

Then 75, Ma went everywhere seeking out leaders and speaking at meetings to explain his points.



With students at Beijing University in the 1950s, when he was its president.

He submitted his suggestions in the form of a bill to the Fourth Session of the First National People's Congress. His speech appeared in the *People's Daily* on July 5, 1957 under the headline "A New Principle of Population."

**T**HE movement against the Rightists had begun earlier that year. It was spreading wider and wider, bringing ever more people under fire. Some critics likened Ma's views to those of Thomas Malthus, the 18th century English economist who viewed poverty, famine, epidemics, heavy labor and war as positive curbs on

population and whose consequent opposition to poor relief raised a storm even in his day. Malthus' basic premise that population would outrun food supply had been criticized by Karl Marx, who held that man had the ability to extend the present limits of production. That Ma's views did not contradict this was then not understood by those who charged "Malthusianism."

However, Ma stuck to his guns and refused to go back on his views. For this he was finally labeled as "a lifelong opponent of the Party, socialism and Marxism-Leninism."



Speaking to a group meeting at the First National People's Congress in 1957.

*Photos by Xinhua*

Ma followed developments closely. He read every one of the hundreds of articles assailing him in the papers. He readily accepted criticism that he considered correct, or points which could improve his theory. He wrote a dozen articles refuting with solid arguments the points he thought wrong. "I'm nearly 80 and know very well that I can't win a battle against a whole army single-handedly. But I'll fight till I die for the correctness of my ideas," he told his friends. "Truth will become clearer through argument. It's wrong to run as soon as attacked, and seek safety and comfort by avoiding trouble," he insisted.

The organized suppression became intense. Ma Yinchu was forbidden to publish his articles in the newspapers. He kept on writing, placing his articles one by one in a filing cabinet. By 1966 when the cultural revolution began, the cabinet was full.

**T**HIS stout-hearted man had developed his fighting spirit in the old society. He was born into a winemaking family in Shaoxing in Zhejiang province. Entering Beiyang University in Tianjin with excellent marks, he had chosen metallurgy as his major with the hope of being able to do something

to save China through building up her industry. After passing an official scholarship examination, he went to study in the United States. There he changed over to economics, and came to realize how capitalist economy had prospered by exploiting the peoples of the colonial and semicolonial countries. He saw that China's partition into imperialist-backed warlord regimes at the time was the result both of plunder by outside invaders and of fleecing by corrupt officials within. Now he desired to make China strong through sound economic measures. Studying at Yale and later Columbia University, after receiving his doctorate he returned to China in 1916. While continuing his economic research, he devoted himself to promoting education, teaching in Beijing, Chongqing and at Jiaotong University in Shanghai and founding the Shanghai Trade College.

In this period Ma began paying more attention to affairs of state. Without hesitation he publicly denounced activities and views that he felt endangered the country's interests. Foreign colonialists were dumping opium on the Chinese market. In Zhejiang province he initiated a campaign to ban it. When colonialists promoted a

"universal banking" scheme to lure all Chinese deposits into foreign banks, he made speeches exposing its deceitful nature. Doing so he offended the president of a bank to which he was adviser and was forced to resign his post.

Later, during the Japanese invasion (1937-45) while the Chinese people's homeland and lives were threatened by foreign aggressors, the bureaucrat-capitalists entrenched in the Kuomintang government were making fortunes. Ma Yinchu boldly exposed what he termed the "economic dictatorship" of this bureaucrat capital. To strengthen the wartime economy he suggested a temporary property tax to rechannel into support for the war a part of the wealth some Kuomintang officials, taking advantage of the war, had extorted from the people. His many speeches at mass rallies brought him acclaim from the people and threats from Kuomintang secret police. "You don't need to sneak around. You can bring out your guns," he said one day to several of them whom he spotted from the platform. "But that won't stop me from talking."

Fearing his prestige among the people, the Kuomintang government tried to co-opt him. It invited him to become finance minister but he refused outright. In retaliation the Kuomintang threw him into jail, but released him two years later under public pressure. Ma Yinchu immediately threw himself into the patriotic democratic movement against Chiang Kai-shek and the civil war the latter began to launch after the victory over Japan.

**A**FTER the liberation in 1949, which he welcomed, Ma Yinchu did a great deal of useful work for the new China.

Today Ma Yinchu's views on population have been recognized as correct by the Communist Party and the people. What is being done in China today in promoting birth control is just what he urged. Not long ago an institute for research on population theory was set up to study this problem further in China. □



## Should Changjiang (Yangtze) Waters Be Diverted North—and How?

A BIG current debate in China concerns a plan to bring water from the south to the traditionally-arid north of China. It calls for diverting water from the Changjiang (Yangtze) River system in the south by three possible northward routes. Proponents of the vast project stress that south China has an average annual rainfall of more than 1,000 millimeters, while that in the north is only 500-600 mm. The Changjiang River basin and areas to its south have 75 percent of the country's total surface runoff, while the basins of the Huanghe (Yellow), Huaihe and Haihe rivers in the north have only 3.8 percent. The Changjiang has a volume of flow close to 1,000,000 million cubic meters per year, the

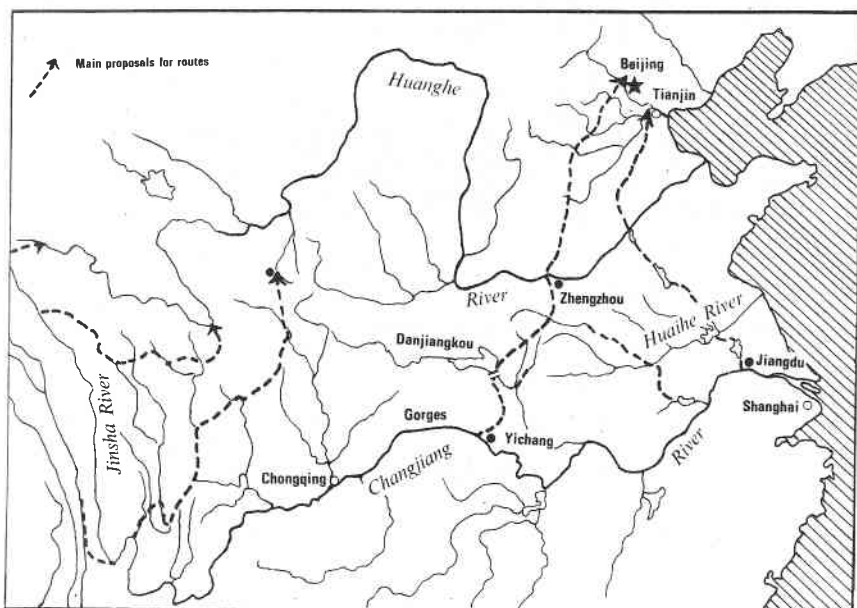
Huanghe, which is almost as long, has less than five percent of that.

At a meeting of 200 specialists, scientists and technical people held earlier this year, there was also opposition to the plan. Those against it cited data indicating that the north China plain is not really so arid. It has 100 billion cubic meters of underground water and an annual surface runoff of 90 billion cubic meters, they argued, and if these are fully utilized there is no need to bring in water from other areas. It has already been proven over the past ten years that the lower reaches of the Huanghe can provide 30 billion cubic meters per year, which is more than enough to solve the problem of water shortage on the plain, the plan's opponents maintained. In

their opinion, if measures were taken to store runoff and seepage flow in underground reservoirs and to prevent waste through using pipes and sprinklers instead of open channels for irrigation, the water there would be sufficient.

THOSE in favor of the plan, who were in the majority, felt that the north cannot solve the water problem solely through its own efforts. In the long run, they argued, the need for water in the north will increase greatly as industry and agriculture develop and life improves for the people. Cutting waste can temporarily ease the situation, they maintained, but cannot fundamentally solve the problem—only redistribution of the water can do so.

WHAT route the water diversion should follow if the project is undertaken was also debated. Three main routes have been proposed. One in the west would involve building a high dam on the upper reaches of the Changjiang and tunnels and canals skirting the slopes of the mountains to channel the water to northwest China. A second alternative is to divert water from the Danjiangkou reservoir in central China—which stores up water from the Hanshui River, a tributary of the Changjiang—and channel it north. It would have to be carried across the Huanghe near the city of Zhengzhou in Henan province. A third, eastern route is also proposed which would utilize the Grand Canal and flood prevention projects in the area to take the water northward from the lower reaches of the Changjiang near the city of Yangzhou in Jiangsu province. On this route, since the land is considerably higher as it runs in the north, the water would need to be raised in several stages, and finally also carried over the Huanghe.



Some people are for all three routes, since each can serve a different function, and one single route cannot perform them all. The western route, requiring a great deal of complicated engineering work, is not considered feasible in the near future. But as industry and agriculture develop in the northwest more water will surely be needed, so investigation will continue. The central and eastern routes both have their advantages and disadvantages, so plans for them must be worked out more fully. Some basis for the use of the eastern route has been laid in recent years in waterways associated with the Jiangdu Key Water Control Project in central Jiangsu province.

**E**COSYSTEM changes that could result from the water diversion scheme were also discussed, as were ways to prevent possible damaging effects. These include soil salinization, change in the quality of the water and harm to aquatic life. Specialists pointed out that before a general plan for the project can be worked out research must be done on the amount of water the Changjiang basin itself needs, the possible effects of the change in volume of flow, and its relation to the incoming tides at the Changjiang estuary. Reports were given on preliminary research as to whether the project would carry the disease schistosomiasis to the north.

While the meeting was going on, several newspapers carried articles embodying the different opinions. In an editor's note to one by two specialists, the *People's Daily* pointed out, "Since it is such a big project, we should go carefully. . . . People of various circles have the right and responsibility to state their views." It urged greater democracy in the academic world to ensure thorough discussion of the project. □

## Collector Donates Valuable Historical Currency

**Q**U HUICHUAN, 73, a retired bank employee in Shaanxi province, recently donated 3,400 Chinese coins and banknotes he had collected over half a century to the government. Many items in his collection are of great historical value or interest. In a special ceremony the People's Bank of China gave him a citation and recognition award of 8,000 yuan for his patriotic gift. Illustrated are some outstanding items from the collection. □

Qu Huichuan (second from right) tells People's Bank of China officials how he got his various specimens of currency.





**Ancient Coinage:** Metal money used by various states in the Warring States period (475-221 B.C.). From top to bottom: round bronze banliang coin of the State of Qin; bronze spade-shaped coins of the Han, Zhao and Wei states; flat, oval-shaped bronze coin with hole near the top from Chu; two types of knife-shaped coins from Yan and Qi.

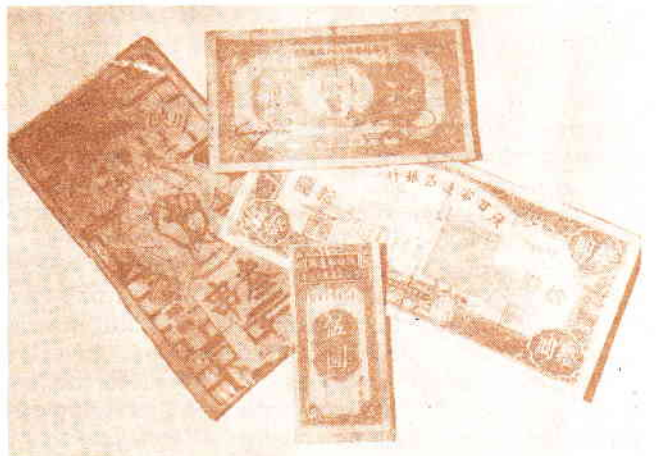


**Early Paper Money:** A note of one guan value, Ming dynasty (1368-1644). At the time there were also five other notes of one, two, three, four and five-hundred "cash" denominations. A guan equaled a thousand copper cash coins, or one liang (Chinese ounce) of silver.



**Peak of Inflation:** Rare banknotes issued by the Xinjiang (Sinkiang) Provincial Bank in large denominations during Kuomintang times. One for 6,000 million yuan is the largest in the history of Chinese banknotes.

**Currencies of Revolution:** Notes issued by the Bank of the Chinese Soviet Republic in 1932 (top); by the Workers' and Peasants' Bank of the Soviet Government of Sichuan and Shaanxi provinces (left); and by the Shaanxi-Gansu-Ningxia Border Area Bank (right) and Trade Company (bottom) during the War of Resistance Against Japan.





A combat scene in *The White Snake*.

Chen Juanmei

# Traditional Beijing Opera Returns to the Stage

HU JINMING and LIU XUETAO

LAST year a Chinese art troupe brought to the U.S.A. China's ancient performing art, new to most Americans. Such Beijing opera themes as *Havoc in Heaven*, *At the Crossroads*, and *War Dance* held a particular fascination for them. The Monkey King in the first-named opera, for example, while defying the spirits one after another, performed a series of acrobatic combat dances—with tumbling, leaps, flashing sword work and other polished tech-

niques. This, added to the colorful costumes and exaggerated musical accompaniment of drums, cymbals and percussion instruments, astonished and delighted the audiences.

Twenty years ago when Beijing opera artists toured Asia, Europe and Latin America, *Havoc in Heaven* was invariably in the repertoire. In the last decade, the gang of four crippled nearly every field of art, and this one was no exception. Outstanding traditional

themes were banned. When the gang fell in 1976, they were revived. Besides *Havoc in Heaven*, they included *The White Snake*, *The Riverside Pavilion* and *The Women Generals in the Yang Family*.

## History of the Art

Beijing opera began some 200 years ago. Before that time *za ju*, the celebrated Yuan drama, and *chuan qi*, legendary tales of the Ming and Qing dynasties flourish-



"Chun Cao Outwits an Official of the Court" — The heroine played by Liu Changyu.

*Photos by Zhang Shuicheng and Wang Hongxun*

A scene from "Autumn River" — The heroine played by Li Weikang (right) and the Boatman played by Kong Xinyuan.



The heroine played by Zhang Junqiu, outstanding actor of young women's roles.



"Fanjiang Pass" — Woman generals Fan Lihua and Xue Jinlian played by Xu Yuchuan (left) and Tong Baoling.

Zhang Fei, warrior hero, played by Ma Mingqun.



"Havoc in Heaven" — The Monkey King played by Li Guang.





A scene from "The White Snake" — The heroine played by Guan Jinglan (center) with her husband, played by Ru Shaoquan (right), and her maid, played by Ouyang Hui.

Official thrown out of his sedan chair, a comic scene from the same opera.





ed and produced good artists and playwrights. There were also opera melodies such as *kun qu*, *hui* and *bang zi*. Elaborate techniques from these earlier sources enriched and helped the growth of Beijing opera.

The older forms gradually declined due to political, economic and social causes. Beijing opera, absorbing their good points, began to be more popular. The *er huang* and *xi pi* musical styles, originally from Anhui and Hubei provinces, became its main musical content. Acting techniques and acrobatic combat dances were absorbed from the *kun qu*, *hui* and *bang zi* operas. Aside from the best of older forms, the lifelong efforts of such great actors as Cheng Chang-geng, Mei Qiaoling (the grandfather of Mei Lanfang), Tan Xinpei, Yang Xiaolou, Mei Lanfang, Zhou Xinfang, and Gai Jiaotian contributed to the Beijing opera's high level.

### A Wealth of Themes

Classical novels provided many of its subjects. Nearly 1,000 pieces are based on episodes from *The Three Kingdoms*, *Water Margin*, *Generals in the Yang Family*, *Lord Bao Apologizes*, *Lord Shi Apologizes* and *Pilgrimage to the West* as well as old legends and folk tales. Some themes were directly adapted from the older forms. *At the Crossroads* tells about heroes and warriors. *Conciliation Between General and the Minister* deals with the sharp and complicated political conflicts among the ruling class. *Driven to Join the Liangshan Mountain Rebels* tells of the peasants' resistance to feudal rulers. *The White Snake* is a legendary love story in which justice defeats evil. *Western Chamber* is about fighting for freedom of choice in marriage. *Autumn River* and *Picking Up the Jade Bracelet* are comedies taken from daily life. *To Be Promoted by Three Grades* satirizes shameless fawners upon influential officials.

In former times, in which the Chinese people were largely illiterate, the operas were a way of teaching about history and the so-

cial customs of different periods. The best of them enlightened, encouraged and educated the viewers.

### Some Characteristics

Beijing opera is a comprehensive art consisting of singing, acting, dialogue and acrobatics. Its highly refined techniques, gorgeous costumes, beautiful musical styles and magnificent acrobatic scenes provide good entertainment.

But the feudal ruling class, not satisfied with the enormous wealth it appropriated from the people, also attempted to monopolize the arts. The Empress Dowager Ci Xi (1835-1908) of the Qing dynasty for instance forced some famous artists to serve as pages at her palace. Tan Xinpei, seriously ill in his last years, had to sing for a warlord and later died of overwork and anger. Artists had a low social status and were subjected to every kind of ill-treatment.

Under these conditions the value of Beijing opera was marred to some extent by superstition, the feudal outlook, the morality of slavishness, and sometimes by vulgar sexual suggestiveness.

New China gave Beijing opera a new life. At first many of its themes were mixtures of both good and bad. But in the course of "weeding through the old to bring forth the new," much of the good was preserved and further developed, while the dross was discarded. Here are two examples:

*Havoc in Heaven* and *At the Crossroads* are "military" plays in the *duan da* category. There are two kinds of military plays, *duan da* and *chang kao*. In *duan da* the warriors wear turbans and hats, jackets and trousers, soft shoes and waist girdles. Its acrobatic combat dances are intricate. In *chang kao* they appear in helmets and armor, high court shoes, a headdress with two pheasant feathers or four triangular banners attached to the performers' backs. Its acrobatic dances depict battles on (imaginary) horseback.

*Havoc in Heaven* is based on the novel *Pilgrimage to the West*. It was originally a *kun qu* opera entitled *An Tian Hui*, meaning a meeting to bring order to the heavenly palace. In the old version, the Monkey King, in spite of his defiance of the heavenly spirits, was locked under the Wuhang Mountains, thus restoring order in the heavenly palace. The new title, by changing the word *an* (order) into the word *nao* (meaning creating havoc) eulogizes the Monkey King's disdain for and rebellion against the heavenly rulers. It is also a satire on the incompetence of the "strong" generals and soldiers of heaven. It ends with the Monkey King's victory.

The Monkey King wears dragon-embroidered robes, headdress and tigerheaded shoes — all of yellow, the color used only by the imperial family — thus satirizing the imperial power.

The actor who plays the role of the Monkey King is required to excel in sword play and other acrobatic combat dances. In all these dramatic actions, his motions must imitate those of a monkey. He has to sing while doing very difficult acrobatics. Seven to ten years of rigorous training, starting from childhood are required to master these techniques and grasp the inner feeling of the role.

*At the Crossroads* is based on an ancient Chinese folk tale. A virtuous general, Jiao Zan, has been unjustly sent into exile. A young officer, Ren Tanghui, secretly follows and protects him. Arriving at an inn at the junction of three roads, the general puts up for the night. The innkeeper, Liu Lihua, is a friend of Jiao Zan, who also wants to save him. However Liu and Ren do not know each other, so each suspects the other of being involved in a plot to harm Jiao Zan. A fierce struggle between them ensues in the dark because of this misunderstanding. However the opera ends in laughter when the situation is cleared up. The fight in the dark is the main action, with almost intolerable tension and comic mishaps unforgettably mixed.

Beijing opera uses no stage setting, only a few props such as a table or chair and sometimes nothing at all. It is the artists' acting that makes the audiences conjure up the necessary mountains, rivers, plains and other settings. The performers hold only

tasseled whips, swords, knives or oars to indicate where the event is taking place. Some movements denote opening or closing an imagined door. The "fighting in the dark" scene actually takes place on a brightly-lit stage. Liu's "blind" groping awakens Ren and the

struggle ensues. Now they clash. Then they lose each other. Both listen carefully to each other's movements before striking out savagely. As both are good men, this holds the audience spellbound, afraid that either will be hurt.

### Techniques and Role-Types

Singing, dialogue and acting other than acrobatics are also vital in Beijing opera. Different operas and scenes have different emphases, some on singing, others on acting or other aspects.

In Beijing opera there are four main types of characters: *Sheng* (the male lead), *dan* (the female lead), *jing* (painted faces) and *chou* (clowns). There are also age distinctions. The male may be bearded, singing in a natural voice, or a beardless juvenile singing in falsetto to show his youth. *Dan* are usually women who are divided by age and types, and into civilian and military parts. The old woman sing in a natural voice, the young ones in high-pitched falsetto. *Jing* roles are played by men and use facial designs to indicate their treacherous characters. They too are divided into civilian and military parts, each with different emphasis, some on singing, others on acting. *Chou* (clowns) are usually rogues with facial designs and white-painted noses.

Some short plays need few roles. At the *Crossroads* needs only *wu sheng* (army men). Larger subjects such as *The White Snake*, *In the Riverside Pavilion* and *The Women Generals in the Yang Family* need all the role-types, *sheng*, *dan*, *jing* and *chou*.

*The White Snake* was adapted by the revolutionary playwright Tian Han from an old version. He gave this widespread legendary story a new poetic feeling. The play praises Bai Suzhen for her staunch loyalty to her lover and lashes out at the Buddhist abbot who tries to destroy her love. There are all types of roles in it but *dan* is dominant.

After the fall of the gang of four traditional Beijing opera is again flourishing in its great variety. It can be described by the phrase "A hundred flowers bloom and vie in beauty." □

Young artists dress for a performance.

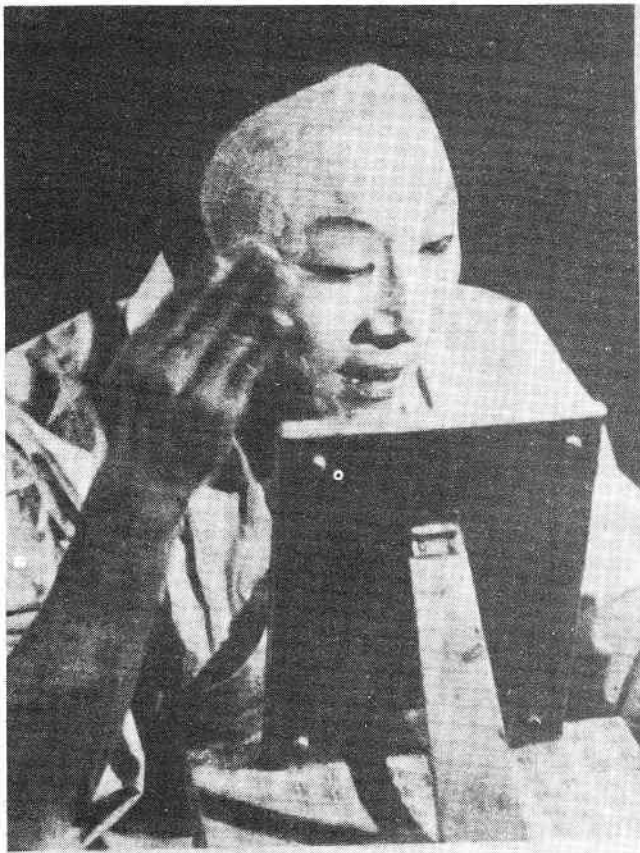
Wang Shaoqing



Fu Dewei, a teacher at the China Opera Institute, coaches students for stage combat.

Zhang Zudao





Sequence in applying facial makeup.

Xie Li



"How come you're putting salt on the newspaper, Comrade?"  
 "Because this article has no flavor at all!"  
 Hua Junwu



Two endless flows.  
 Zhang Fang



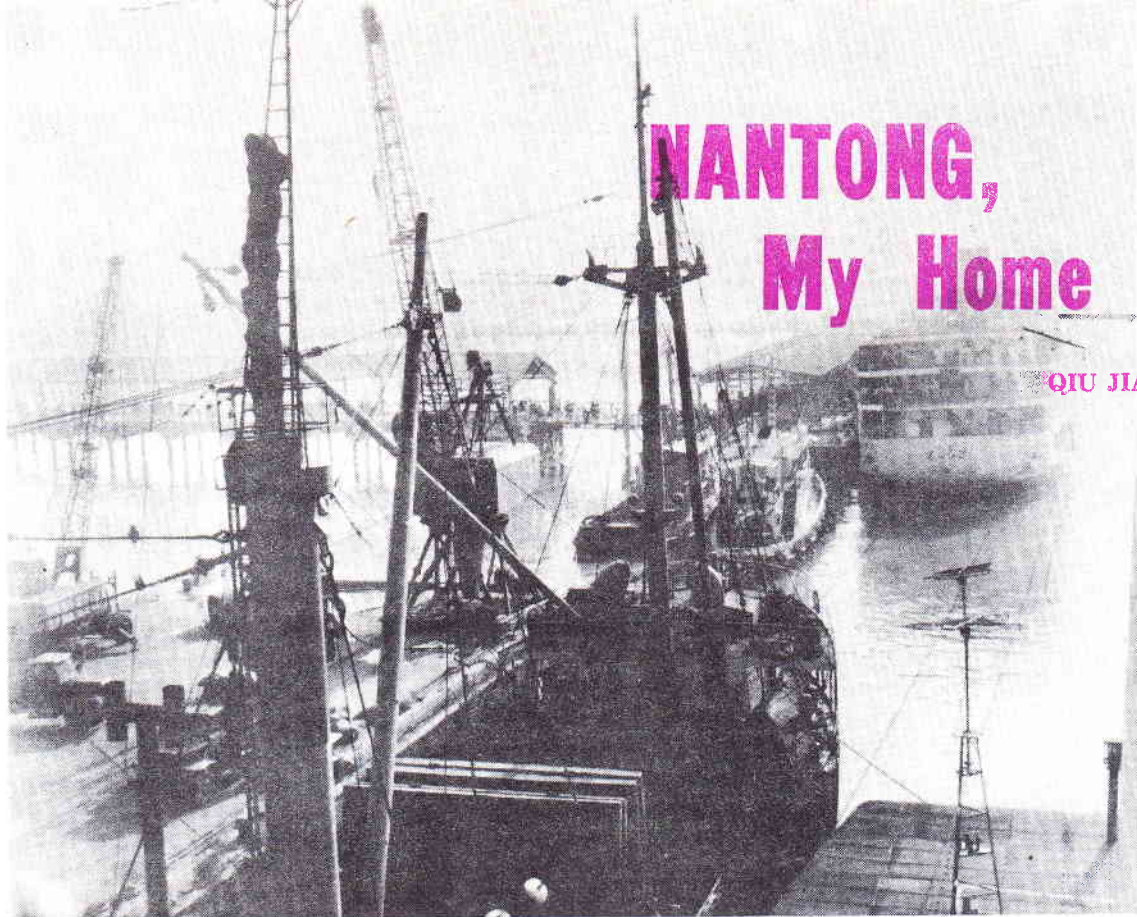
Applying the lever principle  
 (the best help for chairbound  
 bureaucrats who refuse to go  
 where the work is).  
 Li Bingsheng

Toy salesman and toy tigers, equally fierce.  
 Li Shimin and Fan Guanglin



# NANTONG, My Home Town

QIU JIAN



The port at Nantong.

Yuan Yunzheng

**T**O get to my home town, Nantong in Jiangsu province, it's a six-hour boat trip up the Changjiang (Yangtze) River estuary from Shanghai. When I was a child Nantong was a seedy, weedy little Changjiang valley industrial town without even a proper dock. Riverboat passengers were ferried to shore in leaky sampans. Engraved on my young mind is the scene one winter morning in 1935, when my mother and I made the downriver trip to see relatives in Shanghai: I watched two boats loaded with people capsize in a storm, and several people drown.

Now, over 40 years later, I'd taken the night boat up from Shanghai. As the boat approached the town, in the first rays of the morning sun I saw four big piers with corridors of water between stretching out into the river. Soon I was walking up one of piers and

off onto the waterfront square. It had changed beyond recognition.

In my childhood there was only one straggling, cobblestone street with a few shops and inns. Now the waterfront has a bright, spacious waiting room that accommodates 2,000, the tastefully designed Binjiang (Riverside) Hotel, the Binjiang Restaurant, a department store, the post office and the long-distance bus terminal.

The new port, I learned, had been completed in only three years during the late 1950s. Facilitating better water transport between places north and south of the estuary, it has made Nantong one of the gateways to the north Jiangsu plain. It can berth 10,000-ton ships, and handles up to two and a half million tons of cargo a year, 32 times more than before liberation. Inland navigation lines have multiplied.

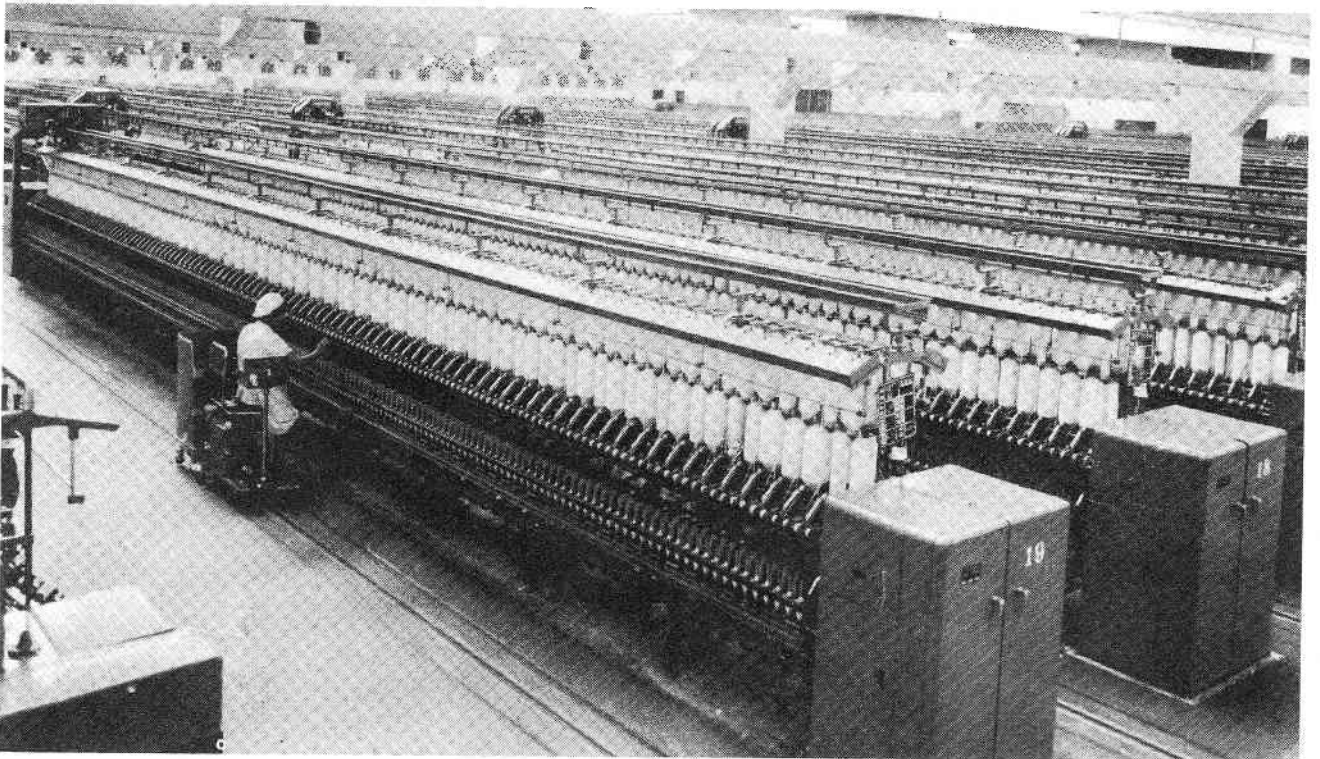
## Early Cotton Mill

Of course I had to visit Nantong Cotton Mill No. 1, situated in the

northern suburbs of the city. It is where my father once worked and I had spent my entire childhood in its vicinity. It had grown out of the Dasheng Cotton Mill set up in 1899 by Zhang Qian, Minister of Industry and Commerce under the Qing dynasty.

During its long life it had seen some times of prosperity, but like other industries in China in the years before liberation in 1949 it was plagued by a slumping market and increasing debts. It had been on the verge of bankruptcy at the time of liberation. Most of its equipment dated from the late 19th century when China's mechanized textile industry was in the bud. On their frames these decrepit superannuated machines bore names of the British and American manufacturers of those days. The walls and roof of the workshops would have collapsed if they were not propped up. The average hourly output per 1,000 spindles averaged about ten kilograms.

QIU JIAN is a staff reporter for China Reconstructs.



A new modern shop with 23,000 spindles at Nantong's State Cotton Mill No. 1.



Taking her baby home from the mill's nursery. Photos by Ren Zhenbei

The shops I saw this time were totally different: bright, airy, fresh. Seven automatic transport lines ended the heavy manual labor. The press of a button sends yarn cops from the spinning shop to the winders, 100 meters away and brings back empty bobbins.

The workers and technicians started to update their old equipment in 1958. Transformation of 100,000 outmoded fixed spindles into axle spindles raised hourly output of yarn to 35 kg. per 1,000 spindles. This was further increased in the late 1960s by im-

provements made on the ring and headframing. Now all the major parts of the spinning machines except for the frames have been replaced by new ones designed and manufactured in the plant itself. Hourly output of fine-count yarn is 45 kg. per 1,000 spindles.

The workers spent the year 1975 making six automatic innovations, including a doffer, a bobbin collector, a roller cleaner and mobile chairs for spinners. They also made devices for carrying cops, cleaning away waste yarn and sucking up cotton waste from the leather rollers. Now 95 percent of processes are mechanized, reducing labor intensity.

New technology adopted in the mill in the last six years has brought about a record 46 percent leap in productivity. In addition, over 13,600 new spindles were added. The plant has shown increases of 50 percent for value of output and 49 percent for profit which, mainly turned over to the government during the six years, has been enough to finance the building of ten cotton mills of

100,000 spindles and 1,000 looms. Today the workers and staff are striving hard to catch up with advanced world textile levels by the turn of the century when the mill will be 100 years old.

Twenty-four new textile mills all equipped with China-made spinning machines and looms have been built in Nantong, bringing the city's textile capacity to ten times that in the early days after liberation. It now has a fairly complete textile industry, ranging from spinning, knitting, printing and dyeing and yarn-dyed weaving to five textile machinery factories making equipment and accessories. Nantong's several hundred textile products sell well in China and 40 other countries and regions.

#### View from the Pagoda

I had to visit Mount Langshan in the southern suburbs. Towering peaks rising right beside the Changjiang River make it Nantong's most famous scenic spot. My mother used to take me up the

mountain on pilgrimages. Now there is a new gateway at its foot and the narrow, stony path we climbed has been replaced by a wide asphalt road. Half way up the mountain is a Buddhist convent. Close by stands Xianshi Tower where officials, nobles and local ruffians used to idle away their time in pleasure-seeking and swarms of beggars solicited alms. Now the convent and tower have been turned into exhibition halls, which when I was there were displaying local handicrafts — flowers made from feathers, paintings on silk, embroidery and beautifully-designed lanterns.

On the top of the mountain is a square wooden 35-meter-high tower built over 1,000 years ago in the Song dynasty called the Pagoda that Supports the Clouds. I remembered it as drab and dilapidated. Its vermilion pillars and green-tiled upswept eaves have regained their former glory.

One of the most valuable relics here is the Ping Wo Tablet, erected in 1560. On the stone is carved the story of the heroic struggle of the local people suppressing the "wo" — Japanese pirates who operated in Chinese coastal waters from the 14th to 16th century. Another tablet, carved in 1577, describes the bloody battles fought by peasant rebels around Mount Langshan in 1512 against feudal government troops.

From the top of the pagoda, looking southward one sees a long stretch of the river dotted with countless ships and sails. To the east Mount Jianshan and Mount Junshan rear up on either bank. To the west is a broad sweep of farmland crosshatched with irrigation canals, with rows of new brick housing built among green bamboo groves by people's commune members.

"I have toured half of China's rivers and lakes, / But today felt a world open before my eyes," the Song dynasty statesman and writer Wang Anshi (1021-1086) wrote in the poem "Viewing the Sea from Mount Langshan." I felt that way too, coming back to Nantong. □



Renmin Road, main thoroughfare in Nantong.

*Liu Baoxiang*

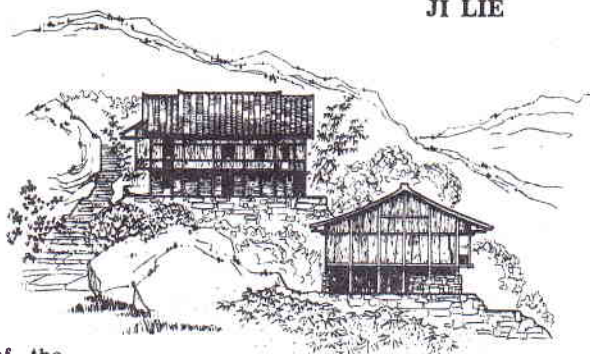
Pagoda That Supports the Clouds on Langshan Mountain.

*Zheng Baoming*

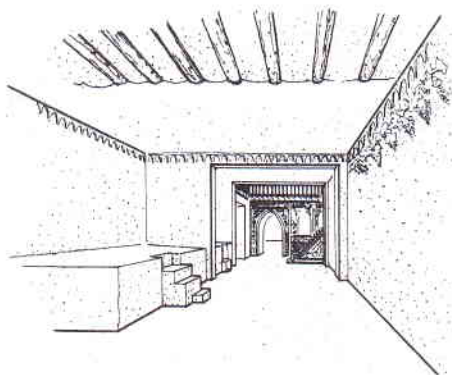


# Types of Houses of China's Minority Nationalities

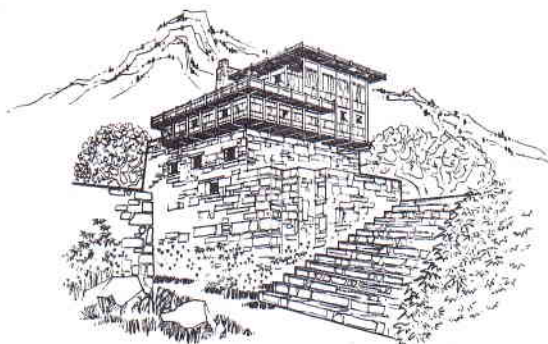
## JI LIE



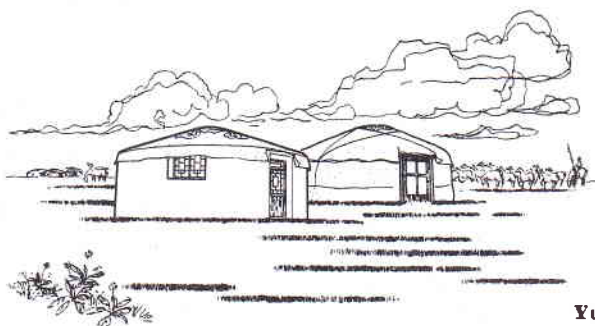
Bamboo houses of the Dais.



Clay house of the Uygur people.



Block house of the Tibetans.



Yurts of the Mongolians.  
*Science Pictorial*

CHINA'S minority nationalities live in many different areas. They build their houses in different styles to meet local conditions, with tradition and custom playing their part. Here are four major types.

The bamboo house of the Dais. Entirely built of wood, these houses supported on piles are scattered in China's southwestern mountain villages. The Gaoshan people in Taiwan province build such houses, too.

The Dais usually use the ground floor below the house proper as a cattle shed and storeroom for farm tools. Here also the pestle and mortar for pounding rice is kept. The house above is divided into four parts—a front veranda where they do the laundry and other household chores or just relax; an open space where they dry grain and clothes; a living room where they entertain guests, cook over a center fire, and gather together in the winter; and a large bedroom. The subtropical climate with many trees and flowers provides them with pleasant surroundings.

The clay house of the Uygur people. Xinjiang's Turpan depression, 154 meters below sea level and surrounded by mountains, is sometimes as hot as 48°C in the summer. Here the Uygurs build arch-roofed clay houses with thick walls to protect themselves from the heat. In the courtyard is a grapevine trellis where they grow fine grapes—and also find cool shade against the summer sun.

The block house of Tibet. These square stone houses are usually three or four stories high. Rainfall is rare and the roofs are generally flat. The first floor is used for sheep, cattle, dried yak dung (their fuel), fodder, and tools and other things. The second floor contains the kitchen and storeroom and the third floor the bedroom. The top floor is a Buddhist prayer room and the flat roof is used for drying clothes. People sit on the floors in the main rooms. All the floors are connected with wooden ladders and a square shaft rising



## DO YOU KNOW?

### The Twenty-Four Solar Terms in China's Old Calendar



CALENDARS in China give the date as in the internationally used calendar and also according to the traditional Chinese lunar months. The traditional system also included a solar element, the division of the year into 24 periods based on the position of the earth in its orbit around the sun. The names for these divisions, used as a guide to agriculture as well as to the observance of certain festivals, often turn up in literature and everyday conversation.

As early as the Spring and Autumn period (770-476 B.C.) the dates for the beginning of the four seasons had been ascertained through measuring the length of a shadow cast by the sun by a gnomon, or upright pole, on a horizontal surface something like a sundial. By the third century B.C., with greater development of astronomy, the beginnings of the other solar terms had been fixed by observing the position of the constellations.

The names of four of the solar terms denote the advent of the seasons, as known throughout the world. Others indicate changes in climate with reference mainly to those in the Huanghe (Yellow) River valley where the calendar was developed, such as Great Heat (*Da Shu*), Severe Cold (*Da Han*), Spring Showers (*Yu Shui*).

Still others are named for other natural phenomena indicating the progress of the year, such as Insects Waken (*Jing Zhe*), or progress of the crops like Grain in Ear (*Mang Zhong*).

Clear and Bright (*Qing Ming*), the seventh term which usually falls around April 5, refers to the clearing of the sky in spring. It is also the traditional day for sweeping family graves clean of the accumulation of winter.

After liberation it became a memorial day for revolutionary martyrs. On this occasion in 1976 the people of Beijing turned out in hundreds of thou-

sands — in several days they totaled over a million — to commemorate the universally loved late Premier Zhou Enlai in Tian An Men Square. It became a mass demonstration against the policies of the gang of four. Their suppression of the mourning masses hastened their downfall. □

#### The Twenty-Four Solar Terms (1980 dates)

Date	Chinese Name	Solar Term
Jan. 6	Xiao Han	Moderate cold
Jan. 21	Da Han	Severe cold
Feb. 5	Li Chun	Spring begins*
Feb. 19	Yu Shui	Spring showers
Mar. 5	Jing Zhe	Insects waken
Mar. 20	Chun Fen	Spring equinox
Apr. 4	Qing Ming	Clear and bright
Apr. 20	Gu Yu	Grain rain
May 5	Li Xia	Summer begins*
May 21	Xiao Man	Grain forms
June 5	Mang Zhong	Grain in ear
June 21	Xia Zhi	Summer solstice
July 7	Xiao Shu	Moderate heat
July 23	Da Shu	Great heat
Aug. 7	Li Qiu	Autumn begins*
Aug. 23	Chu Shu	Heat recedes
Sept. 7	Bai Lu	White dew
Sept. 23	Qiu Fen	Autumnal equinox
Oct. 8	Han Lu	Cold dew
Oct. 23	Shuang Jiang	Frost descends
Nov. 7	Li Dong	Winter begins*
Nov. 22	Xiao Xue	Light snow
Dec. 7	Da Xue	Heavy snow
Dec. 22	Dong Zhi	Winter solstice

\* The beginnings of the four seasons, as here listed, are by the traditional Chinese usage — connected with agricultural practice.

from the bottom to the top of the house admits air and sunlight. The first floor has only small ventilation holes. Windows on other floors are also small and irregularly placed so as to help keep the house warm.

The yurt of Mongolia. This is a tent four to six meters in diameter padded with layers of woollen felt and supported by a frame made of wooden poles 1.3 meters long. It can be put up or taken down in only one or two hours. The

roof of the yurt contains a round hole for ventilation and sunshine. It is open in the daytime but covered at night. Yurts are the traditional dwellings of the Mongolian, Kazak, Tajik and other nomadic peoples. □

# The Era of Tang

## 4—Crisis and Fall

JIAO JIAN

**I**N the mid-8th century the prosperity of the Tang dynasty (618-907) was upset by a blow from which it never fully recovered—the An-Shi military rebellion, so called from the names of its two ringleaders, An Lushan and Shi Siming.

The rebel warlord An Lushan had got his start by amusing the Lady Yang Gui Fei and gaining her as his backer. Lady Yang, whose beauty has been celebrated in literature, had been a concubine of the son of Emperor Xuan Zong (685-762). Later the emperor himself became infatuated with her and also

Huang Chao in sculpture by Long Dehui.



gave An Lushan his undue trust. An Lushan rose to become viceroy in charge of all civil and military affairs in a northern frontier region made up of today's Hebei, Shanxi and Liaoning provinces.

In 755 An launched his revolt. His pretext was that the court was corrupt, the emperor spent all his time dallying with his favorite concubine Lady Yang Gui Fei and had even made her brother, Yang Guozhong, Prime Minister. His opportunity was that many cities were militarily unprepared. His motive was his own ambition. He started the rebellion at Fanyang (today's Beijing). Bringing into his own army large numbers of nomadic people from the north, An Lushan quickly took Luoyang and then the capital Changan. The emperor fled south towards Sichuan province. While he was on his way his angry troops forced him to consent to the death sentence for Lady Yang, after they had killed her corrupt brother.

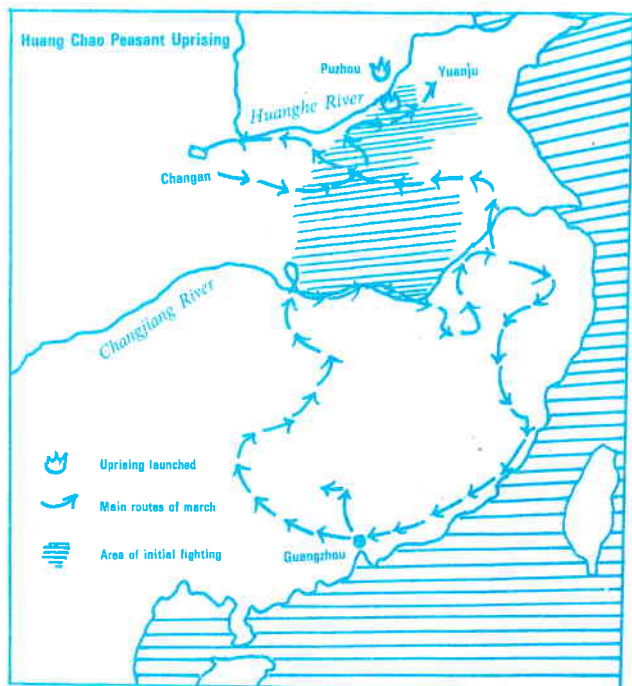
The rebels burned and plundered wherever they went, arousing the resistance of the people. With the help of the Ouigours the imperial troops recovered Luoyang and Changan. An Lushan was assassinated, but after his death his lieutenant Shi Siming continued the revolt until it was finally put down in 763.

The rebellion brought general misery and disaster. Agriculture was disrupted and many peasants became homeless and destitute. The prefectures and counties around Luoyang were reduced to ruins. Viceroys in other places seized the opportunity to expand their power and swell their armies. They appointed their own officials and refused to pay taxes to the central government. They made their titles hereditary, passing them on to their sons or lieutenants, thus carving the Tang domain into independent satrapies.

### Peasant Uprisings

During the latter period of Tang the imperial family, nobles, high officials and big landlords annexed land at will and forced many peasants off their farms. Taxes were numerous, including those on salt, tea, wine, vinegar and even on crops still standing in the fields. Combined with natural disasters, they made life impossible for the people, who began to rise in arms.

In 874 a peasant uprising was launched by Wang Xianzhi (Wang Hsien-chih) in Henan province. In a proclamation he denounced the Tang government for its heavy taxes, the corruption of its officials and its cruel punishments. The next year his forces were





Peasant forces under Huang Chao enter Changan.

*Painting by Zhang Yang*

joined by those of Huang Chao leading an uprising in Shandong province. The two peasant armies swooped down from Shandong through Henan, Anhui and Hubei, repeatedly defeating the imperial troops. In 878 Wang Xianzhi was killed in battle in eastern Hubei and Huang Chao assumed leadership of the peasant forces and led them to fight on.

The troops of the government and its semi-independent viceroys were largely concentrated in the north. Avoiding the enemy's strong points and attacking his weak links, the peasant forces marched southward toward the Changjiang (Yangtze) River valley. In 878 they crossed the river and bore down on Jiangxi, Anhui and Zhejiang provinces. Then, with remarkable perseverance, in a month's time they cut a 400-kilometer mountain path from Zhejiang to Fujian to reach Fuzhou on the southeastern coast. The following year they took the city of Guangzhou (Canton).

On their way they observed strict military discipline. They executed the most hated officials and big landlords and distributed their property to the peasants. Soon their ranks swelled to 600,000 men. In November 880, having gained strength in the south they assailed the strongholds of the north, captured Luoyang, and then the strategic Tongguan Pass on the Huanghe (Yellow) River, which enabled them to close in on Changan.

#### Peasant Political Power

Emperor Xi Zong fled. In December the mighty peasant army marched into Changan in exemplary order. As a mark of identification they wore red turbans. They told the populace, lining the streets to welcome them, not to be afraid, for they had risen

to save the people and were quite different from the emperor, who had no sympathy for the common man.

With strong and widespread support, a peasant government was established and appointed peasants to administrative posts. It suppressed a number of the most notorious officials and aristocrats and confiscated the property of the rich and distributed it to the poor. Such measures dealt a heavy blow to landlord rule and shook the feudal order.

However, the peasant army failed to follow up its victories. Mobile in nature and with no fixed bases, though it set up political power in Changan it did not have a large area under firm control. After a breathing spell the armies of the Tang dynasty and the viceroys in various parts of the country were able to combine forces to counterattack. Surrounded in a small area around Changan, the peasant army ran short of food and could not get reinforcements. In the meantime the Tang rulers managed to buy over Zhu Wen, a peasant commander on the eastern front. In 883 Huang Chao was compelled to withdraw from Changan to Henan and thence to Shandong, where in 884 near the Taishan Mountains he committed suicide. The remaining forces fought on until finally defeated in 898.

In 883 a Western Turk army coming to the aid of the Tang emperor broke into Changan. They were followed by Tang soldiers who sacked the city and burned the palace.

Though it failed to destroy feudal rule, the peasant revolt knocked down the Tang dynasty. In 907 Zhu Wen, most powerful of the Huanghe River valley warlords deposed the emperor and seized the throne, ushering in several decades of warlord fighting. □



# Papercuts of Yuxian County



ZHANG FENGGAO

**A** YOUNG WOMAN rides on donkey-back with a baby in her arms. The animal, apparently startled, begins to gallop. Frightened, she holds her child tightly and yells for help, her husband running after them not knowing what to do. This is the scene depicted in "Donkey Dance," one of the several hundred works displayed at an exhibition of papercuts from Hebei province's Yuxian county, a noted center for this artcraft, held recently in Beijing.

"Donkey Dance" is based on a custom in north China. In the past a young married woman used to ride back to her parents' home on a decorated donkey, her husband following behind. In this piece the craftsman uses artistic exaggeration and a strong contrast of color — red jacket, green kerchief, yellow waist-band and black donkey — to create a picture full of humor.

The most obvious characteristic of Yuxian papercuts is the way the colors are applied. The pigments are usually red, pink, yellow, green, blue and other monochromes. As soon as the pigment, mixed with alcohol, touches the paper, it soaks in to produce a resplendent effect. The

cutting skill is also unique. Yuxian's papercuts are mainly cut in intaglio with much attention to delicacy of line and ample scope for brilliant coloring. "Peacock Spreading Its Tail," for example, depicts the bird with colorful feathers and brings it to full life.

Unlike papercuts mainly carved in relief to increase the expressiveness of the lines, those done mainly in intaglio are suited for highly decorative designs such as opera characters, ancient beauties, flowers, birds, fish, insects and figures from legends and classical novels. The bright pink on the cheeks of the rider in "Donkey Dance," for example, brings out the charm of a young woman.

In addition to traditional themes, the Yuxian papercut artists are also bold in their depictions of the new life. A fine example is "Prosperous Dairy Farm." Three Mongolian girls are working and talking on a dairy farm with wild flowers in full bloom. The full composition, the sturdy figures and fresh colors conjure up the springtime look of the pastureland transformed by man.

Another example is "Excelling Nature" — a comment on the traditional way of making carpets.

Several skilled women are giving a finishing touch to a hanging carpet featuring a phoenix flying among drifting clouds.

Yuxian papercuts have a history of about 200 years. The local folk artists learned from the nationally famed New Year paintings of Yangliuqing near Tianjin and the watercolor block prints for window decoration of Wuqiang in Hebei province. In the course of time they evolved the Yuxian papercut with its own distinctive style.

Among the papercut artists who became outstanding in Yuxian county, Wang Laoshang (1890-1951) was the best known. He began to learn while still a little boy. He was fond of operas and paid much attention to the features of the characters. He liked to read historical novels and was familiar with many stories from history. During his life he created over 500 figures from 200 operas and countless pieces depicting flowers, birds, fish and insects. Wang raised the art of Yuxian papercuts to a stage of maturity.

Yuxian's papercuts, representative of the north, are as famous as those created in Foshan in Guangdong province. □



Excelling Nature, a depiction of carpet weavers.  
*Shan Dianwei and Chi Chongguang*



Prosperous Dairy Farm, in Inner Mongolia.  
*Hao Guisheng and Shen Cheng*



A traditional design of phoenix.



A set of traditional designs.



## Cultural Links with Thailand

**T**HE 82-member Thai Cultural Mission, largest group of performers from Thailand ever to visit China, toured several Chinese cities in September. It was headed by Dejo Savanananda, Director General of Thailand's Fine Arts Department. The troupe performed both modern and classical Thai music and dance.

Interviewed by *China Reconstructs*, Dejo Savanananda said:

"The task of our Fine Arts Department is to discover and refine our ancient national art so that our people will love their artistic heritage. At the same time we learn from other nations. India and China are both sources for Thai art. Much of Thailand's music originated in China, while its dance was influenced by India.

"Our cultural exchanges can be traced back to ancient times. Signs of them can still be seen everywhere in our country today. Many of Thailand's historical records were destroyed in two wars in the 16th and 18th centuries, so we often refer to Chinese historical books in studying our own history. Many Thai relics are preserved in China today."

He revealed that not long ago 14 ancient Chinese merchant ships were discovered at the bottom of the sea in Thai waters. They were loaded with silver money, pottery and porcelain. "We hope that Chinese archeologists, who are among the best in the world, will come for joint study of these objects," he said.

**T**HE mission had come to China on an invitation issued by Vice-Premier Deng Xiaoping dur-

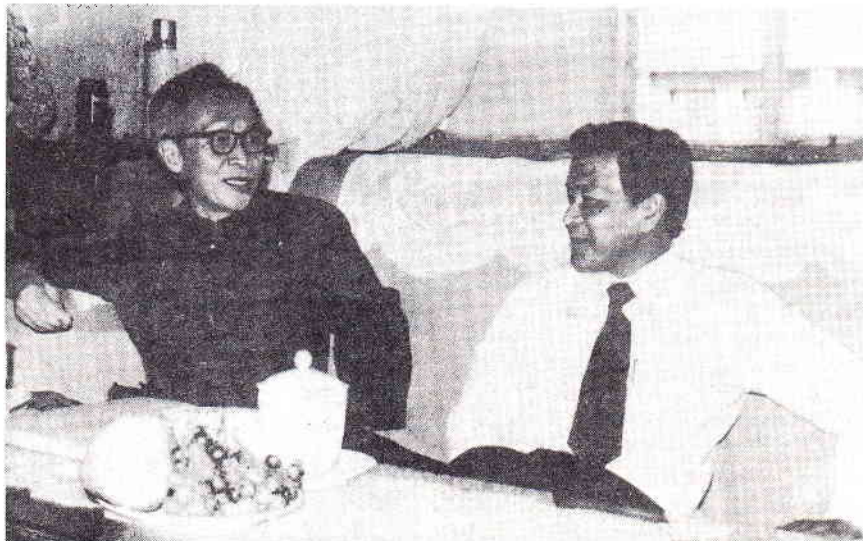
ing his visit to Thailand last year. Dejo Savanananda said that the fact that he himself had been asked to lead this mission indicated his government's special concern for it. This is the first time he has ever led such a group. The country's best performers were chosen as a gesture of friendship and respect for China.

Cultural exchange is necessary because it promotes understanding and friendship between countries, the director observed. He recalled that China had sent to Thailand a sports delegation, coaches, the Guangzhou acrobatic troupe "whose performance won wide acclaim in our country," and the "equally-successful" Oriental Song and Dance Ensemble. "Chinese dancers have been sent to learn Thai dances. They mastered the

difficult Mae Boat Dance and Terd Terng Dance in only a few days, much to the pleasure of their teachers," he observed.

"Our two countries have a long history of friendship unmarred by conflicts or unpleasant incidents. From the moment our group set foot in your land, we were received with a sincerity and warmth that made every one of us feel as if we were coming home. The artists of the two countries get on very well together. Through many-sided exchanges we have learned a great deal from our Chinese colleagues. Members of China's Oriental Song and Dance Ensemble stood in the wings and imitated our movements from beginning to end. The Thai songs sung at a party by Zheng Xulan, a member of the ensemble,

**Dejo Savanananda, Thailand's Director General of Fine Arts with Wu Tong, editorial board member of China Reconstructs, who grew up in that country.**





From the dance drama "Manohra," common to Thailand and to China's Dai nationality.

**Dance of Thailand-China friendship.**

*Photos by Wang Xinmin*



were beautifully and feelingly performed."

The song "The People of China and Thailand Are One Family," composed by Luang Vichitr Vathakarn who was the first person to serve as Director General of Thailand's Fine Arts Department, is known in every Thai household, Mr. Dejo Savanananda said. □



# Twin Dramas from Two Countries

YU HAIYAN

THE Thai group had prepared to present the classic Thai dance drama *Manohra*, so to welcome them the Cultural Troupe of the Xishuangbanna Dai Autonomous Prefecture near the southern border in Yunnan province decided to stage a dance drama of China's Dai nationality *Chao Suthone and Nang Manohra*. Based on the same story, the two dramas resemble each other in content, plot, character and even detail. The ancient story is widely known both in Thailand and among China's Dai people in Xishuangbanna.

Suthone, Prince of the State of Panja, goes hunting beside the Golden Lake and sees Manohra, Princess of the Land of Bird People, bathing in the lake. He falls in love with her and takes her to his home. Soon after their wedding, however, Panja is attacked by a neighboring state. While Prince Suthone is fighting the invaders, the minister, whose daughter the prince had refused to marry, connives with a wizard to spread rumors that Manohra is a source of misfortune and forces the king to order her sacrificed to the fire god. Manohra appeals to the king for her wings to perform a last dance for him and queen. While doing so she takes off and flies back to her parents.

The prince returns victoriously from the war and exposes the minister's plot. Then, braving untold hardships, he goes to the Land of Bird People, finds his wife and brings her back.

Artistically each drama has its own characteristics. The Thai Drama is done in the classical dance form of Thailand which emphasizes posture and rhythm and closely knit sequences of movements. The Chinese version blends movements from ballet and today's dance forms with those from Chinese classical dance.



Chinese and Thai artists exchange performing experience.

This beautiful legend from the Buddhist scriptures has moved both Chinese and Thai audiences for 2,000 years and is testimony to the close ties between the people of our two countries. When the two dramas were performed together in Kunming, capital of Yunnan province, the Chinese dancers playing the parts of Prince Suthone and Princess Manohra met their Thai counterparts beside Dianchi Lake in Kunming.

In addition to *Manohra*, the Thai Cultural Mission performed *Romakien*, a masked play, which gave us unforgettable artistic enjoyment through its beautiful folk dances, and other excellent numbers.

I BECAME the student of Mrs. Kannica Wongsawad, the outstanding Thai dancer who played the role of Manohra. In the two weeks she taught me we became close friends.

I was elated when Mr. Dejo Savanananda told me that Mrs. Kannica would teach me Manohra's Flying Dance, because I loved it

from the first time I saw it. The climax of the drama, it calls for considerable skill. In the last set of movements, the dancer stands on one foot and raises the other, her arms outstretched to denote wings. Then she sways her upper body to create the effect of flapping wings. All this has to be done to the rhythm of the music. For one not very experienced in Thai dance it is indeed difficult. Mrs. Kannica taught me tirelessly. Even on the bus on the way back from a night show she would help me with my hand movements.

I danced the Thai *Manohra* for the Thai artists in Guangzhou on the day before they left China. Congratulating me on my success, Mr. Dejo called me "Chinese Manohra." When the deputy leader of the mission, Mr. Taveesak Senanarong, was told at the farewell banquet that I had cried during my last lesson, he joked, "Don't be so sad, Chinese Manohra. You can ask for your wings and fly to Bangkok to see your teacher there." □

YU HAIYAN is a dancer in China's Oriental Song and Dance Ensemble.

# Panda Preserve

GE XIANJUN



**T**HE world-famous giant panda is native only to the high mountains of southwest China. For that reason few people even in China ever get to see these rare and valuable animals in their natural habitat—they can only get a glimpse of them in zoos in a few big cities.

An exception, however, are the people living in the area along the border of Sichuan, Gansu and Shaanxi provinces, particularly the Tibetan commune members living in the Baishui River Nature Preserve. They not only see giant pandas often, but have even made friends with them.

The Baishui River Nature Preserve covers an area of 95,000 hectares on the northern slope of the Minshan Mountains in Gansu province's Wenxian and Wudu counties. Dense forests of dragon spruce, firs and the evergreen "arrow bamboo" (glossyleafed Chinacane) flourish here. The climate is mild and rainfall plentiful. The giant panda shares this area with the golden monkey, takin, musk deer, blue-eared pheasant, dhole and other rare birds and animals. They get along

in relative harmony, except for the leopard and dhole, a type of wild dog, which are natural enemies of the giant panda.

**T**HE giant panda is a solitary animal. Male and female live together only during the annual mating period. Ordinarily they don't even have a permanent den. When the female is about to give birth, she will look for a hollow tree in which to bear her cub and nurse it.

Giant pandas do not hibernate in winter. Instead, they move to higher or lower altitudes with the seasonal changes. In summer and autumn they climb up to mountain slopes 3,000 meters above sea level where it is cool and the

Chinacane, a slender bamboo that grows no thicker than a walking stick in clumps 1.5 to 3 meters high, is most tender. They come out to seek food in the morning and evening. During the day they stay in bamboo groves or sun themselves on the branches of trees. Throughout the winter and early spring they move down into the ravines below 2,600 meters where there is less snow, and food is easier to find.

The crisp, sweet Chinacane is the giant panda's staple diet. Severing the stalks neatly with their teeth, the pandas munch away with gusto. Each day a mature animal consumes 10 to 20 kilograms of bamboo. When satisfied, it moves to a nearby stream to drink.

A panda drinking water is an amusing sight. It first digs a hole beside a stream with its paws. Then, after waiting for it to fill with water, starts to drink. The process is repeated until its belly is as tight as a drum and it can drink no more.

Giant pandas were not always so rare or so localized as now. Hundreds of thousands of years ago they ranged throughout most of southern China. Following changes in the natural environment, and the advance of human habitation, they gradually retreated to their present habitat. Today, both the natural surroundings of the preserve and the protection given them by the local people are guarantees to their survival. After liberation the government placed the giant panda first on the list of animals to be protected. Hunting it is absolutely prohibited.

The Tibetans living in the Baishui River preserve have been on neighborly terms with "white bear," as they call the panda, since very early times. When these animals wander into the cornfields for a snack, the peasants simply shout at them from a distance to drive them away. If occasionally one of them slips into a peasant's cottage

and steals some fodder, more than likely the host will say with a smile, "Well, white bear, welcome to my home for dinner."

A very young cub once became separated from its mother and nearly starved. Peasants of the Daba production team discovered it and carefully looked after it. They fed it with the tenderest bamboo shoots until it was able to fend for itself, then sent it back to the mountain forests.

**O**NCE in a while, after a cycle of several decades, the Chinacane bamboos suddenly die off *en masse*. First they blossom and bear seeds, then stretches of the bamboo wither away. This poses a great threat to the giant panda. Such a disaster hit the Baishui River area in 1975.

In the terribly cold winter that followed many pandas died of hunger and privation. The Tibetan people reported the matter immediately to the government. An investigation team of agriculture, forestry, scientific research and animal husbandry experts set out from Beijing without delay. They organized a first-aid team to search for the dying animals.

The team members brought back as many pandas as they could find. At a special collecting post they fed them with maize or rice gruel mixed with sweet potatoes contributed by the local people. Some even scaled snow-capped mountains to gather the remaining bamboo shoots. For the old and weak animals they brewed a broth of Chinese medicinal herbs to promote quick recovery, and they nursed the sick animals day and night.

The rescue work lasted two months; all the rescued pandas recovered. Then they were sent back to the forest, except for a few that were shipped to zoos in the major Chinese cities or presented to foreign countries as tokens of friendship.

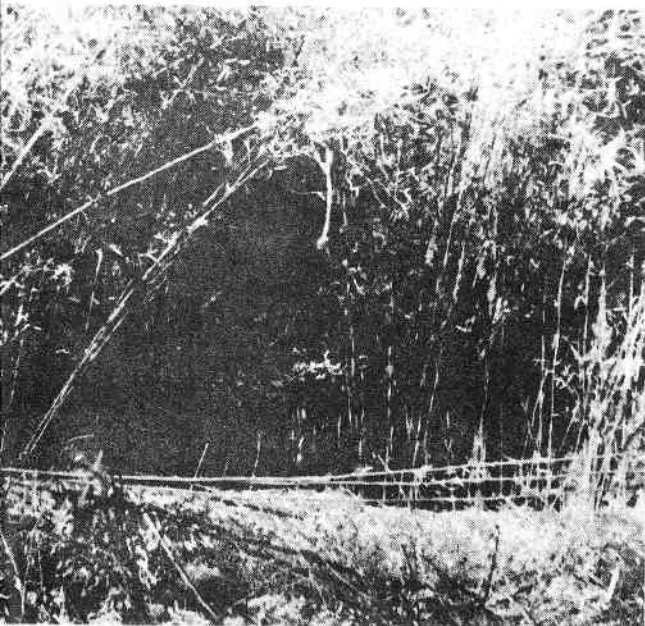
The Baishui River area was established as a nature preserve after the rescue operation. An additional 87,000 hectares surrounding it were also made a no-hunting zone.

Now the giant pandas are increasing in number, reappearing in places where they had not been seen for a long time. Some females, barren since the 1975 disaster are giving birth again. □

**Part of the team to find measures to save giant pandas endangered in the winter of 1975.**

*Photos by the Ministry of Forestry*

**Chinacane bamboo, staple food of the giant panda.**





Kevin Porter about to drop one in.

Huo Jianying

Sports:

## The "Washington Bullets" in China

**T**HE visiting professional Washington Bullets hit the Chinese basketball world last August with a speed that lived up to their name. They bested China's best — the August 1st Team, which had won three and lost two against other American teams — with a sound 96:85.

The Bullets, with seasoned players and wide experience in world competition, are a strong power in the basketball world. While the Chinese team was fast in attack, the Bullets were even faster. With pinpoint passes, quick jumps and trigger reactions, their blitz attacks were often finished in less than three seconds. This speed usually gave them chances to attack with two or three men against one. Fast attacks gave 35 points in the match while the August 1st Team got only 12.

Technical skill, strong tactics and good teamwork paid off — but Chinese spectators noted a number of special tricks in the American team's play. Kevin Porter, though short, was a good organizer in attack. An accurate shooter he was also good at breaking through an opponent's defense. He was quick in dribbling and passing and coordinated especially well with Elvin Hayes. Several times he pretended to shoot but tossed the ball over the basket where Hayes was waiting in mid-air to drive it in.

The Bullets only played two matches in China but left an unforgettable impression on Chinese basketball fans. □

Elvin Hayes with a Chinese colleague. Zhou Tieria



Dick Motta (right), coach of the Bullets, demonstrates attack tactics to Chinese players.

Zhu Yongqing



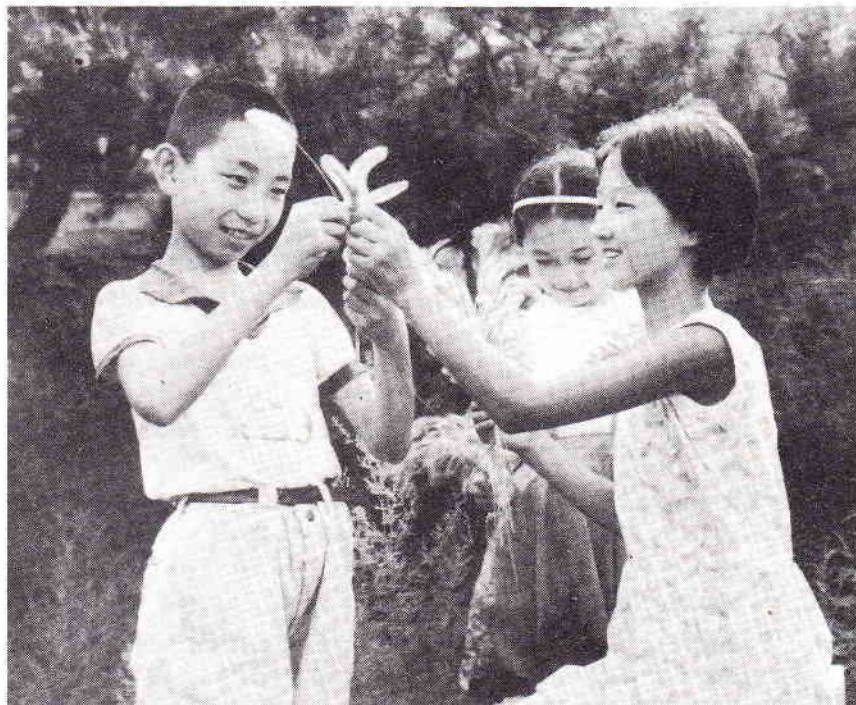
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## School Children and Teachers in Vacation Camps and Resorts

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# Five Days in Beijing's Western Hills

LU XIAOHAI



Lu Xiaohai (first left) and his schoolmates in a summer camp. *Huo Jianying*

ONE DAY while we were taking our end-of-term exams, our teacher told us that pupils who studied hard and were good at keeping discipline would be chosen to go to a vacation camp, organized by the Young Pioneer Palace of Beijing's Haidian District, in the Western Hills outside the city. She read out a list of candidates.

When Wang He, my best friend and I heard our names, we wanted to jump for joy.

There were six candidates in the class, but our teacher said only one

**LU XIAOHAI** is a pupil in Huayuan-cun Primary School No. 2.

could go. "Let's draw lots," she said with a smile. I drew the lucky one, and could hardly speak for excitement. Running all the way home, I told the news to my parents and elder brother, and asked Mama many questions such as "Where are the Western Hills?" "How high are they?" and so on, until she was tired of me. I counted the days on my fingers until the date came round. That afternoon I was taken to school by Father. Seven other pupils of our school who were going had their parents seeing them off. We set

out by bus at 2 o'clock for the Western Hills.

Altogether, 188 pupils from the district's primary schools took part. Most of us were 10 or 11 years old. The night we arrived, there was an opening ceremony in the spacious grounds of a middle school at the foot of the hills. The teacher running the camp told us about the five-day program. Though it was a heavy one, some of us hoped to get time for personal hobbies — sketching from nature, catching and preparing insect specimens, and so on.



Middle school students of Beijing learning to identify rock specimens in a summer camp. Han Xiaohua

The ceremony ended after 9 o'clock. We hurried back to sleep, but we were so thrilled to, as we had to start on a climb at 2:30 the next morning. "Wonder if there's a path to the top," one boy chirped up. "Of course," said another. We chattered on until our teacher said, "If you don't get some sleep, you'll be tired to death."

It seemed only a moment later that the bugle woke us up. We lined up faster than we'd ever done before. Then we started up Jiufeng Hill. It was still dark, though the moon was out. Climbing, we followed each other closely and warned one another: "Careful of that big stone." "Don't hurry, it's slippery here."

Halfway up, I turned my head and looked back. The beams of our flashlights made a twisting line, like a luminous snake on the move. It did not take us long to the top.

Teacher told us that the hill was 571 meters high, one of the tallest ones here. We had started out

early so that we could see the sunrise from up there. Pity! It turned out to be a cloudy day.

Reciting some poetry made us happy again. By the dawning light, we could see the terraced fields on the slopes around, some fruit trees and a reservoir. . . . We shouted, "It's lovely!" and the hills around echoed back: "It's lovely. It's lovely." Our teacher pointed to a peak in a distance and said, "That's Miaofeng Hill. It has a gully planted with roses. The sweet smell is everywhere in June and July each year. The peasant uncles and aunties make the flowers into essence for perfume." We all wished we could go and take a look.

When we climbed down, our teacher told us, "This is only a tiny spot in our country's 9,600,000 square kilometers. We have famous and beautiful mountains galore." Then she listed some of them, and some big rivers. I felt proud and happy.

The next day we visited the ancient Dajue Temple. It had an old tower more than 1,000 years old and a lot of clay Buddhas, about which our teacher told us stories. A huge ginkgo tree standing in the courtyard was as old as the temple. Our teacher said, "See how many of you children it takes to get your arms around it." It took eight.

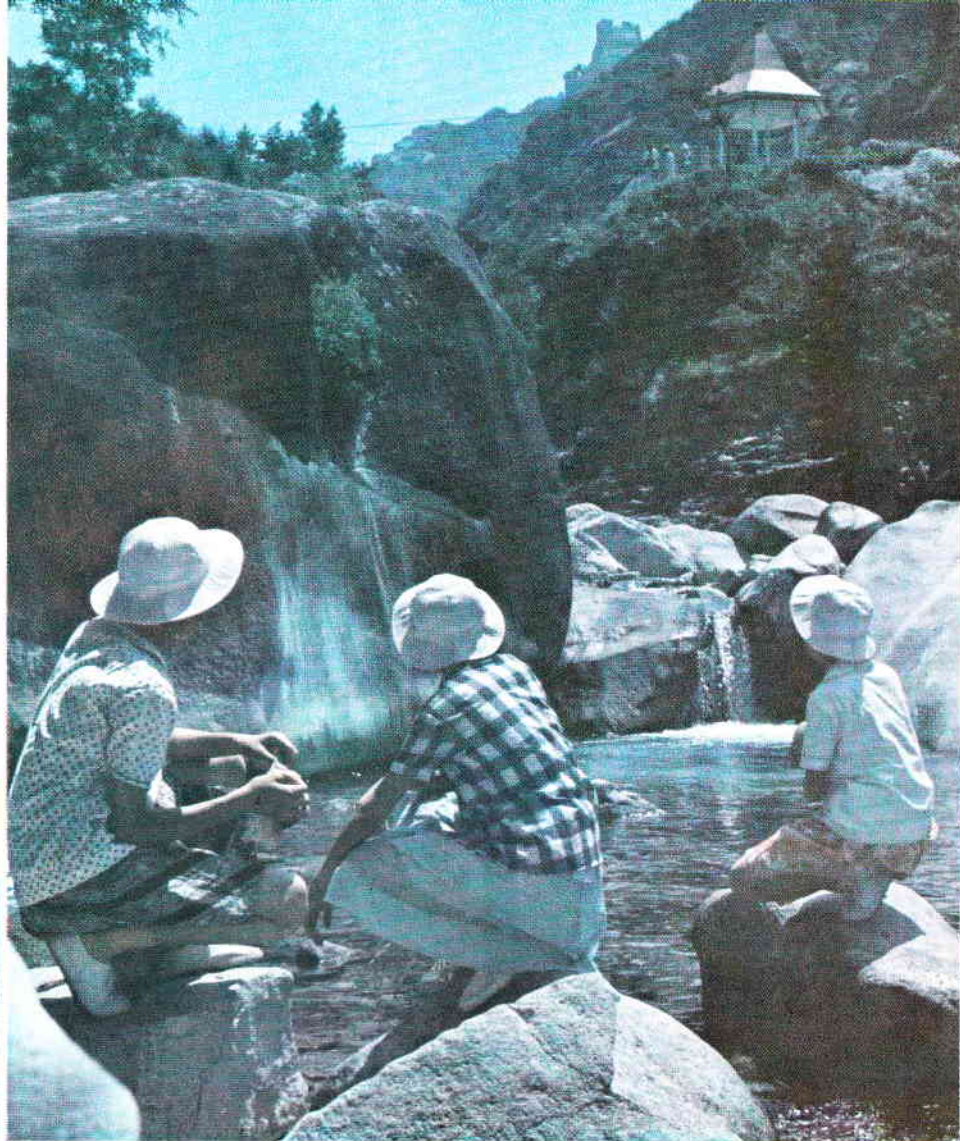
We planned a picnic on Jinshan Hill. But it rained that day, so we had to stay in our camp and to make dumplings instead.

Some pupils from a commune school were braver than we. Ignoring the rain, they put up a plastic awning and built a clay cookstove on a slope. At first I couldn't see how they could cook, because the wood and stove were both wet. But with the help of the teacher they poured some kerosene on the kindling and got a fire going alright. Our teacher said, "Damp wood needs a roaring flame." They had their dinner ready even before we did.

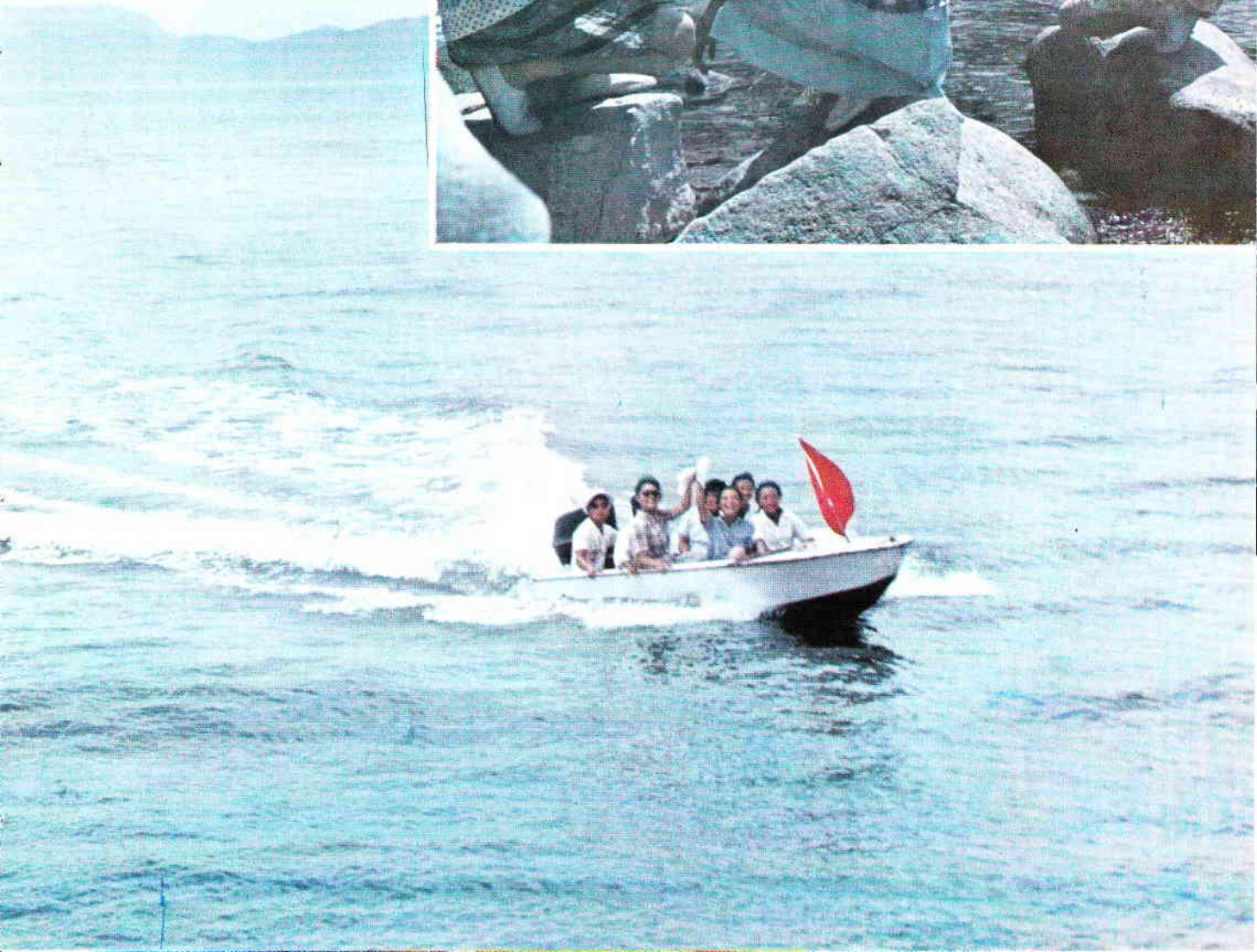
Though it rained for two days, we still managed to do almost everything we'd planned. We watched a model airplane performance, practiced shooting, saw a reservoir and played many games. The last night, we had a campfire party despite the rain. One group put on a dance performance called "Killing Mosquitoes," about how a small frog and a spider trying to catch mosquitoes in the spider's web. It was really funny. Singing and laughing we ended our party.

Though the time was short, we seemed have grown up a bit. Usually our mothers took care of us. But here all of us, girls and boys, took care of each other. Our teacher stayed with us and told us stories. I didn't want to leave. □

A visit to the Lao-  
shan Mountains.



Motorboating.





Get-together of students of China's many nationalities.

Catching small crabs,



Long distance race.







A girl of the Bai nationality (right) sees the sea for the first time.

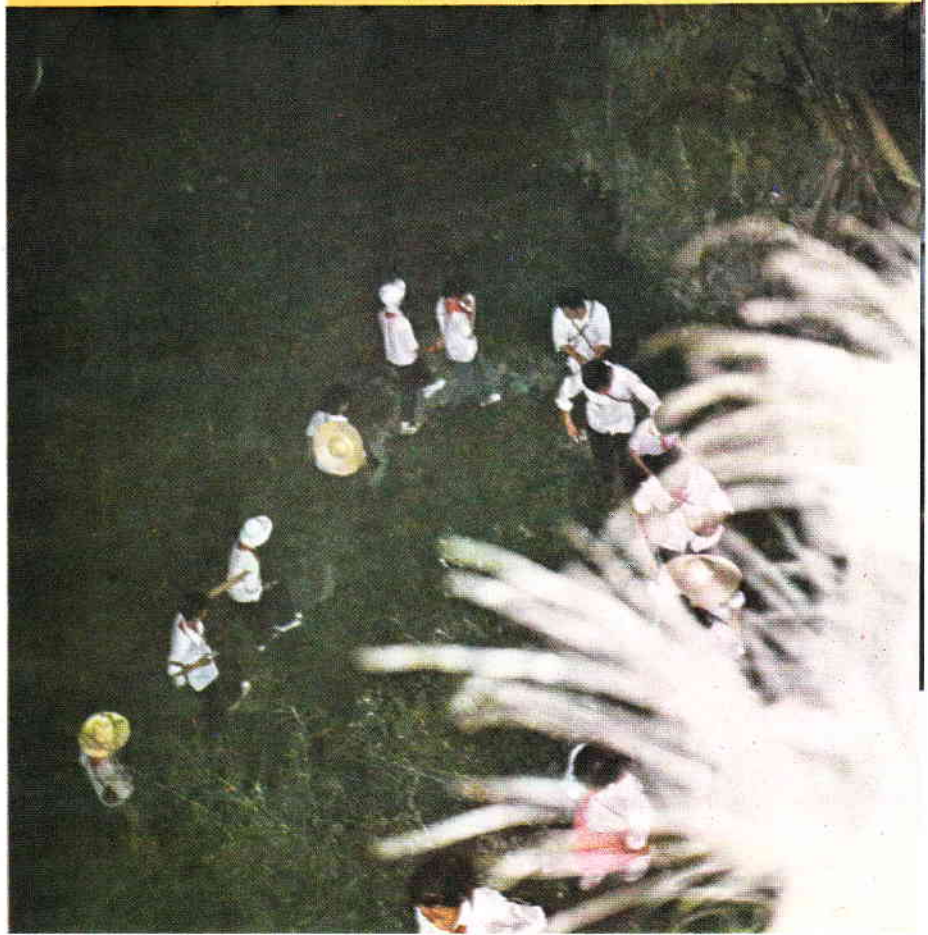


Photos by Wang Xinmin



On the summit at dawn.

Climbing Jiufeng Hill, near Beijing, at midnight.



The old temple is locked,  
let's see what's inside.



Picnic.



"Fish!" (in the courtyard of Dajue Temple  
in the western hills outside Beijing).

*Photos by Huo Jianying*



# My First Time by the Sea

ADER

**A**FTER traveling over 4,000 kilometers from the deserts and mountains of Xinjiang in northwesternmost China, I and seven other students of the Kazak, Uygur, Tartar and Han nationalities arrived in Qingdao on the east coast to join a summer camp for junior athletes. There were 570 altogether, from all over the country. They belonged to 33 of China's nationalities. Many had been attending spare-time sports schools in their home areas.

It was the longest journey of my life. My mother, father, brother and sister were happy I could go. Mother made me a new Uzbek national costume. My friend Aikes' father made him a *dombra*, a Kazak string instrument. During four days and nights on the train from Urumqi to Qingdao, we saw what a vast motherland we have —

---

ADER is a third-grader at Middle School No. 5 in Yining, Xinjiang Uygur Autonomous Region.

big cities, broad fields, the roaring Huanghe (Yellow) River. . . . We stayed awake as long as we could so as not to miss a thing. On the way we were well looked after, with special dishes cooked for us in accordance with our customs — no pork and so on.

When we arrived, we were put up by the Shandong College of Oceanology, ten minutes from the beach. As soon as we could, we rushed down to the sea. We had looked forward to it day and night. Now here it was in front of us, blue and endless. We leaped, raced around and cheered. Again and again the waves and spray drove us back. Our laughter mingled with the sound of the sea pounding on the rocks.

The first day we were given some pointers about swimming. Then we started to really learn, with navy uncles to help us. At the start I needed a life preserver. But only a day later I found that swimming wasn't all that hard in

Beijing pupils on vacation at Beidaihe on the sea.

Yu Huiru



the buoyant water. So I left the life preserver on the shore and began trying the breast stroke.

Because we had all done sports, a varied training program was organized. I'd been on our school's football team. Here I learned a lot more about the game. And about other things. Song Meihua, a gold medal winner in the 1,500-meter race at the Seventh Asian Games coached us in long and middle distance running.

Though we had only two weeks by the sea, I got interested in its marvels and mysteries. In the Qingdao Aquarium we saw all kinds of fish, crabs, huge slow-swimming sea turtles and playful seals. A talk by an oceanologist made me understand why the sea is blue and its water is salty. I hope one day I'll be able to explore the ocean, a strange world to us from the dry Gobi.

When the tide went out, we collected shellfish. This was called "following the sea." We picked up shells and pebbles as souvenirs. We caught a lot of small crabs under stones and in rock crevices, and minnows in the shallows, to make our own tiny "aquarium." Students whose homes were in Qingdao prepared fine gifts for us, plastic bags of round milk-white stones, bright red shells and samples of sea plants.

We went on board a submarine and an ocean-going ship and watched exhibitions of speed-boating and water-sledding. Together with 240 senior middle school students from 12 coastal provinces, here for a special navigation camp, we took a morning cruise on a warship. As it cleaved the waves, I stood on the windswept deck wearing a sailor's cap, feeling like a fighter of our people's navy.

August 10 was the 14th birthday of Mahamuti, another boy from Xinjiang. Our platoon, made up of campers from several parts of the country, celebrated it in the gymnasium. Mahamuti got a lot of fine gifts. One was a water color set with brushes and palette because he likes to paint. Others were a big bunch of wild flowers picked from a nearby mountain and a red scarf. A girl from Beijing recited a poem about him. A boy from Shandong did magic tricks. We had a lot of fun. "I've never had such an interesting birthday," Mahamuti said.

On the last night we lit a campfire by the sea. I and four other boys from Xinjiang dressed up in our national costumes and went around to each circle, playing the *dombra* and the drum to say goodbye. It ended with everyone singing the camp song—a summer we'll never forget. □

Children of different nationalities singing and dancing at a summer camp in the pasturelands near Yining, Xinjiang Uygur Autonomous Region.

Liu Chen



# Teacher's Holiday

GUAN QIULAN

WE teachers have always had a few weeks in summer when we were not expected to teach or be preparing lessons. Usually I spent them at home. But this year with a lot of other teachers I had the chance to pass two weeks of my month-plus vacation at the famous seaside resort Beidaihe on the northeast coast six hours by train from Beijing. Our vacations were paid for by the trade unions and local education offices.

Many of Beidaihe's numerous sanitariums operated by industries or trade unions were put at our disposal, even though we were not ailing. While at the seaside I participated in a meeting of home-room teachers from all over the country to exchange experience on home-room guidance. It was sponsored by the Ministry of Education and the National Federation of Trade Unions in Education. But most of the time I was resting.

The best scenic view around Beidaihe is Lianpeng Hill. One windy day we made the 40-minute climb to the top. From a pavilion at the summit we had a magnificent view of the vast sea, green pine woods, mountain peaks and interesting rock formations along the coast. On another day we climbed Dongshan Hill to watch the sun rising from the sea and the pastel buildings of Beidaihe set amid the trees.

On a hill is Lotus Park, site of many ancient buildings. Most famous are Guanyin Temple and Big Bell Pavilion, with a bell dating from the Ming dynasty (1368-1644). When we struck it with stones it produced a clear ringing sound that echoed for a

GUAN QIULAN is a teacher at Beijing University middle school.



Exchanging ideas about education.

Cai Zhuangtian



Teachers in the sea. Guan Qiulan is third left.

Cai Zhuangtian

long time afterward. Like children out of the classroom for sightseeing, we were having such a good time there we didn't even notice it was late until the sun had set.

One excursion took us to Shanhaiguan, northeast up the coast from Beidaihe, the pass through the mountains sometimes called "the First Pass under Heaven," where the Great Wall runs down to the sea. Nearby is the temple built to Meng Jiang Nü, about whom there is a famous legend. Her newly wedded husband had been forced to leave her to go to work on the Great Wall by the first emperor of the Qin dynasty (221-207 B.C.). She had traveled the great distance from her native Shaanxi province

to look for him, bringing a winter padded jacket for him. Unable to find him, she was so grieved that she wept for three days.

Her grief so moved the gods that they made the wall crack open before her to reveal his corpse, one of the many who had died from the toil and were buried in the masonry. Embracing her husband's body, she jumped with it into the sea. Later, it is said in the Song dynasty (A.D. 960-1279), the people built this temple in her memory. It has a clay statue of Meng Jiang Nü anxiously looking out to sea.

In the evening we had all kinds of activities. But what I liked best was to talk with teachers from different parts of the country. □



## National Exhibition of Young People's Work in Science and Technology

ON October 3, 1979 the Chinese Ministry of Post and Telecommunications issued a single commemorative stamp to mark the National Exhibition of Young People's Work in Science and Technology, and to encourage them to study science.

The stamp, of 8 *fen* denomination, pictures the emblem of the exhibition. Rose-red, apple-green, black, white and silver. It measures 26 × 31 mm. *Perf* 11.5. Color photogravured. Serial number J. 40 (1-1).

## STAMPS OF NEW CHINA

### Children Love Science

AT the same time a set of six special stamps was issued depicting the Chinese children's pursuit of scientific knowledge. The stamps show them involved with model planes (light blue), medicine (dull green), astronomy (blue), biology (emerald), meteorology (yellow) and model ships (turquoise). The figures are of different pastel colors.

The first five stamps are of 8 *fen* denomination, and the last one, 60 *fen*. They measure 26 × 31 mm. *Perf* 11.5. color photogravured. Serial numbers T. 41 (6-1) to (6-6).

In addition, the ministry issued a special miniature sheet of one large stamp, "Chinese Children Love Science" in 2 yuan denomination. Light blue, dark blue, salmon, dull green, greenish yellow, brown and vermilion. It measures 148 × 90 mm. *Perf.* 11. Color photogravured. Serial number T. 41. □



# The Giant Buddha of Leshan

OUTSIDE the city of Leshan in southwestern Sichuan province the 70-meter-tall figure of the huge Buddha carved out of a cliff sits watching over a broad expanse of water. At this meeting place of three of Sichuan's many rivers, the Dadu (Tatu), Minjiang and Qingyi rivers, currents are swift and treacherous. In the eighth century, according to legend, a monk named Hai Tong, concerned that this spot was a hazard to boatmen, had the idea of carving a statue of the Buddha at the river junction to protect them. It was begun in 713 A.D. and work on it went on



through most of the eighth century. The statue is China's biggest Buddha in the open.

The statue is visible to boatmen five kilometers away on the rivers. The head is 14.7 meters high, ten meters wide and covered with 1,021 curls. The one at the center of the head is big enough to hold a round table with ten people seated around it. Two persons can stand up inside each seven-meter-long ear, a hundred or more on the statue's 8.5-meter-wide feet. Sichuan has a lot of rain, so the ancient designers made hidden canals which lead the water from the top and down beside the statue to keep it from being eroded.

The statue is carved in Lingyun cliff, a part of the Leshan Mountains, one of China's mountains famous for its Buddhist associations. Lingyun Temple, home of the monk Hai Tong, stands on the summit of the green-wooded red-rock mountain. Beside it is a pavilion built in memory of Su Dongpo (1037-1101), the famous Song dynasty poet who wrote many verses about the place. □



## CHINESE COOKERY

### Fried Duck with Spring Onions

(Cong You Ya)

- a 4 lb. fat duck
- 4 slices fresh ginger root
- 1 lb. spring onions
- 4 anise stars
- ¼ of a dried orange peel
- 3 tablespoons rice wine (or sherry)
- 1 cup soy sauce
- ½ cup sugar
- oil for deep frying
- 2 cups cold water

Draw and wash duck. Mix together ginger, star anise, orange peel, rice wine and soy sauce. Pour mixture over duck and marinate half an hour. Remove duck from sauce and drain. Heat oil and deep-fry whole duck until it turns golden brown.

Cut spring onions into 15 cm. lengths. Stuff half the spring onions into the cavity of the duck. Heat two tablespoons cooking oil in a skillet and stir fry remaining spring onions one minute. Place duck on the fried spring onions. Add sugar, marinating sauce and water (water should half cover the

duck) and bring to a boil. Cover the skillet and simmer 20 minutes. Turn duck over and simmer another 20 minutes or until tender. (More water and time are needed for some ducks.) Remove duck. Pour on remaining sauce and serve. □



Every morning the famous Beijing ducks are flown to Hongkong by a Chinese airliner.

Just Out

## CHINA: A General Survey

Basic facts on government structure and economy and brief accounts of history and geography. Developments in education, medicine, science, foreign relations and other fields. Handy reference on achievements in the arts.

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## Lesson 12

## Longjing Tea

(加拿大 访 华 旅游团 去  
 Jiānádà fāng huá lǚyóutuán qù  
 (Canada visit China tourist group go (to))

杭州 某一茶亭)

Hángzhōu mǒu yì chátíng)  
 Hangzhou a tea-pavilion)

萨克斯: 到了杭州, 一定要喝  
 Sākèsì: Dào le Hángzhōu, yīdìng yào hē  
 Sachs: Arrive Hangzhou, (we) certainly must drink

点 龙井茶。

diǎn Lóngjǐngchá.  
 (a) bit Longjing Tea.

王: 喝茶是中国人的一种  
 Wáng: Hē chá shì Zhōngguó rén de yì zhǒng  
 Wang: Drink tea is Chinese people's one kind

生活习惯。

shēnghuó xíguàn.  
 (of) living habit.

萨克斯: 我也喜欢喝茶。

Sākèsì: Wǒ yě xǐhuan hē chá.  
 Sachs: I also like (to) drink tea.

玛利: 这种茶很好喝吧?

Mǎlì: Zhè zhǒng chá hěn hǎohē ba?  
 Marie: (Is) this kind tea very good to drink?

王: 嗯, 龙井茶颜色绿, 很香,  
 Wáng: Èng, Lóngjǐngchá yánsè lǜ, hěn xiāng,  
 Wang: Yes. Longjing Tea's color (is) green, very fragrant,

味醇, 样子也好看, 所以  
 wèi chún, yàngzi yě hǎokàn, suǒyǐ  
 taste rich, shape also good looking. So

闻名 全国。传说  
 wénmíng quán guó. Chuánshuō  
 (is) well known (in) whole country. It is said

西湖的 西边 曾经 有一个  
 Xīhú de xībian céngjīng yǒu yí ge  
 West Lake's west side once had a

井。井里有龙, 所以叫  
 jǐng. Jǐnglǐ yǒu lóng, suǒyǐ jiào  
 well. Well in had dragon, so (is) called

龙井。龙井 附近 生产的  
 lóngjǐng. Lóngjǐng fùjìn shēngchǎn de  
 dragon well. Dragon well nearby produced

茶叶叫 龙井茶。  
 chá yè jiào Lóngjǐngchá.  
 tea. called Longjing Tea.

萨克斯: 我喝过龙井茶, 是不错。

Sākèsì: Wǒ hēguo Lóngjǐngchá, shì búcuò.  
 Sachs: I have drunk Longjing Tea. (It) is not bad.

王: 因为 这种茶水 是用  
 Wáng: Yīnwèi zhè zhǒng cháshuǐ shì yòng  
 Wang: (That's) because this kind tea is use

虎跑水 泡制的。

Hǔpǎoshuǐ pào zhì de.  
 Hupao water steeped.

勃朗: 虎跑水 又是 怎么回事 呢?

Bólǎng: Hǔpǎoshuǐ yòu shì zěnmē huǐ shì ne?  
 Brown: Hupao water is how kind matter?

王: 传说 唐朝 的时候, 有一  
 Wáng: Chuánshuō Tángcháo de shíhòu, yǒu yí  
 Wang: It is said Tang dynasty time, had a

个 和尚 找 不到 水源。  
 ge héshang zhǎo bú dào shuǐyuán.  
 monk (who) find not water source.

后来 梦见 两只 老虎 刨 地,  
 Hòulái mèngjian liǎng zhī lǎohǔ páo dì,  
 Later (he) dreamed two tiger dig ground,

刨出了 泉水。这就是 虎跑泉  
 páochūle quánshuǐ. Zhè jiù shì Hǔpǎoquán  
 dig up spring water. This is Hupao Spring

的 来历。

de láili.  
 origin.

勃朗: 虎跑水 有什么 特点?

Bólǎng: Hǔpǎoshuǐ yǒu shénme tèdiǎn?  
 Brown: Hupao water has what characteristic?

王: 虎跑水 甜, 特别 好喝。  
 Wáng: Hǔpǎoshuǐ tián, tèbié hǎohē.  
 Wang: Hupao water (is) sweet, especially good (to) drink.

如果 盛 一 满 碗 泉水,  
 Rúguǒ chéng yì mǎn wǎn quánshuǐ,  
 If (you) fill one full bowl spring water,

扔进去 几枚 硬币, 泉水 可以  
 rēngjìnqu jǐ méi yìngbì, quánshuǐ kěyǐ  
 throw in several coins, spring water may

高出 碗面 二 三  
 gāochū wǎnmiàn èr sān  
 (be) high (above) bowl surface two (or) three

毫米, 却 不会 流出来。从  
 háomǐ, què bú huì liúchūlai. Cóng  
 millimeters, but not flow out. From

唐朝 以来, 虎跑水 就 很  
 Tángcháo yǐlái, Hǔpǎoshuǐ jiù hěn  
 Tang dynasty to now, Hupao water (is) very  
 有名。龙井 茶叶 虎跑水  
 yǒumíng. Lóngjǐng chá yè Hǔpǎoshuǐ  
 well known. Longjing tea leaves (in) Hupao water  
 就 成了 杭州 有名的 饮料。  
 jiù chéngle Hángzhōu yǒumíng de yǐnliào.  
 become Hangzhou well-known beverage.

史密斯: 我们 大家 现在 就 坐下来  
 Shímìsī: Wǒmen dàjiā xiànzài jiù zuòxiàlai  
 Smith: We all now sit down

喝 些 茶 吧。  
 hē xiē chá ba.  
 (and) drink some tea.

大家: 好吧。  
 Dàjiā: Hǎo ba.  
 They all: Fine.

### Translation

(The Canadian China tour group goes to a Hangzhou tea-pavilion)

Sachs: Now that we are in Hangzhou we must drink some Longjing Tea.

Wang: Drinking tea is a habit of life of the Chinese people.

Sachs: I like to drink tea too.

Marie: Is this tea good?

Wang: Yes. Longjing Tea is green in color, very fragrant with a rich taste and the leaves in the water have a nice shape. It is known throughout China. Legend has it that once on the west side of West Lake there was a well with a dragon in it. So it was called the Dragon Well. The tea grown near it came to be called Longjing (Dragon Well) Tea.

Sachs: I have drunk Longjing tea. It is quite good.

Wang: It's made with Hupao water.

Brown: How about the story of Hupao water?

Wang: Legend goes that there was a monk in the Tang dynasty who could not find any water. Later he dreamed that two tigers were digging the ground and dug up this spring. This is the origin of the name of Hupao Spring.

Brown: What are the characteristics of the water from Hupao Spring?

Wang: It is sweet and particularly pleasant to drink. If you fill a bowl with this water and throw several coins into it, the water may rise two or three millimeters above the surface of the bowl but it will not run out. Since the Tang dynasty Hupao water has been well known. Longjing Tea brewed with Hupao water has become a well-known drink of Hangzhou.

Smith: Now let's sit down and have some tea.

They all: Fine.

### Notes

1. Guò 过 shows something has passed.

Guò 过 (literally, passed) after a verb shows past experience or action. Wǒ hēguo Lóngjǐngchá

我喝过龙井茶 (I have drunk Longjing Tea). Tā lái guo Zhōngguó 他来过中国 (He has been to China). The negative form is to place méiyǒu 没有 before the verb while guò 过 still remains. Tā méiyǒu lái guo Zhōngguó 他没有来过中国 (He has not been to China).

### 2. Modal particles indicate mood.

In China, the mood of a sentence — that is whether it is a statement or question and so on — is shown by a modal (for mood) particle at the end of a sentence. We have already learned the use of ma 吗 to turn a statement into a question (Lesson One). Other modal particles in common use are le 了, ne 呢 and ba 吧.

#### (1) Le 了 to show completion of action.

Used at the end of a sentence, 了 shows the completion of an action. Wǒmen yǐjīng chī guo wǎnfàn le 我们已经吃过晚饭了 (We have finished our supper). Wǒmen yóulǎnguo Xihu le 我们游览过西湖了 (We have visited West Lake).

Le 了 is also used to show the appearance of a new situation. Jīntiān de tiānqì hǎoqǐlai le 今天的天气好起来了. (The weather has become fine today).

#### (2) Ba 吧.

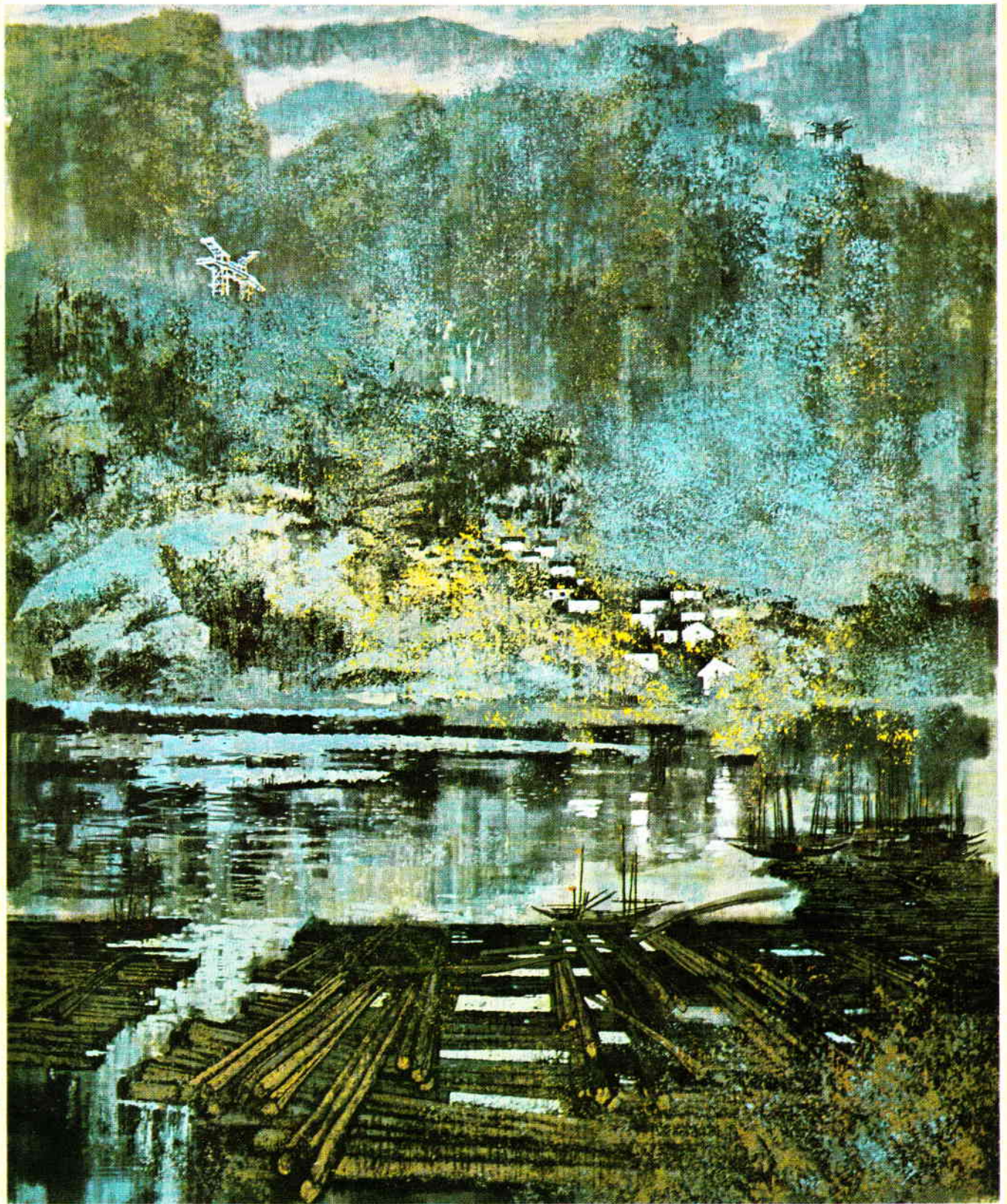
a. When making a suggestion or to indicate desire for consultation, agreement, or in a polite command. Wǒmen dàjiā xiànzài zuòxià hē yī bēi chá ba 我们大家现在坐下喝一杯茶吧 (Now let's all sit down and drink a cup of tea). In answering we say: Hǎo ba 好吧 (Fine). We can simply say 好, but more often 好吧 is used.

b. When asking a question in which the speaker suggests an answer, but is dubious. For example, Zhè zhǒng chá hěn hǎohē ba 这种茶很好喝吧? (Is this kind of tea pleasant to drink?) Tāmen shì gōngrén ba 他们是工人吧? (Are they workers?)

#### (3) Ne 呢.

Sometimes ne 呢 is used at the end of a sentence to form a question, but it is not as definite as ma 吗? Hǔpǎoshuǐ shì zěnméi huí shì ne 虎跑水是怎么回事呢? (What about the story of Hupao water?) Nǐ xǐhuan bù xǐhuan hē chá ne 你喜欢不喜欢喝茶呢 (Do you like to drink tea or not?)

3. Ng 嗯. This monosyllable is frequently used to mean "yes".



Mountain Village

Deng Ke

