

China

Reconstructs

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• Science Camp
• Hainan Island

• Sichuan Flood

Morning on the grasslands.

Wang Xinmin



VOL. XXX No. 12

DECEMBER 1981

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Cover Pictures

Front: Two girls from Xinjiang attending the Summer Science Camp for National Minority Youth.

Liu Chen

Back: Rubber plantation on Hainan Island. *Ou Songde*

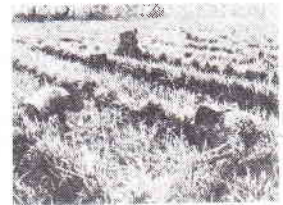
Articles of the Month

In Memory of the 1911 Revolution

Nationwide celebrations mark the 70th anniversary of the 1911 Revolution; Chairman Hu Yaobang of the Chinese Communist Party's Central Committee explains the present proposal on the peaceful reunification of Taiwan with the motherland, and invites Mr. Chiang Ching-kuo to visit the mainland. Page 4

After the Deluge

Losses are severe after summer floods in Sichuan province, but people are rebuilding with courage, ingenuity and hope. Page 7



New Lives for the Mentally Ill

Programs combining medication, occupational therapy and supervised socialization in Shanghai help patients reintegrate into normal life and avoid relapses. Page 19



Herdsmen on the 'Roof of the World'

Scientific grasslands management in Yushu Tibetan Autonomous Prefecture — the highest pastoral land in China — has brought prosperity to hardy local herdsmen. Page 46

Hainan, the Treasure Island

Ups and downs in Hainan's economic development; current dynamic growth reflects recent policies stressing tropical cash crops suited to local conditions. Page 56



Summer Science Camp for Minority Youth

Young people of 54 minority nationalities from all over the country attend the first-ever Summer Science Camp in Beijing. Page 34



Matter-of-Fact Analyses

I am sorry to learn that Sichuan province has been stricken by floods. Please accept the enclosed 10 Marks as a donation to express my concern and sympathy. My friendship for your country is heartfelt.

I have read many magazines from abroad, but none is more appealing than *China Reconstructs*. The articles are clear, concise and many-sided. Most admirably, your editors do not remain silent about existing problems in China. Instead, they make matter-of-fact analyses of them. This gives the feeling that people in your country are working very hard to overcome difficulties.

GERD WEDEMEYER
Wiesbaden, West Germany

Thank you for your donation, which has been forwarded to China's Red Cross Society. — Ed.

More Economic Data

I am particularly interested in the economic aspects of the country. It might be informative to have some regular features on the progress of economic programs through the use of charts or graphs on a recent as well as historical basis.

As the redevelopment of China under the new modernizations becomes better defined, it might be helpful to explain how these programs will be implemented and progress monitored.

Because there could be a lot of interest among the academic community in learning or studying in China, an exchange forum might be established as a regular feature of the magazine. Procedures for a Chinese student to study in this or other countries would help people in this country understand better how they might help in arranging study or teaching assignments.

JOHN STOCKTON
Rochester, N.Y., U.S.A.

Educational Value

Your June issue as usual is better than the previous issue. To me its information and educational value is almost beyond compare. I enjoy articles such as "The Dazhu Treasure-House of Carvings" and others pertaining to the history of China. I personally wish to congratulate your staff

for their work. The story "Tombs of the Huns in Their Homeland" is a very good example of what I mean by educational, as I did not know the "Huns" from Europe were associated with Asia. Every issue is read and re-read for articles like that. Thank you.

WILLARD G. SIBUS
Auburn, N.Y., U.S.A.

Home of Overseas Chinese

Great has been my joy to find in your August issue an article concerning the 900,000 Hakkas and their ancestors' land. Indeed, your article is one of those links that come to strengthen relations between foreign and local Hakkas.

I am certain that your article would be warmly welcomed among Hakkas abroad (especially the young). In fact, it is moving to note that the young generation of Hakkas abroad are more eager today to keep and to understand the cultural ties with "Meixian". Such ties do stand the test of time.

Warm thanks to you for having broadened my understanding of the home of our ancestors and its achievements and plans.

WONG CHUT TUEN
Guangzhou, China

Overseas Chinese University

In the June issue I read the article about the overseas university in China where youth from Asia are studying technical and material sciences. Is there some university for social and political, and especially philosophical sciences where youth of your friendly part of world learn about government and social life? Why is the university not in some town? Why are there not some European students? Are students going on painting exhibitions, to the theater, concerts, the cinemas? Do they watch TV, listen to radio, gramophone records and tape-recorders? Do you have student clubs which follow actual events in social and the other areas of life? Are the students learning about European life, and life in other parts of the world?

IVAN SLOTHAUER
Zemun, Yugoslavia

Ancient Rock Carvings

The article "Ancient Rock Carvings in Inner Mongolia" (March 1981) interested me very much. On page 65 it says that "Many marks on the carvings are primitive words or emblems of different tribes. . . . Other deeply carved marks are possibly numerals."

I found a fantastic resemblance in these letters and numbers to Brahmī

script, one of the ancient scripts of Bharat. Indo-Sino (Bharat-China) relations in all fields date from the pre-Christian era, when Brahmī script was in force. The above-mentioned markings, also primitive carved inscriptions (like on page 64) should be considered once again to co-relate with Brahmī and other ancient scripts of Bharat.

Hope you will continue to publish such articles.

C. B. DESAI
Bedkihal, India

Rural Youth

I was particularly interested to see articles on rural youth and on the energy problem in your June issue, as both touch on my work in rural development in this country, recently ravaged by war, landlocked, still too dependent on routes through South Africa, and with no oil of its own.

Articles such as the April ones on biogas and solar energy are very welcome. I suppose you could not go into all the technical details often in a general magazine, but I would like to see more about development efforts using means within reach of rural people. The other essential, the spirit and cultivation of the people is often well covered, as in the three-part report from Zhongshahai in your June issue.

BRIAN MACGARRY
Salisbury, Zimbabwe

Correction

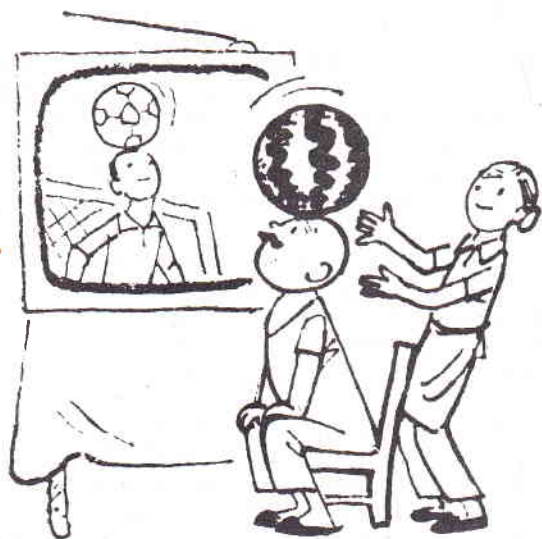
I read with interest the story about a premarital clinic in Shanghai in your November 1980 issue. As a physician I too consider these premarital clinics to be very important health facilities in modern China.

However, I disagree with the doctors' recommendations that women suffering from congenital or rheumatic heart diseases should be advised not to have children. In China today medicine has advanced to such a stage, especially in Shanghai, my hometown, that most congenital and rheumatic heart disorders can now be successfully corrected and patients allowed to lead normal lives thereafter, including childbearing.

TSUNG O. CHENG
Washington, D.C., U.S.A.

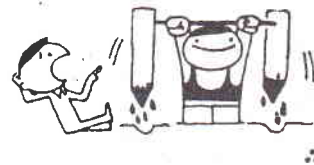
You are quite right. We should have said women who suffer from serious cases of such diseases should not have children before treatment. When their cases have improved after treatment, they can of course have children. As you said in your letter, most congenital and rheumatic heart disorders can be successfully treated in China today. — Ed.

CARTOONS



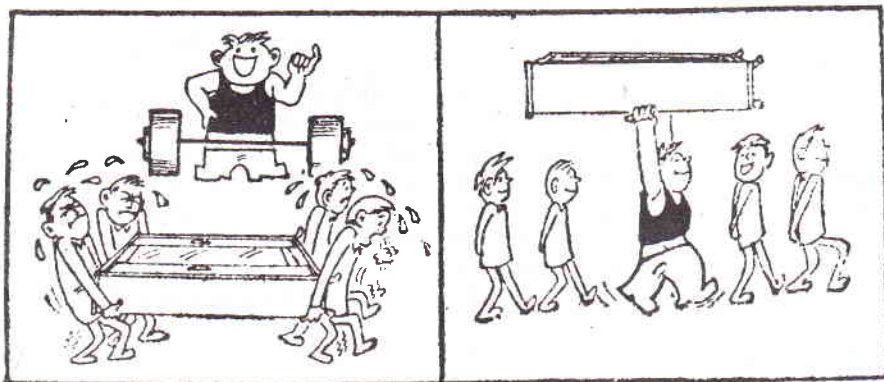
A real fan.

He Wei



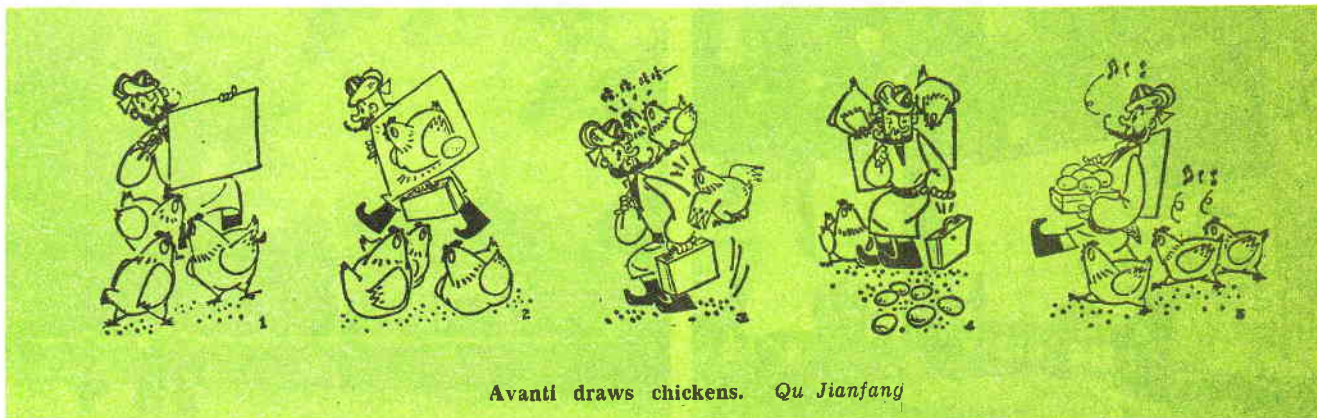
Everyone has his own strengths.

Yang Chao



Two ways to fight gravity.

Zhuang Xilong



Avanti draws chickens. Qu Jianfang

In Commemoration: the 70th Anniversary of the 1911 Revolution

1981 is the 70th anniversary of the 1911 Revolution, which overthrew the Qing dynasty, the last feudal dynasty in China, terminated the system of autocratic monarchy that had dominated China for more than 2,000 years, and raised the banner of democratic republicanism over the broad lands of China.

At a meeting held in Beijing on October 9 to commemorate the occasion, Hu Yaobang, Chairman of the Chinese Communist Party Central Committee made a speech which was well received by the audience of 10,000. Recalling the historical contribution of the 1911 Revolution and the course of Chinese history in the last 70 years, he said:

"The course of history of the past 70 years shows that the 1911 Revolution, regarded as the beginning of the democratic revolution, opened the road for a series of historical developments. That is why we communists and the people of all nationalities throughout the country regard the victories of new democracy and socialism as the continuation and development of the 1911 Revolution. We pay great respect to Dr. Sun Yat-sen,

leader of the 1911 Revolution, and his comrades.

"Dr. Sun Yat-sen was a great national hero, a great patriot and the great forerunner of the democratic revolution in China. His meritorious deeds are inscribed forever in the annals of Chinese history. . . Respect for Dr. Sun Yat-sen and his memory remains a strong spiritual link between the mainland and Taiwan."

Dwelling on China's internal and external tasks for the present period, he said, "To sum up, we are presently confronted with three great tasks at home and abroad, that is, to achieve the four modernizations, to defend world peace and to fulfill the great cause of reunification."

On China's third task of great importance — that of achieving Taiwan's return to the motherland so as to complete the great cause of reunification, Hu Yaobang said:

"Taiwan had been occupied for 50 years before it was returned to China; later, owing to the rupture of peace negotiations between the Kuomintang and the Communist Party and the outbreak of a new civil war, Taiwan was again sep-

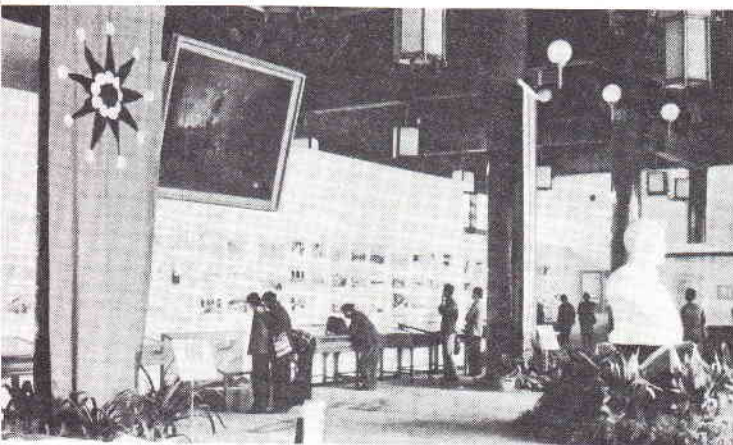
arated from the mainland and has remained so for 32 years. What a misfortune for our nation! . . . Great changes have taken place in China and the world as a whole. The desire to bring to an end Taiwan's separation from the mainland as quickly as possible has become a rising and irresistible historical trend."

He continued, "Ten days ago, on the eve of National Day, Comrade Ye Jianying, Chairman of the Standing Committee of the National People's Congress, issued another statement elaborating on the policy for the return of Taiwan to the motherland to achieve peaceful reunification. (See *China Reconstructs*, November issue). His statement expressed the common will of our Party and army and the people of all nationalities throughout the country. Our word is our bond."

He said, "The question of Taiwan is entirely China's internal affair. It should be settled by the leaders and people on both sides of the strait. The Kuomintang and the Communist Party cooperated twice in history, to complete the Northern Expedition and conduct the war against Japanese aggres-

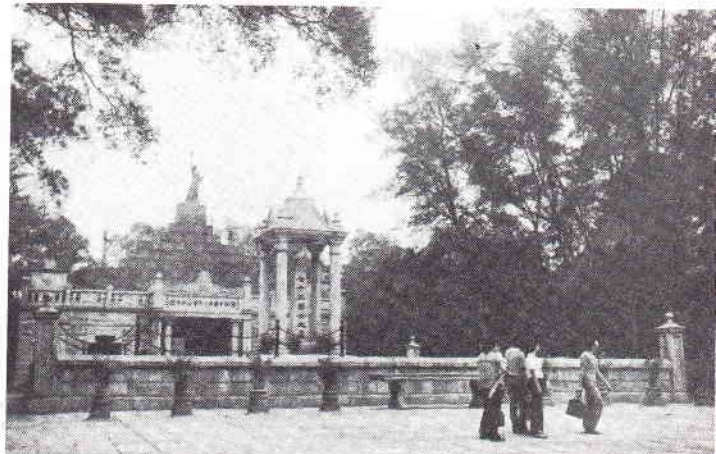
Exhibition commemorating the 1911 Revolution at Zhongshan (Sun Yat-sen) Hall in Beijing's Zhongshan Park.

Li Zhiyuan



The tomb of the 72 martyrs at Huanghuagang, Guangzhou, after repairs.

Lu Yanyuan





Commemorative meeting held in Beijing's Great Hall of the People on the 70th anniversary of the 1911 Revolution. *Huo Jianying*

sion. This gave a strong impetus to our nation's progress. Why can we not have a third period of cooperation between the Kuomintang and Communist Party to build a unified state? It is true that neither of the two previous cooperations lasted long, but fair-minded people all admit that the two unfortunate splits were not caused by the Communist Party. We do not wish to settle old accounts here. Let bygones be bygones! Let the past lessons help us to cooperate better in the future!

"There is nothing in our present proposal that is unfair or should cause anxiety to the Taiwan side. If the Taiwan side is still worried about something, it may raise questions for study and settlement in the course of negotiations. It is understandable for a certain distrust to exist as a result of long-time separation. But if we do not come into contact and talk things over, how can we remove the barriers and build up mutual trust? If we do not solve this knotty problem and instead wear each other down in confrontation, how can we face Dr. Sun Yat-sen and martyrs since

the 1911 Revolution or face our compatriots on both sides of the strait and our descendents? The Communist Party will not retaliate like the Kuomintang did against us; the excesses of the 'cultural revolution' will never be repeated. Here, I would like to tell the Taiwan authorities that not only has Dr. Sun Yat-sen's mausoleum been repaired repeatedly, but the ancestral tombs in Fenghua have been repaired, too. The 'Mei Lu' villa on Mount Lushan is well preserved and the family members and relatives of high-ranking Kuomintang officials are being properly looked after. 'A tree may grow ten thousand feet high, but its leaves fall back to the roots.' Does Mr. Chiang Ching-kuo not love his natal land? Doesn't he want to have Mr. Chiang Kai-shek's remains moved back and buried in the cemetery of the Chiang family in Fenghua?

"In my capacity as a leading member of the Communist Party, I today invite Mr. Chiang Ching-kuo, Mr. Shieh Tung-ming, Mr. Sun Yun-suan, Mr. Tsiang Yien-si, Mr. Kao Kuei-yuan, Mr. Chiang

Wei-kuo and Mr. Lin Yang-kang, and Madame Chiang Kai-shek, Mr. Yen Chia-kan, Mr. Chang Chun, Mr. Ho Ying-chin, Mr. Chen Li-fu, Mr. Huang Chieh, Mr. Chang Hsueh-liang and others, and personages in all walks of life in Taiwan to visit the mainland and their natal places. It would be good if they wanted to talk with us, but they are also warmly welcome if they do not want to talk with us for the time being. What have Mr. Chiang Ching-kuo and the others and the compatriots in all walks of life in Taiwan to lose if they do this? Foreign aid is important, but what is most important, most reliable and most powerful is the great patriotic unity of the 1,000 million people of our own country. Only those who rely on themselves are aided by heaven. No one comes to the aid of him who breaks the country's great wall, no matter what high-sounding words he uses. Dr. Sun Yat-sen will rest in peace in the nether world if we seek to understand and respect each other, work in long-term cooperation and stand together through storm and stress so that our ancient civilized nation can stride forward proudly in the world. Dr. Sun Yat-sen raised the call 'peace, struggle, save China.' Why do we today not call, in a loud voice, 'peace, struggle, build up China'? The great cause of reunifying the motherland peacefully and making the Chinese nation prosperous and strong depends on no more than taking the decision or a turning of the hand. Let us consider Dr. Sun Yat-sen's teaching, 'agreeing with the trend of world affairs and serving the urgent needs of the community,' join hands and work together to create a new glorious page in the history of the Chinese nation!"

Also speaking at the meeting were: Qu Wu, Vice-Chairman of the Central Committee of the Revolutionary Committee of the Chinese Kuomintang and Secretary-General of the Preparatory Committee for the 70th Anniversary Commemorations of the 1911 Revolution; Hu Juewen,



Jianglou Hall, now a museum in memory of the Wuchang Uprising of the 1911 Revolution, at Wuchang, Hubei province. The inscription on the facade is in Soong Ching Ling's handwriting.

Yu Dengjian

Chinese, compatriots from Hongkong and Macao and foreign friends, including veterans of the 1911 Revolution and assistants to Dr. Sun Yat-sen, family members of late 1911 Revolution participants, former Kuomintang generals and relatives of late Kuomintang veterans, and others. This was the first time since the founding of the new China that compatriots from Hongkong and Macao and personages from abroad were invited to attend the commemorations.

In addition to the meeting in Beijing, celebrations were held in all provinces, municipalities and autonomous regions in the country. There were also various exhibitions, films and television broadcasts. The People's Bank of China issued gold and silver coins in memory of the 1911 Revolution, and the Ministry of Post and Telecommunications released a set of stamps. In the city of Wuhan an academic seminar on the 1911 Revolution was attended by more than a hundred Chinese and foreign scholars. An important part of the activities was the renovation this year of many historical sites connected with the 1911 Revolution. □

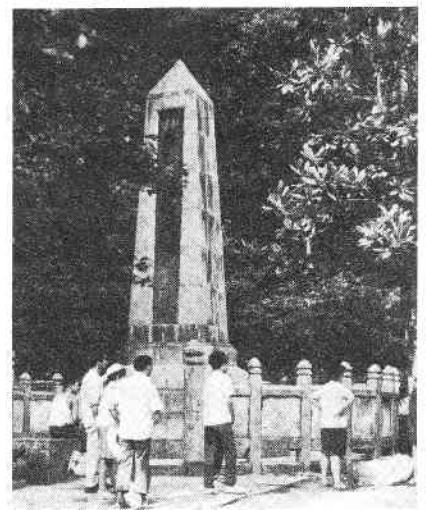
Chairman of China Democratic National Construction Association: Lam Sum Lee (Li Mo'an), former high-ranking Kuomintang general who came specially from the United States to participate in the commemorations; and Miao Yuntai, delegate to the N.P.C. Standing Committee. From their personal experience, they stressed that Kuomintang-Communist cooperation was first proposed and initiated by Dr. Sun Yat-sen. They hoped that the Taiwan authorities would follow Dr. Sun Yat-sen's behests, proceed from the fundamental interests of the nation, take into account the interests of

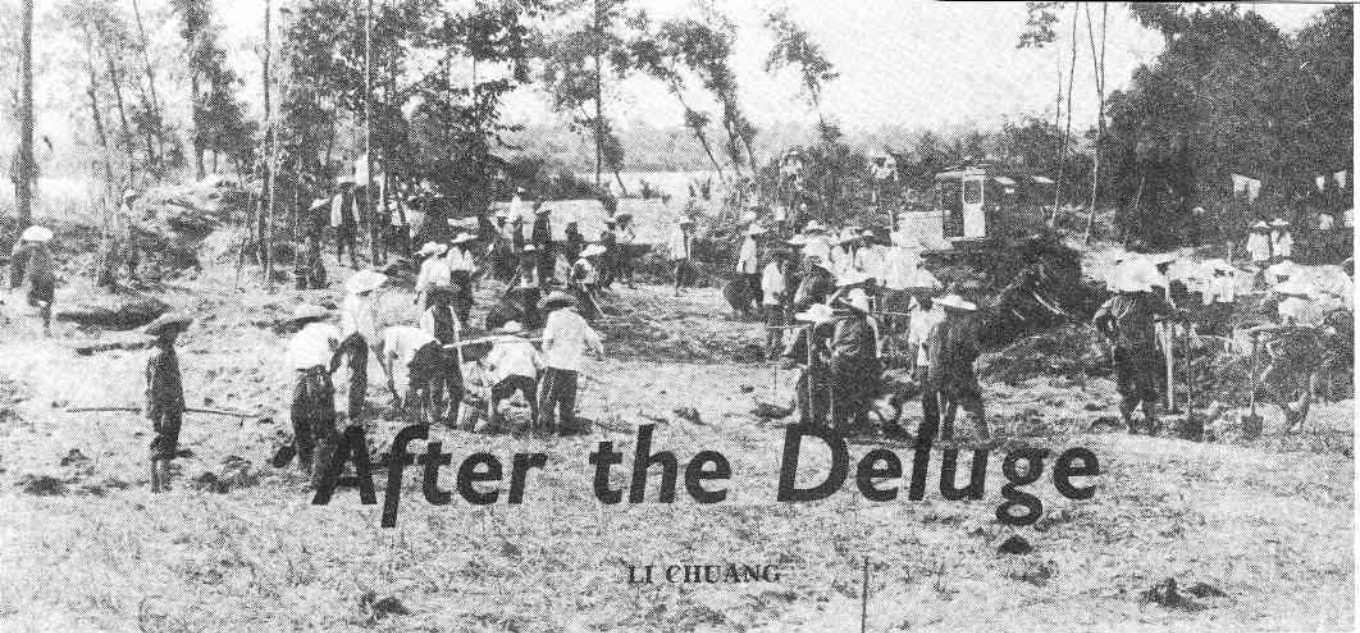
succeeding generations, abandon former grudges and contribute their share toward accomplishing the great cause of national reunification.

The 1911 Revolution and Dr. Sun Yat-sen have always been revered and commemorated by all people in the new China. In 1956, the late Chairman Mao Zedong, in an article commemorating the 90th birthday of Dr. Sun Yat-sen, had high praise for his historical contribution. This year's commemorations of the 1911 Revolution were held on a larger scale than ever. Among those invited to take part in the activities were overseas

The newly-repaired tombs of Huang Xing (left) and Cai E (right) at Mount Yuelu in Changsha, Hunan province, and tomb of Song Jiaoren in Shanghai's Zhabei Park. Huang Xing (1874-1916) was a democratic revolutionary and Dr. Sun Yat-sen's right-hand man who led many uprisings against the Qing government and became commander-in-chief of the new Republic's army in 1912. Song Jiaoren (1882-1913), a founder and leader of the Kuomintang, actively opposed Yuan Shikai's attempt to seize power and was assassinated by Yuan's agents in 1913. General Cai E (1882-1916) led his army against the Qing government in response to the Wuchang Uprising and organized the successful military expedition against self-proclaimed emperor Yuan Shikai in 1915.

Photos by Wang Ping and Zhang Yaozhi





After the Deluge

LI CHUANG

Chengdu PLA units rush to repair Qingmao Dam in Jintang county.

Xinhua

AS our jeep crossed the Chengdu plain in southwest China's Sichuan province this September, it was sometimes difficult to believe that some of the worst floods in a century had devastated this region in July and August. Certainly we saw plenty of physical evidence of flood damage, but there were also so many signs of normalcy: villages canopied by smoke from kitchen chimneys, heavy road traffic, even some fields of ripening grain.

Most incredible were the people. Nobody was sitting around bemoaning his or her fate. Instead there was an incredible bustle of productive activity as people strove to repair, replace and make do with what they had.

That the disaster was terrible is clear from the statistics. When the heavy rains of July and August in the upper reaches of the Changjiang (Yangtze) caused the river and its tributaries to overflow their banks, 135 counties in northwest and central Sichuan were affected. Some places were flooded twice, some as many as five times in succession.

Fifty-seven county seats and 776 towns were inundated; 1,130,000 people left homeless; 98,000 hectares of farmland were covered

with gravel and other debris; 1,200 head of cattle and 150,000 pigs were swept away, as well as all the poultry usually raised along the river banks. Direct economic losses totaled 2,000 million yuan (one US\$ = 1.7 yuan). One bright spot is the relatively low number of human deaths—1,350 people. Thanks to timely warnings by water conservancy and meteorological departments, most residents were evacuated beforehand.

In my survey of the flood's aftermath, I traveled 1,000 kilometers from Chengdu, the provincial capital, to Chongqing, its largest city; altogether I visited 12 dif-

ferent counties and cities. Everywhere I met people who had suffered grave losses. Their homes and personal belongings had been destroyed, and also their means of livelihood—the land, animals and equipment on which they depended. But these same people were cheerfully and energetically restoring what had been lost. Other people I met had not been personally affected by the flood at all, but had gone to great lengths to help their less fortunate neighbors. The flood's damage was awesome, but so was the courage and resolve of its victims and the generosity of those who came to help.

Temporary shelter in the center of Chongqing.

Xinhua



LI CHUANG is a staff reporter for China Reconstructs.



Members of Suining county's Longping commune wash rice seedlings after the flood.

Xinhua

Jintang county's Zhaozhen township on the Tuojiang River was one of the first places hit by floods. On July 13 and 14, 300 mm. of rain fell during a period of 20 hours. On the afternoon of the 13th floodwaters raged over the town, finally reaching an average depth of 6 meters. After 40 hours the floodwaters began to retreat, and initial repair work began immediately.

Within 18 hours electricity was restored; within 24 hours decontamination had been completed, the water supply restored and shops were open again. By July 20 hundreds of local people left homeless had moved into newly built bamboo or thatched houses. Complete recovery, of course, will take much longer. At the time of my visit ruined buildings, walls, highways and bridges were everywhere, and mounds of silt were still being dug out and hauled away.

At Qingjiang commune the peasants had immediately after the flood been able to salvage much of their rice crop by cleaning and straightening the stalks. In a 100-hectare paddy that was completely devastated, a new crop of sweet potatoes and other vegetables had quickly been planted. All the damaged irrigation projects had been repaired and were operating again. The commune hospital and

brigade medical stations had never closed down, and every school managed to open on time for the new semester.

I reached Fanjia Laowu village on a day of drizzle and mud. The village's 120 households are now all housed in temporary quarters. I called on Fan Linjin just as he, his wife, mother, two sons and two sisters were eating lunch — a meal composed of rice and three vegetarian dishes. They told me that relief grain from the state amounted to 17 kilos of rice per person per month. But rice can also be bought at the market at 70 cents per kilo — the same price as before the flood. Vegetables, in short supply, had briefly gone up in price by 50 percent, but were now going down. Pork was even cheaper than before, while other goods cost the same. Clearly, there was no food speculation going on.

At Fan Linzhen's house, he himself was weaving a bamboo basket while his wife and mother sewed new clothes. Two children played with their grandfather on a bed fashioned from an old door. Fan told me that the flood had carried off his three pigs; he had just bought two piglets and some cloth with money from his mother-in-law, whose home had been spared. "The state is going to allocate coal so that we can bake bricks," he said. "After the

autumn harvest I'll start building our new house."

Wherever I went, peasants spoke with gratitude of the rapid and well-organized state relief efforts. Immediately after the flood a Party Central Committee delegation headed by Peng Chong, vice-chairman of the NPC Standing Committee and Vice-Premier Yang Jingren toured the flood areas to inspect relief work and express the deep sympathy and support of the whole nation.

At the same time, the various departments of state mobilized every resource to aid the stricken people. All told, some 370,000 tons of rice, 5,000 tons of beans, 66,000 tons of gas, lubricating oil and diesel oil, 26 million meters of cotton cloth, 60,000 blankets, 500,000 items of clothing, 100,000 crates of glass and 130,000 tons of cement were shipped to the devastated areas. In addition, local Sichuan government bodies outside the flood area and private individuals all over the country donated large amounts of money and materials to help in the recovery efforts.

Along the Fujiang River

In the seven counties and cities along the Fujiang River, flood damage was severe. Here and there a few surviving plants were grim reminders of what had been lost. Instead of neat rows of crops, most paddy fields were covered with silt and gravel. But recovery and reconstruction were well underway.

"Restoring production is even more important than rebuilding

Fan Linzheng weaves bamboo crates to supplement family income.

Li Chuang



our homes," said Long Yixiu, a woman member of Suining county's Longping commune. The flood had dismantled her house and swept away all her property. But after seeing to the safety of her family she had rushed to the fields to see what could be salvaged.

Within 10 days after the flood, commune members had repaired their 2,000-meter irrigation channel, straightened up and cleaned the remaining rice plants and quickly planted 40 hectares of sweet potatoes, 50 hectares of corn and 10 hectares of vegetables where crops had been completely destroyed. Because of the peasants' quick actions and good management after the flood, grain output this year may equal or even surpass last year's.

Of course in some places the initial damage was more serious and the people were at first not so confident in their own ability to recover. Suining county's Zitong commune includes 11 production brigades and 18,500 commune members. Between July 13 and August 20 they were hit by floods three different times, and 80 percent of their farmland was covered with silt and gravel. At first many of the peasants could only weep or rush to the commune office to ask about relief supplies.

But 60-year-old Bai Chengbi of No. 5 production brigade had a better idea. He led his son, daughter-in-law and grandchildren to the river bank, where the family began panning for gold. Within 20 days they had obtained 100 grams of gold which the family sold to

Wang Benyou and his family sift stones from sand.

Li Chuang



Lessons from the Sichuan Floods

THE severe floods in Sichuan province this year have aroused great concern among Chinese scientists and officials. Why were these floods so disastrous? Can anything be done to prevent such floods or minimize their effects? A principal cause of the floods was simply exceptionally heavy rainfall. In two or three days some 200 to 300 mm. of rain fell, thus turning many local rivers into raging torrents.

But scientists also believe another major reason the flood was so severe is that far too many trees and other vegetation have been cut down in the affected areas, thus upsetting the ecological balance and causing topsoil to be washed away instead of absorbing water.

Since the floods scientists have been conducting ecological surveys not just of Sichuan but other parts of China. Large-scale top-priority afforestation projects have been started, and local people are being educated and mobilized to preserve and expand vegetated areas.

Some specialists suggest a third contributing factor — poor planning of water conservancy and land reclamation projects along rivers. Projects like these have brought great benefits to individual communes and brigades, but there was little or no overall planning which took into account the total effect on the rivers. Many projects directly or indirectly cause rivers to silt up, thus blocking waterways and hampering flood drainage. Studies are now underway in Sichuan and elsewhere, and coordination of water conservancy planning on a much broader basis will undoubtedly play a part in future flood-control efforts. □

the state for over 1,000 yuan. Bai's friend Liao Zujin followed suit and in two weeks had collected 50 grams of gold. Soon other brigade members were panning gold to tide them over the disaster and provide funds for rebuilding; in a little over a month brigade members had earned a total of 20,000 yuan by this means.

Members of the No. 7 brigade across the river considered panning gold, but decided they didn't have sufficient skills. Instead they hit on the ingenious idea of making money from the very things that had ruined their fields — the sand and gravel deposited by the floodwaters. They dug up the sand and gravel, hauled it away and sold it to local building departments who needed it for the many construction projects now getting started.

They also organized a 200-member transport team equipped

with boats, tractors and pulling carts, and a building team which was sent to help in the reconstruction of a nearby power plant. In a month, these activities had brought the brigade some 25,000 yuan. Their latest projects include a stone quarry, a brick and tile yard, a lime plant, a poultry farm and a bamboo-weaving workshop in which older commune members could earn some money.

Wang Benyou, a 53-year-old member of No. 7 brigade, worked at digging and hauling gravel along with his wife and daughter-in-law, and earned 4.5 yuan a day. His son and daughter worked respectively in the stone quarry and the embroidery workshop. Family income amounted to 180 yuan per month, equal to the monthly salaries of three ordinary town workers.



To get production going again, commune members exchange seeds on the streets of Jintang. Xinhua

"But for us," Wang said emotionally, "it's the land that's really important, more so than the money we might earn in other ways." Next year the brigade will begin the hard work of reclaiming bit by bit the 132 hectares of farmland ruined by the flood. They will continue to clear away the sand and gravel, and bring in soil from outside. Next summer they will build small dams to prevent mudslides. Complete recovery may take five or even ten years. "It will be a tremendous job," said Wang. "But we must do it. Where would we be without our land?"

Strength from Unity

The Fujiang and Qujiang rivers join the Jialing River at Hechuan county in central Sichuan. The Jialing in its turn flows into the Changjiang (Yangtze) at the city of Chongqing. In mid-July the water level of the Changjiang and the Jialing had risen by 20.18 meters and 25.8 meters respectively in just four days, flooding all the surrounding countryside.

By September, things were getting back to normal. River traffic was flowing again. Tractors ran in the fields and turnips and cabbages planted after the flood

were growing well. City people whose houses had been destroyed by the flood were living in temporary shacks along the roadside. New, permanent buildings were under construction. Night market fairs were restored, and pedlars loudly hawked their wares: boiled meat dumplings, fried twisted dough sticks, jellied beanstarch, cooked meats, fruits, vegetables, peanuts and sunflower seeds.

At Chongqing's public celebration of victory over the flood, one of the many heroes who had done so much to save lives and property said, "Our strength comes from the unity of the people, and such strength is unconquerable." Unity and mutual help were certainly demonstrated time and time again by the victims of the flood. But they also characterized the relationship between the flood victims and those who had not been affected at all. PLA units from the province performed heroically from the time the first flood warnings were issued, evacuating some 43,000 people, reinforcing dikes and dams, and rescuing huge amounts of livestock and other property.

Motan commune near Chongqing has 10 production brigades, of

which three suffered heavily from the flood. From July 23 to 25, the seven remaining brigades worked frantically to help their stricken neighbors transplant 10 hectares of late paddy rice and plant 30 hectares of vegetables in places where crops were totally destroyed. At Qingxi commune, members who had not suffered from the flood climbed up into the mountains despite rain or scorching sun to cut trees, bamboo and grass to aid flood victims in constructing shelters. They also donated 2.5 tons of sweet potatoes and 70 kilos of vegetable seeds.

Zhang Wenbi, a woman member of the Shanan production brigade, traveled 10 kilometers over mountainous terrain with 50 kilos of straw on her back to help a flood-damaged brigade. Xie Shaoshan, a 74-year-old peasant who had suffered from the flood himself, gave 200 yuan to families worse-off than his own, and led a rebuilding team to help families lacking labor power.

Guanghan county's Sanxing commune on the Chengdu plain sent 150 members of four production brigades to help 16 flooded-out brigades build houses and reclaim farmland. They took with them 50 tractors, 60 tons of bamboo, timber, dried reed and straw, and their own food and supplies.

At the Kaiyuan production brigade, Ziyun commune, Shehong county, over 100 people from outside the disaster areas were working to repair houses and dig canals. Kaiyuan brigade member Qiu Xiangquan explained that the outsiders had just showed up, carrying their own food, tools and building materials, and quietly set to work. In the early days after the flood, some 2,000 people from all over had come at different times to help build houses, dig wells, repair canals and plant crops. Just then a voice from above interrupted. "You don't have to mention that," a man busy repairing a house roof exclaimed, "in our socialist country, if one person is in trouble ten people will come to help him." □

Diversifying the Rural Economy

ZHI EXIANG

DURING the "cultural revolution," China's farm economy suffered disastrously from a wrong line in planning and carrying out production. This ultra-Left line went deep and was expressed mainly in demanding food production but calling other countryside enterprises "capitalist tendencies." The result was chaos and retrogression of living standards.

This lack of balance and diversification began to be corrected only in 1976 after ten years of stagnation. A good example of the progress that has been made since then can be found in the Zhujiang (Pearl) River Delta southeast of Guangzhou (Canton)—an area lush with rice, sugarcane, bananas, mulberry trees and ponds for raising fish. Here, especially in the last three years, communes and their brigades have put food production back into its normal place, done much to diversify, and consequently accelerated their economies and raised the peasants' income.

New Prosperity

Nanhai county is in the central part of the delta between Guangzhou and Foshan. Fertile and well-watered, it is especially suited to cash crops such as sugarcane, bananas and mulberry trees used in raising silkworms. Food output here has always been high. However, under the threat that cash-producing enterprises were "capitalist," this county, like most places in rural China, dared not stress them. The ultra-Leftist influence ran deep and the subjective idea that prosperity meant

capitalism was too strong. Cash crops and industrial and sideline production were criticized as putting industry above agriculture, cash above food and the individual above the collective.

Food production increased very little and industrial crops not at all. Home sideline production was prohibited. As a result, the county became not only short of money but of food. In the ten years of the "cultural revolution," the per-hectare yield of grain increased by only 8.25 kilograms annually and the average increase in income per capita was augmented by less than one yuan a year. In some brigades such income increased only ten *fen* or less.

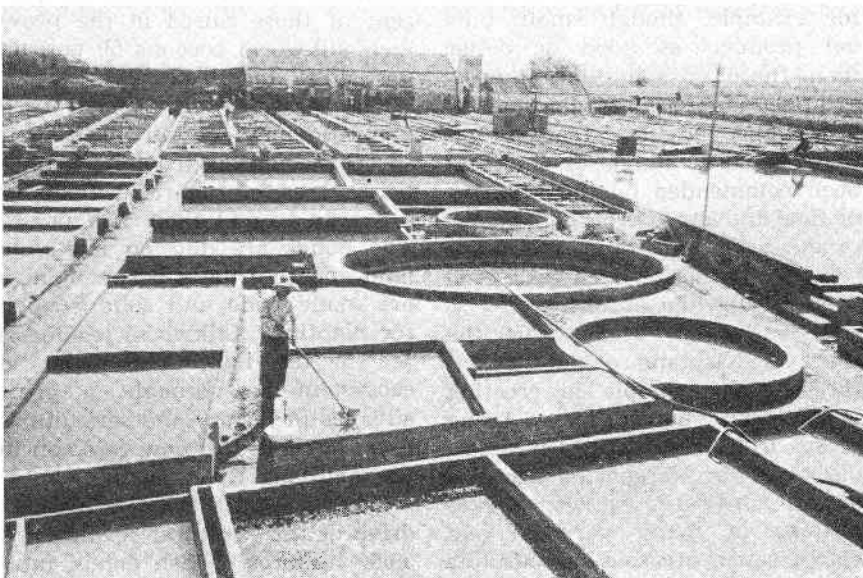
Nanhai county readjusted its agriculture, then began a development of industry and sideline production balanced with its farming. Per-hectare yield of grain has gone up at an average rate of 397.5 kg. per year. In 1979 the county cut

its grain area by 800 hectares in order to grow more vegetables, peanuts, sugarcane, mulberry and fruit trees, meanwhile guaranteeing, nevertheless, to increase grain output. Sideline occupations such as raising pigs, chickens, ducks, geese, fish and mushrooms were developed. In two years, grain output reached a record 350,000 tons, and the gross value of industry and agriculture was over 800 million yuan. All communes in the county are now running small factories and other enterprises, 3,659 in all. The gross output of these last year reached 350 million yuan.

This income enabled the county to buy chemical fertilizers, pesticides and farm machines. It set up new electric irrigation and drainage networks and restructured 50,000 hectares of farmland for high and stable yields. The average individual income reached 317 yuan, leading the province.

Fish-breeding in Xiaolan commune, Zhongshan county.

Pan Jiamin



ZHI EXIANG is a staff reporter for China Reconstructs.



Xiqiao commune runs a lucrative cultivated pearl industry.

Huang Jianqiu

The new guidelines and economic policies brought an unprecedented prosperity.

Overall Development

The Yanbu commune in Nanhai county, a steady grain producer, has at the same time become a fast-growing industrial-agricultural district. The number of farm workers and non-farm workers is now almost equal—15,000 and 14,000. There are 27 factories in 50 different lines of production. The Machinery Plant, for example, though small, puts out products as good or better than those of some large, well-equipped state plants. Its hydraulic mining jack has reached national quality standards and has been commended by the Ministry of Coal Industry. Another factory produces Tiger brand mosquito-repellent incense which sells well domestically and abroad.

The Nansha brigade in the county's Xiaotang commune has set a good example in creating brigade-run enterprises. Using scrap iron and other materials discarded by larger factories, a small hardware factory makes buttons in many varieties and colors which are sold to 350 units

in China. Its income is 2,760,000 yuan a year. In 1980 the individual income in this brigade was 996 yuan, the highest in the county (see "Our Brigade's Uphill Struggle," p. 18).

Nanhai county is known at home and abroad for its rattan work. Ordered stopped during the "cultural revolution," it has now been restored in 110 brigades, bringing in an annual income of 10 million yuan.

Many communes and brigades in the county now have a good income from pigs, other animals, birds and flowers. The Qidong brigade in the Yanbu commune earned 72,000 yuan last year from its pigs, an average income per capita of 130 yuan. It made another 5,000 yuan from 7,000 fattened ducks. It raises 20 varieties of birds for export, earning from this more than 20,000 yuan.

The Minle brigade in the Xiqiao commune cultivates pearls. Only seven people do this work. Each year they collect 40 kg. of pearls, sell them to the provincial foreign trade department and earn 50,000 yuan for the brigade.

Mulberry Trees and Fish

Shunde county is famous for sericulture and freshwater fish. Of 45,300 hectares of farmland in the county, 80 percent (36,270 hectares) are used for sugarcane, mulberry trees or fish ponds. The county's fish account for 20 percent of those raised in the province, silkworm cocoons 50 percent and sugarcane 10 percent.

The peasants here have used scientific methods suited to their specific conditions, combining mulberry trees, or sugarcane fields or orchards around their fish ponds. The ponds are dug on low-lying land and the ridges between them are made wide and solid enough for planting. Silkworm residue is fed to the fish. This balanced ecosystem has brought a great advance in fishery and sericulture. Such methods are now common in the Zhujiang River Delta.

During the "anti-capitalist" drive of the "cultural revolution," 2,000 hectares of fish ponds, mul-

berry groves and sugarcane fields in Shunde county were converted to growing grain, destroying the rational ecosystem and weakening the collective economy. By 1976 the income per capita was only 135 yuan per year.

With the new balance between food and cash crops, various kinds of job responsibility systems were adopted, mostly making contracts for each specialization and linking payment to output. This spurred the commune members' initiative and helped restore production. Early in 1980, when a cold wave struck the county, 80 percent of the pond fish were killed. Thanks to a prompt change to raising different breeds at different water levels, the losses were made up and they still got a good fish harvest—52,500 tons, a slight increase over the previous year.

A change of policy and an increase in the state's purchasing price of sugarcane raised the growers' enthusiasm. The sugarcane areas were expanded. Output in 1980 increased 17 percent over 1979, the per-hectare yield averaging 78 tons. The production of silkworm cocoons also increased. Thus, in 1980 the gross income from agriculture and sideline occupations in the county amounted to 220 million yuan, 17.5 percent more than in 1979. Average individual income rose to 280 yuan, 58 yuan more than the previous year.

The combination of mulberry trees with fish ponds attracted international attention. W. Manshard, secretary-general of the International Association of Geography and vice-president of the United Nations University, visited the county in 1979, studying the unique land-water ecosystem. He noted the absorption of released manpower and the quick economic return. At his suggestion, the United Nations University signed an agreement with China for a research project in the Leliu commune and provided its equipment.

More Cash Crops

Xinhui county in the delta is an old and well-known producer of



Jishui production team harvests silkworm cocoons. *Huang Jianqiu*



Freshwater fish-breeding flourishes at Shunde county's Longjiang commune.

Zhou Jiufa

Lingxi production brigade's growing flock of duck. *Huang Jianqiu*





Sugarcane fields in Nanhai county.
Huang Jianqiu



Garment factory run by Chencun commune,
Shunde county. *Wang Xiumin*

Xinhui county—a Chinese fan palm grove.
Zeng Hong



Woven rattan products workshop at
Huancheng commune, Zhongshan county.
Wang Xiumin





Busy Shiqi port in Zhongshan county.

Wang Xinmin

New prosperity means new housing for peasants of Xijiao commune's Minle production brigade.

Huang Jianqiu



citrus fruit and Chinese fan palms. It also grows sugarcane, lichees, pineapples and bananas. By 1980 the cash-crop area in the county had climbed back upward to 14,600 hectares, 29 percent of its farmland. The cash-crop income amounted to 35 percent of all agriculture and 50 percent of that gained from grain production.

The county has been raising citrus for 600 years. The Xinhui tangerine has a red skin and is sweet, which makes it popular at home and abroad. Before liberation the citrus-growing area had fallen to 1,920 hectares and output was only 12,650 tons. Five years afterward, this had grown to 2,586 hectares and 30,000 tons, of which 21,500 tons were exported. The county had become China's biggest citrus producer. Then production began to decline, dropping to 1,106 hectares and only 370 tons by 1975, the main cause being wrong policies, particularly during the "cultural revolution." Since those disastrous years, the citrus area has again begun to increase. Citrus trees bear fruit four years after planting. Thus, production will soon begin to approach previous levels.

Xinhui county people plant Chinese fan palms on riverbanks, roadsides, mountain slopes, the edges of fields and in open spaces around their villages. Fan palms cover 2,670 hectares and 10 percent of the farm workers cultivate them. Last year total output value reached 26 million yuan and the county's palm handicrafts company purchased 106 million palmleaf fans made by the peasants.

The county has 28 palm handicraft factories, most of the work still being done by hand. Their fans, toothpicks, mats, baskets, cushions and containers for export earn over 6 million yuan a year.

Flexible Foreign Trade

The Zhujiang River Delta is the original home of many Chinese now living abroad. Recently some communes and brigades have run enterprises in cooperation with overseas Chinese. These include

processing with the customer's materials and compensatory trade. Factories set up with overseas Chinese funds include clothing wear, plastics, hardware, knitwear, gloves and toys. Some projects are run with funds from foreign countries and imported technique and equipment.

A half-million overseas Chinese originally came from Zhongshan county near Hongkong and Macao. Starting in 1978, their contributions toward construction in their native home have become the highest in the province. The Nanlang commune, in which Sun Yat-sen was born, has a population of 300,000. Since it has accepted processing, assembly and other forms of production in cooperation with Hongkong and Macao businessmen, the commune has set up a woolen mill, an embroidery factory and other plants making electric instruments, hardware and needles. In 1980 the woolen mill processed 420,000 sweaters for customers. The mill is expanding and now has equipment for washing, ironing and sewing buttons.

The processing of customers' raw materials and compensatory trade employed more people, in-

creased peasant income and strengthened the collective economy. Since 1979 the Aikou brigade in the Nanlang commune has imported 300 machines and transferred 23 percent of its manpower to such enterprises. In 1980 the brigade obtained 620,000 yuan, or nearly 40 percent of its total income.

The Yongning brigade in the Xiaolan commune, one of the earliest to balance agriculture, industry and sideline occupations, has established a brick and tile plant, a rope and cable factory, a storage battery plant and factories making electronic toys, tape recorders and flashlight bulbs. It also has an electroplating plant. Now 27 of the brigade's 30 production teams process customer material. In 1980 the income from industry and sideline occupations reached more than 10 million yuan, averaging 420 yuan per person. In 1980 the export of products from this brigade earned 3.8 million yuan in foreign currency. The proper balancing of agriculture with industry and sideline occupations has put China's rural economy in better shape. □

Beicun water gate in Nanhai county's Yanbu commune.

Huang Jianqiu





Radios, TVs and fancy foods are not beyond the reach of Xiaotang commune families these days. *Huang Jianqiu*

Our Brigade's Uphill Struggle

XIAN WEI

Editor's note: Last year, Chinese newspapers carried reports on the production and income of the Nansha brigade of the Xiao Tang Commune in Nanhai county, Guangdong province. These aroused great reader attention. Some wrote to ask if the reports were authentic. Here is the reply of the brigade leader.

Last year the average income per member of our brigade was 996 yuan, an increase of 446 yuan over the previous year. We kept 120,000 yuan for our reserve fund and distributed the rest of the cash to the members. There are 554 households in the brigade. Twenty had an income of more than 10,000 yuan, 140 ranged between 5,000 and 10,000. Bank savings of brigade members total 1,180,000, averaging 2,130 yuan per family.

Take my family, for example. We are six. Five of us work. Last year we earned 9,700 yuan (the average income per person in the production team to which we belonged was 996 yuan). My wife and children got 6,800 yuan and I received 2,900 yuan in salary and a bonus from the brigade. We spent 4,200 yuan for 30,000 bricks for a new house, bought three imported watches, three electric fans, a TV set and a tape-recorder-radio. What was left we put in the bank.

The rather good development of our brigade's collective economy came only after a long hard struggle. We're located along the sandy bank of the Beijiang River. The brigade has four production teams, 1,136 people, 69 hectares of paddy fields and 76 hectares of

dry farmland. In the old days, this area was constantly plagued either by waterlogging or dry spells. The land was poor and the yields low. Before 1960 we got just over 4 tons per hectare. Our average annual income per capita was only 54 yuan. We had to buy 135 tons of grain for our brigade every year.

Poverty, though, makes people want change. In 1961, we began to consider our actual situation — a lot of manpower and too little land. Our first step was to use an old temple as the site of a small hardware factory. We bought some hand-operated punch machines and made small items such as buttons and shoe buckles out of scrap materials left over by big factories.

This little factory paved the way for the better growth of our economy. From the profit we got we set up a hydropower station, and bought farm machines and fertilizer in an effort to develop agriculture step by step. By 1964 the brigade no longer depended on outside grain but was able to sell 15 tons to the state.

The ten-year turmoil of the "cultural revolution," however, set us back. We were criticized as a typical example of "taking the

capitalist road" for having developed industrial and sideline production. Our hardware factory was ordered stopped, though after repeated setbacks we managed to keep it running. After the downfall of the gang of four we reviewed our thinking on production, and today both the brigade and its four production teams have small hardware factories. Our buttons come in a hundred varieties, sell well in most of the country, and some go abroad. Our total output value of industry and agriculture was 253,000 yuan in 1978, 3,370,000 yuan in 1979, and 5,020,000 yuan in 1980.

Enterprises run by the brigade and its teams have promoted grain harvests. In the last five years we have drawn 120,000 yuan from our profits to invest in agriculture. Today the brigade has 13 tractors and four large boats. Plowing, threshing and feed processing is mechanized or semi-mechanized. At the same time, we have increased the number of pigs, which has given us more fertilizer for the fields. We now use 1.5 tons of chemical fertilizer and 15 tons of manure per hectare. All this has made agriculture forge ahead rapidly. Last year we reached our grain quota of 16.3 tons per hectare. We have been selling about 150 tons of grain to the state per year.

There is no real secret to our success. The credit goes mainly to the Party's present policies, the integration of agriculture with industry and sideline production, our hard struggle, and to the economic foundation our persistent efforts have laid over the past 20 years. We still remember the hard days when we first set up our small hardware factory. Without electricity, we operated machines by pedaling. Without transport, we carried things on our backs. We turned to other people for technical know-how and worked over 10 hours a day.

Today, in spite of our initial prosperity, we still work ten or twelve hours a day; some putting in extra hours at noon time or in the evenings. In short, wealth is created by hard work. □

New Lives, New Hope for the Mentally Ill

XIMEN LUSHA

IN naming 1981 the International Year of the Disabled, the United Nations urged all nations to take steps to provide physically and mentally handicapped people with the treatment, training and work opportunities they need to become fully integrated into their societies. The treatment and rehabilitation of the mentally ill is a worldwide problem which many countries are still trying to solve.

I had heard that in Shanghai promising results had been achieved in this area through the combined efforts of government, health-care professionals, local factories and society in general. With this in mind I visited the 1,000-bed Shanghai Psychiatric Hospital, China's largest and best-equipped mental health facility. Situated on tree-shaded grounds in the southwestern suburbs, the hospital's red-brick buildings seem a refuge from hectic city life.

Treatment Network

When the hospital's vice-director, Dr. Wang Changhua, learned the object of my visit, he smiled. "At one time, under the influence of ultra-Leftist ideas, we didn't like to have these matters discussed in the media. It was as though talking about mental illness would imply defects in the social system. Actually, mental illness is a common disorder throughout history and everywhere in the world. There are records of it in ancient Chinese medical literature. Proper treatment of these illnesses is a problem facing every society, and one that urgently needs solving."

As Dr. Wang indicated, in China the term mental illness is applied

to a whole range of disorders, including schizophrenia, mental retardation and so on. A recent survey shows the incidence of mental illness in Shanghai is 7.28 per 1,000 population, with a relatively high proportion of schizophrenia. The rate is slightly higher than in the country as a whole, but not too high when compared with figures in other countries. In absolute terms the number is high because as China's largest city, Shanghai and its suburbs have a population of 10 million.

Shanghai presently has two major psychiatric hospitals, and smaller psychiatric hospitals or clinics in each of the city's ten districts and ten outlying counties. Some 81 percent of the city's 101 grassroots neighborhood hospitals have outpatient services for mental patients, and about 300 of the health clinics in large and medium-size factories have doctors with special training who double as psychiatrists and provide outpatient services.

The city's Civil Administration Bureau runs three sanatoriums for the mentally ill who have no relatives to care for them. Altogether, the hospitals and sana-

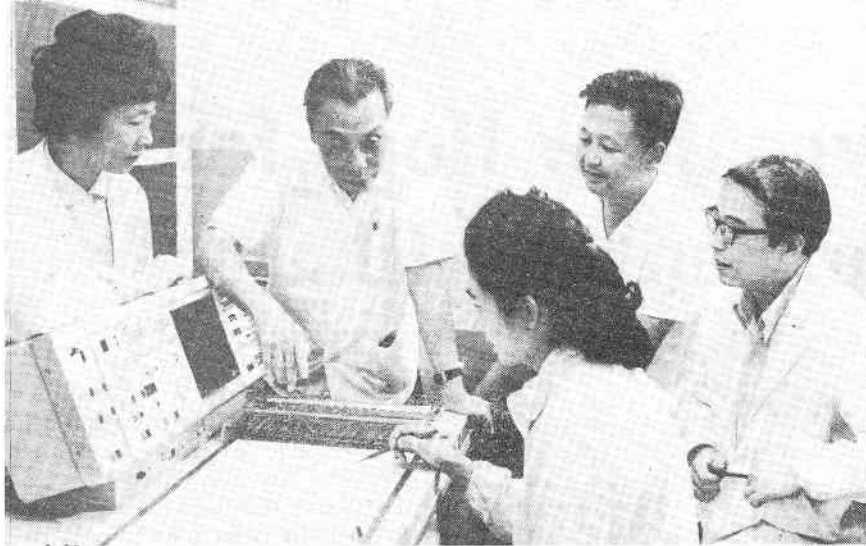
toriums have a total of 5,300 beds, or five beds for every 10,000 people. The city also has 447 psychiatrists and 939 psychiatric nurses. Neither the beds nor the personnel are really enough to fill current needs, but even allowing for the increase in population mental health care is considerably better now than before 1949, when there were only 12 psychiatrists and some 400 beds.

"The major problem everywhere in treating mental patients," Dr. Wang continued, "is the high rate of relapse. Many patients show improvement after hospitalization or clinical treatment. But if they are then simply released, many suffer relapses and have to be rehospitalized, not just once but many times. This of course means higher rehospitalization rates and a lower turnover rate in hospital beds. Prevention of such relapses is a key problem. Aside from biological causes, the major reason lies in the realm of social psychiatry. A released patient needs not just medication, but a proper environment and supportive help and care. And this requires the coordinated efforts of all sectors of society.

Shanghai Psychiatric Hospital grounds.



XIMEN LUSHA is a staff reporter for China Reconstructs.



Modern diagnostic methods: Dr. Wang Changhua (2nd left) and colleagues study electroencephalographic records.

“Our answer to the problem of relapse has been occupational therapy and support groups, which first appeared in 1973 and have since been popularized in most parts of the city. These groups organize all released patients whose conditions are more or less stable, and who have some ability to work but no jobs, into productive activities within their capacities. Appropriate medical supervision and social and emotional support is provided. Patients take part in structured social and cultural activities.

“Results have been excellent. Our experience is that the relapse rate is much lower for patients who join such groups. The groups themselves are essentially formed by neighborhood-level local government bodies with the cooperation of medical and police personnel, factories and other enterprises, and the general public.”

A Therapy Group

Some of the earliest and best work in this field has been done in the Yuyao neighborhood in the Jingan district. Shanghai's first occupational therapy and support group was started here in the first half of 1973, and now all 10 neighborhoods in the district have followed suit, with 26 therapy groups in all serving 639 patients.

The original Yuyao group now has 78 patients, or about 75 percent of all eligible patients in the neighborhood. Of the 78, 33 are schizophrenic, 34 retarded, 5

epileptic, 5 mentally retarded with psychotic symptoms, and one seriously neurotic. The majority have been treated in municipal or district psychiatric facilities, and some have a previous history of as many as seven hospitalizations before they joined the group. The staff consists of a chief, a sub-chief, a doctor, two retired workers appointed by the neighborhood committee to work with the patients, and five or six normal workers who do packing and transportation and other heavy tasks.

The Yuyao group's headquarters is a small two-story building with a floor space of about 200 square meters. Downstairs there is a workshop, a clinic and a small ward with several beds. Upstairs is another workshop and a meeting hall equipped with ceiling fans which doubles as an office and recreation room. There is a TV set, a small library, chess sets, ball games and other equipment.

In one of the workshops, a visitor may observe patients seated around long tables wrapping tape measures in wax paper. They work with quiet concentration. The quality of the work will be checked by one of the patients before the products are packed and shipped. Comrade Lu, the group's leader, comments that the work is being done for a local factory, and that the tape measures are for export. Some workshops run by other groups are equipped with machinery, and patients master

much more complicated production tasks.

The factory, satisfied with the quality of the work, has for three years paid the group 4,600 yuan per month for wrapping and packing 900,000 tape measures. Group expenses come to 3,000 a month, and the remaining 1,600 yuan is used to buy equipment and small amenities for the patients. The expenses include small salaries for patients. Those with the group two or more years get between 20 and 30 yuan a month in salaries, plus 3 to 6 yuan in bonuses; those with the group less than two years get somewhat lower amounts. The patients work six hours a day, and live at home.

Medical supervision is provided by a woman doctor who is not a full-fledged psychiatrist, but who has attended a special training course on mental illness and is familiar with basic prevention and treatment methods. She is assisted by psychiatric personnel from municipal, district and neighborhood facilities who visit the group at regular intervals. Her primary tasks are to see that patients take their medicine as prescribed and to provide everyday medical therapy. Psychiatric medication is provided free of charge to group members.

All the staff are gentle and considerate to the patients, taking the time to listen to their problems or just to chat. They are also knowledgeable and alert for symptoms of relapse. The group organizes table tennis and chess matches, calisthenics, and group viewing of special TV programs. Patients are taken to movies and other cultural programs, and to parks and recreational areas. Ideological education sessions — that is, discussions of political and social questions as they relate to the patients themselves and to society at large — are considered an important part of therapy.

Schizophrenic members of the group — some 74 have been treated in the group's history — show dramatic improvement. A study of 33 of the patients before and after they joined the group showed recurring attacks of illness

among all of them before they joined, with 87 cases of rehospitalization. After joining the group, 13 had no serious attacks in two years, and nine more no attacks in over a year. Only one required hospitalization.

As members of the group, many schizophrenics for the first time ever are leading well-ordered, purposeful lives. With emotional support and understanding, they have gradually broken out of their withdrawn, solitary states of mind and overcome feelings of emptiness and uselessness. For the first time in their lives, many are earning wages from their own labor, thus gaining a sense of accomplishment and worth. The therapy group is their entry point back into society, where in a supportive atmosphere they learn to work, interact with other people and become useful members of society.

Of the current members of the group, none of the 34 mentally retarded patients have been involved in the kind of public outburst that once upset their lives and disturbed neighborhood residents. All the other patients have shown varying degrees of improvement. And 18 patients have improved so much that they have been able to take regular jobs.

Before the therapy group was established, disturbances caused by mentally ill people were a real problem in the neighborhood. In the two years before the formation of the group, some 31 incidents were recorded in the Yuyao neighborhood. Area residents were continually uneasy, and patients'

families often left for work in the morning not knowing what they would find when they got home. There were even some cases of families chaining patients at home to keep them out of trouble. Since the founding of the therapy group, no major incidents of public disturbance have been recorded, and the neighborhood atmosphere is much more relaxed.

Support from All Sides

Shanghai's occupational therapy and support groups have been established with relatively little state funding. Rather, they have been made possible by the cooperative efforts of many sectors of society, including government bodies and other organizations, and the general public. Neighborhood-level local government bodies play a key role in sponsoring the groups. Psychiatric and health departments throughout the city have helped by training personnel, conducting neighborhood surveys on mental illness, educating the public about the nature of such illnesses, and providing advice and support.

Factory leaders, laying aside their fears about entrusting work to recovering mental patients, have provided employment, materials and equipment. And schools, housing departments and other local organizations have made great efforts to locate premises. Finance departments agreed to waive taxes on the groups' incomes, and civil administration departments provided loans as seed money for some groups. An organizational structure to supervise the groups

and handle other aspects of prevention and treatment has been set up at the municipal, district and neighborhood level. Its membership consists of leading health professionals and personnel of the civil administration and public security departments.

A key factor, however, remains grassroots neighborhood involvement, as is illustrated by the history of the Yuyao group. At the



Members of the Yuyao occupational therapy and support group pack tape measures.

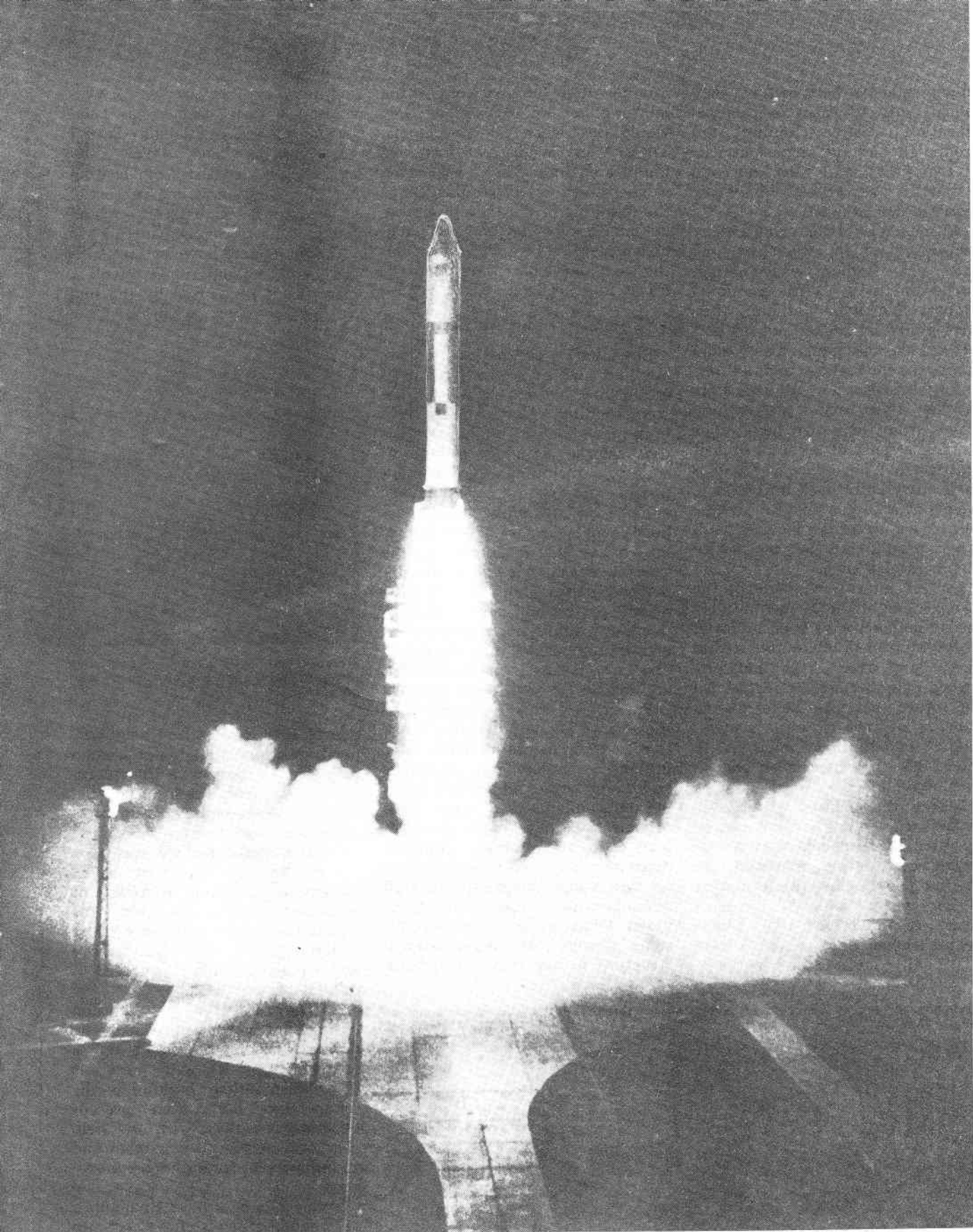
end of 1973 two retired neighborhood workers and a policeman managed to borrow a 20-square-meter room from the local housing bureau. Some tables and stools were borrowed from a school. A local toothpaste factory was persuaded to let the first seven patients in the group insert bits of cork into toothpaste caps, for which they were paid only 10 to 20 fen a day. Later a radio factory and a plastics plant also agreed to provide work.

As the number of patients and the amount of work increased, the premises became too small. On a nearby empty lot with materials from dismantled buildings, the group then built their present two-story building with the help of a local housing repair team and young people from the neighborhood.

Today 83.6 percent of Shanghai's 117 neighborhoods have set up their own occupational therapy and support groups, and 20 percent of them are doing outstanding work in their field. □

Orchestra formed by members of several occupational therapy and support groups give a concert.



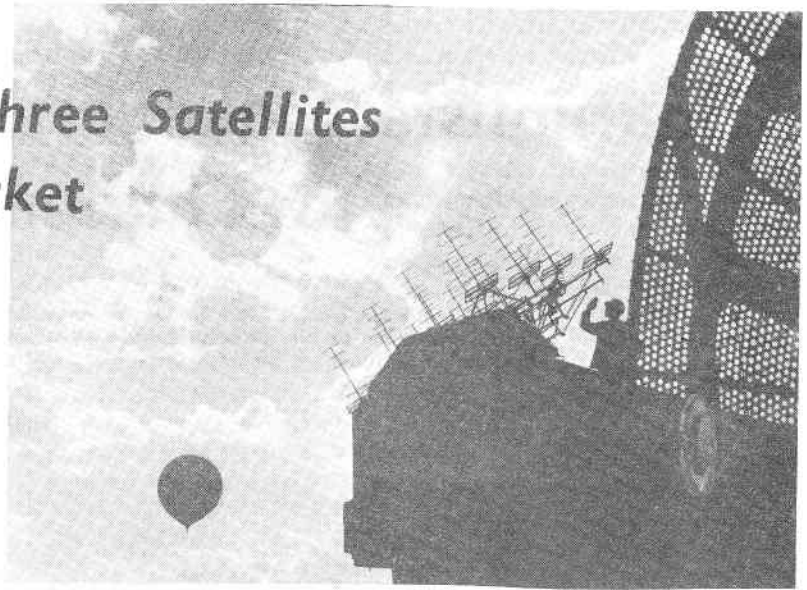


Blast off!

China Launches Three Satellites with a Single Rocket

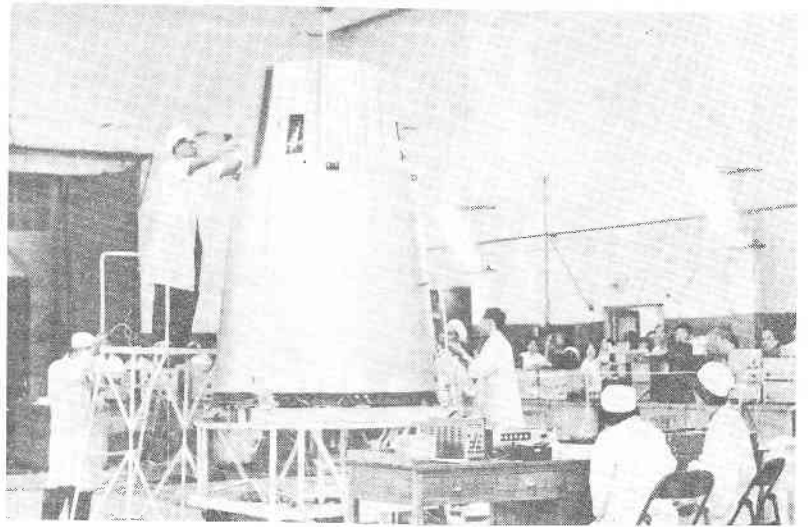
FOR the first time China launched a group of three space-physics experimental satellites with a single carrier rocket on September 20, 1981. They were accurately orbited with various systems functioning normally, and are continuously sending back scientific experimental data.

With this launching, China has put 11 satellites into space since 1970. See table.



Meteorological stations provided accurate weather forecasts for the launch.

Scientists make final tests before the launch.
Photos by Liu Dong



order	name	date of launching	weight (kg)	away from earth (km)		time taken for one complete revolution around the earth (min.)	angle of satellite's orbit to the equator (degrees)
				perigee	apogee		
1	Earth satellite	April 24, 1970	173	439	2,384	114	68.5
2	Scientific experimental satellite	March 3, 1971	221	266	1,826	106	69.9
3	Earth satellite	July 26, 1975		186	464	91	69
4	*Earth satellite	November 26, 1975		173	483	91	63
5	Earth satellite	December 16, 1975					
6	Earth satellite	August 30, 1976					
7	**Earth satellite	December 7, 1976					
8	***Earth satellite	January 26, 1978					

* Returned to earth as scheduled; ** returned to earth with precision as scheduled; *** returned to earth after fulfilling its scientific experiments as scheduled.

Journalists Make Friendship Visit to Thailand

A delegation from *China Reconstructs* visited Thailand in August at the invitation of Mr. Preecha Sumakkittham, President of the Press Association of Thailand. Below is their report of the trip. *Ed.*



Haad Yai City: President of TIA of Songkhla province, Mr. Somchai Udomlapsakul (second right) and Hotel Manager Mr. Suphot Singha-Ampol (third left) welcomes deputy chief editor and delegation head Shen Suru (third right), Thai language interpreter Huang Wenlin (far right), and Mr. Preecha Samakkittham (fourth left).

LIKE anyone visiting a foreign country for the first time, we carefully learned the local equivalent of "hello, how are you?" and everywhere we went we folded our hands and said "sawadee krap." Ignoring our atrocious accents, new Thai friends applauded our good intentions. We were quickly compelled to learn another word, "po-lewú, po-lewu!" (enough, enough!), as at every meal our hospitable hosts plied us with far more food than we could possible eat.

But the most important Thai words we learned, words that will stay with us forever, were "Chin

Thai pi nong gan!" (Chinese and Thais are brothers). At first we addressed our host formally as "Mr. Preecha," but soon "Brother Preecha" came more naturally to our lips. Before our trip we knew in an intellectual sense that there were many ties and common interests between our two countries and peoples. But what we saw and heard, the people we met, gave a new and deeply personal meaning to the word friendship.

A Long, Proud History

The Thais are justly proud of their history and rich cultural tra-

dition, and despite our busy schedule we managed to visit a number of historical sites, museums and monuments to ancient and modern struggles. What we saw only emphasized some sentences in a brochure we were given: "The word 'Thai' means 'free,' with special emphasis on freedom from foreign domination. This is a conviction which the Thai people have upheld in the course of their long and proud history" (*Thailand Toward the 80s*, Secretariat of the Cabinet Printing House, March 1981). This quality alone makes the Thais true brothers and sisters of the Chinese, who have themselves fought long and hard for national independence.

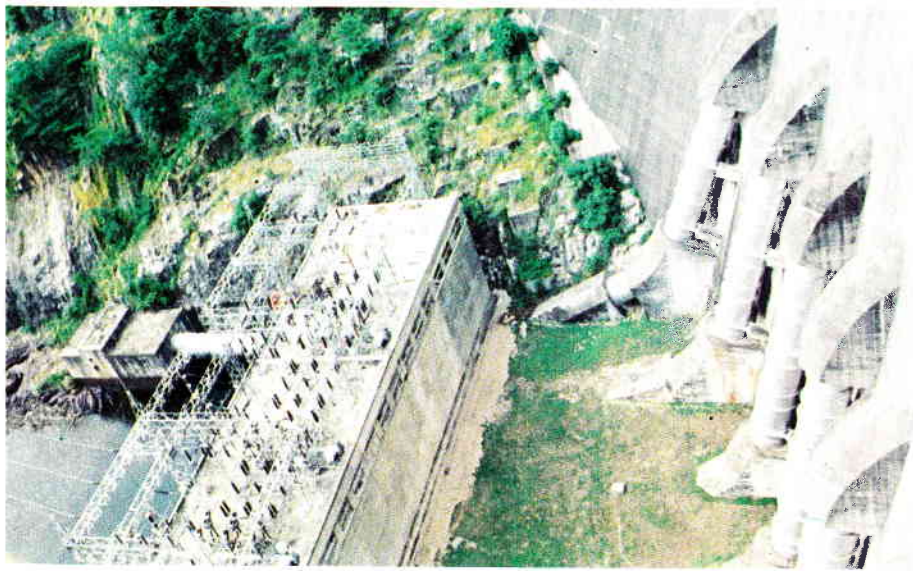
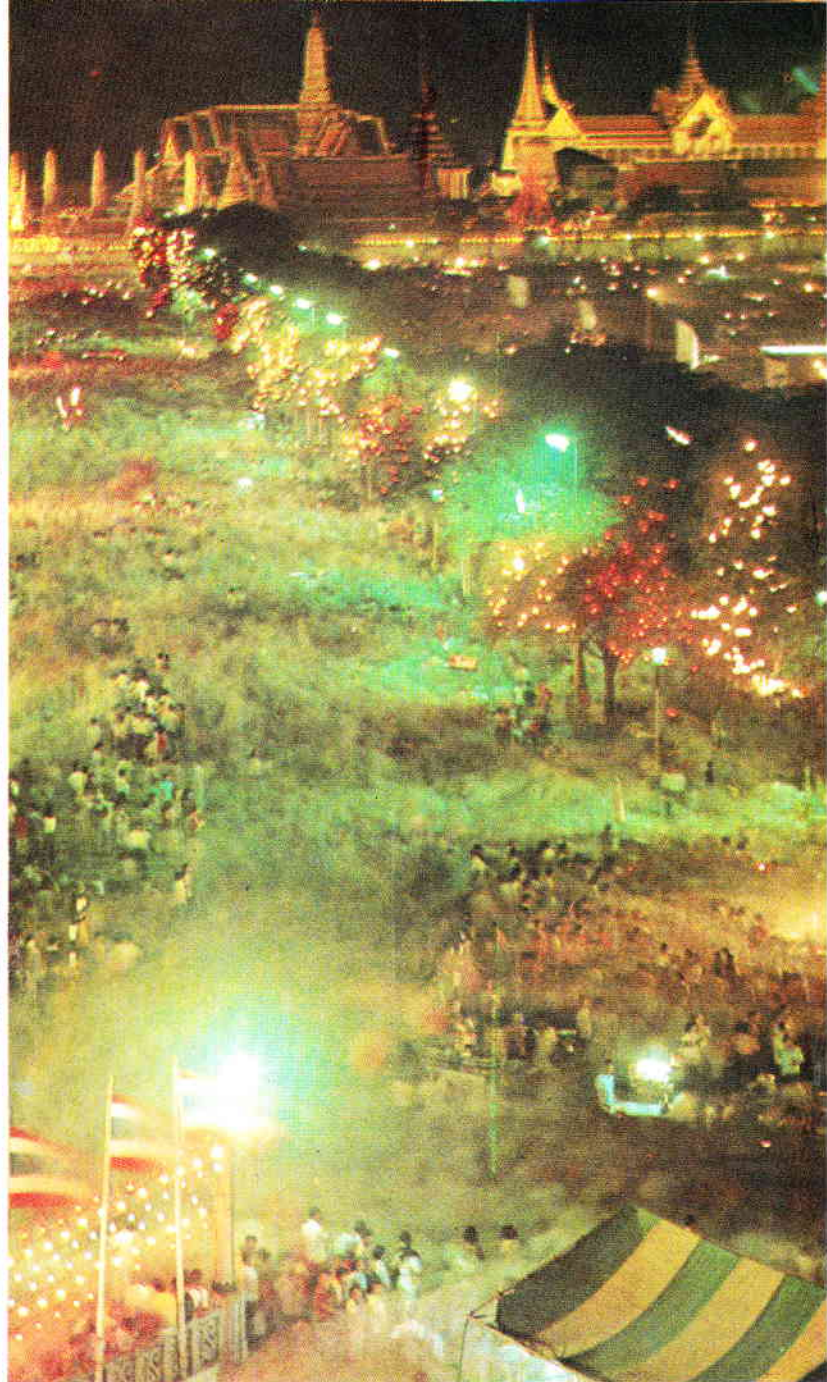
Thailand's historical defense of national liberty is particularly significant today, when Thais face a military threat on their own borders from a country that has been consistently pursuing regional hegemonism. From its own territory, it has shelled Chinese provinces across the border and committed other provocations. From occupied Kampuchea, it has committed similar gross violations of Thailand's territorial integrity.

Everywhere we went, Thai people were indignant about the unprovoked assaults on their territory. At several gatherings our interpreter joined Thai friends in traditional Thai patriotic songs, sung with such passion that those who could not speak the language found themselves beating time to the music and trying to hum along. China's strong stand against aggression and for national independence was warmly appreciated.



Visiting Ratana Mahathart Temple.

Festival evening in Bangkok.

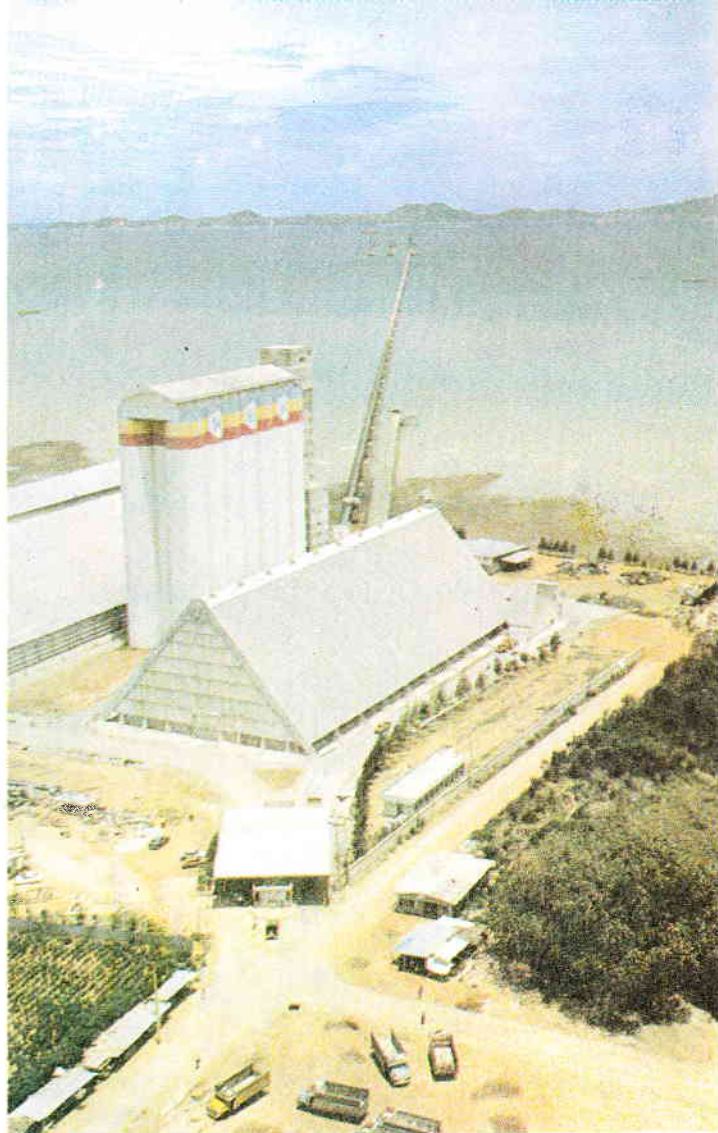


Bhumibol dam and hydropower plant in Tak province.



China Reconstructs staff and hosts in Thai national costumes.

Automated fodder processing factory in Rayong province.



Scenic Phang Nga coast in southern Thailand.



During our visit, Premier Zhao Ziyang, after his visit to the Philippines, Malaysia and Singapore, was consulting with Thai Premier Prem Tinsulanonda at the Bangkok airport on his way home. Thai friends warmly recalled the visits of Vice-Chairman Deng Xiaoping, Vice-Chairman of the NPC Standing Committee Deng Yingchao and the previous visit of Premier Zhao. At reception after reception, toasts were made to the friendship and solidarity between China and Thailand and to peace in Southeast Asia.

Old Ties, New Friends

Friendly relations between China and Thailand can be traced back to remote times. During the reign of King Ramkhamhaeng, third monarch of the Sukhothai dynasty, he sent no less than five delegations to the Chinese court between 1292 and 1314. He twice visited China himself, and imported Chinese artisans to teach techniques of pottery and porcelain manufacture. Trade and cultural relations were strengthened under the Ayutthayan dynasty, and at times the Thais even acted as intermediaries between China and other Southeast Asian countries. At museums and private homes, we saw relics of these ancient relationships, such as Ming dynasty porcelain, which have been carefully unearthed and preserved.

Because of historical and geographic reasons, a number of Thai citizens are of full or partial Chinese ancestry. In introducing his wife, who is of part-Chinese ancestry, Mr. Preecha joked that many Thais and Chinese are "brothers and sisters" in more than one sense. We met quite a number of such citizens, and were told that regardless of their origins all Thais live together in unity and harmony — something which was easy to believe from what we observed.

Our itinerary was a busy one: north from Bangkok by road to

Nakorn Sawan, Sukhothai, Phitsanulok, Lampang and Chiang Mai provinces, back to Bangkok by plane, then on to Rayong province, Songkhla province and the city of Haad Yai (the business and communication center of the south), and the beach resort of Phuket province, known as the Pearl of the South.

Throughout our trip we were treated with the most thought-

ful consideration and personal warmth. Thai and Chinese national flags, together with slogans of welcome, flew over hotels where we stayed. Provincial governors, vice-governors, mayors and other officials, and people from every walk of life took time from their busy schedules to greet us, talk with us, entertain us, and indeed see that we had everything we might need or want.

Talking with Bangkok College journalism staff and students.



Delegation members Dai Weixiong (back row, second left) and Chen Xin (sixth left) pose before statue of a great author with teachers and students from Bangkok.





Traditional dance performance at Haad Yai University.



Cautiously making friends with an elephant in Chiang Mai province.
Photos by Virach Jiarabap

One museum closed for a holiday was opened especially for us. A provincial governor rode 25 kilometers out of his way to dine with us one night so that we could get an early start next morning. Out of many banquets (during which we had ample opportunity to practice saying "po-lewu, po-lewu!"), a particularly memorable one was the national-style banquet called "Kbantok" in Chiang Mai.

All this attention of course was not for us personally, but for what we represented. Many people we met told us of their real appreciation for the efforts our magazine has made over the past 30 years to promote friendship and understanding between China and the people of the world. Whenever the name of our founder the late Honorary Chairman of the state Soong Ching Ling was mentioned, Thais from every walk of life expressed deep respect for her and her esteemed husband Dr. Sun Yat-sen for their patriotism and anti-imperialism.

Progress and Cooperation

Like China, Thailand is a developing country that is making great progress in modernizing the economy. According to official statistics, between 1970 and 1979, the annual growth rate of Thailand's gross national product was 16 percent. We saw only a few of the country's advanced economic and technological achievements, but these were impressive. The

154-meter high Bhumibol Dam, named after the present king, is located in the northwestern region of the country. This key water conservancy project includes flood prevention, irrigation and hydroelectric components. During our visit workers were installing the seventh new power unit, which will generate 133,000 kilowatts.

A highly automated fodder processing factory we visited had a 3-km long conveyor belt which carried processed cassava powder from the factory to three offshore storage towers, from which the powder could be loaded directly onto ocean-going freighters. In the south, specialists at a rubber plantation and research center demonstrated a new experimental tapping technique. At the three aquatic products research centers we visited, scientists explained the latest developments in breeding fish, shrimp and other aquatic life. We were very glad to know that Thai scientists in every area had already had, or were preparing to have, technological exchanges with their Chinese counterparts.

When people in the same trade get together, there is always a lot of eager shop talk, and one of the highlights of our trip was our many discussions with Thai journalists at all levels. If a major reason for our trip was the strengthening of the friendly cooperation between the press people of our two countries, then this surely was accomplished.

Besides our host Mr. Preecha, we had warm talks with Mr. Kamjat Keepanich, Director-General of the government Public Relations Department; personnel from Bangkok's *Thai Raht*, Thailand's highest circulation newspaper; Mr. Limcharoon, President of the Press Association of Northern Thailand and Editor-in-Chief of *Thai News* and his associates; and Mr. Thana Panthumetha, President of the Press Association of Southern Thailand and Deputy Mayor of Haad Yai, who was with us from early morning until late at night during our stay in the city.

Besides veteran journalists, we had a chance to meet some of the younger generation, at Bangkok College where we talked with undergraduates, and at Chiang Mai University where we had interesting conversations with staff and students of the journalism department. From veterans to neophytes, the people we met were lively, dedicated and forward-looking—fine representatives of their country and their profession.

Thinking of young people automatically makes one think of the future. The Thai youth we met, whether college students or the healthy, intelligent children at a small village school, convinced us that Thailand's future will be in good hands. And the warmth and enthusiasm with which we were greeted confirms our hope that the deep friendship between the Thai and Chinese people will continue from generation to generation. □

New Turning Point in Tibet

ZHANG RU

IN the spring of 1980 new policies were put into effect in Tibet, largely to correct some unfortunate tendencies which cropped up during the "cultural revolution." The new policies are designed to bring prosperity to the region as quickly as possible through a more flexible approach to economic development, to promote local culture, and to strengthen the region's autonomous powers. Many Tibetans consider this another major turning point in their lives since the peaceful liberation of 1951 and the suppression of rebellious feudal nobles and the abolition of serfdom in 1959.

Improved Living Standards

Last year bumper harvests were achieved both in agriculture and animal husbandry. The 505-million-kilogram gross output of grain was 19 percent more than in 1979, and the number of livestock totaled 23,800,000 — an increase of 1.6 percent over the 1979 figure.

ZHANG RU is a staff reporter for National Unity.

There were also large increases in privately-owned livestock and private plots.

Peasants and herdsmen are elated by these changes. The reason for their elation is not hard to seek: just a little over a year ago the life of 30 to 40 percent of the people in the whole region was not as good as at the time of the mutual aid teams in the early 1960s, and 200,000 to 300,000 people were extremely poor.

Lhalu Tsewong-Dorje, once a commander of the Dalai Lama's rebels in 1959 and now a member of the Tibet Political Consultative Conference, reports that "Living standards of about half of the Tibetan people have risen substantially this year; 40 percent are now at an intermediate level and about 10 percent are still quite poor, though there has been some improvement in their lives."

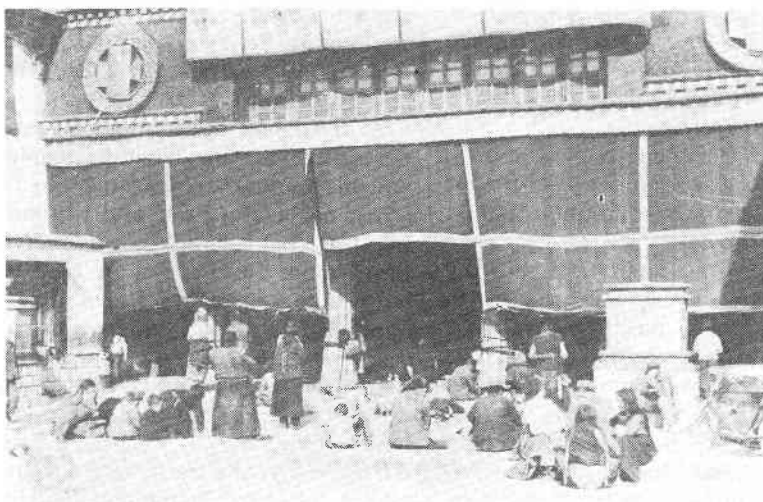
At present the amount of grain distributed per capita in better-off counties and brigades (such as Nedong county) is 300 to 400 kg. per year. In Qangdoi commune, Bailang county, it is 700 kg. Rutog

county's per capita income is now 400 yuan. In Nedong county's Gyoba commune, Baizhoi's family of six with five working members earned 4,445 yuan last year, or 889 yuan per working member — though this is still rather exceptional.

Gaisang Lhamo's family of five with three working members lives in Doilungdeqen county's Dongkar commune. Last year her family received 2,100 kg. of grain, 880 kg. more than in 1979, and 800 yuan cash income, 300 more than in 1979. They had two milk cows before, but have now bought two sheep and a yearling calf. Their storehouse is filled with sacks of *qingke* (highland barley) and wheat, and strings of dried beef hang from its ceiling. The family has a new Shanghai-made sewing machine, a new Tibet-style table and a new radio.

At the beginning of 1981 the family added another room to their house. Gaisang bought two leather jackets, one each for her husband and son. And the family still has 200 yuan in the bank.

Worshippers at Jolghang Temple.



Zhang Ru

Tibetan cadres Samding Donje Tagmo (left) of the standing committee of the Tibet Political Consultative Conference and Ngatsoi Cedan Zhoiga, chairman of Tibet's Women's Federation.





Weaving traditional mats. Xinhua



Moving into their new house, a Lhasa family hangs a "lucky" canopy and other traditional symbols. Xinhua

Much of the family's clothing is still rather shabby, as are their furnishings, but they are happy and satisfied with the new policies.

Zhagyab county in the Qamdo area had once been known as a major grain-producing area, but it got increasingly poor during the "cultural revolution." About two-thirds of the people were forced to go out to beg for a living. Some fed themselves on wild fruits and seeds. Even middle-level families went bankrupt and had to leave for other places.

At the beginning of 1979 the investigating team sent by the Party Central Committee uncovered this situation and spurred the local government into action. In 1980 total grain output increased 62.4 percent over 1979. Grain consumption reached 150 kg. per capita, and even 300 kg. in some communes and brigades. Income from sideline activities increased 38 percent over 1979. Most people who had left the county returned. One-fourth of all families repaired their houses or built new ones. Most households bought new furnishings to replace those sold when they left the county. Though the county is still not well-to-do, there has indeed been big progress in the last year.

Local Handicrafts

The Qiru area of Zhanang county is known as the home of *pulu* — a woolen fabric the Tibetans use for clothing. The population here is large for the limited

amount of arable land, and nearly every household supplemented its income by weaving *pulu*. During the "cultural revolution" households were forced to sell their looms at low prices to the collective when home industries were labeled "capitalist". At the same time there was a blind pursuit of a high degree of agricultural collectivization not appropriate to local conditions. As a result one-third of the brigades in the area survived on state assistance in the form of loans or grain allocations.

District chief Qimei Pungcog says, "We've corrected the Leftist errors and returned the looms, repairing those that were damaged and replacing those lost. We now promote this sideline by helping people get raw materials and find market outlets. In the past year about 1,100 looms have reappeared in about 90 percent of the households. The hum of shuttles is now heard everywhere again." In 1980 total income from this sideline reached 610,000 yuan, an average of 94 yuan per capita.

Lhasa's Barkor Street is a busy marketplace. Some one-third of its population are handicraftsmen and members of co-ops. Every morning people converge on the street from every direction with carrying poles, baskets, carts and tractors. Food stalls of various kinds are dotted among the many stalls and stores run by Tibetans and Nepalese residents featuring hand-crafted local products — emerald-inlaid silver vessels,

multicolored jewels, exquisitely fashioned silver and wooden bowls, carved Tibetan knives, colored carpets, mats and aprons.

The bustling scene on Barkor Street is the result of new policies on handicraft production and commerce. Now peasants, herdsmen and city dwellers can sell or exchange home-produced farm or handicraft products; collectives or individuals can buy, sell and slaughter livestock and sell meat and eggs. Foreign merchants can import goods needed by the local minority nationalities and run retail stores. To promote production and commerce, it was announced that no industrial or commercial taxes would be levied for two years starting from August 1, 1980.

Near Barkor Street the United Mats Co-op was set up in 1975 by a neighborhood committee to make traditional Tibetan mats. Today a two-story workshop is under construction. Production is up 34.9 percent over 1979. The co-op employs 105 workers. Output value for the first quarter of this year was six times that for the same period last year, and average worker monthly income increased 200 percent. The highest paid worker earns 120 yuan a month.

Lhagba Toinzhub, 57, who learned to weave at the age of 11, has deep feelings about the changes: "We old workers were once labeled 'remnants of the old social order.' We were criticized, fined, and had our products confiscated. Now we are supported and encouraged to use our skills again, and life is getting better and better. We are happy from the bottom of our hearts."

Articles like mats and *pulu* are necessities to the Tibetan people, and also much liked by people in other parts of China and abroad. In 1980 the region allocated five times more funds than in 1979 to help the growth of national handicrafts. Total value of production that year increased 21.2 percent over 1979, and about 1,000 different kinds of products were made — almost a record high. After one year's recovery, for instance, Lhasa's Chengguan district

was producing some 800 different kinds of hand-crafted products.

The 1980 total value of production was 4,000,000 yuan, an increase of 13.6 percent over 1979. About 30,000 commune members are now engaged in various kinds of handicrafts. In 1981, production of local products increased three times over last year's figure, both in quantity and value. Some 17 national handicrafts have been brought into the orbit of national economic planning. The state intends to allocate 2 million yuan to develop this aspect of the economy even further.

Minority Cadres Increase

Ragdi, the 43-year-old son of a herdsman now in charge of organizational affairs in Tibet, has this to say: "In accordance with the new policies, more and more Tibetan cadres are shouldering the tasks of building up the new Tibet, while a number of Han cadres have been transferred to other regions." Ragdi himself has been heavily involved in the work of choosing Tibetan cadres for promotion and reshuffling leadership groups at all levels.

"Now, from the region to the prefectures to the counties," he goes on, "about 300 outstanding cadres of Tibetan and other minority nationalities have assumed leadership responsibilities. The entire leadership setup is now mainly composed of Tibetans. We are now really the masters of our homeland."

Statistics show 36,900 cadres of minority extraction in leadership positions at the commune level and above — 60.3 percent of all cadres at this level in the region. In six prefectures, cities and counties, chief leadership is in the hands of Tibetans. Of 75 county or prefecture governments, 68 have Tibetans as their principal leaders. Ragdi is confident that, although many Tibetan cadres are new at their jobs, they will be competent and efficient. Of course, he adds, they will need practice and must continue to learn the art of leadership.

Yexu Zhoma, 36, head of Nedong county in the Shannan area, has

been singled out for her efficient and caring leadership. She is always busy checking out problems in the *qingke* fields or in the pastures, or visiting the aged and infirm. Once she learned that a group of peasants were temporarily short of butter tea — that Tibetan staple. She immediately allotted a thousand kg. of butter for the families with difficulties and also arranged a long-term exchange of *qingke* for butter from the Nagqu area. She is enormously popular with the local peasants.

Religion

In the last year or more the standing policy on freedom of religious practice — a policy which was violated during the "cultural revolution" — has been reemphasized. Nine lamaseries and three mosques have been reopened in Tibet. The state allocated 1,500,000 yuan for reconstruction of the Gandan lamastery, one of the three most famous in Lhasa, which was razed during the years of turmoil. The pagoda of Zonggaba (one of the founders of the Yellow Sect of Lamaism) and four temples have also been rebuilt. At the refurbished lamaseries and at the Potala Palace, crowds of worshippers and visitors can be seen every day from all parts of Tibet and from Gansu, Qinghai and Sichuan provinces.

The Zhaxilhunbo lamastery at Shigatse was built in 1447. At its zenith it covered 300,000 square meters and housed 4,000 lamas. Wangdui, 50, a member of the lamastery's management committee, reports that there are now 570 lamas, 200 supported by the state and the remainder working on the 133.3 hectares of farmland run by the lamastery. In addition each of the 570 receives every month from the state 10 yuan in pocket money.

Those who normally work on the farm are invited back to the lamastery for holidays or religious ceremonies. Per capita grain consumption among the lamas was 350 kg. last year, and per capita income of those who could work was 400 yuan on the average. Those who cannot work get relief funds and goods from the state,

just as any non-religious citizens do.

"Since the reimplementation of the policy on religious freedom," Wangdui says, "the livelihood of the lamas has been assured and their right to religious belief guaranteed. They can now devote time to studying the scriptures and sutras, or to other religious activities. The management of the lamastery has returned to normal. We are now open six days a week for worshippers or just sightseers." □

Yangmo, a Party committee member at Red Flag commune, Nagqu county, pitches in at milking time. Xinhua



Busy marketplace in Lhasa. Xinhua



A Famous Beijing Dish

LIN ZENGCHENG and LIU HONGFA



IT'S called *shuanyangrou* — in English, Mongolian hotpot — thin slices of mutton boiled quickly at the table in a Mongolian water brazier and served with fascinating sauces and seasonings. This is one of the famous dishes of Beijing, particularly pleasing for wintertime dining. The Donglaishun Restaurant on Wangfujing Street, one of Beijing's busiest, is the place to go for *shuanyangrou*.

The Donglaishun never wants for customers. As the guests are seated, a waiter brings a tray with seven bowls containing seasonings of seven colors — red chili oil, green chive flowers, pink fermented beancurd sauce, black soybean sauce, gold sesame oil, brown sesame paste and coffee-colored shrimp sauce.

In their own bowls the customers mix their favorite condiments, adding some coriander and chopped green onions. Then the waiter carries in a plate of garlic in sauce, some cabbage hearts and vermicelli. Finally, a copper charcoal brazier is put in the center of the table. Its heat arises through a pipe around which is a circular trough of water. When the water boils, a plate of thin slices of mutton is brought. The guests use chopsticks to put the slices into the boiling water. After only a few

seconds it is ready. It is taken out, dipped in the mixed condiments and eaten. Then any remaining mutton is put into the water together with cabbage hearts, spinach, diced beancurd and bean sprouts. This clears away any oiliness. Now vermicelli is added. The result is a thick but delicious soup.

Though a dozen Beijing restaurants serve *shuanyangrou*, Donglaishun is the best of them. One of the reasons is He Fengqing, 53,

its master cook. Apprenticed at 13, he learned his art through long experience.

The ingredients used for *shuanyangrou* at Donglaishun seem the same as at other restaurants. But there is a difference. The chili is fried in sesame oil, the bean sauce is made by the restaurant itself, and instead of water in the brazier a soup containing mushrooms, shrimp and green onions is used. The ingredients are strictly chosen and skillfully cooked.

The restaurant's high quality mutton comes from two special areas in Inner Mongolia. The sheep are less than two years old. The meat is tender and delicious, and without a strong smell. It is freezer-stored and thin-sliced while still cold. The Donglaishun Restaurant keeps strict standards. Every plate, for example, contains 200 grams of sliced mutton, each paper-thin at 0.8 mm thickness. Over a ton and a half of mutton is served every day.

Shuanyangrou originated in the north and northeastern parts of China among nomad peoples. The copper brazier appeared about 1,400 years ago and was first used to scald different kinds of meat such as pork, rabbit and chicken. Around the end of the Ming dynasty 400 years ago *shuanyangrou* was brought to Beijing. It became very popular and was

Enjoying Mongolian hotpot at the Donglaishun Restaurant.

Zhang Jingde



one of the winter delicacies served in the Qing court. A Qing menu now in the Forbidden City lists this dish first among those preferred. During the Spring Festival of 1796, when the Qing court gave a "Banquet of a Thousand Elders", 1,550 copper braziers were used.

The founder of the Donglaishun Restaurant was Ding Deshan, a poor man of the city who made a meagre living selling loess soil for planting flowers and making stove briquets. In 1903 he set up a stand near Dong'an Market (today's Dongfeng Market in Wangfujing Street) selling porridge, *douzhi*, a fermented bean drink and baked corn cakes. Later he built a shed and hung up a signboard, "Donglaishun". Three years later he built a shop of three rooms, hired several workers and enlarged his business.

Because *shuanyangrou* was so popular, in 1914 he added this to his menu and changed the name of his restaurant to the Donglaishun Mutton Restaurant. Having heard that a cook in the Zhengyanglou Restaurant outside the Front Gate was famous for his skill with this dish, he offered him a high salary and brought him to the Donglaishun. The cook trained a number of excellent apprentices.

Business became more and more brisk. His restaurant enlarged steadily and became the best in the capital. Donglaishun established branch shops and began making its own ingredients for *shuanyangrou* — even the copper table braziers. Thus the dish began to have a flavor imitated but not matched in other restaurants.

After liberation in 1949 the Donglaishun Restaurant changed. It was rebuilt in 1969. The new building is bright, spacious and air-conditioned. It has nine private rooms, a refreshment room and two banquet halls, each holding 100 diners. Some 600 people can be served at the same time. The restaurant receives 6,000 foreigners every month and has entertained many famous people and heads of state. No one really knows Beijing until he has eaten *shuanyangrou* at the Donglaishun. □

DO YOU KNOW?

How China Communicates with the World?

CHINA now has mail and telecommunication services to all parts of the world except South Korea, South Africa and Israel. There are direct cable, telephone, telex and photo-telegraph lines with 47 countries and leased lines to twelve. China also transmits TV programs via satellite and radio programs with some countries on every continent. Beginning in 1979, data-transmitting experiments have been carried on with Japan, France, West Germany and other countries. Today 277 telegraph, 214 telephone and 9 radiophoto lines are in operation.

China's international communications are done mainly by satellite. Radio, under-sea cables and open-wire lines augment this. Three Beijing and Shanghai-built ground satellite stations link up with 27 countries via satellites over the Indian and Pacific oceans. A

480-channel submarine cable connects China and Japan.

China's postal services have also expanded, with direct mail to 111 countries. This includes letters, postcards, printed matter, reading materials for the blind, registered letters, small packets and parcel post (including ordinary, fragile and registered packages). International express postal service is now also handled in Beijing, Shanghai, Tianjin, Guangzhou, Fuzhou, Shenzhen, Harbin, Dalian, Nanjing, Hangzhou, Changsha, Wuhan, Shenyang Qingdao, Xi'an and Qinhuangdao. These stations take urgent commercial documents, contract data, commercial sample books, construction blueprints and other items needed by financial, commercial, foreign-trade, scientific and technological departments, giving them rapid processing through customs and transport. □

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SEE CHINA FOR YOURSELF!

In the interests of strengthening the ties of friendship and understanding between the people of China and English-speaking friends, the Society for Anglo-Chinese Understanding has been organising visits to the People's Republic of China since 1970. For 1981/2 we can offer the following:

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Future Scientists Spread Their Wings

— Summer Science Camp
for National Minority Youth

YOU YUWEN



Science camp students at Tian An Men. Liu Chen

LAST August passers-by in Tian An Men Square witnessed an unusual sight—215 minority nationality young people in traditional dress lining up for a group photo. These young middle-school students were in Beijing to attend the first-ever Summer Science Camp for National Minority Youth sponsored by the Chinese Science and Technology Association, the State Nationalities Affairs Commission, the Ministry of Education, the Chinese Communist Youth League and the All-China Women's Federation.

The 119 boys and 96 girls attending the camp represented 54 different nationalities from 17 provinces and autonomous regions. The oldest was 21, the youngest 11. A Tibetan girl said in wonder, "We have come from Xing'an Ling in northeast China, from the Five-Finger Mountains on Hainan Island in the south, from the Qinghai-Tibet Plateau in the southwest, from oases on the Old Silk Road in the northwest, and from the coast of the East China Sea. And here we are in Beijing, the heart of our motherland. There is really no way to describe how exciting it all is."

YOU YUWEN is a staff reporter for China Reconstructs.

Most of the students had never been away from their hometowns, much less farther afield. For some, the journey took between ten and twenty days. Bouyei girl Tang Shiqin's father and teacher traveled fifty kilometers from their home in Wangmo county to see her off at Guiyang, capital of Guizhou province. Tibetan student Wang Guofang spent two days on horseback just to reach the commune center from his home in a snowy mountain valley. Ding Run, a Dai girl from Ruili county, Yunnan province, visits relatives in Burma several times a year, but this was her first time in Beijing.

The students, chosen for their academic excellence, became the center of attention in their home villages and towns. Mothers burned the midnight oil to make new clothes. Fathers urged them again and again to study hard and to behave themselves. Teachers gave them new notebooks and suggested they record everything they experienced. Classmates told them to bring back "good things". On departure day, whole villages turned out to see off their young representatives. These students carried with them not just good wishes for a pleasant journey, but the hopes of their people for a younger generation who would

become masters of science and technology.

Part of the purpose of the 15-day camp experience was to further the students' knowledge of scientific disciplines and technological applications. But an even more important purpose was to inspire in them a love of science and an appreciation of its role in socialist construction. During the "cultural revolution" many minority nationality areas fell even further behind other parts of China in economic development and education. The summer science camp is just one of many efforts underway to solve this problem of uneven development. The new generation of Chinese youth of all nationalities are the heirs of a long tradition of Chinese scientific innovation, but they are also the future.

The students visited a number of distinguished Chinese scientists who talked to them about their work and about the importance of the various sciences. One who particularly impressed them was Gao Shiqi, a scientist who has carried on his work even though he has been paralyzed for half a century. He wrote a letter praising the group as the "spring of the motherland, flower of making, hope of science and the reserve force of socialist construction."



Observing an experimental solar power device at Beijing Planetarium.

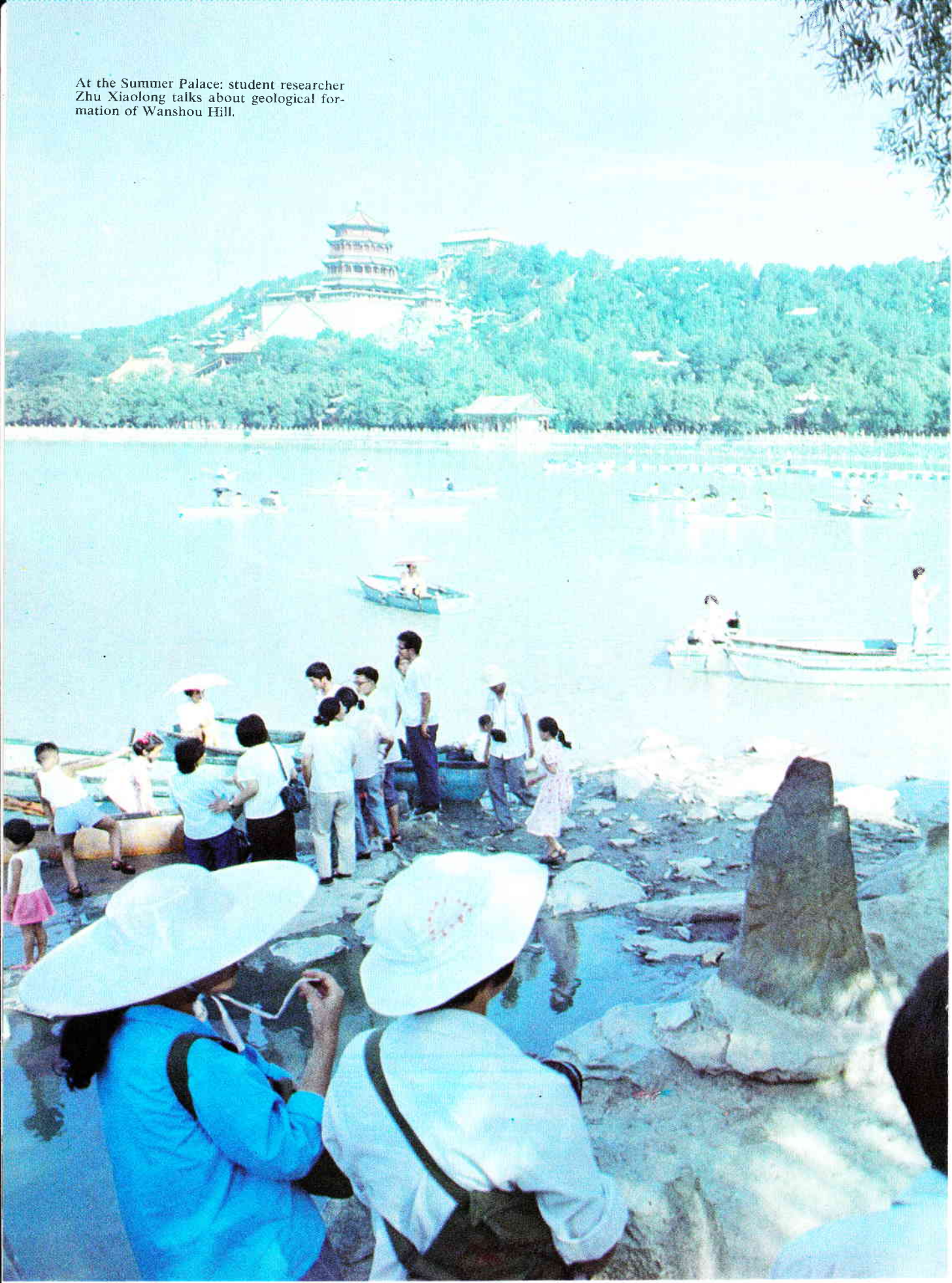
Astronomy lesson at Beijing Planetarium.



Collecting botanical specimens.



At the Summer Palace: student researcher Zhu Xiaolong talks about geological formation of Wanshou Hill.



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Beijing Botanical Garden: lotuses grown from 1,000-year-old seeds recovered by archaeologists.

Sightseeing at the Great Wall.

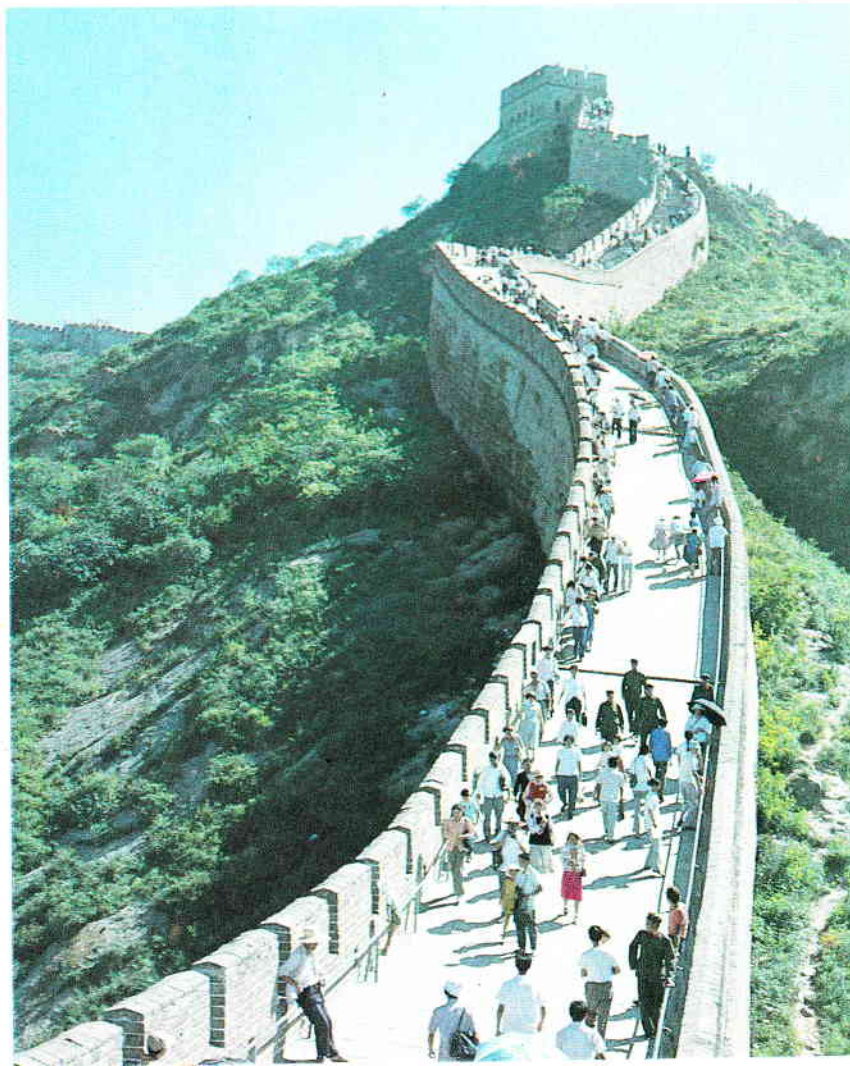


A chemical experiment.

Electronics workshop.



Photos by Liu Chen



Hua Luogeng, a mathematician and vice-chairman of the Chinese Science and Technology Association, inscribed a message for them to remember: "Wisdom lies in study—genius is just an accumulation of knowledge." Their talks with respected scientists gave many students a new outlook on their own roles in life. Tibetan Basang Zhuoma and Bao Ying, a Mongolian, wrote a joint statement proclaiming their determination to learn from the dedicated spirit of the older generation and study hard for the sake of modernizing the motherland.

Botanical Science

Beijing's Botanical Garden, located near scenic Xiangshan (Fragrant Hill), has more than 3,000 varieties of rare plants from five continents, including numerous trees and flowers from all over China. The students were overwhelmed.

The Uygur students from Xinjiang, Tibetans and Tus from the Qinghai-Tibet Plateau and the Mongolians from grasslands were particularly fascinated by the tropical and sub-tropical plants which they had never seen before, and immediately began to scribble the names in their notebooks. They were somewhat dismayed to learn that some 1,500 varieties of these plants were on display—how could they possibly squeeze all those names in?

Students of the Dai, Lahu and Va nationalities laughed at first—these same plants grew wild everywhere near their homes in Yunnan, and were taken for granted. But here they began to see the plants in a new light—as precious objects of botanical study. The teacher's discussion of plant genetics and the importance of botanical knowledge in agriculture, medicine and related fields impressed his audience. Lu Xiangcai, an Achang youth from Yunnan, said afterwards, "There are so many plants near my hometown. I must begin to study them,

and perhaps in this way make some contributions to mankind."

From Pandas to Galaxies

Like all visitors, the students were amused and delighted by the antics of the pandas, monkeys and other inhabitants of the Beijing Zoo. But this visit involved more than "monkey business". Students learned of the variety and origin of animals many of which they had never seen before. They learned something of the biology of animal life, their place in the natural scheme of things, and the various forces that threaten the existence of some species. One thoughtful student who lives near the panda's natural homeland commented, "Promoting the reproduction of pandas must be an important research item for our people, for they are a treasure which is loved by all the world's people."

The biological sciences also got a boost from a visit to the Museum of Natural History. Particularly impressive was an elaborate display on the evolution of man, a sequence that inspired a lot of note-taking and sketching. Cai Meishu, a Korean nationality senior middle school student said that the museum displays had brought to life the things she had

learned in class. She added that she had decided to become a biologist.

From the inhabitants of the earth the students turned for a look at the inhabitants of the sky—at the Beijing Planetarium. Planets, stars, galaxies, comets—never had the students seen them so clearly or thought about them so much. One student said, "So

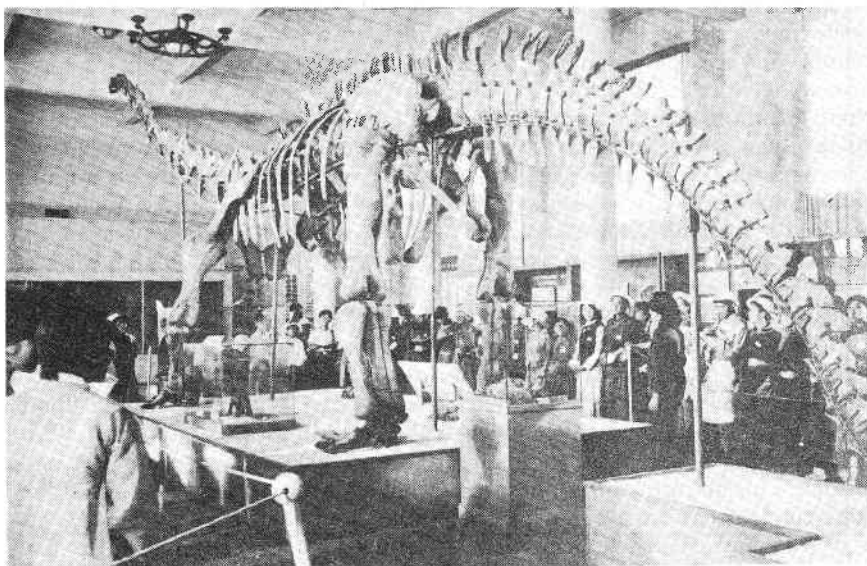


First plane ride.

Jiang Duo

At the Museum of Natural History.

Jiang Duo





Impromptu entertainment at a suburban outing.

Jiang Duo

many fascinating things we don't yet know about the heavenly bodies! So much to learn!"

Technical Center

A highlight of the students' trip was a visit to Beijing's Western District Scientific and Technical Experimental Center, a spare-time center for senior middle school students interested in science. The array of scientific instruments and materials delighted the camp students. Their Beijing middle school hosts showed them magnetically-controlled toy animals and a remote control crane they had built themselves. The hosts also performed some simple experiments involving chemistry and atmospheric pressures and invited their guests to try the experiments themselves. A Mongolian student commented, "I thought I knew something, but after seeing this center I feel I know nothing. Knowledge is really an endless river; we must keep on studying all our lives."

In the electronics workshop, the hosts coached the visitors in assembling small electric fans. With their projects completed, connected and actually working, the camp students broke into smiles and mutual congratulation. Some of the visitors had learned chemistry

from books, but because of a shortage of supplies in their schools, had had few opportunities to perform actual chemical experiments. This had bothered them very much, and they felt it had hampered their studies. When they heard this, the Beijing students immediately shared their chemical supplies with their new friends so they could perform experiments back home.

Applied Science

On August 13 the young people circled over Beijing in a Boeing 707. It was the first plane ride for most of the students, and excitement ran high. The scientific implications of this product of modern technology were not lost on them. Wang Guofang, the student who had ridden two days on horseback just to reach the commune center from his snowy mountain home, speculated about what a difference a plane would have made on the journey.

At Badaling, site of a restored section of the Great Wall, the students listened attentively as geologist Song Chunqing talked about the building of the Great Wall. Even 2,000 years ago, he stressed, the Chinese people had considerable knowledge of geology, geography and engineering. The

Great Wall is one of the wonders of human technology. Most people know of its role as a defense against invaders from the north; few realize that it was also designed to hold back the flow of sand shifting southward. The students came to appreciate the extremely hard human labor needed to build the wall — work that can be done much more quickly and easily today by machines.

Back in Beijing the group toured the Beijing Television Factory, where the automated assembly line for color television sets made a deep impression. Zhuang student Zeng Qilin had this to say: "Science can give us unlimited strength. How urgently our remote homelands need that strength!"

Wang Chenghong is a reserved young man of the Kucong nationality in his first year of senior middle school. Because of his background, his educational level is not as advanced as that of many students in other parts of China, but on this day he made a resolve. He would be among the first of his people to attend college. He memorized the words of the factory's deputy chief engineer: "In 20 years I hope that all of you will be creating the technology that will make China one of the world's most advanced nations."

At the farewell party at the Beijing Children's Palace, the atmosphere was gay but thoughtful at the same time. The camp students swapped folk songs and dances with Beijing young people. They talked with the eminent scientists attending the party. They reminisced about their experiences in Beijing, and promised to keep in touch with one another. They talked about what the camp experience had meant. One Uygur girl seemed to sum up the feeling of most of them. "From now on I will study science as I have never studied it before. With science we can change the face of our hometown. With science we can build the motherland into a modern socialist country. We need to learn from the older generation of revolutionaries who have loved and served China and its people." □

A People's Cultural Center in Dalian

BAO WENQING

RECREATIONAL and cultural centers in China help do three things for the people: raise socialist consciousness and morale, provide healthy rest after work, and give people an opportunity to take part in many different activities.

Dalian, a beautiful sea-bordered city in Liaoning province, has such a mass center. Last August, for example, the city's annual two-week theatrical festival was held there, bringing together some 400 amateur artists from factories, offices, schools and outlying villages performing in music, dance, opera, drama and comic dialogue. The events were packed.

The Dalian cultural center was built in 1955. It sponsors drama, opera, fine arts, photography and a large amateur art school. It helps a dozen other cultural centers in surrounding districts, counties, several hundred factory clubs, neighborhood and commune groups.

Alone, the center's 20 staff members cannot handle all the cultural activities of a city of 1.2 million people. So it trains others, who in turn discover and train amateurs from factories, offices, schools and communes. These trainees then go back to promote cultural work in their own units.

To help with this training, the center set up research offices for each art field. For instance, the fine arts section has groups working in Chinese traditional painting, graphic arts, poster painting, New Year paintings and crafts. Amateur painters study free of charge. They listen to lectures by celebrated artists and paint under their guidance.

The center holds many kinds of cultural activities, including singing contests, dances, opera, comic dialogue, story-telling, cross-talk

and clapper-talk festivals. There are exhibitions of paintings and photographs. Admission is free, and because most of the items reflect life in factories and villages in a lively way, these are popular and attract more people than professional theatrical troupes do.

Worker Artists

The big Dalian shipyard has about 20,000 workers. Its trade unions are in charge of cultural activities. The yard spends about 20,000 yuan on such activity every year.

A recent exhibition of paintings by workers produced dozens of Chinese traditional paintings, oil paintings, graphic arts and posters. The yard's painters' group has over 50 workers. Every year the best of their works are displayed in city, provincial and national exhibitions.

Foundry worker Guo Qinghai has become a nationally-known

painter. Since 1980 he has won 14 prizes. He has said, "I've liked fine arts since I was a boy. My family couldn't afford to send me to an art school. After I began work in the shipyard I got the chance to learn. The yard sent me to a school where professional artists helped me and I received brushes, paint and paper free. Gradually I became a fairly good painter."

Tool shop worker Zhao Zirong said, "During breaks I try to make a draft composition for a painting. After a good draft is finished, I'm given time off with pay to do the painting."

The shipyard has 20 shops, each with its own art group. The hull shop, for example, has 2,000 workers and an amateur cultural group of 40. Their items include modern plays, opera, music, ballad singing, comic dialogues, clapper talks and cross talks. Six hundred other amateurs take part in a Bei-

Shipyard amateur artists' exhibition.





Yi Haiyan, woman member of Dalian Shipyard's art group, seeks opinions on her new sculpture.



The Xinghai Philharmonic Society's performances are always popular.

jing opera troupe, an acrobatic troupe, a band and other arts.

An art fair is held every year in the shipyard. It was held in May this year. The performers gave 100 items, two-thirds of them created by workers themselves.

There is an outstanding group of writers in the yard. At present they are working on a full-length modern play about the yard negotiating a contract with a big Hongkong shipowner for a 27,000-ton freighter. A philatelic group and a photographers' club are also active.

The amateur Beijing opera troupe is famous in the city. Several years ago when the gang of four was in power, the troupe was banned and its costumes and props destroyed. In 1980 the troupe was reorganized and the shipyard spent 20,000 yuan on it. The head of the troupe is a technician. Giving performances as good as those done by professionals in the city, it regained its fame in a very short time.

Philharmonic Society

The cultural center has also helped establish the amateur Xinghai Philharmonic Society consisting of 70 office workers, teachers and factory employees. They give performances in the city's annual festival and in factories, offices, schools and residential quarters.

Its head is a worker and a good trumpet player. When he started

the society, music lovers responded warmly and took their own instruments to rehearsals. At first the leader of the city's cultural center doubted its level. But after he had heard their performance, he changed his mind and allotted 4,000 yuan for it and helped improve its performance.

Vocal music was added to the society's work in 1981. Some folk singers have performed on the stage. Among them are Sui Xiaofang, a woman worker in a component parts company; Li Dehui, a building worker; and Li Hua, a salesman — each of whom had won prizes at a citywide singing contest and were among the best in a Liaoning province contest.

The Xinghai Philharmonic Society has successfully performed some Chinese and foreign pieces, and some with local flavor they composed themselves. They have done a violin concerto, *Liang Shanbo and Zhu Yingtai* and the overture to *Carmen*. Worker Hu Xiangren composed *The New Long March*. Peasant Hou Yongxin composed *Song of the Youth League*.

The philharmonic society is dwarfed by other mass music activities. There are 40,000 musicians at the local levels. In 1981 alone there were a number of singing festivals with a total of 3,000 singers. The cultural center also puts out a music magazine. In 1981 it received over 400 pieces composed by folk singers. Some of

these had appeared in provincial or national music publications. All had been well recommended by music critics.

Amateur Painters

The city has a lot of amateur painters. Many are helped by the cultural center. Two pupils in the Northeast Road Primary School won medals in a 1978 international children's painting contest. Nine-year-old Han Tao first started painting in kindergarden. In the first grade she made one called *Chicks*, depicting 12 chicks searching for worms. It was awarded first prize in the world children's painting contest held in Finland. Li Dongmei, 10, has done *Xinjiang Dance* and *Let's Go Swimming in the Sea*, both highly praised. Today these young painters study art in the city children's palace.

In the Northeast Road Primary School many pupils study painting after class. In 1981 20 of their works were exhibited in the National Art Gallery in Beijing. Thirteen were sent to an exhibition abroad. At a national children's exhibition, 71 paintings out of 420 were done by Dalian children.

Xu Shizheng, a middle-school painting teacher, tutors young painters in his school in his spare time. Once an editor of the Chinese magazine *Fine Arts* visited the school and was astonished at the high level of the 300 pieces of



Teacher from the city's culture center flies high to demonstrate a leap for dance students.



Wei Xiujin (right) of the center's photographic section won first prize in a contest for Asian women photographers.
Photos by Zhang Kaishun

the student art on display. In 1981 six graduates were admitted to fine arts colleges. Other good art students were enrolled in architectural or mechanical drawing departments of universities.

Several hundred amateur painting groups in the city have become more active in the past two years under the principle of "letting a hundred flowers blossom and a hundred schools of thought contend." Seven painting exhibitions were held in 1980. Their paintings were also sent to exhibitions in Tianjin and other cities. In the first half of 1981 another seven exhibitions were held. About 2,000 paintings were shown.

The Dragon Dance Revived

Jinxian county, 60 kilometers from Dalian, has 580,000 people. The dragon dance is several centuries old. During the New Year and other holidays, peasants made colored dragon lanterns with silk, bamboo and wood. More than 20 people raise the lanterns and go into the streets and lanes with gongs and drums. Spectators love them. After the founding of new China, Jinxian county's dragon dance won first prize at a World Youth festival. This helped make the dragon dance famous abroad.

The "cultural revolution," however, banned the dance as part

of "the four olds." Today it has been revived and is done especially during the Spring Festival.

Fourteen of the 19 communes in the county have set up cultural centers similar to Dalian's. All the communes have their own theaters, ranging from 700 to 1,200 seats. The peasants have organized their own amateur theatrical troupes for operas, plays and dances. Admission is free. The county has 142 film projection teams and at least two films are shown each week in the villages. The communes' brigades have cultural rooms. Here the peasants watch TV, borrow books and study under special instructors. □

Dragon dance.



Pursuit

ZHANG JIE

MAN is the soul of the universe — so goes an old Chinese saying. But sometimes they get funny ideas. People travel thousands of miles to Shandong province's Penglai Peninsula on the Pacific coast merely to see a mirage, and then write deeply felt poems and other pieces about this



Zhang Jie.

thing which does not really exist. Ordinary life is not enough for human beings; they seek more.

When I first began to read, books were to me like that mirage, something outside of life that opened new vistas. Like many other people, I often become so immersed in a book that I regretted having to leave this imaginary world and come back to daily life. Literature can do this for people, heighten real life, real emotions, in an incomparable way. And, as God is said to have created Adam in his own image, a writer's works

reflect the writer's mind and spirit. Musicians, artists and writers alike "talk" to society through their works. Perhaps what drives them to work so hard, draining their minds and exhausting their bodies, is loneliness, the need to be understood by others. So much human misery is caused by lack of mutual understanding; it seems to me the communication possible through literature is one of the most important things in the world.

Literature has filled my mind with ideas — some of them not very scientific or mature, some of which have even misled me for a while. But I have no regrets. People are not always objective. They are capable of blind self-sacrifice in pursuit of what they love. Literature has made me a person of flesh and blood and emotion, as well as defects, and without this I would hardly have written a line. Leo Tolstoy once said to his brother, "You have all the strong points of a writer, but not that essential weakness of extreme views."

MY writing reflects one of my deepest unrealized ideals: Life should become what human beings wish it to be. Ah, but couldn't it become so? Writing is the most important thing in my life. Once I believed I was neither purposeful nor consistent, but like a dragonfly flitting from one thing to another. Only through my work have I found myself. I don't know about others, but I feel that to really know one's self is very difficult, sometimes a lifelong task. At any rate, it has taken me 40 years, and though it comes late, I relish this new, strong sense of self.

A lifetime of large and small frustrations ages one, else why

should I sometimes feel so tired before I am really old? Some days ago I suffered a small recurrence of an old heart problem. I was in the street, only a short way from home, but could not make it. I put a nitroglycerine tablet under my tongue and sat under a tree in the pouring rain. Sweat beaded my forehead, pain gripped me. The sad sound of raindrops beating into a roadside puddle somehow brought back to me all the sorrows of my life.

But it also brought the memory of a ship model I had once seen, a medieval ship that had once roamed the Mediterranean. It was a gift from the United States to Feng Jicai, the veteran writer. The day he showed it to me, he said that if I ever visited the United States, he would give me the money to buy such a model. From the day we met, this friend has always been able to read my mind. He had known immediately that the ship excited me as much as it did him, making me think of pirates, freedom and the spirit of adventure, indomitable exploration and pursuit. Was I a ship that had gotten stranded far from the sea, able only to listen to the call of the waves? No: sitting under that tree, I refused to give in, to surrender myself to some passive fate.

Whenever I am blue, I like to read over letters from my readers. For a writer, nothing is more worthwhile, more satisfying, than being understood by his or her readers. And my readers are so generous in their feelings. Some have written me, "If ever you meet with misfortune, just come to us." Reading these letters, I think: For whom am I writing? For whom am I living? For my readers, of course. For them I have to pursue my calling, so that I can say before I die, "I have never lied with my pen."

At Beidaihe
July 10, 1981

The Road I've Traveled

YE WENLING

PLANTS of the same species may resemble one another, but are never exactly alike. In the same way, we middle-aged writers have shared many experiences—particularly the grave interruption of our life and work by the “cultural revolution.” But our stories are not identical; all of us traveled different roads. For that reason the details of my own life, my own road, may be of interest.

My home town is Chumenzhen, on a small island off the coast in Zhejiang province. Its bounteous fish and rice nourished my body, while its green hills and blue waters nurtured my spirit. As a girl I loved the outdoor life—catching crabs in my bare feet, climbing trees to pick mulberries. But I also loved the regular readings in our Culture Center and the performances by traveling opera troupes which were my first taste of the arts.

In school I discovered I had some gift for writing when I won first prize in a composition contest. My teachers' personal interest in my work helped inspire a growing awareness of literature. I became so fascinated by the written word that even a scrap of printed paper by the roadside would attract my attention. In 1955, when I was thirteen and a second-year student in junior middle school, our county newspaper published my first work—a 1,000-character short story. The praise of my teachers and my schoolmates' awe set me to dreaming: I would enter university, study Chinese literature, and become a writer.

BUT life educates a writer more than books, and my life was about to take a shape rather different from my dreams. In 1957 I entered senior middle school. But soon afterward, as part of the anti-Rightist campaign, my father came under attack and I had to leave school. Looking back on it today, I can see that without this setback,

I might never have had the opportunity to experience life at the grass roots. Living and working on a farm taught me much that I could never have learned from books.

Being cut off from books during the day only increased my passion for reading, and every evening and other spare moment I spent in our Culture Center's reading room. In pages torn from a notebook I wrote a short story, “Xuemei and I,” and



Ye Wenling.

Chen Heyi

sent it to our provincial literary magazine, *Eastern Sea*. After I had sent it off, I was astonished at my boldness. I decided to expect at most only a formal acknowledgement that my manuscript had been received. But to my great surprise the story was published. This was the first step on a winding road that would take me by roundabout ways to my final goal of becoming a writer.

I was assigned different jobs: as a kindergarten nurse, a primary-school teacher and a worker on a state farm. These constant changes upset me at the time. I felt like a blade of grass growing from a rock without water or proper nourishment. But the opportunities these changes gave me

to observe people and situations were invaluable later on when I needed to describe ordinary life in my writings. During this period I managed to write five more short stories, most of which were published in *Eastern Sea*.

Then I married, had a baby, and moved to Henan province, where we lived at the school at which my husband taught. From the professional point of view, this was the most depressing period of my life. I had no work nor residence permit, and as a young housewife my only comfort was the school library. So often was I there reading late at night that the principal sometimes mistook me for a student.

AT the beginning of 1966 I got a job in the office of a district people's committee in the city of Zhengzhou, and my life took a turn for the better. But six months later the “cultural revolution” began. For Chinese intellectuals this was a real calamity, and even our small family couldn't escape its consequences. The literary field was in a shambles. I had little chance to read, much less write, and my ambition lay buried like an ember under heaps of ash.

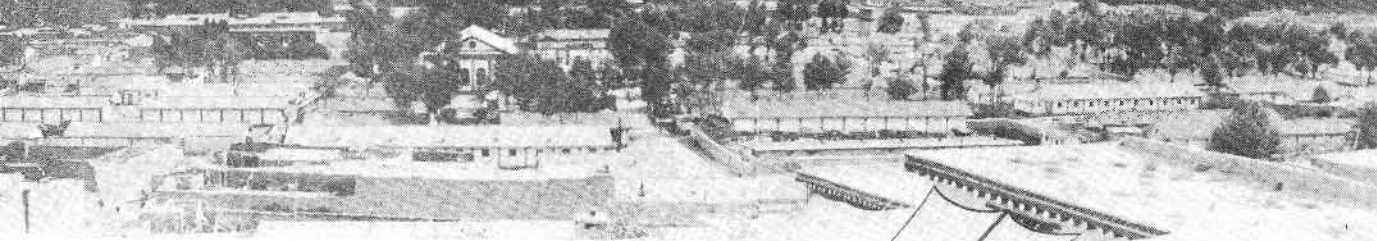
By the end of 1968 I was working as a punch-press operator in a Zhengzhou factory. Although I wasn't doing any intellectual work, I was happy at least to be contributing to my country's material wealth. At that time I already had three children. Every day, with my youngest in tow, I rode my bike the 20 kilometers to the factory and back. It's not easy to work in a factory and take care of a five-person family without help. But despite constant fatigue, I tried to read something every day. I even read while I cooked. Sundays and holidays were usually too filled with work to spend much time with my children, and I felt guilty about this.

The years passed; the “cultural revolution” ended and the intellectual atmosphere changed. I began to write again. What I consider my real literary debut came in 1977. My short stories “Danmei,” “Snow

(Continued on p. 51)

Herdsmen on the 'Roof of the World'

CHEN RINONG



Jiequzhen, a 1,000-year-old commercial center.

TO reach the Yushu Tibetan Autonomous Prefecture, the highest pastoral land in China with an average height of 4,000 meters above sea level, the traveler starts from Xining, capital of Qinghai province, by jeep. The 830-kilometer modern highway rises gradually to 3,000 meters above sea level until it reaches the Qinghai-Tibet Plateau — the “roof of the world.” From there the road climbs steeply to cross the highest pass of the Bayan Har Mountains, 5,200 meters above sea level. It is only two days from Xining, but it seems like a different world. Those unused to the altitude find themselves taking deep breaths to get more oxygen into their lungs.

Cresting the pass in high summer is an unforgettable experience.

CHEN RINONG is a staff reporter for China Reconstructs.

The plateau stretches out at one's feet in every direction, a sea of grass dotted with flowers of every color. Those specks of black and white on the distant mountain slopes are yaks and sheep. Princess Wen Cheng of the Tang dynasty (A.D. 618-907) passed through here on her way to marry the king of Tibet, and the traveler spares a moment to hope that her first sight of her new home was in the golden sunlight of high summer.

Good Pastures

Winters at this altitude are long and severe; the growing season is at the most five months long. On first consideration it's difficult to believe that under these conditions Qinghai province is one of China's five major stockraising areas, and that Yushu prefecture itself makes up one-third of this area, or about 260,000 square

kilometers. But the region has certain natural advantages which make it very suitable for stockraising, and a great deal of scientific planning has gone into developing these resources to the fullest extent.

One resource is plenty of ground water, which is essential both for grass and for livestock. Yushu prefecture is the source of the Changjiang, Huanghe and Lancangjiang rivers. There are large areas of marshes and lakes. In the spring melting snow from the valleys and the mountains provides still more water. Local vegetation is another resource; there are more than 100 kinds of herbage, much of which is nutritious and appetizing to livestock, and some of which has medicinal or insect-repelling qualities.

The topography itself also provides some advantages. Grass grown on the slopes of mountains provides summer and autumn grazing lands. Forage grass is grown on the plains. In valleys protected by lofty mountains, stock pens are set up for winter and spring camping grounds.

Scientific Grazing

Yushu's grasslands cover an area of 12,000,000 hectares, or 63.5 percent of the total area. But as prefecture head Yi Bengang points out, local people have virtually created this rich grassland with their own hands. Yi himself knows stockraising inside out. A cowherd as a child, he was head

The children of herdsman Soinam Gyaco.



Grazing sheep 4,000 meters above sea level.





Mobile shop serves on-the-go herdsmen.



Milking a yak.

Young people show off equestrian skills.



At Zhaxi's home.



of the prefecture's Animal Husbandry Bureau from 1951 to just this year, when he became governor of the prefecture. He participated in the reforms which took place shortly after the founding of the Tibetan Autonomous Prefecture in 1951, in which the central government helped local herdsmen stand on their own feet and take control of their own land. The first stage involved state subsidies and loans to enable herdsmen to buy animals and tools. Political organization and the abolition of feudal serfdom followed.

A major innovation was the introduction of scientific animal husbandry and resource management. Chinese scientists helped organize the local people in conducting four major surveys of local hydrology, geology, distribution of grazing land, varieties of grass and stockraising methods. The surveys provided the basis for an overall plan for developing local resources. Without such a plan, pastures can become overgrazed and barren. With such a plan, local people can preserve present grasslands, develop new grazing areas, and greatly increase the number of livestock raised.

The whole prefecture now raises three to four crops of grass a year on which herds are grazed in turn. Sheep are taken to mountain pastures in summer and autumn, and back to the valleys in winter and spring. To make up for the

long, cold winters when pastures are limited, local communes try to enlarge winter and spring pasture areas, prolong the growing seasons on summer and autumn pastures, and open up new summer grazing lands. Because the western parts of the grassland were underutilized, the prefecture organized three new communes, constructed roads, and put up houses and pens in the area.

Large sections of grassland are fenced in by low walls of adobe or wire mesh. These plots are specially kept for winter fodder. Every year communes plant new sections of artificial grasslands using scientifically selected seeds. The new grasslands amount to about 20,000 hectares. Campaigns to eliminate mice and insect pests help preserve the grasslands.

Yi Bengan says, "We have had our ups and downs over the past 30 years, but in general we have made great progress. Our prefecture of 180,000 people now has 5,390,000 domestic animals — about 25 percent of the total for the province. This is three times the number of animals we had in 1950. Every year Yushu supplies the state with an average of 280,000 head of livestock, 2,500,000 kg. of sheep's wool, 280,000 sheepskins, 105,000 yak skins and 300,000 kg. of yak hair."

Commercial Center

Jieguzhen, capital of Yushu prefecture, is 3,700 meters above sea

level and surrounded by mountains. The city is a thousand years old, and has long been the commercial and communications center linking Tibet, Qinghai and Sichuan. Over the past 30 years the city has grown a great deal as new living quarters, schools, hospitals and other institutions have been built, but the characteristics of the ancient city haven't changed much. Along the streets herdsmen on horseback browse among stalls selling everything from flashlights to Tibetan knives and jewelry.

Trade corporations headquartered in Jieguzhen have established small shops and commission agents in the far-flung communes and brigades. The agents purchase livestock products from brigades and individual herdsmen, and in turn supply them with daily necessities. In summer, when the herdsmen are on the move with their herds, mobile "shops" mounted on yak or horseback follow them around.

Jieguzhen has a growing livestock products processing industry. A fur-processing factory produces over 5,000 fur linings every year. A new meat-processing factory was recently built with the help of state funds. Now full-grown sheep can be processed and frozen on the spot to be exported to other parts of China or even abroad. This is a big improvement on the old days, when sheep herded to their final destination always lost

In festival dress.



Crowded but cozy herdsman's tent. Photos by Chen Rinong



a lot of weight along the way, and sometimes died.

Herder Hospitality

South of Jieguzhen and across a gorge is Batang pasture. Here at the foot of the mountains are six of the tents which serve as herds-men's homes during the summer. Nearby, yaks and sheep contentedly crop grass. Near one tent three children play with some young lambs. A herd dog barks at the intruders. A middle-aged herdsman comes out to see what all the commotion is about, and invites the visitors into his tent. To city-bred eyes the tent looks crowded. A pot of milk boils on the stove made of stones at the center of the tent. Behind the door is a pile of dried yak dung. On three sides of the tent are heaped rugs which at night serve as beds. Various domestic equipment, including buckets of butter and cheese, are scattered over the floor.

The host, Soinam Gyaco, is 45 and the father of six children. Over cups of milk tea he talks about his own family's economic situation. Since neither his wife nor his eldest son are strong physically, his own regular responsibility is to take care of winter pastureland. Last year his family earned 300 yuan, plus two sheep, 10 kg. of butter and some cheese for each family member. As a sideline the family raised 11 milk yaks, 30 goats and 10 sheep. So the family has plenty to eat, but not much cash income.

A strong young neighbor, Logo Cering, is somewhat more prosperous. He and four other young men from different families have formed a work team in charge of 150 yaks and 230 sheep. Each year they are required to hand over to their production team 400 kg. of butter, 140 kg. of wool and 50 kg. of yak hair. They get to keep the proceeds from the remaining products. Last year Logo Cering's four-person family earned 600 yuan in income — the highest among the 190 households of his production team.

The family of Lhagba Zhaxi, who belong to another production team, are even better off. Family income last year was 800 yuan, and their private livestock herd includes 20 yaks and sheep. Their tent is piled high with sacks of grain, piles of quilts and clothing. The family owns a bicycle and a sewing machine. For the festivities celebrating the 30th anniversary of the founding of Yushu prefecture, Lhagba's wife has made every member of the family a new set of clothes.

Grasslands Festival

A great day for the grasslands — the 30th anniversary of what the local people consider their liberation from feudal oppression and the beginning of a better life. Every summer there is a festival gathering featuring races, displays of horsemanship, and singing and dancing, but this year's is special. Herdsmen from miles around in every direction have come together, setting up their tents around the festival grounds. Old friends meet and mingle; excited young people race about in anticipation of the festivities.

The celebration starts with a traditional ceremony cherished by all the local people whether or not they have any religious sentiments. Four lamas in traditional dress blow ceremoniously on long trumpets. Gongs and drums are beaten. An actor in the mask of a Buddhist elder performs a dance which expresses good fortune. More dances to the music of traditional instruments follow. Tibetans are fond of singing and dancing, and every commune has its own amateur troupe. On this day they have all sent their best performers to take part in the celebrations. One colorful number after another is presented, to the delight of the spectators.

Besides a number of horse races for people of different age groups, the herdsmen, like horsemen everywhere, take pride in demonstrating different aspects of riding skills. At one point a team of 50 young horsemen and women pour

Temple for Tibet's Han Princess



into the arena on horses decorated with flying red ribbons. First they demonstrate their skills in shooting from horseback. Next the crowd is treated to some trick riding, including picking up objects from the ground at a full gallop.

At one point Yi Bengan, unable to resist the excitement, jumped to his feet, made his way through the crowd of spectators and leaped onto a horse. The 54-year-old governor's movements as he rode around the arena were as quick and agile as any youth's. An observer could not help thinking that the "good fortune" dance which opened the festival was truly a relic of the superstitious past. These people have made their own good fortune through hard and skillful efforts, and their future can only be brighter than their past. □

TO cement ties with Tubo (today's Tibet), in 641 Emperor Tai Zong of the Tang dynasty sent Princess Wen Cheng to King Songtsen Gambo (617-650) in response to his request for the hand of a Han princess in marriage.

Escorted by Li Daozong, head of the protocol department, and a large royal guard of honor, Princess Wen Cheng left Changan (now Xi'an) via Qinghai for Tibet. The temple to Princess Wen Cheng is the biggest one of the 108 extant relics marking her journey.

The temple is in the Baiang Valley 20 kilometers along the Batang River south of Jieguzhen, capital of the Yushu Tibetan Autonomous Prefecture. Precipitous peaks and a gurgling clear stream make this an idyllic spot. It is said that Princess Wen Cheng, who was sincerely urged to do so by the local Tibetans, stayed briefly at this place. During this time she is said to have ordered artisans who had come with her to carve sculptures in relief on the cliffs. She also had others teach the Tibetans how to open up waste-

land, grow *qingke* (highland barley), weave, make millstones, treat disease — and also how to dance and sing. A deep friendship grew between the artisans and local people.

At Baiang a temple surrounded by red walls was built in Tibetan style. Its three halls are supported by four square pillars. In front of the hall where scriptures are chanted stand six sacrificial tables painted in beautiful and unique Tibetan designs. Placed on them are butter lamps, *hadas*, food and various kinds of sweets.

On the cliff facing this hall are nine huge Buddhist statues in relief, all shaped in dignity and vigor. The main image in the middle is eight meters high. All wear magnificent official hats and silk robes, characteristic of relief sculptures of the Tang dynasty. Beneath each statue is a lotus throne and behind each head a colorful halo. On either side of the group is a floral border three feet wide in Tibetan patterns. In the space between the main Buddha and those of the disciples are carved bodhi trees, each with a root, two branches and alternate

leaves. Across the top of the statues are six carved Sanskrit scripts.

There have been different views on whether or not the main statue of the temple copied the features of Princess Wen Cheng herself. Some specialists hold that it was possibly modeled after the princess because it looks very much like her when she was young. According to historical records, another Tang dynasty princess named Jin Cheng was sent to Tibet sixty years later to marry Chidezugzain, a grandson of Songtsen Gambo. When she arrived at Baiang on her journey, Princess Jin Cheng also ordered a temple built as a memorial. Ancient Tibetan scripts, eulogies and recorded dates so far found in the temple are consistent with those preserved in the Mogao Grottoes at Dunhuang. All the relics belong to the Tang dynasty.

Since liberation in 1949, the temple to Princess Wen Cheng has been placed under state protection. The government recently allocated 20,000 yuan for its renovation and to repair highways leading to it for the convenience of visitors and worshippers. □

(Continued from p. 45)

THE ROAD I'VE TRAVELED

on New Year's Eve" and "A New Year's Dinner" were published one after another in *Chinese Literature*. "The Fig", "Short Rest", "Quiet Footsteps", "Water" and other works came out in various magazines.

Still tied down by factory work and household chores, I worked harder than ever at my writing. Letters from readers were full of encouragement. And my work attracted the attention of other writers. My horizons expanded as I began to meet other writers and members of the All-China Federation of Literary and Art Circles and to travel to different parts of China. My "Quiet Valley", on army life, won second prize in a P.L.A.-sponsored competition.

In September 1979 I was admitted into the Union of Chinese Writers and in November attended the Fourth National Congress of Writers and Artists. Toward the end of that year I was given a job as a writer attached to the Henan Provincial Federation of Literary and Art Circles. I was a professional writer at last! I studied for a time at the Institute of Literature run by the Union of Chinese Writers, and treasured this opportunity to learn after so many years of doing other things.

MORE than 20 years have passed since my first work was published, but for half of this period I wrote nothing. The loss of these ten years was a grave misfortune for me as well as for other writers and artists. But in another sense, my time was not wasted. My life in

those years is reflected in my writing of the past four years. Two collections of my works have been published — *The Fig*, brought out by the Shanghai Literature and Art Press, and *The Devoted Heart* from the Hundred Flowers Literature and Art Press. Two short novels will come off the press this year. A series of short stories about my home town which I began some time ago is becoming an important aspect of my writing.

I am 38 now, a middle-aged woman. But my heart feels as young as the pen in my hand. The road has been rough, but I have never lost my courage. I wish I may always have a sharp eye for the kaleidoscope of life; I wish my small pen may be a kind of digging tool with which I may uncover for my readers some of the beauty and significance of life. □



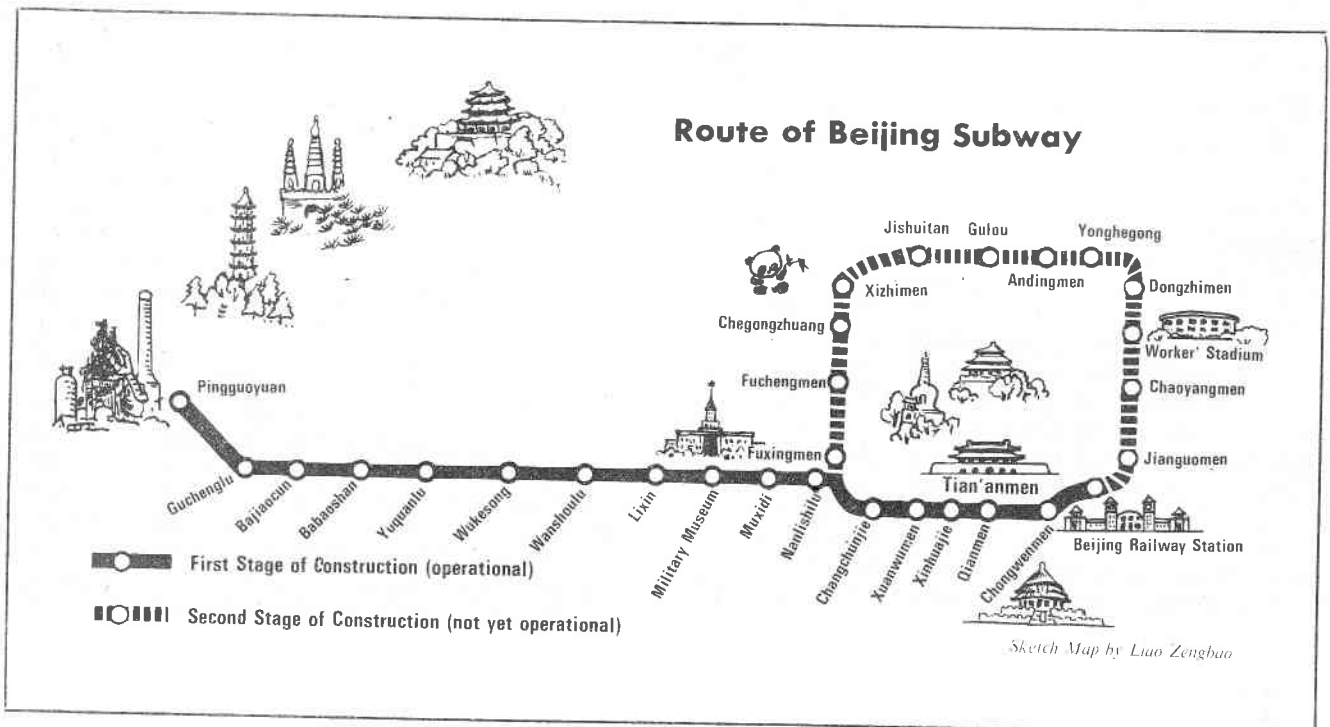
Beijing's New Subway Network

THE main grid of Beijing's new subway network lies under the city's ancient walls. The first section, running 24 kilometers from the railway station in the east to the mountains in the west, was completed in 1969. A new 16-kilometer section, soon to be opened, begins at the railway station, circles north around the city under its old gates and joins the previously built line at Fuxingmen. Part of this line is now open. Domestic designed and constructed, this is China's first subway. Daily passenger load is expected to be over 500,000 people.

Architecture and equipment on the new section is more up to date. Six of its twelve stations contain overcrosses. Escalators serve most of them. The entire system is electronically controlled, operating conditions being accurately shown on transmitter screens and direct radio transmission used between traffic controllers and train drivers. Trains carry automatic control equipment enabling speed to be reduced or trains to be

Fast, underground transportation.

Liu Zhubin

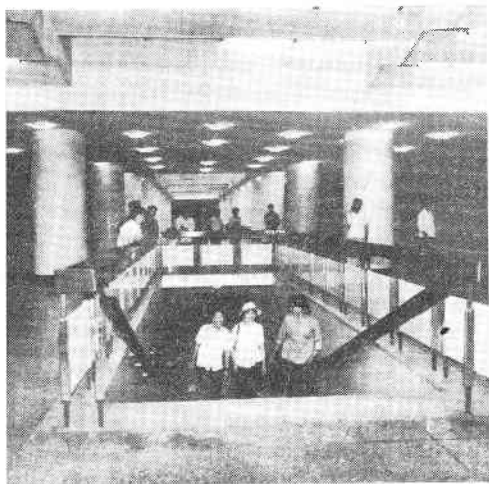


stopped automatically in emergencies.

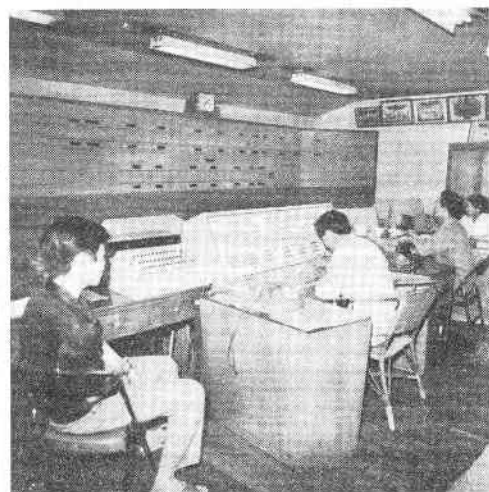
The new subway is clean, safe, fast and comfortable. Cars are air-conditioned, warm in winter and cool in summer. Air circulation is 350,000 cubic meters per hour and temperature is maintained at 16°C.

Trains and stations are clean and bright. Architecture varies, each station having different shapes, colors, inlaid columns, floors, ceilings and lighting. The beauty, simplicity and good taste is heightened by murals and calligraphy done by famous painters. Efficient, safe, enjoyable travel is the keynote in Beijing's growing subway system. □

Fuchengmen station. Wang Xinmin



The dispatch center. Wang Xinmin



Husband-and-Wife Design Team

JIN PEIYUAN

TWO of Shanghai's most outstanding textile designers are Wu Zhenzi and Zhou Qin, who have been husband and wife for many years and who also happen to be deaf-mutes. Wu, 45, works for Shanghai's Printing and Dyeing Mill No. 1. Birds and animals are his favorite subject matter, and the bird he particularly loves has given him a nickname — the "Peacock King". Zhou Qin is now employed at Printing and Dyeing Mill No. 7, and is famous for her flower patterns. Her designs have won a number of "Hundred Flowers" awards from the Bureau of Textile Industry and the Printing and Dyeing Company.

Their home reflects their love of nature. They live in the bottom story of a typical Chinese courtyard house in the Xuhui district. In the yard they grow flowers and raise birds in cages; inside the house are stuffed bird specimens and goldfish in a glass tank. On one wall is a peacock painting that Wu considers one of his most successful works. It also won first prize in an arts and crafts exhibition for Shanghai deaf-mute artists.

Wu Zhenzi was born into a four-generation overseas Chinese family in Indonesia. When he graduated in 1956 from a deaf-mute primary school there, he had the choice of going to the United States or to China to study art. He chose China, and enrolled in the art department of the Shanghai Deaf-Mute Technical School. There Headmaster Liu and teacher Bao Jingxian took the promising student under their wings. At the former's home he met classmate Zhou Qin, and soon the two were married.

MEANWHILE, Zhou's talents were also winning recognition. A scarf pattern she had designed after visiting a silk factory came to the attention of President Pang of Beijing's Institute of Arts and Crafts. He asked to see all her work, and then made special arrangements for her to study at the Institute as a post-graduate student. Some scarves she designed as a student in Beijing won a prize for excellence from the Chinese Welfare Institute for Deaf-Mutes.

The husband-and-wife designers often exchange criticisms and suggestions, spreading pattern sketches on a bed, hanging them on a wall, or even draping them over their shoulders to study the effects and make improvements. Both have won a number of "Hundred Flowers" awards. One of Wu's designs featuring a bird of paradise was a best-selling pattern on the home and foreign markets for some nine years. Another was a 12-yard-long pattern of eagles and flowers for a sarong design ordered by an African customer. When Wu shows the "Hundred Flowers" award certificate for this design, he always claims, "The name on the certificate is mine, but the credit really belongs to the two of us. Every new design either of us produces is the result of repeated study and consultation at home."

To get the subtle coloring of peacocks just right, Wu mixes many of his own paints. There is a color on the market called "peacock blue," but the designer feels the ready-made shade is too harsh and dull. He and his wife experimented with different color blends at home for a number of years. It took six years before Wu was satisfied that his paints could capture the peacock in all its glory.

JIN PEIYUAN is a teacher at Shanghai Deaf and Mute School No. 1.

The couple has two sons whose hearing and speech are normal. One is now in senior middle school, the other in primary school, and both are good students. When asked if they have any problems living with deaf-mute parents, the boys cheerfully reply that they communicate easily in deaf-mute sign language. When their parents want to watch television programs, the boys act as interpreters.

WU devotes much of his spare time to painting his beloved birds. His portfolio of bird sketches is more than a foot high. For the past two years he has spent every day off either at the Shanghai Museum of Natural History or at the zoo. Even on workdays, he often goes to the museum after work and stays until closing time. When he is on the afternoon shift, he goes early in the morning and paints right through lunchtime. His work soon drew the attention and admiration of the museum staff, who arranged for him to come to the museum without pay-



The designers always consult one another on new patterns.

ing an entrance fee and to eat in the staff canteen. "If we ever publish a 'book of birds,' we can use

Wu's paintings as illustrations; they are excellent," Zhou Haizhong of the museum staff says.

As part of their research for new designs, Wu and Zhou visit different scenic spots every year; their fares are paid by their factory units. Wu's last trip was to Leshan in Sichuan province, where he painted Buddhist statues. Zhou recently visited Heze in Shandong province to paint peonies. Everywhere they go they collect plant specimens to take home.

Every year both Wu and Zhou produce several dozen new designs which have great popular appeal. Wu's "Birds," a New Year picture* with a peacock as the dominant figure, has been published by the Shanghai People's Art Publishing House, and is deeply loved by rural people. Last year another recognition of their excellence as designers came from their work units — both were promoted from technician to assistant engineer. □

Wu Zhenzi paints a peacock as his wife Zhou Qin and two sons look on.

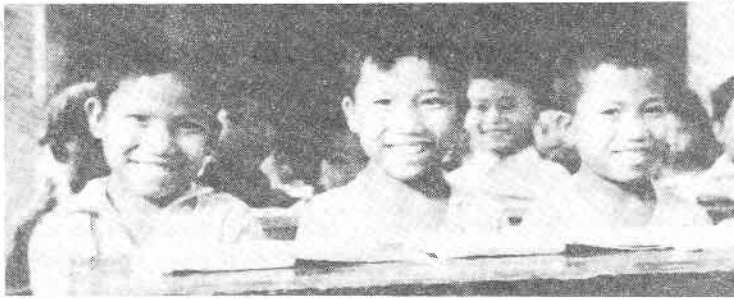
Photos by Yu Xinbao



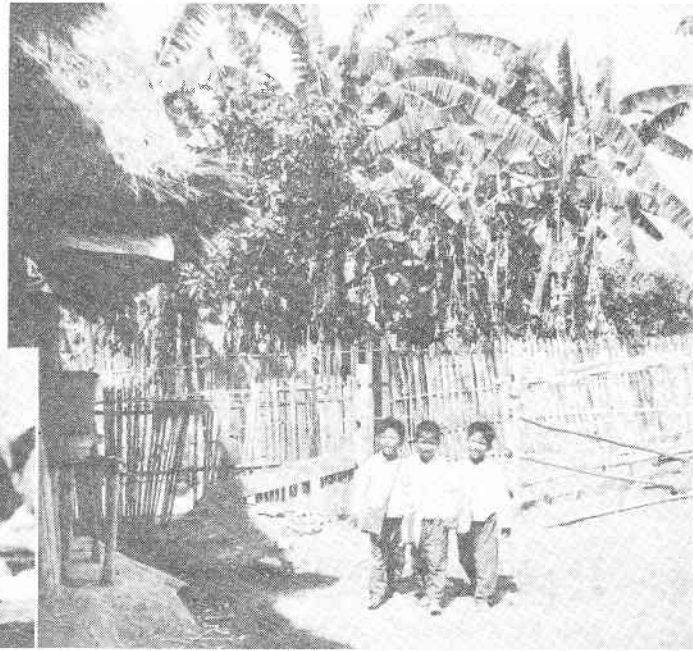
*New Year pictures are a traditional rural art form — usually colored wood-block prints in designs that symbolize good luck and prosperity. Peasants hang them in their homes and around their doors at the time of the New Year holiday.

Triplets Go to School

CAI QINGHE



The triplets (first, second and third from left) in class.
Zhu Guangcan



Heading home.

Hu Qiang

IN January, the hills and rivers of Yunnan are alive with singing birds and fragrant flowers. By a roadside, a group of pupils exercising with their teacher on a small playground catch the eye; among them are three lovely Dai boys all wearing red sweaters, blue trousers, and peaked caps. They are 7-year-old triplets, first graders at the Fapo Primary School, seven kilometers from Wanding, a town near the Burmese border in the Dehong Autonomous Prefecture of the Dai and Jingpo Nationalities. Sanbao, Sanbu and Sanwang are the sons of Shuaigen, a stonemason, and his wife Maihan.

Maihan, the mother, greeted me in the family's bamboo house, raised on piles in a bamboo grove. Shuaigen, the father, was out at work. Maihan, 37, had just returned from the fields, and treated us to tea.

When she gave birth to the triplets, Maihan said, her friends and relatives all came to congratulate her, bearing chickens and eggs as is the custom. The local government soon heard the news, and immediately sent representatives with her 40-yuan subsidy for

the children's milk and sugar. It also sent doctors to examine the babies. Later on, the government sent over cotton quilts, woolen blankets and clothing materials for the children.

Last fall, when the triplets had just turned seven, Maihan happily made three school bags on her new sewing machine and sent the boys off to school. Of the three, Sanwang is the best pupil, and won some books and stationery as prizes after the first semester. The boys are active, and like to play table tennis and climb poles. They are sturdy, healthy children, about average for their age in height and weight.

Before liberation, the impoverished Dais were illiterate from generation to generation. Today, the 11 members of Maihan's family all have the opportunity to go to school. If the triplets had been born in the old society, they would most likely have gone hungry, and certainly would never have dared to think they might go to school. But there have been good harvests for years on end, so each member of Maihan's family gets, on average, a 250-kilogram grain ration per year, and the family gets an additional 400 yuan in cash.

Wanding, a border town whose 7,000 residents include people of Dai, Jingpo and Benglong nationalities, had no school before liberation. There are now nine small primary schools and two middle schools in the town. Minority students get free tuition and textbooks, and some receive stipends as well. Formerly, some children couldn't go to school as they had to help their parents look after their younger sisters and brothers. To solve the problem, the 15 villages in two people's communes in the Wanding area have set up nurseries and kindergartens.

In accord with the wishes of the minority groups, instruction in the lower grades is in the local language, and the Han language is added in the higher grades; every graduate thus is bilingual. Five years of primary school is now compulsory, and Wanding today has not only primary and middle-school graduates, but also college students. Fapo village, where the triplets live, already has 36 primary school graduates. Some of them are studying in middle school. All 81 children of primary-school age in the village are in school. □

CAI QINGHE is a reporter for the Xinhua News Agency.



HAINAN, the Treasure Island (I)

WU TONG and ZHI EXIANG

PASSING through Guangzhou (Canton) on our way to Hainan, we talked of the island with a friend who had been there. "Hainan is beautiful, Hainan has rich resources, just as everyone says," he told us. "But you must remember that Hainan today is still *poor*." Our friend's words lingered uneasily in our minds, only to be erased by our first sight of the island under the wings of our plane: a jade-green jewel set on sky-blue velvet, which on closer approach turned into rich-looking coconut groves and lush tropical foliage.

WU TONG and ZHI EXIANG are staff reporters for *China Reconstructs*.

Our two weeks on the island confirmed our friend's impression of Hainan's present poverty, but to be truly objective we feel something else needs to be said. Everywhere on Hainan now there are energetic attempts to reverse this situation—to exploit the island's resources more efficiently and to turn poverty into wealth.

Rice Resources, Poor Planning

At 34,000 square kilometers, Hainan is China's second largest island after Taiwan. It is situated at the northern edge of the tropical zone. Year-round abundant rainfall and high temperatures give it a climate similar to that of South-

east Asia and Brazil and ideal growing conditions for tropical crops such as rubber, coconuts, pepper, citronella, sisal and coffee.

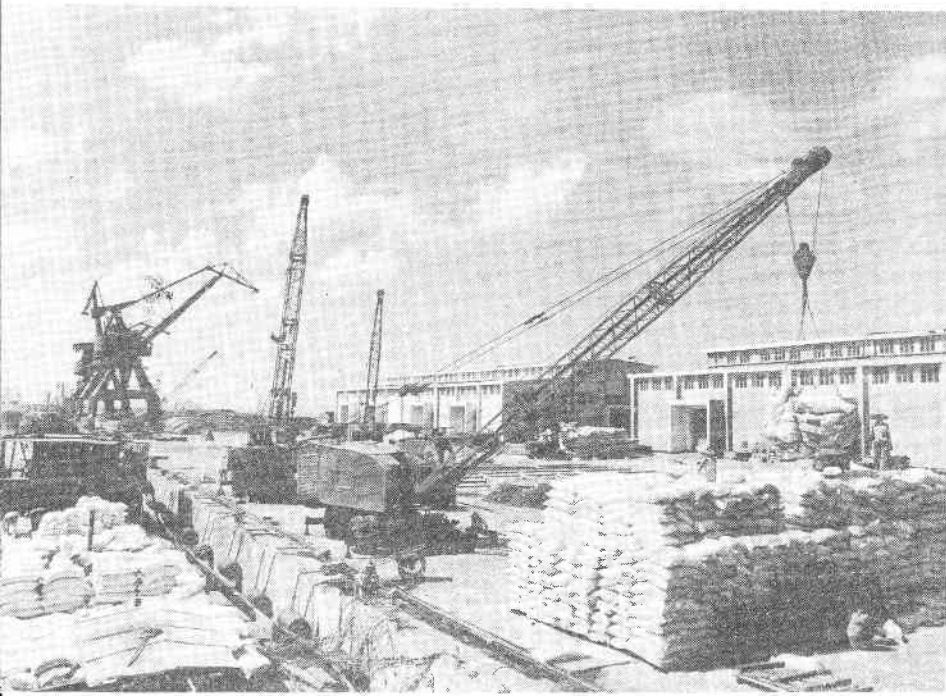
Rich forest resources include some 270 different kinds of tropical trees, some of them quite rare and valuable. There are abundant pasture lands and bodies of water suitable for fish-breeding. Iron ore, coal, titanium, zirconium, cobalt, quartz and crystal head the list of 40-some minerals found on Hainan. Recent offshore explorations indicate the presence of oil.

With all these resources, why are Hainan's people poor instead of rich? In the old China, the island's resources were not exploited in any organized way, and commercial and marketing links to the mainland were not developed. In tropical areas of heavy rainfall, trees are particularly important to hold topsoil in place, and indiscriminate tree-felling in the old days left many parts of the island barren deserts. For centuries feudal rulers considered Hainan a land of deserts, tropical diseases and barbarians—the barbarians being the local minority peoples. Imperial courts frequently sent criminals or out-of-favor officials into exile on Hainan. In the old days many of the poverty-stricken people of the island left to seek a better life overseas.

The situation on Hainan has of course improved since liberation. The government mobilized the local people and sent in teams of

Busy wharf at Xiuying reflects new emphasis on commercial crops and diversified economy.

Chen Jing





Qinglan port.
Huang Yunzhao



Bustling Qionghai
county town.

Palm-shaded Wen-
chang county seat.
Lin Ling

Picking coffee beans.
Xie Jun





Returned overseas Chinese at Xinglong farm
Wang Xinmin

Cultural performance at Xinglong farm.
Wang Xinmin





Rubber tapping.

Wang Xinmin



Coconut carving for the tourist trade.

Liu Chen

At the Dadonghai beach.

Wang Xinmin



land reclamation specialists. Over a period of 30 years state investment in agriculture and industry totaled 4.33 billion yuan — for which in return the island has provided the country an abundance of coal, timber, salt, pepper, rubber, coffee and so on. Over 120 state farms (including land reclamation farms and overseas Chinese farms), employing 700,000 people have been set up, along with 308 communes. Some 14,000 kilometers of highways have been built linking all but one very remote commune.

But the pace of development was not fast enough either to exploit resources adequately or to raise people's standards of living as high as they might have been raised. Hainan's potential productive land is estimated at about 2 million hectares, but as of now only about 1.33 million hectares — 64 percent — have been reclaimed, while 0.67 million hectares lie idle. Last year average peasant income on the island was only 64 yuan, below the national average.

Even before the "cultural revolution" some ultra-Left, rigid thinking influenced the policies governing Hainan's economic development. The island's actual resources and conditions were not only not exploited, they were sometimes damaged and a lopsided emphasis was placed on developing grain production which was not really suited to Hainan conditions. The "cultural revolution" accelerated this tendency greatly. During the early years after liberation, there were nearly 870,000 hectares of tropical forests. By 1979, due to indiscriminate felling of trees, only 240,000 hectares remained. Thus soil erosion became a serious problem, and new desert areas began to appear in the western part of the island.

During the ten turbulent years in particular, the development of tropical crops was virtually ignored — in fact large groves of coconut, coffee and pepper trees were demolished to clear land for grain. But grain did not grow well here. So agricultural production of all kinds progressed at a snail's



Zhou Zheng, Chairman of Hainan's Overseas Chinese Association.

Wu Tong

pace, and the people remained poor. As local people say, "We've had some bitter experiences."

New Tropical Crop Emphasis

A resolution on Hainan's economy placing primary stress on tropical crops and diversified economic development was passed by the State Council in August 1980. The new policies have the firm support of the local people. To take care of the local people's grain needs, 225 million kilograms of grain will be shipped to the island annually for the next five years. The new policy makes good economic sense. Rough calculations estimate the output value of one *mu* (1/15 of a hectare) of rubber or coffee as three times the equivalent of wheat; for pepper, it is 20 or 30 times that of wheat. Other tropical crops have similar high economic values.

Development of Hainan's full potential will require not only restructuring the agricultural base, but also reforestation and reclamation efforts to bring about a new ecological balance. Plans are to make the island a principal base for the country's tropical crops and forests. In all of China, there are approximately 50,000 square kilometers of land potentially suitable for growing such crops, and Hainan

alone accounts for 60 percent of that land.

Just in the short time since the new policy was implemented, over 10,000 hectares of land have been planted in rubber, coconut, pepper, pineapple and other tropical crops, so quickly that a year's planting schedule was completed in just four months. Besides measures to protect the remaining tropical forests, afforestation projects are proceeding on some 300,000 hectares of scrubland. Local markets are flourishing, and people's livelihood is beginning to improve.

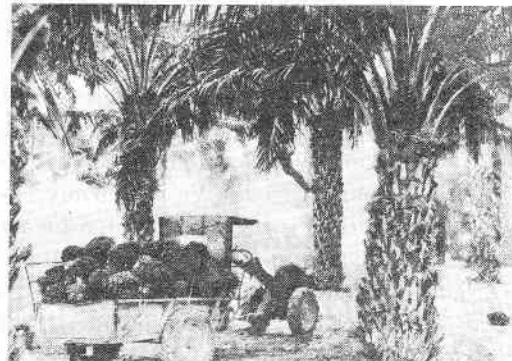
Patriotic Overseas Chinese

Roughly 400,000 of Hainan's 5.52 million residents have relatives overseas. Many of the overseas Chinese come from Wenchang county on the island's east coast. The county's present population is 460,000, while the number of Chinese overseas who call the county home amounts to nearly the same number. Hainan's sons and daughters abroad have not forgotten their native place. They have been concerned about its continuing poverty, and have welcomed the new economic policies.

Overseas Chinese have contributed greatly to educational institutions and projects on the island. The new three-story science building connected to the Hainan Overseas Chinese Middle School in Haikou is just one example. Also in Haikou, a group of overseas Chinese have set up a scholarship fund for local youngsters to study

Gathering fruit from oil palms at Nanbin Farm.

Yang Fei



abroad. About ten are selected every year. A group of 13 students will soon leave for Japan, the first ever to study in that country. They will major primarily in scientific and technical subjects, including tropical agriculture. Altogether there are now about 100 young people studying abroad under this program, and they are sure to play major roles in the island's economic development.

At the invitation of a group of overseas Chinese, Japanese experts have come several times to survey the island's resources and present proposals on exploiting the resources in a balanced way. Overseas Chinese businessmen have held a number of talks with local officials on joint investment and compensatory trade, two areas which will undoubtedly be increasingly important in rebuilding Hainan's economic structure. The patriotic concern of these people who are far from their homeland has won wide public acclaim and the support of the government.

We visited Zhou Zheng, chairman of Hainan's Overseas Chinese Association, a deputy to the National People's Congress, and himself an overseas Chinese who has returned to the homeland from Thailand. He told us, "Overseas Chinese love their homeland. The number returning to visit is increasing every year. Though they are happy to see the progress we have made in thirty years, they are also concerned about the relative backwardness and poverty. They see clearly the island's potential in resources and manpower, and are eager to contribute what they can. This patriotic enthusiasm is warmly welcomed, and needs to be encouraged. We are firmly resolved to carry out conscientiously the state policies which call for just and generous relations with our overseas Chinese brothers and sisters." □

News Briefs—Animals and Plants



Feifei with her three male cubs.
Peng Zhangqing

Lion Quintuplets

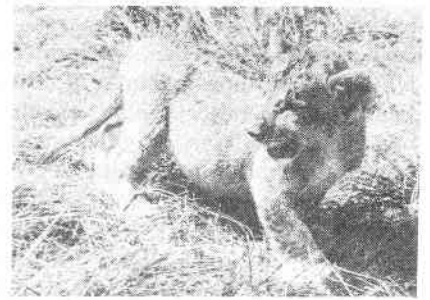
AT the Tianjin Zoo on May 22 of this year the seven-year-old African lioness Feifei bore five cubs at once, an event since the usual litter is between two and four. One died soon after birth because the mother has only four nipples. Zoo vets placed the weakest of the remaining four, a female named Xiaohua (Small Flower) into a constant-temperature incubator for special care. The other three, all male, were healthy and sturdy from birth. The four cubs and their mother

A 'King' azalea. *Yang Zenghong*



have been on public display since July.

Xiaohua is particularly tame and docile, probably because in the first weeks of life she was cared for by humans. She is sometimes let out of her cage so that visitors can stroke and fondle her. Though she has never bitten anyone, the small cub regularly puts on a fierce expression, throws her head back, and lets out a squeaky little roar that would not frighten a rabbit. This childish imitation of a "ferocious" lion naturally convulses everyone who sees it.



Baby lioness Xiaohua.
Peng Zhangqing

'King' Azalea Located

IN August of this year a grove of the rare "king" azalea was discovered in the Gaoligong mountain region of northwestern Yunnan province. Before liberation some foreign botanists had obtained specimens of the "king" from this same region, but up until now Chinese scientists had been unable to locate more.

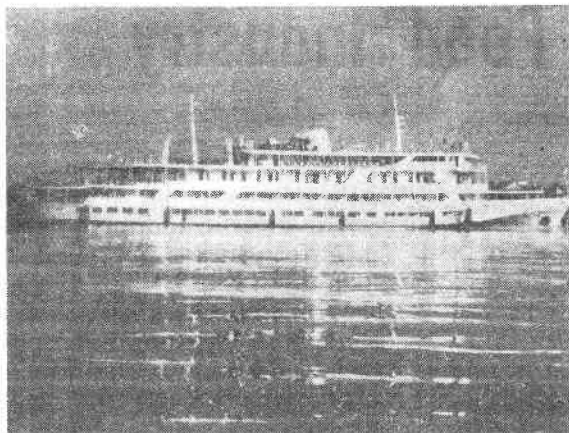
Tallest of the tree-growing azaleas, the "king" azalea tree can reach 20 meters in height and two meters in diameter. When in blossom it is covered by umbrella-shaped groups of 10 to 25 bell-like rose-purple flowers.

The new grove was found by Feng Guomei and his co-workers at the Kunming Botanical Institute after a tip from local peasants as to its approximate location. □



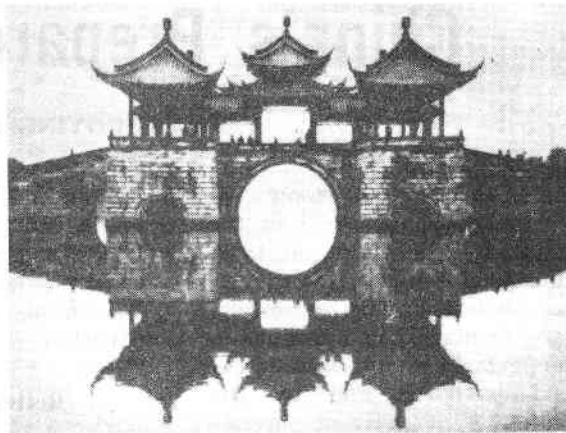
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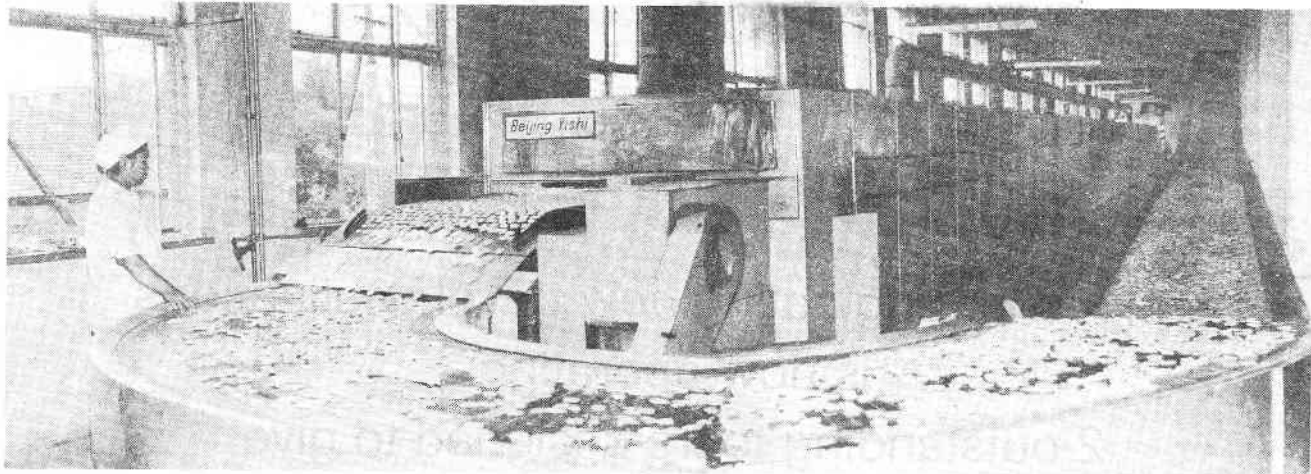
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China's Prepared Food Industry

LI ZHUOYING and LI CHUANG

CHINA'S prepared food industry developed well in the 18 years after liberation in 1949. In the next dozen years, however, it was slowed down by an erroneous emphasis on production not particularly related to the people's daily needs and by the government's neglect of investment in food production.

After the readjustment of the economy in 1979, the state stressed the production of consumer goods. State investment in the food industry rose to 1.5 percent. Food departments began to use part of their profit for expanding production, in some cases as high as 50 or 60 percent. The state also gave priority to supplying the equipment required by the food industry. The construction of candy, meat and canned foods plants accelerated and by 1980, 430 cold storage plants had been built. Processed food production in the first half of this year increased 8.1 percent over the same period last year. Provincial and city governments also allotted funds to the food industry and helped utilize local resources. In 1981 Heilong-

jiang and Jilin provinces, for example, appropriated 150 million yuan for sugar factories. In Beijing, new processed food factories now equal those previously constructed.

Better Products

China is noted for its processed meats, eggs, milk, seafood, canned goods, condiments, sweets, pickles, candy, biscuits and various kinds of beverages — nearly ten thousand in variety. Most famous are Jinhua ham, Maotai, Qingdao beer, Wandashan powdered milk, Red Plum condensed milk, Zhujiang (Pearl) River soy sauce, Meilin canned luncheon meat, Elephant canned green peas, White Rabbit candy from Shanghai and crunchy candy from Beijing.

An interesting new beverage is Xuan Ju wine made by the Huanan Ant Research Institute in Heilongjiang province from dried ants and ants' eggs. It contains a dozen nutritious materials and a tonic which builds health and invigorates the blood. In China ants' eggs used as a tonic date at least as early as the Han dynasty (206 B.C.-A.D. 220). Ant egg paste was used by the emperors as a sacrificial offering or a banquet

dish. However, the wine is a new achievement in the rapid development of China's processed food industry.

At present China has 1.2 million workers in food processing plants. It has 150 canning factories, 500 sugar refineries and 1,500 medium to large breweries. Since 1979 hundreds of new food products have appeared — the result of good cooperation between food industries at the central, province and municipality levels with research institutes.

Chinese candy, for example, though more than 2,000 years old, now has many new varieties. A new feature lies in the use of vegetable spices such as osmanthus, cinnamon, and garlic which add local flavor and are good for health.

Pear syrup is one of today's products. Traced to the Tang dynasty (A.D. 618-907), it is said that Wei Zheng, prime minister of Emperor Taizong ordered a herb medicine boiled with pears to relieve his mother's cough. The woman recovered. Afterward, people made it into the present day pear syrup according to a folk recipe.

The Shanghai Pear Syrup Factory was built in 1956 by merging three small ones which

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together had produced only 3,500 kilograms a year. Today the factory puts out 170,000 kg. in over 50 varieties. Strangely enough, the syrup not only relieves coughs but stimulates the appetite and moistens the skin.

The Beijing Food Products Factory No. 1 manufactures Western-style candies but also biscuits, egg rolls and children's foods. Chen Shikuan, vice-director of the factory and graduate of the Light Engineering Institute in Shantou in Guangdong province, reports that out of 253 foods they make, 113 were new in the last three years. As the demand for high-quality foods has grown, improvement of quality and increase in variety were achieved through new technology and exploiting new materials.

Not long ago children's food developed by the Shanghai Food Products Research Institute ranked first at a meeting for evaluating children's nutrition held by the United Nations Children's Fund. The formula contained soybean, egg yolk, liquefied starch, calcium, phosphorus and vitamins.

Processed foods have had a big increase in output and quality. Gross output value in 1980 increased by 20.4 percent over 1978, while that of meats, edible oils, wine and milk products rose 32 percent, of which the increase in milk products was 64.7 percent. Gross output value in the first half of 1981 rose 8.1 percent over that of the same period last year. In the past two years more than 120 kinds of wine, candy and tinned foods won high-quality certificates issued by the Ministry of Light Industry and high-quality awards given by the state.

Convenience Foods

Sealed foods in soft plastic bags is a new product. One of these was put on the market for the opening of a China National Food Association meeting held recently. Of attractive design, the bag contains a fragrant mushroom and meat paste of delicious taste and good color. It can be stored for one year and bear 50 kg. of weight without breaking.

This was a major measure in developing the convenience foods industry. Many people spend three or four hours a day buying food and cooking. It is especially a burden for working couples. Quick-serve foods free people from such work. Since 1979 China has brought out over one thousand such food items, including noodles, rice, vegetables, soup, dumplings, *shaomai* and puffed grains.

A quick-serve rice from Shanghai is made in a combination of good-quality rice, meat and vegetables. It is sealed in thin plastic cups, plates or bags that resist high temperatures. Each weighs 150 grams and costs 0.4 yuan. They can be kept for seven days at

normal temperature if the seal is not broken.

A new dehydrated rice from Wuxi in Jiangsu province can be eaten after boiling only a few minutes. Plastic packaged sweet corn from Beijing can be stored for half a year. Puffed grains so packed are very popular with northerners. Quick-frozen *huntun*, or dumpling soup, from Shanghai and quick-boiled noodles from Beijing are in great demand.

Experts point out that there are still many difficulties in developing convenience foods in China. The key problem is the high cost of packaging. Lowering the cost will increase their demand. □

A children's shop along Nanjing Road in Shanghai.

Xinhua



Shanghai's Gaoqiao Provisions Shop does its own production and marketing.

Xinhua





Beijing International Marathon Race

Off to a good start.

Huo Jiangying

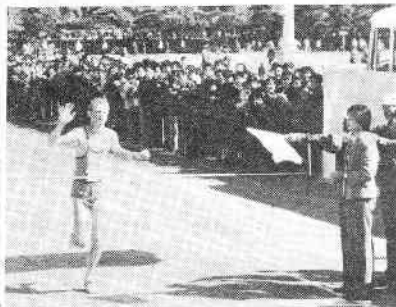
ON September 27 this year China held an international marathon race in Beijing, the first in its history. Of 75 competitors, 23 came from Australia, Canada, Finland, Italy, Japan, Kenya, Norway, the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Sweden, Tanzania and the United States, and 52 from China.

Sweden's Kjell Erikstahl crossed the finish line first with a time of 2:15.20. Second and third place winners were Inge Simonsen (2:15.51) of Norway and Li Jong Hyon of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea (2:15.52). Fourth

to 10th places went to Go Chu Sen (D.P.R.K.), 2:16.25; Agapius Masong (Tanzania), 2:16.35; Sugaya Hisaji (Japan), 2:17.30; Chuck Hatterseley (U.S.A.), 2:18.12; Okubo Hatsuo (Japan), 2:18.29; Baruffo Tommaso (Italy), 2:18.53; and Fukuyama Nagayasu (Japan), 2:20.27.

Sweden's Kjell Erikstahl is first across the finish line.

Wang Honaxun



Happy spectators cheer the runners along.

Huo Jiangying



Top four competitors (from left to right) display their trophies.

Zhou Tiexia

The marathon has not been known long in China as a sports event and training is not yet well done. Chinese times were far short of standard. Only Peng Jiazheng and Yang Lin placed at all — Peng 15th at 2:26.03 and Yang 18th at 2:27.53

Beijing watchers along the course numbered nearly a million, cheering the runners with great enthusiasm. Erikstahl of Sweden told reporters, "The wind was too strong to allow me to break my best time. But the crowds were tremendous. They were just fantastic!"

The Beijing International Marathon Race will now be held annually. □

On course.

Zhang Liancheng



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Jie the Tyrant, Last King of Xia

WEI TANG

TALES that have grown up about Jie, last king of the Xia dynasty (c. 21st - c. 16th century B.C.), picture him as highly intelligent and immensely strong, able to subdue wild beasts and straighten hooks of, interestingly enough, iron, with his bare hands. He made continual forays into neighboring states. In the state of Youshi (in today's southern Shandong province) to the east of Xia was a woman named Meixi famed for her beauty. He invaded Youshi and forced it to surrender her. Then he mounted an expedition against the state of Minshan to the west (in northern Sichuan province) and made it pay him a huge tribute in gold and precious stones and give him two beautiful maidens, Wan and Yan. He also conquered the state of Min (southwestern Shandong), and enslaved its entire population.

In his own country, Jie made his subjects build lavish palaces and places of entertainment for him. One palace almost outstrip-

ped the technology of his day and, it is said, was built so high that it seemed on the verge of collapsing, so was called Qinggong — the Tottering Palace. Later historical accounts describe it as being extremely magnificent, with corridors inlaid with ivory, beds of white jade, and painted pillars, carved beams and tapestry-hung windows in all of its innumerable chambers. To further embellish his palace, Jie ordered his vassals to gather and send him rare treasures, and to select the most beautiful women from among the populace to live in it. Of dancing girls alone, he had some 3,000. The book *Biographies of Famous Women* written by Liu Xiang in the first century B.C. relates that Jie had a pond big enough for rowing boats dug in his garden and filled with wine. He ordered chunks of cooked meat stacked on the surrounding hillsides and tasty viands hung on the trees. Here he spent his days carousing with his beautiful women.

In his dissipation Jie paid no attention to affairs of state. He once spent more than a hundred days in the depths of his palace without seeing his ministers, who were highly incensed. One of them remonstrated with him, saying, "The kings and emperors of old have always husbanded the strength of their people. Your luxury and extravagance will certainly bring about the downfall of the country." Jie merely laughed. "Everything under heaven belongs to me," he said. "And I am like the sun in the sky. Will the sun ever be extinguished?" And he went on with his carousing.

Another minister named Guan Longfeng, sickened by his monarch's behavior, went to him a few days later with a scroll on which was painted a portrait of Yu,

founder of the dynasty, curbing the flood waters that had ravaged the land. Jie should keep in mind how hard his ancestors had worked to establish the dynasty, the minister said, otherwise the country was doomed. Jie flew into a rage and ordered his attendants to wrest the scroll from Guan and throw it into the fire. Guan continued to argue with Jie until he was taken out and beheaded.

After that Jie became even more arrogant and self-willed. In fits of rage he would decree cruel punishments for innocent people, such as having their noses or feet cut off, simply to assert his absolute authority.

The people of Xia hated Jie. Since he had likened himself to the sun, they would point to the sun and say, "When will you perish! Let it be soon, even if it means that we perish with you!"

Meanwhile the new and powerful Shang state had risen. Its ruler Tang, who is pictured as an upright man, had united several tribes. Jie's dissipation made Xia a prime target for conquest.

A great battle between Xia and Shang took place at Wutiao, north of today's Kaifeng in Henan province. Jie remained arrogant and autocratic up to the time of his demise. Believing himself to be invincible, he did not take the impending battle seriously. In fact, he took along many of his beautiful women and continued his revels at the front. On the day before the battle he told them, "This battle will be even more fun to watch than a hunt. I'll take you along. I've never been defeated."

But things turned out contrary to Jie's expectations. Soon after the battle began a heavy storm blew up and the Xia forces, whose training had been neglected, fell into confusion. The Shang forces, on the other hand, fought with dogged perseverance. Jie, watching the battle from a mountain top, realized that he had lost and ordered a retreat. Tang pursued the fleeing Xia army all the way to the Xia capital. Jie was forced to flee, but was captured by Tang and kept in exile till he died. □

An old stone carving shows King Jie riding on the backs of two of his unfortunate subjects.



Lesson 12

A Letter

明文:

Mingwén:

Mingwen:

来信收到了, 感谢你的
Lái xìn shōu dào le, gǎnxiè nǐ de
(Your) letter received. Thank (for) your

问候, 没有及时回信, 想你会
wèn hòu, méiyǒu jíshí huí xìn, xiǎng nǐ huì
regard, not timely return letter, think you will

原谅的。
yuánliang de.

excuse.

你近来身体好吗? 工作忙
Nǐ jīnlái shēntǐ hào ma? gōngzuò máng
You recently body well? Work busy

不忙? 我一切都很好, 请不必
bù máng? Wǒ yíqiè dōu hěn hào, qǐng bú bì
not busy? I everything all very well, please don't

惦念。

diànniàn.

be concerned.

昨天是圣诞节。我有一个
Zuótiān shì Shèngdànjié. Wǒ yǒu yí ge
Yesterday is Christmas. I have one

外国朋友叫丽娜。她请我和
wàiguó péngyou jiào Lìna. Tā qǐng wǒ hé
foreign friend named Lina. She invite me and

几个朋友到她那里去。我们玩儿了
jǐ ge péngyou dào tā nàlǐ qù. wǒmen wánle
several friends to her there go. We played

一个晚上。

yí ge wǎnshang.

one

evening.

丽娜弄了一棵圣诞树, 树上
Lìna nòngle yí kē shèngdànshù, shùshàng
Lina make a Christmas tree, tree on

挂着各种纸花和礼品, 还装上了
guàzhe gè zhǒng zhīhuā hé lǐpǐn, hái zhuāngshàngle
hang various kind paper flower and presents, also install

彩色灯泡。我们几个人做游戏, 蒙住
cǎisè dēngpào. Wǒmen jǐ ge rén zuò yóuxì, méngzhù
colored bulb. We several people play games, blindfold

眼睛到树前去摸。我摸到的礼物
yǎnjīng dào shùqián qù mō. Wǒ mōdào de lǐwù
eyes to tree front go feel. I touch present

最好, 高兴极了。小王只摸到
zuì hào, gāoxìngjíle. Xiǎo Wáng zhǐ mōdào
most good, (I) happy extremely. Little Wang only touch

一个娃娃, 气得她撅着嘴, 大家
yí ge wáwa, qì de tā juēzhe zuǐ, dàjiā
one doll, angry she pout lips. Everybody

笑得肚子都疼了。
xiào de dùzi dōu téng le.
laugh (till) stomach hurt.

我们一直玩儿到深夜, 临别
Wǒmen yì zhí wánrdao shēnyè, línbié
We straightaway play to midnight, near leave

的时候约好新年到我家来。
de shíhou yuēhǎo xīnnián dào wǒ jiā lái.
time agree (at) New Year to my house come.

明文, 你能来吗? 我们等着你。
Mingwén, nǐ néng lái ma? Wǒmen dēngzhe nǐ.
Mingwen, you can come? We (are) expecting you.

昨天我们还照了很多像。
Zuótiān wǒmen hái zhàole hěnduō xiàng.
Yesterday we also took many photos.

洗好以后寄给你, 也让你
Xǐhǎo yǐhòu jì gěi nǐ, yě ràng nǐ
Develop after mail to you, also let you

分享快乐, 同时寄给你一件
fēnxiǎng kuàilè, tóngshí jì gěi nǐ yí jiàn
share happiness, at the same time mail to you a

小小的东西, 作为新年的礼物。
xiǎoxiǎo de dōngxi, zuòwéi Xīnnián de lǐwù.
tiny, tiny thing, serve as New Year's present.

不多写了, 请代问你爱人好,
Bù duō xiě le, qǐng dàiwèn nǐ àirén hào.
(I'll) not more write. Please (for me) ask your wife well.

希望你常常来信, 再谈。
xīwàng nǐ chángcháng lái xìn, zài tán.
Hope you often send letter, (and we) again discuss.

祝你

Zhù nǐ

Wish you

新年快乐

Xīnnián kuàilè

New Year happy.

方华

Fāng Huá

Fang Hua

1981. 12. 26

December 26th, 1981

Translation

Mingwen:

I received your letter. Thanks for your regards. I didn't
reply right away, thinking you would understand. Have you

been well? Are you busy with your work? Everything is fine with me.

Yesterday was Christmas. I have a foreign friend named Lina. She invited me and a few other friends to spend the evening at her place. Lina had a Christmas tree trimmed with all kinds of paper flowers and colored lights and hung with presents. We played games. We blindfolded and went to the Christmas tree. Each one got the first present he touched. The present I got was the best and I was very happy. Xiao Wang got only a doll. She gave an angry pout. We all laughed till our sides hurt.

We went on till midnight. When it was time to say goodbye, we agreed to go to my house on New Year's Day. Mingwen, can you come? We'll be looking for you.

Yesterday we took many photos. I'll mail them to you when they are printed and let you share our good time. At the same time I will mail you a little something as a New Year's present.

I won't write more. Please give my regards to your wife. Hope you will write often so that we can keep in touch.

Wishing you a happy New Year!

Fang Hua

December 26th, 1981

Everyday Expressions

1. 及时 **jíshí** within appropriate time
及时回信 **jíshí huí xìn** reply letter very soon
及时帮助 **jíshí bāngzhù** give help in time
很及时 **hěn jíshí** right on time
2. 装 **zhuāng** install, put up
装上灯泡 **zhuāngshàng dēngpào** install (electric) bulb
装上空调器 **zhuāngshàng kōngtiáoqì** install air conditioner
3. 点 **diǎn** to light
点灯 **diǎn dēng** to light a lamp
点腊 **diǎn là** to light a candle
点火 **diǎn huǒ** to light a fire
4. 游戏 **yóuxì** game
做游戏 **zuò yóuxì** play games
5. 分享 **fēnxiǎng** share
分享快乐 **fēnxiǎng kuàilè** share enjoyment
分享幸福 **fēnxiǎng xìngfú** share happiness

Notes

1. Beginning and ending a letter.

For the salutation, usually only the person's name is used, not 'Dear...'. A common conclusion is **Cǐzhì jìnglǐ** 此致敬礼 (With salutations).

A frequent last sentence is the phrase **Bù duō xiě le, zài tán** 不多写了, 再谈 (I won't write more. We'll be in touch). Note that the character 了, which has several other uses, is used here merely for emphasis rather than completion of action.

2. Showing completed action with 了 le.

Chinese verbs don't change to show tense, but the character 了 le added after the verb to show completed action helps indicate that the action

occurred in the past. **Wǒmen zhàole hěnduō xiàng** 我们照了很多像 (We took many photos). **Shèngdànshùshàng zhuāngle cǎisè dēngpào.** 圣诞树上装了彩色灯泡 (On the Christmas tree were installed colored light bulbs).

The character 了 is not added in all cases of past action, but only to emphasize that that action has been completed. Therefore 了 is not used with the negative form.

The negative form of the above sentences is: **Wǒmen méiyǒu zhàoxiàng** 我们没有照像 (We didn't take photos). **Shèngdànshùshàng méiyǒu zhuāng cǎisè dēngpào** 圣诞树上没有装彩色灯泡。 (The Christmas tree was not installed with colored lights).

3. The verb jiào 叫 (call) for naming things.

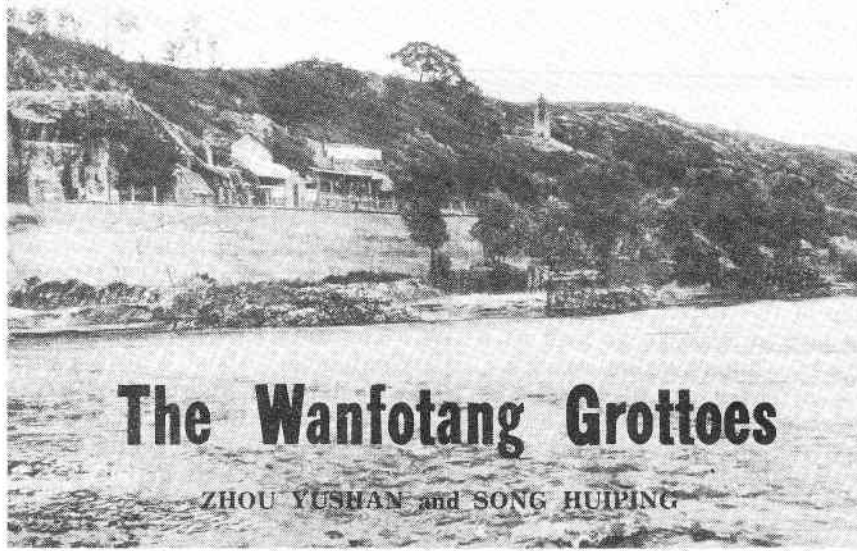
Wǒde péngyou jiào Lina 我的朋友叫丽娜 (My friend is named Lina).

Zhè jiào yǐzi, nà jiào shāfā 这叫椅子, 那叫沙发 (This is called a chair, that is called a sofa).

Zhè zuò shān jiào Eméishān 这座山叫峨眉山 (This mountain is called Mt. Emei).

Exercises

1. Answer the following questions in Chinese:
 - (1) How do you tell someone that you received his letter?
 - (2) What is often written at the end of a letter?
2. Fill in the blanks with 了 le, zhè 这 (Lesson 7) or guò 过 (Lesson 10).
 - (1) 现在天气冷了, 我已经穿上 大衣。
 - (2) 从前我没有去 中国。
 - (3) 圣诞树上挂 各种纸花。
3. Read the dialogue:
 - A. 我给你的信你收到了吗?
 - B. 收到了, 感谢你的问候。
 - A. 你近来身体怎么样?
 - B. 很好。你呢?
 - A. 我也很好。你工作忙不忙?
 - B. 不太忙。
 - A. 昨天是圣诞节, 你是怎么过的?
 - B. 我有一个外国朋友叫丽娜, 她请我和几个朋友到她那里去玩了一个晚上。做游戏, 很有意思。
 - A. 做什么游戏?
 - B. 丽娜弄了一棵圣诞树, 树上挂着各种纸花和礼品, 我们蒙住眼睛去摸, 大家笑得肚子都疼了。
 - A. 新年你们想怎么过?
 - B. 临别的时候我们约好新年大家都到我家来, 你也来吧!
 - A. 如果有时间我就来。



The Wanfotang Grottoes were built against the sides of Mount Fushan facing the Daling River.



The grottoes feature elaborately carved figures and colorful frescoes.

OF China's many storehouses of ancient Buddhist grotto art, three are well-known — Dunhuang in Gansu, Yungang in Shanxi and Longmen in Henan province. Less well known are the caves at Wanfotang (meaning "Hall of Ten Thousand Buddhas") in Liaoning province in the northeast built during the Northern Wei dynasty (368-534). Its art is as precious as that of the Yungang Grottoes.

Located in Yixian county 45 kilometers from Jinzhou, Wanfotang is marked by a round white pagoda up a steep path. Like other grottoes, it was built against a steep green mountain facing a river — Mount Fushan and the winding Daling River, a serene and beautiful place of shady trees and clear water.

Sixteen caves still exist, nine in the western and seven in the eastern area. These contain more than 400 figures of the Buddha. It was built 15 centuries ago by Yuanjing, governor of Yingzhou (now Chaoyang) in Northern Wei for the purpose of praying for the happiness of his emperor. "Northern Wei, the twenty-third year (499) of Taihe" is carved above the main grotto.

The fifth and sixth caves in the western area are the biggest. Here, travelers step into another world, cool and comfortable, in-

habited by statues of the Buddha sitting on thrones set on bases of lotus flowers.

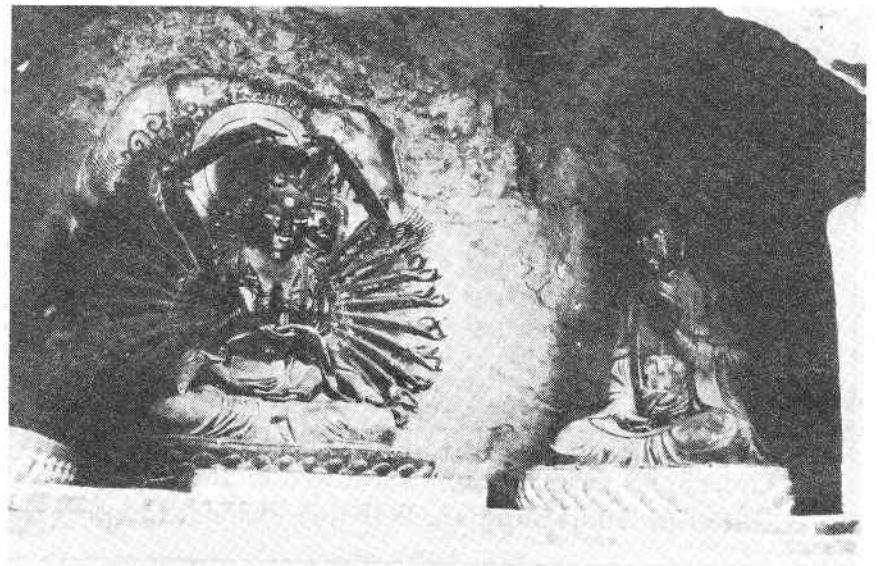
In the center of Cave 5, an image of Sakyamuni is mounted on a square altar, holding a golden bowl in one hand and with the sun and moon at his feet. Figures of the Buddha stand at each corner of the altar. Behind the altar, a lively Guanyin, the "Goddess of Mercy", holds a relic. Other Buddha images of different sizes stand in a line along the east, west and north sides.

Over the centuries the wall between the second and sixth caves, eroded by wind and rain, became open. Some of the figures have

also weathered. Examined carefully, however, the frescoes can be seen in different styles. Flying goddesses dance gracefully in the frescoes as they also do in some carvings. These latter were done with powerful and heroic strokes in colored azurite, mineral green and ochre, charmingly made almost in full figure. Even the figures in relief on the ceiling beautifully show various postures and the graceful flow of long bands of silk.

The fifth grotto, 5.1 meters high and 7 meters long, is next to a high stone tablet inscribed "Note on the Construction in Yuanjing." Its relief work is important in the study of the building, art and cal-

Goddess of "a thousand hands and eyes." Photos by Liang Feng and Yu Zhao



ZHOU YUSHAN and SONG HUIPING are staff reporters for the Radio of Liaoning province.

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To celebrate the 30th anniversary of China Reconstructs, we are printing a colored map of the People's Republic of China with legends in Chinese phonetic spelling (100 G. offset paper, 70 cm × 50 cm). On the reverse side of the map is a list of place names in Chinese phonetic spelling and in English, as well as a map of the domestic air routes of CAAC, China's airline service.

This map will be presented free of charge to all subscribers in good standing as of January 1982.

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CHINA PHILATELY

(Quarterly in English)

This journal is a mine of information on matters philatelic covering nearly every aspect of Chinese philately. It keeps the reader informed of new issues in this country; provides interesting information and background material on Chinese stamps from the earliest issues; publishes the results of philatelic studies and findings. It also carries reports on the activities of philatelists at home and abroad as well as the latest stamp market.

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igraphy of the Northern Wei dynasty. The 304 still-existing Chinese characters on the tablet have strong strokes and a well-knit artistic value. Chinese scholar Kang Youwei (1858-1927) praised it as the best in quality between the Wei and Yuan (1279-1368) dynasties.

The sixth grotto is the largest in Wanfotang. About 8 meters wide, it features a statue of Mitreya, "The Future Buddha," 3.2 meters high, carved of white stone, known as the best and largest in the grottoes. Wearing a precious crown, the figure looks with a kindly smile through long eyes down on the river.

The white pagoda, 7 meters high, has stood in the east area since 1474. On its south side a stone is inscribed with the names of its builders and the reason.

The third cave in the east area is bigger, and in the sixth are preserved remnants of the Qing dynasty (1644-1911) and a small part of the Northern Wei. The second cave, however, is the most attractive. It contains a Guanyin of "a thousand hands and eyes." Made of clay and then covered with gold, its 416 arms stretch out from the body with one eye on each palm in different styles.

In the sixth cave, Vimalakirti (who lived at the same time as Sakyamuni and is known as an advisor because his own experience was used as an example in Buddhist scriptures) is talking with Manjusri, Bodhisattva of Wisdom. Outside the wall, there are two statues, perhaps from a kind of opera — one a man with a high hairdo and no crown, his mouth open as he exerts his strength to hold a long board, the other a girl acrobat also with a high hairdo dancing on the board.

Other valuable relics in the east area are the existing 269 Chinese words of "Han Zhen's Note on Making the Grottoes" in the fifth cave. This details the progress in building made by the official Han Zhen in the third year of Jingming (502), and is an important source of data about the early history of Qidan, an ancient state in China. □



Northern Wei dynasty statue in the Wanfotang Grottoes.

Liang Feng and Yu Zhao



Quality Month



Scenes of the Lushan Mountains



CHINA RECONSTRUCTS

FOUNDER: SOONG CHING LING (MME. SUN YAT-SEN) (1893-1981), PUBLISHED MONTHLY BY THE CHINA WELFARE INSTITUTE IN ENGLISH, FRENCH, SPANISH, ARABIC, GERMAN, PORTUGUESE AND CHINESE

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STAMPS OF NEW CHINA

Quality Month

The Ministry of Post and Telecommunications of China released a set of commemorative stamps entitled "Quality Month" on September 1, 1981.

Stamp 1, Silver Medal, 8 *fen*.

Stamp 2, Gold Medal, 8 *fen*.

Both stamps measure 30 × 40 mm, *Perf.* 11.5. Color photogravured. Serial numbers: J. 66 (2-1) to (2-2).

Scenes of the Lushan Mountains

The Lushan Mountains tower over an expanse of lakes and rivers in the northern part of Jiangxi province. Their highest peaks soar 1,500 meters above sea level. Lushan scenery is breathtaking. A set of seven special stamps entitled "Scenes of the Lushan Mountains" was issued on July 20, 1981.

Stamp 1, Five-Veteran Peak, 8 *fen*.

Stamp 2, Hanpo Pass, 8 *fen*.

Stamp 3, Yellow Dragon Pool, 8 *fen*.

Stamp 4, Sunlit Peak, 8 *fen*.

Stamp 5, Three-Layer Spring, 8 *fen*.

Stamp 6, Stone and Pines, 8 *fen*.

Stamp 7, Dragon-Head Cliff, 60 *fen*.

All stamps measure 25 × 40 mm, *Perf.* 12 × 12 $\frac{1}{2}$ and 12 $\frac{1}{2}$ × 12. Color photogravured. Serial numbers: T. 67 (7-1) to (7-7).

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