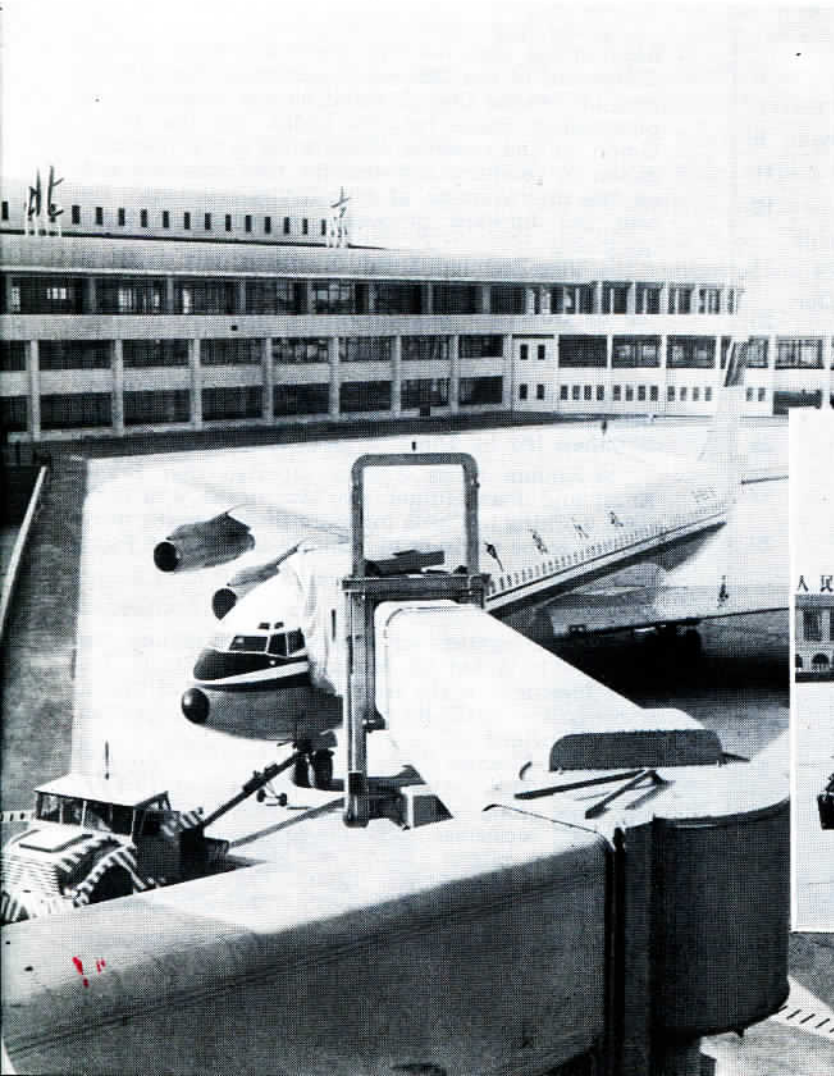


# BEIJING REVIEW

- Planned Management Of Socialist Economy
- China's Civil Aviation



# BEIJING REVIEW

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## CHRONICLE

October 15

• Vice-Premier Deng Xiaoping met with Felix Greene, British writer and Vice-President of the Society for Anglo-Chinese Understanding (SACU), and a delegation of famous British personages led by SACU President Derek Bryan.

• Vice-Premier Li Xiannian met with a Tanzanian friendship delegation led by Colonel Seif Bakari, Junior Minister of Defence and National Service.

• Xinhua News Agency reported that Vietnamese armed personnel were continuing with their provocations along the borders of China's Yunnan Province and Guangxi Zhuang Autonomous Region, encroaching upon Chinese territory and wounding Chinese border inhabitants.

October 16

• Vice-Chairman of the Standing Committee of the National People's Congress Deng Yingchao met and feted Mr. Teh Peng and his wife. Mr. Teh Peng is former adviser to the Kuomintang Executive Yuan, Chairman of the KMT Taipei Headquarters and Director of the Department of Social Affairs of the Taipei City Government.

October 17

• The first plenary meeting of the Sino-Soviet negotiations was held in Moscow. Head of the Delegation of the Chinese Government Wang Youping elucidated China's stand on the settlement of outstanding issues between China and the Soviet Union, on the removal of obstacles to the normalization of relations between the two countries and on the improvement of Sino-Soviet relations. He also put forward proposals in regard to these questions.

• Vice-Premier Deng Xiaoping met with a delegation of state governors from the United States led by Governor of Michigan William G. Milliken.

October 18

• Vice-Premier Deng Xiaoping met with a delegation of the Japanese newspaper *Asahi Shimbun* led by Director Seiki Watanabe.

• Xinhua News Agency reported that Erwin Engst and Joan Hinton, two Americans who have been working in China for more than 30 years, were invited to be advisers to China's Ministry of Farm Machinery.

October 19

• A delegation of Moslems left Beijing for Mecca. It is led by Muhammed Ali Zhang Jie, Vice-President of the Islamic Association of China, and Imam al-Haji Salah an Shiwei, Akhun (senior priest) of Dongsu Mosque, Beijing. This is the first group of Chinese Moslems to make a pilgrimage to Mecca since 1964.





### Industrial Production in 3rd Quarter

Industrial production in China continues to improve in the third quarter.

Compared with the corresponding period of last year, total industrial output value in the first six months increased only 4.1 per cent, falling far short of the state target of an 8 per cent increase for this year.

In July, however, the growth rate shot up as a result of a labour emulation drive centring on increasing production and practising economy. The industrial output value for the month was 11 per cent above that of July 1978. Industrial production in August is generally affected by the hot weather. But the output value in August this year registered a 2.5 per cent increase over that of July and was 9.3 per cent higher than that of August 1978. The upswing continues in September. Total output value was 9.4 per cent more than in August, and 11.5 per cent higher than in September last year.

Less profits were turned over to the state in the first seven months as compared with the same period of last year. The situation was reversed in August, and in September the profits turned over to the state upped again by 2.43 per cent over that of August.

Efforts to develop light industry have been rewarding. Light industrial production in August rose by 10.9 per cent over that of the same 1978 period, while the growth rate for heavy industry was 8.1 per cent in

August. The growth rate of light industry in September was 10 per cent higher than that of August and surpassed the heavy industrial growth rate of 8.9 per cent.

Output of TV sets in the first nine months was 2.5 times that of the same 1978 period; the output of such light industrial products as paper, sugar, cotton yarn, bicycles and sewing machines increased from 8 to 21.5 per cent.

According to the state statistics of 100 major industrial goods, the output of 84 kinds in September topped the August figures, and the quality of over 90 per cent of the major products of Shanghai, Beijing and Tianjin either reached or surpassed the peak level in the past. In addition, a number of new products have been turned out in various parts of the country and are now on sale. This is the result of a month-long mass movement for quality.

### New Oil Well in South China Sea

A new high-yield oil well was recently sunk in the basin at the estuary of the Zhujiang (Pearl) River. Crude oil gushed out from the sea more than 2,000 metres deep. Analysis shows that it is a kind of light oil with low sulphur content.

The basin of the Zhujiang estuary on the continental shelf of Guangdong covers a total area of 150,000 square kilometres, five times as large as Hainan Island, located some 200 kilometres off the coast in the sea. The successful sinking of this well indicates that there are rich oil deposits in the South China Sea.

Earlier, an oil-gas well of industrial value was sunk in northern Sichuan Province in southwest China. The well went into production in May this year. Observation over the last few months shows that pressure and

An oil-rig in the South China Sea.





output of this well are high. It produces a kind of light crude oil with a milky colour which has been found to contain more than 60 per cent of gasoline after simple refining.

The Sichuan basin is one of China's oldest oil-producing areas. General prospecting and exploration has been going on in the northern part of the province in the past few years, and a number of formations with good oil possibilities have been found. It is on one of these formations that the workers found the oil-gas flow.

China's oil industry has developed rapidly. To date, it has built 26 oilfields with a total annual output of over 100 million tons of crude oil.

Another new oilfield — the Nanyang Oilfield — was built recently in a downwarped region in the southwestern part of Henan Province in central China. Exploration there began in 1970, followed by actual construction seven years later. Hundreds of production wells and water injection wells have been sunk and pipelines with a total length of 850 kilometres have been laid, in addition to booster stations and sub-stations.

The Nanyang Oilfield has a geological reserve of four million tons at the maximum in each square kilometre. Since it went into production a year ago, there has been a high and stable output. The discovery of this oilfield was a breakthrough for locating gas and oil in China's small- and medium-sized basins.

## More Eggs — And What It Means

The supply of eggs in Beijing has more than doubled since the beginning of this year as compared with last year. This is something unknown for more than a decade. There has also been a marked increase in egg supply in other cities as well as industrial and mining areas.

What accounts for such a big change in such a short time? The answer is the correct implementation of the Party's policy for the countryside, with the subsequent restoration and development of the rural economy. The government has encouraged the peasants to raise chickens instead of forbidding them to do so as was the practice previously. And it has increased the purchasing price, too. On top of this, more peasants raise chickens now because they have more grain at their disposal. With an increasingly large income from this source, their enthusiasm in raising chickens is enhanced. All this adds up to a greater amount of eggs purchased by the state and an abundant supply for the cities.

In China today, eggs come mainly from state-run and collectively owned poultry farms and individual peasants, with the peasants providing the bulk. Although state-run and collectively owned poultry farms have a higher productivity, are able to keep up production the year round, and have at their disposal better transport facilities and other advantages, they require big investments, high techniques and large quantities of concentrated feed. In the national drive for modernization

today, it is not possible for the state to appropriate large funds for running poultry farms. This is where the peasants come in. They do not need state investments or concentrated feed, but can raise poultry with the remains of their meals or coarse grain. It is true that peasants live far apart in the countryside and are handicapped in many ways which account for an unstable supply, these and other disadvantages can be overcome so long as enough attention is paid to solving the problems of storage and transport.

As a Chinese saying goes, "A river rises when its tributaries swell." In a country with a population of over 900 million and a relatively low level of agricultural production, it is necessary to give full play to the initiative of the 800 million peasants, who are likened to so many tributaries, in order to ensure the supply of meat, vegetables and other necessities to the cities.

In the years when Lin Biao and the gang of four were in power, they pushed an ultra-Left line and counterposed the "river" against the "tributaries." They said that "only when the river is full to overflowing will there be water in the tributaries," but turned a blind eye to the fact that "when the tributaries dry up, the river inevitably becomes shallow."

## A Reform in Inner-Party Election

A new Communist Party committee was elected at the Harbin Rolling-Stock Works in the



northeastern province of Heilongjiang in the first half of this year. All the 11 newly elected committee members are noted for their Party spirit, competence and fine working style, and are therefore popular among the rank and file.

The election was conducted by secret vote, and the new method of voting from a larger number of candidates was adopted to replace the old practice of voting from a list of candidates equal in number as those to be elected. This is an important reform in the inner-Party electoral system carried out in accordance with the principle of democratic centralism.

Prior to the election, there were extensive discussions and consultations from the bottom up. At first there were 69 nominees; the number was gradually reduced to 22 from which 11 committee members were finally elected by secret ballot.

In reporting this news in the column "Party Life" on September 7, *Renmin Ribao* published a commentary praising the new voting method. It said that experience gained from the pilot cases in various places showed that this method gave better expression to the wishes of the voters and safeguarded the rights of the Party members as electors.

In the past, candidates and those to be elected were equal in number, which meant the voters had little choice to make. Taking advantage of such drawbacks, Lin Biao and the gang of four had only to put the names of their followers on the list of candidates and force the electors to accept them.

Thus it was election only in name but appointment in reality.

Under the new system, the commentary pointed out, the Party members can choose the most competent candidates and the Party organizations at the higher levels can avoid mistakes in making appointments. Moreover, because democracy is given full scope in the course of the election, the Party members can freely express their opinions about the candidates and vote against those cadres who have seriously neglected their duty. This will facilitate the supervision of the leadership by the rank and file and prevent undesirable people from worming their way into the leading bodies.

In the same column that day, *Renmin Ribao* criticized Guo Shaoli, secretary of the Party committee of the Electronic Instrument Works in Tianjin, for encroaching on the rights of Party members.

At an election last year Guo Shaoli had all the paper ballots numbered before the voting so that he could check them afterwards. When it turned out that he failed to get all the votes, he had the audacity to label those Party members who had not voted for him as carrying out "non-organizational activities." When the Tianjin municipal Party committee was informed that Guo had violated the Party Constitution and infringed upon the democratic rights of the Party members, it looked into the matter and handled it according to Party regulations. It also used the case as an example to educate the Party members in Party discipline so

as to prevent a recurrence of similar mistakes in the future.

## "Director Qiao Assumes Office": A Short Story

Literary works that deal with the people's pressing needs and social contradictions often have a tremendous impact on the society as a whole. The short story *Director Qiao Assumes Office*, published in issue No. 7 of *Renmin Wenxue* (People's Literature) this year and reprinted in *Gongren Ribao* (Worker's Daily) is illustrative. While most readers praise it as a good story, a few are critical of it.

Written by Jiang Zilong, workshop director of an electrical machinery plant in Tianjin, the story has epitomized some of the major social contradictions today and successfully portrayed a factory director competently leading the workers in building a modernized enterprise.

Disregarding personal loss or gains, Qiao Guangpu voluntarily returns to the heavy electrical machinery plant where he worked before to become its director, fully aware that its management is chaotic and that it has failed to meet production quotas for two years in succession. After making careful investigations among the workers, he takes drastic measures to introduce necessary reforms and reorganize the leading body, thereby bringing about a sharp upswing in the plant's production. Qiao has the moral strength, thinking and mental outlook the people expect of a leading cadre.

The story has also given a good description of Ji Shen,



secretary of the plant's Party committee. An opportunist and a man without any learning or skill, Ji relies on political slogans to direct production. Unable to muddle along, he manages to get a more "fashionable" job in a foreign trade bureau.

Most of the reviews praise the story for having reflected the people's eagerness to accomplish the four modernizations. What evokes special admiration among literary workers and the people in general is the author's deep observation of everyday life and artistic courage. Many readers wrote to *Gongren Ribao* expressing the wish to see more characters like Director Qiao in literary works and welcoming cadres like him to be directors in their plants.

There are, of course, some readers who take a different view. *Tianjin Ribao* has published a commentary which says that the story is overcritical of veteran cadres like Ji Shen. The writer of this commentary takes the same stand as Ji Shen and censures Qiao Guangpu's courage and determination to carry out reforms as undemocratic, arbitrary and peremptory.

The publication of this short story reflects a new trend in literary writings in the past three years. At first, there appeared many good works exposing the crimes of Lin Biao and the gang of four and the damage they had brought to the nation. Then there were a number of works probing the causes of the havoc in those

ten years, prompting people to think and to draw lessons therefrom. And now this short story by Jiang Zilong, which has, according to the appraisal of most journals, penetratingly exposed the negative aspects of the reality today and aroused people's feelings against those things that are detrimental to the interests of the people. At the same time, it inspires the people to work hard and with confidence for the realization of the four modernizations.

This short story is not without shortcomings. Discussions are still under way with regard to the portrayal of its characters, its technique and other questions. This will be of help to creative writing in the days to come.

## Wei Jingsheng Sentenced

The Intermediate People's Court of Beijing sentenced Wei Jingsheng to 15 years' imprisonment at a public trial on October

16 for passing on military intelligence to a foreigner and carrying out counter-revolutionary agitation. The court also ruled that Wei would be deprived of political rights for another three years after serving his sentence.

Wei Jingsheng, 29, was a worker at the Beijing public parks service department before he was arrested last March. He joined the army in 1969 and was demobilized in 1973.

Shortly after China launched the self-defensive counterattack last February to defend its frontier regions against Vietnamese aggression, Wei supplied a foreigner with military intelligence including the names of the commanders, the number of Chinese troops, the developments of the fighting at the front and the number of casualties. During the period between December 1978 and March 1979, Wei wrote and distributed articles slandering Marxism-



Wei Jingsheng on trial at the Beijing Intermediate People's Court.



Leninism-Mao Zedong Thought and agitated for the overthrow of the dictatorship of the proletariat and the socialist system and the seizure of state power. Some of these articles were posted up on the walls in downtown Beijing and some were published in the journal *Explorations*, of which he was the chief editor. The journal was posted, distributed and sold in Beijing and Tianjin.

The trial was attended by 400 people from various walks of life.

The prosecutor read the indictment which said: By supplying a foreigner with military information, Wei Jingsheng had committed the counter-revolutionary crime specified in Article 6 of the penal code of the People's Republic of China against counter-revolutionaries. Since he agitated for the overthrow of the dictatorship of the proletariat and the socialist system, he had committed the crime of carrying out counter-revolutionary propaganda and agitation specified in Article 10 of the same code. Therefore he should be punished according to law.

While making investigations, the court produced part of the evidence which proved him guilty of the crime. Two witnesses, Liu Jingsheng (a worker at the Beijing No. 4 People's Bus Depot) and Yang Guang (a second-year student of the Beijing University of Engineering, now in custody) gave testimony. Both had helped the accused edit, sell and distribute *Explorations*. In the face of irrefutable evidence, Wei Jingsheng ad-

mitted the facts concerning the commission of the crimes as stated in the indictment.

Before the trial, Wei was told that he could have a lawyer to defend his case. But Wei refused to have a lawyer and conducted his own defence at the trial. Citing conclusive evidence and relevant laws, the prosecutor refuted all of Wei's arguments.

The Constitution guarantees the people's democratic rights. The people have the right to criticize the government's work and the government welcomes such criticisms and is ready to make self-criticisms. But it will not tolerate anyone to carry out activities, under the cloak of "democracy" and "human rights," aiming at overthrowing the dictatorship of the proletariat and the socialist system.

### **Viet Nam Launches Another Anti-China Campaign**

The 13th plenary meeting of the Sino-Vietnamese negotiations was held on October 19, but no progress whatever was made.

At a time when it was necessary to break the deadlock in the negotiations, the Vietnamese authorities published in early October a white paper on the so-called "truth about Viet Nam-China relations over the last thirty years" and launched another anti-China campaign. This shows that the Vietnamese side has no sincerity in the negotiations and in the restoration of normal relations between the two countries.

In their white paper, the Vietnamese authorities distorted the history of Sino-Vietnamese relations in the past few decades and they even concocted so-called statements by Chinese leaders and did their utmost to try to stick the labels of "hegemonism" and "expansionism" on China.

In doing so, they were evidently trying to extricate themselves from their predicament, deceive the Vietnamese people, divert the attention of world opinion, and camouflage their new dry-season offensive against Kampuchea.

But facts cannot be denied. After their war against U.S. aggression, the Vietnamese authorities, backed by Soviet social-imperialism, began to turn their guns at their comrades-in-arms and brothers. They put Laos under their control, launched an aggression against Kampuchea and whipped up hostile feelings against China. They did all this in pursuit of regional hegemonism. These are the root causes of the deterioration of Sino-Vietnamese relations. If these questions were not discussed and settled, there could be no progress in the negotiations.





*Premier Hua's Visit to France*

# Sino-French Relations Reach A New High

**P**REMIER Hua Guofeng's visit to France, which came to a close, has opened up a new chapter in Sino-French relations. His first tour of West European countries was marked by a good beginning. Premier Hua was accorded a warm welcome everywhere he went. His week-long official visit to France (from October 15 to 21) was a success. Premier Hua said that friendly relations between China and France have reached a level never attained in the past.

During his stay in France, Premier Hua was hosted in turn by President Giscard d'Estaing, Prime Minister Raymond Barre, the French Senate and other leaders in France. He was guest of honour at a reception given by the Mayor of Paris Jacques Chirac and Madame Chirac and attended by over 2,000 people. Private talks and enlarged discussions were held between Premier Hua and President Giscard. The Premier also attended a ceremony for unveiling a new memorial plaque set up at the late Premier Zhou Enlai's former

abode, met with leading figures of various circles and toured a number of places.

### Fruitful Talks

In his speech at the return banquet Premier Hua gave on October 16, he mentioned his talks with the French President, saying: "These cordial and fruitful talks will greatly promote the continuing development of friendly relations between our two countries and further co-ordinate our efforts towards the maintenance of world peace."

President Giscard said at the banquet: "France and China have arrived at an understanding which resulted in a concurrence of their views on the essential aspects of international relations and in the desire to strengthen their co-operation and finally in a climate of confidence between them."

The two sides agreed that the talks had been harmonious, constructive and successful.

During this visit:

**Premier Hua Guofeng, in the company of President Giscard d'Estaing, reviews the guard of honour at Orly Airport.**





• The two sides dealt with international problems of common concern and bilateral relations, discussing them in depth and in a friendly atmosphere. They had much in common or held similar positions on international issues. Both sides felt that their talks have helped to deepen mutual understanding and they agreed to increase their contacts and consultations in the future. They believed that greater Sino-French co-operation is important in international politics.

• Both sides have expressed satisfaction with progress made in their friendly co-operation. In addition, they have explored possibilities of broadening this co-operation in the future. On October 17, Vice-Premier Yu Qiuli and Minister of Foreign Trade Jean-Francois Deniau signed a document entitled Development of Economic Relations Between China and France. Foreign Minister Huang Hua and his French counterpart Jean Francois-Poncet signed the Joint Declaration Relating to the Opening of Consular Ports and the Programme of Cultural Exchange Between the Governments of the People's Republic of China and the Republic of France for the Years 1980 and 1981. These documents are among the fruits of the summit talks.

• Premier Hua and his party toured Paris, Rennes and Brest, personally learnt about the situation of French industry, agriculture, culture, science and technology, and the experiences gained in these fields, and had contacts with leading figures in various circles. All these have promoted the friendship between the people of the two countries.

• President Giscard d'Estaing accepted an invitation by the Chinese Government to visit China at an appropriate time next year.

### **Plaque in Memory of Zhou Enlai — A Symbol Of Friendship**

On October 16, a ceremony was held for unveiling a plaque set up at Zhou Enlai's former abode at the Rue Godefroy near the place d'Italie in the southern part of Paris. The establishment of the plaque by the French Government is an act to honour his memory and an acknowledgement of his signal contribution to the cultivation and promotion of Sino-French friendship.

The activities of the late Premier during his early years in Paris furthered the friendship between China and France. His revolutionary life not only won the love of the Chinese

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• France considers the existence of a strong and prosperous China a vital factor in maintaining stability and peace in the world.

• Though each has its own identity, and follows its own particular course, though the political and social system chosen by each is different from that of the other, though each is geographically distant from the other, our two countries understand each other. They have entered into dialogues and are co-operating with each other.

• The desire to defend oneself is not a desire for aggression. On the contrary, as both are endowed with the power commensurate with a great nation, China and France are capable of committing themselves to combating all that is menacing, which arises from the present arms race.

### **— President Giscard d'Estaing**

• We have always maintained that a united and strong Europe is an important factor for the maintenance of world peace and stability.

• While we have different social systems, the amicable relations and co-operation between China and France have great vitality, for they accord with the wishes of the people of our two countries and the need for preserving world peace.

• A key objective of China's foreign policy is to delay the outbreak of a new world war and secure a fairly long period of peace. That is why we have been stressing the need to watch the global strategy of the hegemonists. Our fight against acts of aggression and expansion on the part of the hegemonists and their proxies is not solely for the sake of defending the interests of China or of our own region. No, we have kept in mind at all times the overall interest of preserving peace throughout the world.

### **— Premier Hua Guofeng**

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people but also the respect of the world's people. The 4.5-square-metre room he once occupied was in a three-storey building, No. 17, Rue Godefroy. The marble plaque bears a bust of the late Premier, with these French





At the ceremony unveiling the plaque in memory of the late Premier Zhou Enlai.

words: "Zhou Enlai, 1898-1976, lived in this house during his stay in France from 1922 to 1924." Above the French words are the three Chinese characters for "Zhou Enlai" written by Vice-Premier Deng Xiaoping. President Giscard d'Estaing in his speech at the ceremony described Premier Zhou Enlai as "a man of great charm, exceptional intelligence and immense culture." He said: "To this man who had never wished to have a monument to himself, we wish to pay our homage at the place where he had started his lifelong battle and where his good feelings for France were born."

Premier Hua Guofeng took part in the ceremony and thanked the French Government and people for their warm tribute to Premier Zhou Enlai. He said that the unveiling of the plaque was a tribute to the everlasting memory of Premier Zhou Enlai and also a token of friendship between the people of China and France. The late Premier, he said, had hoped to revisit France, but unfortunately he did not have time to fulfil this wish. But the friendship between China and France—friendship to which Premier Zhou Enlai paid great attention—is now in full bloom and will shine forth in greater splendour in the years to come.

## Long-Standing Interflow

During his stay in France, whether in Paris or the other places, Premier Hua was given an enthusiastic welcome. Thousands upon thousands of well-wishers spontaneously lined the streets and extended warm greetings to Premier Hua when he arrived in Paris. On his arrival in Rennes, crowds of welcomers were on both sides of the street from the downtown area to the city government centre. Even the balconies and windows of high buildings were thronged. Cheers broke out when Premier Hua's motorcade drove past. All this

demonstrated the deep-rooted Sino-French friendship.

Though Asia and Europe are far apart geographically, they are actually two contiguous continents. The air route between Beijing and Paris covers 10,800 kilometres, but the people of the two countries are close friends.

Cultural and commercial interflow between the people of the two countries has existed for a long time. Cared for and promoted personally by Chairman Mao Zedong and President de Gaulle, diplomatic relations were established between both countries in January 1964.

Rennes residents welcome Premier Hua.





Friendly contacts have since then increased year by year. France is the first of the Western countries with which China concluded agreements on economic co-operation, on scientific and technological co-operation and on civil air transport. The co-operation has already yielded gratifying results. The exchange of visits by government leaders of both countries has helped greatly to deepen mutual understanding and promote exchange and co-operation in every field.

There is a solid basis for the development of amicable relations and co-operation between China and France. Prime Minister Raymond Barre said at the luncheon he gave in honour of Premier Hua: "Our friendship has its roots in a concurrence of views on a number of international political problems. It is also based on co-operation in intellectual, economic and social activities. Yet what first and foremost brings France and China together today is their common dedication to the principle of national independence. Both countries alike reject the presumption of any power to dictate its will to other states."

Dwelling on the relations between the two countries, Premier Hua stressed that the continued development and consolidation of amicable relations and co-operation between China and France "is the common demand of the people of our two countries and also the common need for maintaining world peace and stability." Looking forward to the future, he said that "the co-operation between our two countries has broad potentialities, and we are quite confident of its future prospects."

## Huang Hua on International Issues

WHILE in Paris, Foreign Minister Huang Hua who accompanied Premier Hua on the visit held a press conference on October 18. He stressed that a more vigorous struggle against expansion, aggression and hegemonism is the only way really to benefit peace in the world.

**"Detente."** When asked whether he considered it practical to conclude an agreement of "detente" among the United States, the Soviet Union, China and Europe, Huang Hua said that the United States, Western Europe and the Soviet Union have been holding talks of one kind or another on issues such as disarmament and European security and a number of documents have actually been signed. "We do not oppose such talks or the conclusion of certain agreements and treaties," he declared. "These agree-

ments and treaties might serve some purposes. But in our view, it is more important to take effective actions and to wage a tit-for-tat struggle against the acts of expansion and aggression. To this end, all the forces loving peace and opposing aggression and expansion must strengthen their unity and co-ordinate their actions better."

Huang Hua pointed out that the allegation of so-called "irreversibility of detente" is contrary to the objective reality. The realities show that what is mounting in the international situation is not detente, but tension and turmoil. All responsible statesmen must tell the people the truth.

**Kampuchea.** Answering a question about the possibility of seeking a political settlement to the Kampuchean problem, Huang Hua said that the crux of this problem is the military occupation of Kampuchea by Viet Nam. So long as this remains unchanged, there can be no practical "international political settlement" and there is no such condition.

He pointed out that though Viet Nam has not yet fully controlled Kampuchea as it expected, it has not given up this ambition. Its operations in Kampuchea have never ceased and its attempt is to wipe out the resistance forces there and realize its "Indochina confederation" scheme. Hanoi has the full backing of the Soviet Union in these operations, and, as part of its global strategy, the Soviet Union has been driving Viet Nam to push ahead with its "Indochina confederation" scheme so as to link up the Soviet military deployment in Southeast Asia with that in the Red Sea area and proceed to gain strategic superiority.

Huang Hua also pointed out that the problem of Kampuchea is not an isolated or local one; it is a problem of global significance. The key to any settlement of the problem lies in the withdrawal of the Vietnamese aggressor troops and letting the Kampuchean people settle their problem themselves. "If one really wants to seek a settlement of the Kampuchean problem, one must support all the patriotic forces in Kampuchea, oppose its occupation by Viet Nam and withhold any support for Vietnamese use of armed forces to invade another sovereign state. If this principle is not upheld and Viet Nam is allowed to achieve its ends, then this will provide a bad precedent and will entail grave consequences."

**Cuba of the East.** When asked whether China will once again launch a self-defensive coun-







academic circles. Premier Zhou Enlai met with Professor Hawkes and other members of the delegation, and spoke highly of the contributions they had made to the cultural exchanges and friendly intercourse between the British and Chinese peoples.

Now, 25 years have elapsed. Some of those signatories have passed away. But their contributions to the exchanges and intercourse between the two peoples live on, and we cherish their memory.

Last November when my colleagues and I in the Chinese People's Association for Friendship With Foreign Countries visited Britain, we met in Edinburgh with Mr. John Chinnery, who was then Secretary-General of the delegation of Britain's literary, art and scientific circles and now is President of the Scotland-China Association. We recalled our past happy meetings, and were pleased with our efforts to build this bridge of friendship and cultural and academic intercourse.

Britain is a civilized country with a long history and a fine record in modern science. The Industrial Revolution of the 18th century had a worldwide influence. The Chinese people have always esteemed those eminent scholars and worthy people of Britain who contributed to the progress of mankind and social development. In China, people of our generation were already familiar in their primary-school days with such immortal names as Newton, Darwin and Watt. Famous works by Shakespeare, Dickens and George Bernard Shaw were well received among Chinese readers. At the same time, we note that Britain's cultural circles have likewise appreciated China's culture and science. A prominent example is the highly respected Dr. Joseph Needham, an old friend of the Chinese people. He was one of the founders of the Society for Anglo-Chinese Understanding and ever since has been its president. Dr. Needham, though 80 years old, still researches and disseminates China's scientific and technological history, and has published *Science and Civilization in China* in 7 volumes. Dr. Needham's persevering and strict style of work and study and the deep feelings he has shown for the Chinese people are most impressive.

We also hold in great esteem other old British friends who have worked devotedly for cultural exchanges and intercourse over the years. Many 70-year-olds visited China before liberation. What they saw was a devastated land and a hunger-stricken people — an outcome

of imperialist aggression and constant wars among Chinese warlords. The Chinese people's past miseries has been filmed by Vice-President Col. John Logan of the Scotland-China Association, who visited our country many times after the founding of New China. He has filmed the great changes in China that produced the emancipated vigorous Chinese people. When we stayed in Britain last year, he hosted us at his home, where he showed these films especially for us. Speaking of China's past and present, he said enthusiastically: "China has a diligent, brave and kind-hearted people. I love China!"

Of course, there are still many other British friends, such as Mr. Felix Greene and Mr. Derek Bryan, who, by writing books, publishing magazines, making and showing films as well as giving lectures and speeches, have been acquainting the world with the Chinese people and promoting mutual understanding and friendship between the peoples of China and Britain. We will never forget them.

At the same time, we also note gladly that there are many in the younger generation and from various strata of society who have concerned themselves with the changes and progress in China as well as with the growth of friendship between the two peoples. Everywhere we went in London, Manchester, Birmingham, Edinburgh and Cardiff, we encountered such friends, who have spent their spare-time or holidays working for the two peoples' cultural and friendly exchanges. In many moving instances, all members of a family have been doing so. Seeing this, we felt certain that the flower of friendship between the Chinese and British peoples which will blossom still more fully is deep-rooted.

State relations between China and Britain have been steadily developing thanks to the two peoples' concerted efforts. The upgrading of diplomatic relations to the ambassadorial level in 1972 has opened up even broader vistas for political and economic intercourse and cultural, scientific and technological exchanges. And many new achievements have been made in these fields.

The changing world situation, the hegemonist threats and the need to safeguard world peace confront our two peoples with common problems. Many far-sighted British politicians also notice that we have common interests. Mrs. Thatcher had visited China before she became British Prime Minister. Former British Prime Minister Heath visited China four times and had



extensive exchanges of views with Chairman Mao, Premiers Zhou and Hua. In November last year when we met with him in London, he pointed out explicitly that today's Viet Nam has a dangerous regime. He also made a clear-headed assessment of the serious challenge posed by Soviet hegemonist global strategy. During our stay in Britain, we found that more and more people were deeply pondering the situation in Europe and the world as a whole. They were realizing that co-operation between a powerful, modern China and a powerful, united Europe is not only in the common interests of the Chinese, British and West European peoples, but also an important factor for defending world peace and promoting the

progress of mankind.

Looking forward to future friendly relations between the two countries, I am filled with confidence. I deeply believe that Premier Hua Guofeng's official visit to Britain will surely raise the long-standing friendship between the two countries and peoples to a new stage.

At this encouraging moment, I send best regards to my British friends, old and new. May our peoples' friendship develop still more, vigorously and lead to still greater achievements. As China's cultural circles said in their 1954 reply to their British counterpart:

"Friends! We offer our best wishes to you, and through you, to the British people!"

## A Study in the Planned Management of The Socialist Economy

by Xue Muqiao

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*"A Study in the Problems of China's Socialist Economy," a new book by China's noted economist Xue Muqiao, will soon come off the press. We print below one of its chapters in which the author, while probing and discussing some fundamental problems of planned management in China's economy, presented his views on effecting a change in that part of the existing structure that has proved to be irrational. — Ed.*

**I**T is possible and also necessary for a socialist country to build up a system of planned management for its national economy after it has established socialist public ownership of the means of production and when the economy owned by the whole people has taken firm root and occupies a dominant position in the national economy.

To meet the growing needs of the entire population, it is necessary for a socialist country to develop production at high speed and in a proportionate way, and also to work out a rational distribution of the social products among the members of society and among the various production and construction departments. To this end, the state should establish special agencies whose tasks are to work out the



quantities of social products to be turned out by the whole country and the amount of the national income, to set the ratio between accumulation and consumption in the light of the needs of national construction and the people's livelihood, to allocate the accumulated funds (the part for investment in capital construction) among the

material and non-material production departments, and to distribute the consumption funds among the various social groupings (mainly workers, staff members, and peasants in the collectives). They should see that both national construction and the people are well supplied with the various materials needed and seek to establish a workable balance in the supply and demand of the various products.

### A Plan Cannot Be All-Inclusive

A socialist country should draw up a scientific, well-knit, unified national economic



plan under which the whole populace can be aroused and organized to work for the common goal. But this does not mean that the plan should be all-inclusive, or that it should impose all sorts of targets on the grass-roots units. In fact it would be quite impossible to implement such a plan.

This is because, in the first place, social products run into several hundred thousand kinds and even a greater number of specifications and designs. So it is impossible to include everything in the state plan. At present, there are only several hundred products that are under the direct control of the State Planning Commission (their output value accounts for more than one-half of the nation's total); furthermore, only dozens of them are worked out with minute exactitude while the rest are only roughly estimated, leaving a rather large margin of tolerance for the final figures. Even in the case of products which have been calculated with exactitude, it is impossible for the State Planning Commission to lay down their specifications or designs (as in the case of cotton cloth and steel products). It should be left to the departments concerned or to the supply and consumption units to work out specific arrangements through consultation. Another point is that production of and demand for products (especially in terms of specifications and design) are subject to constant change, so the more specific the terms laid down by the state organs at the top, the more difficult it is to strike a balance between their supply and demand.

Next, China's productive forces (particular in agriculture) are not yet well developed. About 80 per cent of the people in our country still live under an economy of collective ownership. Since a collectively owned unit is responsible for its own profit and loss, it must consider how to make more gains from its labour. The state should not impose production plans on the collectives but should allow them to make their own plans concerning what to produce, how much to produce and how to organize production, taking the state plan as a reference.

In the past, the state organs used to pass regulations down from level to level to the communes, production brigades and teams in regard to crop acreage and methods of cultivation. This infringed on the right of these units to self-management. Because many production units could not cultivate the kind of crops

suited to local conditions, their income fell, the enthusiasm of the peasants ebbed and agricultural production rose very slowly. Obviously, this was the penalty for violating objective laws of economic development.

It should be made clear that all state plans for farm produce are only for reference; the state may pass its plans down to various levels for consultation, but it is the production units alone that have the final say. From our experience, as long as we direct work in the proper way, the collective economy is sure to fulfil the plans envisaged by the state.

### Regulating Production Through Price Policy

How can the production plans for various products be fulfilled if units in the collective economy are given the right to manage their own affairs? We will have to rely mainly on the law of value, that is to say, adopt a policy of making use of pricing. During the years following the birth of New China in 1949, the supply of all farm produce in our country (including grain) was unrestricted, but then nothing like demand outstripping supply had ever happened. It was at the beginning of the First Five-Year Plan (1953-57) that a grain supply shortage gradually developed due to the growth of urban population. Later shortages in the supplies of non-staple foods gradually appeared. This led to the gradual introduction of the systems of prescribed purchases, unified purchases and procurement quotas.\*

\* Grain is covered by prescribed purchases. The state fixes the amount of grain to be purchased from each province, county, commune, production brigade and production team (in case of a crop failure due to natural disasters, there may be a reduction in the amount or exemption from sales). A production team, having fulfilled the required amount, may sell its surplus grain to the state which pays 50 per cent more, or sell it at a rural fair.

Cotton is subject to unified purchases by the state. Apart from the amount for each individual's own use as specified by the state, the production teams must sell all their cotton to the state. Any one with cotton left over from the amount set aside for personal use may sell it at a rural fair.

Pigs and eggs are subject to a procurement quota system. Peasants who raise pigs and hens have to sell a certain portion (specified by each locality concerned) of their pigs and eggs to the state, while the rest is reserved for personal consumption. When pork and eggs are in abundant supply on the market, the procurement quotas cease to work. — *The author.*



This was necessary at that time to ensure supplies to the cities, areas producing cash crops and places where there was a grain deficiency. But in some years the amount of grain purchased by the state was too large, so that almost everyone in the countryside became concerned over the grain problem and every household discussed the prescribed purchasing system.

Up to now the systems of prescribed purchases, unified purchases and procurement quotas for grain and other main farm products are still in force and still cannot be abolished for a while. But we must not overlook the negative role they have played. In some places, when the amount of prescribed purchases and the procurement quotas are too high, the peasants who grow the crops cannot eat their fill and those who raise pigs do not have pork on their tables. Their flagging enthusiasm for production impaired the growth of agricultural production, which in turn made the shortage of supplies in the cities even more acute.

We must learn to use the law of value in regulating agricultural production. But will this give rise to price hikes in farm produce? This is likely, but such price hikes are reasonable. The price of farm produce in our country is not only much lower than that in the developed capitalist countries but also even lower than that in many developing countries. True, there are many factors in our country that cannot be compared with those of other countries. But one thing is definite: prices of our farm produce are low. Beginning this year, we have raised the purchasing prices for agricultural produce by a wide margin and will continue to do so in future. If we adhere to the principle of exchange of equal values and set reasonable prices for farm produce, our peasants' enthusiasm for production will soar and agricultural production will likewise develop more quickly to meet the needs of the whole population.



In the event of war or an unusually big natural disaster which seriously disturbs the equilibrium in the supply and demand of farm produce, it is imperative to adopt temporarily the unified purchasing and procurement quota systems. But, then, this should not be on a long-term basis and secondly, the scope and amount of unified purchasing and procurement quotas should not be expanded indefinitely. According to our experience, when we purchased too much grain through the prescribed system, grain output in the following year went down immediately; conversely, when we purchased less, grain output in the following year went up as a matter of course. When our procurement quotas for meat and eggs were too high, these items became hard to get; when we relaxed or abolished the quota system, and made purchases at a price agreed on, the products would be in ample supply.

The role of the price policy in regulating agricultural production is very clear. During the First Five-Year Plan, we raised cotton prices steeply with a view to boosting cotton production. The result was that there was overproduction in cotton at the expense of grain output, and we found it necessary to lower cotton prices a little. Adjustment in prices for meat, eggs, vegetables and other non-staple food has an even more marked effect. Their current prices at the fairs in many places are only 10 to 20 per cent higher than at the state retail shops; they are welcomed by customers for their freshness and good quality. In some cities, when fairs just opened, prices were about 50 per cent higher than at the state-owned shops, but after a month or two, when more things were available at the fairs, prices gradually went down.

Many comrades are reluctant to make use of the law of value to regulate prices for fear this will bring about a general price hike. This view shows inadequate knowledge of economics. A general price rise is the consequence of a decline in the value of the currency, which is caused by inflation when the social purchasing power has exceeded the amount of goods available. If we are in a position to exercise rigid control over the volume of money in circulation and achieve an equilibrium between the social purchasing power and the amount of goods in supply, there will not be a rise in the general price level, but only some fluctuations. These fluctuations will result in prices for various goods moving somewhat closer to their values. In other words, they will bring our economic work



into closer conformity with the objective laws of economic development. There is nothing wrong with that.

Over the past 20 years and more, we have prolonged the systems of unified purchases and procurement quotas and rationed a part of the daily necessities. This gives the false impression that such steps are a must in a socialist country, otherwise a balance between supply and demand cannot be achieved. The fact is that some socialist countries have never introduced such arrangements at all while others which did for some time abolished them as soon as supply became plentiful. These countries paid relatively more attention to narrowing the price scissors between industrial and agricultural goods and so their agricultural growth has been fairly rapid in recent years. Per-capita grain output in some countries is twice or three times as high as ours while the supply of meat, eggs and dairy products is many more times as large as ours. This has enabled them to provide an abundant supply of farm products.

We have managed to achieve an equilibrium between supply and demand through unified purchasing, procurement quotas and rationing, which had their advantages. But because we failed to make proper use of the law of value, the price scissors between industrial and agricultural goods have widened in these years with the result that many communes, production brigades and teams have not obtained increased income for increased production and this has dampened the peasants' enthusiasm for production. The effect has been a mounting contradiction between supply and demand and we have been forced to further enlarge the scope of unified purchasing, procurement quotas and rationing. If this repeats, it may lead to a vicious circle.

At present, it is still impossible for us to abolish unified purchasing and procurement quotas in the case of many major farm products. But we must be aware that this is not a normal procedure in the planned management of the national economy. The normal method should be to bring about an equilibrium between supply and demand by means of the law of value. Although we have a huge population and relatively little cultivated land, although we have certain difficulties in ensuring supply, the potential for increased agricultural production is still very high. When the existing productive capacity is fully tapped, it is entirely possible that output in many low-yielding areas can be doubled or tripled. The average area of cultivat-

ed land per person in Japan is only one-half that of ours, and yet its agricultural development in recent years has been fairly rapid; although it still imports some wheat and maize, there is already an overabundance of rice, production of which now has to be curtailed (this, of course, also has something to do with change in the composition of the Japanese people's daily fare). If they have succeeded, why can't we?

### **Broaden the Right of Enterprises to Manage Their Own Affairs**

How is planned management carried out in enterprises owned by the whole people? We must look into this problem and get to the bottom of it. We have several hundred thousand state-owned enterprises producing and handling hundreds of thousands of products. It is very difficult for administrative organs at various levels to run them efficiently. When you tell them to fulfil the targets in quantity and output value, they just ignore quality and the costs, and they don't care whether the varieties, specifications and designs of the goods they produce are what the consumers and market need. Ours is a big country where unified management will inevitably involve many levels and all kinds of procedures. The result is something that can be done in several hours remains undone for months because of the red tape. Bureaucracy like this is highly incompatible with modernization which calls for great efficiency. Therefore, it is necessary to radically trim the administrative organs and simplify the administrative procedures and broaden the right of an enterprise to manage its own affairs. Enterprises should be given every opportunity to do as much on their own as possible.

Most of the state plans drawn up for the state-owned enterprises in production and marketing should serve as plans for reference, to be decided on by the enterprises themselves after consultation.

The practice of unified handling of enterprises' incomes and expenditures should be abolished, and enterprises should be given certain rights over their own incomes and expenditures and allowed to take on some responsibility for their financial matters.

In producing and marketing, products affecting the national interests and people's livelihood such as cotton cloth, coal and sugar, should continue to be subject to unified purchasing and marketing by the state so as to ensure supply and stabilize the market; we should





gradually abolish unified purchasing and marketing of articles of daily use which have a wide range of variety, and apply a method of purchasing them selectively.

The present procedure is to work out purchasing plans according to the production plans and marketing plans according to the purchasing plans. This must be done away with. Henceforth, purchasing plans should be drawn up on the basis of market needs and production plans drawn up on the basis of purchasing plans. Sales on the market must not be determined by production plans but the other way round.

Commercial departments should be free to decide what to buy from production units; production units must be allowed to sell their products which the commercial departments do not choose to purchase.

What measures can be taken if and when an enterprise, now with more self-management, does not produce according to the state plan and upsets the equilibrium between supply and demand? There are many ways to tackle this problem. One of them is through taxation. Higher taxes can be levied on goods whose production needs to be curtailed and reduction or waiver of taxes extended to goods whose production is encouraged. Another means is through price policy. The price of goods whose production is to be curtailed will be brought down while the price of goods whose production is to be encouraged will be raised. The third measure operates through the supply of materials. Enterprises whose development is encouraged will be fully ensured of supply of raw and other materials, fuel and electric power, while enterprises which are to be discontinued or whose production is to be curtailed will get no supply at all or only a limited supply. The fourth means is the investment policy. Trades or enterprises to be encouraged will receive more investment while those to be restricted will get little or no investment

at all. Finally, there is the policy governing credits and loans. Trades or enterprises to be further developed will get more loans at a reduced rate of interest while those to be restricted get fewer or no loans at all. In short, we should refrain as much as possible from interfering in the economic activities of enterprises through issuing administrative orders but should try to regulate their economic activities through economic means.

What are the advantages of doing things this way? There are quite many. As far as the leading organs are concerned, there will be much less subjectivism and bureaucracy. As to the enterprises, this will enable them to use their own brains to think things out instead of just following orders, and require that they keep the market, the customers and the people in mind. This will give enterprises a chance to improve their management in the light of their own conditions and to achieve greater economic results with comparatively less labour and materials.

### More Exchanges on Market

Our old system of planned management of the national economy was copied from the Soviet Union in the early 50s. Before the basic completion of socialist transformation of ownership of the means of production in 1956, the socialist state-owned economy was supplemented by the economies of private ownership, joint state-private ownership and individual ownership; there were more flexibility, greater varieties and designs of goods, and a larger commercial network. So the needs of the market and the people were better met.

After completion of socialist transformation of ownership of the means of production, especially after the merger and reorganization of enterprises in 1958, the number of production units became much smaller and the commercial network contracted. The state commercial departments, however, continued to deal with state-owned industry the same way they had dealt with private industry. The contradiction between production and demand gradually sharpened.

There has been even more rigid control over the supply of the means of production, so that in respect of variety and specifications, the capital goods often failed to meet the needs of the users. This situation arose under the influence of the theory that the means of production are not commodities and therefore should not be bought and sold on the market. This



being the case, there was a shortage in the supply of the means of production on the one hand and an ever-increasing piling of unwanted capital goods in warehouses on the other. This system of control must be abolished.

At present, due to the fact that the supply of some capital goods is not yet adequate, we have no alternative but to retain temporarily a system of unified distribution of goods in this category. In future, in the course of readjusting the proportions between the various branches of the national economy, it will be necessary to gradually relax the planned management of the means of production. All departments handling capital goods and other materials can concern themselves less with carrying out planned distribution and more with making use of exchanges on the market. They should establish specialized companies to meet the needs of the users at any time. Some trades may be allowed to set up specialized companies to sell their own products; producers and marketing units may be allowed to sign contracts on supply and marketing. There should be many kinds of methods for putting goods into circulation.

### **Planning and Flexibility**

All in all, in the planned management of the national economy in a socialist country, there must be a compact state plan for regulating the proportionate development of the various branches of the national economy, setting the orientation for the future development of the national economy and avoiding anarchism in production. If we emphasize only the right of the collective economy and the state-owned economy to self-management without taking measures to bring their economic activities into the orbit of the state plan, the national economy will be thrown into chaos.

On the other hand, if planned management of the national economy is interpreted to mean that all economic activities have to be conducted strictly according to state plans, that all grass-roots enterprises, and even units under the collective economy, must operate only within the scope of the state plan, and that they should have no right of self-management or no opportunity to bring their own initiative into play, the national economy will be stifled and the dislocation between production and demand will persist for ever. This is particularly so in a country like ours, with such a vast territory and such a huge population; this kind of planned management which handles all things from the

very top down to the very bottom obviously does not fit in with actual conditions in our country.

Conditions in all branches of the national economy are very complicated and call for many different methods of management. Banking, railway transportation, aviation, postal and telecommunication service, and ocean-going navigation should be placed under unified national management; however, it may also be feasible to set up regional organs to function as independent accounting units. Inter-province (inter-municipality) communication and transport organizations, big electric power networks, and a few giant iron and steel works, big oilfields, big coal mines which take care of the whole country's needs should be organized into specialized companies and complexes under the direct control of the central authorities. Ordinary industrial plants should be placed under the control of their respective local authorities; specialized companies and complexes may also be organized to carry out inter-trade or inter-province (inter-municipality) activities. Industries manufacturing articles of daily use should be run separately by various localities. Their products may be handled either by state-owned commercial departments or by themselves through jointly operated marketing outlets. There is even more reason for handicraft shops to be run separately by the county, commune, town or urban neighbourhood community. By and large such enterprises may be run in the form of co-operatives which are responsible for their own profit and loss. Their products may be handled either by state-owned commercial departments, supply and marketing co-operatives or, in the case of goods sold locally, by themselves.

Even when we have achieved modernization, there will still be large, medium-sized and small enterprises existing side by side, and there will still be semi-mechanized and handicraft production. So there will still be diverse forms of economic management.

### **Break Away From Old Conventions**

Planned management of the national economy in a socialist country is a new emerging branch of science which requires a good amount of research. Under no circumstances must we rest content with things as they are, or go about our work in a routine, conventional way. Practice has shown that the old structure of economic management in our country has failed to bring out fully the superiority of the



socialist system; in some aspects, such as technical innovations and meeting market needs, we are even behind the developed capitalist countries. We must not assume that establishing the socialist public ownership of the means of production automatically gives full rein to the superiority of the socialist system. Our socialist relations of production must be in harmony with the level of the productive forces, and the structure of the planned management of the national economy must likewise

be in harmony with the level of the productive forces.

The structure of planned management of the Soviet national economy in the early 50s had shortcomings even at that time in that country. When we transplanted it indiscriminately to our country, the problems were even greater. We must improve this structure, keeping and developing that part of the structure that can play a positive role, and transforming that part which plays a negative role. All-round confirmation or rejection is inappropriate.

## New Beijing International Airport

by Our Correspondent Hua Sheng

ON the eve of last October 1, the 30th anniversary of our People's Republic, construction of the new Beijing International Airport, including a terminal and ancillary buildings, was completed. The airport is expected to be open to passengers at the beginning of next year.

### China's Biggest

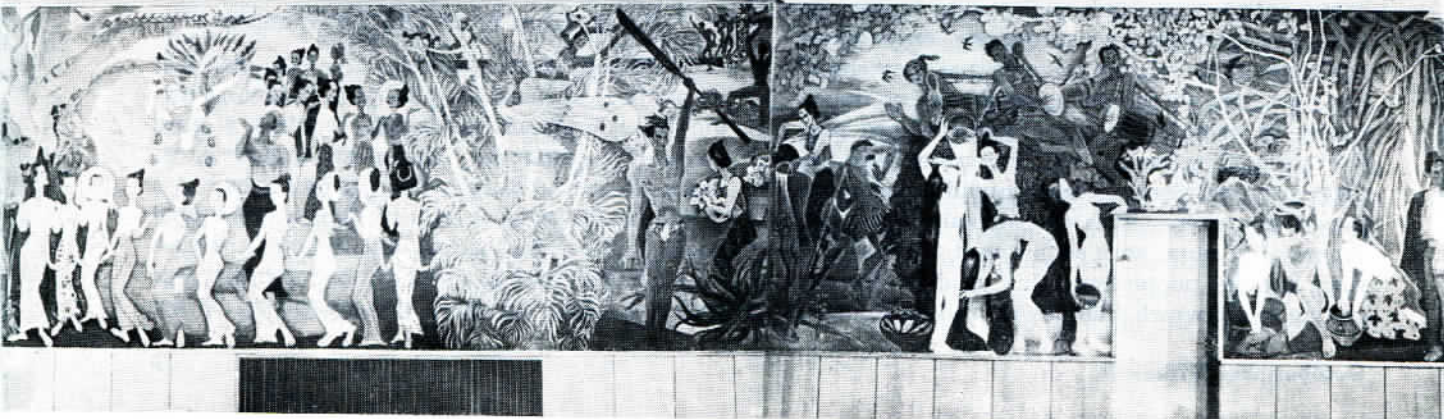
Recently our correspondent visited this fairly modern airport which is the biggest in China today and is located in the eastern suburbs some 20 kilometres outside the city. The 20-metre-high five-storeyed terminal building, with two huge red characters for "Beijing" on top, first came into sight while we were still

in the car on our way to look over the premises. In front is a parking lot which can accommodate 400 cars. On both east and west sides of the building there is a 3,000-metre-long runway along which big airliners such as Boeing 747s can land and take off. To the north of the building is a parking area large enough to accommodate 20 big or medium-sized planes. A staff member there told us that this terminal is capable of handling as many as 1,500 passengers per hour during peak traffic periods.

The old Beijing Airport was built in 1958. Since China set out on the drive for modernization and opened wide its doors to the world, the old airport, in both scale and facilities, has become inadequate for dealing with the ever-

A huge mural entitled "The Water-Sprinkling Festival—Eulogy of Life" in the terminal building of the Beijing International Airport.

*Painted by Yuan Yunsheng*





increasing flow of international traffic. With the endorsement of the State Council, work on a new airport by the side of the old one began in 1975.

The new airport consists of a terminal, the main structure, and 20 ancillary buildings, including a lookout for welcoming or seeing off passengers, a hangar for inspection and overhauling, a control tower, an overpass, a general fuelling station, a hotel and a works for the disposal of polluted water.

### The Terminal Building

At the suggestion of the late Premier Zhou Enlai, the terminal building was designed to have an area of 60,000 square metres, or six times that of the old one. It has three distinctive features:

**"Satellite" Layout.** The terminal consists of a main building and two circular "satellite" wings, each joined to the former by a moving walk. Each satellite has eight small fan-shaped waiting rooms with a surrounding area large enough to park eight planes simultaneously. After going through the necessary procedures at the terminal, passengers get on a moving walk, which takes them along a 150-metre-long glass-covered passage to one of the satellites. After resting awhile they cross a passenger's bridge to board their airliner. A comrade of the airport told us that the moving walks were designed and made in Shanghai. Moving at the rate of 40 metres a minute, the walk can convey 9,600 passengers an hour.

**Automatic Installations.** Besides the moving walks for passengers there are automatic luggage conveyers. Passengers need timely and accurate information about their flights, and for this there are installed in the main halls of the terminal indicators controlled by electronic computers as well as passenger-guiding devices in graphics and in the Chinese and English languages. In the administration offices there are various automatic control appliances. Certain places are fitted with alarms to ensure the health and safety of the passengers.

The manager in charge of the airport told us that except the automatic dispatching system as well as the telecommunications and navigation facilities, which were imported from abroad, all the other pieces of automatic equipment, numbering more than 1,000, were designed and made in China.

**Traditional Chinese Style.** Great ingenuity has been exercised in the selection of building materials and in the designing of the decora-



One of the terminal satellites.

tions, as is shown by the smooth, glassy terrazzo floor; the gilt figured porous asbestos-board ceilings; the marble pillars of soft butter colour; plastic wallpaper with diverse designs; bright glass windows and doors; and chandeliers and lamps of various forms. There are over 50 murals, traditional Chinese paintings, oil paintings and prints in the main halls, and these, in particular, have distinct national characteristics and afford great aesthetic enjoyment to the viewers.

### Good Facilities

All the facilities at the airport are intended to provide good service to the passengers and to add to their convenience, comfort and safety.

The ground floor of the terminal building is used for the arrivals; the first floor for those departing; while the second floor houses a 500-seat restaurant for passengers in transit, who may have meals or take a rest here without the trouble of having their visas checked.

Close to the terminal is a six-storeyed hotel with 300 beds for passengers in transit, foreign crew members and tourists. There is also a lounge for the reception of distinguished guests such as leaders of foreign countries. Offices are available for foreign aviation companies to work in and for foreign crew members to register for entrance. A special room is also reserved for mothers with babies.

Besides, there are shops, cold-drink counters, a bank, a post office, a clinic, a barber shop, a taxi-stand, luggage-deposit boxes, and information services.

The new Beijing International Airport forms another bridge on the road of friendly intercourse between China and the rest of the world and it is also an indication of the fast expansion of our young civil aviation.



# China's Civil Aviation

*Beijing's new international airport has been completed and will be open to traffic early next year. Our correspondent interviewed Shen Tu, director of the General Administration of Civil Aviation of China (CAAC). Following are the highlights. — Ed.*

**Question:** How many international airline routes does CAAC fly? And how is business?

**Answer:** CAAC altogether flies 11 international airline routes with a total length of 67,800 kilometres (see map).

China has signed airline agreements with more than 30 countries and has conducted business with airlines in over 170 countries and regions. CAAC has offices in 14 cities: Addis Ababa, Belgrade, Bucharest, Frankfurt, Karachi, Manila, Moscow, Osaka, Paris, Pyongyang, Rangoon, Teheran, Tokyo and Zurich.

China now has its own international air routes. All Chinese special planes and chartered flights abroad are handled by CAAC. China's planes have flown to 180 airports in over 80 countries and regions.

Since New China was founded, civil aviation has been developed in accordance with the late Premier Zhou's instructions, that is, "safety first, then improve services and striving for regular flights." Over the years CAAC has trained a large group of air crew and other personnel for aviation work, and has established a series of strict rules and regulations. Since its business began in 1950, it has had a good flight safety record and has never had an accident abroad.

Of course our work leaves much to be desired. Sometimes our flights are not on time, service is not as good as we would like, etc. All this needs to be improved.

**Q:** How many domestic airline routes are there?

**A:** There are 160 altogether, 109 are major routes and 51 are intra-provincial and intra-autonomous region routes (see map).



They exceed 168,000 kilometres, 23 times those of 1950. At present, there are some 500 flights every week, with direct flights between Beijing and Tianjin, Beijing and Shanghai, and Beijing and the capitals of every province (except Taiwan) and autonomous region.

There are also flights between capitals of provinces or autonomous regions and important cities in their areas.

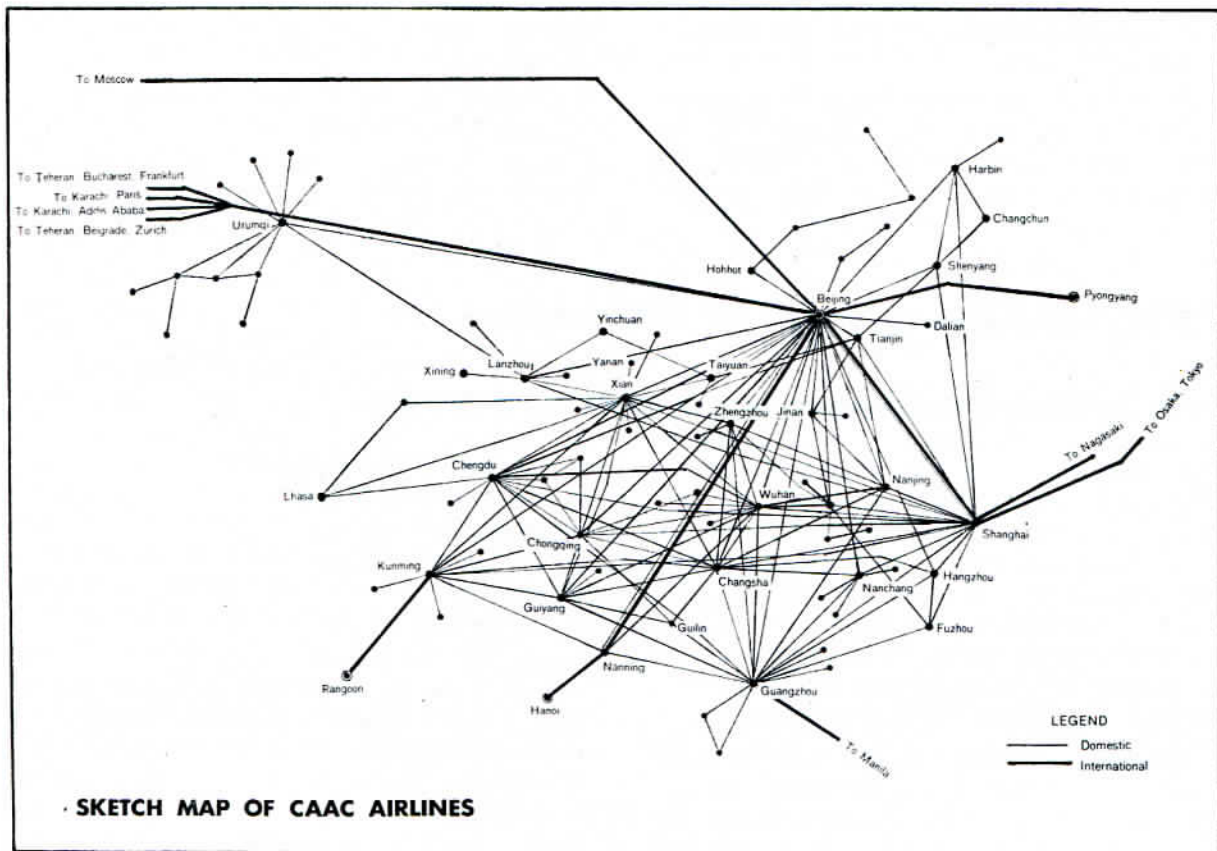
On China's vast territory, land communications with some border areas are rather difficult because they have high mountains, deserts and rivers. Therefore, air communications play an important role in linking inland provinces with these areas and promoting the latter's economic and cultural growth.

In the meantime, CAAC has paid attention to opening air routes within the border provinces and autonomous regions. China's northwest Xinjiang Uygur Autonomous Region, which contains one-sixth of the country's total area, has 11 air routes linking its capital, Urumqi, with its prefectures. There are 62 flights every week for these routes.

**Q:** Have you opened domestic routes specially for tourists?

**A:** Yes. As I have already mentioned, CAAC has 160 domestic routes. Some of them are for tourists. A few of the 14 domestic lines opened this year are for this purpose, such as those between Beijing and the scenic spot of Chengde and between Beijing and the summer resort of Beidaihe. To facilitate the visits of our compatriots in Xianggang (Hongkong) and Aomen (Macao) and overseas Chinese returning to see their relatives, friends and other interesting places, we now have direct flights





between Guangzhou and Fuzhou, Shantou (Swatow) and Xingning.

Flights to and from the 40 major tourist cities are increasing. For instance, as more and more tourists are flocking to the beautiful city of Guilin, we have increased the weekly flights between Guangzhou and Guilin from 15 to 24. There are flights to Guilin from Beijing, Shanghai, Tianjin, Hangzhou, Chongqing, Chengdu, Wuhan and Changsha every week. In addition, CAAC has inaugurated chartered flights for tourists between Xianggang and Hangzhou and between Nanjing and Xianggang since the end of June this year.

**Q:** What other services does civil aviation provide?

**A:** In order to help industrial and agricultural production, China's civil aviation provides special aeronautical services such as aerophotography, locating mining spots, protecting plants and forests, preventing and controlling pests, afforestation sowing, weeding, applying fertilizer, wiping out snails, mosquitoes, flies and hamsters, as well as seeding clouds to induce rain and snow.

In 1977, technicians and workers of CAAC trial-manufactured a cheap and efficient equipment for aerial spraying. This advanced device is being popularized throughout the country. In late April of this year, 100,000 hectares of wheat in Dengxian County, Henan Province, were infested by army-worms. CAAC sent aircraft to help spray the fields with insecticide, which had a beneficial effect on the wheat harvest.

**Q:** What are your future plans?

**A:** Starting from 1980, we shall introduce Boeing 747s for our international routes. Planes for domestic flights will also be replaced by bigger and better ones step by step.

More new international airports will be built in our country to facilitate international flights.

As part of our tourist promotion programme, airports will be built in industrial cities and places frequented by tourists and regular flights will be added. Airline services will soon be provided to Qingdao, Tunxi (Huangshan Mountain), Datong and Dunhuang. Airports



will be expanded in major cities and spots of interest for tourists.

Now CAAC only has flights to countries in Asia, Europe and Africa. Before 1985, we plan to have flights to Oceania, North and South America. At the same time, we will

develop international charter services for tourists.

Finally, but not the least important, we are going to open training courses for personnel engaging in various kinds of aviation work. We shall do our best to improve our services.

## Political Change in El Salvador

ON October 15, a military coup took place in El Salvador, the smallest and the most densely populated "state of volcanoes" in Central America. An Executive Committee, consisting of five military officers and one civilian, has been formed to replace the military government of President Carlos Romero. The specifics of the coup are not yet very clear. However, the change was not unexpected.

**14 Families.** El Salvador has long been in turmoil. A report by a committee of the Organization of American States said that the Salvadoran disturbance was due to the extreme social and economic inequality which had intensified during the last few decades. When a large-scale peasant uprising broke out in the early 1930s it was ruthlessly suppressed and thousand of rebels were killed. Since then, the military government supported by 14 families has ruled the country.

A *le Monde* journalist had this to say about the political situation in El Salvador. On the walls of the air-conditioned buildings, banks, trading companies and insurance companies, located in San Salvador, the capital, beautiful and shining family seals are displayed. . . . The heads of 14 families tightly control the political

and economic life of the country. Their sons-in-law, nephews and their wives and cousins dominate every sector of the economy. Though the 14 families do not appear in public, they have established and overthrown every government since El Salvador became independent.

*El Sol de Mexico* said: El Salvador is actually a country completely controlled by the army. For the last 45 years, the so-called 14 families have always allied with the army. All previous presidents' cabinets were formed by the army and members of these families. In every change of government, they took turns assuming power.

In the past decade or more, the disparity between the poor and the rich has worsened. The 14 families have turned into "90 families." Though they comprise less than 5 per cent of the population, they control most of the nation's wealth and 90 per cent of its land.

**Police State.** El Salvador has only 4.2 million people, but its police numbers 200,000. These include the national guard, national police, city hall police, finance police, investigating police, political police and traffic police as well as the special police and military police of the intelligence department of the headquarters of staff, presidential office and security office. The "land service troops" have 3,000 patrol forces with about 60,000 men who are responsible for keeping watch over and suppressing the urban and rural residents. Even the privately employed night gatekeepers are put under the control of the national police so that they, too, keep the city residents under surveillance.

In order to suppress popular resistance, the Romero government concocted a so-called plan to "safeguard and guarantee public order" in November 1977. It stipulated that the government had the right to arrest people suspected



(Continued on p. 28.)



## THAI-KAMPUCHEAN BORDER

### Danger Signal

On October 15, the Vietnamese Foreign Ministry called in Thailand's ambassador to Viet Nam and ridiculously accused the Thai Foreign Minister of "distorting the situation in Indochina" and of making "slandorous charges" against Viet Nam at the U.N. General Assembly session. The ambassador was told on the occasion that the attitude of Thailand "is not in the interests of the Thai people or of peace and stability in Southeast Asia," and that the Thai Government "must bear full responsibility for its erroneous attitude."

Following that, Vietnamese newspapers released a series of commentaries openly threatening to use force against Thailand. They claimed that Thailand's attitude and actions were harmful to its own peace and stability. As a warning, they advised Thailand to be on its best behaviour and to keep clear-headed. They also reminded Thailand of "lessons paid for with blood," saying that the past 30 years' history in the region had been written in blood and flames.

It has been reported that tension mounted along the Thai-Kampuchean border as Viet Nam continued its invectives. Viet Nam has been launching new offensives in Kampuchea and spreading the flames of war to the Thai-Kampuchean border.

According to reports, the Chief of the General Staff of the Vietnamese Army, Van Tien Dung, is now in Battambang assuming personal com-

mand. While nine divisions of the Vietnamese aggressor troops in Kampuchea have moved closer to the Thai border, shells have kept dropping on Thai territory and Vietnamese sappers have been making incursions five kilometres deep into Thailand. In a situation like this, the brazen attacks and threats against Thailand not only bring political pressure on a peaceful country but also give danger-signals of an expanding war of aggression along Thai borders.

The disturbed situation in the Southeast Asian region is an expression of out-and-out hegemonic strivings. One country has gone so far as to dispatch numerous troops to invade a neighbouring country. The aggressor troops not only refuse to pull out but have mounted one large-scale offensive after another in which some one million people have been killed or starved to death. The invading country brooks no opposition to its aggression, otherwise, it threatens the use of force and an expansion of its aggression.

The members of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN), like many other countries in the world, are maintaining vigilance against spread of the fires of war by Viet Nam. The Prime Minister of Thailand, Kriangsak, has warned Viet Nam in all seriousness: Thailand will defend its territory, and is prepared to deal with any foreign invaders. The armed forces of Thailand have been alerted and are prepared to "fight to the last

man" if Thai territory is invaded.

## SOUTH KOREA

### Pusan Demonstrations

On October 16 and 17, students and citizens held massive demonstrations throughout the city of Pusan. They shouted "Abolish the Yusin Constitution" and "Dictatorial regime, resign," and denounced the Pak Jung Hi clique for ousting Kim Yong Sam, President of the New Democratic Party, from the "National Assembly."

Kim Yong Sam was elected President of the New Democratic Party, the largest opposition party in south Korea, last May. He has advocated the abolition of "the Yusin Constitution" and the realization of the dialogue between the two parts of Korea. On October 4 the Pak clique deprived him of his membership of the "National Assembly" by calling out hundreds of plainclothes men to force the adoption of a proposal in the absence of all members from the New Democratic Party.

During the protest march, the demonstrators hurled stones at the policemen who were assaulting them. They destroyed and burned 11 police boxes and 25 vehicles, including police vans and motorcycles. At least 50 policemen were knocked down. *Pusan Ilbo*, other newspaper offices and the television station were attacked, and many government offices damaged.

Though the police murdered five students and arrested about 30 citizens and 280 students, they failed to put down the riot. The Pak clique then dis-



missed their police chief and sent in the Minister of the Interior. They also put the Pusan area under martial law.

Students demonstrated and held campus rallies in Masan, Seoul and other places.

The Pak clique's suppression will only arouse stronger opposition from the south Korean people.

## CASTRO IN U.N.

### Soviet Surrogate

Speaking at the United Nations General Assembly, President Castro sometimes waved his finger in the air, sometimes thumped the lectern with his fist. He talked much about his role as the current chairman of the non-aligned movement and asserted that he spoke on behalf of the third world.

Is Castro really a champion of the non-aligned movement and third world? A survey of world opinion indicates that the answer is no.

The Colombian paper *El Siglo* carried a commentary on October 14 which said that Castro attempted "to usurp the name of the spokesman of the non-aligned movement but only repeated what Moscow was saying."

A Kenyan newspaper, *Daily Nation*, in an editorial on October 15 said that Castro clearly proved he was closely allied with the Kremlin by blasting the Western nations while failing to speak out against the Soviet Union. The editorial contended that "Viet Nam's invasion and occupation of Cambodia, an action condemned by most non-aligned states, gives further evidence of the global reach of social-imperialism." The editorial also stated that

Castro, instead of serving the interests of the member countries of the non-aligned movement, used his performance in the U.N. to try to further Moscow's political ambitions.

Manila's *Daily Express* on October 17 stressed that the non-aligned group "is not willing to accept Castro as a representative of their true interests, certainly not while he is politically and economically dependent on Moscow, and not while he is unswervingly defending the Soviet line."

The Trinidad paper *Express* on October 12 said, Castro was a frontman for the Russians. He sent his soldiers to the battlefield in Angola and serves as the Russian representative on his own stamping ground in the Caribbean, the paper noted.

*Diario of Mexico*, a Mexican newspaper, said in an editorial that though Castro talked glibly about "disarmament" in his speech at the United Nations, it was none other than Cuba that had "brought death and war to the Soviet designated places."

As for the economic development of the third world countries, another Mexican paper *El Excelsior* ran an article on October 15 which said that Cuba is a satellite and colony of the Soviet Union. Since it owes the Soviet Union nine billion dollars, it is really hard to understand how Castro, as head of such a state, should dare to offer solutions for other countries' development problems.

The Kenyan *Sunday Nation* bluntly stated that Castro "has been a good listener to the Kremlin which makes him a good Trojan horse in the third world."

Castro's speech at the United Nations once again provided

evidence that Cuba under him is just a convenient surrogate of the Soviet Union.

## OAXACA DECLARATION

### Against Political Hegemony

Twenty-three political parties from 16 Latin American countries met in Oaxaca, Mexico, from October 10 through 12 and issued the Oaxaca Declaration which called on "Latin America to get united immediately to oppose political hegemony," and to "establish a common front to counter all ideology and political activities which screen external and imperialist penetration."

The declaration also called for the conclusion of an international agreement to defend Latin American interests, oppose the expansion of transnational enterprises and ensure development of regional organizations to counter colonial and neo-colonial economic dependence.

During the meeting it was decided to establish the Conference of Latin American Political Parties. Its aim is to seek co-operation among the various organizations, take joint political action, safeguard the sovereignty and independence of Latin American countries and support the popular struggle for democracy and against foreign penetration.

The meeting elected the current President of Mexico's ruling party, Gustavo Carvajal, president of the conference and six vice-presidents. It was decided that the leading body of the conference will be re-elected every two years. This was the first time that the political parties of Latin America held a meeting and decided to organize against outside penetration and block global political hegemony.



### ● **Uranium Found**

An engineering unit of the People's Liberation Army recently found a medium-sized uranium deposit in the northern part of China in geological formation 1,700 million years old. This is the first discovery of a fairly large uranium deposit in such formations in our country.

In the past scientists at home and abroad considered it almost impossible to find uranium in this kind of formations, so little prospecting was done. Commanders and fighters of this unit, in their efforts to contribute to the four modernizations, worked hard all the year round and finally discovered this deposit.

The new find has provided technical data to help locate more uranium in similar formations.

### ● **Fuel and Power Industries**

China's coal output now is the world's No. 3, electricity No. 7 and petroleum No. 8.

When the People's Republic was founded the fuel and power industries were relatively backward. Coal output was No. 10 in the world, electricity No. 25 and petroleum No. 29.

Oil refineries supply industry, agriculture and national defence with more than 640 kinds of high-quality gasoline, kerosene, diesel oil and lubricating oil. The petrochemical industry has developed rapidly and is capable of turning out

dozens of chemical products. Petroleum export has risen year by year.

The nation is rich in coal. It has about 600,000 million tons of confirmed deposits and output surpassed 610 million tons last year. In addition to a number of newly built large coal mines, small coal mines were opened up by many counties. Production in the major coal mines has been mechanized or semi-mechanized. Comprehensive mechanization in all large mines will be realized.

New achievements have been gained in the electric power industry. There are three large hydropower stations on the Huanghe River — Liujiaxia, Qingtongxia and Yanguoxia. Gezhouba hydropower station, the biggest on the Changjiang River, is under construction. Up to now there are 61 large thermal power plants and hydro-power stations, each with a

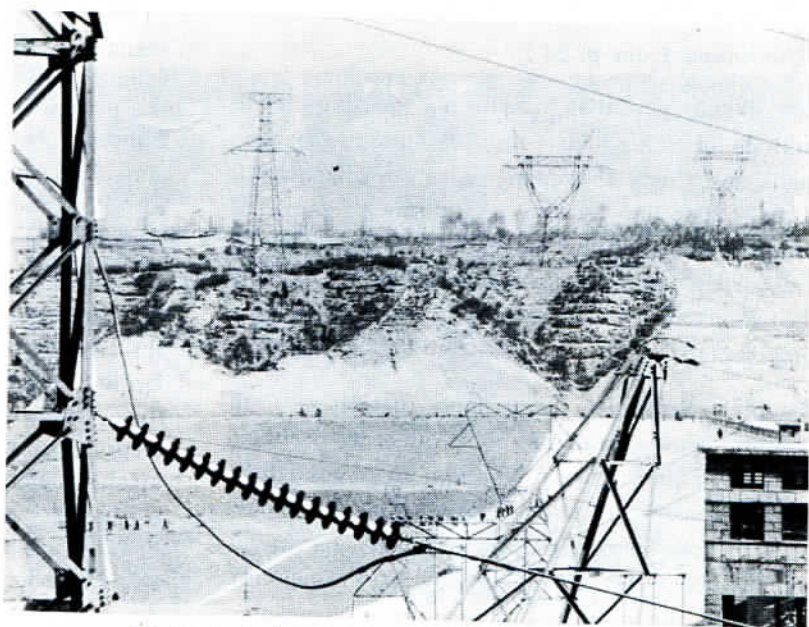
generating capacity of 250,000 kw. or more. Small hydro-power stations and medium-sized thermal power plants have been built in all parts of the country.

The fuel and power industries are paying attention to improving their technologies and management so as to play a still bigger role in the national economy.

### ● **Xinjiang Exploits Ground Water**

The Xinjiang Uygur Autonomous Region sank 5,000 wells in the first seven months of this year and 13,000 last year, thus making tremendous headway in tapping its ground water resources.

Xinjiang is one of the most arid places in China. The rivers which are fed in the spring by melting snow from the Tianshan Mountains dry up by May. Since irrigation mainly depends



Liujiaxia hydropower station in Gansu Province.



on this water, many places experience drought during the crucial May growing period, and farm production may be badly affected.

In 1973, the autonomous region tackled the problem by utilizing its ground water resources. Now 33,000 wells, most of which are power-operated, draw 3,000 million cubic metres of ground water each year, thereby bringing 220,000 hectares of farmland under irrigation and providing drinking water for 2.7 million head of domestic animals.

Recent surveys indicate that more ground water can be tapped. According to recent estimates, 18,500 million cubic metres of ground water can be pumped up every year.

### ● **Pollution Control Over Coastal Waters**

China has set up measures to accelerate pollution control in

Bohai Bay and the Huanghai Sea.

The coastal regions bordering on Bohai Bay and the Huanghai Sea include some of China's leading industrial areas. Located here are ten industrial cities including Tianjin, Qingdao and Luda, several hundred big factories, a dozen harbours and three oilfields. With the growth of industry the sea waters along 2,000 kilometres of the coast have been polluted to some extent by oil, heavy metals and industrial wastes.

Since 1974, scientists and technicians have studied these areas and identified the major sources of pollution. The State Council in 1977 set up a leading group on environmental protection of Bohai Bay and the Huanghai Sea, and a plan was mapped out for environmental control with the focus on ten industrial cities. Provinces and cities along the coastal line also established an environmental

monitoring network. In addition scientific units have stepped up their research on sea protection.

Sixty million yuan has been appropriated by the state in 1978 and 1979 to expedite control over pollution. Achievements have been gained in some units. For example, the Dalian Oil Harbour, the biggest of its kind in China, recovered 5,000 tons of crude oil from polluted water in the first six months of this year. Last year the Jinzhou No. 5 Oil Refinery, the Qingdao Leather Factory and the Tianjin General Petrochemical Works installed purification devices which have reduced pollution of the sea.

The state stresses that pollution control projects should be designed and constructed side by side with new major industrial enterprises, and should be put into operation simultaneously with them so as to eliminate new sources of pollution.

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*(Continued from p. 24.)*

of illegal activities (including joining trade unions or taking part in demonstrations) and sentence them to seven years' imprisonment. Due to popular resistance and the pressure of international public opinion, the Salvadoran authorities were compelled to rescind this law last February, but their acts of persecution have not abated.

**People's Struggle.** Last May, the Salvadoran people began launching a large-scale struggle against dictatorship. On May 23, the government proclaimed martial law over the whole country and suspended constitutional guarantees for 30 days. But this failed to stop the people's struggle. Since the fall of Somoza in Nicaragua, the Salvadoran people have stepped up their

resistance to the government. On September 6, one of Romero's brothers was killed. Then the people seized a church and held demonstrations in the capital, prompting some Latin American and West European papers to describe El Salvador as "a powder keg waiting to explode."

At present, the people's struggle in Latin America is on the rise. The rivalry between the two superpowers, the Soviet Union and the United States, over the continent is intensifying. The Soviet Union and its agent, Cuba, are stepping up their interference in Latin American affairs. People around the world are closely watching the situation in El Salvador since the coup to see what changes will occur there and what effects they will have on the rest of Latin America.

*(by Fan Wen)*





## PUBLICATION

### Revised Edition of "Ci Hai"

A revised edition of *Ci Hai*, a comprehensive Chinese encyclopedic dictionary, was published recently in Shanghai.

The new three-volume work with 106,578 entries contains words, phrases, idioms, literary quotations, names, places, references to historical events and organizations and other items pertaining to the social and natural sciences. The dictionary has 13.42 million Chinese characters and more than 3,000 illustrations. It is the first of its kind to be published in China since 1949.

The newly published *Ci Hai* is a revision on the 1936 edition. Some 5,000 specialists and scholars worked on it. Though some traces of the old edition can be seen in the section on words and phrases, the social and natural sciences entries are completely new.

The trial copy of the revised edition in 16 volumes came off the press successively during 1957-1965, but the gang of four stopped its publication during the Cultural Revolution. The encyclopedic dictionary was condemned as "a poisonous agglomeration of feudalism, capitalism and revisionism," its contents were criticized and its editors were persecuted.

## ARCHAEOLOGY

### 2,400-Year-Old Chime

A 2,400-year-old chime, consisting of 64 bronze bells, has been on show at the Museum of Chinese History in Beijing since October 1. Classical and modern music is played on this chime for visitors to the museum. The discovery of these bells in Suixian County, Hubei Province, is of great importance to the study of the history of Chinese music.

Hubei archaeologists found the chime in 1978 when they were excavating the tomb of King Yi of the Zeng State of the early Warring States Period. According to an inscription in the tomb, the bells were cast in 433 B.C., the 56th year of the reign of King Hui of Chu. Eight groups of bells were found suspended in three rows from a painted wooden stand inlaid with bronze together with T-shaped striking hammers and long wooden bars. The bells are now displayed in their original arrangement.

Musical workers, archaeologists and specialists in ancient Chinese ideographs found the bells still in good order although they had been underground for so long. Each bell has two tones. The chime has a conventional C major scale with a good timbre. It has a range of five octaves, only one less than that of a modern piano at each end. With 12 half tones, it is suited to modulation and one can play many kinds of classical and modern Chinese music as well as music from foreign countries on it.

The Yi tomb is the largest of the early Warring States Period ever found. More than 1,000 of the 7,000 relics unearthed from it are now on display. Other musical instruments include a stone chime, drums, harps, wind pipes, panpipes and bamboo flutes. They are painted in bright colours and are of good workmanship. Also on exhibition are bronze ritual vessels, containers, weapons, chariots and harnesses, bamboo and wooden utensils, gold and



An archaeologist playing on a replica of an unearthed bamboo flute. The chime is in the background.



jade ornaments, gold utensils, and inscribed bamboo strips.

A lacquer trunk with a green dragon painted on one end and a white tiger on the other bears the earliest written Chinese record of the names of the 28 constellations, indicating that China was one of the earliest countries to devise this astronomical system. The bamboo strips with 6,600 characters are the earliest and most numerous yet found in China. The 10,000 ideographs on these bamboo strips and other relics provide important material for historical studies and the research on ancient Chinese ideographs.



Wan Laiming, an expert animated film maker, with children.

## FILM

### "Nezha Conquers the Dragon King"

This is a new wide-screen colour animated film, and is on show throughout China.

Nezha is a legendary figure. In *Pilgrimage to the West*, a 16th century classical novel, he was defeated by King Monkey. The film, *Nezha Conquers the Dragon King*, is adapted from a romantic story in another 16th century classical work, *Apotheosis of Heroes*. Here he is depicted as a heroic warrior who opposes evil.

The film begins with the extraordinary origin of Nezha. After a three-and-a-half-year pregnancy, a general's wife finally gives birth to a radiant ball. The general sees it as an ill omen and tries to destroy it with his sword. The ball opens into a lotus flower, and in its centre is a lovely boy. Then the clouds glow and an immortal rides down to the world on a red-crowned crane. The immortal calls the child "Nezha," takes him as a disciple and gives him two magic weapons.

One day when the seven-year-old Nezha goes to the seashore for a bath, he fights off a sea demon which is trying to abduct a girl. Nezha then sends waves through the sea which shake the dragon palace to its foundation. After a fierce battle, he finally kills the dragon prince. Infuriated, the dragon king floods the hero's hometown, seriously endangering everyone. To save the people, Nezha finally takes his own life to mollify the dragon king. He is later brought back to life by his celestial master and again attacks the dragon palace and succeeds in subduing the dragon king and the sea demons.



The classical background music in the film is played on both Chinese and Western musical instruments, including the 2,400-year-old bronze bells mentioned on p. 29. The music from these bells takes the audience to an enchanting imaginary land.

This animated film has achieved instant success with people thronging to the movie houses to see it. Like *Uproar in Heaven* about the monkey king fighting against the king of heaven, *Nezha Conquers the Dragon King* is another gem among China's art films.

This movie is the latest production in a long history of animated films in China. The earliest cartoon was made in 1926 by Wan Laiming and his brothers. In the 40s these brothers produced China's first full-length cartoon, *The Princess With an Iron Fan*, which Chinese capitalists invested in for the purpose of competing with the American full-length animated film, *Snow White and the Seven Dwarfs*. After the founding of New China, Wan Laiming concentrated on producing an excellent animated film about the monkey king causing havoc



in heaven. Wan, now 80, serves as an art adviser to the Shanghai Animated Film Studio which produced *Nezha Conquers the Dragon King*. The studio also produced 11 other films this year, including *The Story of A Fan Ti*, adapted from a Uygur folk tale about a clever man who tricks the landlord; *Hens Move Into New Houses* featuring the mechanization of chicken-farming; *Department Store Run by Two Pandas* done with paper-cuts; and two puppet films entitled *Talented Acrobats* and *A Strange Ball Game*.

Drawing heavily on traditional Chinese arts, Chinese

cartoons have a strong national flavour and have won prizes at international film festivals. For example, the Chinese cartoon, *Shepherd Boy With a Flute*, was a prize winner at the Denmark International Children's Story Film Festival last August. It was adapted from a traditional Chinese painting of a shepherd boy with a buffalo done by the famous artist Li Keran.

### Liberated Areas' First Cartoon Movies

The liberated areas produced their first two cartoon films in

1948, the year before the People's Republic of China was founded. *Catch a Turtle in a Jar* depicted the Liberation Army encircling and wiping out the enemy forces, and *Dream to Be an Emperor* mocked the tyrannical and despotic Chiang Kai-shek.

The Northeast China Film Studio produced the films. Located in Xingshan, a small town in the northeast, it had a small crew, including one Japanese, for shooting cartoons.

During the last 30 years, China has produced 160 cartoon films.

## ON THE STAGE AND SCREEN

### Film

- *Wrath of the Huanghe River* portrays a tortuous struggle in 1975 over the commemoration of the 30th anniversary of the death of a people's musician, Xian Xinghai. The *Huanghe River* (Yellow River) *Cantata* he composed during the War of Resistance Against Japan is still an inspiration to the Chinese people.

- *Moon Over the Fountains* depicts how A Bing, a famous folk musician, suffered in the old society and found happiness in New China.

- *Surging Struggle in a Mountainous Village* is about a woman Communist in south China who leads a band of guerrillas against the local landlords. The film is full of local colour of Guangdong Province.

### Modern Drama

- *Model Ship No. 101* is a modern children's play which has been produced by the China Children's Art Theatre in celebration of the 30th anniversary of the founding of the Young Pioneers.

- *Sunrise* and *Beijing Residents* are two plays written 40 years ago by China's noted playwright Cao Yu. Staged by the Beijing Movie Actors and Actresses Thea-

tre, *Sunrise* exposes decadent city life in semi-feudal and semi-colonial China. *Beijing Residents* which describes the bankruptcy of a feudal Beijing family is produced by the Central Broadcasting and Television Troupe.

### Concert

- Folk symphonies by the Central Philharmonic Society including the overture, *Ode to the Snow*; a symphonic dance piece, *Jubilant Celebration*; a symphonic epic, *Ambush From All Directions*; and a capriccio, *Tour to a Yi Village*.

- Music and songs from the sound-tracks of both Chinese and Western films by the Central Newsreel and Documentary Film Studio.

### Singing and Dancing

- Castanets dances and music by a visiting Spanish dancer Lú-cero Tena. Leading Chinese artists including soprano Zhang Quan, dancer Bai Shuxiang, violinist Sheng Zhongkuo and pianist Yang Jun, join her in the performance.

### Quju Opera

*Zhang Zhixin* is a new local opera which extols a woman Communist who died for defending the truth during the rule of the gang of four.

### Opera

The Central Opera and Dance Drama Theatre is performing two foreign operas:

- *La Traviata*, which was also staged for the Shoudu Iron and Steel Complex workers to solicit opinions.

- *The Cloth Seller* by U. Gadzhebiekov.

### Acrobatics

- Performances by the Acrobatic Troupe of Anhui Province in eastern China before going abroad.

- Acrobatic performances as well as circus by Beijing's China Acrobatic Troupe.



*La Traviata.*



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