

No. 1 January 7, 1980

BEIJING REVIEW

北京周報

A CHINESE WEEKLY
OF
NEWS AND VIEWS



Modernization March

New Year Message



China Condemns Soviet
Invasion of Afghanistan



A Report on Chinese
Education

HIGHLIGHTS OF THE WEEK

Into the 80s With Hope

Renmin Ribao's (People's Daily, the Party organ) New Year editorial takes stock. It looks back at China's domestic and international achievements in 1979 and lists the nation's tasks in 1980. The 80s, it predicts, will be bright and full of hope as well as rigorous and demanding. (Page 14)

China's Education From Kindergarten to University

What type of men and women does China aim to bring up? Will the educated young, endowed with knowledge and technical skill needed to modernize the country, serve the people? Or will they become an elite class? A report pre-

pared by our correspondent, with interviews as well as facts and figures, tries to shed light on these questions. (Page 17)

Soviet Mailed Fist in Afghanistan Condemned

A Chinese government statement condemns the latest manifestation of Soviet hegemonism in Afghanistan and calls for the withdrawal of its troops from that country. (Page 3)

As the old year rang out, the roars of Soviet tanks and gunfire rocked Kabul and reverberated throughout the world. Here's yet another case of Moscow's ambitions and readiness to trample underfoot the sovereign rights of other nations. (Page 10)

Kampuchean Government Reorganized

A new political line has been formulated in Democratic Kampuchea and its government reorganized in an effort to broaden the forces of resistance to Vietnamese aggression. This is a significant development both for the country's national cause and for peace in Southeast Asia. (Page 9)

Premier Hua has sent a message of greetings to the new Prime Minister, Khieu Samphan, reiterating China's firm support. (Page 4)



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**FOREIGN
RELATIONS**

China Condemns Soviet Military Invasion of Afghanistan

The Government of the People's Republic of China issued a statement on December 30, 1979, strongly condemning Soviet military invasion of Afghanistan.

The statement said: "Recently, the Soviet Union brazenly made a massive military invasion of Afghanistan, grossly interfering in its internal affairs. This armed intervention wantonly violates all norms of international relations. It not only encroaches upon the sovereignty and independence of Afghanistan but poses a grave threat to peace and security in Asia and the whole world. The Chinese Government vigorously condemns this hegemonistic action of the Soviet Union and firmly demands the cessation of this aggression and intervention in Afghanistan and the withdrawal of all Soviet armed forces."

The statement added: "The Soviet authorities have never had scruples in trying to realize their hegemonist ambitions, but this time they have acted most outrageously. From pulling the strings and using surrogates, their method has escalated to direct involvement with their own troops, armed occupation of a sovereign country and change of its government by violent means. They have extended the use of the 'theory of limited sovereignty' from their 'community of nations' to a non-aligned and

Islamic country of the third world."

The statement continued: "People remember how the Soviet Union pretentiously proposed the inadmissibility of hegemonism at this very session of the U.N. General Assembly. However, scarcely did the General Assembly adopt a resolution against hegemonism when the Soviet Union, shedding all disguise, launched a naked military aggression wantonly challenging and flouting the United Nations Charter and principles of international law.

"The Soviet Union claims that its armed intervention in Afghanistan was undertaken in fulfilment of treaty obligations

at the request of the Afghan Government. This sophistry can fool no one. But this aggressor's logic warrants close attention. By its actions the Soviet Union shows that it is prepared to follow this logic and invade and occupy any country it wishes to invade and occupy. The Soviet Union itself acted according to this logic, and Viet Nam, under Soviet instigation, used the same pretext for its armed invasion and occupation of Kampuchea. How could the people of the world fail to be alerted by what is hidden behind the Soviet eagerness to sign 'treaties of friendship and co-operation'?"

The statement said in conclusion: "The current Soviet armed aggression in Afghanistan is a big show of Soviet hegemonism. People have come to see more clearly the source of the main threat to world peace and the true nature of this so-called 'natural ally' of the third world. They have also come to see more

Chinese Vice-Foreign Minister Summons Soviet Ambassador

Vice-Minister of Foreign Affairs Zhang Haifeng summoned the Soviet Ambassador to China, J.S. Shcherbakov, on December 31.

At the meeting, the Vice-Minister said: "The Chinese Government has issued a statement on the Soviet invasion of Afghanistan and its intervention in the internal affairs of that country. The Chinese Government de-

mands that the Soviet authorities immediately stop their aggression and intervention in Afghanistan and withdraw all their armed forces from that country."

"Afghanistan is China's neighbour," Zhang Haifeng stressed, "and therefore the Soviet armed invasion of that country poses a threat to China's security. This cannot but arouse the grave concern of the Chinese people."

clearly that the Soviet hegemons are most truculent and adventuristic, that the Soviet aggressive ambitions are unlimited, and that Soviet acts of aggression must be stopped effectively. The perverse Soviet action has already aroused the Afghan people to resistance and caused the grave concern of all countries and met with their strong condemnation. The Chinese Government and people will work tirelessly with all countries and people who love peace and uphold justice to frustrate Soviet acts of aggression and expansion."

Support for Broadest United Front in Kampuchea

Premier Hua Guofeng sent a message to Khieu Samphan on December 28, warmly congratulating him on his assumption of the office of Prime Minister of the Government of Democratic Kampuchea. Premier Hua reiterated firm support for the Government of Democratic Kampuchea and all the patriotic forces of Kampuchea in carrying through to the end their struggle against Vietnamese aggression and for national salvation.

The message said: "We firmly believe that the Government of Democratic Kampuchea, guided in action by the Political Programme of the Patriotic and Democratic Front of the Great National Union, will defeat the aggressors and win final victory in the war of resistance against Vietnamese aggression and for national salvation by uniting the people of all strata and all the patriotic forces that can be united to form the broadest possible national united front to persist in a protracted people's war.

"In order to save the nation and safeguard the country's independence and sovereignty, the Government of Democratic Kampuchea has over the last year led all civilians and army-men in waging sustained guerrilla warfare in extremely difficult conditions. They have hit hard at the Vietnamese aggressor troops and checked the big and small hegemons' expansion in Southeast Asia, thus making a major contribution in safeguarding the peace and stability of this region. The Kampuchean people's just resistance to Vietnamese aggression serves the common interests of the people of all countries in opposing hegemonism and safeguarding world peace and is winning the understanding, sympathy and support of an increasing number of countries and people."

Renmin Ribao published an editorial on December 29 pointing out that the new political line of strategic importance and the reshuffle made by the Government of Democratic Kampuchea constitute a step of major significance in uniting all the patriotic and democratic forces at home and abroad in joint resistance against the Vietnamese aggressors. This, the editorial added, will exert a positive influence at home and abroad.

The Kampuchean people's struggle, the editorial went on to say, is not only one against Viet Nam's regional hegemonism, but also one against Soviet big-power hegemonism. It serves to defend not only Kampuchea's national independence and existence, but also peace in Southeast Asia and the Asia-Pacific region as a whole. Therefore, only by strengthening, instead of weakening, support for Democratic Kampuchea and inflicting heavier losses on

the invading Vietnamese forces on the battlefields in Kampuchea will the aggressor troops be forced to pull out of that country, thereby paving the way for a just settlement of the Kampuchean question.

Diplomatic Relations With Ecuador

The Chinese and Ecuadorean Governments have decided to establish diplomatic relations at the ambassadorial level from January 2, 1980. This is the first major event in the annals of Sino-Latin American relations in the 1980s.

Ecuador has now become one of the fast developing countries in Latin America. Since it began oil extraction on a large scale in the 60s, its economy has developed quickly, the average annual rate of increase being 10.5 per cent from 1972 to 1978. Thus Ecuador has become a country with the highest increasing rate in Latin America.

The government and people of the Republic of Ecuador have made unremitting efforts to defend their state sovereignty and develop their national economy. In particular, their firm stand in defending their natural resources and maritime rights over 200 nautical miles has won the praise of many countries in the world. Last August when the newly elected President Jaime Roldos and his cabinet assumed office, the Ecuadorean Government pledged to carry out "prudent and bold" reforms to turn Ecuador into "a country with modern economy and participatory democracy, integral justice and a spirit of solidarity." In external relations, the new government advocates the establishment and development of relations with

all countries in the world and continues to follow the policy of non-alignment and the policy of supporting the third world countries.

China and Ecuador have always maintained friendly relations. In recent years, trade, cultural and sports exchanges between China and Ecuador have developed steadily. The friendly relations and co-operation between the two countries and the friendship between the two peoples will grow further after the establishment of diplomatic relations.

China wishes to promote friendship and co-operation with more Latin American countries. With the establishment of diplomatic relations between China and Ecuador, the friendly relationship between China and Latin American countries will surely develop in the 1980s.

POLITICAL

Mao Zedong Thought: Product of Collective Wisdom

In an article recently published in all the major newspapers in China, the Party history research section of the archives department of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of China introduced some manuscripts by Comrade Mao Zedong concerning the Marxist theory of knowledge and the concept of Mao Zedong Thought.

The article pointed out that since its founding in 1921, the Communist Party of China has always taken the integration of the universal truth of Marxism-

New Year Greetings to Our Readers

As we enter the 80s, world tension is mounting. China is carrying out its modernization programme under the menace of war. The Chinese people are determined to work together with the people of the whole world to put off the outbreak of another world war and safeguard world peace. In this respect, understanding and goodwill among the peoples are essential. It is the task of *Beijing Review* to promote such understanding, to make the world understand better both China's progress and problems.

In the past year, many readers have sent us letters of encouragement along with criticisms and suggestions. We are making some changes beginning with this issue in the hope that they will satisfy the needs of most of our readers.

- Our much welcomed *Special Feature*, which aims at putting a specific problem into some sort of perspective, will, we hope, have a greater readability. It will, in general, appear in every other issue. We shall publish at the same time political and theoretical articles and documents for the benefit of those among our readers who need them.

- *Culture and Science*, hitherto appearing every two weeks, will become a regular weekly feature, and will be reinforced by a new column, *Books*, introducing publications in China. The former *On the Home Front* will appear under a new heading, *The Land and People*, giving a more graphic coverage of the various facets of life in our country. *Chronicle* will cease to appear since many readers find it either incomplete or too "protocol-ish."

- For the sake of clarity, coverage on world events will henceforth appear in a special section entitled *International: Reports and Comments*.

We heartily welcome your comments on these changes, and we sincerely hope you will introduce *Beijing Review* to people you know.

A Happy New Year to you all.

Editorial Board
BEIJING REVIEW

Leninism with the concrete practice of the Chinese revolution as the guiding principle for all its work. Comrade Mao Zedong was the most prominent representative of this integration, and Mao Zedong Thought is the crystallization of the application and development of

Marxism-Leninism in the revolution of the Chinese people.

Comrade Mao Zedong's attitude towards his own theoretical views was extremely strict and prudent. For a long time he had objected to suggestions to publicize Mao Zedong

Thought. In his reply to a letter in 1943, he said: "I feel that my thought (Marxism-Leninism) is not mature yet. I still have to learn, I must not make any claims ... because my system is not mature."

When the Seventh National Congress of the Communist Party of China in 1945 wanted to incorporate Mao Zedong Thought into the new Party Constitution as the guiding principle for all its work, Comrade Mao Zedong was opposed to any unrealistic conception regarding Mao Zedong Thought, insisting that it was the outcome of "the collective struggle of the Party and the people."

In 1948, on the eve of nationwide liberation, when President of the North China University Wu Yuzhang intended to change Mao Zedong Thought into Maoism at a meeting marking the beginning of a new school year, Comrade Mao Zedong expressed his disapproval. He said: "It is imperative to call on the students to study the theories of Marx, Engels, Lenin and Stalin and the experience of the Chinese revolution." By this experience he meant, among other things, "pamphlets written by the Chinese Communists (including Mao Zedong) on the basis of the theories of Marx, Engels, Lenin and Stalin as well as documents which define the line and policies of the Party Central Committee."

Comrade Mao Zedong detested attempts by Lin Biao and the gang of four to "deify" him out of ulterior motives. In 1966, when the Cultural Revolution began, he expressed in manuscripts his objection to using such epithets as "the highest" and "the peak" to describe Mao Zedong Thought.

In 1964, Comrade Mao Zedong wrote the following on a

document: "Many of our cadres are apt to consider themselves always in the right. One of the reasons for this mentality is that they don't know the Marxist theory of knowledge. Therefore, it is extremely necessary to publicize this theory untiringly." In the same directive he laid emphasis on the principle of "from the masses and to the masses" and on the thesis of knowing and testing the truth through practice. He also said that "dogmas" and "superstitions" prevailing among some comrades should be eliminated, and pointed out that whoever deviated from the correct theory of knowledge, then "the higher his position, the less truth he will have."

The full text of the above-mentioned article will be published in our next issue.

The nation's papers also carried on their front pages the prefaces to the two rural investigations written by Comrade Mao Zedong in Ningdu in east China's Jiangxi Province in 1931. In these prefaces he underscored the importance, in deciding policies, of making scientific investigations, of seeking truth from facts and of integrating theory with practice.

All these were part of the activities marking the 86th birthday (December 26) of Comrade Mao Zedong.

Half a Million Letters From Readers

Renmin Ribao, organ of the Communist Party of China, handled more than half a million letters from readers last year. The paper received an average of 2,000 letters a day. It also received a daily average of over 50 written petitions or complaints from visitors.

These letters dealt with a variety of subjects, ranging from criticisms of bureaucracy and privilege-seeking by some cadres to suggestions for carrying forward the Party's fine traditions and developing the nation's industry and agriculture. Some letters expressed opposition to anarchism and called attention to the sabotage of the normal social order by a handful of persons. Sometimes the paper received shoddy products along with letters asking for the complaints to be passed on to the factories concerned. There were also demands to set right wrongs dating back to the Cultural Revolution.

Last year the paper received 300,000 letters fewer than in 1978, mainly because many cases of wrongly charged persons had been corrected and the people's democratic rights were better guaranteed. Meanwhile, the number of letters on how to strengthen the socialist legal system and ensure its steady progress has increased markedly.

Last August, the paper published a letter entitled "What Does Xiong Yifu's Death Mean?" It told the inside story of the death of a peasant in Sichuan Province in southwest China. The letter produced strong repercussions from readers, who wrote thousands of letters to *Renmin Ribao*. The letter not only prompted the local government to make investigations and handle the case in earnest, but also aroused the attention of leading cadres in other provinces.

Some letters were sharp and outspoken, demanding that the departments concerned should criticize themselves and correct their mistakes. For instance, a cadre in Hebei Province criti-

cized the provincial leadership for its formalistic style of work in the tree-planting movement without paying attention to the effects. When the criticized organ gave only an ambiguous reply, the paper published another letter together with an editor's note criticizing the leading organ for its perfunctory attitude towards criticisms.

It has been a tradition of the Communist Party to encourage the people to air their views and handle letters from readers in a proper way, because this is important to strengthening the ties between the Party and the masses. The letters are a manifestation of the people's concern for the Party, the state and the collective and an expression of their trust in the Party.

The special column of letters from readers of *Renmin Ribao* was abolished during the Cultural Revolution, and was resumed in September 1977. It has since become a favourite section for the readers. *Renmin Ribao* devotes a full page to these letters once a week. There are similar columns in the other papers.

With a circulation of 6.2 million copies a day, *Renmin Ribao* is the biggest daily in the nation. It has a special department for handling letters and receiving visitors who have suggestions or complaints to make. Its members and correspondents in various parts of the country always make investigations to check the accuracy of the criticisms, and they give wholehearted support to rational proposals and criticisms that tally with the facts.

In Commemoration of Stalin's 100th Birthday

A Chinese edition of the *Selected Works of Stalin* has been published by the Bureau for the Translation of Marx-Engels-Lenin-Stalin's Works of the C.P.C. Central Committee, in commemoration of Stalin's 100th birthday on December 21.

The selection contains 58 articles in two volumes, covering Stalin's revolutionary and theoretical activities in the various periods.

Prominence is given to works which Stalin wrote in defence of Leninism. Among these writings are *The Foundations of Leninism*, *The October Revolution and the Tactics of the Russian Communists* and *On the Problems of Leninism*.

The selection includes a number of articles on socialist economic construction and cultural endeavours in the Soviet Union. Some deal with the theories, principles and policies for state industrialization and agricultural collectivization in the Soviet Union, some call on cadres to master technology and become specialists in their own fields as well as to train skilled personnel, and some criticize the petty-bourgeois concept of socialism and point out that the building of socialism can be accomplished only after the development of the social productive forces together with an abundance of goods, and a high standard of living for the labourers and a high cultural level.

The selection also includes Stalin's last important work, *Economic Problems of Socialism in the U.S.S.R.* In this work, he set forth in theoretical terms the Soviet Union's experience

and problems in economic construction which had been going on for more than 30 years and for the first time put forward the basic economic law of socialism as a science.

On the Draft Constitution of the U.S.S.R. analyses the conditions of the classes in the Soviet Union after socialism was in the main realized in that country. *Report to the Eighteenth Congress of the C.P.S.U. (B.) on the Work of the Central Committee* (excerpts) is a theoretical discussion of the issue of Soviet intellectuals and a refutation of views hostile to them.

To commemorate and study Stalin, the Institute of Philosophy under the Chinese Academy of Social Sciences and other units jointly sponsored a forum in Changchun, northeast China, on the philosophical thinking of Stalin. The participants discussed the formation of Stalin's world outlook and its different periods, Stalin's main contribution to Marxist philosophy and the problems that existed. In Beijing, the China Society for Studying the Works of Marx, Engels, Lenin and Stalin and the Beijing Society on Scientific Socialism jointly held a discussion meeting on Stalin's thoughts on economy, philosophical theory and legality. Articles on Stalin's works were printed in the nation's newspapers.



Pace-Setters in the Modernization March

The brightly lit Great Hall of the People burst into thunderous applause as the model workers and representatives of advanced units, with red flowers pinned on their jackets, joyfully mounted the rostrum to receive medals, certificates and citations in acknowledgement of their contributions to the modernization drive.

their efforts to the training of the younger generation, and primary and middle school teachers who have dedicated themselves to the bringing up of the youngsters. There are also technical innovation trail-blazers in the various trades, peasants who are working hard for the modernization of agriculture, and commercial workers and managerial personnel who have made outstanding achievements at their ordinary posts. Selected from among hundreds of millions of people in various parts of the country, they have been acclaimed as

held towards the end of last September when 222 national model workers and 118 advanced enterprises in the industrial, communications and capital construction departments were given awards.

Hua Guofeng, Deng Xiaoping, Li Xiannian and other Party and state leaders attended the meeting and personally gave the awards.

Li Xiannian's Speech. Li Xiannian spoke at the meeting. He said that the expansion of production is the central task of the people of the whole country, and that all other work must from now on centre around it. The basic criterion by which a unit or an individual is judged will henceforth be contributions to the four modernizations. The better one works for the society and the people and the greater his contribution, the more respect and award will he get from the people.

Li Xiannian called upon the Party and government organizations at various levels to sum up and popularize in earnest the experience of the model workers and advanced units and give full support to their initiative and creativity. He expressed the hope that all those who have received awards will break new ground and make still greater contributions to the four modernizations.



Hua Guofeng, Deng Xiaoping, Li Xiannian and other leading comrades giving awards.

At this year-end award-giving meeting convened on December, 28 by the State Council, 340 people were honoured as national model workers and 351 groups won the title of national advanced units.

Among the model workers are old and middle-aged scientists who have made great contributions to the modernization of science and technology in China, professors who have devoted

pace-setters in socialist modernization.

Among the model workers and advanced units, minority nationalities account for 12 per cent and women, 21 per cent.

The Communist Party of China and the People's Government attach great importance to the vanguard role of model workers in socialist construction. The meeting was the second of its kind in 1979. The first was



Democratic Kampuchean Government Reorganized

KHIEU Samphan has been appointed Prime Minister of the newly reorganized Government of Democratic Kampuchea.

The decision to reorganize the government was made at a recent joint conference of representatives of the Permanent Committee of the People's Congress of Kampuchea, the Government, the national army and government ministries. The conference summed up the developments in the past year, formulated the new and strategic political line and decided to reshuffle the government and other state organs.

Ieng Sary remains in his post as Deputy Prime Minister in charge of foreign affairs and Son Sen continues as Deputy Prime Minister in charge of

national defence. Some ministers have retained their former posts and some new ministers have been appointed.

Former Prime Minister Pol Pot is Chairman of the Supreme Commission and Commander-in-Chief of the Armed Forces.

Speaking about the significance of the government reorganization, the Ambassador of Democratic Kampuchea to China, Pich Cheang, said it would help in two ways: uniting more broadly all nationalist forces at home and abroad to resist Vietnamese aggression and defend the country, and developing friendly relations with other countries irrespective of ideology and political tendencies and winning their sympathy and support. He predicted that the reorganization would have a salutary effect on the just

cause of the Kampuchean people's resistance.

The joint conference also decided that the Constitution of Democratic Kampuchea would cease to function and the draft of the Political Programme of the Kampuchean Patriotic and Democratic Front of Great National Union would become the provisional basic decree.

Answering a question about what role Samdech Norodom Sihanouk would play, Ambassador Pich Cheang said: Samdech Norodom Sihanouk opposes the Vietnamese invasion of Kampuchea, and he has demanded the withdrawal of Vietnamese troops from Kampuchea so that it can become an independent and sovereign state. President of the Presidium of State of Democratic Kampuchea Khieu Samphan has sent a message to Samdech Norodom Sihanouk recommending that he be appointed Chairman of the Kampuchean Patriotic and Democratic Front of Great National Union and Head of State.

On the significance of Kampuchea's current war against Vietnamese aggression and the role the United States should play, the ambassador said: Viet Nam's aggression in Kampuchea is linked with Soviet expansionism. Moscow's aim is to control the Strait of Malacca linking the Pacific and the Indian Oceans. In the war against Soviet and Vietnamese aggression and expansion, all peace-loving countries have a common interest. In this respect, the United States can play a role.



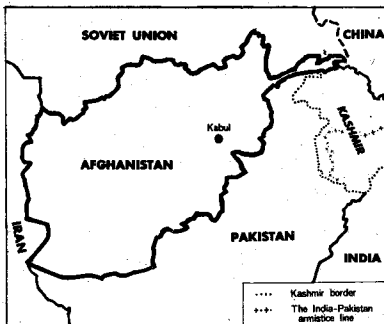
Khieu Samphan, Prime Minister of Democratic Kampuchea, with national army fighters in the jungles.

Massive Soviet Invasion

THE massive Soviet invasion of Afghanistan, coupled with a violent change in the Afghan political regime, constitutes another grave international incident following the Soviet armed occupation of Czechoslovakia in 1968.

This is the first time the Soviet Union has committed direct aggression on a large scale in a third world country. In the past, Soviet hegemonist military aggression against third world countries used to take the form of military aid, the dispatch of military advisers and, in the last few years, the use of Cuban and Vietnamese troops to serve its strategic aims. This time, however, the Soviet Union has sent more than 10,000 troops to Afghanistan to engineer and take a direct part in the military coup that overthrew the Amin government.

It is indeed surprising to people all over the world that, within the short span of a little more than one year, the Soviet Union should have engineered three military coups in Afghanistan which ended up in the slaying of three Afghan heads of state. This shows that no means is too brutal for Soviet social-imperialism when it wants to achieve its aim.



In this incident, the Soviet Union has unmasked itself by trampling underfoot all international norms. No longer can it pass itself off as an angel championing world peace, nor can it absolve itself from the crime of direct military intervention to overthrow a foreign government.

In recent weeks, the Soviet Union has redoubled its efforts to send troops and weapons to Afghanistan. Large Soviet transport planes flew 200 sorties to Kabul on December 24, 25 and 26, carrying 5,000 Soviet troops, 300 armoured cars and several dozen tanks as reinforcements to bring Soviet military strength in the Afghan capital to nearly one division. The Soviet troops controlled all the air bases and military installations in Kabul. Five divisions were put on full alert in the Soviet areas bordering Afghanistan. It was only after full preparations were made that Soviet troops began taking action soon after 7 p.m. on December 27.

Fierce fighting broke out between the Soviet troops and Amin's forces. Shots were heard inside and outside Kabul. Radio Kabul announced several hours later that Amin had been overthrown and executed, and that he had been replaced by B. Karmal.

Kabul has since been placed under Soviet military occupation. All government institutions, major organizations and even oil stations in this city are guarded by Soviet troops. A great number of Soviet armoured cars are stationed at key crossroads while Soviet MIG

aircraft keep flying overhead round the clock.

It was reported that on December 28, the day after the Soviets directly intervened in Afghanistan and overthrew the Afghan government, the Soviet Government informed some countries of the situation, describing its military intervention as "a small contingent of Soviet troops" "sent on the invitation of the Afghan authorities." It even went so far as to say that its military intervention was carried out in line with the Soviet-Afghan treaty of peace and friendship. This is a clumsy concoction! How could Amin have invited his own overthrow and execution? Moscow might say it means the invitation was extended by B. Karmal. However, it is known to all that Karmal was not in Afghanistan before the coup; still less was he the head of the government then. The Soviet Union is playing the same game it resorted to in 1968 when it invaded Czechoslovakia, on the pretext of an "invitation of the Czechoslovak Party and state activists." By saying that its military intervention was done in accordance with the Soviet-Afghan treaty of peace and friendship, the Soviet Union has voluntarily confessed that whenever the need arises, such a treaty can be used as stand-by legal grounds for its military intervention.

The Soviet authorities said in the notice that the purpose of the Soviet troops in Afghanistan is to help "repel an external threat." This certainly is like a thief crying "stop thief." Where does "the external



threat" come from? Apart from Soviet troops massacring Afghans in that country, there were not any foreign troops stationed there.

In the notice, the Soviet Union had the audacity to say that the dispatch of Soviet troops to Afghanistan fell "within the framework of the U.N. Charter." Which article in the U.N. Charter stipulates that when a state dislikes the government leader of a neighbouring country, it can have the right to send in troops to carry out a military coup there, kill the head of state, and replace him with someone of its own choice? The invasion and occupation of Afghanistan by Soviet troops is an outright violation of the U.N. Charter, and a mockery of all interna-

tional norms. The naked Soviet military aggression constitutes an open challenge to Asia and the international community as a whole.

The Kremlin's military aggression against Afghanistan has exposed to the world its wild ambitions and appetite as well as its resolve to occupy Afghanistan, in an attempt to open a path leading southward to the Indian Ocean in order to further contend for the Persian Gulf and the Indian Ocean and for oil-producing areas and to control the sea routes.

The ferocious features of Soviet social-imperialism and global hegemonism are logically denounced by people the world over, who will not permit Moscow to carry out aggression at will.

Rhodesian Peace Accord

A PEACE agreement was finally concluded at the end of 1979 by Britain, the Zimbabwe Patriotic Front and the Rhodesian authorities after three and a half months of negotiations. This conclusion

to the London constitutional conference on Rhodesia represents an important success for the Zimbabwean people who have waged a protracted struggle with the full support of the African countries, particularly the front-line states. It is also a serious defeat for the Rhodesian racist forces.

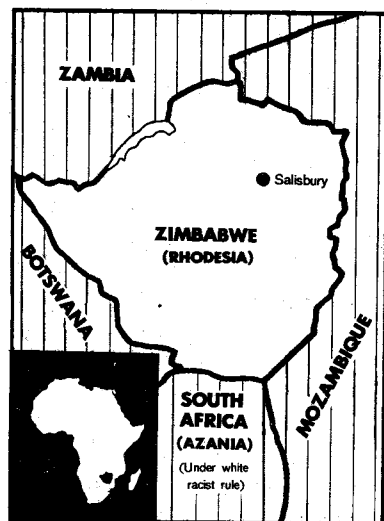
For years, Ian Smith's racist forces ruthlessly repressed the Zimbabwean people. They combined their sanguinary measures with a series of flexible tactics by resorting to all kinds of tricks, including a bogus "internal settlement," in an attempt to prolong their reactionary rule. However, they could not withstand the historical trend and all their schemes have ended in defeat.

Transition and Ceasefire Arrangements

The final agreement signed in London includes an independence constitution, transitional arrangements and a ceasefire.

At the first stage of the negotiations, on the constitution, the three sides agreed to set up a 100-seat parliament of which 80 seats will be filled by general elections. Though 20 seats will be filled by representatives elected by the white electorate, they will no longer retain their veto power. The country will be under a constitutional president with executive powers in the hands of a prime minister and his cabinet.

On pre-independence transitional arrangements, the three sides agreed to a transitional period of two months, during which the Muzorewa administration will cease functioning. A British governor will take charge on a caretaker basis and elections to form the new government will be supervised by British government authorities in the presence of Commonwealth observers. The



At the signing ceremony of the final agreement.

British colony of Rhodesia in southern Africa will then become an independent country under majority rule.

According to the ceasefire agreement, all hostilities in Rhodesia will cease as of December 28. The agreement stipulates that a ceasefire committee will be set up, consisting of an equal number of military commanders from both sides and the British governor's military adviser who will serve as chairman. It will be assisted by a monitoring force of 1,200 men drawn from Commonwealth countries to oversee the implementation of the ceasefire. The armed forces of both sides are to complete their disengagement and redeployment by January 4, 1980.

New Stage of Struggle

The arduous struggles for genuine national independence and liberation waged by the Zimbabwean people under the leadership of the Patriotic Front have dealt heavy blows to the racist forces during the last decade or so and have now yielded great successes. A new stage in their struggle has been reached with the signing of the London agreement. As Chen Chu, the Chinese permanent representative to the United Nations, said in his speech at the Security Council, "Historical experience shows that an agreement is merely something on paper. Acute and complex struggles have yet to be waged in order to translate what is on paper into reality."

Although the racist forces in Rhodesia have met with defeat, they will never step down from the stage of history of their

China Supports the Zimbabwean People

IN his speech on December 21 at the U.N. Security Council meeting on Rhodesia, Chinese Permanent Representative to the U.N. Chen Chu said that the Chinese Government and people will, as always, continue to give firm support to the just cause of the Zimbabwean people until they win final victory. In view of the recent developments, the Chinese Delegation agrees that the Security Council should decide to terminate the mandatory sanctions against Rhodesia. Pending the attainment of genuine majority rule and national independence of the Zimbabwean people,

the Security Council and the international community should follow closely the developments in Rhodesia and urge all the parties concerned to implement the provisions of the agreement completely, faithfully and unreservedly. The Security Council should also ask the authorities concerned to take effective measures to bring about the immediate withdrawal of all South African armed forces and mercenaries from Zimbabwe and not allow them to re-enter. Furthermore, the international community has the duty to assist the Zimbabwean people and the front-line states in economic reconstruction and rehabilitation.

own accord. They are bound to resort to various schemes of sabotage and disruption in a death-bed struggle. Furthermore, the Zimbabwean people must be on their guard against both the South African racist regime, which has all along

tried to place southern Africa under its long-term control, and the meddling and sabotage of hegemonism. Only by defeating these plots and disruptions can the Zimbabwean people win genuine majority rule and national independence.

Where Is Nicaragua Heading?

Report from San Jose, Costa Rica:

THE Somoza dictatorship was toppled more than five months ago. How's the situation in Nicaragua today? Where is the country heading? With these two questions in mind, we paid a 5-day visit to Nicaragua in mid-November last year.

Severe Damage

As we left the Sandino International Airport by car for downtown Managua, capital of Nicaragua, we saw the scars of war all along the way. Factories, warehouses and shops on both sides of the road were either in ruins or riddled with bullet holes.

The country suffered enormous damage in June and July

last year during the struggle against the Somoza regime, said Julio Lopez, Secretary of the National Secretariat of the Sandinist National Liberation Front, when he met us. Some 20 to 30 per cent of the residential quarters and other buildings in eight cities were razed to the ground; 30,000 of Nicaragua's 2 million population were killed and tens of thousands wounded; 40 per cent of its industry was totally destroyed and another 40 per cent damaged to varying degrees. Only 25 per cent of the cotton fields and 30 per cent of the land under grain crop were planted last year. On top of this, 380,000 of the country's 700,000 work force were jobless. He admitted that the "urgent tasks" of the government in the next six months are to solve the problems of unemployment, hunger and housing shortage. His country, he added, is "undergoing a most trying time."

Watching and Waiting

Over the past few months, Nicaragua has been gripped by serious inflation and spiralling prices. Prices of some daily necessities have doubled and tripled and commodities on the whole are extremely short. All these are affecting the people.

The Nicaraguan Government has been constantly calling on businessmen to restore production as quickly as possible to relieve the situation, but many are afraid to reinvest because they do not completely trust the government's domestic and foreign policies. They are just watching and waiting.

Managua struck us as a city totally in the hands of

"Sandino." The name of "Sandino" appeared everywhere, on the walls, in the newspapers and on television. It was constantly mentioned when people talked. Of course, it is only natural that Nicaraguans should respect and love General Sandino, who died fighting in the 1930s for his country's independence. But people cannot fail to see that the Sandinist Front has become the supreme leading force and the supreme organ of power, while the Nicaraguan National Reconstruction Government including intellectuals and entrepreneurs who helped topple Somoza has been reduced to an empty shell, an ornament.

Cuban Infiltration

In Nicaragua, one can feel that Cuba is infiltrating on an increasing scale.

We were told that, after the Somoza dictatorial regime crumpled up, there has been a plane a day from Havana to Managua and back. Moreover, top leaders of the Sandinist Front and Cuban and Nicaraguan ministers, high-ranking officials, newsmen and businessmen have been shuttling back and forth between the two capitals.

Barri Cada, organ of the Sandinist Front, relies chiefly on Cuba's *Prensa Latina* for news to fill its pages and models after Cuba's *Granama* in makeup and style. The official *Radio Sandino* and the *Voice of Nicaragua* also broadcast news written by Cubans. Fidel Castro's face is already very familiar to readers of *Barri Cada* and TV watchers.

Cuba has also sent in large numbers of military and techni-

cal advisers to staff various Nicaraguan departments. The Nicaraguan Deputy Minister of the Interior has admitted that Cuban military specialists are training the Sandinist armed forces which also send men to Cuba to be trained.

Cuban specialists have helped Nicaragua to set up its "second bureau" under the National Security Bureau in the way Cuba established "C-2" special agency. The Sandino defence committees have been organized in the urban areas — committees similar to Cuba's grass-roots citizens' organizations, the "Revolutionary Committees in Defence of the Revolution." A 300,000-strong militia has also been established under the guidance of Cuban advisers.

Nicaraguan officials have declared that leaders the Sandinist Front "have particular and deep feelings" for Cuba and Viet Nam, the Cuba in Asia. The most powerful figure in Nicaragua today is Tomas Borge, Interior Minister and a friend of Cuba's leaders. He has frequently spoken highly of Fidel Castro. One may be in Managua, but one feels one is in Havana.

Of course, Cuba is not the only country exerting an influence on the nation.

Venezuela, Mexico, Costa Rica, Spain and Panama are also providing aid. The United States is still the country's biggest supplier of aid although Washington fears most of all that Nicaragua might become another Cuba.

Where is Nicaragua heading? What we saw provides a clue to the answer.

— Xinhua Correspondents

Usher in a New Period of Great Achievements

— "Renmin Ribao" 1980 New Year's Day editorial

NINETEEN EIGHTY is here; the eighties of the 20th century has begun. Looking back over what has been achieved and looking ahead into the future fills us with elation as we enter the 1980s full of firm resolve and confidence in our march towards the four modernizations.

Retrospect

In the 1970s, the Chinese Communist Party and the Chinese people reversed the whole course of events with the smashing of the gang of four and rescued our country from dire calamity. Thus a great historical turn has begun. At the Third Plenary Session of the 11th Central Committee of the Party held at the end of 1978, the important decision to switch the focus of work to the four modernizations was announced.

Last year, important victories were won on all fronts. We initially summed up the history of our country since the founding of the People's Republic in 1949 and reached unified views on a series of major issues of socialist revolution and construction. We solved some questions of right and wrong of a principled nature which history left for us, redressed a large number of unjust, false or wrong charges and sentences, implemented the various policies, and energetically promoted stability and unity to bring about and develop the lively political situation. We conscientiously summed up our experiences and drew lessons in economic construction, studied the existing problems in the national economy, carried out the policy of readjusting, restructuring, consolidating and improving the national economy.

Results obtained in the first year of readjustment are encouraging. Implementing the two documents of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of China on agriculture [The Decisions of the Central Committee of the Com-

munist Party of China on Some Questions Concerning the Acceleration of Agricultural Development and The Regulations on the Work in the Rural People's Communes] has brought about a swift and excellent development in the countryside and in most parts of the countryside production has gone up and so have incomes. Because the purchasing prices of agricultural and rural sideline products were raised, and some taxes reduced or exempted, peasant incomes have gone up, which means that the incomes of the great majority of the population have increased. The overextended capital construction front has been shortened. In industry, the rate of increase in light and textile industries overtook that of the heavy industry in the second half of last year, and industries supporting agriculture have been further strengthened. The domestic market was in fine shape, and the supply of non-staple food in many cities has been considerably improved. In foreign trade, relatively large increases were also registered in exports and imports.

Through painstaking efforts and various measures by the Party and government, employment was found for more than 7 million people in the cities and towns. The wages of a considerable part of workers and staff members were raised. This not only improved the livelihood of the urban people, but also contributed to the stability of urban social order.

New achievements were attained on the scientific research front. Literature and art were flourishing. New progress has been made also in education, public health and sports.

We successfully waged a self-defensive counterattack against Vietnamese aggressors and consolidated the security of our borders. New progress and results were achieved in expanding international exchanges, pressing on with the struggle against hegemonism and in

the effort for a favourable international environment.

All these show that we have made an excellent beginning in our first campaign to bring about the four modernizations. The huge ship of socialist China is triumphantly heading towards its goal of modernization!

Looking Ahead

The decade of the 1980s is bright and full of promise, but also rigorous and demanding. This will be a period of advance towards modernization and of great achievements. We must not only take into full account our victories but must also make adequate estimates of the many difficulties and problems we shall face. On its forward course, this great ship, the motherland, will battle with wind and waves on the surface, and be alert to shoals under the surface. The hull and machinery of this vessel still sustain damages, which must be repaired. We must work hard and steadily and do our work even better than before.

This year is the second year of the readjustment of the national economy and whether the work is done well or badly in 1980 will have an enormous effect on the realization of the goal of readjustment. Right from the very start of this year we must rise with force and spirit and go all-out to win new victories. After three years of efforts, especially as we already have last year's initial victories, we are confident that the conditions are there for us to do a better job this year than last year.

The Four Modernizations. For a relatively long period ahead, the focus of our work is to realize the four modernizations. All other work must be centred around this and serve it. The consolidation of the state, the stability of society, the improvement of the material and cultural lives of the people are ultimately contingent on the development of production, on the attainment of modernization. If this is not firmly taken hold of, then all ideas, plans, and promises will come to nothing and we shall become gravely divorced from the masses and shall commit an extremely serious error. To develop the economy, we must unswervingly continue to implement the policy of readjustment, restructuring, consolidation and improvement. Of the four, readjustment is crucial, because the main obstacle holding up our economic development at present is the serious imbalances in our national economy.

In the course of readjusting there must be a steady development of the national economy. This year, on the basis of last year's bumper harvests, we must strive to attain a new overall increase in all the following five fields — agriculture, forestry, livestock raising, sideline occupations and fishery. We must strive for a relatively big increase in the light and textile industries, and in the production of other consumer goods.

Investments in capital construction must continue to be cut back, its management improved and a decisive change effected in its overextended front and inefficiency. We must strive hard to boost exports, make full and good use of foreign funds and technologies and equipment to promote economic development. And we should, on the basis of developing production, continue to raise the incomes of the urban and rural working people.

In order to fulfil the national economic plan for 1980 we must pay particular attention to increasing production and practising economy as well as expanding and opening up new avenues of production. In all enterprises, we must rely on the broad masses to contribute their ideas and suggestions, do everything possible to boost production, lower consumption of fuel, power and raw materials, reduce production costs and vastly raise productivity, thereby speeding up the development of the national economy.

Political Tasks. To accelerate the expansion of the national economy and quicken the pace of the four modernizations, we must continue to maintain and develop the lively political situation of stability and unity. Our nation has been through enough upheavals; stability has not come to us easily, so we must hold it dear. We have and still are settling questions left over from the past, particularly those from the period of the Cultural Revolution, thus a great number of factors for instability have been eliminated or are being eliminated.

However, as our difficulties and problems were built up over a long period of time, they cannot be all solved at once. Many new contradictions and problems may emerge in the course of readjusting the national economy and bringing about the four modernizations. All these difficulties and contradictions must be handled in such a way as to be contributory to the stability and unity of the country. This makes it mandatory first of all to uphold the four

fundamental principles (the socialist road, the dictatorship of the proletariat, the leadership of the Communist Party and Marxism-Leninism-Mao Zedong Thought) and to prevent and overcome any interference from the "Left" and the Right, which is a departure from these four fundamental principles.

Differences of opinion among the people must be solved in a democratic manner according to the formula of "unity—criticism—unity" and in the spirit of letting a hundred flowers blossom and a hundred schools of thought contend. Stability and unity accords with democratic centralism. Only by practising democracy can various kinds of contradictions be correctly handled, the enthusiasm of the masses be brought into play, the centralism based on democracy be carried out and genuine stability and unity be achieved. Practising democracy also accords with strengthening the legal system. Democracy must be defined and protected by laws and the force of law must be strengthened, for our laws are to protect the people and their democratic rights.

The criminal law and other laws adopted at the Second Session of the Fifth National People's Congress come into force as of today. Every one of our citizens, be he a cadre or one of the masses, must observe the law and discipline. Cadres and Communist Party members, in particular, should play an exemplary role in this respect. Everybody is equal before the law and nobody is allowed privileges beyond the law. Anarchism and ultra-individualism must be resolutely opposed. The handful of criminals who gang up to foment disturbances, disrupt social order or commit other grave crimes must be dealt with according to law.

Science and Culture. In 1980 we must strive to raise the level of our science, education and culture. The policy of "letting a hundred flowers blossom and a hundred schools of thought contend" must be carried out in earnest so as to create a favourable atmosphere for academic researches to develop and culture to flourish.

International Affairs. International tension is mounting as we enter 1980. The Soviet army's massive invasion of Afghanistan and gross intervention in its internal affairs, and the large-scale movements towards the borders of Thailand of the Vietnamese troops which invaded Kampuchea are creating grave new international crises and drawing the close attention of the peoples and countries throughout the world that

cherish peace and independence. This once again reminds the people of all countries that a more tense, complicated and turbulent situation will appear in the world in the 1980s and that they must be well prepared for it.

We are carrying out the four modernizations under the menace of war. Adhering to the Communist Party's strategic concept of the three worlds and its foreign policy, we will unite more closely with other socialist countries, with the working class and progressive forces throughout the world and with third world countries. We will unite with all forces in the world that can be united to fight hegemonism, and strive to postpone a world war and to preserve world peace. We shall expand scientific and technical exchanges and trade with other countries and study all that is advanced in foreign countries. While carrying forward the revolutionary spirit of self-reliance and hard work, we shall continue to appropriately import advanced technology and make good use of foreign funds so as to accelerate the four modernizations.

The glorious Chinese People's Liberation Army and all nationalities of China must heighten their vigilance, strengthen national defence, guard the border regions and protect the four modernizations. They must promote the great cause of reunifying the motherland and make China a greater and stronger country so as to contribute more to the peace and progress of mankind.

Party Leadership. The Chinese Communist Party is the force at the core leading our cause forward. Without the Party, there could not be a new China today. The development of the Party, as with all things, has been tortuous. We have experienced both smooth advances along the correct road, and setbacks when mistakes were committed. The smashing of the gang of four and the achievements made in the last three years have proved once again that our Party deserves to be called a great, glorious and correct Party. Today, it is leading the Chinese people to work for the magnificent goal of the four modernizations by the end of the century; we must strengthen Party building and arm the Party still more with Marxism-Leninism-Mao Zedong Thought so that it will be able to lead the people forward successfully.

Let us unite, work diligently and usher in the 1980s with brilliant achievements!

*(A slightly abridged translation.
Subheads and bold-face are ours.)*

China's Education: The Type of People It Brings Up

Our Correspondent He Zuo

In the last three years, Chinese schools and colleges have been gradually led on to the correct path. Many useful practices common before the Cultural Revolution have been restored and improved. These include attaching importance to the students' ideological and political education, classroom teaching and basic knowledge study, fundamental technical training and national entrance examinations for college students on the basis of their merits.

What is the guiding principle? Is it to cultivate individual competitiveness or to imbue the students with the spirit of serving the people? What kind of people are we to bring up? Will there be a hotbed for an elite generation? Materials are furnished in this special feature for answers to these questions.

"Five Loves" in Kindergartens

KINDERGARTENS in China fall into two categories: One is run by educational departments, government organs, army units, factories and mines, enterprises and other units; the other is run by the neighbourhood committees in the cities and people's communes and production brigades in the countryside.

The Beijing No. 2 Cotton Mill with 8,200 workers and staff members has a kindergarten which is housed in a two-storied building in the residential quarters and has a playground.

Taking into consideration the children's age and receptive abilities, the kindergarten makes full use of toys and audio-visual aids in their teach-

ing activities; ideological and moral education is conducted through assigning the children exercises, organizing recreational and other daily activities.

In a class designed to teach children three or four years old to distinguish different colours, the teacher chooses four children on a playground each time and gives them each a different coloured bucket—red, blue, yellow and green. Then she throws 20 small balls painted in those colours on the ground. In this game, the children try to find balls the same colour as his or her bucket, pick them up and put them into their own buckets. The aim is to see who can do it first without any mistakes. Cheerful and gay, the children commit the colours to memory.

Operetta

Not long ago, a class of six- or seven-year-old children put on an operetta, *Passengers' House*, which went over very well. In the course of the rehearsals, the teacher gave the children useful

Basic Facts About the Mill's Kindergarten

Age in the three grades:	3-4; 4-6; 6-7.
Courses:	Chinese, arithmetic, music, physical training, fine arts.
Monthly charges:	
board	10.5 yuan
child-care fee	2 yuan
miscellaneous expenses	0.5 yuan
medical cost	50 per cent of actual expenses

Notes: Child-care fee and medical expenses are exempted for one-child parents.

The mill's average monthly wages are 53.1 yuan. Besides, every worker or staff member receives a non-staple food subsidy of 5 yuan, 10-20 yuan for bonus, overtime and other pay a month.

"Five Loves": Love the motherland, the people, labour, science and public property.

lessons in discipline and caring for others. A naughty boy called Chen Zhengqiang who played the role of a passenger-grandpa was often disruptive in class and would even hit other children now and then. The

teacher told him that to act the part of a grandpa properly he must not be naughty because a grandpa should care for and love the passengers. In this way, the boy tried to overcome his shortcomings during the rehearsal.

Gradually Chen developed an interest in performing and stopped hitting others; he spoke politely, concerned himself with the collective and observed discipline. Later, he



Clearing the tables.

Facts and Figures

The Chinese Ministry of Education has furnished the following figures.

- Kindergartens: 164,000 with 7.87 million children, 60.5 times the peak year of 1946 before China was liberated in 1949.

- Primary schools: 949,000, or 2.7 times those of 1949; pupils: 146.24 million, 6 times those of 1949.

- Ordinary middle schools: 162,000, or 40 times those of 1949; students: 65.48 million, 63 times those of 1949.

- Secondary technical schools: 1,700; students: 530,000 or 6.9 times those of 1949.

- Colleges and universities: 598 offering over 800 specialities of which over 500 are in science and engineering;

students: 850,000, or 7.3 times those of 1949.

- Post-liberation graduates from full-time institutions of higher education: 2.946 million, equal to 16 times the total number of graduates from old China's colleges and universities in the 20 years before liberation.

- Post-liberation graduates from teachers' colleges and universities: 636,000, or 30.3 times those trained in the 20 years before liberation.

- Post-liberation graduates from teachers' schools: 2,372,000 or 6.5 times the total number trained in the 16 years before liberation.

- Girl students: 45 per cent of the total in primary schools; 41 per cent in middle schools; 24 per cent in colleges and universities.

- Students from the 55 minority nationalities: 10,248,000, of whom 36,000 are university students, 28 times those of 1950.

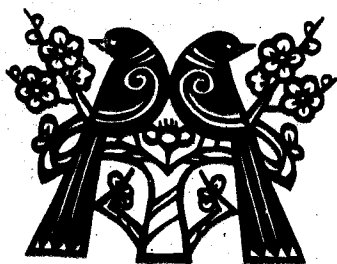
(The above figures are based on 1978 statistics.)

- Education in literacy for adults: 126.8 million young

and middle-aged peasants have become literate since liberation. The historical mission of eliminating illiteracy was almost completed, but as a result of interference and sabotage by Lin Biao and the gang of four, illiteracy increased again in those years when they held sway.

- There are 68 million workers, peasants and cadres now studying in spare-time primary and middle schools, and 550,000 in factory-run or spare-time colleges.

- There are 420,000 (including on-the-job personnel) students and 200,000 auditors in the Central Broadcasting and Television University and 28 other such institutes run by various provinces, municipalities and autonomous regions.





Dumbbell exercises.

was among those cited for good conduct every month.

Another child named Wang Chunyan played the part of a conductor in the operetta. The teacher said that a conductor must be warm towards the passengers. As the conductor, Chunyan took care of old people and mothers with babies, and helped close the bus windows on windy and rainy days. The idea of serving the people gradually took root in her little heart. Once when the rain beat into the classroom, Chunyan took the lead in closing the windows.

The kindergarten carries out a teaching programme with various courses, a plan of ideological and moral education and a system of daily life management as laid down by the Beijing Bureau of Education. This gives the children a certain amount of everyday knowledge, helps their moral, intellectual and physical development, and lays a foundation for their future study in primary schools.

Low Expenses

The mill's kindergarten now has 263 children, 189 of whom stay at the nursery round the clock and 74 others only in the daytime. It is up to the parents to decide whether to send their children to day or round-the-clock nursery.

The children are divided into ten classes of three grades according to their ages and are living a regular collective life. They devote a considerable part of their time to outdoor or physical activities every day. Apart from those in the day nursery, the rest go home weekends and come back to the nursery on Monday morning.

The kindergarten has its own dining-rooms. There are health

Special Feature/Education

workers and the mill's doctors who give medical treatment, regular health check-ups and inoculations to the children.

This is an ordinary kindergarten in Beijing. Working personnel and leading cadres of the mill send their children to the nursery only when they wish to do so and their children pass the health check-up. Because the charge is low, ordinary workers have no financial difficulties in sending their children to the nursery.

Thanks to the progress in the work of family planning, the kindergarten has now been able to provide enough accommodations for children of the mill's workers and staff. The kindergarten teachers often pay visits to families where they talk with the parents about their children and listen to the latter's opinions. Therefore, people are satisfied with the work of the kindergarten.

All-Round Development in Primary School

The Beijing First Experimental Primary School, founded in 1912, is one of the oldest schools in China patterned on modern Western schools. Wang Qixian, vice-principal, has been working at this school over 50 years. The following is a talk he had with our correspondent.

I first became a teacher at the Experimental Primary School in 1929.

Before liberation, only about 20 per cent of the school-age children in our country were able to go to school. Most of the pupils at this school were children of officials and army officers of the old government or of the moneyed classes. We hired out as teachers simply to



Vice-principal Wang Qixian and his pupils.

make a living and had no other end in sight than to pass on knowledge to our pupils.

Consistent Policy

After the founding of the People's Republic in 1949, schools were thrown open to the children of the working people. School fees were reduced to less than one-third of what they were before liberation. At present, over 90 per cent of school-age children in the whole country go to school. Teachers are assured of a livelihood covering basic necessities and amenities. They are not just employees as in the old society; they set their minds on bringing up a new generation of socialist youth. The policy we have pursued was laid down by the Party and Chairman Mao: Education must serve proletarian politics and be combined with productive labour; it must enable those receiving an education to develop morally, intellectually and physically and become workers with both socialist consciousness and culture. This policy still holds good.

There are now 852 pupils and 49 teachers at the First Exper-



Pupils of the meteorological group and Feng Huiying, their tutor.

imental Primary School. The teachers are strict with the pupils and are also patient and tactful in giving guidance to them. More than a score of extracurricular activity groups have been organized in the school to cultivate the pupils' interests in various fields. For instance, a small meteorological station was first set up on the school campus in 1952. A woman teacher, Feng Huiying by name, was the tutor. The little meteorologists would make observations about the weather each day and mark the data on a blackboard.

On broiling days in summer or freezing winter days, or when a storm is brewing, Teacher Feng encourages the children to stick to their routine as a test of their willpower. Batch after batch of pupils have carried on the work. Volumes of meteorological data kept over the past 27 years bear witness to the pupils' perseverance and meticulousness in study and work the teachers have helped to build up.

With regard to the education of primary school children, we lay stress on all-round development.

Days of Turmoil Over

Ten years of turmoil, which began in 1966, are over at long last. The fine traditional code of behaviour of ours school — including devotion to study, observance of discipline, love of manual labour, respect for teachers, mutual help among schoolmates and protection of public property — is being speedily revived. In front of the storeyed building in the western part of the school campus there is a row of tall poplars. Years ago, when these trees had just been planted, a storm suddenly broke out one afternoon after school. Swaying violently in the strong wind, the fragile saplings were in danger of being rooted up. The few pupils whose turn it was that day to clean the classroom rushed out into the rain to protect the trees. There are also on the school campus about eight kinds of fruit trees which flower in spring and yield fruit in autumn. No one has ever plucked a flower or fruit without permission. On the contrary, fruit blown down would often be collected by the pupils and taken to the teachers. Two mirrors, gifts from 1932 grad-

Basic Set-Up of the Full-Time Primary School

Age of admission	Period of schooling	Courses**	Time assigned to study and labour
seven*	five	Chinese, arithmetic, elementary knowledge of nature, foreign language, politics, physical culture, music, drawing.	Nine and a half months for study each year. Pupils of the fourth and fifth grades do manual labour for half a month instead of study.

* Where conditions permit, children of six or six and a half years old are admitted.

** Elementary knowledge of nature, foreign language and politics are for pupils of the third grade and above. Foreign language, chiefly English, is taught only in some of the urban primary schools.

uates to their alma mater, have been hanging in a corridor for 47 years. They are tarnished but intact.

The large number of qualified personnel we have helped bring up for the nation is a source of great pride to us. The noted scientist Qian Xuesen came to see his teachers after returning from the United States in the 50s. He found the seat he used to sit in as a pupil at the school. In 1977, when a campaign was conducted in the school to arouse interest in science, I sent a note to Qinghua University asking the help of three professors who had attended our school. They came and talked to the pupils. Once I was injured in a fall. During my convalescence at home, many of my former pupils, now old or middle-aged professors, engineers, factory directors, or young workers and cadres, came to see me when they heard of my mishap. Most of them had had no contact whatever with me for many years.

Now as a deputy to the Beijing Municipal People's Congress and a member of the central committee of the China Association for Promoting Democracy, one of the eight democratic parties in China, I take a direct part in consultations about state affairs. Though 73, I am still in good health. State stipulations entitle me to retire on pension, but I would rather continue working half time to help bring up more qualified workers to take part in socialist modernization. Besides me, there are other old teachers at our school who are also entitled to retire but do not wish to. They all love the school as dearly as they do their own homes and they play an important role in help-



The noted scientist Qian Xuesen meeting with the pupils.

ing inexperienced young teachers and in raising the pedagogical level of the whole teaching staff.

Middle Schools

Labourers With Socialist Consciousness and Culture

MIDDLE schools in China have a double duty: sending qualified students to institutions of higher learning and training competent workers for all branches of the economy. At present, only 4 per cent of all middle-school graduates can enter college or university, and for a fairly long time in the future, the vast majority of them will go directly to work. Therefore the quality of teaching in primary and middle schools has a direct bearing on the cultural and scientific level of the entire Chinese nation. That's why the government requires that schools give equal attention to all students instead of only to those who will enter college.

Not long ago, Jiang Nanxiang, Minister of Education, said:

"In appraising a school, we should not only pay attention to the number of students enrolled by colleges, but should see whether the standard of the majority of students is high or not, whether the work force



Teachers exploring ways to improve the quality of teaching.

BASIC SET-UP OF THE FULL-TIME MIDDLE SCHOOL

Enrolment Age	Length of Schooling	Courses	Time for Study and Physical Labour
12	5 years* 3 years of junior middle school, 2 years of senior middle school.	Politics, Chinese language, mathematics, physics, chemistry, biology, foreign language (English or other languages), history, geography, basic farm knowledge, hygiene, physical education, music and drawing.	9 months for study, and 1 month for physical labour every year.

* Length of schooling is being discussed in the papers, some suggest 6 years.

trained by these schools are competent or not, whether or not they behave well at their work posts."

In the past two years, Beijing's No. 15 Middle School has made great efforts to respond to the call of the government.

Gap Between Good and Poor Students

During the Cultural Revolution, normal school order was almost non-existent. Teachers were unable to do their work properly, neither could the students learn as they should. There was practically no discipline, no regular system of examinations, no criteria for promoting students to the next grade or holding them a year.

This resulted in a drastic decline in standards and a wide gap in the students' cultural level. Under such circumstances, temporary measures had to be taken: Students of the same grade were divided into three groups according to their performance. For example, at the No. 15 Middle School 31.7 per cent of the students were in the "quick" class, 63.4 per cent in the "medium" and 4.9 per cent in the "slow." Students in the "quick" classes were taught according to the teaching programme, while those in the "medium" and "slow" classes were given extra tutoring.

It was really a tough job for teachers to help such a large number of poor students. As the Chinese saying goes: Ice three feet thick is not due to one day's cold. So the number of poor students did not build up overnight. Quite a few students had never formed the habit of sitting down and studying, while some had behaved badly and thought it too late to mend. Was it possible to help the "medium" and "slow" students catch up with the others? The teachers had a heated discussion under the leadership of the headmaster and the Party

branch. Eventually they decided to tackle this problem with a high sense of responsibility.

Help the Less Advanced

To help the poorer students, experienced teachers with a high sense of responsibility were assigned to the "slow" and "medium" classes. Lectures were given in such a way that the students could accept them. Considering that the "slow" students were often unable to concentrate on their studies, the teachers gave lectures in the form of story-telling. When they came across difficult parts, the teachers would repeat them. Sometimes primary school textbooks were used to make up for what they had missed, and extra tutoring was given after class for those who still lagged behind. Many teachers worked extra hours on holidays or during their spare time. One of them remarked: "I'll do my best to help them catch up even if I lose weight."

The teachers often got together to study how to improve their work. Attention was paid to discovering the merits of the students. Whenever a student showed any progress, no matter how slight, he or she was warmly encouraged and praised in class, on the blackboard newspaper or on the honour roll. Sometimes a rosette was pinned on their lapel and their parents were congratulated. Many students, who had been cold-shouldered for years and were praised for the first time, determined to study hard in the future.

Later, all students were asked to make a plan of their own so that they would continue to make progress on the basis of their own particular level.



Helping slow students.

Those who fulfilled their plans were praised and those who made marked progress were asked to tell about their experiences.

Within six months, half of the students in the "medium" class of the second year of the senior middle school were lauded in one way or another. Some were promoted from the "slow" to the "medium" class. One of the parents was so happy that she was moved to tears. "For eight years my boy had never been praised," she said, "but today he had a red flower pinned on his jacket. The school has done a wonderful job is transforming him."

With their initiative aroused, more and more students began to study hard. To make sure that they kept fit, half an hour was set aside every afternoon for physical training, in addition to regular physical education and morning exercises. Sports competitions, get-togethers, poetry recitals and other activities were also arranged.

Narrowing Gap

A large number of students in the No. 15 Middle School who used to get poor marks are making progress. Take Li Jun for instance. He used to fail four out of six of his courses. Now he gets good marks in all six courses. Wang Jinhe, who was once punished for fist-fighting and cursing the teachers, now studies hard, gets high marks and is good in behaviour. Bai Guodong was once detained by the bureau of public security for disrupting social order. He has made rapid improvement and is now a college student. The progress of these three students had a good effect on other students.

Dividing the students of the

Rules for Middle and Primary School Students

The two sets of 10-point rules for middle and primary school students are now being tried out in the country. Though both have their own distinctive features, they have the following points in common:

- * The students should love the motherland and the people;
- * They should care for the collective and protect public property;
- * They should study diligently;
- * They should take part in

physical training so as to keep fit and they should pay attention to hygiene;

- * They should take an active part in physical labour and lead a thrifty and simple life;
- * They should observe discipline and public order;
- * They should respect the teachers, maintain close ties with fellow-schoolmates and be polite to others;
- * They should be modest and honest and be ready to correct mistakes, if any.

same grade into three classes was only a temporary measure. In the country as a whole, the level of the primary school pupils of the first, second and third grades enrolled since 1977 is much higher than before, and the cultural level gap between pupils of the same class, the fourth and fifth grades, is narrowing. Therefore many middle schools have been able to stop dividing newly enrolled students into different classes.

Vocational Schools

The policy of "walking on two legs" has always been emphasized in education. This means setting up both regular senior middle schools and vocational or technical schools. By 1965, nearly 30 per cent of the middle school students were studying in agricultural or vocational middle schools. However, running such schools was criticized during the Cultural Revolution, and after 1966 they were closed down.

To meet the needs of socialist modernization and to train capable workers, educational departments are investigating how to reform the structure of

middle school education. At present, the majority of middle-school graduates lack the minimum knowledge and skill needed for doing any kind of professional work. After going to work, they have to be given technical training before they are really competent.

The trial reform of the structure of middle-school education is being carried out in Fuxin, Nanjing and other cities and is receiving close attention. In Fuxin, a coal city in northeast China, technical courses are given in regular middle schools. Besides, technical schools and polytechnic schools have been set up. There are 23 vocational middle schools giving a two-year course for junior middle-school graduates. These schools have 19 specialities set up to train technical workers and peasants for the growing needs of production in the locality. The 1,900 students in these schools take up industrial or agricultural subjects in addition to courses taught at regular senior middle schools. While learning from books, they also engage in industrial or farm work.

A Class in a College

Both Red and Expert

WHETHER modernization will succeed or fail has a bearing on the rise or decline of socialist China and also on the future of the cause of human progress. As a college student, I want to really learn something so as to be able to contribute to the four modernizations," said a bespectacled male student of the Beijing Polytechnical Institute.

A short, rather shy, female student said: "I'll learn as much as I can and become a socialist mental labourer after graduation." Once discriminated against during the Cultural Revolution, intellectuals are beginning now to be fairly appraised. The Party has explicitly declared that they are a part of the labouring people and they themselves, too, often proudly call themselves mental labourers.

The way these two people

think is typical of many college students. In Chinese terminology, they want to take the road of being "red and expert."

This polytechnical college is in Beijing's eastern suburb and has eight departments embracing 24 specialities with an enrolment of 1,720. Your correspondent visited the college and spent most of his time with a group specializing in electronic computers under the department of computer science.

From Admission to Graduation

All 36 students in the class were admitted according to the principle of selecting the best after an all-round examination of their academic level, moral qualities and physical fitness. In the 1977 entrance examinations, they had averaged 78.3 marks in all subjects.

During the Cultural Revolution academic study was com-

pletely repudiated. One college entrance applicant handed in his papers unanswered and was given nationwide publicity as the example for the youth of the whole country to emulate. Examinations were

Red and Expert

"Red" means the political criterion; "expert," the vocational level. Loving one's socialist motherland, working consciously for socialism and serving the people, is "red." Anyone who holds to socialism politically, works hard to do a good job and to continually improve his work and makes contributions to society is considered "red and expert."

done away with and with that a clear-cut criterion for admission to college was removed. All applicants were supposed to be recommended by the rank and file of the unit they belonged to, but that was seldom the case. Many got into college "by the back door," through influence and personal connections.

This group has 24 men and 12 women students, eight of whom are Party members and the rest members of the Communist Youth League. The age limit for applicants was raised to 30 to allow outstanding young people who had missed college during the Cultural Revolution when all colleges stopped enrolment. The average age of this group was 21.4 at the time of entrance, the oldest two being 30 and the youngest two 17. (Among new students admitted in the years 1978 and 1979, the number



In the laboratory.

coming straight from middle schools increased, so the average age went down sharply.)

As to their family backgrounds, one came from the exploiting class (capitalist), the rest were children of workers, peasants, army men, cadres and intellectuals. Nineteen were workers before they entered college, eight were from cities before they went down to the countryside as peasants, another eight came straight from senior middle schools and one was a government functionary.

Tuition fee is free. Nine who had worked more than five years before they were enrolled continue to draw their monthly wages; 16 are drawing state subsidies ranging from 6.5 to 22 yuan a month because their family incomes are low. Some students do not have to buy their own textbooks because they do not have the money, some are given extra money to buy winter clothing.

All students live in rent-free dormitories and are also entitled to free medical service. The period of instruction is four academic years (five beginning 1979). This group is now in the second term of their second academic year.

Students in this particular discipline have to take 23 courses covering the four years. These include seven courses

connected with computer hardware engineering, six with computer software engineering, five with the computer system, as well as courses on political theory, foreign language, physical education and a number of elementary courses. Students are required to do experimental work in factories connected with the subjects they major in. Finally, they have to spend ten weeks working in some unit connected with the subjects they are specializing in. This corrects the abnormal phenomenon in recent years when college students were sent for indefinite periods to do manual labour having nothing to do with what they had specialized in, or other activities, under the system known as the "open-door" education.

When these students graduate they will be given jobs by the state under a unified plan, either as engineers or technicians in factories and enterprises engaged in computer designing, manufacture and operation, or as researchers and teachers in research institutes and institutes of higher learning. When they start work they will be paid more or less the same as workers of the same age, lower than workers with intermediate skills. China adheres to the socialist principle of "to each according to his work," but there will not be an excessively wide gap in people's incomes. Under the present wage system, the pay of some college graduates who have already worked many years is actually less than workers of



After a class.

the same age. Furthermore, workers in general have more opportunities for earning bonuses. The public is aware of this, and if standards of living are to be upgraded, then this anomaly should be done away with.

Hard-Working Youngsters

After the years of turmoil, things are just beginning to go back to normal and much has to be done to improve educational facilities. For instance, the dormitories are overcrowded, the libraries are poorly stocked and laboratory equipment is inadequate. These young people have much to be dissatisfied with, and they sometimes do grumble, but on the whole they study hard, knowing the problems the state is facing.

Han Jiangyuan is one of the older students and his memory is not as good as the others. For example, he has difficulty in remembering English words. But he never despairs. He studies with determination. He



Leisure hour.

Special Feature/Education

was born during the years of revolutionary wars. His soldier mother had been too weak to breast-feed him. In the first few months of his life he had been fed by nursing mothers along the route his mother's unit passed through. He never forgets this, and it is this which impels him to work and study hard. Wang Anzhong, who has worked in the countryside for three years, first studied Russian and started learning English only when he entered college. He plugs away at his English studies every day, even over the summer holiday, and is making rapid progress.

Students get up at six-thirty in the morning. They do morning exercises for a quarter of an hour and in the half hour before breakfast at seven-thirty they recite their foreign language lessons in some quiet corner. "This foreign language fever" is not a fad. They are doing it out of a sense of responsibility. They want to master a foreign language so as to be able to learn from the best in their field and develop China's own science and technology as quickly as possible.



Early morning on the campus.

Key Schools

The Beijing Polytechnical Institute is a key institute of higher learning in the capital.

As there are not enough teachers, equipment and funds to go around, key schools and colleges have been set up to rapidly produce the trained personnel needed by the country. These key schools and colleges are also models for others and they help improve teaching as a whole and demonstrate the principle of combining popularization with elevation in practice.

There are national and local key institutes of learning everywhere. They get some degree of priority in the allocation of leading personnel, teachers, equipment and funds. Apart from selecting their students from a wider area, key colleges are no different to other colleges in their sources of recruitment and in tuition fees. Their graduates are allocated work by the state and receive the same pay as those of other colleges. They are not the colleges for the elite as in certain countries.

"Junior Teachers"

Seven students in this group have averaged over 95 marks in all examinations since joining the institute. Those who are doing well are ever ready to help the others. Among them is Xiang Zhigang. He is a member of the students' study committee whose members are affectionately known as "junior teachers."

In 1970, Xiang began working in the Beijing Gear Factory as a machine-tool operator. He studied hard by himself and also attended the courses offered by the factory-run school. He was the moving force behind the group of young workers who successfully introduced a number of technical innovations. He was later cited as a model worker of Beijing. He felt keenly the need for further studies, so he sat for his college entrance examinations and was admitted.

Xiang pays a lot of attention to how others are doing in their studies and helps keep close rapport between teachers and students. He also helps his group to organize periodic reviews of what they have been taught. They have had several sessions to exchange ideas and study methods, encouraging each individual to find a method that suits him or her best.

Fan Ying felt on many occasions his handicap of a poor middle school education and

would stay up very late to go over lectures, but his marks remained low. The next term, he accepted his classmates' suggestions and changed his study method, with good results. He began getting excellent marks in all his subjects.

Yao Wang, the group leader and deputy secretary of the Party branch, said: "Our Party, Youth League branch and group committees want every student in the group to feel he is a member of a helpful collective making common progress."

"Throwing Away the Burden"

Ge Qing is a gangling, smiling young man who says he has never felt so carefree and happy as now. His father was branded a bourgeois Rightist in 1957 and the son has had to share his opprobrium over the last 20 years. Recently, his father was cleared of all charges after investigations and politically rehabilitated. His father was reinstated and again paid as an engineer. Ge Qing no longer feels he is a second-class citizen and has applied for Party membership, something he had wanted to do long ago but did not dare even to try. Ge Qing has always been a good student. In middle school he had studied hard and behaved himself. When he was working on a farm out on the outskirts, he continued his studies in his spare time. It was only after college entrance exams were restored in 1977 that he had the chance to apply for further training. It was a very moving day for him when he attended his first lecture. He had full marks. At the end of term exams he scored brilliantly. He is also much firmer in the resolution to fight for the cause of communism. He is among the eight students in his group to apply for Party membership. Political conviction has further

fired their enthusiasm for academic studies.

These budding electronic computer experts are politically-conscious people. After classes and even during a meal they often have discussions, expressing their views openly. Sometimes discussions are quite heated, something which very rarely happened when the ultra-Leftists were in power. Then, only trusted friends discussed politics together, and in whispers. What they talk today, however, is mostly about what practical measures should be adopted to correct things and hurry up the four modernizations.

Campus Life

Classes are in the mornings, between eight and twelve, after lunch the students have a nap and study by themselves from two to four. From four to five-thirty they do what they like. About half of them take part in various sports, some go on with their studies or wash their clothes, and so on. After dinner, from six-thirty they go back to their books until ten-thirty when the lights go out.

This group takes part in sports to win honour for their collective and to meet other students. Once, in a tug-of-war contest, they lost to several teams because of poor organizational work. The group criticized the leader, who thereupon corrected the shortcoming, and finally finished as runner-up.

Their cultural life leaves much to be desired. But it is not altogether a void. Those who are fond of literature and art, attend and give evening performance. The Central Philharmonic Society visited the institute recently and there are frequent film shows, including a number of fine foreign films. Tickets cost next to nothing.

The music lovers in the group plug in earphones, after the lights are out.

As a rule students are discouraged from thinking about marriage. The authorities want the students to put all their attention to their studies. Students are generally not allowed to marry. Two male students were allowed after enrolment, but this was because they were 29 and 30 years old. Married students have to live in college dormitories like the unmarried students, going home only at weekends. But this group is not typical as the class was the first to be enrolled through passing an exam after the Cultural Revolution. Asked if there were any in the group who were courting, many said they had not heard of any yet. Men and women students can and do mix freely and normally.

These future mental labourers are not averse to taking part in manual labour. This summer the group weeded Zhongshan Park in the heart of the city. During the term, they all spend an hour every week helping the college library clean and carry or patch or bind periodicals. They have been doing this ever since they joined the institute. The librarians have written a letter of commendation to the Youth League Committee of the college lauding this group of young people.

While enlarging enrolment in regular colleges, China is doing all it can to provide higher education for workers and peasants. There are radio, television and correspondence schools, workers' spare-time colleges, etc. Everything possible is being done to select and train experts from among workers and peasants. The government is out to raise the scientific and cultural level of the whole nation.

● *The Port City of Xiamen*

Xiamen, formerly known as Amoy, in Fujian Province on the eastern seaboard is an important port on the western side of the Taiwan Straits.

The 10.5-square-kilometre city proper is in the southwestern part of the 110-square-kilometre island and has a population of 230,000. In recent years the city has expanded north to include a new city development area of 18 square kilometres.

Xiamen is an ice-free natural harbour visited by foreign trading vessels as far back as the Jiajing period (1522-1566) of the Ming Dynasty. It has developed into a major foreign trade centre in the province and a link between the people of south Fujian and Chinese living abroad. Four new docks for 10,000-50,000-ton freighters are being built to expand port facilities.

There is good land communication. The Yingtan-Xiamen Railway built in the fifties is now joined to the Zhejiang-Jiangxi line. The island is connected with the mainland by a rail and road causeway and one can drive from Xiamen to Fuzhou, the provincial capital, and other major cities.

Xiamen has developed into a light and textile industrial base with more than 360 medium- and small-sized factories.

Agricultural production on the outskirts of the city is flourishing. Per-hectare grain output reached 9 tons. Peanuts, sugar cane, tobacco, longan (a fruit peculiar to south China) and vegetables are cultivated.

There is also a thriving aquatic products industry.

Subtropical Xiamen has a mild climate throughout the year. Trees are green all the year round and the landscape is beautiful. With many scenic spots and places of historical interest, it is an ideal place for resort and tourism.

● *Factory Canteens In Beijing*

Most factories in Beijing have canteens run on a non-profit basis. All utensils, equipment, fuel, water and electricity are paid out of the factory welfare funds.

At the Beijing No. 3 General Machinery Plant, workers and staff who have three meals a day in their canteen spend 12 to 18 yuan on food a month, which is equivalent to 25 per cent of their basic wages. Most, however, have only breakfast and lunch in the canteen and go home for supper with their families.

An average dish costs 0.15 yuan, while a more expensive dish, such as stewed pork or scrambled eggs, is 0.25 to 0.30 yuan. A small dish of sweet and sour shredded turnip or vinegar-pepper pickled cabbage costs about 0.03 yuan.

Some people bring their own meals for the canteens to warm up for them. This happens more often in factories where the canteens are not what they should.

All factory canteens have an elected committee under the trade union to supervise their work.

In factories with many workers and staff members of Hui

nationality, who are Moslems, special cooking facilities or separate canteens are established. The state supplies these factory canteens with more vegetable oil, poultry, eggs, beef and mutton.

● *The Yaolin Cave*

"Yaolin Fairyland" is the name of a recently discovered cave in Tonglu County in east China's Zhejiang Province. The vast cave is like one of those magnificent underground palace for immortals the ancients had pictured. The many strange stone formations inside are fascinatingly conceived.

There are four large "halls" inside, each about 6,000 square metres and their ceilings rise almost 20 to 30 metres above the floor. Passages connect the



The Yaolin Cave.

four "halls" which give off to numerous smaller caves. It is a kilometre away from the entrance to the end of the fourth "hall."

A two-kilometre subterranean stream winds through the caves adorned with spectacular stalactites and stalagmites. The air is fresh and comfortably cool inside.

A 120-kilometre highway has been built from Hangzhou, the provincial capital, so tourists have no trouble making a trip to this fantastic subterranean fairyland.

● Prize-Winning Drug

A white medicinal powder, "Yunnan Bai Yao," to stop haemorrhages, heal wounds and bruises, was recently awarded a gold medal by the state for its consistent high quality.

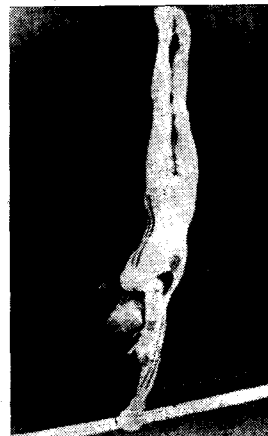
In the early 1920s, when warlords were fighting each other all over China, the army of Yunnan's big warlord, Tang Jiyao, suffered heavy casualties. Local herbal doctors were recruited to treat the wounded. Dr. Qu Huanzhang treated the wounds with a herbal medicinal powder he himself had made up. Overnight, a marked change for the better was observed in those with festering wounds. A week or two later, the wounds had healed up thanks to Dr. Qu's *bai yao*, or "white drug."

Dr. Qu was a native of Jiangchuan County in Yunnan Province. He had developed the prescription for this drug in 1914.

In 1937, when the Kuomintang reactionaries tried to make him to hand over the formula, he flatly refused and was thrown

People in the News

Ma Yanhong, 15, became China's youngest world champion on December 9, 1979 when she tied for first place with Maxi Gnauck of the German Democratic Republic in the women's uneven bars event at the 20th World Gymnastics Championships held in the United States. Her total of 19.825 points gave her country its first gold medal at the World Gymnastics Championships.



Ma gave a superb performance of some very difficult movements in her optional exercise. Her swing to a handstand with a complete body turn and her tricky dismount from the high bar with a forward somersault after a 180-degree body twist had spectators entranced.

This Beijing worker's daughter had enrolled in the Shichahai Spare-Time Sports School at the age of eight for gymnastics instruction. She is now studying in the P.L.A. Guangzhou Military Sports Institute.

Quiet, soft-spoken Ma Yanhong is a confident young virtuoso on the uneven bars, going through each movement with graceful precision. She is very strict with herself during training, paying the most meticulous attention to the last detail. Her recent performance was grounded on sound demanding training which, earlier at the 1978 Shanghai International Invitation Gymnastics Tournament and at the Bangkok Asian Games, had won her first place in the uneven bars event on both occasions.

into prison and kept there until he died.

After the founding of New China, his widow and children handed the secret formula to the People's Government. The Kunming Pharmaceutical Factory was assigned to manufacture this medicinal powder for the people.

In 1970, Premier Zhou Enlai instructed that a pharmaceutical factory be established solely to produce *Yunnan bai yao*, a laboratory to research and develop this be set up, and plants

used in its manufacture be domesticated to ensure quality and supply. Consequently a special factory and a research centre were built in 1971. Since then output of Dr. Qu's medicinal powder has gone up substantially without any lowering of quality.



PALEOANTHROPOLOGY

"Peking Man" and Professor Pei Wenzhong



The 50th anniversary of the discovery of the first skull of "Peking man" was recently marked at a meeting held by paleoanthropologists and paleontologists of the Chinese Academy of Sciences. After the meeting they held a week-long symposium.

The discovery of an ape-man fossil skull was a major event in paleoanthropology. It was found 12 metres below the surface inside a cave on the Longgu Mountain in Zhoukoudian, southwest of Beijing, when night was falling on December 2, 1929, by Professor Pei Wenzhong, a Chinese paleontologist.

The "ape-man of China," or "Peking man" as it was named, lived some 400,000-500,000 years ago in the middle of the Pleistocene period. The discovery of the fossils and, later, stone tools in the find-spot forcefully proved that the "ape-man" was more man than ape, thus pushing the upper limit of

human history back 500,000 years.

Professor Pei Wenzhong, a graduate of the geology department of Beijing University, is a committee member of one of the departments under the Chinese Academy of Sciences and an Honorary Member of the International Union of Prehistoric and Protohistoric Sciences. But he found himself without a job upon graduation in the old China which was a very poor and very backward country. He had many interests and tried for a time to make a living as a writer. He had written a novel when he was still studying at the university and which the great Chinese writer Lu Xun had favourably commented on. Later, he found work as an assistant paleontologist with a team excavating vertebrate fossils near Zhoukoudian.

As he studied diligently and worked hard, he was able to take over the responsibility of leading the excavations when many of the highly regarded scientists left one after another. His dogged perseverance was rewarded on December 2, 1929. He was right there when the ancient fossil skull came to light. Unfortunately, this tremendous discovery did not draw enough attention due to it in old China. Study of the fossils was the monopoly of foreigners. At the outbreak of the Pacific War in 1941, all the precious fossils then in the hands of some Americans disappeared and have not been found even today.

The "Peking man" site in Zhoukoudian is one of the most important prehistoric cultural sites of man in the world. After liberation, the government encouraged, assisted and funded Professor Pei Wenzhong in his researches and set up a "Peking man" museum at Zhoukoudian. Up to now, fossils of over 40 individual ape-men, thousands of simple stone tools as well as large quantities of animal fossils and remains of fire have been found. At the same time, much progress has been made in paleoanthropological studies in China.

ALMANAC

A Gift for Chinese Children

The Children's Publishing House of China has put out a best-seller for children — *The 1980 Almanac for Boys and Girls*. On top of being an ordinary calendar, it is chockful of absorbingly illustrated information written specially for children. People are buying the almanac as a New Year gift for their children.

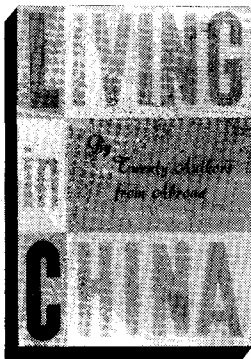
There are entries each day about mathematics, physics, chemistry, astronomy, geography and other sciences. There are also short Chinese sentences with their English equivalents, simple scientific experiments, magic tricks and riddles. On every page children learn something interesting. Each piece of information is designed to stimulate interest and arouse in them the urge to explore the unknown.

BOOKS

Out of Experience of A Lifetime

Living in China

By twenty authors from abroad;
New World Press, Beijing;
English edition; 341 pages;
Renminbi 1.80 yuan



Diverse. Delightfully personal. Without the slightest intention to be authoritative, though nearly all the authors, to be fair, are writing out of the experience of a lifetime. These are the first impressions one gets leafing through the pages of *Living in China*, a new book just off the press before the New Year rang in.

The authors are diverse in nationality, age, experience and, most important of all, in opinion. Let us cite a few examples. While Rashid Butt, a Pakistani journalist still in his prime, is frankly outspoken in his criticism of China's Cultural Revolution (1966-76), the elderly teacher Denise Lebreton from France sees something praiseworthy in its spirit. While some choose to let facts and figures speak, the noted British

writer Felix Greene explicitly points out that "free to be human" is the Chinese message's true essence.

In "An Anglo-Canadian Couple's 30 Years in China," Isabel and David Crook tell the reader "we intended to stay 18 months. We are still here." Whereas Sam Ginsbourg from tsarist Russia writes: "On March 14, 1947, I left Kuomintang-ruled Shanghai . . . for the Liberated Areas. . . I had bought a one-way ticket: I was not coming back."

Markedly different in content and style, the stories yet are alike in being truly personal, which is all the more impressive because it is such a far cry from the publications from Beijing a few years ago, in which the first person "I" was usually missing.

All the authors are long-time residents in China, some having witnessed events well over half a century ago—yet none tries to be conclusive. Each and every one does no more than talk simply and plainly. Isn't this a far cry, too, from those volumes by some so-called China-watchers who, after delving into archives here and there, have emerged "authorities"? Here, one tends to agree with what's said in the book's FOREWORD: "Listening to them [the authors] . . . is like listening to old friends chatting in one's own home, free, relaxed and unassuming."

The New World Press had many titles to its credit, including books by such noted writers as Anna Louise Strong, Rewi Alley and Jack Chen. *Living in China* has been published most recently by the Press after a long-time suspen-

sion of activities since the Cultural Revolution. The editors must have done a lot of work to bring so many writers together in one book. But they would have done better had they been able to solicit the contributions of more foreigners with unique experiences in China.

The thumbnail photos of the authors add to the realistic feeling. It would be better still had the editors run a pictorial section of historically significant photos taken from the authors' long-treasured albums. Nonetheless, all in all, the book represents a new approach which should be welcome.

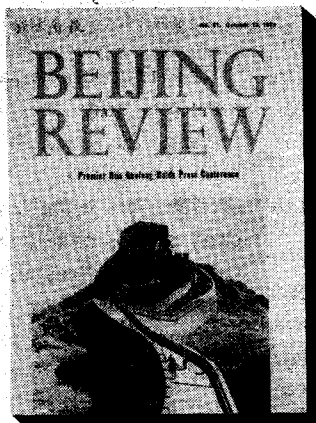
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• *The Biography of Li Dazhao* by the People's Publishing House introduces the life of Li Dazhao, one of the founders of the Chinese Communist Party and a forerunner of the Chinese communist movement. It also depicts the revolutionary activities of Mao Zedong, Zhou Enlai, Chen Yi, Deng Zhongxia and other proletarian revolutionaries of the older generation during the 1919 May 4th Movement and in the early 1920s. In addition, it objectively describes the role played by Chen Duxiu in this historical period.

• *Selected Poems of Ten Revolutionaries* is a collection of 350 poems by Zhu De, Dong Biwu, Lin Boqu, Wu Yuzhang, Xu Teli, Xie Juezai, Xu Fanting, Li Muan, Xiong Jinding and Qian Laisu—all veterans of the Chinese revolution. It includes lyrical, narrative, pastoral, love and satirical poems. It is published by the China Youth Publishing House.

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